



# OUTLINES

April - May - June 2006

## IN THIS ISSUE:

New to walking – then try our walking holidays in Britain  
Active Holidays in Spain – latest information & offers  
Walking holidays in France & Spain – a report on the Vermillion Coast  
Paris Hotel & Show offer  
Wilderness hiking in Canada  
In flight comment – passengers wish list  
Mixed class airfares to Europe – stretch-out on the long haul  
Travel health warnings  
Cinque Terre – centre-based walking available  
When in Rome – new tourist pass  
Feeling Creative – workshops in Europe  
Where on Earth is.....internet route finders  
French Cycling Holidays – New brochure available  
Crown Blue Line – boating news & packages  
Queensland sailing holidays – mile-catchers still available  
Go Barging – European Waterways – No Single cabin supplements & discounts on select departures  
Canal & Co – Hotel barge 2 for 1 offers  
Brochure request form



## WALKING IN BRITAIN

### Centre-based walks in Southern Yorkshire Dales

If you are new to walking, start at the easiest level, where the pace is the gentlest on one of our many centre-based or one-hotel group guided walking holidays.

We have plenty of stops to enjoy the views and to rest. As your holiday progresses you may feel confident to try a more challenging level, or stick to the same level - it's entirely your choice. The walks program may be adjusted to suit the season, weather conditions, accessibility or guest numbers. All levels cross a combination of riverside, fields and woodland, and pass through villages. Walking is on good paths often over stiles.

We cover most destinations in Britain & one of our favourites, the **Yorkshire Dales National Park**, is deeply rural, with its stone-walled dales and an abundance of natural beauty, including wild flowers, waterfalls, scars, caves and limestone pavements. **The Dales** are home to a number of features for you to discover, such as the 250ft cliff of **Malham Cove** and **Gordale Scar**. Streams and quaint former lead mining communities are dotted throughout the beautiful valleys, while **The Three Peaks** of Ingleborough, Whernside and Pen-y-ghent are extremely rewarding for the keen walker. The challenging long distance trail of the **Dales Way** offers a complete Dales experience.

**Cost Per person:** AU\$1550 (single or twin share)

**Tour price includes:** 7-nights of twin share accommodation with en-suite, breakfast & dinner each night, picnic lunches, guided walking as described and sightseeing (at extra cost - as available).

**Walking Days** - we generally start the day at 9.30am, taking a picnic lunch and returning to the hotel between 5.00pm and 6.30pm, in plenty of time to relax for dinner. Seven night breaks offer five days' walking - one day is left free for independent time or sightseeing.

**Short walks** are 5 to 7 miles with easy gradients. 275 to 750ft of ascent over a day.

**Medium walks** are 7 to 9 miles with easy gradients. 375 to 1,075ft of ascent over a day.

**Long walks** are 9 to 11 miles. Undulating with gentle gradients. 425 to 2,300ft of ascent over a day.

**Departure Dates:** Sat 1, 8, 15, 22 July, Sat 26 Aug; Sat 2, 9, 22, Sept; Sat 2, 9, 16, 23; Sat 7 Oct



## **ACTIVE HOLIDAYS IN SPAIN FOR 2006**

### **WALKING, PAINTING, COOKING OR PHOTOGRAPHY**

Ever searching for new & interesting destinations & looking for ideas to tempt our mostly over 40's clients with considerable travelling experience, Outdoor Travel has teamed up with a UK based specialist tour operator to offer a series of small group holidays in Spain.

Location & accommodation is important, the skills of the tutors & the scenery, local culture & cuisine are essential. In 2006 we are ready to tempt you with 2-fascinating Spanish holiday destinations: Andalucia in the south & Catalunya in the north, near the France / Spain border adjoining the Mediterranean coast.

**Guided Walking Holidays** - eight different locations in Spain's Natural Parks. Enjoy some of the most dramatic or the gentlest walking available in Andalucia, Catalonia.

**Painting Holidays** - with 10 committed and experienced painting holiday tutors; we are able to offer tuition in watercolours, pastels, oils, acrylics, and drawing.

**Cookery Holidays** - combine hands-on cooking with interesting visits to a typical Spanish market, wine museum and olive mill; experience the 'real tastes' of Spain.

**Photography holidays** - devised for both the novice photographer, and those wishing to progress from point and shoot onto more creative photography.

**These are centre-based holidays, for the most part staying in a single well-chosen hotel. They offer an authentic experience with dynamic, vibrant destinations, a colourful history & dramatic ever-changing scenery.**

#### **Photography (for all levels) in the Alpujarras 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June AU\$2800**

Devised for both the novice and those wishing to progress from point & shoot on to more creative image making.

