



FROM MICHAEL'S DESK

Well, slowly but surely, we are beginning to see that light at the end of the tunnel. France has opened up to vaccinated travellers and we had our first guests coming to the Château, here in Camon, at the end of last month. Our first real clients for nearly a year and half! Very exciting!

Disappointingly the emergence of the new Delta variant has delayed the reopening of the UK, but Spain has just announced that it is open to tourists and I feel that most of the rest of Europe will not be far behind. At Discover Europe, we are certainly ready.

I have to say that the last year and a half has not been easy for anybody in the travel business, but we have survived and, in large part, that has been because of the loyalty and flexibility of our wonderful travellers - many of whom have just postponed, rather than cancelled, the trips that they had signed up for.

However, while looking forward to a brighter future, let us take a moment to remember the terrible cost in terms of human life of this pandemic. So many people, myself included, have lost someone near and dear either directly or indirectly as a result of this virus. They will all be missed.

Michael Induni,
President

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THE ROCK OF CASHEL, CO. TIPPERARY

TRAVEL IN THE AGE OF COVID - PART II

Travel to Europe is beginning to look like it may be possible in the near future – that statement may be vague, but it is as much as we are prepared to commit to at the moment! The process is excruciatingly slow, with a kind of two steps forward, one step back approach. To give some recent examples:

- At the G7 summit in Cornwall recently, expectations were that a major announcement would be made regarding opening up travel between the US and the UK. They announced that they were going to set up a task force to study the issue. That was it.
- The European Union, just the other day, removed the restriction that only travel for essential reasons was allowed into the EU from other countries. However, they have still left it up to individual member states to decide whether quarantine periods apply to visitors and whether they have to be vaccinated or not.
- Both England and Scotland just postponed the deadline for the easing of the final phase of their respective lockdown restrictions.

Trying to make travel plans these days is like trying to hit a moving target – the rules and restrictions will have changed in between the time of us writing this article and you reading it. Discover Europe is supposed to be running our first group tour for a year and a half in mid-July. Here we are, 2 weeks before the departure date and we still don't know whether people will be allowed into Scotland without having to quarantine!

The only sound advice we can really give people is to keep checking the government web site of the country that you are planning to visit for the latest updated information. And get vaccinated! Whatever a country decides to require in order to allow tourists in, being fully vaccinated will almost certainly be at the top of the list. We have included some useful addresses at the end of the article, both official government sites and some other general ones that keep their information regularly up to date.



However, one thing is certain. When travel is allowed, the flood gates will open, hotels and tours will fill up quickly and airline and hotel prices will rise (we have already seen this happening for fares to Europe this summer). We understand that booking a tour now may seem like jumping the gun, so we have tried to make it as easy and risk-free as possible for you to sign up early to beat the rush.

- We now offer our Payment Protection Plan (full details on our web site) - it is our version of a “cancel for any reason” policy.
- Any deposits received in 2021 (either for tours in 2021 or in 2022) are fully refundable up until the end of this year.
- Early Bird Discounts. We are extending our Early Bird Discount offer – any new registrations received before September 1st, for any tour departing in 2022, listed in this newsletter, will receive a discount of \$200 per person off your final balance (not valid in conjunction with any other offer)

We hope this gives you some encouragement in signing up for one of our many small-group tours designed for the passionate traveler. Our tour guides are raring to go and we couldn't be happier to help you to enjoy the beauty, culture and adventures that Europe has to offer.

Entry requirements for the UK: www.gov.uk/uk-border-control

General EU requirements: www.etiasvisa.com/etias-news/eu-entry-restrictions

Document listing each EU country's official site for travel advice: www.ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/travel-advice-list.pdf

Entry into or transit through Iceland: www.covid.is/categories/travel-to-and-within-iceland

General travel requirements by country: <https://blog.wego.com/covid19-travel-restrictions-by-destination-country/>

HOW TO PACK LIGHT FOR A LONGER TOUR

If the recent pandemic has taught us anything, it's to take advantage of opportunities when they present themselves. Now that travel is starting to open up, we've been hearing from a lot of people wanting longer tours or back-to-back tour options. However, one thing that comes up when traveling for more than 10 days is the inevitable question of "what do I pack?"

On every Discover Europe tour, you're allowed 1 suitcase and 1 carry-on size bag. So if you're traveling for an extended amount of time, it's important to pack sensibly. We understand that this is easier said than done, so we've put together some tips from our travels on how to pack. Remember, the more room in your bag, the more room on the way home for wine.... We mean souvenirs!

