OUTLINES TRAVEL NEWS

July 2019

If you are seeing 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. To change your address, add the name of a friend or to stop receiving this material please contact us immediately.

CHINA – BEIJING TO HONG KONG GUIDED WALKING

17-days visiting Beijing Great Wall Xi'an Shanghai Huashan Longji Yangshou Guilin

New departure date – limited space available leaving on 9th October 2019 – details: https://bit.ly/2RqVmeL



Did you know that the two directors at Outdoor Travel wrote one of the first guide books to travelling in China over 30 years ago? They have kept in touch with this destination and for 2019 have created a spectacular itinerary to see places that are known and perhaps some places not so known but well worth visiting.

The tour starts from the modern capital, Beijing then escapes to two small villages to walk on unrestored sections of the Great Wall of China at Wohushan and Jinshanling. Then to Huashan, one of the Five Sacred Mountains of China which offers excellent walking trails and expensive views. Visit Xi'an, capital before the Mongolian invasion, to see the fabled Entombed Warriors, walk the city walls AND discover the Qian Ling burial tombs burial mounds, sculptures and processional routes from previous emperors. Enjoy the walking in Longji with its hillsides of lush green rice terraces. See Guilin's amazing mountain views and Yangshou on the River Li, amongst the stark limestone peaks for some great walking and a peaceful look into rural China.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

China was isolated from the rest of the world until incursions by Marco Polo and by the British (through Hong Kong) opened a door into an ancient world of history and culture, cuisine and natural beauty that often defies description. This journey can be described as the 'best of China' for the cities visited and sightseeing included. But it is much more than that as we have used our years of experience to craft an itinerary that includes some of the most interesting walking off the beaten track that China can offer.

Departs: 9th – 25th October 2019

Cost from: \$4995 per person, twin-share Single room supplement \$895

Includes: 16 nights in selected hotels or guesthouses; all meals from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 17 including a Pekin Duck dinner; English speaking guide services, entrance fees; arrival transfer at set time in Beijing; local flights / trains, gondola rides and transport in China as shown.

Not included: Additional transfers, visa fees, personal expenses and gratuities, drinks with meals (other than drinking water). Extra nights of pre and post accommodation can be arranged at extra cost.

Grading: Easy to moderate – varied walking terrain with some steeper climbs. Options to take local transport or a gondola may be available at extra cost. The pace allows for rest stops and photo opportunities, the tour should present little difficulty for anyone who is a regular walker.

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

Book your cabin to take advantage of late booking offers for this year OR to start planning for 2020.

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 comfortable and spacious air-conditioned cabins; all meals, with gourmet cuisine prepared by an onboard master chef; a fully stocked open bar with beers, wines and spirits; 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.



Our barges, with typically just 3 to 6 cabins (10 cabins in Italy) are ideal for an exclusive charter for a group of family or friends. Enjoy a bespoke private cruise with a crew or look at themes such as golf, wine or walking.



















SAVINGS ON 2019 CRUISE FOR <u>NEW</u> BOOKINGS MADE AND DEPOSITED BY 5^{TH} AUGUST 2019

Barge	Discount available	Select offer dates in 2019 *
Burgundy, France L'Art de Vivre	20% off per charter 20% off per cabin 10% off per cabin	7 th July, 11 th August, 27 th October 14 th & 28 th July, 25 th August 8 th , 29 th September, 13 th October
Finesse	20% off per charter	14 th July, 4 th August, 27 th October
La Belle Epoque	20% off per charter 20% off per cabin 10% off per cabin	7 th , 14 th July, 1 st September, 27 th October 21 st , 28 th July, 4 th , 11 th , 18 th August 8 th & 22 nd September, 6 th October
L'Impressionniste	20% off per charter 10% off per cabin	7 th July, 25 th August, 20 th October 11 th , 18 th August

