



OUTLINES

June 2008

Whenever life gets you down, Mrs. Brown, and things seem hard or tough. And people are stupid, obnoxious or daft, and you feel that you've had quite enough...

Just remember that you're standing on a planet that's evolving, and revolving at nine hundred miles an hour... That's orbiting at ninety miles a second, so it's reckoned, the sun that is the source of all our power. The sun and you and me, and all the stars that we can see, are moving at a million miles a day. In an outer spiral-arm at forty thousand miles an hour of the galaxy we call the Milky Way.

Our galaxy itself contains a hundred billion stars; it's a hundred thousand light years side to side. It bulges in the middle, sixteen thousand light years thick, but out by us it's just three thousand light years wide. We're thirty thousand light years from galactic central point, we go 'round every two hundred million years. And our galaxy is only one of millions of billions, in this amazing and expanding universe.

The universe itself keeps on expanding and expanding, in all of the directions it can whiz. As fast as it can go, that's the speed of light you know; twelve million miles a minute, that's the fastest speed there is. So remember when your feeling very small and insecure, how amazingly unlikely is your birth, And pray that there's intelligent life somewhere up in space, 'cause there's bugger-all down here on earth!

THE UNIVERSE SONG, from Monty Python's THE MEANING OF LIFE

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For those receiving this newsletter for the first time, welcome. If you are interested in past copies they are stored on our website www.outdoortravel.com.au under 'What's New'.

WALKING IN MALTA

A new self-guided walking itinerary from Sherpa

From the restaurant windows of the hotel our view is engaged more with what is going on outside the balcony rather than on the continental breakfast within. The amazing panoramic prospect of Valletta Harbour spreads before us with the honeyed bastions and finger like promontories of the area called Vittoriosa. This is dominated by Fort St. Angelo, protecting the narrow inlet of Dockyard Creek. Busy ferryboats and private launches churn up wake lines as they criss-cross the bay and the fresh coastal breeze corrugates the sea.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

Maltese Rambles 8-day / 7-night self-guided walks available daily all year round (except July & August)
Cost: From \$1050 per person (twin share)
Level of Difficulty: Easy to Moderate. There are some hills, some fairly steep but short ascents & descents
 some paths with rough gravel, stony and occasionally rocky surfaces.

If you were here back in 1942 during 'The Siege of Malta', plumes of water would be spraying up as the Luftwaffe dive bombed the harbour full of British warships and rather dented American convoy tankers; while from the cliffs, 'AK-AK' guns would be returning fire. If you were standing here in the mid 1560s during the earlier 'Great' Siege of Malta, you would be swelling the ranks of the 40,000 or so Ottomans who had decided to spend their holidays trying to destroy the meddling Knights of St. John once and for all. The Knights numbered only some 550, supported by perhaps 6000 assorted locals and Mercenaries. The Turks, with a supporting cast of North Africans on some 200 ships were narrowly routed, sent packing and a few heads undoubtedly rolled back in Constantinople. Once all the 'tourists' had gone home the Maltese Grand Master (de Valette) began construction of what has become the densely packed city of Valletta, constrained within solid curtain walls, built to survive any siege.

You can easily spend a couple of days walking around this great city, there is so much to see: the stone lidded granaries of Fort St. Elmo (the only part to fall in the siege); The attractive upper and lower Barracca Gardens; the 'Malta Experience' historical interpretation museum and the Lascaris War Rooms where the 1943 invasion of Italy was planned. There are also the palaces of the knights and grandmasters. When you get tired you can retreat into one of the old cafes or bars, such as the elegant 'Theatre Café', or the 'Café Cordina' dating back to 1837, just opposite the ornate statue of Queen Victoria which still glowers down on you from Republic Square.

From just outside the city gates the ordered chaos of the bus terminus circles around the Triton Fountain from where you can travel very cheaply to virtually anywhere on the islands. They are getting rarer now, but there are some old panel beaten Leyland buses from the 1950s and 60s still plying the routes, normally kept immaculate by their proud owners.

It is largely due to this bus network that surprisingly perhaps to the uninitiated, little Malta and Gozo make a wonderful out of season walking break with enough scenic diversity and cultural sightseeing highlights to keep you occupied whatever the low season weather should bring, and what it brings anyway is often mild, temperate and golden.

Malta is scarcely bigger than the Isle of Wight but with ten times the population, yet it is still possible to ramble through some wonderful countryside in its own right.

We start by taking a bus through the busy suburbs to the resort of Marsascala for a ten-mile walk to the fishing town of Birzebbuga. In between, urbanity is left behind as we follow undulating paths over headlands and along dry-stone walls and terraces over promontories with sea views opening up, closing down and constantly changing. This really sets the pattern of most of the walking on the islands. Around St. Peter's Pool the sea cliffs and wave cut platforms are the texture of ginger bread biscuit and breakers crash spectacularly over them.

The next day we gather our rucksacks and take the bus to Cirkewwa and take the 30-minute crossing to Gozo, cruising past tiny Comino. The church steeples of Mgarr Harbour soon dominate the horizon. We decide to take a taxi to quickly whisk us to our 4 star hotel on the attractive sheltered bay at Xlendi – Gozitan buses are a bit sleepier than the Maltese ones, which is a trait of the island – and we want to get out and explore.

At trendy Xlendi a delightful waterfront is sandwiched between towering limestone cliffs. Best of all is the breathtaking six-mile walk along the cliffs to the village of San Lawrenz. This starts with some faintly incised rock steps heading very steeply, but not precariously, up the cliffs, over rock terraces, past little shelters from where the Maltese love to shoot exhausted migratory birds. Once on the tops the views are breathtaking. Farm lanes and minor roads take us to a footpath leading across Dwerja Bay past Fungus Rock. This is a sea stack from which the Knights gathered a rare fungus to heal their comrades, the sea is also booming through a natural arch called the 'Azure Window.' Around the bay you may notice bunches of yellow flower clusters on silver stems, these are the Maltese everlasting flower, a unique species (*Helichrysum meliense*) only found in this area.

The next day we are off to Victoria - Gozo's charming little capital speckled with little shops, small squares and bars. A steep road brings us up to the impressive Mediaeval Citadel from whose swallow-skimmed rooftop

I enjoy a refreshing local 'Hopleaf Beer.' Huge panoramas open up all over Gozo and across to Malta. Things weren't so dandy in 1551 – sure the views were similar, but then there were 10,000 Muslims besieging the town and eventually the governor was forced to capitulate and it is thought that the whole population of Gozo, some 5000 people, were forced off into captivity.

Changing emphasis to the north of the island, we undertake a circular perambulation from the Citadel following rural lanes to the extensive northern limestone beaches and a large area of saltpan workings, where sea water is still piped into evaporation pools and the residual salts scraped out. It looks like a mixture of cream, orange and blue tiles, has carpeted the foreshore. The seaside landscape is even more dramatic under almost purple skies contrasting with a bright tooth shaped hill called 'Qolla I Bajda.'