- **Examine the destinations/itinerary first.** Re-read your itinerary keeping an eye on the places you are going and then check the likely weather on the Internet. Once you narrow this down, it'll be easier to see what types of things you'll need to pack.
- **Dressing for dinner.** It's not practical to pack a different outfit for every evening. Think about what options you have that could be dressed up or dressed down. For the ladies, a dress is not required for dinner so a smart pair of pants can double for day or evening wear. Most of our tours do **not** require formal wear/suit jacket for dinners, however, there are exceptions, so if you have a question about the dress code feel free to call our office.
- **Toiletries.** These can get quite bulky in your luggage. We suggest that you invest in travel-sized options or plan to buy them once you're overseas instead of packing them - this can also save trouble at airport security!
- **Pack layers & neutral colors.** This will allow you to mix-and-match more and re-use some of the same items. It may help to lay the clothes out before you pack them to see what works well together and what different combinations you can make with the options you've picked.
- **Plan on doing laundry during your trip.** Either plan on using a hotel laundry service (can be expensive) or hand wash some of your garments in your hotel room. Taking a small zip-lock bag of laundry detergent helps with this.
- **Rain.** No matter where you're traveling, there's a chance that you could encounter some rain, and if you're packing light, you want to be sure that you're prepared. It never hurts to pack a compact umbrella or a lightweight rain jacket or poncho that will fold up easily.
- **Wear your bulkier items on board with you.** If you're traveling during the winter, or to a destination like Iceland, plan on wearing some of your bulkier items while traveling to avoid having to pack a larger jacket or winter boots. You can always take them off and stow them once you're on board the plane.



We hope that this helps when it comes to packing for your next Discover Europe adventure!



FAVORITE HOTELS

THE KING'S HEAD, CIRENCESTER

The exact age of the King's Head is unknown, but there is evidence that it existed as a coaching inn in the middle of the 14th century. Today it elegantly combines this history with modern comforts and amenities. Cirencester is a beautiful and historic market town that makes an ideal base for exploring the Cotswold Hills and the King's Head is perfectly located in the center of the town, on Cirencester's Market Place.

A NEW PUZZLE

Q: A ROYAL PUZZLE. Just today (as I write this), President Biden is due at Windsor Castle to meet with Queen Elizabeth II. Since acceding to the throne, Her Majesty has met every sitting US president - except one! The question is: who was it and why did she not meet with him?

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



. . . AND A SOLUTION FROM THE LAST NEWSLETTER

Q: Most everybody knows that Father Christmas is also called Santa Claus or St. Nicholas. But what country was the original historical St. Nicholas from (modern day name please)?

A: St. Nicholas of Myra (now in Turkey) was an early Christian bishop of Greek origin who lived between (about) 270 and 343 CE. As well as being known as a worker of miracles, he was also famous for his gift-giving, especially to the poor.

Congratulations to everyone who knew the right answer, however, as we have not been able to actually run any tours for the last year and a half, we decided not to draw a winner!

SMALL-GROUP TRAVEL

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, we're noticing that many larger tour companies are now claiming to offer "small-group tours." They are, however, defining this as groups of up to 25 travelers - if you ask us, that's not a small group at all!

Here, at Discover Europe, we carefully design all our regular tours to allow for a maximum of 15 travelers and a minimum of 5. We never go over this number, because we value the authentic, flexible, and personal experience that a small group makes possible. There is something special about being a part of a small group, and we're dedicated to making sure that your experience is the best that it can be. Here are some of the advantages that come along with being part of a small group - advantages that you won't find with a group of 25!

MORE FLEXIBILITY - Being a part of a smaller tour allows for flexibility within the scheduled itinerary. The tour guide gets to know the interests of the group more intimately and can make alterations and additions to the itinerary accordingly.

DEEPER CONNECTIONS - Being part of a small group allows you to create deeper relationships with your fellow travelers, your tour guide and the places you visit. Eating at the same dinner table, sharing stories, and walking together, creates shared and valued memories. Many people leave our tours with lasting friendships and a connection with the tour guide that wouldn't be possible on a larger tour.

MORE AUTHENTICITY - With a small tour, you'll be traveling in a small coach or minibus. This allows our groups to explore areas that may not be accessible to a full size 30 or 50-passenger bus. We strive to get off the beaten path, out of the cities, and into the countryside to really show you the heart and soul of the country and its heritage.

LESS WASTED TIME - Everything becomes easier in a small group. You'll spend less time checking into hotels, less time in line to enter places, and less time waiting for other tour members to finish in the gift shop!

