



FROM MICHAEL'S DESK

Summer draws to a close. We just celebrated labor day and my son is already back in school for his senior year. Remember when summer used to last forever? And now you blink and it's over.

I can't complain though, as we got to spend several weeks this summer in the south of France, in our favorite little village of Camon. In fact, you can read about the abbey church of Camon in this newsletter.

I have many wonderful memories of this summer, but I think my favorite is of our neighbor, Andre. Andre will be 90 this year and most evenings, we would join him on the stone bench outside his house. The same house that he was born in. We would bring him a small glass of rosé and listen as he would tell us stories of the village. Time would seem to stand still for a little while.

Back to reality! We have a very busy fall schedule to prepare for and anyway, fall is my favorite time of year in New England. We do still have some space left on a few of our fall trips (even the one to Camon, led by Gavin Miller), and the holiday tours over Thanksgiving and Christmas are still available, if you like to get away then. Also, don't miss some exciting special offers in this issue. Keep Traveling!

Michael Induni, President

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MEMORIES FROM A GREEK EASTER

By Sarah Franklin

When I was twenty-two I went to Europe for the first time. My sister and I travelled together, stopping first in Africa to visit our brother, and when we arrived in Europe, we split up for a month. She went to France and I went to Switzerland. We planned to meet in Rome a month later, at noon, on April 1st, at the bottom of the Spanish steps and spend our last month together. Remember, this was before cell phones!

We decided to head south to Greece, where it was not only cheaper, but perfect for a little R & R. We decided to go to Spetses, an island off the coast, not far from Athens. After a long journey on the ferry, a wobbly train ride and another ferry, we finally made it! We were met at the landing by a handsome young man named Giorgos (George in English), who asked us if we would like a room. A little dubious, we accepted an invitation to look at it. He took us through winding streets to a house with an apartment. It had two bedrooms, a bathroom, a little sitting area, and a porch overlooking a couple of lemon trees with low hanging fruit. "How much?" we asked. Giorgos replied in English that the room would cost 60 drachmas a night - which was the equivalent of about 7 dollars. We took it! We were only going to stay for a week, but were convinced to stay on for Easter, which was, as Giorgos said, very special in Greece.

We had a wonderful time picnicking in the wild thyme and rosemary covered hills, bicycling the curvy roads to the beach, dining on roasted chicken and retsina (Greek wine that smells like pine needles), and sitting on our little porch enjoying gin and tonics with fresh cut lemon. The hype about Easter was all around us . . . the bakeries were making beautifully braided loaves with colored eggs, the shops had their finest and frilliest dresses displayed for the children, and one could almost hear the knives being sharpened for the final feast on Easter Sunday.

We were invited to meet Giorgos early on Easter morning for the “real” Easter, as he called it. My sister declined, but I put in the effort, wearily got up at dawn, and was met by a group of people of all ages and sizes. They were all laden with something - big jugs of Retsina, baskets of fruit and bread, blankets, umbrellas, and two of them shouldered a whole uncooked, fifty-pound lamb on a spit. And then we started walking. Up, up, and up we went. Putting my trust in these jovial strangers, I just followed along. After walking in wet clay soil, in which my flip flops got repeatedly stuck, we arrived atop a hill overlooking the whole island and the azure sea. A little old chapel sat at the top. We dumped everything in front of it and scattered in search of firewood.



After we got the fire going, and the lamb was installed over the hot coals, drenched in wild rosemary and squeezed lemon, and then the retsina started to flow. As the meat roasted, more and more people started to arrive. Someone brought a boom-box and put on Greek music and the dancing began! It didn't take me long to learn the steps, but I'm sure the retsina helped. Arms attached at the shoulder, the human chain wove in amongst itself in slow, accented, rhythm. The hoops, hollers and laughter rang out over the hillside. Every now and then one person would break loose and perform a solo in

the middle of the circle, hopping and squatting down on one knee, and then join in again. The smell of the lamb roasting, the music, the dancing, the friendly people, and the azure Mediterranean view were intoxicating. I felt alive and part of something much bigger than myself. When the lamb was ready, we tore into it - literally. It was the best lamb I've ever eaten in my life, a day I never wanted to end, and an Easter I will never forget.

