



FROM MICHAEL'S DESK

Spring has sprung! Well, everywhere except here in northern New England, where things are (very) slowly turning green and every day we look excitedly for the first crocus to peek timidly through the cold earth.

We were just in England at the end of March and it never ceases to amaze me how advanced spring is over there compared with back here in New Hampshire - and they are nearly 1000 miles further north!

Our visit last month was brief but very productive. We accompanied a small group of DE regulars to see Gavin Miller's play in London, which opened to rave reviews, and we took our son, Sam, to visit his first-choice university. I am proud to announce that he will be starting at the University of Winchester in the fall. And we didn't even have to pay someone to take his SATs for him, or bribe any sports coaches!

The uncertainty surrounding the dreaded "Brexit" still dominates the news in England, but should be no cause for concern for Americans travelling to either Britain or continental Europe. Probably the only real difference that you will notice is that your dollar will go further when you are over there.

So, don't hesitate - join us on one of the wonderful trips listed in this newsletter!

Michael Induni, President

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THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF QUEEN VICTORIA

"Great events make me quiet and calm; it is only trifles that irritate my nerves."

This year marks Queen Victoria's 200th birthday! Until recently, she was the longest reigning monarch in British history, on the throne for 63 years. Elizabeth II has since won that title, reigning now for 66 years.

Born in 1819, her father Edward, Duke of Kent, a younger brother of King George IV, died shortly after her birth. Victoria's strictly governed, and often isolated, upbringing changed abruptly when she was 18 years old and became queen. Her accession was a direct result of her family's seeming inability to produce legitimate children (plenty of illegitimate ones - but they were barred from the line of succession). George IV had no legitimate heir, and so was succeeded by his younger brother, William IV. He in turn failed to produce and was thus succeeded by Victoria, the daughter of George's other younger brother, Edward.

She was greatly influenced, in the beginning of her reign, by Lord Melbourne, her first prime minister, and the love of her life, Prince Albert, whom she married in 1840. They taught her how to rule a "constitutional monarchy," in which she had very little power but a lot of influence. Her impact on the world and reputation became increasingly admired as she mastered the details of political life and used her reign to support peace and reconciliation while presiding over the largest empire the world has ever seen.

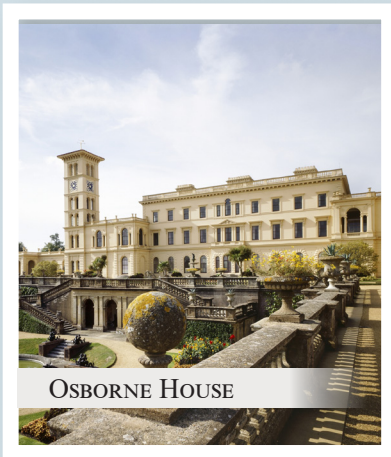
Born in Kensington Palace, crowned at Westminster Abbey, married in St James' Palace and residing in her old age at Windsor Castle; one cannot explore London without walking in the footsteps of this iconic queen.

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This year, we have two trips to commemorate the life and legacy of Queen Victoria. These tours explore the notable places that were important to Victoria and Albert's life, including London, Windsor and the Isle of Wight, where she and Albert built Osborne House, their "little paradise."

Come join us in the celebration of a most beloved monarch. We will have a pint in her name, for as she said: "Give my people plenty of beer, good beer and cheap beer, and you will have no revolution among them." To Victoria! Cheers!



If you're interested in joining one of our special Queen Victoria trips, please contact us or visit our website for the full brochures.

QUEEN VICTORIA | AUGUST 9TH - 17TH, 2019

- Visit Winchester Cathedral and the grave of Jane Austen
- Special "extra items" tour of Broadlands House
- After-hours private tour of Frogmore House in Windsor
- Visits to Carisbrooke Castle & Osborne House on the Isle of Wight

VICTORIA & THE CROWN | SEPTEMBER 14TH - 24TH 2019

- Visit the state apartments at Buckingham Palace & a private tour of the Cabinet War Rooms
- Visit Wilton House (used as Buckingham Palace in the TV series, "The Crown")
- Explore Stonor Park before a private tour of the state apartments at Windsor Castle
- Visits to Carisbrooke Castle (with private tour) & Osborne House on the Isle of Wight

IN THE NEWS

TRANSATLANTIC IN A BARREL!

