



## FROM MICHAEL'S DESK

As another year draws to a close, my usual seasonal reflections on the past and aspirations for the future have been rudely interrupted.

In between me writing this and you reading it, the UK government will have voted on Prime Minister, Teresa May's Brexit deal. And all the signs are pointing to it being defeated, leaving the country staring at the prospect of a "no-deal Brexit" occurring on March 29<sup>th</sup> next year.

The only thing clear about this scenario is that nobody wants it! It's as though Captain Smith of the Titanic saw the iceberg from miles away but continued to steer a course straight towards it.

Why is this important to me, I hear you ask? Well, the truth of the matter is that nobody can really tell you what the consequences will be - nothing like this has ever happened before - but there are dire warnings about air travel between the UK and Europe.

Rest assured though, that here at Discover Europe, we are keeping a close watch on the situation as it develops and we'll be here to help you navigate these uncharted waters!

So, on this cheerful note, it just remains for me to wish you all the very best season's greetings. May your stocking overflow with the gift of travel!

Michael Induni, President

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PALMA MALLORCA CATHEDRAL

## MY TIME IN MALLORCA

By Alex Induni

In October, after spending time with a lovely group in Ireland, on our Discover Europe tour *The Emerald Isle*, I was presented with the opportunity to visit my favorite island in the Mediterranean – Mallorca.

This island has always held a special place in my heart since my first visit there when I was 17 years old. When we picture an island vacation, we tend to envision somewhere in the Caribbean with sandy beaches and palm trees. While Mallorca certainly has this to offer, there is also so much more to be experienced on this island than just the beaches and scenery.

The first delight that I encountered on my visit was the hotel where I would spend the next few days – La Residencia, in the village of Deia. A villa set in the Tramuntana Mountains, the hotel offers spectacular views of both the mountains and the Mediterranean and is scattered with fruit-bearing trees, which could easily be a substitute for breakfast!

From here, I rented a Vespa scooter and began exploring. I (carefully) proceeded through the winding mountain roads, pulling over every 30 seconds to take pictures of the amazing views, on my way to visit my other favorite place on the island – Port de Soller. This gem of a fishing village offers a more traditional island setting with a beautiful sandy cove with great beaches for swimming. You can also find fresh, delicious seafood, shopping, and some of the best sunsets in Mallorca from here.

After spending time in Port de Soller, I followed my scooter tracks back through the mountains to the other side of Deia, stopping in the beautiful pedestrian village

of Valldemossa. I could have spent two days walking around this village and chatting with the friendly locals. I had a late lunch (and a beer, of course!) sitting in the plaza overlooking the Cartoixa de Valldemossa, a beautiful Carthusian monastery museum and former residence of composer Frédéric Chopin, before returning to my hotel.

If given the opportunity, I could easily spend two weeks on the island exploring, hiking, boating, and just relaxing by the waterside. I highly recommend any traveler to experience what Mallorca has to offer, and what better way to do so than on one of Discover Europe's tours!

## A NEW PUZZLER

2019 marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Queen Victoria. We are celebrating the event in style with two trips this year, one in August and one in September (see the current trip listings for details). In honour of this, our puzzle is of a Victorian nature (hint: you can find the answer in one of the two itineraries!).

Q: Victoria famously said "being pregnant is an occupational hazard of being a wife" - having raised 9 children, she should know! Although her coronation took place in Westminster Abbey, her marriage to Albert did not. Our question is simple - where was the wedding ceremony held?

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 the answer to our last puzzler: The brief sojourn of the Popes in Avignon is remembered in the name of the fabulous red wine from the region - Chateauneuf-du-Pape. Just north of Avignon, the town of Chateauneuf Calcernier was changed in 1893 to honour the Papal connection. Congratulations to Joyce Anderson of Ohio who gets to deduct \$200 from the cost of her chosen tour.

tic misinformation and broken morals, centers on how journalist Annie and divorcée Beth have their friendship put to the ultimate test when Annie encourages Beth to embark on an affair with husband, Carl. When Beth's ex-husband, John, appears, the surfacing of a dark secret puts Annie's plans in jeopardy. As pressure mounts, both women are forced to face up to the past - a past in which they have been nothing less than loose with the truth.

Jules Williamson, BAFTA nominated British film and TV director's review states: "Powerful and thought provoking, *Carl's Story* holds a mirror up to the audience asking what they think Truth really is. In this world of Fake News, it draws a clever parallel between our own personal truth, how we deceive ourselves and others, and the part the media plays in bending the facts. Both funny and moving, the play is beautifully written. Writer and director Gavin Miller has created a Tour De Force!"



