



February 2019

OUTLINES TRAVEL NEWS

BIKE & BARGE CYCLING CRUISES – WALKING – CYCLING – BOATING & BARGING NEWS FOR 2019

If you are receiving our e-newsletter for the first time, welcome, and if you are a regular reader, welcome back! If you are interested in past copies they are stored on our website: <http://bit.ly/1NR5eqK>. If you change your address or wish to add the name of a friend or stop receiving this material please contact us immediately.

TULIP BIKE & BARGE IN HOLLAND

Save 50% this springtime

Act quickly to secure this huge discount on 5-day tulip tours for March & April 2019. Save 50% on the cost for the second person sharing a twin cabin on these PREMIUM PLUS barge departures from Amsterdam:

24th, 26th, 27th, 28th & 31st March and 2nd April 2019

Conditions apply - limited availability, discount applies to new bookings only.

Call us TODAY to make a reservation on 1800 331 582 or see the website: <https://bit.ly/2sEf005>

PARIS TO BRUGES TWO-WEEKS FROM 6TH – 10TH OCTOBER 2019

Bike & Barge group charter only available for up to 12 passengers – ideal for cycle clubs & groups



We have approximately 60 barges in our Bike & Barge or Boat fleet with over 185 different itineraries. Most are fully booked for this year but we do still have some places available for the popular September & October period – in our view the best time to travel in Europe after the summer holiday rush.

Departing Paris this two-week cycling cruise visit many many fascinating historical places as it makes its way through the forests north of Versailles to the castle at Compiègne, past the chateau at Chantilly, the museum and railway carriage where the armistice was signed ending WW1, Peronne with its WW1 museum, cemeteries and ANZAC memorial, the Riqueval Tunnel, the oldest regional park of France: the Scarpe-Escout, the cobblestones of the Paris – Roubaix bike race, Tournai in Flanders on the Belgian border, picturesque Ghent and UNESCO listed Bruges, one of the prettiest towns in Europe.

At this stage cabins are available on this comfortable STANDARD PLUS barge for a **group of a minimum of 12 cyclists** a discounted rate of just \$3450 per person (twin share). Call us today for details.

For a full list of all the Bike & Barge cycling cruises scheduled for 2019 see our website: <https://bit.ly/2yUk8Li>

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



PARIS TO BRUGES - TWO WEEK PREMIUM PLUS BIKE & BARGE

10% discount on these dates – limited cabins available

Highlights include: Bruges, Ghent, the Ardennes, the Somme and WWI Memorial sites, Wallonia, Chateau de Chantilly, Auvers-sur-l'Oise, forests, woodlands, rolling hills, canal tunnels, great food and a night in Paris

From:	Departs:	Rest day:	See:
Bruges	18/05/2019	Via Peronne	See: https://bit.ly/2UnBQAc
Paris	29/06/2019	Via Peronne	
Bruges	27/07/2019	Via Peronne	See: https://bit.ly/2vOPfXf
Paris	24/08/2019	Via Peronne	
Paris	28/09/2019	Via St Quentin	

The discount applies to **NEW** bookings only – call us today to secure your cabin **1800 331 582**

WHAT'S NEW IN 2019



BELGIUM – BRUGES TO WEST FLANDERS
Bike & Barge STANDARD PLUS – guided cycling
 See: <https://bit.ly/2D1XVhZ>

If you are looking for a Bike & Barge trip full of WWI history this is the barge for you, visiting WWI trenches in Diksmuide, the Yser Tower and Museum, Grote Markt & In Flanders Fields Museums and possibly even time the sounding of the Last Post ceremony at Menin-gate. A great memorial arch recoding the names of 55,000 soldiers including 6,000 Australians who died in Belgium during WWI. This barge does have a limited number of cabins for 2019 so book early for this historic region.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



BIKE & BOAT GREECE - THE ISLANDS OF THE AEGEAN

See: <https://bit.ly/2VE6O8t>

Join us on a traditional Turkish gulet (sailing boat) as we explore the islands of the Aegean Sea. Enjoy a balanced itinerary of moderate cycling through the hilly and mountainous areas of the islands of Kos, Leros, Patmos and Lipsi, Kalymnos with plenty of time for sightseeing and a swim with the benefit of only unpacking once aboard the Premium Turkish gulet. Tour Includes: 7-nights in double / twin or single cabins with shower/toilet, 7 nights half board (includes breakfast and either lunch or dinner onboard), English and German speaking tour guide, guided cycling tours as described, 21-gear hybrid bike hire with pannier, museum and archaeological entry fees.



BIKE & BARGE GERMANY & POLAND - BERLIN TO THE BALTIC SEA

Premium barge with Self-Guided cycling.

See: <https://bit.ly/2ES8Llp>

Combine two ways of exploring Germany with this bike and barge trip, starting in the capital Berlin we pass through lush landscapes, wetlands, quiet villages and Baroque castles along our way to the Hanseatic trading port of Stralsund on the Baltic Sea on board a comfortable river cruiser for 7 nights. Enjoy easy moderating cycling on mostly flat cycle trails, bike lanes and quiet backroads. This region is known for its exceptional flora and fauna with an abundance of wildflowers and birds you will see along the cycle path.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



BIKE & BARGE - CZECH REPUBLIC

Prague and the heart of Bohemia

See: <https://bit.ly/2Vghc6e>

This unique cycling cruise along easy to moderate mostly flat with some short hills cycling route along cycle paths with some unpaved trails through forests or fields as you make your way through the heart of Bohemia. Starting and finishing in “the Golden City” of Prague, with the option to enjoy a guided walk through Prague before taking to the bikes to enjoy the sights of the many castles along the cycle paths and the option to explore within as you follow the Elbe River.