A NEW PUZZLER

Q: Anybody who has been to Avignon in the south of France, will have probably visited the Papal Palace. From 1309 until 1376, the Papacy was based here (the reasons why are too complex to go into here, you'll have to come on one of our tours to Provence to find that out!). And, for a while after that, there were actually 2 popes, one in Avignon and one in Rome. This period is etched into our cultural heritage by the existence of the "New" Palace of the Popes in Avignon, but also by something else, something for which the region is justly famous. What is it? (a clue – it's delicious!)

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

LET'S UNPACK IN THE PEAKS

May 31ST - June 8TH, 2019

Do you enjoy gardens and stately homes? Is Chatsworth House on your list of "must sees" in England? If so, *Let's Unpack in the Peaks* may be the perfect tour for you!

This one-stop journey stays at the Alderly Edge Hotel in England's Peak District, home to the Peak District

National Park, which covers 555 square miles! Known for its natural beauty, the Peak District is a perfect location for a tour of Northern England.

While the stunning scenery and historical homes are a draw, perhaps the biggest highlight of this tour is the visit to the **RHS Flower Show at Chatsworth House** on members-only day.

About the Hotel:

As part of our "Let's Unpack" series, we stay at the Alderly Edge Hotel for the duration of the tour. This hotel has been a reliable friend for many years. Legend has it that King Arthur and his knights lie sleeping under the “Edge,” the red sandstone escarpment overlooking the village, and will awake in England's time of need. Combine the location with the friendly staff, and the award winning restaurant are just a few of the reasons why we love this hotel!



Contact us today to request the full brochure for this tour!
info@discovereuropeltd.com | 866-563-7077

WHY GET TRAVEL INSURANCE?

At Discover Europe, when we get a phone call in the office that someone must cancel their trip due to illness, or a personal emergency, our first question is: "Is he/she okay?" Our second question is: "Does he/she have travel insurance?"

We have seen far too many cases of people without travel insurance losing money due to unforeseen circumstances. All too often, people find themselves unable to take a trip at the last minute, due to health problems - either theirs or their family's. Nobody thinks it's going to happen to them, but it does.

If you are travelling abroad we cannot over-emphasise the importance of protecting the investment you have made. Here are a few questions to consider:

- Does your health insurance cover emergencies outside of your country?
- Do you have pre-existing health conditions?
- Does your credit card offer insurance and, if so, for what and how much?
- What level of risk are you comfortable with?

There are 4 main components to trip insurance:

1. Trip Cost Coverage: This includes trip cancellation, trip interruption, missed connections and travel delays.
2. Medical Coverage: Reimbursement for covered expenses incurred during your trip due to medical and dental emergencies.
3. Baggage Coverage: Benefits for loss, damage or theft of baggage and personal effects.
4. Emergency Transportation: Cost of transportation to nearest hospital or back home following a covered illness or injury.

When booking your next Discover Europe tour, make sure to look for the plan that suits your needs best. Generally, it will cost between 8-12% of the total cost of your tour. If you have a pre-existing condition, it will be covered if you purchase trip insurance within 14 days of us receiving your trip deposit.

At Discover Europe we recommend the Classic Plan from Allianz. We feel it provides very good value and, from our experience, follows through on what it promises. We are happy to answer any questions you may have and to help you with your decision.



TRAVELLER'S TALES: *MY TIME IN BERLIN, LIZ O.*

There aren't enough adjectives to describe my emotions during the trip and upon my return!

I tagged along with my parents and our best family friend. There was one other couple on the tour, and they were an absolute joy to travel with. All had traveled with Discover Europe before, except for me. The stories they all told about their other trips with Discover Europe were indeed a testimony to how well run the tours are, as well as how wonderful the guides are - with their knowledge, attentiveness, and flexibility.

The pre-trip communications were very informative, and the email we received from Matthias was very helpful. As a native of Berlin (and, in fact, what used to be East Berlin), Matthias shared with us many of his own personal experiences, observations, and sites of historical importance, while taking us around Berlin and the surrounding area.

We were given plenty of time everywhere we went to dig deep into the history and learn about the culture in the past and in the present. As my father said, it may not all have been pleasant or "feel good" moments, but it was necessary to gain a better understanding of Berlin now - by digging into how it has transformed and continues to do so.



BRANDENBERG GATE

LOYALTY REWARDS

A small thank you from us. If you took a Discover Europe trip in 2018, then you automatically receive a \$100 per person discount off any trip in this newsletter for 2019.