SAFETY - In the post-Covid world, size is everything. The fewer people you come into contact with, the safer you are.



STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2021

IN SEARCH OF THE CORN WALL

Join tour guide Gavin Miller for a trip down memory lane to his childhood family vacation destination, Cornwall.
SEPTEMBER 3RD - 13TH 2021

THE BEST OF ENGLISH GARDENS

Our annual homage to the Chelsea Flower Show and gardens of southern England.
SEPTEMBER 14TH - 23RD 2021

THE PASSIONATE GARDENER

Join garden blogger Michael B. Gordon and visit some of England's most unique gardens.
SEPTEMBER 14TH - 23RD 2021

TREASURE HOUSES OF NORTHERN ENGLAND

From Yorkshire to the Lake District, journey behind the usual tourist facade and explore the remarkable natural beauty of the north and its stately homes.
SEPTEMBER 17TH - 26TH 2021



HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE MARCHE

Join host Sandi Tinyk (founder and owner of *Travels with Sandi*) in an Italian castle on this regional discovery tour to the Marche region of Italy with tour guide Fiona Bennett.
SEPTEMBER 24TH - OCTOBER 2ND 2021

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!
OCTOBER 1ST - 9TH 2021



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 the Pyrenees.
OCTOBER 8TH - 16TH 2021

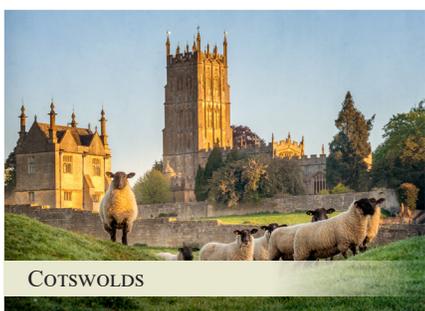


SORRENTO & THE AMALFI COAST

Described by Charles Dickens as "one succession of delights," this dramatic area has countless cultural and scenic wonders.
OCTOBER 15TH - 23RD 2021

AN IRISH INTERLUDE

Join Sandi Tinyk this fall in Ireland and enjoy overnights in Dublin, Killarney & Waterford.
NOVEMBER 4TH - 11TH 2021



COTSWOLDS

THE LAND OF FIRE & ICE

Experience Reykjavik and the Icelandic countryside and explore the geological forces that created this unique island.
NOVEMBER 11TH - 16TH 2021



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 19TH - 27TH 2021

A DICKENSIAN FEAST

Dickens' London & the rolling countryside of Kent. Visit the world-famous Rochester Dickens Festival and meet his great-great-granddaughter.
DECEMBER 1ST - 9TH 2021

VIENNA & SALZBURG

Discover the music, culture, and history of these two cities during the Christmas season.
DECEMBER 9TH - 18TH 2021

2022 TOURS

ENGLAND

YORKSHIRE & THE LAKES

A collaboration with our partners at *The Culture Concierge* for an in-depth look at regional culture and the countryside.
MAY 13TH - 25TH 2022

THE BEST OF ENGLISH GARDENS

Our annual homage to the Chelsea Flower Show and gardens of southern England.
MAY 17TH - 26TH 2022
Back to back with The Gardens of Ireland 2022

THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

Another chance to visit the premier gardening event of the year - this time in the company of Sandi Tinyk, of *Travels with Sandi*.
MAY 24TH - JUNE 1ST 2022

THE PLATINUM JUBILEE

A special celebration of 75 years on the throne. In conjunction with *The Culture Concierge*, we have designed a fitting tribute to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.
JUNE 1ST - 11TH 2022

GARDENS OF THE NORTH

Explore the gardens of Yorkshire and the Lake District on this horticultural adventure.
JUNE 5TH - 15TH 2022



THE COTSWOLD HILLS

Experience the quintessential English countryside of the Cotswolds with day trips to Oxford, Stratford, Bath, and many more.
JUNE 9TH - 18TH 2022



DISCOVERING EAST ANGLIA

Experience life in a country house hotel with popular guide Gavin Miller and explore the region in which he grew up.
JULY 15TH - 23TH 2022

VICTORIA & THE CROWN

Celebrate the life and legacy of Queen Victoria on this tour tracing her life from London to the Isle of Wight and Windsor.
AUGUST 24TH - SEPTEMBER 2ND 2022