In January, a 71 year old Frenchman, Jean-Jaques Savin, got into his specially designed barrel in the Canary Islands and began his journey across the Atlantic. Hoping to reach the Caribbean by the end of March, he is now according to on-line tracking, almost there. With only the ocean currents to propel him, he is moving his way slowly towards any one of the islands. He is hoping for Guadeloupe or one of the French speaking ones. On board, he has brought an ample amount of foie gras, his favorite wine and hopefully something to read. He has a bunk for sleeping, a small kitchen, storage and one port hole to watch the marine life go by. An experiment in being alone in a small space, ocean currents, and how wine is affected, Monsieur Savin, has set himself up for an adventure indeed! Follow him on Facebook: www.facebook.com/BOUTESA.

TATE VAN GOGH

If you are going to London this summer, don't miss the largest Van Gogh exhibit seen in London for a decade. It tells the story of the young Vincent, who lived in London from 1873-1876 as an art dealer, and how he was inspired by his love of the city, British painters, writers, and the culture he saw while walking the streets. The exhibit explores the relationship between those inspired by Van Gogh and those that he was inspired by. Hosted by the Tate Britain until August 2019, it will be well worth your time!

HAPPY WINCHESTER!

The City of Winchester, home of Winchester Cathedral (Jane Austen's burial site), in the county of Hampshire, was recently voted the happiest place to live in all of Britain! And it just so happens that Sam Induni, (Discover Europe's president's son) has chosen to continue his education at Winchester University starting in September! Congratulations Sam, good luck and be happy!

A NEW PUZZLE

Q: Which country is known as the "Castle Capital of Europe" and has more castles per square mile than any other country in Europe?

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!

. . . AND A WINNING SOLUTION

Q: Queen Victoria's coronation took place in Westminster Abbey, her marriage to Albert did not. Where was the wedding ceremony held?

A: Chapel Royal, St James's Palace

Congratulations to Julia M. who won this puzzler!

INTER-EUROPEAN TRAVEL

In the past, you could get a Eurail pass and travel around Europe by train without paying extravagant fares. Although still a fun and great way to see the changing landscape, it is relatively expensive to travel by train and nowadays it is much easier to hop on a cheap, quick flight to just about any major city on the continent.

With numerous low-cost budget airlines such as Easyjet or Ryanair, you can get a fare for sometimes as little as \$30! And unlike international flights, it is easy to fly one way, which opens up your options if you would like to visit more than one city or country during your stay.

Most airlines have hubs, Ryanair is based in Ireland for example, so they will have more options from Dublin to many European destinations. The pitfalls of budget flying are that you will often have to pay extra for everything- including checked baggage, food, taxes, and assigned seats.

You are usually allowed one carry on bag, so if you plan ahead and pack lightly, it is possible to really benefit from the low cost. We recommend doing your research ahead of time. Know which terminal you will land in if you have a quick connection to make, know what is allowed for baggage weight, what is served on board, etc. If you go to the website www.Skyscanner.com, you can find a list of every budget airline, what their baggage allowances are, and what airports/cities they fly to and from. Keep in mind that these are "no frills" airlines, but they provide you with many options, are affordable, safe and are the wave of the future. Safe travels!

Note: The website www.low-cost-airline-guide.com also provides a very convenient map showing all the airports in Europe and which low cost airlines fly between them.



BREXIT NEWS

By Michael Induni

I think that pretty soon there will be a new entry in the Oxford English Dictionary: A Brexit, n. *a fiasco, a complete shambles.* (e.g. He made a total brexit of his assignment).