The hotel we stayed in was fabulous. The staff were quite friendly, always with smiles on their faces. The bar staff were extremely accommodating, as the group enjoyed relaxing with a drink before and after dinner. Breakfast was a full buffet, and quite delicious. Matthias recommended places to go to when we had our free time, including places to eat so we could enjoy more of the local flavor.

Matthias was well informed historically, culturally, and politically. His unique perspective and ability to explain all sides of different issues really made the tour that much more special.

Honestly, Berlin was not on my bucket list of places to go, and I didn't expect to love it as much as I did! I highly recommend this tour, and highly recommend Matthias as a guide - for this, or any other tour he is a part of. He did a marvelous job - shar-

ing his knowledge, patience with the participants (and meeting their needs in terms of elevators vs. stairs, time to rest, etc.), and his joy of sharing his home town - history and culture - with us. Matthias is truly a gem!

STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2018



FRANCE

THE CHÂTEAU DE CAMON

An extended stay at the magnificent Abbaye Château de Camon with day trips exploring the region from Carcassonne to the Pyrenees.
OCTOBER 19TH - 27TH 2018



SPAIN

THANKSGIVING IN MALLORCA

An extended stay in Sóller, with day trips to Deia, Palma and Valldemossa. Enjoy Thanksgiving dinner Mallorcan style.
NOVEMBER 16TH - 24TH 2018

SCOTLAND

CHRISTMAS IN SCOTLAND

Time in Glasgow and Edinburgh with the holidays spent in a Scottish Castle.
DECEMBER 21ST - 28TH 2018

SCHEDULED TOURS FOR 2019



AUSTRIA

VIENNA- MIT SCHLAG?

Old-world elegance with the Vienna State Opera, the Spanish Riding School, the Boy's Choir, day trips, and, of course - dessert!
AUG. 30TH - SEPT. 7TH 2019



VIENNA, AUSTRIA

CROATIA

ALONG THE DALMATIAN COAST

Follow the rugged coastline of Croatia, where the Balkans tumble into the Adriatic, from Dubrovnik up to Trieste.
APRIL 27TH - MAY 6TH 2019

EASTERN EUROPE

JEWELS OF EASTERN EUROPE

Journey through Budapest, Vienna & Prague and enjoy a mix of city time, train travel through beautiful countryside, and rural charm and beauty.
OCTOBER 3RD - 12TH 2019

ENGLAND

POLDARK'S CORNWALL

Visit the heart of Poldark's Cornwall, the English peninsula washed by the warming currents of the Gulf Stream.
MAY 4TH - 14TH 2019

TREASURE HOUSES OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND

See the full glory of Britain's Stately Homes set against the backdrop of a glorious full-blown English spring.
MAY 5TH - 14TH 2019

THE BEST OF ENGLISH GARDENS

Our annual homage to the Chelsea Flower Show and gardens of southern England.
MAY 14TH - 23RD 2019



LET'S UNPACK IN THE PEAKS

Unpack your bags for this "Let's Unpack" tour to England's Peak District with a visit to the Chatsworth Flower Show.
MAY 31ST - JUNE 8TH 2019



THE COTSWOLD HILLS

Experience quintessential English countryside from Oxford to Stratford-upon-Avon.
JUNE 27TH - JULY 6TH 2019

WEST COUNTRY GARDENS

Visit masterpieces of garden design on a tour that highlights both the scope of influence and the depth of history in the gardens of England's West Country.
JULY 2ND - 11TH 2019



DISCOVERING EAST ANGLIA

Experience life in a country house hotel with popular guide Gavin Miller in his home region.
JULY 19TH - 27TH 2019

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

Award-winning beaches, coastal castles and small rural hamlets make up this stunning archipelago, which is officially the sunniest place in Britain.
SEPTEMBER 12TH - 21ST 2019

TREASURE HOUSES OF NORTHERN ENGLAND

From York to the Lake District, journey behind the usual tourist facade and explore the remarkable natural beauty of the north.
SEPTEMBER 13TH - 22ND 2019

TALES OF WESSEX

Discover the beautiful region that Victorian novelist, Thomas Hardy, called home - including a visit to the Isle of Wight.
OCTOBER 10TH - 19TH 2019

KENT: THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND

Away from London and into the rolling hills of Kent. Enjoy brilliant and eclectic explorations from Dover to Dorking.
OCTOBER 17TH - 26TH 2019