Another walk takes us to picnic at the only sandy beach on Gozo at Ramla Bay. Here after the Great Siege those industrious knights built a submarine wall across the bay to stop boats from attempting a direct beach landing, making them easy targets in the water. This was backed up not only by land artillery but from a couple of 'Furgasses' excavated into the rock boulders and cliffs near the water level. These were crude mortars: the holes were filled with stones and gunpowder and then fired out across the bay. None of these defences were in the end used as the Turks never returned after 1565.

Taking the ferry back to Malta we take a bus over to St. Paul's Bay, a rather busy tourist area but nevertheless a springboard for some useful walks. Just across the bay is an island with a memorial thought to be the point where St. Paul was shipwrecked enroute -as a prisoner- to visit the Emperor in Rome. After being treated well locally he was given the usual pre Constantinian welcome for Christians in Rome by being executed.

Our hotel is based around a prehistoric Dolmen which harks back even further. The area has so many restaurants you could choose from all the great cuisines of the world. We however settle for a couple that claim to offer 'traditional Maltese cooking.' There does seem to be a big overlap with Italian and to an extent even English fayre, but it is worth trying at some stage 'Lampuki' a dorado fish and vegetable pie and 'Aljotta' a filling fish soup with marjoram, tomatoes, garlic and rice; perhaps washed down with a robust Maltese wine such as a 'Gennarua'.

The classic walk to do is the nine-mile coastal circuit of the Marfa Ridge. It is a day of sea cliffs, beaches, a blowhole, and dramatic headland views both to Comino and Gozo and also across Malta. The cliffs are splashed with colour including the blooms of Sea Pinks, Oxeye Daisies – there are loads of flowers in the spring. You start and finish the walk at Malta's very own nature reserve, where any bird that survives shooting seeks asylum. There are opportunities for fish and chips and a few ice creams, perhaps having a rest watching Kite-surfers zipping across a little bay.

On the way back to the hotel one can get off the bus at a bar in Xemxija to spend a couple of hours investigating the 'Xemxija Heritage Trail'. This stroll was developed by a local schoolmaster and his pupils, who not only realized how much history there was in such a small area of landscape, but also how quickly this land was disappearing under new housing estates. A little winding trail takes you up to ancient caves, burials, cart ruts cut into stone, granaries and some ancient apiaries – where beehives were farmed in a rock face. The trail leads you into a building - cave complex overlooking the main road and easily missed, here there are some quite well preserved Roman baths.

The following day we are on a bus again, this time to the old capital of Mdina (also called Rabat). This baroque town also managed to somehow hold out in the siege as the Turks considered it an after thought; however the garrison stationed there continued to be a thorn in their side throughout their stay!

There is another interesting historical trail and museum you can visit, but we are off for a hilly walk across dry stone walled farmland, passing little streams still just flowing in the spring. The fields are emerald but dotted with orchids and there are also areas of wall and field smothered in the yellow blooms of the Crown Daisy. Strolling over to Dingli village for a snack lunch, up to now the sea, which has been omnipresent on each walk, has been remarkably absent, but a short excursion from the village brings us to the Dingli Cliffs, the highest area of the whole country.

It has been a full week of walking. Sitting around the bar on the last evening, going through my notes I am surprised how many other attractive walks there are that we could have done; I am impressed and hope to return to this plucky little island for another look around; a task made easier with scheduled Air Malta services flying from several UK airports and now the low cost airlines have also got in the act.

LAST FEW PLACES AVAILABLE – WALKING IN ITALY OR FRANCE

Small group walking holidays in Europe

Checking with our specialist walking tour operators in France & Italy we are able to offer the following places for 2008:

Walking or cooking with the Tamlyn's:

England - Walking with a donkey in Suffolk – starting 1st – 8th July – 3 rooms still available

France - Haut Quercy week of walking starting 29th August & 30th October – several rooms still available

Italy - walking with a donkey in Umbria starting September 6th (space for two couples available - no singles).

France - Cooking Week in the Lot (space for two couples available... no singles) starting 4th October

France - cooking Weekend in France starting 24th October – rooms still available

Hedonistic Hiking in Italy:

Siena to the Med departing 1st -10th July is available as an independent walk for 2 clients.

Parma, Tuscany and Cinque Terre departing 19th –26th Sept has 3 spaces available

Piedmont and Emilia Romagna departing 11th-19th October has 6 spaces available

Ask for detailed itineraries for any of these tours. Call Yvette at our Fares Desk on (03) 57501441 to check flights to Italy or France

WHAT'S NEW OUR UPDATED WEBSITE TOUR LIST

We have a wealth of information available on our website www.outdoortravel.com.au

Click-on to any title below for full details of a selection of holidays in Europe:

Austria

[Austria - River Danube Self-guided cycling from Passau to Vienna 08](#)

[Austria - Lake Wolfgang one-hotel Guided walks 08](#)

[Austria - Czech Republic - Vienna to Prague Self-guided cycling 08](#) **NEW PROGRAM**

[Austria - Zillertal Alps one-hotel guided walk 08](#)

[Austria - The Danube Cruising Cycling 08](#)

[Austria - Stubai Alps one-hotel Guided walks 08](#)

[Austria - Sölden Oetz Valley 08](#)

Belgium

[Holland Belgium & Germany - Bike & Barge cruises 2008](#) **LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE**

Croatia

[Croatia - Dalmatian Coast Bike & Boat Small Group cycling holiday 08](#)

[Croatia - Dalmatian Coast one-hotel guided walks 08](#) **NEW**

[Croatia - Dubrovnik & Islands guided sea-kayaking 08](#)

[Croatia - Dalmatian Coast to Dubrovnik Bike & Boat cruising & cycling 08](#)

[Croatia - National Parks Bike Boat 08](#)

[Croatia - Islands of Kvarner Bay Bike Boat 08](#)

[Croatia - Southern Dalmatia Bike Boat 08](#)

France

[France & Belgium - ANZAC Western Front Tours 08](#) **NEW**

FRANCE - CYCLING HOLIDAYS

[France - Paris Guided Bike Tours 08](#)

[France - Small group cycling holidays – dates & prices 08](#)

[France – Champagne to Reims Bike & Barge guided cycling 08](#)

[France - Self-guided Cycling in Burgundy 08](#)

[France – Provence Small Group cycling holidays 08](#)

[France – Provence Roman Heritage small group guided cycling 08](#)

[France – Dordogne small group cycling holidays 08](#)

[France - Provence The Camargue Self-guided cycling 08](#)

[France & Belgium - Bike & Barge Paris to Bruges guided cycling 2009](#)

[Belgium & France - Bike & Barge Bruges to Paris - route of the Pilgrims 2009](#)

[France - Brittany Self-guided cycling holidays 08](#)