Barge	Discount available	Select offer dates in 2019 *
Burgundy and Loire Valley Renaissance	y, France 20% off per charter 20% off per cabin	11 th August 7 th , 14 th July, 4 th , 18 th , 25 th August
Nymphea	20% off per charter 20% off per cabin	21 st , 28 th July, 18 th , 25 th August 7 th July, 11 th August
Canal du Midi, France		
Anjodi	20% off per charter 10% off per cabin	25 th August 18 th August, 22 nd , 29 th September
Athos	10% off per cabin	21 st July, 4 th August
Enchanté	20% off per charter 20% off per cabin	7 th , 14 th July 21 st , 28 th July, 18 th , 25 th August, 13 th , 27 th October
Alsace & Lorraine		
Panache	20% off per cabin 10% off per cabin	21 st July 1 st , 15 th , 29 th September, 13 th October
Gascony, France		
Rosa	10% off per cabin 20% off per cabin	22 nd , 29 th , September, 13 th October 28 th July, 18 th , 25 th August
Venice & Po Valley, Italy		
La Bella Vita	20% off per charter	7 th , 14 th *, 28 th July, 4 th , 25 th August, 1 st , 22 nd , 29 th September, 20 th October
	20% off per cabin	21 st July, 8 th , 15 th September, 6 th , 13 th October
Caledonian Canal, Scotlar	nd	
Spirit of Scotland	10% off per cabin	14 th , July, 13 th , 20 th October
Scottish Highlander	10% off per cabin	20 th October

Dates and prices for 2019: https://bit.ly/2JLFsYF - See the brochure: https://bit.ly/2MScKVK

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT ON SELECTED BARGE CRUISES – SAVE UP TO \$3795* 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, France	21 st , 28 th July, 4 th , 11 th , 18 th August, 8 th , 22 nd , September, 6 th October	Save up to \$3275
Enchanté, Canal du Midi, France	21 st , 28 th July, 18 th , 25 th August 13 th , 27 th October	Save up to \$3795
La Bella Vita, Venice & Po Delta, Italy	21 st July, 18 th August, 8 th , 15 th September 6 th , 13 th October	Save up to \$2585
La Bella Vita, Opera Cruise, Italy *	11 th August	Save up to \$2585

^{*} River Cruises in Italy for... Opera Enthusiasts

The luxury of a river cruise in Italy goes hand-in-hand with the elegance of the opera... and we can offer you both. On this specially crafted expedition, those with a love for this type of music will be well-catered for. Join us as we journey down the Italian waterways, visiting magnificent opera houses and theatres to other culturally infused sites. We will even take in a show or two so you can hear the operatic beauty for yourself.

We visit these opera venues: Arena di Verona, Gran Teatro La Fenice, Teatro Communale, Teatro Bibiena.



VENICE CRUISING – SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL ABOARD *LA BELLA VITA* Let's keep Venice in perspective...

"We felt that every aspect of this holiday was really first rate. The journey was efficiently organised, the boat was more than comfortable, the food and drink were excellent and the staff could not have been more pleasant. The journey was excellent value for money and we would not hesitate to recommend the company in the highest possible terms." Michael

"Fantastic and memorable trip! Exceptional service and the food was thoughtful and incredible every day; the wine pairings were also very nice. Overall, our experience on the boat was amazing. We'll never forget how special this trip made our anniversary!" Judith

Lazily floating down a waterway, you sit by the on-deck pool sipping a glass of Prosecco, and see the beautiful Italian landscape on either side of you. The Mediterranean sun is gently shining down on you and warming your already tanned skin. You know you are on a river cruise in Italy – but it feels like you are in paradise.

We know that is what river cruises in Italy should be about: style, comfort, relaxation and the finer things in life. You can find all this and more on one of our favourite hotel barges, La Bella Vita. True to its name, you will live a beautiful life while aboard this vessel. The interior is modern and typically Italian using vibrant colours and the atmosphere is tranquil and serene. What more could you want?

On board you will find:

Eight lower deck staterooms and two upper deck junior suites, with en suite facilities and air-conditioning An experienced crew including the hosts/hostesses, the chef, the captain and a tour guide An open bar

A large dining room with a louvre door

Delicious, gourmet Italian meals prepared by the chef, and fine wines to accompany the food An enormous sun deck with loungers and a canopy and An on-deck spa pool Free use of onboard bicycles

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

Our Top Highlights of a River Cruise in Italy

Explore the wine cellars of Villa Widmann-Borletti during a private visit

Discover Etruscan, Byzantine and Roman history on a tour of Chioggia

Have dinner in Villa Ca'Zen, a seventeenth-century stately home

Visit the Doge's Palace in Venice or the Ducal Palace in Mantua

Take a tour of the Pavilion of Gondolas, the Naval Museum and historic Venice

Travel the Canal of the Orphans and drink in the views of the picturesque lagoon islands