Produced and developed originally by the Isla Theatre Project, based in Palma, Mallorca, Miller sets out to find actors who can bring life experience to their roles. His accomplished cast features Jenny Whiffen and Emma Bernbach, who Williamson describes: "Wonderful to see two strong female parts being played with such relish by the two very talented female leads. Jenny Whiffen at times reminded me of Patricia Hodge in Harold Pinter's *Betrayal*, their rapport was clearly a joy to play, and for us to watch."

On our tour, we will spend time with Gavin before the show and meet the actors for a post-show talk back. In addition to this, we have added in a few things to the itinerary to round out the weekend, with plenty of time for you to explore on your own.

Join us this March for this special celebration of Gavin Miller and his success!



## THE PLAY'S THE THING MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup> 2019

Gavin Miller, one of our most popular tour guides here at Discover Europe, is also (as many of you know) an accomplished playwright. We are delighted to offer this special long weekend trip to support Gavin at the London debut of his play *Carl's Story* at the Tabard Theatre.

The play, set against a backdrop of journalis-



## STAFF ADVENTURES IN 2018

This past year the Discover Europe staff did a lot of travelling in Europe - which benefits you, our customers. We learn about history, places, food and find those hidden gems that we are eager to share with you. Here is an overview of our past year to give you a glimpse of our adventures. Perhaps it will inspire you to make some of your own memories with us next year!

### WHERE DID YOU GO THIS PAST YEAR?

**Michael:** St. Kitts, Iceland, England (twice), France (twice)

**Kelsey:** Iceland, Ireland (twice), Bermuda, and France

**Alex:** Madeira, Iceland, England, Ireland, Mallorca, Lisbon

**Sarah:** St. Kitts, England, France (twice)

### WHAT WAS A FAVOURITE TRAVEL MEMORY FROM THIS YEAR?

**Michael:** Getting to know my driver for 2 weeks in France, André Bergère. A wonderful driver and all around excellent human being. At the end of the tour, the group expressed their appreciation of him so generously that he was brought to tears!

**Kelsey:** Even though it may be cliché to say- I think one of my favourites was finally seeing the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland!

**Alex:** Riding a Vespa all over the island of Mallorca.

**Sarah:** Taking my 17 year-old son to look at English universities. And the Sunflowers!

### WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD EXPERIENCE?

**Michael:** Taking my mother out for a traditional English Sunday roast lunch on the waterfront in Bournemouth to celebrate her 90th birthday. It was a gorgeous sunny day in October and we

sat outside watching the ducks and swans swimming past as we drank English champagne – which really wasn't bad!

**Kelsey:** That would be a toss-up between the unbelievable five course dinners at the Château de Camon in France and the dry aged steak with mashed potato at the Lough Eske Castle Hotel in Donegal, Ireland!

**Alex:** Steak & Guinness Pie at O'Sheas in Dublin. Best pie I have ever had!

**Sarah:** The night market (marché gourmand) in the ruins of the Château de Lagarde. They spit-roast an entire cow and the whole village came to join in the festivities.

### DID YOU LEARN ANYTHING TRAVEL RELATED THIS YEAR?

**Michael:** I learned that the French for "to pass gas" is péter – which is unfortunate if that is also your name!

**Kelsey:** I learned how to drive on the "wrong" side of the road in Ireland- what an adventure that was!

**Alex:** That you can clear U.S. Customs in both Dublin and Shannon Airports saving you time when re-entering the US.

**Sarah:** That my teenage son is still a joy to travel with - but probably not for much longer!

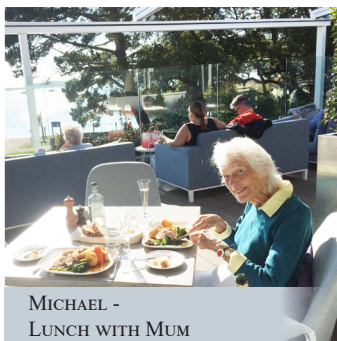
### WHICH TOUR WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO JOIN IN 2019?