#### **Cookery in Las Sierra de la Nieves 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June**

AU\$2810 Experience the 'real' tastes of Spain with hands-on cooking and visits to markets, olive mills and wine museums

### **Walking in Umbria Grade 4 (up to 12M/19km) 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> October AU\$2280**

The Monti Sibillini are spectacular and high, though not necessarily hard, and Valnerina is full of delightful valleys laced with countless gleaming rivers, woods and pretty villages whose churches all contain fabulous frescoes.

### **Painting in Umbria 24<sup>th</sup> Sept – 1<sup>st</sup> October AU\$2425 - Roger Jones (Pastel, watercolour, oil)**

With numerous subjects including the Abbey and its pretty courtyards, meadows, river and medieval bridge, as well as the medieval town of Spoleto, and the pretty villages of Caso and Gavelli with its famous frescoes and mountain meadows.

### **FOR STRENUOUS WALKING**

### **Walking in the Alpujarras Grade 4+ (up to 12M/19km) 4<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> June AU\$2250**

Against the backdrop of the snow-covered Sierra Nevada this was the last corner of Moorish Spain and the richer Berber legacy. Our walks follow old mountain routes between villages through deep gorges and lush valleys. Scattered among these dramatic scenes, and clinging to precipices, are the typical whitewashed villages of Le Tahá.

### **Walking in Cap de Creus Grade 4 (up to 12M/19km) 11<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> June AU\$1190**

Dominated by mountains that split the peninsula in two, Cap de Creus contains pine forests, hidden coves, steep cliffs and the monastery of Sant Pere de Rodes. Our routes take us through landscapes of great majesty and variety amidst the terraced hills. Never far from the sea, there are tantalising glimpses of the rocky coastline.

### **FOR MORE LEISURELY WALKING**

### **Short Walks with Sightseeing in Aracena Grade 1+ (up to 5M/8km) 4<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> June AU\$2455**

You will explore Seville with its plazas, parks and patios, which contrast vividly with the regional centre of Aracena and its ancient mosque, mills and charming villages. Beginning with a visit to the largest and Cathedral in the world, La Giralda and ending with a walk along the old pilgrims' path in the sleepy hamlet of Los Madroñeros.

### **FOR PAINTERS**

### **Painting in Montsant 4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> June AU\$1865 (\*no single supplement on this date)**

Christine Russell (Pastel, watercolour, oil) - A range of agricultural landscapes and village locations, with the cliffs and gorges forming dramatic backdrops. Both Picasso and Miró were inspired by this landscape and light.

### **Painting in Cap de Creus 11<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> June AU\$2660**

Christine Russell (Pastel, watercolour, oil) - Never far from the sea in and around Cadaqués. The fortified church, winding alleys and pavement cafes by the shore where boats are hauled out provide endless possibilities. If you have any questions about any of our holidays then please call us on

**CALL US TODAY FOR MORE DETAILS ON ALL OF THESE ACTIVE HOLIDAYS**

## **WALKING HOLIDAYS IN FRANCE & SPAIN**

### **A report from our Man On The Vermillion Coast**

John Millen our Sherpa route note editor has just returned from the Vermillion Coast on the borders between France & Spain, between the Med & the Pyrenees. This is what he had to say:

*Sunset at Collioure. If there had been any doubts as to how this stretch of coastline had got its name they are automatically dispelled by a Royal Flush of rouge. The earthen hues of the soil and schist on the surrounding hillsides has morphed into a similar colour to that glass of Roussillon in my hand, as I sit on the terrace at the 'Templiers Hotel,' overlooked by a dramatic Vaubin fortress. Below me in the bay, two little traditional high-prowed fishing boats jostle against each other in the slight swell. Their bright yellows and reds, almost fluorescent in intensity in this light. They also reflect a time when all the villages around here relied on fishing, especially for anchovies, sardines, dorados and squid, rather than tourism.*

*The mixture of the light and the fluttering fishing sails were enough to attract some very famous artists for a bit of a break including Matisse, Derain, Dufy, Maillol and Picasso. In fact the whole of the 'Templiers' is a bit of an art museum, filled with some 2000 original paintings. Other artists came to the Vermillion Coast and stayed. The German imigri artist and sculptor, Walter Benjamin, ended up at Port Bou and famously, Salvador Dali Loved Cadaques; having a house nearby in Port Lligat. Perhaps all this impressionistic and abstract art was influenced by a quantity of the of the beautiful Banyuls wines drunk as much as the quality of the light!*

*The 'Cote de Vermille' is an attractive area of the Mediterranean winding around the hilly peninsulas, bays and inlets between France and Spain, between Collioure and Cadaques. A nice 'out of main season' walking break, when hopefully, weather and temperatures will be ideal for walking.*

*The walks from Collioure take you high above the coast, through enchanting cork oak forests to the fortress capped ridges that defined the historically wavering Pyrenean border between Spain and France. Two of the walks take you up to mediaeval watch towers with astonishing views from the white beaches off Perpignan to snow encrusted peak of Mount Canigou: the last major bastion of the Pyrenees.*