[France - Dordogne Perigord Self-guided cycling 08](#)

[France - Classic Cols of Tour de France small Group holidays 08](#) **SERIOUS CYCLING**

[France - Loire Valley Bike & Barge Group cycling holidays 08](#)

FRANCE - CANAL or RIVER HOTEL BARGE HOLIDAYS

[France - Hotel Barge cruises in Provence - Le Phénicien 08](#)

[France - Hotel Barge cruises in Burgundy - Libellule 08](#)

[France - Hotel barge cruises in Burgundy - M.V. Litote](#)

[France - Hotel Barge cruises in Alsace - M.V. Lorraine](#)

FRANCE - WALKING HOLIDAYS

[France – Auvergne one-hotel guided walk 08](#)

[France - Pyrenees one-hotel guided walk 08](#)

[France - Walking Party Pyrenees 08](#)

[France - Lot Valley – a week of French cooking, walking & wine 08](#)

[France - Walking Party Prices & Booking form 08](#)

[France - La Decouverte - Our most popular centre-based guided walk 08](#)

[France - Loire Valley one-hotel guided walks 08](#)

[France – Walking in the Lot Valley – Haute Quercy 08 **NEW**](#)

[France - Provence one-hotel guided walks 08](#)

[France - Dordogne Sarlat one-hotel Guided walks 08](#)

FRANCE - WAY OF ST JAMES - WALKING OR CYCLING HOLIDAYS

[France & Spain - Camino de Santiago - The Way of St James Self-guided walks 08](#)

Germany

[Germany - River Mosel Bike & Barge cycling cruises 08](#)

[Germany - Rhine & Moselle Bike Barge Cruise - special departure 5th July 08](#)

[Holland, Belgium & Germany - Bike & Barge cycling cruises 08](#)

Greece

[Greece - Central Aegean Bike & Boat cruises 08](#)

[Greece - Southern Aegean Bike & Boat cruises 08](#)

Holland

[Holland - Amsterdam to discover Northern Holland Bike & Barge cruises 08](#)

[Holland - Amsterdam to Brussels Bike & Barge cycling cruises 08](#)

[Holland & Belgium – Amsterdam to Bruges Bike & Barge cycling cruises 08](#)

[Holland - On the trail of Rembrandt Bike & Barge cycling cruises 08](#)

[Holland - Cycling in a Nutshell Self-guided cycling cruises 08](#)

[Holland – Springtime Tulip Bike & Barge cycling or sightseeing cruises 08](#)

[Holland, Belgium & Germany - Bike & Barge cycling cruises 08](#)

Hungary

[Hungary - Cycling from Vienna to Budapest 08](#)

[Hungary - Hotel barge cruises on the River Danube - weekly cruises](#)

Ireland

[Ireland – Celtic Kerry small group sightseeing highlights & easy walking 08 **NEW**](#)

[Ireland - Beara Peninsula self-guided walking 08](#)

[Ireland - Dingle Independent Cycling 08](#)

[Ireland - Kerry Independent Cycling 08](#)

[Ireland – Kerry Saints & Scholars guided walk 08](#)

[Ireland - Kerry Gems One-hotel guided walks 08](#)

[Ireland - Wicklow Way - guided or self-guided walks 08](#)

Italy

[Italy - Amalfi Coast - Sorrento one-hotel guided walks 08 **POPULAR TOUR**](#)

[Italy - Cinque Terre - Bonassola One-hotel guided walks 08 **LIMITED SPACES**](#)

[Italy - Hedonistic Hiking Small group guided walking holidays 08](#)

[Italy – Hedonistic guided walking Parma, Tuscany, Cinque Terre, Piedmont 08](#)

[Italy - Dolomites One-hotel guided walks 08](#)

[Italy – Hotel Barge cruising on the Venice Lagoon](#)

[Italy – Umbria one-hotel guided walk 08](#)

[Italy - Horse Riding Painting Pottery in Chianti](#)

[Italy - Lake Garda one-hotel Guided Walk 08 **NEW**](#)

[Italy - Lake Garda to Venice Guided Cycling 08](#)

[Italy – Sardinia small group guided cycling holiday 08](#)

[Italy – Umbria small group guided cycling holiday 08](#)

[Italy – Venice & Veneto small group guided cycling holiday 08](#)

[Italy – Southern Italy – Matera & Basilicata small group guided cycling holiday 08](#)

[Italy - Northern Tuscany one-hotel guided walks 08](#)

[Italy - Tuscany small group guided cycling 08](#)

[Italy - Painting holidays in Tuscany 08](#)

Spain

[Spain - Mountain Biking near Malaga 08](#)

[Spain – Andalucia guided cycling holiday 08](#)

[Spain – Andalucia, Ronda Valley one-hotel guided walks 08](#)

[Spain - Andalucia - Horse Riding in Sierras - ask for 2008 details](#)

SPAIN - WAY OF ST JAMES - CAMINO DE SANTIAGO WALKING OR CYCLING HOLIDAYS

[Spain – Camino de Santiago one-week guided walks - Pyrenees section 08](#)

[Spain – Camino de Santiago guided walks – Valladolid to Santiago 08](#)

[Spain – Camino de Santiago guided ‘Value’ tour from Molinaseca to Santiago 08](#)

[Spain – Camino de Santiago 1 or 2-week guided walks \(Dr Steven Blake\) – Burgos to Sarria to Santiago 08](#)

[Spain – Camino de Santiago Aragonés guided walks – Pau to Bayonne Biarritz 08](#)

[Spain – Cycling the Camino de Santiago 08](#)

[Spain & France – Camino de Santiago self-guided walks 08](#)

[Spain - Camino - The best of small group guided walk 08](#)

Switzerland

[Switzerland – Lakes, Rhine & Lucerne – small group guided cycling 08](#)

[Switzerland - Bernese Oberland self-guided walk 08](#)

Turkey

[Turkey - Lycian Coast guided walk 08](#)

[Turkey – Lycian Coast Bike & Boat cycling holiday 08](#)

United Kingdom (including England, Wales & Scotland)

[UK Narrow-boat Hotel Barge Holidays 08](#)

UK WALKING HOLIDAYS

[England - Cotswolds one-hotel guided walk 08](#)

[England - Derbyshire Dales one-hotel guided walk 08](#)

[England - Cotswolds Way Self-guided walking 08](#)

[England – Lake District Northern Region – one-hotel guided walk 08](#)

[England – Suffolk – guided walking with a donkey 08](#)

[England - Best of Hadrian's Wall self guided walk - available daily in 08](#)

[Wales - Snowdonia one-hotel guided walk 08](#)

[Scotland – Glen Coe - ask for 2008 details](#)

[Scotland - West Highland Way 08](#)

FRANCE HOTEL BARGE 2 for 1 SAVINGS

SAVE UP TO \$2980 * ON TWO PEOPLE CRUISING

High on the list of 'must do' holiday ideas is a tranquil river cruise through rural France, sipping local red wine, taking in the antiquities; the arts and cultural centres, idly chatting to your travel companions with the prospect of a gourmet dinner to round off the evening.