TREASURE HOUSES OF NORTHERN ENGLAND

A reprise of our September 2021 tour from Yorkshire to the Lake District
SEPTEMBER 8TH - 17TH 2022
Back to back with Treasure Houses of S. England

TREASURE HOUSES OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND

See the full glory of Britain's Stately Homes in the south of the country.
SEPTEMBER 16TH - 25TH 2022



MENTON LEMON FESTIVAL

FRANCE

ART & ARTISTS OF THE FRENCH RIVIERA

Join *Travels with Sandi* in the French Riviera, including the Menton Lemon Festival and a visit to the island of Porquerolles.
FEBRUARY 17TH - 26TH 2022



THE FESTIVAL OF ROSES

A short getaway to a French Château for a visit to the Camon Festival of Roses! Want to stay longer? Join us for *Along the Pyrenees!*
MAY 12TH - 17TH 2022



FOOD & WINE OF BORDEAUX

From our base near St. Emilion, this one-stop tour focuses on the delicious food & exquisite wines of this region.
JUNE 24TH - JULY 2ND 2022



A PORTRAIT OF PROVENCE

From our base in Arles, explore the region that has everything! Food, wine, and Provence during the lavender season.
JULY 8TH - 16TH 2022

GREECE

THE GLORY OF GREECE

Visit world-famous treasures and learn how ancient Greece has shaped modern times. Optional 4-day Greek island cruise extension.
APRIL 23RD - MAY 2ND 2022

ANCIENT ISLANDS: CORFU & CRETE

Follow in the footsteps of *The Durrells in Corfu* and visit the birthplace of Zeus.
JUNE 11TH - 20TH 2022



HOLLAND

FLORAL FLANDERS

Spend a week in Amsterdam and enjoy the beauty of Holland when the tulips are in full bloom, including a special visit to the decennial Floriade event.
APRIL 18TH - 26TH 2022



ICELAND

GETAWAY TO ICELAND

Experience the stunning natural beauty of Iceland on a long weekend getaway to Reykjavik. Northern Lights anyone?
FEBRUARY 11TH - 15TH 2022

THE LAND OF FIRE & ICE

Experience Reykjavik and the Icelandic countryside and explore the geological forces that created this unique island.
APRIL 7TH - 12TH 2022

ICELAND PANORAMA

Enjoy summertime in Iceland on this journey of stunning natural beauty in the north, south, and west of the island.
AUGUST 13TH - 20TH 2022

IRELAND

GARDENS OF IRELAND

See a thousand shades of green that make up Ireland's rich garden landscape, including an optional Northern Ireland extension.
MAY 18TH - 27TH 2022

Back to back with Best of English Gardens

THE ISLAND OF SAINTS AND SCHOLARS

From literary haunts to dramatic seascapes, explore the country that inspired Yeats, Joyce, Beckett, Heaney and so many others.
SEPTEMBER 8TH - 17TH 2022

Back to back with Killarney



KILLARNEY

Enjoy a short getaway to the southern town of Killarney on this one-stop adventure.
SEPTEMBER 16TH - 21ST 2022



ITALY

UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN

Stay in the hilltop spa town of Montecatini Terme and explore Tuscany in the Spring.
APRIL 15TH - 23RD 2022

THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT

This region is dotted semi-tropical gardens, and palatial villas set against a backdrop of Alpine lakes and mountains.
MAY 4TH - 12TH 2022

Back to back with Across the Alps



SORRENTO & THE AMALFI COAST

From Mount Vesuvius to the azure grotto of Capri, join Sandi Tinyk on an exploration of the beautiful Amalfi Coast.
JUNE 6TH - 16TH 2022



BAROLO VINEYARD

THE ITALIAN KITCHEN

Journey from farm to table in the Piedmont and Emilia Romagna regions. A gastronomic tour with samplings of the regions specialties.

OCTOBER 2ND - 11TH 2022

BAK TO BACK WITH CORSICA & SARDINIA

PORTUGAL

LISBON & MADEIRA

Explore the colorful and unique capital city of Lisbon before spending time at the 5-star Belmond Reid's Palace in Madeira.
JANUARY 29TH - FEBRUARY 7TH 2022

A PORTUGUESE PANORAMA

Take a panoramic tour of Portugal from Lisbon to Porto, and see the best that this small country has to offer.
SEPTEMBER 16TH - 25TH 2022

SCOTLAND

CASTLES OF THE HIGHLANDS

Starting in Inverness, take an in-depth look at the castles and historic homes that dot the dramatic landscape.
MAY 26TH - JUNE 4TH 2022