*Maybe if it was a bit warmer I would take a swim. There are good bathing opportunities at each of the overnight stops along the way, with clean little beaches and some translucent waters. Unfortunately for me, March sea temperatures are the coldest of the year.*

*From the local wine sipping capital of Banyuls, it is a stiff hike up to the border ridge above Cerbere and Port Bou. The main thing you notice is how the landscape changes between the countries. Perhaps aided by France's agricultural policies, so many of the vine terraces on that side are immaculately maintained, but as you approach the border; terraces dissolve into the hillsides unmourned and farms are abandoned. Vines have been replaced by a heather and lavender 'maquis' scrub (or is it 'garrique'?), there are less trees; prickly pear makes an appearance. It all appears so much drier. The ravages of Phylloxera in the 1870s wiped out the area's vines, France replanted, but here at least, the Spanish industry never recovered.*

*Down from the hills Port Bou exists in somewhat of a 1970s time warp, there is a lovely coastal walk along the 'Cami de Ronda' to the tourist resort of Llanca. One short section of path takes me directly along the sea front, and I just about keep feet dry by rock hopping, before arriving at beautiful Garbet beach for a fantastic fish lunch.*

*From Llanca the trail lifts above the coast and through the abandoned terracing to the huge Romanesque monastic complex of St.Pere de Rodes, built high on the mountainside in the 10th Century to escape the attentions of the coastal raiders who plagued the fishing villages far below. An hour walking around here followed by a nice 10 Euro lunch in the balconied restaurant, and I am ready for the steep descent past Neolithic Dolmans and standing stones to Port de Selva. This working fishing village, set back in tiered streets from the sea front reminds me of a childhood on the Cornish coast. You can go into the fish market and see them ice up and sell the day's catch to the hotels and restaurants that bring their refrigerated lorries from far and wide.*

*The last walk is a romantic trek over the secluded 'Cap Creus' peninsular to a lighthouse and restaurant at the furthest easterly point on the Spanish mainland. On the way are Benedictine ruins and quiet bays, where in stormier conditions, Roman galleys once foundered. Fortified by a 'cafi con leche' and a 'bocadillo,' I complete the last 6 km on the 'Cami de Ronda' into the gorgeous whitewash and red tiled town of Cadaques. I celebrate with an ice cream and even the statue of Salvador Dali stares down in approval. Breakers splash over the road and across my way as I walk up to the 'Rocamar Hotel' on its rocky pedestal, over viewing the town and to Cap Creus beyond. Of course picturesque Cadaques is perennially popular with tourists; but out of the main season you can wander amongst the cobbles and the narrow lanes more or less unhindered. Go up to the church to look across the cherry- tiled rooftops and the little white chimneys to the sea, a century away from the timeshares and holiday complexes else where on the Costa Brava.*

The Sherpa self-guided Vermillion coast trip can be booked to start on any day but it is an ideal cold weather choice for those travelling from October to Mid June.

**Call us today for a copy of the brochure or the detailed trip dossier.**

## PARIS HOTEL PACKAGE DEAL

INCLUDES - 3 NIGHTS AT LITRE PARIS 4-STAR HOTEL + 1 SHOW WITH CHAMPAGNE



**AU\$350 per person in twin-share or double room with breakfast including:**

**\* 3 nights stay at Littré hotel**

**\* Show with Champagne at Paradis Latin cabaret**

A deluxe hotel located in the heart of Paris, on the "left bank" in St Germain des Pres & Montparnasse areas. Hotel decorated in a classic style with a peaceful and relaxing atmosphere. 90 bedrooms at your disposal with great comfort and space all featuring air conditioning and private bathrooms, private safe, satellite TV, mini bar. Large lounge, bar, room service, conference rooms.

## WILDERNESS CANADA

Alpine hiking & wildlife viewing

We have been inundated with new ideas from a new tour operator in Canada – Chilcotin in British Columbia.

They tell us to 'Imagine secluded alpine basins, abundant wildlife, open-air lunches with stunning scenery, 50 million-year old fossils and over 150 species of wildflowers and 210 species of birds. Their hut-based adventures will see you hiking through flowering meadows, past pristine alpine lakes en route to your mountain hut. Enjoy a comfortable pace of a Level I Alpine Meadow and Lake Hike to an invigorating Level II Alpine Ridge Hike to lofty mountain ridges for 360 degree views or an epic Level III Hut to Hut Hike as you scramble over mountain divides, skirt the edge of a glacier and discover wild untamed country'.

The Chilcotin Wilderness Alpine Hiking packages are **all-inclusive** of activity, guide(s), all meals, accommodation, packhorses to transport gear and return transportation between Vancouver and our Ranch.