Enjoy a FREE Gondola Ride through Venice:

Free Gondola ride through Venice for guests aboard La Bella Vita on the following departures:

11th August 2019 (Opera Cruise)

18th August 2019 (Classic Cruise)

2020 CRUISE SAVINGS – NEW BOOKINGS MADE & DEPOSITED BY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2019 Book now for 2020 & save on our 'early booking rates'

Barge	Discount available	Select offer dates in 2020 *
Burgundy, France L'Art de Vivre	10% off per charter	5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th April
La Belle Epoque	10% off per charter	5 th , 12 th , 26 th April, 5 th , 12 th July
Finesse	10% off per charter	22 nd , 29 th March, 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th April
Burgundy and Loire Valley Renaissance	7, France 10% off per charter	5 th , 12 th , 26 th April
Canal du Midi, France Anjodi	10% off per charter	29 th March, 5 th , 12 th , 26 th April
Enchanté	10% off per charter	29 th March, 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th April
Gascony, France Rosa	10% off per charter	12 th , 19 th , 26 th April
Champagne, France Panache	10% off per charter	24 th , 31 st May, 14 th , 21 st June
Dutch Canals & Waterways Panache	s, Holland 10% off per charter	22 nd , 29 th March
Venice & Po Valley, Italy La Bella Vita	10% off per charter	22 nd , 29 th March, 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th April, 3 rd May 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th August
Caledonian Canal, Scotlan Scottish Highlander	d 10% off per charter	5 th , 12 th , 26 th April

^{*} Offers valid for new bookings made and deposited before 13th September 2019. Terms and conditions apply for NEW bookings only - subject to availability, cannot be combined with any other hotel barging offers.

Dates and prices for 2020: https://bit.ly/2Ydpwop See the brochure: https://bit.ly/2MScKVK

^{*} Offers valid for new bookings made and deposited before **5**th **August 2019.** Terms and conditions apply for NEW bookings only - subject to availability, cannot be combined with any other hotel barging offers.

BIKE & BARGE LAST MINUTE OFFERS - SAVE UP TO 50%

Interested in a cycling cruise in Europe at half-price – hurry last cabins:



Bruges to Paris 27th July 2019 (2 for the price of 1): https://bit.ly/2UnBQAc

Belgium 20th or 27th July 2019 (save up to \$350): https://bit.ly/2D1XVhZ

Czech Republic: 3rd August 2019 (save \$150): https://bit.ly/2Wz427P

GREECE - BIKE & BOAT CYCLING CRUISES



The directors of Outdoor Travel, Lucie and Martyn are back from a fabulous week cycling and sailing around the Cyclades Island in Greece. Seems there were lots on undulations – including a 14km uphill ride to the rim of a volcano - magnificent scenery, whitewashed villages and very friendly locals and lots to photograph. They

highly recommended the trip and are happy to answer your questions – call them to talk about the trip on (03) 57 501 441 or see the options on our website: https://bit.ly/2YNBTaC

CYCLE THREE COUNTRIES AROUND LAKE CONSTANCE

See Germany Austria & Switzerland inn-to-inn



"The whole experience generally exceeded our expectations and we had a great time, with good weather and wonderful scenery. The bike trails we rode on were impressive-being mostly very well maintained and wide tar sealed trails, with overall very helpful signage." Roger, Australia

One of the most popular cycling routes in Europe, this easy to moderate 8-day inn-to-inn cycle tour around Lake Constance is guaranteed to be a memorable holiday experience. The freshwater lake divides three German-speaking countries and it plays an important role in both tourism and travel in this part of Europe. The bike trail along its shores and through towns and villages is well used and allows some delightful cycling with beautiful vistas of waterfalls, forests and mountains. Explore pretty villages, ancient fortresses, castles and monasteries dating back centuries, market towns with cobbled streets and visit Mainau Island with its thousands of flowers.

The daily cycling distance is between 20 and 60km per day with about 90% on cycle tracks and roughly 10% on roads (local through traffic and side streets). You have a choice of hotels and routes on this tour, either in mainly 4-star hotels (one night is in a 3-star hotel). The hotels are chosen decided by either their location or proximity to the cycling route. This is a circular cycling route around the lake, starting and ending in Bregenz, Austria. Ferries link many of the centres arounds the lake so if you by a ferry pass you can shorten or add to the selection of rides each day.