Back to back with Backroads of Northern Britain

LORDS OF THE SEA KINGDOM

Island hop and explore the ancient kingdom of the Lords of the Isles. We visit the Inner Hebrides and travel up Scotland's west coast.
JULY 22ND - AUGUST 1ST 2022

JOURNEY TO THE NORTHERN ISLES

An exploration of the Orkneys & Shetlands. Starting and ending in Edinburgh we fly from there to the islands, staying in Lerwick and Kirkwall and taking day trips out and around the ancient sites and dramatic seascapes.
SEPTEMBER 1ST - 10TH 2022



SPAIN

REAL MALLORCA

Gavin Miller shares the wonders of his adopted home - the jewel of the Mediterranean, both real and royal.
MARCH 18TH - 26TH 2022

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 24TH - JUNE 2ND 2022

Back to back with Along the Pyrenees

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 9TH - 18TH 2022

MULTI-COUNTRY TOURS

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

A winter getaway to these culturally rich capitals. Enjoy special visits within the cities as well as day trips into the countryside.
JANUARY 23RD - 30TH 2022

ACROSS THE ALPS

Beginning with a stay by the Italian Lakes, this tour then heads up into Switzerland and crosses the Alps through Austria, and into Bavaria, ending in Munich.
MAY 11TH - 20TH 2022

ALONG THE PYRENEES

Hear some of the most fascinating legends that Europe can muster all while enjoying the incredible mountain scenery of the Pyrenees.
MAY 16TH - 25TH 2022

BACKROADS OF NORTHERN BRITAIN

From the Scottish lowlands to Northern England, explore the landscape, history, and castles that make up the Borders between Scotland and England.
JUNE 3RD - 12TH 2022

Back to back with Castles of the Highlands

JEWELS OF EASTERN EUROPE

Budapest, Vienna & Prague. Enjoy time in these historic cities with excursions to sites of rural charm and beauty.
JULY 14TH - 23RD 2022

SCANDINAVIA

Discover the best of Scandinavia with stays in Copenhagen, Oslo, and Stockholm.
AUGUST 19TH - 29TH 2022

ACROSS THE CHANNEL

From London, we cross the English Channel to the islands of Jersey and Guernsey, continue to the beaches of Normandy, on to the elegance of Paris.
AUGUST 25TH - SEPTEMBER 4TH 2022

CORSICA & SARDINIA

Natural island beauty and rich history flourish in the Mediterranean climate of these two stunning islands.
SEPTEMBER 24TH - OCTOBER 3RD 2022

BACK TO BACK WITH THE ITALIAN KITCHEN



Indicates a "Regional Discovery" tour. These tours focus on one particular region, usually staying in just one hotel, and exploring the surrounding countryside.

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. Details can be found on our web site by clicking on the "Our Tours" menu.

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

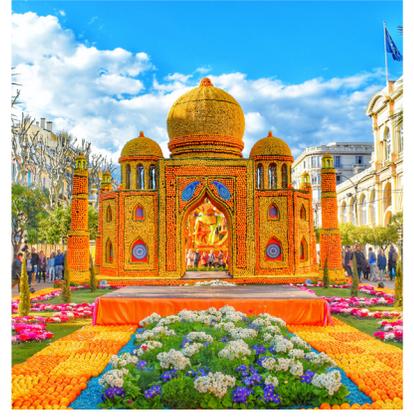
EUROPEAN FESTIVALS

Europeans love their festivals! Every region of every country has their particular specialty of produce, food, wine, customs and traditions. They honor their local bounties, large and small, with festivals to celebrate their good fortune and to show off to the rest of the world how lucky they are to live where they do. One of the saddest things about the recent pandemic is that these local festivities have all had to be canceled - but never fear, in 2022 they will all be back with a vengeance! And we'll be visiting a few of our favorites.

THE MENTON LEMON FESTIVAL

FEBRUARY 17 - 26, 2022

Each February, the little town of Menton, located on the French Riviera, hosts a Lemon Festival. Less than an hour east of Nice, Menton is characterized by its beaches, gardens and dramatic mountain cliffs tumbling into the sparkling Mediterranean. The Lemon Festival is one of the largest and most colorful events on the south coast of France and is a wonderful start to the spring season. During the festival, which is similar to a carnival celebration, this tiny town transforms into a colorful world dedicated to the citrus for which the town is known. It is filled with elaborate floats and creative wire-framed sculptures built from thousands of pieces of their prized fruit. Some of these figures can be over 30 feet tall and use as much as 15 tons of lemons.