BIKE & BOAT VIETNAM - DISCOVER NORTH, SOUTH CENTRAL VIETNAM

Includes Ha Long Bay, Hoi An, Hanoi, Saigon, Mekong Delta

See: <https://bit.ly/2D2N8UM>

Enjoy the vibrant and unique history and culture of Vietnam with this cycling and cruising small group tour. Vietnam is a country full of history and natural beauty, as well a bustling cities and amazing fresh foods. Join us as we cycle beside lush green rice paddies, water buffalo, traditional villages, temples and pagodas.

We start in the North with the beauty of Ha Long bay before cruising south to central Vietnam’s Hoi An with its old town full of traditional old houses that you can explore and temples along with a traditional Japanese bridge. While in the Old town enjoy some of the Hoi An specialties of fried wonton or duck spring rolls. Before heading south you will stop at Hue where you will have the chance to explore the impressive Imperial City.

In the South explore the Mekong Delta and try some of the unusual tropical fruits grown locally in the Mekong before finishing in your tour in Ho Chi Minh City.

WHAT YOU SAID - COMMENTS & PICTURES FOR BIKE & BARGE

We always appreciate your feedback



PROVENCE BIKE & BARGE

From Aigues-Mortes to Avignon

See: <https://bit.ly/2OTZSRi>

"I want to let you know I had a fabulous time on the Bike & Barge trip at end of September. Aigue Morte to Avignon. It's definitely the "way to go" in the future for me!

Everything was wonderful.the "Caprice", the crew, accommodation, meals, the other travellers (whom I discovered all knew each other), Hugo our bike guide, and of course, the bike €which I didn't fall off at all! Highly recommended trip!" Jenny



AMSTERDAM TO BRUGES BIKE & BARGE

Our most popular cycling holiday

See: <https://bit.ly/2I7CubT>

"Thank you for all the travel arrangements you made. The holiday was most enjoyable and went smoothly and exactly to plan. The accommodation places you booked for us were all of appropriate standard with great locations.

We have nothing but praise for the Bike and Barge trip. The accommodation was of a high standard. We found the meals almost unbelievably good. Nothing was too much trouble for the crew. The bikes seemed quite new and were well maintained. After the initial surprise we found the "Dutch bike" design relaxed and entirely suitable for the paths and terrain. The guides were knowledgeable about the country, local culture and the "touristy" stuff, and as well always gave us careful details about any possible challenges for the those unfamiliar with this sort of cycling..

The experience was so good that we are now really sold on bike touring as a way to experience other countries, especially given that popular tourist centres are now so overcrowded and commercialized.

We are enthusiastic enough to be seriously considering doing another European bike and barge, or something equally outdoorsy at a similar time in 2019, and would be keen to know what you have available." Graham and Jennifer

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



FRANCE & SPAIN - BASQUE COUNTY

Guided walking and sightseeing

See: <https://bit.ly/2SpCeO7>

Spend time on both sides of the French and Spanish border in comfortable hotel accommodation split between both countries. Starting in the French Basque country known as the Pays Basque we stay in the peaceful town of Ascaïn this region is known for its proud heritage and culture and is located in the foothills of the Pyrenees, home to wild ponies called Pottok Horses. One the fourth day we will move across to Spain where we explore the Spanish Basque country know as Pays Basque home to its own rich traditions and gastronomy .



MONTENEGRO - KOTOR BAY LAKE SKADAR & ADRIATIC COAST

Guided walking - regular departures April to October 2019.

See: <https://bit.ly/2ETB9uS>

Explore the smallest and newest of the Balkan countries Montenegro. Walk in the beautiful Lovcen National Park, pass through traditional villages and enjoy a boat ride on Lake Skadar, one of the largest lakes in Europe and home to 40 different kinds of fish and 270 different bird species. Stay in a hotel directly overlooking the beach and surrounded by olive and orange trees. Petrovac is your base for a weeklong guided walking holiday

offering a choice of grades each day from exploring the coastline towns to making your way up the mountainous slopes to explore numerous small communities.

On this holiday we explore beautiful Lov en National Park, pass through traditional villages and enjoy a boat ride on Lake Skadar, one of the largest lakes in Europe. It has 40 different kinds of fish and 270 bird species!

The dramatic Kotor Bay, on the Adriatic, is surrounded by the massifs of the Dinaric Alps and is lined with medieval and Venetian-era villages. Other highlights include the Blue Grotto, St Tryphon's Cathedral and Mount Orjen, providing a variety of activities and sightseeing possibilities over the course of your holiday.



ITALY GUIDED WALK - CINQUE TERRE COAST

See: <https://bit.ly/2skN6kP>

Clinging to the rocky cliffs along this spectacular coastline are paths through unique, protected landscapes and marine national parks linking all five of the villages along the coast with an experience guide. Immerse yourself in the history of the area with its narrow roads and preserved architecture while enjoying panoramic views from vineyard terraces. There is a choice of two levels of walks each day an easier walk or more challenging with local trains and ferries to provide access to the walks along the coastline.