Guardian Columnist, Polly Toynbee, put it best recently when she began her column: “*Leaving the European Union is a job for the finest minds in England – unfortunately they weren’t available.*” It has been nearly 3 years since the country voted to part ways from Europe and yet, at the time of writing, Britain is just days away (for the second time!) of “crashing” out of the EU with no agreement in place to govern the new legal and trade relationships between the two. Ironically the only thing the British politicians seem to be able to agree upon is that this is the one scenario they don’t want!

I will not proselytize here about the rights or wrongs of the whole sordid business, I merely wish to alert you to some of the impending consequences should this happen. Hopefully, by the time you read this, cooler heads will have prevailed, and there will at least be an extension of the April 12th deadline for departure. After all, isn’t “kicking the can down the road” what politicians do best? However, just in case . . .

1. Be prepared for longer lines at airport immigration checkpoints. If you are arriving in the EU, suddenly all those Brits traveling with you will have to join you in the non-EU passport lanes. Similarly if arriving in London, all the Europeans will now be in the same lane as visitors from the US.
2. If you are travelling across the English Channel be prepared for very long delays at the ports. The lack of any kind of customs agreement will create chaos with the freight traffic across the Channel.
3. It’s not all bad news. The people who seem to know about these things predict that a “no-deal” Brexit will cause the value of the Pound to sink further against the Dollar, making a visit to Britain even more affordable.

The old Chinese curse – *may you live in interesting times* – seems fairly appropriate at the moment.

P.S. You may have heard recent news that as a result of Brexit, US citizens are going to start needing visas to travel to Europe as of 2021. This is not exactly the case - and it has absolutely nothing to do with Brexit. As a result of the US requiring citizens of certain European countries to apply for a visa-free authorization to travel to the USA (known as an ESTA), in a tit-for-tat move the EU is going to initiate its own visa-free authorization system known as ETIAS (European Travel Information & Authorization System) for Americans travelling to Europe, but not until 2021 at the earliest.



CURRENTLY SCHEDULED TOURS



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

ENGLAND

WEST COUNTRY GARDENS

Visit masterpieces of garden design on a tour that highlights the gardens of England's West Country and includes the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show.
JULY 2ND - 11TH 2019

DISCOVERING EAST ANGLIA

Experience life in a country house hotel with popular guide Gavin Miller in the region where he grew up.
JULY 19TH - 27TH 2019



YORK MINISTER



QUEEN VICTORIA

Celebrate the 200TH anniversary of Queen Victoria's birth with this tour tracing her life from cradle to grave.
AUGUST 9TH - 17TH 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

VICTORIA & THE CROWN

Join us for an in-depth exploration of the history that surrounds Queen Victoria. Private visits and special guests highlight this tour.
SEPTEMBER 14TH - 24TH 2019



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

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

TALES OF WESSEX

Discover the beautiful region that Victorian novelist, Thomas Hardy, called home - including a stay on the Isle of Wight.
OCTOBER 10TH - 18TH 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

IN SEARCH OF THE CORN WALL

Join tour guide Gavin Miller for an exploration to his childhood vacation spot, Cornwall.
APRIL 25TH - MAY 8TH 2020

TREASURE HOUSES OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND

See the full glory of Britain's Stately Homes set against the backdrop of a magnificent, full-blown English spring.
MAY 3RD - 12TH 2020

THE BEST OF ENGLISH GARDENS

Our annual homage to the Chelsea Flower Show and gardens of southern England.
MAY 12TH - 21ST 2020

GARDENS OF THE NORTH

Explore the gardens of Yorkshire and the Lake District on this horticultural adventure to Northern England.
JUNE 7TH - 17TH 2020



FRANCE

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 Languedoc region from Carcassonne to the high valleys of Pyrenees.
OCT. 25TH - NOV. 2ND 2019



THE FESTIVAL OF ROSES

A short getaway to the Château de Camon for the Festival of Roses! Want to stay longer? Join Gavin Miller for the Pilgrim's Way following on from this tour!
MAY 14TH - 19TH 2020



CHATEAU DE CAMON

GARDENS OF THE DORDOGNE

Using Bordeaux and Sarlat-la-Canéda as our bases for this tour, we will explore the vineyards and gardens that flourish in the Dordogne region of France.
JUNE 3RD - 13TH 2020