FRANCE

SPRING IN PROVENCE

From our base in Arles, you will explore the region that has everything! Food, wine, and stunning countryside await you in Provence.
APRIL 26TH - MAY 4TH 2019

THE GARDEN OF FRANCE

Exploring the Loire Valley. This new trip for 2019 spends an extended stay in this lush, fertile region that became the playground of the Renaissance kings of France.
JUNE 7TH - 15TH 2019



THE COTE D'AZUR

An unforgettable exploration of the art and culture of the French Cote d'Azur. Stays in Hyeres and Nice and a visit to the idyllic island of Porquerolles.
SEPTEMBER 19TH - 28TH 2019



THE CHÂTEAU DE CAMON

An extended stay at the magnificent Abbaye Château de Camon with day trips exploring the region from Carcassonne to the Pyrenees.
OCTOBER 11TH - 19TH 2019



GERMANY

THE NEW BERLIN

Explore the city that our tour guides, Matthias Kort and Sara Cereda-Kort, call home. After the fall of the wall, a modern, vibrant city is revealed!
MAY 24TH - JUNE 1ST 2019

GREECE

A GREEK EASTER

Celebrate the Easter Holiday with local Greek villagers in Tolo and explore the fascinating history of Greece.
APRIL 26TH - MAY 5TH 2019



THE LAND OF GODS & HEROES-

Visit world-famous treasures and learn how ancient Greece has shaped modern times. Optional 4-day Greek island cruise extension.
MAY 18TH - 27TH 2019

ANCIENT ISLANDS: CORFU

With time to relax in luxury accommodations and explore this Mediterranean island, this is sure to be an unforgettable adventure!
OCTOBER 10TH - 19TH 2019

ICELAND

AN ICELANDIC VALENTINE

Experience the stunning natural beauty of Iceland on a long weekend getaway to Reykjavik this Valentines Day Weekend.
FEBRUARY 13TH - 17TH 2019



ICELAND



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



Indicates a trip cosponsored by the Barrington Community School for Continuing Education

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE TRIPS:

CALL: (866) 563-7077 • E-MAIL: info@discovereuropeltd.com • VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.discovereuropeltd.com



TUSCANY

THE LAND OF FIRE & ICE

Experience both Reykjavik and the Icelandic countryside and explore the geological forces that created this unique island.

APRIL 18TH - 23RD 2019

IRELAND

THE EMERALD ISLE

Introducing Ireland, both north and south, for a glimpse of this complex island, full of epic struggles, fantastic tales and truly spectacular scenery.

MAY 23RD - JUNE 1ST 2019

WILD IRELAND

Explore the rugged western coast of Ireland called the "Wild Atlantic Way" on this adventure from Galway to Donegal.

SEPT. 26TH - OCT. 5TH 2019

ITALY

ITALIAN MASTERPIECES

Explore the history and culture of Venice, Rome and Florence and visit the highlights, as well as off the beaten path destinations.

MAR. 28TH - APR. 6TH 2019

THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT

Graced with shocking beauty, each lake has its own charm which unfold against a backdrop of semi-tropical gardens, gracious old villas and vibrant villages.

MAY 10TH - 18TH 2019



UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN

Make your base in Montecatini Terme on this "Let's Unpack" tour and explore Florence and the surrounding region.

SEPT. 27TH - OCT. 6TH 2019

SICILY: ISLAND CROSSROADS

Visit Palermo, Agrigento and Taormina with guided exploration and leisure time to revel in the contrasts of this ancient island.

OCT. 25TH - NOV. 2ND 2019



SORRENTO & THE AMALFI COAST

Described by Charles Dickens as "one succession of delights", this dramatic area has countless cultural and scenic wonders.

NOVEMBER 2ND - 10TH 2019

THE NETHERLANDS

THE LOW COUNTRIES

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

APRIL 12TH - 19TH 2019



PORTUGAL

THE MAGIC OF MADEIRA

Escape the winter and experience the exotic island destination referred to as the island of eternal spring.

MARCH 15TH - 23RD 2019

LANDSCAPES OF PORTUGAL

Take a panoramic tour of Portugal from Lisbon to Porto, and see the best that this small country has to offer.

MAY 9TH - 18TH 2019

SCOTLAND

SKYE & THE HIGHLANDS

The breathtaking landscapes and the dramatic legends will surely have you leaving your heart in the highlands.

