



FROM MICHAEL'S DESK

Another summer draws to a close and there is already an autumnal feel to the air up here in New Hampshire. This really is the best time to be in New England - unfortunately it is all too short.

The fall is a very busy time for us - our travellers are wise enough to know that places are less crowded, prices are more reasonable and the weather isn't as hot, compared to travelling in high summer. In one 9-day period in early September, we have 7 trips departing!

But this fall is also bitter-sweet. My youngest son is leaving the nest. Mid-September sees us taking him to the UK to begin his studies at the University of Winchester. He says he is both very excited - and very nervous. Which is exactly as it should be, I suppose.

One thing has already struck me as very different from my own college-bound days. He has already been in contact with the kids in his dorm, and with those on his course, through the magic (?) of social media. A wonderful advantage that I certainly never had when I arrived at university not knowing a soul. I suppose there are some good things about social media after all!

So very best wishes from this old Luddite - see you in Europe.

Michael Induni, President

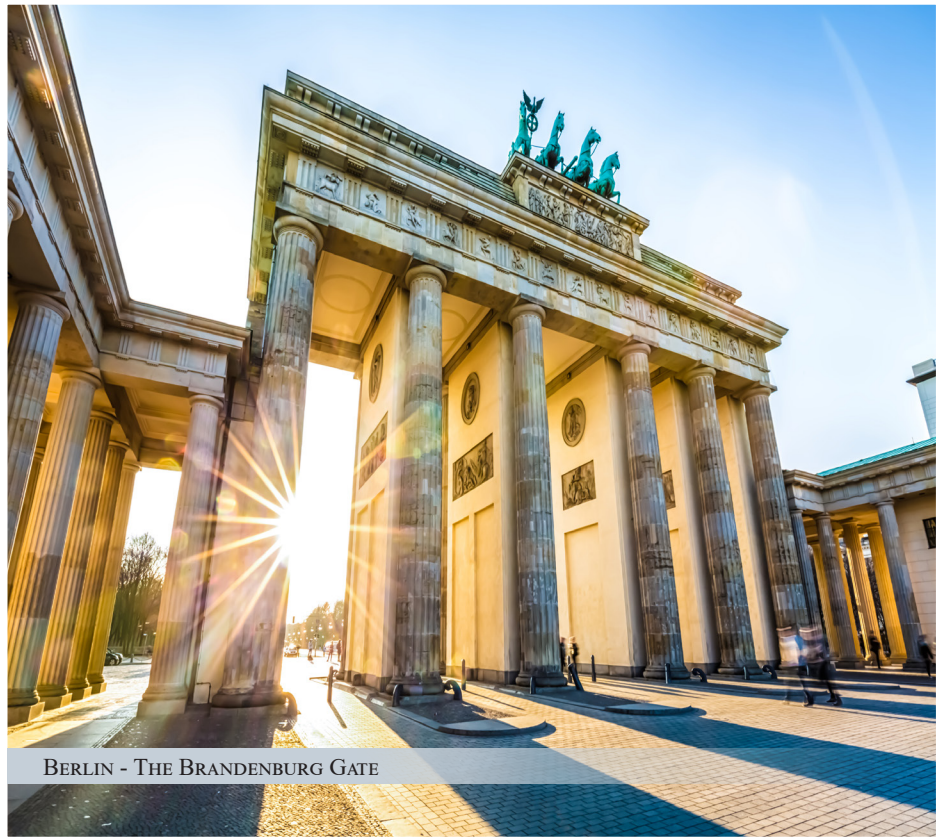
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BERLIN - THE BRANDENBURG GATE

LEST WE FORGET . . .

2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. Although it was not until September 2nd, 1945, that all hostilities finally ceased, with Japan signing the unconditional surrender aboard the USS *Missouri*, the war in Europe ended in May. On May 2nd, the Reichstag in Berlin fell to the invading Soviet army and the generals in Berlin surrendered. Five days later, General Jodl, representing the German army, came to General Eisenhower's headquarters in Reims, France, to sign the document of surrender. This was then ratified in Berlin two days later at a more formal ceremony.