FRANCE GUIDED CYCLING LOIRE VALLEY

See: <https://bit.ly/2TNidBp>

Join our tour guide on this easy to moderate cycling trip through France's "Valley of the Kings" Loire Valley. Follow flat and gently rolling rural countryside going inn-to-inn while enjoying fine wine and French cuisine. Easily accessed from Paris made this region particularly popular with French & English Kings including Henry II, Richard I and Richard the Lionheart. This guided cycling holiday will have you following a rich path of history, wine and traditional French cuisine.

AUSTRIA & HUNGARY – VIENNA TO BUDAPEST

See: <https://bit.ly/2FqgfCl>

With all the time in the world to stop for a relaxing swim or a thermal spa, this moderate self-guided cycling trip from Vienna to Budapest, enjoying beautiful lakes, forests and rustic villages as you explore the eastern Austria and Hungary is a great cycling holiday choice. Cycle along a section of the River Danube cycle path into the Donau-Auen National park, and one day to Lake Hévíz a natural thermal lake with constant water temperatures of 30-35 degrees. Unwinding and relaxing as you progress through this region.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



SCOTLAND SELF-GUIDED WALKING INN-TO-INN THE FAR NORTH OF SCOTLAND

See: <https://bit.ly/2VIHrIZ>

Take a walk on the wild side of Scotland along Scotland's Northern Highland Way, this moderate walk taking you through scenic and remote landscapes that take you from one extreme to the next from white sandy beaches to towering coastal cliffs where the Atlantic Ocean and meets the North sea. Beginning in Thurso the most northerly town on British mainland and ending in Durness after exploring the wilderness of Cape Wrath with its diverse wildlife and a chance to see rock pipit, red deer, fulmar, hooded crow, golden eagles and gannets. Northern Highland Way is in high demand with limited accommodation, early booking essential.



SOUTH AFRICA CYCLING & SAFARI HOLIDAYS

See: <https://bit.ly/2SnXmnv>

More than just a cycling holiday this is well planned exploration of the north-eastern corner of South Africa, combining a traditional game-viewing safaris with sightseeing, cultural and historical insights AND an easy to moderate itinerary of guided cycling. We offer regular dates on a fully supported cycling safari through the Kruger National Park and Blyde River Canyon regions of the north-eastern part of South Africa.

Highlights include wildlife encounters by bicycle or e-bike, on foot, and by vehicle. Cycling days vary between 10-27km, with comfortable accommodation in lodges and hotels, full-board and an experienced guide and support vehicle included. Exploring by bike allows you to discover the vast panoramas of the Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces.

The tour starts and ends in Hoedspruit, a farming community with a well-connected airport, gateway to the Blyde River Canyon reserve and Kruger National Park. This is your chance to ride through plantations of citrus, avocado and macadamia, to meet local craftsmen, to explore a massive limestone cave system and to picnic beside an ancient baobab tree once used as a pub in the gold mining days. Admire the rock formations of the Blyde and Treur Rivers and wonder at the magnificent views of canyons and escarpments and a two-night stay at the with historic Coach House Hotel in the Wolkberg Mountains.

Kruger National Park is renowned for its diversity and density of wildlife, including the iconic 'big 5' animals of Africa – lion, elephant, rhino, leopard and buffalo. Add cheetah, hyena, giraffe, zebra, antelope, vultures and eagles, and so many more on early morning and sunset game drives through the diverse landscapes.

There is a two-night stay in the Kruger National Park and also on a private game reserve near Hoedspruit where you can see a host of wildlife. Enjoy the thrill of seeing giraffe, impala, baboons, monkeys or zebra while cycling. Get close to a host of colourful birds and plant life on a walking safari with expert guides. On foot too you may discover Africa's 'little 5', the elephant shrew, ant lion, rhinoceros beetle, buffalo weaver and leopard tortoise!

With over 30-years of experience in active holidays worldwide Outdoor Travel has carefully selected local operators to ensure you get the most out of your visit to Africa.



JAPAN – HONSHU & NOTO PENINSULA - KANAZAWA TO NOTOJIMA ISLAND

Self-guided cycling – daily departures April to November

See: <https://bit.ly/2M1RNZV>

The Noto Peninsula is full of history, culture and superb cycling, from rugged seascapes, rural life, and fresh off the boat seafood. Enjoy this 7 day / 6 nights self-guided inn-to-inn cycle tour of the Noto Peninsula & Honshu starting in Kanazawa and ending in Notojima Island.

Experience the real Japan in so many ways, meeting local people, warm hospitality while staying at the traditional family-run lodgings. Explore the Asa-ichi market (morning market) in Wajima full of fresh local seafood straight off the trawler, cool boutiques, and tasteful lacquerware and pottery souvenirs along with so many more wonderful places.



LUXURY HOTEL BARGING IN EUROPE HUGE SAVINGS ON CABINS AND SELECTED CHARTERS

Luxury hotel barge cruises offer an intimate, house-party atmosphere and access to small canals and rivers that the large cruise ships just can't navigate. These luxury holidays are all-inclusive; prices include accommodation in an comfortable and spacious air-conditioned cabin; all meals, with gourmet cuisine prepared by an onboard master chef; a fully stocked open bar; and unique daily escorted excursions. The crew on these hotel barges are experienced, attentive and highly professional and their service is top-notch.