JUNE 20TH - 30TH 2019

THE HIGHLANDS BY RAIL

Travel to the Scottish Highlands and experience one of the "Great Railway Journeys of the World".

SEPTEMBER 6TH - 14TH 2019

CHRISTMAS IN SCOTLAND

Time in Glasgow and Edinburgh with the holidays spent in a Scottish Castle. An option to stay on for Hiogmanay.

DECEMBER 21ST - 28TH 2019



SPAIN

THE CANARY ISLANDS

Join Gavin Miller for a winter getaway and visit the two largest islands in this Spanish Archipelago - Gran Canaria & Tenerife.

JAN. 29TH - FEB. 6TH 2019



ANDALUCIA

BARCELONA & MALLORCA

Join Gavin Miller on an exploration of the Catalonian capital, Barcelona, and the island of Mallorca - that he now calls home!

APRIL 18TH - 27TH 2019

EARLY-BIRD DISCOUNT

Early registration enables us to plan ahead, which us saves us time and money, and we want to pass that saving along! If you register for a 2019 trip by **November 1st** this year we will deduct \$100 per person from the tour cost.

THE PILGRIM'S WAY

Trace the Way of St. James on the ancient pilgrimage route from Bilbao to Santiago.

JUNE 6TH - 15TH 2019

MADRID Y ANDALUCIA

Journey through southern Spain and see the timeless landscapes surrounded by vibrant cities, and traditional communities unchanged by the bustle of modern-day urban life.

OCT. 24TH - NOV. 2ND 2019



THANKSGIVING IN MALLORCA

An extended stay in Sóller, with day trips to Deia, Palma and Valldemossa. Enjoy Thanksgiving dinner Mallorcan style.

NOVEMBER 22ND - 30TH 2019

WALES

WALES & THE WELSH BORDERS

Ancient market towns, mountain peaks, coastal villages and romantic ruins characterize this journey into the heart of ancient Wales.

SEPTEMBER 5TH - 14TH 2019

MULTI-COUNTRY TOURS

CORSICA & SARDINIA

Natural island beauty and rich history flourish in the Mediterranean climate of these two stunning islands.

SEPTEMBER 19TH - 28TH 2019

THE ROMANTIC ROAD

Alpine settings and medieval half-timbered houses dot the romantic, winding road from Vienna to Heidelberg.

SEPT. 26TH - OCT. 5TH 2019

MEDITERRANEAN SHORES

From Barcelona to Nice - azure waters, white sand beaches, mountain villages and boundless sunshine - truly irresistible.

OCTOBER 3RD - 12TH 2019

CUSTOM TOURS

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

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

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THE ÉGLISE DE CAMON

By Michael Induni

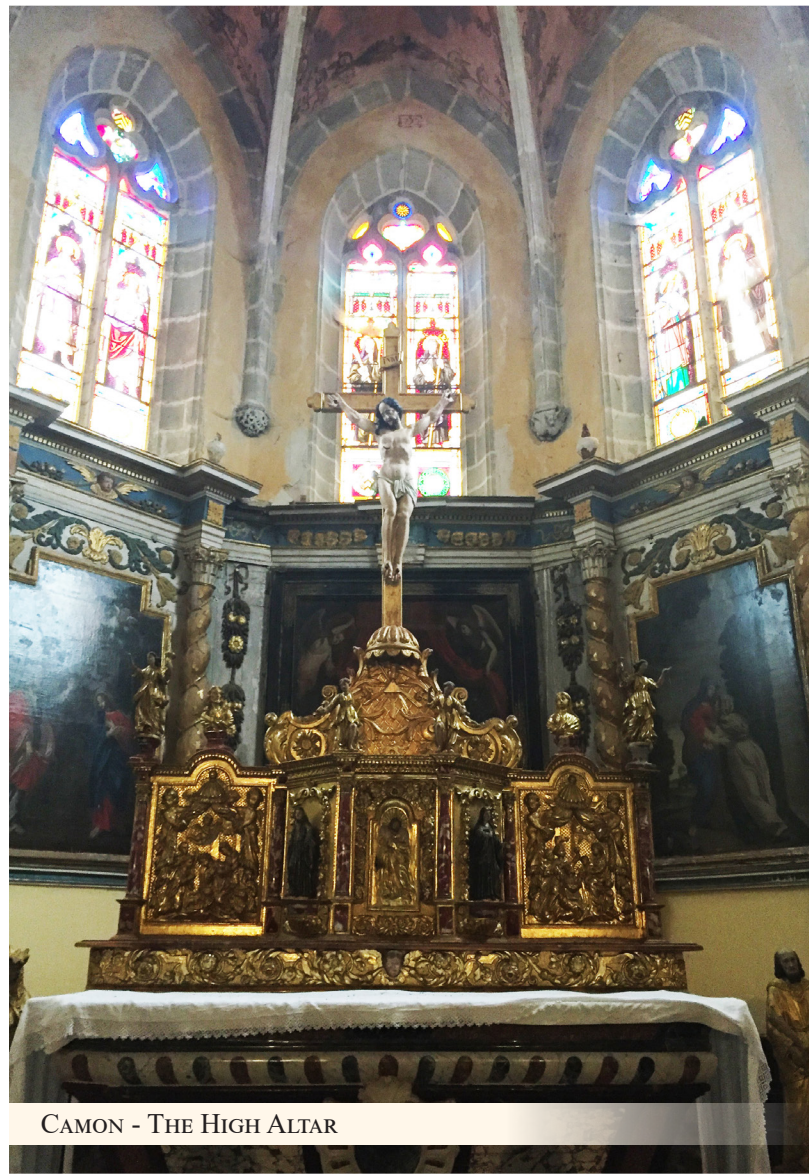
The history of the relationship between church and state in France is complicated. One of the first acts of the Legislative Assembly after the revolution of 1789, was to confiscate all church property – in effect, all Catholic church property, since, up until 1787, the only religion allowed in France was Catholicism.