Setting aside, for the moment, the far-reaching and historic impact of these events, I would like to bring a personal note to play here. My grandfather (my mother's father) was present at the signing in Reims. In fact, he was one of the only two British representatives sitting at the table across from the Germans. He was an Air Vice Marshal in the RAF at the time (he later went on to become an Air Chief Marshal and the head of Fighter Command), and Eisenhower's RAF liaison officer at SHAEF (the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force). I recently discovered an old newsreel on YouTube capturing the event (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goKGAInPLho>) and the photograph below shows him seated at the far right of the table where the signing took place.

When I was growing up in England, it was common find "bomb sites" around many towns. These were lots where the building had been destroyed by German air raids and still, some 20 years later had not been redeveloped. Now after 75 years these visual reminders have all disappeared, and the centers of the cities that were flattened all over



THE SURRENDER

western Europe, have all been rebuilt. Combine this with the fact that there are fewer and fewer veterans left alive that actually took part in the conflict (a recruit enlisting at 16 at the start of the war would be 97 now!), and there is a great danger that we will forget the horrors that engulfed the continent for those 6 years.



NORMANDY BEACHES

From visiting the Normandy beaches where the allied landings took place on June 6, 1944, to touring the city of Berlin, where the final surrender documents were signed, our tour guides are there to help keep the memory of these momentous events alive. As we experience a surge in populist nationalism across Europe and beyond, it is particularly important that we not allow the events and the heroes who gave their lives 75 years ago, to fade from our memories.

Sir Kenneth Clark, in his masterful book *Civilisation*, describes tour guides as “the only surviving transmitters of traditional culture.” A rather broad and sweeping statement perhaps, but certainly something for us to aspire to. The cultural legacy of a civilisation, however, lies not only in the works of art and monuments that it leaves behind, but also in its stories – its *history* – and it is the tour guide’s job to pass these stories along, ensuring our cultural continuity.

Lest we forget . . .

Michael

“Travel isn’t always pretty. It isn’t always comfortable. Sometimes it hurts, it even breaks your heart. But that’s okay. The journey changes you; it should change you. It leaves marks on your memory, on your consciousness, on your heart, and on your body. You take something with you. Hopefully, you leave something good behind.” – Anthony Bourdain

EUROPEAN FESTIVALS

There are a multitude of festivals that are celebrated each year around the world. From traditional, food related festivals, to cultural and downright strange - we've picked out a few unique European festivals that we found particularly interesting and wanted to share.

WINE FIGHT, HARO, SPAIN

In the small town of Haro, Spain, in the heart of the Rioja region, each year, on June 29th, the people of the town, along with many tourists, climb a nearby mountain dressed all in white to engage in the battle of the wines (La Batalla del Vino). Squirt guns, buckets and vessels of all kinds are used to throw wine at each other in a frenzy of laughter and frolic. Originally celebrating St. Peter's Day, now it's an excuse to celebrate this delicious wine, so vital to this region's economy. From white to pink, the soaking participants come down off the mountain to dance and sing after many hours of Rioja-induced fun. Shall we go?

BATTLE OF THE ORANGES, IVREA, ITALY

With many food-based festivals, we found this one particularly odd and well, painful! Similar to La Tomatina in Spain (the world's largest food fight), every year the Italian town of Ivrea is turned into an all out battlefield where, instead of over-ripe tomatoes, the participants launch over 600,000 kg of **oranges** at one another...Ouch! This is the largest food fight in Italy and is certainly a unique event!

FLOWER CARPET, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Every other year, nearly a million brightly-colored begonias are arranged into a flower carpet in the beautiful Grand Place in Brussels, Belgium - sometimes referred to as “the most beautiful central square in the world!” The magnificent Gothic architecture surrounding the main square makes for a truly a breathtaking visual spectacle in the heart of the Belgian capital. The floral “carpet” is 75 m long by 24 m wide and has a different design theme each time.

A NEW PUZZLE

Q: How many European countries maintained their neutrality throughout the second world war (Hint: it's more than you think!)?

To answer, go to Discover Europe’s Facebook page, like the page and leave an answer. The winner, selected at random, will receive a voucher for \$200 off any trip listed in this newsletter!

. . . AND A WINNING SOLUTION

Q: Which country is known as the "Castle Capital of Europe" and has more castles per square mile than any other country in Europe?

A: Wales

Congratulations to Bill Smith of Scottsdale, AZ who won this puzzler!