Each barge in the fleet has been carefully designed and fitted out with utmost attention to detail to provide luxury boutique accommodation from 4 to 20 passengers. These barges are also perfect for a group of family or friends to charter for exclusive use and enjoy their own bespoke private cruise.

SAVINGS ON 2019 CRUISE BOOKINGS MADE AND DEPOSITED BY 18TH FEBRUARY 2019

Barge	Discount available	Select offer dates in 2019 *
Burgundy, France		
L'Art de Vivre	20% off per charter	7 th April
	10% off per charter	5 th , 19 th , 26 th May
	10% off per cabin	28 th April
Finesse	20% off per charter 10% off per cabin	7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th April 19 th , 26 th May
La Belle Epoque	20% off per charter 20% off per cabin 10% off per cabin	31 st March, 28 th April, 12 th , 19 th May 14 th , 21 st April, 5 th May 26 th May, 16 th , 30 th June
L'Impressionniste	20% off per cabin	14 th , 21 st April, 5 th , 12 th , 19 th May
Burgundy and Loire Valley, France		
Renaissance	10% off per charter	7 th April, 12 th May
	10% off per cabin	26 th May
	20% off per cabin	14 th April
Canal du Midi, France		
Anjodi	20% off per charter	31 st March, 28 th April
	20% off per cabin	7 th , 14 th April, 12 th May
Athos	20% off per charter	31 st March, 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th April
Enchanté	20% off per charter	24 th March, 21 st , 28 th April
	20% off per cabin	31 st March, 5 th May
Gascony, France		
Rosa	20% off per charter	28 th April, 5 th , 12 th May
	10% off per charter	26 th May, 2 nd June
Champagne, France		
Panache	20% off per charter	2 nd , 9 th June
	20% off per cabin	26 th May, 16 th , 30 th June
Holland		
Panache	20% off per charter	24 th , 31 st March, 5 th May
Venice & Po Valley, Italy		
La Bella Vita	20% off per charter	24 th , 31 st March, 7 th , 14 th , 21 st April, 5 th , 12 th May
	10% off per charter	16 th June
	10% off per cabin	28 th April, 9 th June, 7 th , 21 st July
Caledonian Canal, Scotland		
Scottish Highlander	10% off per charter	7 th April, 12 th May
	20% off per cabin	21 st , 28 th April
Spirit of Scotland	10% off per charter	14 th , 21 st April
	10% off per cabin	12 th , 19 th , 26 th May, 9 th June

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT ON SELECTED BARGE CRUISES – SAVE UP TO \$3275*

Not happy paying for an empty bed?

Take advantage of our special offer for solo travellers – **no single supplement** applies on the following barges and departure dates for 2019:

La Belle Epoque, Burgundy	14 th , 21 st April, 5 th , 26 th May 2019	Save up to \$3275
La Bella Vita, Venice & Po Delta	28 th April, 9 th June 2019	Save up to \$2585
Panache	26 th May, 16 th , 30 th June	Save up to \$3275
Anjodi, Canal du Midi, France	7 th , 14 th April, 12 th May 2019	Save up to \$2415
Spirit of Scotland	12 th , 19 th , 26 th May, 9 th June	Save up to \$2930

* Offers valid for new bookings made and deposited before **18th February 2019**. Terms and conditions apply for NEW bookings only - subject to availability, cannot be combined with any other hotel barging offers.

See dates and prices for 2019: <https://bit.ly/2JLFsYF> -

See the Go Barging brochure: <https://bit.ly/2MScKVK>

THEMED & PRIVATE CHARTER HOTEL BARGE CRUISES

Water & Wine on the Canal du Midi

Would you like to plan a holiday around your love of wine? But you'd also like to travel via boat? No problem. All over the world, wine enthusiasts are cottoning on to the idea of indulging in their wine tasting hobby whilst cruising the world's most spectacular canals aboard a luxury vessel. France is an idyllic location for one of these wine inspired holidays, with many opportunities to visit world-renowned vineyards and wine tastings.

In order to have a well-rounded experience, specialized wine cruises should include a professional wine guide and wine itinerary.

The 300-year-old sun-drenched Canal du Midi is the perfect backdrop for a wine holiday, with its tree lined banks and views of the Pyrenees. Two of the best vessels cruising this historic canal include the Anjodi and the Enchanté, some of the finest examples of hotel barges in Europe. The beautiful interior decor of each barge, combined with the incredible exterior views make this section of France an ideal spot for a cruise.

Anjodi was specifically designed to navigate the waters of the Canal du Midi and was constructed following a classic Dutch design. The vessel has been re-furbished and can fit up to eight passengers comfortably.

Whilst aboard the Anjodi, typical cruises include travelling to the Château de Perdiguier, where you will have the privilege of enjoying a private tasting of Corbières and Minervois wine. From there, you will also see the magnificent Pyrenees mountains across the vineyards and a guide will speak to you about Cathar history.

Other highlights of your cruise on the Anjodi will include touring Carcassonne (the most complete medieval fortified city in existence), experiencing Lezignan's colourful market, and visiting Béziers cathedral. France is certainly the best place for a wine inspired tour and your cruise will include a great deal of wine tastings, however stopping off to enjoy the country's breath-taking monuments and historical sites is an added bonus. For the true aficionados, you will be impressed to know that aboard the vessel the inclusive wine cellar will be stocked with Domain de Guéry, Château de Nouvelles, La Clape and Château la Condamine Bertrand for your drinking pleasure.