As European small barge and river cruising specialists, Outdoor Travel are delighted to offer last minute discounts – **2 passengers travelling together can cruise for the price of 1** on selected 7-day hotel barge cruises in the most beautiful regions of Burgundy & Alsace in France:

19 July	Libellule Burgundy (7-cabins available), Litote Burgundy (3-cabins), Lorraine Alsace (5-cabins)
26 July	Libellule (6-cabins), Litote (8-cabins)
2 August	Libellule (8-cabins), Litote (6-cabins)
9 August	Litote (5-cabins)
16 August	Libellule (5-cabins)

Libellule high season cost is \$2955 per person twin share – sale price \$2955 for 2 passengers sharing a cabin
Litote high season cost is \$2955 per person twin share – sale price \$2955 for 2 passengers sharing a cabin
Lorraine high season cost is \$2980 per person twin share – sale price \$2980 for 2 passengers sharing a cabin

Cruise costs include 6-nights twin-share cabin accommodation with ensuite bathroom, full board (breakfast, lunch & dinner), wine at table with lunch & dinner, excursions by motor-coach as listed and free use of bicycles & facilities on board. Gratuities & personal expenses are extra. Upper deck or single cabin supplements are also available. Return transfers to Burgundy can be arranged from Paris for just \$455 per person or \$465 per person return to Alsace.

* The 2 for 1 offers do not include or allow any other discounts. Return transfers available from Paris on some cruises at extra cost

ENGLAND - NARROWBOAT CANAL CRUISES

SAVE UP TO \$1790 ON TWO PEOPLE CRUISING THE POPULAR ENGLISH MIDLANDS

Outdoor Travel is offering a unique discount for **2 passengers travelling together can cruise for the price of 1** * on selected 8-day cruise fully inclusive departures after 23 September 2008. Cruise for just \$1790 per couple sharing a twin or double cabin – transfers are available from major centres/airports/stations at extra cost

Explore the English Midlands - starting in Birmingham, Great Haywood, Worcester, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, Stoke Bruerne, Market Harborough, Hinckley or Shardlow - aboard a traditional English narrowboat. The cost includes a fully crewed holiday starting on selected dates, breakfast, lunch & dinner with cabin accommodation. * Conditions apply – ask for details

GO BARGING – EXCLUSIVE CANAL BOAT OFFERS

DISCOUNTS & SAVINGS OF UP TO 25%

FRANCE - BURGUNDY

Burgundy - La Belle Epoque starting 6th July 2008 - 25% discount for a charter for up to 13 people
Burgundy - L'Art de Vivre – for all available cabins departing 1st or 15th June - a 25% discount.

FRANCE - PROVENCE

Camargue & Rhone - L'Impressionniste – cruises departing 1st, 8th or 29th June - 25% discount per cabin.

FRANCE – UPPER LOIRE

Upper Loire - Savoir Faire – 15% discount on cabin and charter bookings - dates still available:

27th July & 17th August Burgundy Cruise,
24th & 31st August Champagne region cruise,
5th October Chablis cruise
19th October France & Belgium cruise,
26th October Belgium & Holland cruise.

FRANCE – BORDEAUX REGION

Southwest France - Saint Louis – 10% discount on available cabins and charters departing in June 2008.

WALKING CRUISES IN BURGUNDY - We still have some cabins available on **La Belle Époque's Walking cruises departing 12th or 19th October 2008** - a professional Walking Guide is on board all week with wonderful Burgundy walks – at no extra cost. Singles welcome.

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER – We still have cabins available in September and October in Burgundy and Provence. As you know, these months during and following the wine harvest, when the leaves turn gold and the weather is not too hot, is an ideal time to cruise.

VENICE REGATTA CRUISES - La Dolce Vita cruise departing 7th September has availability for individual twin/double cabin bookings or a charter for 2-6 people for the **Storica Regatta Cruise**. There is also still 1 cabin available on the **Fiorita Regatta Cruise** departing 14th September

For a copy of the full Go Barging brochure – or details of any of these offers - call us today on 1800 331 582

BIKE & BARGE & ISLAND HOPPING CRUISES

FRANCE, BELGIUM, HOLLAND, GERMANY, GREECE, CROATIA, TURKEY

Cruises combines two popular ways to explore Europe (cycling & river cruising), allowing partners of different abilities & interests to holiday together (trips are just as interesting for non-cycling partners, leisure cyclist OR enthusiasts), unpack once & come 'home' each night to a wonderful meal and a comfortable cabin with your

own bathroom. Demand is fast outstripping supply with these barges & early bookings are essential. We still have cabins available – cruises are 8-days / 7-nights unless specified otherwise:

FRANCE Loire Valley 12, 19 July share cabin (lady only), 16 Aug share cabin (male only) \$1550
Burgundy available 5, 12, 19, 26 July, 2 August at \$1650
or (single cabin only 14 Jun, 23, 30 Aug)
Champagne - Reims to Paris 2 August at \$1650 (**NEW SPACE NOW AVAILABLE**)

HOLLAND Northern Holland 20 July, 3, 10 & 31 August at \$1660
Amsterdam – Rotterdam 24 May at \$1650
Highlights of Holland from Amsterdam 14 June, 5, 12, 19 & 26 July,
2 & 30 August, 13 September at \$1380

HOLLAND/BELGIUM Amsterdam to Bruges 6 July at \$1650
Bruges to Amsterdam 13 July at \$1650
Bruges to Amsterdam 14 September at \$1650
Bruges to Amsterdam 11 October at \$1650 (**NEW SPACE NOW AVAILABLE**)

GERMANY Ludwigburg to Koblenz 5 July (limited space) at \$1650
Ludwigburg to Frankfurt 23 August (limited space) at \$1650
River Saar & Moselle 13 September (very limited spaces) at \$1650
River Moselle – Saarbrücken to Koblenz 18 October at \$1460

HOLLAND/GERMANY Amsterdam – Koblenz along the Rhine 21 June from \$1650
Rhine River repositioning cruise Koblenz to Amsterdam 18 October at \$1460

GREECE Selected weekly dates Cyclades, Ionian Is, Aegean Islands to October from \$1930
20 September Greek Aegean North,
27 September Cyclades & Greek Aegean South,
4 October Greek Aegean South
5 October Ionian Islands
11 October Aegean Middle & Greek Aegean with ending in Bodrum
12. October Ionian Islands starting Kefalonia
18 October Greek Aegean South
19 October Greek Aegean Middle & Ionian Islands
25 October Greek Aegean South
26 October Ionian Islands

CROATIA Dalmatian Coast from \$1595 per person for 8-days / 7-nights
6 September from Trogir to Dubrovnik – in English (upper deck cabins only)
14 September Kvarner Bay (2 above deck cabins),
14 September Dubrovnik (3 below & 2 upper deck cabins)
21 September Kvarner Bay (1 below & 4 upper deck cabins)
21 September Montenegro (2 below & 4 upper deck cabins)
27 September Southern Dalmatia (1 below deck and 5 upper deck cabins)
28 September Kvarner Bay (2 below deck and 1 upper deck cabin)
28 September Istria (1 below deck and 2 upper deck cabins)

TURKEY Selected weekly departures Lycian Coast to October \$1930
4 October Turkey South Coast
11, 18, 25 October Turkish South Coast

2009 Departures – very limited space available – early booking essential:

BELGIUM/FRANCE Paris to Bruges 17 October – 2 weeks at \$2825 (Just 1 cabin still available)

WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT OUR HOLIDAYS

Phil – cycling along the Danube in Austria ... we had a wonderful experience with the trip, and feel it worthwhile feeding back to you.