GREECE

ANCIENT ISLANDS: CORFU

Explore this Mediterranean island, once the home of the literary Durrell family. This is sure to be an unforgettable adventure!
OCTOBER 10TH - 19TH 2019

A GREEK EASTER

Celebrate the Easter Holiday with local Greek villagers in Tolo and explore the fascinating history of Greece.
APRIL 16TH - 25TH 2020



ICELAND

GETAWAY TO ICELAND

Experience the stunning natural beauty of Iceland on a long weekend getaway to Reykjavik.
FEBRUARY 13TH - 17TH 2020

THE LAND OF FIRE & ICE

Experience both Reykjavik and the Icelandic countryside and explore the geological forces that created this unique island.
MARCH 19TH - 24TH 2020

IRELAND

WILD IRELAND

Explore the rugged western coast of Ireland called the "Wild Atlantic Way" on this adventure from Galway to Donegal.
SEPT. 26TH - OCT. 6TH 2019



ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN IRELAND

From Dublin to Killarney, experience the full breadth of Irish hospitality, during the ultimate Irish celebration- St. Patrick's Day!
MARCH 15TH - 22ND 2020

ISLAND OF SAINTS AND SCHOLARS

From the literary haunts scattered across the land to dramatic seascapes and picturesque farms, explore the deeper artistic and cultural facets of this inspiring island.
APRIL 30TH - MAY 9TH 2020



ITALY

UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN

Make your base in the hilltop spa town of Montecatini Terme on this "Let's Unpack" tour and explore Florence and the surrounding region.
SEPT. 27TH - OCT. 5TH 2019

SICILY: ISLAND CROSSROADS

Visit Palermo, Agrigento and Taormina with guided exploration and leisure time to revel in the contrasts of this ancient island, known as the Crossroads of the Mediterranean. Optional extension to the island of Malta.
OCT. 25TH - NOV. 2ND 2019

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE TRIPS:

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



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

HIDDEN TREASURES OF SOUTHERN ITALY

Explore the highlights of southern Italy from Puglia to the Bay of Naples.

APRIL 2ND - 11TH 2020



REID'S PALACE, MADEIRA



PORTUGAL THE MAGIC OF MADEIRA

Escape the winter and experience the exotic island destination referred to as the "Island of Eternal Spring" at the magnificent Reid's Palace Hotel.

FEBRUARY 21ST - 29TH 2020



LUXURIOUS LISBON

Experience this sensuous city and the region through its mesmerizing fado, delicious seafood and soothing port.

FEB. 27TH - MAR. 3RD 2020

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 Hogmanay.

DECEMBER 21ST - 28TH 2019

SPAIN

THE PILGRIM'S WAY

Trace the Way of St. James on the ancient pilgrimage route along the north coast of Spain from Bilbao to Santiago.

JUNE 6TH - 15TH 2019

MADRID Y ANDALUCIA

Journey from Madrid down to southern Spain and see the timeless landscapes surrounded by the vibrant cities of Cordoba, Granada and Seville.

NOVEMBER 7TH - 16TH 2019

STAY CONNECTED!

Want to stay connected with Discover Europe throughout the year? If so, sign up for our email list to learn more about our tours, see special offers, and learn about new blog posts!

To join, email us at Info@discovereuropeltd.com and let us know that you'd like to "opt in" to join our list!



THANKSGIVING IN MALLORCA

An extended stay in Sóller, with day trips to Deia, Palma and Valldemossa. Enjoy Thanksgiving dinner Mallorcan style - and you don't have to do the dishes!

NOVEMBER 22ND - 30TH 2019

THE CANARY ISLANDS

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

MARCH 12TH - 19TH 2020

BARCELONA & MALLORCA

Gavin Miller leads an exploration of the Catalan capital, Barcelona, and the island of Mallorca - that he now calls home!

APRIL 16TH - 25TH 2020

THE PILGRIM'S WAY

Trace the Way of St. James on the ancient pilgrimage route along the north coast of Spain from Bilbao to Santiago.