They have a number of spots left on *selected* 7 and 13-Day Hut based Alpine Hiking Trips in remote BC (north of Vancouver). So, we're offering an incentive of up to 10% **discount** for new reservations from our client list to "top up" the following trips!

**13-DAY HUT-TO-HUT HIKING LEVEL III, ADULT - DATE: JULY 31-AUGUST 12**  
**15% DISCOUNT - REGULAR PRICE: \$2391 - NOW: C\$2152**

**7-DAY HUT BASED ALPINE RIDGE HIKING LEVEL II, ADULT - DATES: JULY 16-22 & AUGUST 6-12**  
**10% DISCOUNT - REGULAR PRICE: \$1443 - NOW: C\$1300**

**7-DAY HUT BASED ALPINE MEADOW AND LAKE HIKING LEVEL I, ADULT - DATE: JUNE 25-JULY 1**  
**10% DISCOUNT - REGULAR PRICE: \$1443 - NOW: C\$1300**

**Spring Discount offer** - As a way to celebrate the start of the new season, Chilcotin are offering a 10% discount on 10 and 13-Day Horse Pack Trips. 10-Day Horse Pack Trip, Level II or III

**Dates: 20-29 July and 10-19 August**  
**REGULAR PRICE \$2431 - NOW C\$2190**

**13 Day Horse Pack Trip, Level II and III - Dates: July 31- August 12**  
**REGULAR PRICE \$3108 - NOW C\$2800**

The Spring Special offer lasts until **May 31<sup>st</sup>**, so contact us now to book the all-inclusive package of activity, guide(s), all meals, accommodation, tack and equipment, pack horses to transport supplies and personal gear and return transportation between Vancouver and the Ranch.

# INFLIGHT NEWS

## In-flight toilets top amenities wish list

What do travellers want most in terms of in-flight amenities? The answer, according to a survey of 2,300 travellers undertaken by TripAdvisor, is a clean and roomy toilet.

TripAdvisor claims to be the largest travel information and advice site on the Internet, with more than four million reviews and opinions covering more than 200,000 hotels and attractions. Its survey showed that 35 per cent of respondents rated cleaner and more spacious bathrooms as the most important comfort feature onboard a flight, while 27 per cent selected a clean blanket or pillow as their top priority.

Other desirable in-flight amenities included noise-cancelling headphones, toiletry kits and anti-germ products.

When asked what luxury they would be most likely to pay for, 54 per cent of respondents picked larger seats and better legroom, and the second choice was a bed.

Bottled water was the most valued complimentary food or beverage, and fruits and vegetables was the second favourite option.

In terms of entertainment, a video screen at every seat was the most important feature, according to 47 per cent of travellers.

## MIXED CLASS AIRFRES TO EUROPE

**If you haven't already heard it is possible to fly economy from here to Asia & upgrading to Business Class on the long flights across to Europe.**

Enjoy unprecedented legroom, stretch out and dream of a 5-course menu or a Quick Meal. Combined with service that seems to anticipate your every wish.

**Configuration** 2-2-2 - Seat pitch: 152 cm / 60`` & Seat width: 51 cm / 20``

### Comfort features:

- Seat electronically adjustable
- Lumbar support
- Swivel earflaps
- Lie-flat (angle up to 13°)
- Head support adjustable
- Seat extendable

**Participating Carriers** - With Cathay Pacific, Japan Air Lines, Singapore Airlines SWISS & Thai Airways  
**From** - Online ports of CX/JL/SQ/TG (including Sydney or Melbourne)

**To** - Amsterdam Athens Barcelona Basel Belgrade Berlin Birmingham Brussels Bucharest Budapest Copenhagen Dublin Dusseldorf Frankfurt Geneva Graz Hamburg Hanover Helsinki Istanbul Kiev Krakow Lisbon Ljubljana London Lugano Luxembourg Madrid Malaga Manchester Milan Moscow Munich Nice Nuremberg Palma Paris Prague Rome Salzburg Stockholm Stuttgart Tel Aviv Thessalonika Venice Vienna Warsaw Zurich

### 2006 Mixed Class Fares in AUD\$

Departures	Return	One Way
01JAN-30JUN 2006	3950	2450
01JUL-31AUG2006	4100	2540
01SEP-31DEC2006	3950	2450

**Taxes and surcharges** – Fares do not include taxes, fuel, insurance & other charges levied from time to time

**Stopovers** - One stopover in each direction

**Surface Sectors** – Permitted

**Bookings** – call the Outdoor Travel Fares Desk on (03) 57501 441 or email [fares@outdoortravel.com.au](mailto:fares@outdoortravel.com.au)

# HEALTH INFORMATION FOR TRAVEL TRAVELLERS

**MEASLES UPDATE** - Measles remains a common disease in many countries of the world, including some in Europe and Asia. The risk for exposure to measles to travellers could be high. To protect themselves from measles, travellers should be sure they and their children are fully immunized before travel. Measles is a serious disease: 6%-20% of the people who become ill with measles will also get an ear infection, diarrhoea, or a serious lung infection, such as pneumonia. One of 1,000 people with measles develops inflammation of the brain. In the United States, of every 1,000 people with measles, 1 or 2 may die from complications.