FLOWER CARPET, BELGIUM

MARCHÉ GOURMAND: A DIARY FROM CAMON, FRANCE

By Sarah Franklin

In the Ariège region, at the foothills of the Pyrenees, summer time is about being outside. Whether it's hiking on a Grand Randonnée, the multitudinous system of French walking trails, or swimming in the nearest river gorge, it is a glorious time to be here. After a bit of exercise and exploration of the countryside, the French custom of coming together and dining is exemplified by their night markets (marchés nocturnes). In villages and on special sites, streets are closed down and long wooden tables and benches are set up. The village fills with families and groups who come with their own cutlery and table cloths to sample the array of sumptuous dishes offered by vendors from the food trucks lining either side of the street. Snails in tomato sauce, mussels (moules) simmering in ample garlic and parsley, whole cows roasting on a spit, crêperies selling galettes and sweet crêpes, poulet rôti, chèvre and brebis cheese, cold wine and beer, paellas of shrimp and sausage, grilled lamb chops, frites, and Asian food...the choices are endless! The atmosphere is jolly and friendly as everyone indulges their taste buds while the conversation flows. The sense of community is like no other. Strangers coming together to appreciate the bounty, the beauty, and the generosity of the French people and their cuisine. Bon appetit!



WHAT TO KNOW WHEN TRAVELING TO ITALY

Are you going to Italy and want to know what to expect? Our expert tour guides, Sara Cereda & Matthias Kort, have compiled this list of "need to know" things before traveling to Italy!

1) PREPARE TO BE FAIRLY ACTIVE. Be prepared to walk - on cobblestones, on old Roman roads, on uneven sidewalks, on small pathways and sunny squares. Italy's main sites are mainly in pedestrian-only areas, where our tour buses cannot go. To get there and back, you will need to walk. Training at home before departure is a good idea. Also be prepared for many steps and stairs. It's common that restaurants may be in cellars or bathrooms can be located downstairs. Even the terrain of the churches, palaces, museums and streets may be at an incline or have stairs to climb. And if you need to take a break, just find the nearest cafe, take seat, order a cappuccino and watch the world go by.

2) DINING OUT IN ITALY. On a group tour, our main meal is dinner and our reservations will typically be scheduled at 7:30 pm at the earliest (mind you, this is just for tourists! Italians typically dine around 8:30 - 9:00 pm) and it will take at least 1.5 hours. This is because the restaurant staff want to give us time to enjoy our food and wine without rushing us. Generally, we get the table for the evening, so we are not in a hurry. If you are an early eater or a light eater, then let us know before departure, because we cannot change the Italian dining times, but you could avoid joining the planned dinner if it is too much for you.

3) FOOD AND DINING CUSTOMS. For drinks, be prepared to pay for bottled drinking water at a restaurant, to get cold drinks but without ice, and to not expect free refills of soft drinks. For food, you will get bread provided for the table, but mind you it's only meant as an appetizer and should not be eaten with your pasta (why carbs with carbs? No Italian would do that). You will also get oil at the table but this is meant only to dress your salad and not to dip your bread in (but no one will stop you, if you want to!).

4) BE PREPARED FOR HEAT. Travel with a fancy and elegant hand-fan! It could save your holiday! Major hotels might have air conditioning, but do not automatically expect it! If you're worried, be sure to ask us if your hotel has air conditioning before departure. With climate change happening, we are experiencing some extremely hot months (and not only during the summer) and a lot of art galleries, museums, hotels, restaurants, and even public transportation, are not equipped to make our tourist lives more comfortable! Be prepared to be outside for most of the day in potentially warm conditions.

5) COME WITH AN OPEN MIND. The Italy you will experience has an incredible diversity to offer you, if you are interested in the originality of this small country. Try to put the Italian-American ideas of language, music, food and wine to one side. Italy is more than that, it has been so stereotyped that you will probably not recognize many things that are truly authentic. If you really want "Made in Italy", be prepared to look for it off the beaten path.



STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2019



SORRENTO & THE AMALFI COAST

Described by Charles Dickens as "one succession of delights," this dramatic area has countless cultural and scenic wonders.
NOVEMBER 2ND - 10TH 2019



THANKSGIVING IN MALLORCA

An extended stay in Sóller, with day trips to Deia, Palma and Valldemossa. Enjoy Thanksgiving dinner Mallorcan style - and you don't have to do the dishes!
NOVEMBER 22ND - 30TH 2019

SCHEDULED TOURS FOR 2020

CROATIA

THE DALMATIAN COAST

Follow the rugged coastline of Croatia, where the Balkans tumble into the Adriatic, from Dubrovnik up to Trieste.
SEPTEMBER 19TH - 28TH 2020

ENGLAND

IN SEARCH OF THE CORN WALL

Join tour guide Gavin Miller for a trip down memory lane to his childhood family vacation destination, Cornwall.
APRIL 24TH - MAY 4TH 2020

TREASURE HOUSES OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND

See the full glory of Britain's Stately Homes set against the backdrop of a magnificent, full-blown English spring.
MAY 3RD - 12TH 2020

THE BEST OF ENGLISH GARDENS

Our annual homage to the Chelsea Flower Show and gardens of southern England.
MAY 12TH - 21ST 2020

GARDENS OF THE NORTH

Visit the RHS Chatsworth Flower Show and explore the gardens of Yorkshire and the Lake District on this horticultural adventure to Northern England.
JUNE 7TH - 17TH 2020



THE COTSWOLD HILLS

Experience the quintessential English countryside of the rolling Cotswold Hills with day trips to Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon, Bath and many more.
JUNE 11TH - 20TH 2020



BLENHIM PALACE

WEST COUNTRY GARDENS

Visit masterpieces of garden design on a tour that highlights the gardens of England's West Country and includes the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show.
JUNE 30TH - JULY 9TH 2020



DISCOVERING EAST ANGLIA

Experience life in a country house hotel with popular guide Gavin Miller in the region where he grew up.
JULY 17TH - 25TH 2020

MAGIC OF MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

Medieval England comes to life as we stay in York and Nottingham and visit the annual Robin Hood Festival. A trip that will appeal to take your grandchildren on!
JULY 31ST - AUGUST 8TH 2020

VICTORIA & THE CROWN

Celebrate the life and legacy of Queen Victoria on this tour tracing her life from London, to the Isle of Wight and Windsor.
AUGUST 26TH - SEPTEMBER 4TH 2020

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

Stunning beaches, coastal castles and small rural hamlets make up this fascinating archipelago in the English Channel. Officially the sunniest place in Britain.
SEPTEMBER 10TH - 19TH 2020

TREASURE HOUSES OF NORTHERN ENGLAND

From York to the Lake District, journey behind the usual tourist facade and explore the remarkable natural beauty of the north.
SEPTEMBER 18TH - 27TH 2020

THE WEST COUNTRY

Walk in the ancient land of myth and legend in the southwest peninsula of England and journey through the mists of its Celtic past.
SEPTEMBER 24TH - OCTOBER 3RD 2020

KENT: THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND

Away from London and into the rolling hills of Kent. Enjoy brilliant and eclectic explorations from Dover to Dorking.
OCTOBER 22ND - 31ST 2020

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

Join us for a Shakespearian-inspired tour of London, Oxford, and Stratford-upon-Avon.
OCTOBER 29TH - NOVEMBER 7TH 2020

A DICKENSIAN FEAST

Dickens' London & the rolling countryside of Kent. Visit the world-famous Rochester Dickens Festival and meet his great-great-great-granddaughter.
DECEMBER 2ND - 10TH 2020



FRANCE

THE FESTIVAL OF ROSES

A short getaway to a French Château for a visit to the Camon Festival of Roses! Want to stay longer? Join us for the Pilgrim's Way!
MAY 14TH - 19TH 2020



ROCK OF CASHEL

GARDENS OF THE DORDOGNE

Using Bordeaux and Sarlat-la-Canéda as our bases, we will explore the vineyards and gardens that flourish in this region of France.
JUNE 4TH - 13TH 2020



FOOD & WINE OF BORDEAUX

From our base near St. Emilion, this one stop tour focuses on the delicious food & exquisite wines of this region.
JUNE 26TH - JULY 5TH 2020

NORMANDY, BRITTANY, AND THE LOIRE

From the rolling beaches of Normandy to the romantic beauty of château country; an ever-changing panorama unfolds through some of the loveliest regions of France.
SEPTEMBER 3RD - 12TH 2020