General: In a word (or a few), we had a fantastic trip. It ended too soon, and it left us pining for the next one. Of course, the scenery, the river and its activity, architecture etc etc were the highlights. That river sort-of gets into you, and you feel like you have a special little connection with it. Of course, the act of doing all this under your own steam is great.

Timing: we thought we may have been taking a risk with the weather going as early as we did – mornings were crisp, but beautiful for riding, and we had only one wet day. Even that was quite manageable, and did not detract from the enjoyment. We'd go again at the same time.

Logistics: obviously very well sorted out. There was no hitch at all with hotel bookings or luggage transfer. All hotels were excellent, and seemed to be well tuned in to the cycling trip system.

Bikes: As you assured us, the bikes were good for the job. I guess all of us would rather have been riding our own bikes (being fussy of course), but the bikes were good quality and did the job well..

Gavin – cycling in New Zealand's South Island. *Overall a very good trip. Accommodation was of very high standard, much better than I was expecting (and in some ways what was needed) but was appreciated at the end of some long days. Catering was excellent, again better than I was expecting. Only comment is that I think picnic lunches are better than cafe bought lunches however I appreciate they are harder to organise if the group is of a different riding pace/standard (which our group was)*

Riding - some of the days were quite long and tough (to be expected on an alps tour I know) but maybe they could give some route profiles earlier than the night before. Also as the days were long you didn't get out and see much of some of the towns.

Rest days were in great locations with plenty to do. Group was a good mix. Great to meet people from all around the world. Guides were friendly, helpful and knowledgeable.

Only negative was when my (own personal) bike was slightly damaged by Kea (birds) overnight at Mt Cook. We had been warned about this at other locations and taken preventative action so I would have thought the guide would have known about this possibly being a problem at Mt Cook and advised/acted accordingly. Some of the Pedaltours bikes were damaged more than my bike so I guess I was lucky.

Would certainly recommend tour to others. Maybe just go a little earlier if you aren't from a cold climate as I did get a little cold some days.

Travel Agent comment – clients walking with the Tamlyn's in French Pyrenees: *Our clients called in today and couldn't fault a thing. They had a fabulous time so please pass on our thanks to James - They are fans for life and staring to plan their next trip! Thanks for all your help, Michelle*

JOIN THE SIMONE'S IN ITALY - A SPECIAL COOKING OPPORTUNITY **Join Bright Restaurateur Patrizia Simone in Italy in 2008**

George & Patrizia Simone are well known in our area of Victoria for their fabulous Simone's Restaurant in Bright. Certainly we have enjoyed many an evening in their company with some of the best authentic Italian food available in Australia. In September they return to their native Perugia and have asked us to let you know that there are a small number of places still available for those looking for a unique cooking and Italian experiences holiday. You will be sharing their culture and the authentic food and atmosphere of Umbria.



For all but one night they will be based at the large rambling Villa Borgo Casale Dell' Angelo just outside Perugia. Daily excursions will proceed at a leisurely pace, taking the slow and scenic route. The activities and sights have been carefully chosen to provide you with memories that will endure.

Much of Patricia's cuisine has been learnt and developed from her extended family and friends and she will be passing on some carefully selected recipes, which will be prepared together so you can recreate a little of the authentic atmosphere.

Their objective is simple – to provide you with an authentic insight into the food and culture of their region and the knowledge to recreate, at home, some dishes that will forever remind you of your stay. Much of the planning has already been done however, George and Patrizia will be spending some time back in Perugia in June to fine tune arrangements and ensure all is in readiness for our adventures in autumn

Departs: Sunday 14th to Thursday 25th September & Sunday 28th September to Thursday 9th October 2008

Day 1 (Sunday)

Arrive at the villa on the Sunday to settle in and meet and greet fellow holidaymakers over a glass of local wine and light refreshments. In the afternoon we will make pasta together dinner will be at the villa with our family and friends. Sample Signor Minelli's new season prosciutto. Patrizia, Anthony and grandmothers will cook a feast for all.

Day 2 (Monday)

Today we will explore the regions of Norcia and Castelluccio. We will embark on a tour of flavours. With its beautiful hilltop towns and home to lentils, boar salami, sausages and wild herbs. Norcia is the town of cured meats. We will stroll through and look at the beautiful shops. We continue to Castelluccio with its breathtaking views and admire the beautiful old town. We will make our way to Preci via Visso and have lunch at a slow food restaurant called Il Porcellino (the owner Raffaello will host us with his chef). That night at the villa we will have supper with the produce brought.

Day 3 (Tuesday)

Today we will venture on a wine tour of Southern Tuscany. We will visit wineries famous all over the world. Montalcino; famous for its Brunello di Montalcino and Vino Nobile di Montepulciano. At Banfi winery we visit their unique balsameria. We visit Pienza and taste the famous pecorino Toscano. On our way home call in at Bagno Vignoni for a dip in the historical roman and renaissance thermal bath. Dinner will be along the Lake Trasimeno.

Day 4 (Wednesday)

Exploring the heart of Umbria the ancient walled city of Perugia. Walk through the Rocca Paolina, ancient Roman Acquedotto and the Etruscan arch. Learn the secrets of quality chocolate making at the Perugina chocolate factory. The 3-hour chocolate cooking class will teach us the secrets of beautiful Baci. We will have drinks and cocktails at a friend's villa in the heart of Perugia - the only garden in the centre of the old city. We will have supper in Perugia.