**Michael & Sarah:** Ancient Islands: Corfu

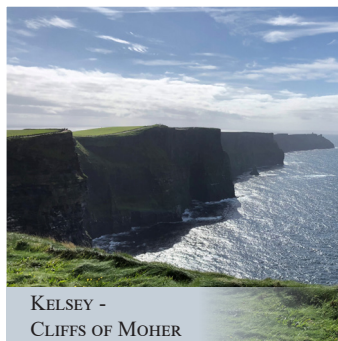
**Kelsey:** Highlands by Rail

**Alex:** The Pilgrim's Way

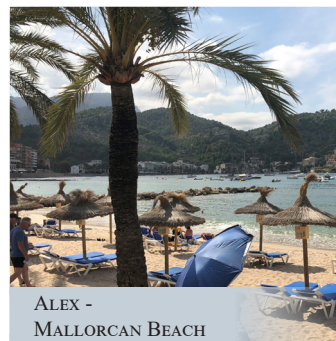
Have some adventures to share? Send us your pictures and perhaps we'll put them in the next newsletter!



MICHAEL -  
LUNCH WITH MUM



KELSEY -  
CLIFFS OF MOHER



ALEX -  
MALLORCAN BEACH



SARAH -  
THE SUNFLOWERS

## CUSTOM ADVENTURES

In addition to our regularly scheduled tours, we also run private small-group tours for families, church groups, garden clubs, friends, etc. We are equipped to design and organize private groups of 2-20 participants to Europe. This summer, we helped a mother and son travel to the Scotland, including a stay in the Orkney Islands. They weren't able to attend one of our Discover Europe tours due to timing, so we worked hand in hand with her to design something perfect for the two of them, including transportation, accommodation, a tour guide, and daily activities!

Here's what Anne W. said about her private tour in the Orkney Islands: "The tour was wonderful. We saw many fascinating sights that I bet not too many people ever get to see. The really cool thing was, that unlike antiquities in so many other parts of the world, these were not cordoned off. You could go right up to them and we had the great joy of being the only tourists there. No crowds, no cheesy trinkets. It was a real, honest to God, up close and personal encounter with the past. Extraordinary."

Remember, just because a European destination may not be on our calendar for 2019, doesn't mean that we can't take you and a small group there. We have private groups going to England, Scotland, France, Ireland, Norway and Germany this year so far!



ANNE. W. AT THE RING OF BRODGAR

## 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. 30<sup>TH</sup> - SEPT. 7<sup>TH</sup> 2019

### CROATIA

#### ALONG THE DALMATIAN COAST

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



### ENGLAND

#### THE PLAY'S THE THING

Join us for an extended weekend in London to see Gavin Miller's play, *Carl's Story*, hosted by Discover Europe president, Michael Induni.  
MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup> 2019



GUERNSEY

#### POLDARK'S CORNWALL

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

#### 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 5<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup> 2019

#### THE BEST OF ENGLISH GARDENS

Our annual homage to the Chelsea Flower Show and gardens of southern England.  
MAY 14<sup>TH</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> 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 RHS Chatsworth Flower Show.  
MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> - JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup> 2019



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



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

### THE COTSWOLD HILLS

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

### 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 2<sup>ND</sup> - 11<sup>TH</sup> 2019



### DISCOVERING EAST ANGLIA

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



### QUEEN VICTORIA

Celebrate the 200th anniversary of Queen Victoria's birth with this tour tracing her life from cradle to grave.  
AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup> 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 12<sup>TH</sup> - 21<sup>ST</sup> 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 13<sup>TH</sup> - 22<sup>ND</sup> 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 14<sup>TH</sup> - 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

### TALES OF WESSEX

Discover the beautiful region that Victorian novelist, Thomas Hardy, called home - including a visit to the Isle of Wight.  
OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup> 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 17<sup>TH</sup> - 26<sup>TH</sup> 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 26<sup>TH</sup> - MAY 4<sup>TH</sup> 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 6<sup>TH</sup> - 15<sup>TH</sup> 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 19<sup>TH</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> 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.  
OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> - NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> 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 24<sup>TH</sup> - JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> 2019

### GREECE

#### A GREEK EASTER

Celebrate the Easter Holiday with local Greek villagers in Tolo and explore the fascinating history of Greece.  
APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> - MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> 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 18<sup>TH</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> 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 10<sup>TH</sup> - 19<sup>TH</sup> 2019

### ICELAND

#### THE LAND OF FIRE & ICE

Experience both Reykjavik and the Icelandic countryside and explore the geological forces that created this unique island.  
APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> 2019

### IRELAND

#### THE EMERALD ISLE

Ireland, both north and south, is full of epic history, fantastic tales and truly spectacular scenery.  
MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> - JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> 2019