**UKRAINE** - A measles outbreak that began in February 2005 is ongoing in the Ukraine, most of the cases have been in people 15 years of age or older. Exported cases from this outbreak have been reported in the United States (3), the Russian Federation (9), Belarus (2), and Spain (1).

**NORTHERN GREECE** - Most of the cases here have occurred in children less than 14 years of age who had not received measles vaccination.

**KENYA** - The measles outbreak among children in the Eastleigh neighbourhood of Nairobi, Kenya, which began in November 2005, is continuing.

For additional information and individualised travel health advice visit [www.travel-essentials.com.au](http://www.travel-essentials.com.au).



## CINQUE TERRE

**Centre-based walking holidays – places still available**

Clinging to the rocky cliffs, and surrounded by steep terraced vineyards, these five enchanting villages occupy one of Italy's most dramatic stretches of coastline. Slightly to the north of the Cinque Terre and just a few minutes away by train, lies the charming seaside village of Bonassola, an ideal base from which to enjoy the popular coastal path and peaceful trails through the unspoilt hills.

**Bonassola**, with its café-bars and ice-cream parlours is a delightful village to walk round. It has a very attractive swimming beach only a few minutes from the hotel. The town is surrounded by hills and can only be accessed by train, or by using a narrow winding road. As a result Bonassola is more peaceful than the neighbouring resort of Levanto or the Cinque Terre villages. The nearby railway station provides easy access along the coast.

**2006 Departures:** 3, 10, 17, 24 September

**Cost per person:** AU\$1350 twin share or single (plus local payment of @ Euros 40) includes 7-nights accommodation just a stones-throw from the beach, all meals & a choice of guided walks - at different fitness/energy level - available each day. On some evenings your Leaders may organise informal activities in the hotel, or activities such as an evening stroll around the town or a visit to a local bar.

## WHEN IN ROME

**Roma Pass** is the capital's first cultural tourist card offering discounts and services to encourage visits to the city museums. The pass allows tourists and visitors to enjoy the sights of Rome for a cost of only 18 euros and entitles holders to: free admission to the first two museums and/or archaeological sites visited without queuing, full access to the public transport system, reduced tickets and discounts for any other following museums and sites visited, as well as exhibitions, music events, theatrical and dance performances and all other tourist services.

**Roma Pass** comes with a kit that includes:

- Roma Pass Transport: your public transport ticket
- Roma MAP: a map of the city illustrating the location of Tourist Information Points, Underground stations, Museums/sites of interest (addresses, phone numbers, buses and underground stations, timetables)
- Roma Pass Guide: the complete list of museums/sites of interest that have joined the initiative
- Roma News: the programme of events and tourist services that are eligible for discounts divided by area of interest: art, music, theatre, dance, entertainment and sightseeing tours

For Further information please visit: [www.romapass.it](http://www.romapass.it)

## FEELING CREATIVE?

**Creativity Workshop** wanted us to let you know about their summer workshops in Europe (Crete, Provence, Florence, Barcelona, Prague, Dublin and Bruges) and New York workshops in the spring and fall.

Founded in 1993, the Creativity Workshop is dedicated to teaching people about their creativity and how to use it in all aspects of life, work, and creative expression. The Creativity Workshop helps people believe in and develop their imagination through using a unique series of exercises in memoir, creative writing, visual arts, sense perception, brainstorming, and storytelling. In a non-competitive, nurturing atmosphere, our workshops help participants develop creative skills, expanded sense perception, innovative problem solving, inspired brainstorming, and new ways of looking at life as exciting and transformative. The price of the New York workshop is US\$650, tuition only. European workshop prices start at US\$1,650, including tuition and 9-nights accommodations. The only requirements for the Creativity Workshop are curiosity about the creative process and a sense of playfulness. For more information please go directly to: <http://www.thecreativityseminars.com/specialoffers.html>

## WHERE ON EARTH IS.....

**Looking for a map to get you from A to B then you now have 3 great Internet choices.**

- 1) Click-on to our website & look for the Michelin Guide link on our Active Europe page [www.viamichelin.co.uk](http://www.viamichelin.co.uk)
- 2) Go to the [www.mappy.com](http://www.mappy.com) website for a host of easy to read options
- 3) Go to [www.googleearth.com](http://www.googleearth.com) for an amazing graphic view of the world including many of the areas we go walking or cycling

Call our travel experts & talk to us about our personal recollections – we regularly visit the areas we offer – call Martyn, Lucie or Sue on 0357551743.