The immense power and wealth that the Catholic Church had amassed made it a prime target for the revolutionaries, who approached the “dechristianisation” of the country with vigor. 30,000 priests were exiled and hundreds more put to death in the so-called “reign of terror.”

Since the revolution, various laws have been passed to formalize the separation (Napoleon signed the “Concordat” with Pope Pius VII in 1801 in an attempt to bring reconciliation), culminating with the passage, in 1905, of the Law on the Separation of the Churches and the State. This statute firmly established the policy of secularism (laïcité, in French) as the law of the land and reasserted state control of all existing religious buildings, while, at the same time, enshrining the concept of “freedom of religion” in the constitution.

This brief overview of historical events is by way of an introduction to the problem that now exists: the French government owns all these wonderful, historic churches, abbeys and monasteries - and this means that it is also responsible for their maintenance. A task that becomes increasingly more expensive as the years pass and the buildings age. Between the years 2000 and 2013, 24 churches were demolished in Paris alone.

Which brings me to Camon. Over the years we have been taking groups to this idyllic little village in the Ariège region of France, to stay at the fabulous Abbaye-Chateau de Camon - perhaps you have been there? Peter and Katie Lawton own and run the chateau, but it is the town



CAMON - THE HIGH ALTAR

of Camon that owns the church that forms one side of the cloisters. The history of the whole abbey is fascinating, and too long to get into here - you'll have to come and visit to hear about how it was founded by Charlemagne in 785 A.D., destroyed in the great flood of 1279, and rebuilt as a pilgrimage destination after the Pope sent the relics of St. Felician of Foligno to the abbey.

By the mid-1700s, there were no monks left in the Abbey and their dormitories had been transformed into apartments, forming the basis of the existing chateau. Like most religious buildings around the country, it was confiscated by the state after the revolution and sold – but here is what makes the church of Camon very different. Before the revolution, after the chateau had become a residence, and there was no longer a functioning abbey, the Duke of Mirepoix, under whose jurisdiction the buildings had fallen, gave the church to the people of Camon. This meant that, after the revolution, the chateau was sold off, but the church, as it already belonged to “the people,” was not.

So we now have the bizarre situation where an enormous abbey church is the responsibility of a village of 200 residents! And it is desperately in need of repair and maintenance.

Thanks to the efforts of the Mayor, Jean Huillet, fund-raising and restoration are under way, and the incredibly beautiful altarpiece (dating from 1700) has now been finished and replaced in the church. You can see it in the photograph above, but, better still, come to Camon and see it for yourself. Discover Europe is donating a small portion of the trip fees from every tour coming to the village, to the church restoration fund.

P.S. If you feel so motivated, you can also contribute to the fund online by going to www.fondation-patrimoine.org. I have to warn you though, that this official site can be hard to navigate - even if your French is excellent! Please feel free to call if you need help.