PONT DU GARD

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE TRIPS: CALL: (866) 563-7077 • E-MAIL: [info@discovereuropeltd.com](mailto:info@discovereuropeltd.com) • VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.discovereuropeltd.com](http://www.discovereuropeltd.com)





SARDINIA

### WILD IRELAND

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

### ITALY

#### ITALIAN MASTERPIECES

The big three! Explore the history and culture of Venice, Rome and Florence and visit the highlights, as well as off the beaten path destinations.  
MAR. 28<sup>TH</sup> - APR. 6<sup>TH</sup> 2019

#### THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT

Graced with shocking beauty, each lake has its own charm which unfolds against a backdrop of semi-tropical gardens, gracious old villas and vibrant villages.  
MAY 10<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup> 2019



#### 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. 27<sup>TH</sup> - OCT. 5<sup>TH</sup> 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.  
OCT. 25<sup>TH</sup> - NOV. 2<sup>ND</sup> 2019



#### SORRENTO & THE AMALFI COAST

Described by Charles Dickens as "one succession of delights", this dramatic area has countless cultural and scenic wonders.  
NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> - 10<sup>TH</sup> 2019



### PORTUGAL

#### THE MAGIC OF MADEIRA

Escape the winter and experience the exotic island destination referred to as the "Island of Eternal Spring." A week-long stay in the magnificent Reid's Palace Hotel.  
MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> 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. Stays in traditional Pousadas and first-class hotels.  
MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup> 2019

### SCOTLAND

#### SKYE & THE HIGHLANDS

The breathtaking landscapes and the dramatic legends will surely have you leaving your heart in the highlands.  
JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup> - 30<sup>TH</sup> 2019

#### THE HIGHLANDS BY RAIL

Travel to the Scottish Highlands and experience one of the "Great Railway Journeys of the World".  
SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup> 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 21<sup>ST</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> 2019

### SPAIN

#### BARCELONA & MALLORCA

Join Gavin Miller on an exploration of the Catalonian capital, Barcelona, and the island of Mallorca - that he now calls home!  
APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> 2019

#### 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 6<sup>TH</sup> - 15<sup>TH</sup> 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.  
NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> - 16<sup>TH</sup> 2019



#### 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 22<sup>ND</sup> - 30<sup>TH</sup> 2019



WALES

### 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 5<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup> 2019

### MULTI-COUNTRY TOURS

#### 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 12<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> 2019

#### CORSICA & SARDINIA

##### FRANCE & ITALY

Natural island beauty and rich history flourish in the Mediterranean climate of these two stunning islands.  
SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> 2019

#### THE ROMANTIC ROAD

##### AUSTRIA & GERMANY

Alpine settings and medieval half-timbered houses dot the romantic, winding road from Vienna to Heidelberg.  
SEPT. 26<sup>TH</sup> - OCT. 5<sup>TH</sup> 2019

#### MEDITERRANEAN SHORES

##### FRANCE & SPAIN

From Barcelona to Nice - azure waters, white sand beaches, mountain villages and boundless sunshine - truly irresistible.  
SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> - OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup> 2019



BUDAPEST

#### 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 rural charm and beauty.  
OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> 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.

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## LOOKING FOR YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE?

Are you in search of your next tour and aren't sure where you want to go? We've put together these 4 exciting categories to help introduce some of our upcoming tours! We hope this will help to give you some options for the coming year.

## 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.

### ONE-STOPS

Our series of "Let's Unpack" tours stay at just one carefully-selected hotel, and the itineraries are designed with exciting excursions into the surrounding countryside. This produces a more relaxing trip, allowing you to unpack your bags and make the hotel your "home away from home", and also allows you to dig deeper into the region being explored, instead of just getting a "taste," you will get the whole experience!

#### **THE NEW BERLIN: A CITY REUNITED** | MAY 24<sup>TH</sup> - JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2019