## **FRENCH CYCLING HOLIDAYS – NEW BROCHURE NOW AVAILABLE**

PROVENCE LOIRE, DORDOGNE, BORDEAUX, LANGUEDOC & MIDI – departures from May to October. We love France and we love cycling. Our tours combine these two passions into a cycling holiday that we hope you will never forget. We specialise in guided, fully supported holidays in France's most beautiful areas, staying at charming, individual and very comfortable hotels and sampling the finest regional cuisine and wine.

Call for a copy of the new brochure & enjoy the scenery, the sights, and the cuisine — from the moment we collect you from the airport or train station, everything is taken care of. All you have to do is pedal....

### **LATEST OFFER – SAVE UP TO 10% ON SELECTED DEPARTURES IN 2006 – SPACE IS LIMITED**

Space available in Burgundy, Bordeaux, Provence, Languedoc, Loire Valley AND for the purist hill climber we have space available on our 8-day Classic Cols (of the Tour de France route) tour departing 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> September – fully inclusive costs from just AU\$2490 per person.

## **STOP PRESS – ‘CLEAR THE DECKS’ CRUISE OFFERS**

### **CROWN BLUE LINE – NEW BOATS, REGIONS & NEW DISCOUNTS**

*If you haven't already got one, we recently release the new Crown Blue Line brochure for 2006. For over 30 years Crown Blue Line, have provided self-skipped cabin cruisers of the highest quality with a fleet of over 600 boats cruising France, UK, Holland, Italy, Germany, Ireland & Scotland.*

*With a superb range of 33 different types of boats for rent and bases in all the major cruising centre's – including many areas famed for their scenic beauty, fine wines or regional cuisine - Crown Blue Line has something for every river and canal cruising holiday. From holidays with families or friends to activity holidays with cycling or walking ideas or romantic holidays we have the ideal boat for your clients.*

*The more traditional Crown Class can accommodate two to twelve people with all the facilities you need for an enjoyable holiday. The Princess Class offers self drive boats with two steering positions, a large upper sundeck area and generous living accommodation.*

*For those who like a little more luxury, we offer our Crown Class boats. These are the latest additions to our fleet and are amongst the most spacious rental boats on the waterways.*

*At the forefront of the Crown Blue Line fleet is our Elite range. These, the latest generation of boats, are all less than three years old and benefit from the most recent improvements in design and cruising comfort. With assisted air circulation and stylish Elite embroidered bath towels and back pack, we also take pleasure in welcoming you with a bottle of champagne - all the extra special touches to make this a truly Elite holiday experience!*

*All the boats are fully self-contained with quality furnishing (including sheets & towels), fully equipped kitchens & all the necessary navigation information & safety equipment. A full boat briefing & operational instruction session is given at the start of each hire.*

*Families are also encouraged & children's life jackets are provided. Bikes for adults & children can be hired & arrangements can be made for car parking or vehicle transfers.*

**\* NO LICENCE OR PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY TO OPERATE THESE BOATS**

**\* OVERNIGHT MOORINGS CAN BE INDEPENDENT OR IN WELL POSITIONED MARINAS**

*Early booking incentives, European Autumn special, family, multi-hire or group booking discounts are regularly available from Outdoor Travel – to a total value up to 15% off the hire costs.*

## **NEW & LATEST BOATING OFFERS FOR 2006:**

**Short breaks - The perfect way to make try a boating holiday for the first time.**

Short breaks can be booked in advance is departing before 20th June or after 16th September. If customers wish to book a short break then they need to wait until 4 weeks prior to the departure date to book:

\* 3 nights = 55% of the weekly hire price

\* 4 nights = 65% of the weekly hire price

\* 5 nights = 75% of the weekly hire price

A supplement will be applied to the booking of @ AUD\$265 if customers book a short break which falls over a bank holiday day. Bank holiday dates are available for each of the countries Crown Blue Line operates in (you will need to go by these dates when booking a short break).

**There are still plenty of boats available for the busy September / October hire period.**

### **SPECIAL OFFERS FROM OUTDOOR TRAVEL**

Month	Destinations	Offer
July	Germany	Depart Germany in July on a Clipper or Cirrus - receive 15% Discount
Oct	France	All departures to France in October - 10% Discount PLUS 2 Free Bikes

## **NEW & LATEST BOATING OFFERS FOR 2007:**

Outdoor Travel are offering that if you book your 2007 boating holiday now you will get **2007 Holidays at the 2006 prices** PLUS you will Receive **a 10% Early Booking Discount**. Bookings must be made before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2006 & a deposit will be requested to confirm the pre-booking for 2007. Savings of up to \$700 can be made on a 10-berth Grand Classique – available in Burgundy, Midi or Alsace. A 3-berth cabin cruiser in Brittany will cost from just AU\$1164 for a week in 2007.