MAY 19TH - 28TH 2020

WALES

WALES & THE WELSH BORDERS

Ancient market towns, mountain peaks, coastal villages and romantic ruins characterize this journey into the heart of ancient Wales, led by native Welsh tour guide Adrian Metcalfe.

SEPTEMBER 5TH - 14TH 2019

MULTI-COUNTRY TOURS

CORSICA & SARDINIA

FRANCE & ITALY

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

SEPTEMBER 19TH - 28TH 2019

THE ROMANTIC ROAD

AUSTRIA & GERMANY

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

SEPT. 26TH - OCT. 5TH 2019

MEDITERRANEAN SHORES

FRANCE & SPAIN

From Barcelona to Nice - azure waters, white sand beaches, mountain villages and boundless sunshine. See why so many artists made this region their home.

SEPT. 27TH - OCT. 6TH 2019

JEWELS OF EASTERN EUROPE

HUNGARY, AUSTRIA & THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Journey through Budapest, Vienna & Prague and enjoy a mix of city time, train travel through beautiful countryside, and excursions to sites of rural charm and beauty.

OCTOBER 3RD - 12TH 2019

TULIPS & CHOCOLATE

HOLLAND & BELGIUM

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 10TH - 18TH 2020

VENICE TO LUCERNE

ITALY & SWITZERLAND

Explore the alpine peaks and sparkling lakes of Italy and Switzerland. See the highlights, gardens, and historic sites of these regions.

MAY 7TH - 16TH 2020



LUCERNE

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. Please contact us for details.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE TRIPS:

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

CHÂTEAUX, CASTLES & PALACES

What's in a name, and what's the difference? In English it can be confusing, but in simple terms; if it's fortified, it's a castle and if it's not, it's a palace. So far, so good, I hear you say . . . but what about Castle Howard (pictured below). No fortification there. Well sometimes, especially in England, the palace was built on the site of a previous castle (often incorporating part of the original structure) and just kept the name. Other times it probably just refers to the old expression that "an Englishman's home is his castle." The French have made life much simpler for themselves - a château can be either fortified or not, a castle or a palace. The designation "château" really just means the residence of somebody important. The Château de Foix is almost impregnable, but the Château de Versailles was built strictly for luxury. Whatever they may have been named, here a selection that we feel are well worth visiting!

THE PALACE OF PENA | SINTRA, PORTUGAL

Located approximately 30 minutes north of Lisbon, this colorful and imposing palace sits high on the hills above the town of Sintra. Built in 1854, it exemplifies the 19th-century Romantic style of architecture. The original monastery built on the site was destroyed by a combination of a lightning strike and the Great Lisbon Earthquake of 1755. The King Consort, Ferdinand II, purchased the ruins and surrounding land and built the Palace as a summer residence for the Portuguese royal family.



You can visit The Palace of Pena on *Luxurious Lisbon*
February 27th - March 3rd, 2020

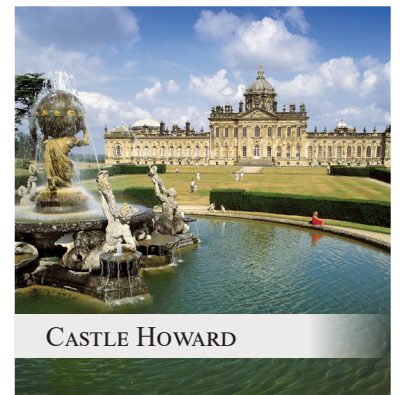
NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE | BAVARIA, GERMANY

"Mad" King Ludwig II of Bavaria (now a region of southern Germany) was obsessed with the works of Richard Wagner. His ambition was to build and live in a castle that embodied the medieval romanticism portrayed by Wagner. Unfortunately he only got to spend 11 nights in his fairytale home and never saw it finished. He was deposed by his parliament due to his profligate spending and died millions of marks in debt.