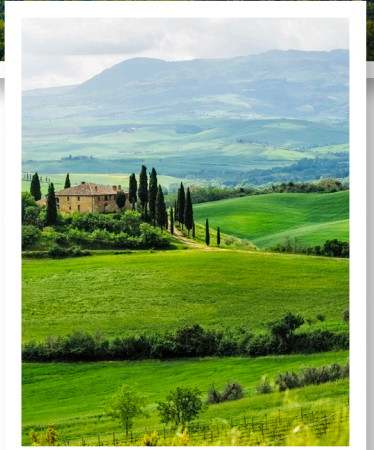
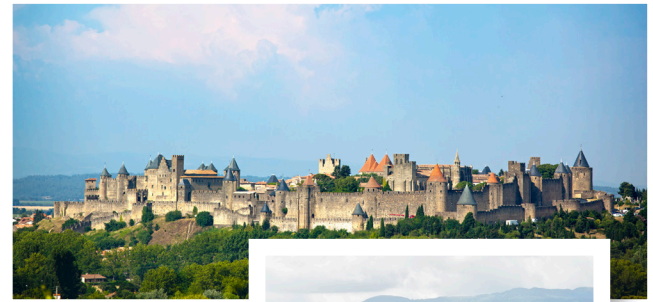
Join tour guide Matthias Kort, who will bring you a unique perspective on this historic place that he calls home. With a perfect blend of organized activities and free time to explore on your own, we will immerse ourselves in the culture and history of this great capital city.

#### **CHÂTEAU DE CAMON: EXPLORING THE LANGUEDOC FROM OUR BASE IN A FRENCH CHÂTEAU** | OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> - NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2019

This former Benedictine Abbey, where troubadours, crusaders, and persecuted Cathars passed through seeking sanctuary, has authentic historical charm paired with modern amenities. From the prehistoric cave paintings at Niaux to the medieval grandeur of Carcassonne, it will be impossible to return home without feeling touched by the shadows of the past!

#### **UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN: A WEEK IN THE HEART OF ITALY** | SEPT 27<sup>TH</sup> - OCT 5<sup>TH</sup> 2019

Experience the sights, smells, and tastes of this beautiful, cultural and historical land. We will make our base in the lovely spa town of Montecatini Terme, and take day trips to Florence, San Gimignano, Pisa, and the Cinque Terre, among others.



### SOMETHING NEW

While we do have tours that we run every year like *The Château de Camon* and *The Best of English Gardens*, we also like to continually create new itineraries and rework older itineraries to give you new corners of Europe to explore. Here are a few of our new itineraries for 2019 that we're excited to share with you!

#### **TULIPS & CHOCOLATE: EXPLORING THE ART & CULTURE OF HOLLAND & BELGIUM** | APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

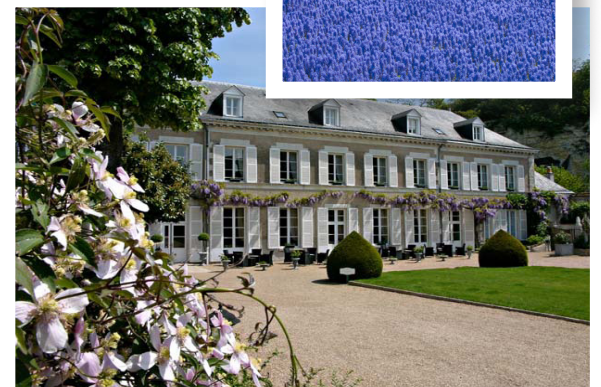
Starting in Amsterdam, we will explore the world-famous Rijksmuseum, spend a day at the Royal Palaces and visit the magnificent Keukenhof Gardens. Continuing to the City of Bruges, we will investigate the three main things for which the region is famous: art, beer and chocolate!

#### **THE GARDEN OF FRANCE: EXPLORING THE LOIRE VALLEY** | JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> - 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

Known as the "Garden of France" due to the extremely fertile soil of the river valley, and its mild climate, the Loire Valley is a perfect place to explore the beautiful gardens that France has to offer. This tour will bypass Paris, and include a healthy combination of garden visits, cultural sites and, of course, wine!

#### **WILD IRELAND: EXPLORING THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY** | SEPT 26<sup>TH</sup> - OCT 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

The route down the west coast of Ireland is known as the "Wild Atlantic Way". This stretch of coastline is characterized by charming towns, dramatic seaside cliffs, rich history and rugged landscape. We begin our tour in Dublin, head northwest across the island to Donegal and then travel down the coast, exploring the best that the Wild Atlantic Way has to offer.





## ISLAND HOPPING

Going to an island in Europe presents the opportunity to go from seashore to mountains, see a variety of topography, taste the specialties, and experience a variety of cultures, all with minimal travelling.

The pace of life seems more relaxed on an island and time is on your side to absorb, explore and ponder the beauty that surrounds you. Here are some tours to Mediterranean islands that we are offering this year.