GREECE

A GREEK EASTER

Celebrate the Easter Holiday with local Greek villagers in Tolo and explore the fascinating history of Greece.
APRIL 17TH - 26TH 2020

ANCIENT ISLANDS: CORFU

Explore this Mediterranean island, once the home of the literary Durrell family. This is sure to be an unforgettable adventure!
OCTOBER 8TH - 17TH 2020

ANCIENT ISLANDS: CRETE

From Athens to Heraklion, explore the ancient Minoan civilization and search for the Minotaur at the Palace of Knossos.
OCTOBER 15TH - 24TH 2020

ICELAND

GETAWAY TO ICELAND

Experience the stunning natural beauty of Iceland on a long weekend getaway to Reykjavik. Northern Lights anyone?
FEBRUARY 13TH - 17TH 2020

THE LAND OF FIRE & ICE

Experience both Reykjavik and the Icelandic countryside and explore the geological forces that created this unique island.
MARCH 19TH - 24TH 2020

ICELAND PANORAMA

Enjoy summertime in Iceland on this journey of stunning natural beauty in the north, south, and west of the island.
JULY 5TH - 12TH 2020

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE TRIPS: CALL: (866) 563-7077 • E-MAIL: info@discovereuropeltd.com
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.discovereuropeltd.com

IRELAND

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN IRELAND

From Dublin to Killarney, experience the full breadth of Irish hospitality, during the ultimate Irish celebration - St. Patrick's Day!
MARCH 15TH - 22ND 2020

ISLAND OF SAINTS & SCHOLARS

From literary haunts to dramatic seascapes, explore the country that inspired Yeats, Joyce, Beckett, Heaney and so many others
APRIL 30TH - MAY 9TH 2020

ITALY

HIDDEN TREASURES OF SOUTHERN ITALY

Explore the highlights of southern Italy from the stunning Amalfi Coast to the "heel" of the boot: Puglia. Trulli amazing (??)
APRIL 2ND - 11TH 2020

THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT

This region is graced with shocking beauty, which unfolds against a backdrop of semi-tropical gardens, and palatial villas.
SEPTEMBER 18TH - 26TH 2020

THE ITALIAN KITCHEN

Journey from farm to table in the Piedmont and Emilia Romagna regions. A gastronomic tour with samplings of the regions specialties.
OCTOBER 1ST - 10TH 2020

SICILY: ISLAND CROSSROADS

A circular tour of this ancient island, known as the Crossroads of the Mediterranean. Optional Malta extension.
OCTOBER 23RD - 31ST 2020

PORTUGAL

THE MAGIC OF MADEIRA

Escape the winter and experience the "Island of Eternal Spring" at the magnificent Belmond Reid's Palace Hotel.
FEBRUARY 20TH - 28TH 2020

LUXURIOUS LISBON

Experience this exciting city and the region through its mesmerizing fado, delicious seafood and soothing port.
FEBRUARY 27TH - MARCH 3RD 2020

A PORTUGUESE PANORAMA

Take a panoramic tour of Portugal from Lisbon to Porto, and see the best that this small country has to offer.
SEPTEMBER 17TH - 26TH 2020

SCANDINAVIA

SCANDINAVIA

Discover the best of Scandinavia with visits to Copenhagen, Oslo, and Stockholm.
SEPTEMBER 8TH - 18TH 2020

SCOTLAND

SKYE & THE HIGHLANDS

The breathtaking landscapes and the dramatic legends will surely have you leaving your heart in the highlands.
JUNE 25TH - JULY 5TH 2020

BURNS' COUNTRY

Join us for an exploration away from the crowds to this little corner of the Scottish lowlands that is Robbie Burns' Country.
AUGUST 30TH - SEPTEMBER 7TH 2020

JOURNEY TO THE NORTHERN ISLES

Whether your interest is natural history or ancient worlds, the Orkney & Shetland islands are a must-see destination.
SEPTEMBER 3RD - 12TH 2020

SPAIN

THE CANARY ISLANDS

Join us for a winter getaway and visit the two largest islands in this Spanish Archipelago - Gran Canaria & Tenerife.
MARCH 12TH - 19TH 2020