Departs daily from 29th March to 20th October, 2019

Trip details for 2019: https://bit.ly/2JedmHU

UK WALKING HOLIDAYS

Multiple destinations - select dates still available August to November 2019



Outdoor Travel encourages walkers to try one of our centre-based GUIDED walking holidays at 19 hotels across England, Scotland and Wales specifically for walkers map rooms, drying and boot rooms.

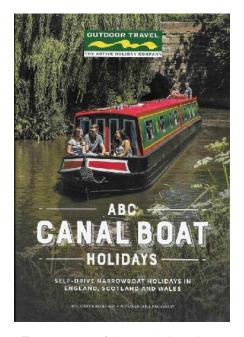
A typical day offers three levels of walks of varying length and ascent for walkers of different abilities on mostly good paths over fields and moorland, often visiting nearby National Parks, attractive towns and villages. In the evening chat with guides and fellow walking guests, relax with a drink in the bar, or join a social activity.

Designated walking hotels are available in Lulworth Cove in Dorset, Lake District, Derbyshire, Church Stretton, Brecon Beacons in Wales, Glen Coe in Scotland, Isle of Wight, Cotswold or South Downs.

Guided or self-guided walks from 3-8 days - most trails and National Parks - see the Outdoor Travel brochure: https://bit.ly/2ARaEBR

UK NARROWWBOAT HIRE

Get a copy of the new brochure now & save up to 25% for NEW reservations



Plenty of boats still available for 2019. For a copy of the new brochure and for all NEW bookings for 2020 get a quote with saving of up to 25% by calling us today on **1800 331 582**.

Cruise to Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon to watch a play or Worcester to see it's magnificent cathedral. Explore the Midlands, Black Country and the industrial history of Birmingham, Coventry and the North. Visit Bath, the Pontcysyllte viaduct on the Llangollen Canal or the Brecon canal in Wales, cruise between the historic Scottish cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow - we offer all the most popular British cruising rings.

Click here for the narrowboat holidays prices for 2019: https://bit.ly/31XSv1D

Click here for the current e-brochure: https://bit.ly/2J5iyNO

IRELAND'S WEST COAST

Connemara, a real favourite for walking or cycling holidays



Ireland is a fascinating holiday destination and the west-coast is synonymous with active holidays. Connemara is a place to immerse yourself in history, culture and breath-taking scenery as you make your way along this wild, magnificent Atlantic coastline. Cycle the 'Sky Road' or walk the 'Famine Road', travelling inn-to-inn (with your luggage moved for you) independently or with friends, you will never feel alone surrounded by the warmth and hospitality of the Connemara people.

For details of the two choices we offer see the website:

Self-guided walking: https://bit.ly/2TIG4BD
Self-guided cycling: https://bit.ly/2FC3oMh

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

JAPAN SELF-GUIDED CYCLING

Self-guided inn-to-inn touring Honshu & the Noto Peninsula.



Looking for a new cycling idea, then try this ride from Kanazawa to Notojima Island staying in traditional inns on a fold-up Brompton bicycle to see terraced rice fields, dramatic rock formations and pretty fishing ports.

How does it work, watch our new video: https://bit.ly/2WSCAC8 and see the website: https://bit.ly/2XveQRR

Insider Tip - Toilets in Japan: When faced with two doors with signs in kanji, no English in sight and no colours to differentiate by, how does one know which is the men's and which is the women's? Remember this adage: The man is the one with a rice field for a head (男), and the woman has her legs crossed (女).

Once you've made it past the entrance, you may be faced with another dilemma when the individual stalls have strange characters: 和 and 洋. The first, with the box that could easily represent a hole in the ground, means "Japanese style," and behind that door you'll find a squat toilet. The second, with the drops on the left and the toilet brush on the right, means "western style," and behind that door you'll find the familiar commode.

Or perhaps not so familiar, because many toilets in Japan are high tech, with washlets including seat warmers, bidets, and even a little blow dryer for post-bidet use. Three options here, then: Look up a guide to see what the buttons mean; experiment and get ready for a surprise; or just ignore them and use the toilet as normal.