### **CORSICA & SARDINIA** | SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

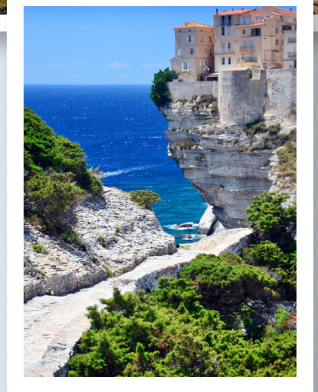
These bucolic islands, located in the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Italy, are known for their primeval landscape of rocks, sculpted by the wind and sea, and clear blue waters. We will visit prehistoric monuments dating from around 1,500-500 BCE and ride along coastal roads with spectacular views.

### **ANCIENT ISLANDS: CORFU** | OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> - 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

For those that may be fans of the Durrells, this trip will be a treat! With luxury accommodations for the stay on the island, and time to explore historical Athens, this tour will provide you plenty of time to relax by the pool or private beach, alongside time to explore the island that the Durrells chose to make their home.

### **THANKSGIVING IN MALLORCA** | NOVEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> - 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

In November the weather is still warm, and the historical sites will be blessedly free of tour buses. Our base is the historic town of Soller, set in the beautiful Tramuntana Mountains. We'll celebrate Thanksgiving Mallorcan style with slow-roasted lamb. Join Gavin Miller, who will take us to many special places on this beautiful island that he calls home.



## RHS FLOWER SHOWS

If you go on one of the garden trips listed below, you will automatically receive a one-year membership in the Royal Horticultural Society.

As a member, you will not only enjoy attending the corresponding RHS Flower Show on a members-only day, but you will also receive free entry for a year to RHS properties including Wisley, Rosemoor, Hyde Hall, and Harlow Carr, and a host of other affiliated gardens. You will also receive the monthly RHS magazine, *The Garden*. In case you would like to extend your trip, or go back to England within the year, you will have some perks to take with you!

### **THE BEST OF ENGLISH GARDENS: INCLUDING THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW** | MAY 14<sup>TH</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2019

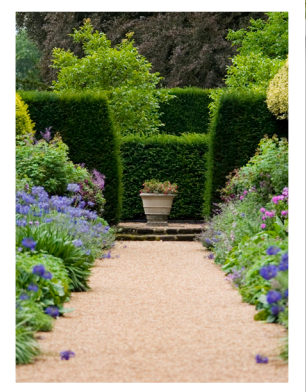
From Vita Sackville-West's crowning achievement at Sissinghurst Castle to magnificent Stourhead Gardens, we'll explore the countryside, basking in the fragrance and sights of spring. A perennial favourite!

### **LET'S UNPACK IN THE PEAKS: INCLUDING THE CHATSWORTH FLOWER SHOW** | MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> - JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

Come explore a fascinating array of visits, from a variety of stately homes including Chatsworth House, a variety of gardens, and the exquisite Peak District National Park.

### **WEST COUNTRY GARDENS: INCLUDING THE HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW** | JULY 2<sup>ND</sup> - 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

In the peak of the summer season we'll visit both Windsor for a visit to the Hampton Court Flower Show and the showcase gardens at Wisley before heading down to Taunton in England's "West Country."





WINTER 2019

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# INTO THE HEART OF EUROPE

THE NEWSLETTER OF DISCOVER EUROPE LTD.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## THE CHEESE KING

While dining out in France, you may be offered cheese as a dessert course. Presented at the end of the meal, served with bread, some sort of fruit compote or jam, and perhaps a sweet dessert wine, it is a wonderful way to round out a meal.

One of the cheeses you may be served is the famous “King of Cheeses”, Roquefort. Made from sheep’s milk, it is aged for up to five months in natural caves on wooden planks.

The legend of its origin is that a shepherd took shelter in a Combalou cave in southern France to have his lunch of cheese and bread. He saw a lovely woman walk through the meadow below and decided to pursue her, leaving his lunch behind. When he went back, a month later, the cheese had blue mold growing through it and to his surprise, tasted wonderful. To this day, thanks to the Appellation d’Origine, which ensures authenticity, only those cheeses whose ripening occurs in the natural caves of Mont Combalou in Roquefort-sur-Soulzon are permitted to bear the name Roquefort.

Its sharp flavor, creamy texture and veiny appearance are unique. It is also said to have natural anti-inflammatory properties and to help with heart disease!

So why not treat yourself to a little internationally renowned cheese created by accident in the pursuit of love. It can’t hurt!