BARCELONA & MALLORCA

Join us for an exploration of the Catalanian capital, Barcelona, and the island of Mallorca, the Jewel of the Mediterranean.
APRIL 3RD - 12TH 2020

THE PILGRIM'S WAY

Trace the Way of St. James on the ancient pilgrimage route along the north coast of Spain from Bilbao to Santiago.
MAY 19TH - 28TH 2020

MADRID Y ANDALUCIA

Journey south from Madrid to see the timeless landscapes surrounding the vibrant cities of Cordoba, Granada and Seville.
OCTOBER 22ND - 31ST 2020

THANKSGIVING IN MALLORCA

An extended stay in Sóller, with day trips to Deia, Palma and Valldemossa. Enjoy Thanksgiving dinner Mallorcan style - and you don't have to do the dishes!
NOVEMBER 20TH - 28TH 2020

WALES

WALES & THE WELSH BORDERS

Ancient market towns, mountain peaks, coastal villages and romantic ruins characterize this journey into the heart of ancient Wales, led by native Welsh tour guide Adrian Metcalfe.
SEPTEMBER 10TH - 19TH 2020

MULTI-COUNTRY TOURS

TULIPS & CHOCOLATE

HOLLAND & BELGIUM

Gardens & Gastronomy! From chocolate tasting in Belgium to admiring the tulips in full bloom in Holland, this tour will awaken the horticulturist and gourmet in all of us.
APRIL 10TH - 18TH 2020

VENICE TO LUCERNE



LUCERNE

ITALY & SWITZERLAND

Explore the alpine peaks and sparkling lakes of Italy and Switzerland. See the highlights, gardens, and historic sites of these regions.
MAY 7TH - 16TH 2020

A TALE OF THREE CITIES

ENGLAND & SCOTLAND

Travel from Scotland to England on this journey to Edinburgh, York & London.
MAY 21ST - 31ST 2020

CORSICA & SARDINIA

FRANCE & ITALY

Natural island beauty and rich history flourish in the Mediterranean climate of these two ancient and stunning islands.
SEPTEMBER 23RD - OCTOBER 2ND 2020

MEDITERRANEAN SHORES

FRANCE & SPAIN

From Barcelona to Nice - azure waters, white sand beaches, mountain villages and boundless sunshine. See why so many artists made this region their home.
SEPTEMBER 24TH - OCTOBER 3RD 2020

JEWELS OF EASTERN EUROPE

HUNGARY, AUSTRIA & THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Budapest, Vienna & Prague. Enjoy a mix of city time and excursions to sites of rural charm and beauty.
OCTOBER 1ST - 10TH 2020



YORK MINISTER



Indicates a "Let's Unpack: One-Stop Trip." One hotel, countless memories.

CUSTOM TOURS

In addition to those listed here, Discover Europe also runs tours that are custom-designed for a variety of organizations such as, Smith College, Tufts University, Vassar College and many others. Although these "sponsored" tours are not listed here, they are often available to non-members upon request.

Discover Europe can also organize private tours for groups of 2 to 20. Please contact us for details.

COURIER'S CORNER: THOMAS RANDALL

Thomas is the latest addition to our ranks. He'll be guiding tours in Italy, France, England, Spain, and more! We're very excited to welcome him to our team.

Q: WHERE IS YOUR FAVOURITE TOUR DESTINATION?

A: I genuinely don't have a favourite destination. That's the beauty of making travel your job; it's never an identical experience. For instance, when I know Discover Europe are soon to assign me to tours, I get so excited; where will next year bring me? What will I get to share with our guests? Variety is the spice of life for me when it comes to destinations.

Q: DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE CITY?

A: I have many second favourite cities, but only one real favourite: Venice. Why? It is simply unique. I know of no other place where today you could place a past historical son; Napoleon, Cesar, Shakespeare, etc. and expect anything other than their total confusion. However drop Casanova or Marco Polo anywhere in Venice and even in 2019, they could still find their way home. The only place like it.

Q: WHAT DO YOU ALWAYS PACK?

A: I have a young stepson. On the rare occasion I am home, we play with his set of coloured plastic balls. The first thing that always goes in my

suitcase, is a blue one from the collection. When I come home, out comes the ball and I tell him tales of what it has seen. I always try to carry those I love with me when I travel.