Enchanté is a double-decker hotel-barge that provides luxurious accommodation for up to eight guests. It has a welcoming contemporary interior, providing guests with a bright art deco atmosphere.

If you decide to take a cruise on the Enchanté along the Canal du Midi your itinerary will include travelling to the beautiful city of Corbières to visit the Minervois winery to enjoy a winery tour and private tastings.

Enchanté's wine cellar includes an impressive variety of wines such as Domaine de Nalys, Châteauneuf du Pape, Château Haut Gléon, Corbières, Domaine Corsin, Pouilly Fuissé, Domaine Vacheron, Sancerre, Château Les Ollieux Romanis, Corbières, Domaine Alquier, Faugères, Château de Gourgazaud and Minervois La Livinière. If that's not enough to make your tastebuds tingle you don't know your wines!

With vineyards spread throughout the country, picturesque canals and waterways, and fabulous historical sites at every turn, France really is a wine and water lovers' paradise. Ask for the full wine appreciation itinerary

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

AFRICA – SAFARI & CRUISING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA **NEW FOR 2019**

9-day / 8-night safari & PREMIUM PLUS cruising holiday South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe



This holiday, new for 2019, combines land and water safaris, cruising on a luxury hotel boat, and guided visits to Johannesburg and **Victoria Falls** for a unique and unforgettable in-depth exploration of Southern Africa.

From **Johannesburg**, we travel to the **Chobe National Park** in Botswana, staying in a luxurious safari lodge on an island in the **Zambezi River**. We explore Chobe by land and water to see elephant, hippo, crocodile or some of the park's many bird species. We visit islands on the Zambezi to learn more of the local customs and culture. We spend three nights aboard a PREMIUM PLUS hotel boat on **Lake Kariba**, discovering the lake's tributaries, gorges and landscapes. We visit **Matusadona National Park**, a sanctuary for the endangered black rhino and other wildlife. We visit Victoria Falls, one of the world's largest and most spectacular waterfalls.

On this all-inclusive luxury holiday, travel at a relaxed pace on a beautifully appointed hotel boat with just eight cabins, two with private balcony. The exclusive safari lodge too has just eight bungalows, each with its own terrace and private pool. On-board the boat there is one crew member for each passenger, and the staff multi-lingual with English as the main language. All meals are included, with a focus on refined local cuisine.

Departs on regular dates from April to December 2019 – see: <https://bit.ly/2CskEIH>



EUROPEAN SELF-SKIPPERED MOTOR CRUISING HOLIDAYS

EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNTS FOR 2019*

With 17 destinations in 8 countries around Europe and the UK, a self-skippered motor cruising holiday is ideal for a couple, a group of friends or a family. Explore the waterways in comfort, no experience or licence required and a wide choice of self-contained, fully equipped boats to suit everyone's needs.

There are so many benefits to booking early. Save with the Early Booking Discount, have your pick of boat, destination and dates before they sell out and fly cheaper by booking your airfares at the best prices.

Current 2019 Special Offers – check with us for new offers and for a quote for your holiday:

15% discount on all cruises in the following regions (except on our HORIZON boats):

CANAL DU MIDI * CAMARGUE * NIVERNAIS / LOIRE (BURGUNDY) * ALSACE * ITALY * GERMANY

15% discount on the following boat types in ALL REGIONS:

CAPRICE * CLIPPER * MAGNIFIQUE * ELEGANCE * CRUSADER * CLASSIQUE STAR

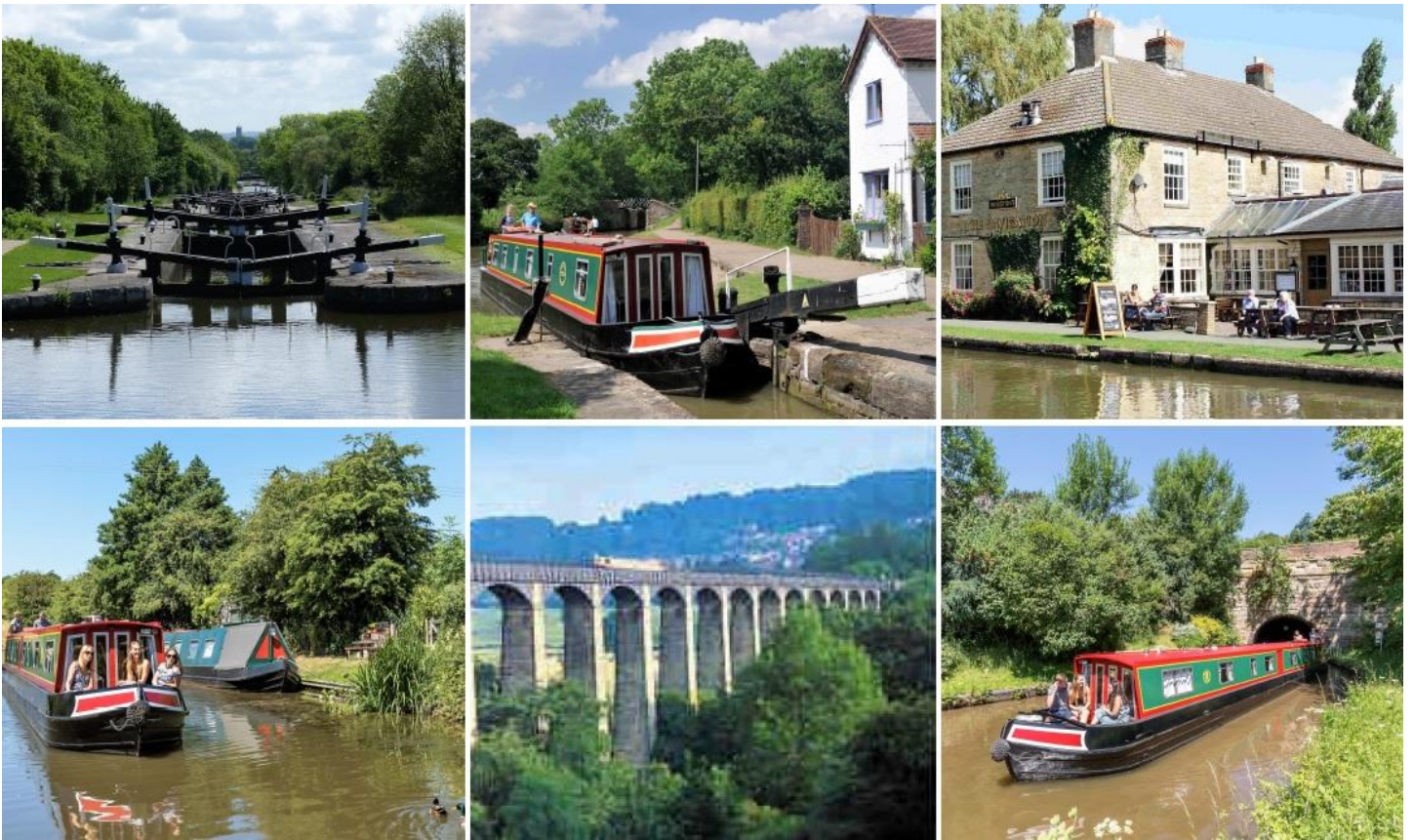
* Conditions apply to all our offers - ask us for full details when making your reservation.

Discover the beauty of the UK and Europe's stunning lakes, rivers and canals and their surrounding villages and countryside from the unique perspective of the sundeck on your private self-skippered motor cruiser. Stopping whenever and wherever you want is all part of the fun on a river or canal boat holiday. Enjoy fishing, swimming, visiting ancient castles, playing golf, or biking in the countryside.

Explore **Brittany** in the Northwest coast with over 600km of canals, some dating back to the Napoleonic period, with very few other boats this is a very picturesque corner of France. Explore woodlands and pastures, medieval villages and castles including the 11th Century Chateau de Joselin in Morbihan. The food here is wonderful, taste fresh seafood and Breton oysters from La Roche-Bernard harbour, try the Brittany specialty of crepes and apple cider or Muscadet wine from Suce-sur-Erdre. The bustling Saturday market in Rennes is one not to be missed.

We recommend: A one-week out and back cruise from Messac to Nantes (44 hours and 36 locks) OR a one-way cruise from Messac to Dinan (30 cruising hours and 57 Locks) – hire costs start from \$1,679.00 for a week in Brittany in a comfortable Caprice boat suitable for up to for 4 people.

See the current brochure: <https://bit.ly/2zOeXNM> See indicative prices: <https://bit.ly/2PqHzJW>



UK NARROWBOAT HIRE

EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNTS FOR 2019 – SAVE 15% FOR NEW RESERVATIONS

The Llangollen canal has some of the Welsh border's most beautiful scenery and some amazing canal engineering making it one of the most popular canal holiday destinations in Britain. Combining the gentle rolling hills of Shropshire in England with the Clwyd County farming country in Wales.

We offer four bases for narrowboats giving access to the Llangollen Canal at Blackwater Meadow, Anderton, Wrenbury and Whitchurch with dozens of 1, 2 and 3-cabin boats with kitchens and bathrooms to choose from .

The main attraction for this area is the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, which you will cross enroute to the small town of Llangollen.

How do you pronounce Pontcysyllte? Aim at something like "*Pont-kersulty*". The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct is the largest and highest in the UK, over 307 meters long and 38 meters high spanning the Rive Dee down in the valley below. The Pontcysyllte was built in 1805 by Thomas Telford and William Jessop and is considered Telford's greatest engineering achievements.

The Llangollen canal has a gentle flow as it feeds other canals, so outbound journey will always be slower than on the way back. On these holidays you can usually moor at any point along your journey but visitor moorings need to be pre-booked in Llangollen. Charges do apply and you need to arrive by 4.30pm.

In a week from our base at Blackwater you can reach Llangollen and back or return down the Montgomery Canal (you must pre-book your passage if you plan to travel down the Montgomery Canal).

A one-week cruise from the Blackwater, Whitchurch or Wrenbury bases starts from \$1960.00 for up to 4 people – less any applicable discounts.

See the webpage: http://www.outdoortravel.com.au/content/content/content/UK_Canal_Boat_Holidays

See the brochure: <https://bit.ly/2J5iyNO>

See the price list and holiday summary including base map: <https://bit.ly/2U6n5Cz>

Current offer is a 15% discount on narrowboat hire – call us for a quote today

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



NEWS FROM AUSTRIA:

There are no kangaroos in Austria but you can see 12 Music Festivals in 2019 - <https://bit.ly/2TPI4Zb>

Immerse yourself in the magical atmosphere of Austria's great festivals featuring world class performances in spectacular settings.