THE RELICS OF ST FELICIAN

WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Travelling allows us to experience and explore the culture and belief systems of civilizations that shaped the way we are today. Luckily there are places that have been preserved for thousands of years, enabling us to open a window onto our past.

UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage Sites are preserved precisely for this reason. Their mission is to ensure the protection and conservation of natural and cultural sites around the world and to encourage participation of local management of these sites. This organization meets yearly to decide what sites are in danger due to war, development pressures, or lack of oversight - and to decide what sites will be added to, or deleted from, the register.

All together there are currently 1073 properties, some cultural, some natural. Europe has an abundance of sites from Liverpool Maritime Mercantile City, important in the growth of the British Empire, to the archaeological site of Delphi in Greece, where plans for an aluminum plant nearby were prevented. There are too many to list them all here but we put together some of our favorites to share with you!



ATHENS, GREECE - THE ACROPOLIS

The Acropolis is probably one of the most iconic UNESCO sites. Dating back to 5th century BC, this structure has great historical and architectural significance and should be on anyone's list of "places to see"!

Visit the Acropolis on
A Greek Easter



PONT DU GARD – PROVENCE, FRANCE

This ancient roman aqueduct is a true testament to the precision and skill of Roman engineers. Standing over 160 feet high, it was once part of a 31 mile system designed to get fresh water to the city of Nimes. Now a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its historical importance, we think that it's a must see when in the Provence region of France.

Visit the Pont du Gard on
Springtime in Provence



GIANT'S CAUSEWAY – NORTHERN IRELAND

This natural wonder in Northern Ireland is made up of 40,000 octagonal basalt columns formed by ancient volcanic activity. It earned its name from Irish folklore that claimed it was an ancient roadway used by giants to cross between Ireland and Scotland. Now, it is one of the most popular attractions in Northern Ireland!

Visit the Giant's Causeway on
The Emerald Isle

PINGVELLIR NATIONAL PARK – ICELAND



While the beauty of the landscape make it popular as a tourist attraction, it became a UNESCO World Heritage Site because it is the site of the oldest parliament in the world, founded in 930 AD.

Did you also know that Þingvellir (pronounced Thingvetlir) is just about the only place in the world where you can walk from Europe to America without getting your feet wet!

Visit Þingvellir on *An Icelandic Valentine* or *The Land of Fire & Ice*

ICELAND SPECIAL

Great news if you are thinking of visiting Iceland this winter - we have just secured a great deal on group airline tickets through Iceland Air. You can deduct \$200 per person off the published price of either of the Iceland tours listed here from Boston or New York. **Just sign up by November 1st.**



FALL 2018

VOLUME XVII NUMBER 3

INTO THE HEART OF EUROPE

THE NEWSLETTER OF DISCOVER EUROPE LTD.



TEMPLE OF POSEIDON

95 Adams St.
Keene, NH 03431

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

HOW TO HAVE A MORE ENJOYABLE FLIGHT

Anticipating ways to make yourself more comfortable on flights can make all the difference. Here are some of our suggestions.

- **Choose your seat wisely.** It all starts knowing what kind is best for you. If you are tall, choose an aisle seat, if you like to nap, a window seat.
- **Check in early.** Typically, you can check in online 24 hours before departure. This is when you may choose your seat free of charge and get your boarding pass.
- **Wear layers and comfortable clothing.** With varying interior temperatures, slip on shoes are best to help with feet swelling, scarves work as extra layers or a pillow, and travel neck pillows are great for overnight flights.
- **Sleep.** The best way to pass the time, especially on an overnight flight, is to sleep. I know, it sounds easy, but a lot of us have trouble falling asleep on a plane. If you can, you'll feel better for it when you arrive, but if you can't, there are movies to catch up on, books to read, etc.
- **Drink water.** The free drinks are tempting - but you do need to keep hydrated.
- **Bring your own snacks (just in case!).** Try to en-



joy the food but bring your own snacks just in case. We've all had good and bad meals on board, so try to enjoy what you can, but if it looks dodgy, best to forgo it.

- **Change your mindset.** Know you are going to be in a small space, cramped with a lot of people you don't know, but don't let it get you down. It is the start of an adventure. Your attitude will make or break your trip. Look for the good in people, lower your expectations, anticipate your needs, allow yourself to be open to opportunities and remember that people are people. We all have our faults. If something annoying happens, be kind in how you handle it and then let it go.