*With over 10 years of experience working with boating holidays in Europe Outdoor Travel's staff offer personal experience & first hand knowledge of many of the destinations covered by Crown Blue Line.*

Call directly for reservations or to order brochures – **1800 331 582**

## **QUEENSLAND SAILING HOLIDAYS**

### **Mile-catcher voyages**

We have only a few spots left on the remaining 2006 MileCatchers Voyages; so call us now to book your place on the trip of a lifetime!

1 July	Hamilton Island to Port Douglas	<b>1 spot left</b>
14 July	Port Douglas to Hamilton Island	<b>2 spots left</b>
1 Sep	Hamilton Island to Port Douglas	<b>1 spot left</b>
10 Oct	Port Douglas to Hamilton Island	<b>1 spot left</b>
1 Nov	Hamilton Island to Hervey Bay	<b>4 spots left</b>
14 Nov	Hervey Bay to Hamilton Island	<b>4 spots left</b>

# HOTEL BARGE CRUISING HOLIDAYS IN EUROPE



## **Book 1 Cabin and get the 2nd cabin, on same barge and departure date, at 50% reduction on the following cruises**

- ❖ La Belle Epoque, Burgundy, France – 30<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> August, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 1<sup>st</sup> October
- ❖ L'Impressionniste, Provence, France – 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> August, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 27<sup>th</sup> Aug, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep
- ❖ L'Art de Vivre, Burgundy, France – 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 8<sup>th</sup> October
- ❖ Nymphaea, Loire Valley, France – 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> August
- ❖ Actief, England – 18<sup>th</sup> June, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> August
- ❖ Scottish Highlander, Scotland - 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 15<sup>th</sup> October
- ❖ Magna Carta, England - 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> August
- ❖ La Dolce Vita - Venice, Italy 16<sup>th</sup> July, 10<sup>th</sup> September

## **20% discount on per person or charter price on the following barges and departures**

- ❖ Savoir Faire, Chablis, France departing 2<sup>nd</sup> July
- ❖ La Dolce Vita, Venice, Italy departing 16<sup>th</sup> July, 10<sup>th</sup> September & 8<sup>th</sup> October

## **For 2 people sharing a cabin - 20% discount on per person on the following barges and departures**

- ❖ Savoir Faire, Chablis, France departing 2<sup>nd</sup> July
- ❖ La Dolce Vita, Venice, Italy departing 16<sup>th</sup> July, 10<sup>th</sup> September & 8<sup>th</sup> October
- ❖ Impressionniste in Provence in South of France 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 20<sup>th</sup> Aug, 27<sup>th</sup> Aug, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep
- ❖ La Belle Epoque, Burgundy, France – 30<sup>th</sup> July, 27<sup>th</sup> August
- ❖ L'Art de Vivre, Burgundy, France - 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 27<sup>th</sup> August
- ❖ Scottish Highlander, Scotland 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 27<sup>th</sup> August

## **Save AU\$1000 per cabin for 2 passengers sharing:**

- ❖ Meanderer in the Upper Loire, France - departures: 25<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> July
- ❖ Magna Carta, River Thames in England - departures on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 16<sup>th</sup> July

## **No supplements for single passengers**

- ❖ No single Supplement on available cabins on June, July & Aug cruises
- ❖ Applies to a majority of vessels.

Please ask for more information of specific departures and barges

- The above offers are subject to availability at time of booking
- Usual European Waterways Terms & Condition apply – see brochure for details
- Book 1 cabin and get a 2<sup>nd</sup> cabin half price does not apply to bookings with single occupancy and discount applies to lower priced cabin
- One offer can not be used in conjunction with any other offers

## **France - Barge is TV star**

Barge cruises in the south of France this year are very popular – especially cruises on Anjodi, which starred in Rick Stein's "French Odyssey" series on BBC TV last Autumn. If you wish to travel on Anjodi, the only remaining space we can offer for 2006 is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July and 27<sup>th</sup> August departures and some dates in November.

Many may not know that Anjodi's big sister, L'Impressionniste, also cruises along the televised route from Agde towards Avignon, visiting the oyster beds of the Thau Basin, the distillery of Noilly Prat and the Camargue with its famous bulls, white horses and flamingos.

Because of the high demand for Anjodi, we would like to offer cruises on L'Impressionniste at Anjodi's prices for the rest of the 2006 season – this equates to a big saving on normal L'Impressionniste prices.

### **Italy - 3-day Venice Lagoon Cruises**

Our cruise around the Venetian lagoon is as unique as Venice herself. A new 3-day option available in July & October on selected dates combines 3 very different landscapes: from that of the picturesque islands of the northern lagoon to the charm of romantic Venice, to the wilderness of the southern lagoon. This mixture of culture, art and nature is unparalleled in hotel barge cruising terms.