Castle Grafenegg Music Festival - <https://bit.ly/2AQnJyt>

Every year in August, audiences flock to hear performances by the London Symphony Orchestra and the likes amid the beautiful setting of a centuries-old castle and adjacent park.

Innsbruck Festival of Early Music_ - <https://bit.ly/2DdR0SZ>

Outstanding opera productions and stunning concerts in historical venues. One of the most important festivals for historically informed performances.

Styriarte - <https://bit.ly/2QTeccC>

The late conductor Nikolaus Harnoncourt was the father of this festival which features performances of the Concentus Musicus Wien, an ensemble performing Early Music on period instruments and the extraordinarily dynamic Chamber Orchestra of Europe.

Salzburg Festival - <https://bit.ly/2FO57Si>

Featuring opera, concerts and drama, the Salzburg Festival enjoys worldwide recognition as one of the most outstanding classical music events today.

Summer Festival at Lake Constance - <https://bit.ly/2FBMcbY>

Known as the "Bregenzer Festspiele", this event draws crowds with opera and concert performances by the Vienna Symphonic Orchestra and the largest floating stage in the world.

Schubertiade Schwarzenberg_ - <https://bit.ly/2CqRbZp>

The annual meeting place for an international audience that seeks an exceptional cultural experience: hearing music performed by outstanding artists in idyllic surroundings.

Vienna Festival Weeks - <https://bit.ly/2svrmD0>

Encompassing everything from symphonic concerts and opera to theatre performances and exhibitions, this significant festival spices up Vienna's cultural life during the summer.

Operafestival St. Margarethen - <https://bit.ly/2FDp9x8>

An old Roman quarry is the setting for this exciting summer festival in Burgenland. International stars and popular operas guarantee a spectacular experience.

Mörbisch Festival on the Lake - <https://bit.ly/2Dd7DxZ>

The picturesque town of Mörbisch is the location of the world's greatest operetta Festival. Once you have seen the impressive open air stage you will be captivated.

Hadyn Festival - <https://bit.ly/2FCly2k>

The works of Joseph Haydn is at the heart of the festival in Eisenstadt, where Hayden was head of the court ensemble at the Esterhazy castle.

The Linz Klangwolke (Cloud of Sound) - <https://bit.ly/2FuNu98>

The opening event for the Bruckner Festival in Linz is a spectacle of pioneering classical music performances and electronic visualization.

Walking in Austria:

See: <https://bit.ly/2MzvomQ>

“Neustift highly recommended. Great leaders Steve & Phil and our weekly transport card excellent. Zell am see - excellent particularly little central hotel “Glasererhaus” 3 star but reasonable with good food nearby. Fuschl am See - 40 mins by postbus from Salzburg – small village, lovely lake to walk around, very rural and restful and easy day trips to bigger lakes east, south and north by ferry, train and bus. Great for explorers!!

Melk - only 1 hr west of Vienna but I travelled to it from Salzburg “Hotel Restaurant zur Post”, lovely find - best position, food and wonderful owner/manager Margaret- loved my days there.” Margaret

NEWS FROM ITALY

Matera, European Capital of Culture in 2019



Visit Matera, hurry, the southern Italian city is a true gem and much unexplored by foreign tourists.

Located in the Region of Basilicata, Matera is the third-oldest continually inhabited settlement for over 9000 years in the world after Aleppo and Jericho. UNESCO added the “*Sassi of Matera*” to its list of World Heritage Sites in 1993, as a whole and millennial way of life to be preserved and handed down to us.

For movie fans Matera was the location for much of the film ‘*The Passion of Christ*’ starring Mel Gibson.

The Sassi and the Park of the Rupestrian Churches of Matera comprises a complex of houses, churches, monasteries and hermitages built into the natural caves of the Murgia. Stroll beyond the “Sassi” and admire one of its oldest districts, Civita, the natural fortress. The area is also home to the Romanesque Cathedral, built c. 1268-1270. It houses many works of art including a Byzantine Madonna from the 13th century.

This remarkable, intact troglodyte settlement contains more than a thousand dwellings, shops and workshops. After years of meticulous restoration, Matera today is a place full of life. Its caves host restaurants and hotels.

2019 will be Matera’s big year as European Capital of Culture. Lots of events and outdoors activities are planned for the year, so stay tuned. It’s worth spending a night or two and explore the area. You can sleep in the caves and have a unique experience, as most places have been converted to be rented to visitors.

Enjoy the sunset; try authentic local cuisine at the quirky *Antica Trattoria Lucana* while sipping *Primitivo* wine. Admire the lights of Matera by night....an unforgettable experience.

The best way to see Matera, Puglia & Basilicata is on an active holiday

For a week of walking based in Altamura: <https://bit.ly/2CaJ1Es>

For a week of cycling from Matera to Alberobello: <https://bit.ly/2zoygha>



RENT AN APARTMENT IN TUSCANY

20% off for this summer in Italy

For all NEW bookings in the months of April, June, July, August & September - confirmed from 01/02/2019 to 31/3/19 - Outdoor Travel will offer a discount of 20% on the published prices for 1, 2 & 3-bedroom Tuscan farmhouse apartments.

Plus the minimum stay in August now becomes 5 nights (instead of 7) & only 2 nights for the rest of the year, including July.