Day 5 (Thursday)

Pack your overnight bag today because we will be leaving Perugia to go to Greve in Chianti. We will cross from Siena to Greve through Sambuca and little towns not even on the map. We will arrive in Greve and have lunch with Forlari's cured meats - a very impressive preserved meats and butcher shop. We will stroll through Greve, admire the beautiful shops and have a cooking class with Aunty Duilia. Learn how to make ribollita and ravioli with stracchino and porcini. Dinner will be at the family restaurant with pappardelle with wild boar and my aunt's famous stracotto (careful this is an eight course dinner)

Day 6 (Friday)

This morning we will go to Gaiole in Chianti and visit Badia di Coltibuono. This is the home of Lorenza dei Medici - famous for her TV series. Her cellars are the oldest in Chianti. We will visit them and have lunch there. We can't leave Chianti without visiting the best Chianti Classico wine maker in Castellina. Our next stop is Siena where we will walk the Piazza del Campo and visit the shops

Day 7 (Saturday)

We will go to Orvieto today. On the way we visit Palazzoni winery. We will follow the Etruscan road of wines; visit the ancient city and the Duomo followed by lunch at a famous winery of the region.

Day 8 (Sunday)

An authentic Italian picnic today - all the family will gather with us for a Sunday picnic - at 'La Ampagna', in the mountains. Mamma Lina, aunts and cousins will gather together for a picnic. They will cook a feast for us in the ancient bbq on the hill and we will go truffle hunting with the dogs

Day 9 (Monday)

Today the focus will be Montefalco & oil mills. We will visit the 'Ringhiera dell'Umbria' - the Balustrade of Umbria, on account of its position that commands the Topino and Clitunno valleys. Its Sagrantino wines are famous worldwide. Montefalco is part of the Piu' Belli Borghi d'Italia.

From Montefalco we will make our way to Vescia a small town along the valley where Signor Tega will host us with his mother. She will cook beautiful dishes with olive oil and we will be involved in the kitchen learning how to make Tegamaccio with Bergamotto oil and Tagliolini with lemon flavoured oil. Lunch will be with Caprai wines and we will visit Spello as time allows

Day 10 (Tuesday)

Today we visit the holy town of Assisi, the monastery, the Rocca and walk through the town to San Francis's cathedral. Tonight we will visit the Count Monticelli Villa and have supper with him

Day 11 (Wednesday)

Today we go to Gubbio, where we will stroll through the town and visit the pottery places, ride the "funivia", visit the cathedral and come home to a porchetta dinner with our friends. This is a night of wining, dining and relaxation

Day 12 (Thursday)

Our final morning - enjoy a leisurely breakfast as we will make and bake for your last day breakfast dishes.

For more details or to make your reservation contact: **Simone's Restaurant** on (03) 57552266 or email: simones@swiftdsl.com.au

WHATS ON IN ITALY THIS SUMMER

OPERA FESTIVAL

Florence - San Galgano Abbey - Barberino di Mugello-Monteverchi

June 13th – August 3rd 2008

www.festivalopera.it

The Opera Festival will take place once again with a rich calendar of both classic and modern operas, running from June 13th to August 3rd. The festival will travel through four prestigious and famous locations in Tuscany from the magnificent Boboli Gardens of Pitti Palace in Florence to the ruins of the gothic Abbey in San Galgano, in the province of Siena, from the Medici Villa of Cafaggiolo to Barberino of Mugello to the historic Varchi Square of Monteverchi in Arezzo. This year the melodrama embraces musicals, with the original production of "Cats" a notable performance that is loved worldwide, it has been remade with timeless success since 1981.

L'ARTE SPAGNOLA DA PICASSO MIRO' DALI' AI NOSTRI GIORNI (SPANISH ART FROM PICASSO, MIRO', DALI' TO THE PRESENT)

Palazzo Sant' Elia – Palermo 18 May - 14 September

www.mostraespanga.it

This is an exhibition that is dedicated to the Spanish artists from 1957 to today including some of the most well known from the last ten years. 1957 represents the birth date of El Paso cultural/artistic group that during the 20th century established the movement from modern to contemporary art. The exhibition is made up of works from Picasso, Mirò and Dalí and is presented so that both continuity of style and content are respected.

TRIONFI ROMANI: I GIORNI DELLA GLORIA (ROMAN SUCCESS- THE GLORY DAYS)

Colosseum – Roma until 14 September 2008

www.pierreci.it

The Colosseum will be host to a selection of reliefs, coins, bronze works and paintings that share the theme of the successful victory of the Romans against the Etruscans and Constantines. The first section of the exhibition brings together works dedicated to the Triumph through depictions of Etruscan funerals in the Hellenistic world. In its essence the Roman world depicts works that describe circensian procession and the opening of the games at Circo Massimo but most of all themes that are linked to actual triumphant procession, with prisoners in chains and a show of the riches that they had accumulated. The second part of the exhibition focuses on the theme of the winners and the conquered, with the portrayal of noted faces such as Cesare and Pompeo, battle scenes and the erection of monuments following the victorious campaign. The exhibition concludes with the depiction of the defeated populations who have submitted to the power of Rome.

400 IN ROME. THE REBIRTH OF THE ARTS FROM DONATELLO TO PERUGINO

Museo del Corso, Roma until September 17, 2008

www.museodelcorso.it

In a collaborative effort the Fondazione Roma and Artemisia have put together this interesting exhibition to pay homage to the artistic contribution and invaluable influence of the Roman masters on the European Renaissance. The exhibition is divided into five sections: the city; social and religious life; Rome, holder of antiquities; The Rome of the Popes; The great artists. The event was organized through loans from Berlin, London and Dusseldorf. 170 art works are on display by great masters such as Manteno, Perusing, Pier Della Francesca, Pintoricchio, Donatello, Michelangelo, Filippo Lippi, Gentile da Fabriano and Beato Angelico.

AUSTRALIA: THE FLINDERS RANGES

Walking or cycling holidays

One of the world's oldest mountain ranges lies deep in the heart of South Australia, and is surprisingly accessible from the fast pace of the city. The Flinders Ranges is an area of geological significance, and is home to a wide range of flora and fauna, including the once-rare yellow-footed rock wallaby.

Dotted throughout the vast ranges are tiny towns and settlements, from delightful Melrose nestled at the foot of Mount Remarkable, to Parachilna with a sweeping view of the jagged ranges. Remnants of once-grand sheep stations tell the tale of the harsh environment and shattered dreams. Wilpena Pound is the best-known landmark of the Flinders Ranges, and is comprised of a natural amphitheatre covering almost 80 square kilometres. St Mary's Peak is the highest point of the ranges at 1170m. The Flinders Ranges provides a stunning backdrop for cycling and walking.

The Mawson and Heysen Trails run for several hundred kilometres through the ranges, providing scenic routes for cyclists and walkers. Here are details of the range of walking and cycling experiences through the Flinders Ranges in 2008 available from Outdoor Travel.

Flinders Ranges and the Heysen Trail Walk

Experience a selection of the most interesting and scenic sections of the Heysen Trail in this tour, walking with daypacks and returning each afternoon to soft beds, hot showers and good food. Highlights include Wilpena Pound, historic Blinman, and the ruins of Kanyaka Homestead. This is the landscape that inspired Hans Heysen, one of Australia's best-known landscape artists.