Delicious seafood, local culinary specialties, fine wines and attentive service complete the picture. La Dolce Vita is the only hotel barge cruising this exceptional region. A crew of 3 - captain, chef and hostess - will be at the service of the 6 guests during the entire cruise, making La Dolce Vita a unique and more fulfilling experience of Venetian lifestyle. Call Outdoor Travel on 1800 331 582 for details & reservations

### **Italy - The Riviera Fiorita Cruise, Venice**

For this special occasion, our cruise program will slightly change, to offer the possibility for our guests to admire the Riviera Fiorita Regatta from the sundeck of our barge on the river Brenta. It's a great start to an amazing week and places are strictly limited – call today for details on 1800 331 582.

The Riviera Fiorita takes place on Sunday, September 10th 2006 and we meet you at 11.30 am at the meeting hotel and transfer you to La Dolce Vita by water taxi. At lunch we will serve a typical Venetian menu and in the early afternoon you will be able to admire the boats parade from the sundeck of the barge.

The Riviera Fiorita - *Flowering River Regatta* - is a splendid echo of the Historic Regatta taking place in Venice the previous Sunday. It is probably the most important event on the Brenta River, all the villages along the banks of the Naviglio Canal joining in. The event started in 1977 to re-enact the passage along the river of Henry III, King of France. Originally that took place in 1574, the year the sovereign visited Venice. He entered the city after having followed the course of river Brenta from Padua, passing the great country villas of the Venetian nobility. He was warmly welcomed. Along the riverside there were rejoicing crowds and music as the nobles looked on from their lavish villas. Today, as then, on the second Sunday of September people watch the procession of colourful vessels as they bear their distinguished visitors beautifully appressed in historic costumes. First there is a boating competition for the rowing clubs' boats. The prize giving for the best team takes place at Malcontenta, point of arrival for the historic procession. After the regatta in the late afternoon we will cruise down the river into the lagoon to follow our itinerary.

## **CANAL & CO HOTEL BARGE CRUISES IN FRANCE**

A cruise on the M.S. Anacoluthé combines the comforts of a mini ocean liner with the charm of a river steamer. The elegant interior provides ample space to relax, seasoned wood tones, old world charm. Large windows give all round views of the passing scenery. The Piano Bar, the exercise room and outdoor hot tub add to the ambiance of unprecedented comfort. Cruise Highlights include:

- Giverny, Claude Monet's home & gardens
- Auvers Sur Oise, Van Gogh's early home
- Bougival, seen in so many paintings
- Paris, "City of Light"—evening cruise daylight tour
- Chateau Vaux le Vicomte, beautiful interiors and magnificent gardens
- Chablis Vineyard, visit and private tasting

Outdoor Travel are offering AU\$500 per person discount on 7-day fully inclusive cruises aboard the MS Anacoluthé on the following departures for 2006 for both twin & single cabins:

AUGUST 26, SEPTEMBER 09,23 & 30, OCTOBER 07

**Cruises depart each Saturday from central Paris – usual price is AU\$2725 per person (twin-share)**

## BIKE & BARGE CRUISES

We still have a few places on these popular holidays that suit both cyclists & those looking for an interesting cruise holiday. These tours are ideal for singles but couples with differing cycling ability have enjoyed the flexibility they offer:

Champagne Region of France

Departs 15 - 22 July from Paris to Reims – just 3 cabins free

Departs 22 - 29 July from Reims - Paris - 6 cabins free.

We are offering a discounted price of just AU\$1350 per person (twin share) Includes bike hire, guide and transfer from or to Paris.

We also have 3 cabins free on the Hotel barge Iris travelling from Bruges - Amsterdam on June 24 at AU\$1690 – we also have a few cabins available departing on October 14 at AU\$1490 per person.

## NARROWBOAT HOLIDAYS IN ENGLAND

Late availability on the Avon & Kennett Canal near Bath



Due to a late cancellation we have a 6-berth Thrush Narrowboat available for the week of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2006 on the beautiful Avon & Kennett Canal between the Roman city of Bath & the majestic River Thames.

Ideal as a base to explore some of the most picturesque & historical places in England, including mediaeval Bradford on Avon, the aqueducts at Dundas & Avoncliff or the American Civil War Museum at why not plan a walking or cycling holiday along the canal, stopping for picnics or dinner at a traditional alehouse, pub or restaurant.

These fully equipped, self-contained & very comfortable traditional English narrow boats are the idea way to explore rural England & the early part of September is when this area is at its very finest. Ideal for 2 or 3-couples or a family the cost is just AU\$2950 for the week.

**IMPORTANT: if I could just remind everyone that our office is amongst the autumn leaves in beautiful Bright in Northeast Victoria. We do not have an office in Melbourne & have no relationship whatsoever with the travel agent there called Outdoor Travel Melbourne.**

**We also accept both direct bookings for tours, flights & general travel AND accept reservations through your local travel agent.**