You can visit Neuschwanstein on *The Romantic Road*
September 26th - October 5th, 2019

CASTLE HOWARD | NORTH YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND

Possibly better known as the setting for the TV series *Brideshead Revisited*, Castle Howard has been a private residence of the Howard family for over 300 years. The building began in 1699 for the 3rd Earl of Carlisle and took more than 100 years to complete. By the time of the 7th Earl of Carlisle, the estate covered 13,000 acres and had its own railway station. This is one of our favorite Treasure Houses to visit in northern England and is certainly a "must-see"!

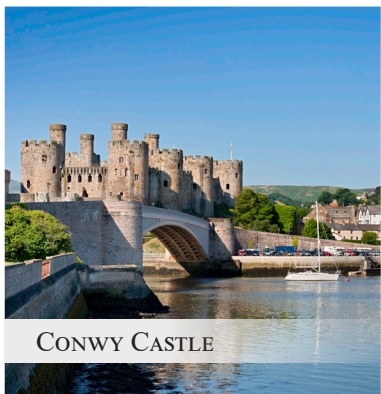


You can visit Castle Howard on *Treasure Houses of Northern England* | September 13th - 22nd, 2019 & *Gardens of the North* | June 7th - 17th, 2020

CONWY CASTLE | CONWY, WALES

Located on the north coast of Wales, Conwy Castle is one of the most impressive in all of Wales. UNESCO considers Conwy to be "one of the finest examples of late 13th century and early 14th century military architecture in Europe", and it is classified as a World Heritage site. This medieval fortification was built by Edward I during his conquest of Wales between 1283 and 1289. It was built with local and imported stone and overlooks an important crossing point over the River Conwy.

Visit Conwy Castle on *Wales & the Welsh Borders* | September 5th - 14th, 2019

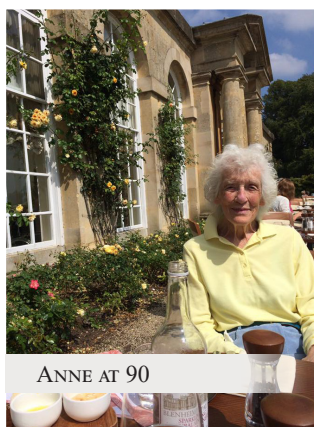


ANNE INDUNI: OCT 25, 1928 - JAN 4, 2019

Long time readers of this newsletter may well remember my mother, Anne. Indeed, some of you may have even travelled on trips to Scotland with her many years ago. So it is with great sadness that I have to tell you that she passed away peacefully in her sleep at the beginning of this year. She turned 90 last October and, despite some serious physical health issues, she was totally “with it” right to the end.

I had the good fortune to spend several days with her over the New Year, and it was obvious that she was well prepared for the inevitable. We shared a half bottle of Champagne on New Year’s Eve and she told me that she had no regrets and that she felt it was time to go. In typical mother fashion, she did not want to be a burden on anybody. I also think that she took one look at the state of the world at the beginning of 2019 and decided that it just wasn’t “her cup of tea!”

Growing up, as she did, in a military family (her father was an Air Chief Marshall in the RAF), she never had much of a stable home life, being moved around constantly as postings dictated, and often sent off to boarding schools, or to stay with cousins. She made up for this with a fierce devotion to her own family.

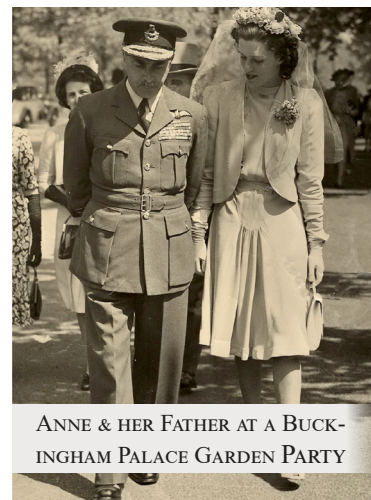


She was a wonderfully intelligent woman, with a mind like a steel trap – once a piece of information went in there, it was never forgotten. I remember one passenger saying, after a trip to her beloved Highlands, that Anne “not only knew every rock in Scotland – she knew it by name!”