LOCATION Adelaide to Flinders Ranges, return
DATES 7-13 June; 5-11 July 2008
DURATION 7 days / 6 nights
COST AUD\$1460
INCLUDED Transport from Adelaide, accommodation, park entry fees, all meals with wine, experienced tour guide

Flinders Ranges and Hidden Gorge Walk

Hidden Gorge lies in the Mount Remarkable National Park, amidst some of the most spectacular scenery in the Southern Flinders Ranges. Towering cliffs, secluded waterfalls, groves of native pines and picturesque waterholes feature, along with an array of flora and fauna. This tour is an easy introduction to pack carrying, with one day being 'pack free' as we explore the narrow chasm of Hidden Gorge.

LOCATION Adelaide to Southern Flinders Ranges, return

DATES 11-13 September 2008
DURATION 3 days / 2 nights
COST AUD\$721
INCLUDED Transport from Adelaide, camping equipment, park entry fees, all meals with wine & tour guide

Bike 'n Wheels Expedition

Yes, this trip crosses the continent, but the first few days are spent traversing the Flinders Ranges, including day spent cycling some of the most spectacular stretches of the Mawson Trail through stunning gorges from Wilpena Pound to Blinman. Cycling down through the stunning Parachilna Gorge in the morning light is breathtaking, and you're rewarded with great coffee and outstanding hospitality at Parachilna's Prairie Hotel.

LOCATION Port Augusta to Karumba (via the Flinders Ranges!)
DATES 10 April to 9 May 2009
DURATION 30 days (or 15 days for Stage 1)
COST AUD\$4100
INCLUDED Fully supported, most meals, campground & bush-camp accommodation, tour guide

NEW ZEALAND CYCLING TOURS - 2008/2009 STATUS

CODE	DAYS	AREA	DEP DATE & PLACE	FINISH DATE & PLACE	Avail
SA01	10	Southern Alps	31 Oct 08 Christchurch	09 Nov 08 Queenstown	
SA02	15	Southern Alps	11 Nov 08 Christchurch	25 Nov 08 Christchurch	Yes
SA02	10	Southern Alps	11 Nov 08 Christchurch	20 Nov 08 Queenstown	Yes
SG03	16	Southern Grand	27 Nov 08 Picton	12 Dec 08 Queenstown	Yes
- SN03	07	Nelson Lakes	27 Nov 08 Picton	03 Dec 08 Christchurch	Yes
- SW03	10	West Coast	03 Dec 08 Christchurch	12 Dec 08 Queenstown	Yes
NH04	15	Nth Island	30 Nov 08 Auckland	14 Dec 08 Auckland	Yes
- CP04	08	Coromandel	30 Nov 08 Auckland	07 Dec 08 Rotorua	Yes
- NV04	08	Volcanoes & G	07 Dec 08 Rotorua	14 Dec 08 Auckland	Yes
SA05	15	Southern Alps	14 Dec 08 Christchurch	28 Dec 08 Christchurch	Yes
SA05	10	Southern Alps	14 Dec 08 Christchurch	23 Dec 08 Queenstown	Yes
SG06	16	Southern Grand	04 Jan 09 Picton	19 Jan 09 Queenstown	Yes
- SN06	07	Nelson Lakes	04 Jan 09 Picton	10 Jan 09 Christchurch	Yes
- SW06	10	West Coast	10 Jan 09 Christchurch	19 Jan 09 Queenstown	Yes
- SS06	08	Southern Scenic	19 Jan 09 Queenstown	26 Jan 09 Dunedin	Yes
CP07	08	Coromandel	19 Jan 09 Auckland	26 Jan 09 Rotorua	Yes
SA08	15	Southern Alps	27 Jan 09 Christchurch	10 Feb 09 Christchurch	Yes
SA08	10	Southern Alps	27 Jan 09 Christchurch	05 Feb 09 Queenstown	Yes
NH09	15	North Island	10 Feb 09 Auckland	24 Feb 09 Auckland	Yes
-CP09	08	Coromandel	10 Feb 09 Auckland	17 Feb 09 Rotorua	Yes
-NV09	08	Volcanoes & G	17 Feb 09 Rotorua	24 Feb 09 Auckland	Yes
SA10	10	Southern Alps	12 Feb 09 Christchurch	21 Feb 09 Queenstown	Yes
SG11	16	Southern Grand	25 Feb 09 Picton	12 Mar 09 Queenstown	Yes
- SN11	07	Nelson Lakes	25 Feb 09 Picton	03 Mar 09 Christchurch	Yes
- SW11	10	West Coast	03 Mar 09 Christchurch	12 Mar 09 Queenstown	Yes
- SS11	08	Southern Scenic	12 Mar 09 Queenstown	19 Mar 09 Dunedin	Yes
CP12	08	Coromandel	15 Mar 09 Auckland	22 Mar 09 Rotorua	Yes
SA13	15	Southern Alps	20 Mar 09 Christchurch	03 Apr 09 Christchurch	Yes
SA13	10	Southern Alps	20 Mar 09 Christchurch	29 Mar 09 Queenstown	Yes
SA14	10	Southern Alps	05 Apr 09 Christchurch	14 Apr 09 Queenstown	Yes

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

STOP PRESS – INFORMATION AFFECTING AIR PASSENGERS

Are you ready for Australia's airport regulations?

Australian Airports are now implementing new restrictions on the liquids, aerosols and gels (LAGs) that international passengers will be able to carry on board, so have you got all the facts?

Key points:

- Containers of LAGs do not exceed 100 millilitres individually
- Partially filled containers greater than 100 millilitres will not be accepted
- Containers fit comfortably within the re-sealable 1L transparent plastic bag
- Only ONE re-sealable bag per passenger
- Plastic bag measures approximately 20 cm X 20 cm or 15cm x 25 cm
- Domestic services will not be affected.

For further information see: <http://www.smarttraveller.gov.au> or <http://www.dotars.gov.au/transport/security/aviation/LAG.aspx>

From practical experience too we can advise that not all plastic bags – especially those sealed bags used for duty free purchases in transit airports along your route - may be recognised at security check-points. For example alcohol purchased in Australia may be recognised in Singapore as part of your hand luggage but may not be recognised in Paris when trying for a connection to a regional airport in France.

However alcohol purchased in Singapore in a Singapore sealed bag is recognised for the flights from Paris to say Bordeaux. This effectively means you would need to put Australian purchased alcohol into your check-in luggage in Paris (allowing that you have enough transit time) if you wanted to take it on another flight in France.

It would appear that each airport & possibly each airline has a slightly different policy or approach to the policy – all of which TAKES TIME.