See the price list for 2019: <https://bit.ly/2TiVe11>

Or see the website: <https://bit.ly/2Wkc3ut>

LEONARDO 500 (1519 - 2019)

Anniversary celebrations

See: <https://bit.ly/2MzyjvJ>

Milan & Leonardo da Vinci: On the occasion of the 500th anniversary of his death, Milan celebrates his legacy hosting the project Leonardo 500, with a rich programme of exhibitions and experiences for 2019. Young Leonardo came to the court of Milan to find employment and seek his fortune: in more than 20 years, he left an indelible mark in the fields of art and science. No other city was gifted with his presence for such a long time, or was the recipient of such a great part of his influence.

The main event will be the opening of Sala delle Asse in the Castello Sforzesco on 2nd May 2019. The room, painted by Leonardo, has been renovated and visitors will have the chance to admire closely the rendering of the rocks, the exuberant foliage and previously undiscovered traits revealed by the restoration work. The Castle will also host a multimedia itinerary for 15th and 16th Century Milan.

Palazzo Reale will add two great exhibitions: *Il meraviglioso mondo della natura prima e dopo Leonardo* ("The wonderful world of nature before and after Leonardo") and *La cena di Leonardo per Francesco I* (Leonardo's Supper for Francis I) where the copy in tapestry of Leonardo's *Last Supper*, commissioned by the French Court, will be on loan from the Vatican Museums for the first time ever.

The *National Museum of Science and Technology "Leonardo da Vinci"* has renovated its gallery dedicated to Leonardo's models and machines with a new major project; "*Leonardo da Vinci's Parade*" in which models and frescos are displayed on the stage of the museum in a combination of art and science.

Many other locations in Milan will host new projects and events, from Pinacoteca Ambrosiana, with new exhibitions of the Codex Atlanticus, to San Siro Racecourse, with Leonardo's majestic horse about to become a model for contemporary artistic expression. Milano and Leonardo in 2019 are the occasion to celebrate history and the past in order to nurture the future the city is looking forward to.

WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT OUR HOLIDAYS

Your feedback is always appreciated:



Cycling along the River Moselle in Germany:

See: <https://bit.ly/2HCpZwx>

"I recently completed the Moselle Bicycle Tour. We had a wonderful time, and so much of the trip was outstanding. The hotel accommodation was top class, the breakfasts were great, and all the maps and travel instructions were excellent. Plus the Moselle region put on some excellent weather for our trip! There were just a couple of negatives worth commenting on for your future reference.

The organisation booking the hotels needs to make absolutely sure that clients asking for "twin beds" get two very separate beds, even if that means they have to have a family room.

Although my bike was actually fine, it would be good to have staff from the organisation fitting people with their bicycles on arrival.

Anyway, apart from those two things, the trip was great and we all enjoyed it." **Sue**

Walking in Madeira:

See: <https://bit.ly/2Wp1wOs>

"The walking trip was also successful. Weather was warm, resort very comfortable and pleasant staff. Was good to have a pool there and also entertainment available most nights or a 20 min public transport ride to Funchal (bus stop close to resort .

The walks were challenging at times with many terrains especially the steep declines down rocky uneven paths. Was happy I never fell over! The group were mainly from UK and a bit older than me but most were experienced regular walkers." **Lynne**

Cycling in Alsace, France:

See: <https://bit.ly/2FqcE7Q>

"Speaking personally, the single most memorable thing about Alsace is the string of beautiful villages that make up the Route du vin". "The villages themselves are beautiful, and impeccably preserved. They run in a line from north to south along the bottom of the eastern flanks of the Vosges mountains, so wherever you are the backdrop is a beautiful range of hills and mountains.

And it really is a huge wine-producing region, the vineyards stretch for 70 miles from Marlenheim, northeast of Strasbourg, to Thann, just outside Mulhouse. So as you leave each beautiful village, you cycle through 3 or 4 kilometres of vineyards and you're in another beautiful village.

What prompted this musing of Alsatian villages? Watching 2017's Disney version of Beauty and the Beast, I was struck by the village where the heroine, Belle, lived. It looked familiar, but the penny didn't drop immediately. Then I realised it was like being in Alsace. A little bit of research revealed that Belle's village was based on the Alsace villages of Riquewihr and Ribeauvillé." Bernard



WALKING IN TASSIE IN APRIL

4-days / 3-nights - guided centre-based walk with quality lodge accommodation

Free entry to MONA in Hobart offer

See: <https://bit.ly/2tQmHeP>

This four-day guided wilderness walk covers the length of the Freycinet Peninsula on Tasmania's east coast. Rise to the sights, sounds and smells of the Australian 'bush', enjoy the spectacular vistas of the clear waters of the Tasman Sea, see the contrast of **bright orange lichen on granite** against pristine white beaches, hear bird song and waves collapsing on the shore, and relish the **warm honey smell of Kunzea** in flower.

A walk that allows you to experience the challenge of a good day's hike and the indulgence of carrying no more than your lunch. Each evening, return to the lodge for dinners, a hot bath and a comfortable bed. For many, the highlight of this tour is staying at the award-winning Friendly Beaches Lodge. Every aspect of the lodge and its surrounds is designed for maximum comfort, yet maintaining minimal impact on the environment.

Book this walking holiday in April 2019 and receive complimentary travel and entry to Mona - travelling in style in Mona's Posh Pit aboard the ferry, MR-1 (see ferry times: <https://mona.net.au/visit>)

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