Another fixture you will often find in women's public toilets is the 音矩 "oto-hime," or "sound princess," which can be either a panel on the wall or a button on the washlet control panel. The wall panel may be either a button or a motion sensor, and when triggered it will play a flushing sound for 20-30 seconds for privacy.

WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT US

Bike & Barge Scotland: "The major part of my trip was the Cycle and Barge trip through the Great Glen down the Caledonian Canal which I booked through you guys.

Absolutely enjoyed every bit of it, the trip far exceeded my expectations. I cycled pretty much every bit of our cycling itinerary expect the last day of about 10k cycle through Banavie / Fort William was slightly hungover. but as I stayed in Fort William for three nights I got to see a lot of it anyway.

Adam, Steve, David and Lucy the cook (catered for me perfectly) were all fantastic could not fault them in any way they were superb.... the whole trip was sensationally organised and well run. If anything they didn't turn on twas the lack of summer sun and we had quite a few days of miserable weather but we all knew that and I for

one didn't expect an Australian summer that we get. But we didn't stop getting on the bikes because of lousy weather. So a big tick from me on the cycle / barge trip.



I did do the train trip from Fort William to Glasgow and from me if you are asked about this train journey from people I recommend this it was sensational the never ending hills and scenary would have to be one of the best train trips in the world.

So thanks for all your advice etc you were all spot on ensuring I would enjoy myself and be safe at the same time." Cheers Neill

Trip details for 2019: https://bit.ly/2ATkzHB

Walking France & Spain Pyrenees: "Loving our walking adventure. It was tough, scenery spectacular and we're well looked after. Love the experience" Yvette and Peter



Walking France & Spain Pyrenees: "We are sitting having breakfast overlooking the sparkling pool and sea, thinking how lucky we are. We would like to say a huge thank you for the wonderful adventure you have organised for us.

It combined walks, transfers, information and support as needed, hotels and the most wonderful food at the end of each day. We feel very fortunate to have found your company and would highly recommend it to others." Phil and Anne

Trip details for 2019: https://bit.ly/2QaVamA









Walking in Europe (various): "Had a great holiday – all plans & connections worked well. Walks were good. The two (guided) trips were full, we only had a family of 6 doing the Romania trip with us & were on our own in Corsica & the Loire Valley.

Only got lost a few times on the self-guided trips & managed to find our way back on-track fairly quickly. We had good weather (mostly) & good accommodation. The hotels you organised for us were in good locations.

Thanks for doing a great job & we will probably be in touch again soon!" John and Vonda

Trip details for 2019: https://bit.ly/1Gu1iXv

Call us at **Outdoor Travel** for a chat about your active holiday ideas or to make a reservation for flights, travel insurance, accommodation and any other travel arrangements worldwide.

Contact OUTDOOR TRAVEL directly for more details and reservations:

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57 551 743 or Fax (03) 57 501 020
- Email: info@outdoortravel.com.au
- Web: www.outdoortravel.com.au
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright, VIC 3741, Australia



FLY TO EUROPE – *GREAT VALUE* AIRFARES FOR TRAVEL IN 2019 & 2020

Issued: 28 June 2019

BOOK & PAY DEADLINES APPLY FOR THE BEST SAVINGS – PRICES ARE SHOWN IN AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS

Travel Dates (other dates available)	Destinations	Airline	Return Fares from:
Now -31 May 2020	Europe – fly to London, Paris, Amsterdam and several other cities via Singapore Economy, Premium Economy Class or Business Class Depart from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Perth, from Adelaide and from many regional cities such as Canberra, Hobart,	Singapore Airlines	\$1465 Economy \$4325 Premium Economy* \$7720 Business*
	Darwin, Albury of Calins – check with us for details. Until further notice		
Now - 30 April 2020	Europe – fly to London, Madrid, Lisbon and several other cities via Doha	Qatar	\$1275 Economy
	Economy or Business Class		\$6520 Business Class*
	Depart from Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and Adelaide and from some regional cities – check with us for details		
	Book and pay by 07 Jul 2019		

Conditions apply - fares available from other cities in Australia and to other destinations in Europe – call for details: (03) 57 501044

For a quote, further information or to make a reservation call Yvette or Sera on our Fares Desk on (03) 57 501 044 OUTDOOR TRAVEL Pty Ltd Email: fares@outdoortravel.com.au

See our website: www.outdoortravel.com.au