Her two favorite places in the world were Scotland (her maiden name was Robb and she came from a long line of lowland Scots) and Greece. I will be eternally grateful to her for introducing me to the seaside fishing village of Tolo on the Peloponnese, where she used to spend at least one month every year. The family are going to convene there, along with many of her old friends, to scatter some of her ashes in the wine-dark sea of the Gulf of Argos in June. The rest will be scattered in her family plot in the grounds of Hexham Abbey in Northumberland.

She will be greatly missed.

Michael, Sarah, Alex & Sam



SOLO TRAVEL

We often have solo travelers join our Discover Europe tours and one of the main questions we get asked is “what is a single supplement and why do I have to pay it?” First and foremost, we want to assure you that we hate single supplements just as much as you do and we understand the financial burden that this may put on our travelers. To help clarify, we want to answer some frequently asked questions about single supplements.

1) What is a single supplement and why is it so high?

A single supplement is the charge that the hotel imposes for only having one person in the hotel room. The hotels seem to think (and somewhat reasonably) that they should receive the same amount of money for a room independent of how many people are in it. So if there are two of you in a room, you are splitting the cost between you, but, if you are in there alone, you have to pay for the whole thing. In essence, it’s the extra cost of being in the room alone vs. two people sharing and our “single supplement” is us passing that cost along to you.

2) Can I request a roommate to save the single supplement?

Yes, absolutely! While we cannot guarantee that there will be someone on your tour that is looking for a roommate, we’re

always happy to pair people together. And if you’re flexible about what tour you’d like to join, we’re always happy to look into which tours have someone searching for a roommate!

3) Will I have a smaller room if I travel as a single?

Not if you travel with Discover Europe! While some hotels do have true single rooms, that are about the size of a broom closet, you will not be in one of those on our tours. Solo travelers with Discover Europe are guaranteed what is known as a “double room for single occupancy” - the same size rooms as everyone else on the tour. No broom closets!

4) I have heard of companies eliminating their single supplements all together, why aren’t you?

Unfortunately, there is no way around the single supplement when a tour company charges rates per person. As explained, it is the hotel that is requiring this charge - so if a tour company “doesn’t have single supplements,” it’s most likely because they’ve rolled that cost in elsewhere to their tours. Somebody is paying it! Many companies may not be transparent with their pricing and inclusions, but we try to be as “up front” as we can here at Discover Europe so that there are no surprises.



SPRING 2019

VOLUME XVIII NUMBER 2

INTO THE HEART OF EUROPE

THE NEWSLETTER OF DISCOVER EUROPE LTD.



KEUKENHOF GARDENS, HOLLAND

95 Adams St.
Keene, NH 03431

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FALL IN LOVE WITH ANDALUCIA

Spain is a country with something to interest everyone. It has fascinating culture, stunning architecture, dramatic landscapes, and spectacular food. It's a place where you can find Roman ruins in Mallorca, bustling city life in Barcelona, flamenco dancing in Seville, and awe-inspiring architecture everywhere you turn.

An area that we're excited to offer tours to is the stunning region of Andalucia. This southern Spanish region has a distinct and authentic appeal to it. Known for its beautiful landscapes and vibrant culture, this is an area of Spain that should be on everyone's list of must-see places.

This region has one of the most interesting histories in Spain. In the past, this was a highly sought after due to the fertile land and was a major trade gateway between Southern Europe and Africa. For many centuries the Greeks, Romans, and the Islamic Empire fought over control of this land. These ruling forces left behind traditions, cuisine and artifacts which is one of the reasons why Andalusian culture is so unique.

Our tour, *Madrid y Andalucia*, explores this fascinating region and stays in the three cities that make up the Andalusian "Golden Triangle": Seville, Granada, and Cordoba.

From exploring the palace and fortress complex of the Alhambra, to enjoying a flamenco show where this dance style originated, our tour will show you the beauty, culture, and diversity of this part of Spain.

Join us on November 7TH - 16TH, 2019 for this wonderful tour of Andalucia and see for yourself what makes this region so special. At a time when it will still be warm, but will be blissfully free of tourists - a perfect combination!



ALHAMBRA, GRANADA