One thing that has now begun & which is a huge advantage is that you can now purchase a wider range of duty-free items including cameras & electrical goods ON ARRIVAL into Australia. Effectively you can do your price checking & orders as you travel & if the price is right pick-up your duty free without having to carry it on to the flight at all – see f1rstdutyfree.com.au

DUTY FREE ALLOWANCES ON RETURN TO AUSTRALIA

Travellers entering Australia (whether return home or visiting from overseas) are entitled to the following limits:

ALCOHOL: Inbound allowance for adult travellers 18 years or over

Each adult is permitted to enter Australia with 2.25 litres of alcoholic beverages (liquor, wine and champagne).

+

TOBACCO PRODUCTS : Inbound allowance for adult travellers 18 years or over

Each adult is permitted to enter Australia with 250 cigarettes, or 250 grams of cigars or tobacco products.

+

GENERAL GOODS: Inbound allowance for all travellers.

Each person is permitted to enter Australia with: A\$900 (for adult travellers 18 years or over), or A\$450 (for travellers under 18 years and aircrew) worth of goods (including gifts, souvenirs, cameras, electronic equipment, leather goods, jewellery, watches and perfume concentrate, sporting goods, but excluding alcohol and cigarettes) obtained overseas or purchased in Australia on a duty/tax free basis.

The above three categories of concession levels apply to accompanied goods only, imported in carry-on or checked baggage, or purchased at an Arrivals Duty Free store. Provided importations and purchases stay within the maximum limits stipulated above, they may be imported free from duty and/or taxes. If the maximum limit is exceeded in a category, duty and tax is payable on the entire value or volume of that particular category of goods. For further information see: <http://www.smarttraveller.gov.au>

ARE YOU TALKING TO ME.....?



Many of you will have talked to Sue, our Reservations Manager, as she has been happily sending people on our holidays for the last 11 years. But, in addition to her love of travel & all things walking & cycling, she has spent 8 of those years quietly working at something else...

After endless hours of training, working out, fighting, kicking & yelling, Sue has finally got her Black Belt in Shinkyokushin Karate. Certainly a worthy & hard won achievement, especially for someone in their 40's. She now looks forward to several glasses of good red wine and a little bit of relaxation. There are a fair few of our holidays that are looking pretty good right now...**WELL DONE SUE!**

WHERE ON EARTH IS.....?

Internet map & route finders

Looking for a map to get you from A to B then you now have 4 great Internet choices:

- 1) Click-on to our website & the Michelin Guide link on our Active Europe page <http://www.AlltheWeb.com>
- 2) Go to the <http://www.mappy.com/> website for a host of easy to read options
- 3) Go to <http://www.googleearth.com/> for a graphic view of the world we visit walking or cycling
- 4) Want help in finding you way around Australia – <http://www.travelmate.com.au/> for help from Travel Mate Mapmaker to generate a map of your proposed trip along with driving directions.

Call our travel experts & talk to us about our personal recollections – we regularly visit the areas we offer – call Martyn, Lucie, Yvette or Sue directly on (03) 57551743.

Contact Outdoor Travel for canal & river cruising brochures or to make reservations

OUTDOOR TRAVEL Pty Ltd

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Website: <http://www.outdoortravel.com.au>

ORDER YOUR NEW TRAVEL BROCHURES FOR 2008

Please tick below & email, fax or post your brochure request & we will send the new brochures to you:

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- () SHERPA CYCLING HOLIDAYS - Self-guided France, Italy, Spain, the UK, Ireland & most places in Europe
- () FRANCE WALKING HOLIDAYS - Small Group Guided Walking with a donkey to carry your lunch in the Lot Valley & in Tuscany, cooking, truffles & wine tours also available
- () CAMINO DE SANTIAGO – Walking or cycling the Way of St James (France or Spain)
- () WALKING SAFARI COMPANY - Small group themed walking holidays in France or Spain – with a donkey
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- () SUNSAIL – Yacht Charter or MileCatcher cruises in Queensland, Croatia, Vietnam, Tahiti & Thailand

OTHER DESTINATION – Please specify:

NEW ZEALAND WALKING / CYCLING

- () Milford Track Guided or Freedom Walk or the 8-day Ultimate Hike
- () Abel Tasman
- () Tongariro Trek
- () Routeburn Walk
- () Grand Traverse
- () Hollyford Valley Walk
- () Stewart Island Kiwi Trek
- () NZ Cycling Tours

AIRFARES – Please quote for flights as follows: From:To: Class:

Departing:One-way / Return (please indicate)

NAME:DAYTIME CONTACT:

ADDRESS:P'CODE: EMAIL ADDRESS:

OTHER REQUESTS:

Contact Outdoor Travel direct for more details, travel brochures and reservations:

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020
- Email: info@outdoortravel.com.au
- Web: <http://www.outdoortravel.com.au/>
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright 3741
- Travel Agent Licence No 31102

CARBON & THE HOLIDAY & WORK ENVIRONMENT

What we can do to make a difference?

With the release of reports into the global impact to the environment by carbon emissions & the use of cars, planes & of power generation there have been some creative new information sites that can give you some ideas about how you can look at a personal contribution to the issue of global warming.



Offsets made simple - '[Carbon Offsetting Explained](http://www.climatecare.org)' (website homepage – <http://www.climatecare.org>)

PC Power Consumption, Does it Really Matter?

More than **30 billion kilowatt-hours of energy are wasted because many of us simply forget to shut down our computers** when we're not using them. If we could just improve the efficiency of how we use our PCs, the savings in energy costs would be over \$3 billion dollars! The CO2 emissions from just 15 computers are equivalent in energy terms to the gas consumption used by one car.

[Learn More About PC Power Consumption...](#)

Our goal is to introduce 100,000,000 PC users into the Local Cooling community. If just 100 million of us optimise the efficiency of our computers' energy consumption, we could prevent over 300 billion kg of CO2 gas emissions, equivalent to over 1.8 billion gallons of oil, in just the first year alone. [Take Part in Our Project to Spread the Word about LocalCooling](#)



See: <http://www.localcooling.com/facts/> & please spread the word



A Victorian based solution - <http://www.treesmart.com.au>

Each year, the average Australian vehicle emits about 4.3 tonnes of carbon dioxide - the major Greenhouse Gas. While various attempts are being made in the transport sector to reduce vehicle use and emissions, through programs such as [TravelSmart](#), an alternative way of reducing Greenhouse Gases in the atmosphere is to remove them after they have been emitted via carbon sequestration in trees.

The **TreeSmart** program aims to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere by planting, maintaining and harvesting plantation eucalypt trees. The **TreeSmart** program is different to some other carbon sequestration programs that plant trees and leave them un-maintained as a perpetual forest.

The **TreeSmart** program will operate by selling subscriptions to Australian travellers ([motorists](#), [road freight operators](#), [public transport travellers](#), [air travellers](#), [conference attendees](#)) to enable the CO2 emissions from their travel to be absorbed (sequestered) in eucalypt trees grown for eventual harvesting and replanting.

OUTDOOR TRAVEL Pty Ltd do not specifically endorse any of these options & do not vouch for their effectiveness or credibility but we believe this information will help make an informed decision