Q: WHY ARE YOU A TOUR GUIDE?

A: Obviously love of travel comes into it and sharing with clients the many wonderful things that one can see and do when exploring Europe. On a personal level, having studied and taught Art History, the move from the classroom to the actual sites and museums of Europe, to see things for real, as it were, was very compelling. I also have the good fortune to work across most of the continent, from Scandinavia to the Mediterranean, so I am never on the same limited circuit. This keeps things fresh. To do a job that gives one both satisfaction and pleasure as well as a measure of remuneration is hard to beat I think!



Q: CAN YOU SHARE YOUR MOST MEMORABLE DINING EXPERIENCE ON A TRIP?

A: Ah, this is impossible to answer. I am a real foodie. You are asking me to pick between paella and coq au vin, between risotto and roast beef. With such splendid food, one of the best things of being a guide all over Europe, is the variety. However, give me one of those cosy six or so table 'ma and pa' restaurants with paper tablecloths and house wine, and I'm a happy guide.

WHAT TO DO WITH FREE TIME IN: LISBON, PORTUGAL

Occasionally on a Discover Europe tour, you will find yourself with a free afternoon or an entirely free day to explore on your own. This allows you to see and do things of your individual liking and do some independent exploration. Here are some of our suggestions for things to do in Lisbon, Portugal.

1) GO IN SEARCH OF THE PASTEL DE NATA. This traditional Portuguese pastry is a must-have during your time in the city. It can best be described as an egg tart of sorts, but with a thick, flaky pastry and a rich, yellow custard that is perfectly caramelized on the top.

2) EXPLORE BELÉM. This Lisbon neighborhood is home to the 16th-century fortified tower, Torre de Belém, the Tropical Botanical Garden, Jerónimos Monastery (UNESCO world heritage site), and the Monument to the Discoveries, a 55 metre-high monument dedicated to Portuguese navigators who crossed the world and discovered new lands. You can choose to explore these sites on your own, or you can join an established walking tour to learn about the history of this part of the city.

3) VISIT SOME OF THE UNIQUE MUSEUMS THAT LISBON HAS TO OFFER. From the National Tile Museum, Oceanario de Lisboa (aquarium), National Museum of Entomology, National Coach Museum, and National Ancient Art Museum, it's sufficient to say that there is "something for everyone." Pick a museum and learn something new!

4) TAKE A WALK ON THE RUO DE FIGGUEROS. Explore all of the shops and plazas, where everyone hangs out during the day, follow this road up to Liberdade, where you'll find some of the best restaurants. Take your time and walk from square to square (or praca to praca) and people watch as you go.



PASTEL DE NATA



BELEM TOWER

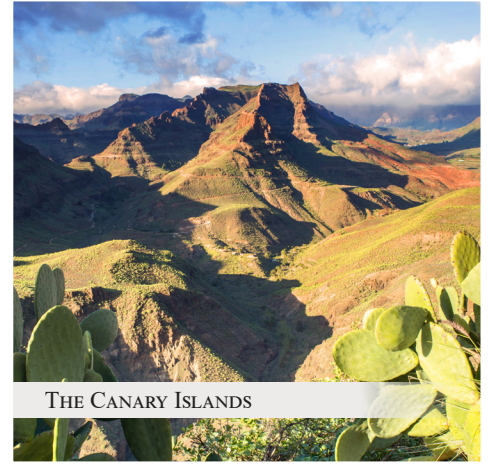
EUROPE IN WINTER

Here in New England, many of us don't start making our travel plans until we are in the midst of our third or fourth snowstorm and we have had enough of winter. We look forward to a spring or summer trip, but why wait? There are many places in Europe that are wonderful to visit in the winter months for many reasons. Firstly, there aren't the crowds of tourists that can inhibit the pleasure of really seeing a place. Large group tours and endless parades of buses are generally summertime affairs. Secondly, the weather, depending where you go (and we have some suggestions below), can be very mild, even tropical. Thirdly, the prices are generally less expensive and tourists are very much welcomed in the off-season months. Where to go? For warmer weather, interesting landscape, deep history and great food, here are three suggestions (alright, so geographically they may not all be in Europe, but they are both politically and culturally European!).

THE CANARY ISLANDS | MARCH 12TH - 19TH, 2020

Called the "Island of the Dogs" due to the ancient worship of the many large dogs on the islands (the people were referred to by the Greeks as "the dog-headed ones" and even the name refers to this - the Latin for dog being Canis). This archipelago lies 62 miles west of Morocco, in the Macaronesia Region along with Azores, Madeira, and the Cape Verde Islands. Made up of seven volcanic islands, it has a varied landscape from desert to high vegetation. It's subtropical weather, beaches, natural attractions including Mount Teide,

(third largest volcano in the world and a World Heritage Site), makes it ideal for a winter getaway. Although Spanish now, it has been settled by many other cultures whose influence can be experienced while dining on its fresh seafood and meat dishes rich with "mojo" (a combination of garlic, red pepper, thyme, cumin and other spices).



THE CANARY ISLANDS



MADEIRA

MADEIRA | FEBRUARY 20TH - 28TH, 2020

These islands sit in the archipelago southwest of Portugal, 250 miles north of The Canaries. Voted world's leading island destination by World Travel Awards in 2015, Madeira is known for its delicious wine, the gulf stream influence of mild year-round temperatures, Porto Santo - a long beach devoted to tourism, many species of whale and dolphin, botanical gardens and the wonderful 16th-century aqueducts called "levadas," which not only supply hydro electricity, but serve as walking paths throughout the countryside. Madeira, which means "wood" in Portuguese, is famed

for its native growth of trees or Laurisilva forests which have existed on the island for 1.8 million years and are designated a World Heritage Site. Funchal, the capital, sits in an amphitheater harbor where streets and neighborhoods stretch up in to the protective hills. Rich in folk history through music and dance which has been kept alive for centuries, it fames itself for being the birthplace of the ukulele!

LISBON | FEBRUARY 27TH - MARCH 3RD, 2020

Portugal: land of startling contrasts. This tiny country, squeezed between Spain and the sea, has a long and proud history of fierce independence. Its traditional agricultural and fishing communities continue unchanged beside its bustling and cosmopolitan cities. Its mountainous landscapes, untouched by time and modernization, stand in curious juxtaposition above the jet-setting coastal resorts. Lisbon's charm and character, with pastel-colored buildings and intricate tile work, make for some wonderful exploring. Known as the city of seven hills, like Rome, the views are stunning. Old world charm with modern convenience gives the best of both worlds. Fado, the heart-stirring folk song of this area, port wine and the rambling streets full of restaurants and shops, make Lisbon ideal when you need a rejuvenating break from winter.



LISBON



FALL 2019

VOLUME XVIII NUMBER 3

INTO THE HEART OF EUROPE

THE NEWSLETTER OF DISCOVER EUROPE LTD.



MADEIRA

95 Adams St.
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SCOTLAND AT WAR

What to do on a rainy day in Scotland? (a not uncommon occurrence in this northern part of the United Kingdom). There are a surprising number of museums in this small country dedicated to its participation in various conflicts, and World War II in particular.

You can see how weapons evolved in Scotland's National War Museum, housed inside the walls of Edinburgh Castle, or visit the delightfully named Devil's Porridge Museum in Gretna. Devil's Porridge was the term coined by Sherlock Holmes' author, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, to describe the guncotton substance (cordite) mixed and kneaded by female munitions workers in the first world war.

Scotland's Secret Bunker, located at Troywood in Fife, is the underground operations center built during the cold war. This concealed safe house, built 100 feet below a quaint Scottish farmhouse, is the size of 2 football pitches, one on top of the other.

The Scapa Flow Visitor Center on Orkney, located in a former pump house, explores the role the Royal Navy played at Scapa Flow during the two World Wars, when the area was an important military base.

And to remember particularly Scottish conflicts there is the Culloden battlefield, where the last hopes of a Jacobite rebellion were ruthlessly dashed by William "the Butcher" Cumberland in 1746, or the visitor center at Glencoe. On February 13, 1692, forces of the clan Campbell, working for the government (and settling old scores), massacred members of the clan MacDonald in retaliation for their part in the earlier, failed Jacobite uprising of 1689.

But if all this leaves you too depressed at man's inhumanity to man, you can always visit the Scotch Whisky Experience in Edinburgh. And remember that old Scottish proverb: "Today's rain is tomorrow's whisky."



GLENCOE