FLORIADE

APRIL 18 - 26, 2022

Held every 10 years in the Netherlands, the Floriade is an outstanding international garden festival and exhibition. In 2022, it will be held just outside Amsterdam, in the city of Almere and the theme is "Growing Green Cities." It will be the 23rd AIPH world horticultural exhibition and the seventh Floriade. A living library of trees, plants and flowers, known as the arboretum, meanders through the park. The trees and plants are all planted in alphabetical order - you can literally walk from A to Z. Join us at the Floriade on our tour *Floral Flanders*.

THE CAMON ROSE FESTIVAL

MAY 12 - 17, 2022

Camon is known as the "Village of Roses." Find out why and join us for a long weekend getaway to the fabulous Château de Camon for the annual Festival of Roses. This condensed version of our longer Camon program will show you the highlights of this beautiful corner of southern France. Stay in a past Benedictine Abbey where troubadours, crusaders, itinerant knights, Spanish princesses, and persecuted Cathars passed through seeking sanctuary, and experience the authentic historical charm of the 16th century with modern luxury amenities of the 21st. Enjoy excursions to Carcassonne, Roquefixade, Montségur, and the town of Mirepoix on market day!



CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

SEPTEMBER 14 - 23, 2021 & MAY 17 - 26, 2022

This fall or next May, you can join fellow garden lovers for a stroll through *The Best of English Gardens*. At a relaxed pace, with wonderful meals, first-class hotels, we will explore England's most famous gardens from Vita Sackville-West's crowning achievement at Sissinghurst Castle to magnificent Stourhead Gardens. We conclude the tour with a full day visit to the iconic Chelsea Flower Show on members-only day - included is a one-year membership in the Royal Horticultural Society.

SORRENTO & THE AMALFI COAST

When you think of the Italian coastline it's likely that you're conjuring up an image of the Amalfi Coast. Located in the southwest of Italy, just around the corner from the Bay of Naples, the Amalfi Coast is breathtaking, dramatic, awe-inspiring and, at the same time, romantic. This is one of the most idyllic spots in Italy and perfect if you're looking to unwind, explore and discover amazing historical sites set in beautiful scenery.

After a year of lockdown, our tour *Sorrento & the Amalfi Coast*, is a perfect option if you're looking for a one-stop journey where you can unpack your bags, relax, and get to know one area. Enjoy the beautiful weather, wonderful local food, and explore the history of this Italian paradise - all outside of the busy summer season.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Explore *Pompeii* with a local guide and visit the ruins of *Herculaneum* at the foot of Mount Vesuvius
- Enjoy a full day exploration of *Naples*
- Scenic drive along the *Amalfi Coast*
- Excursion to the exotic *Isle of Capri* where you can choose to take a boat ride to the famous Blue Grotto
- Ample free time in *Sorrento* for independent exploration
- Stay in the magnificent *Imperial Hotel Tramontano*, overlooking the Bay of Naples

Join Discover Europe on October 15-23, 2021 and explore *Sorrento & the Amalfi Coast*.

Call us today at 866-563-7077 for more details.



IT WAS 20 YEARS AGO TODAY . . .

Well not exactly today, but Discover Europe operated its first tours in 2001! Happy 20th Birthday to us!

We have to say, what with the whole pandemic thing, that the event nearly slipped by without us noticing. Also interesting to note that 2001 was also not exactly a banner year for international travel - it being the year of the Sept 11 attacks. People said at the time, that we picked a "hell of a year" to start a travel business - but, 20 years and one pandemic later, we're still here!

And there's only one reason for that - you. It is through the loyalty and support of our faithful customers that we have managed to weather the storms of international turmoil and continue to thrive. For that, we wholeheartedly thank you!



BUCKET LISTS

The idea of a "bucket list" is to create a list of things that you want to do before you "kick the bucket." A tad morbid if you ask me, however, after about 15 months of lockdown, we've probably all been refining, or at least toying with the idea of creating one of our own. I imagine we're all dreaming about the places we want to go once we're able (which is finally right around the corner!).

When digging a little deeper into the concept and creating one of my own, I came across a couple of intriguing ideas: a "reverse bucket list" and a "repeat bucket list." The first was explained as making a list all of the wonderful things you *have* already seen and accomplished, and the second a list of all the places you've been or things that you've done, that you would like to do or see again. After all, just because you have been to a place once, there is no reason that you can't go back - especially if you really loved it the first time!

I loved the ideas and I think pairing these with a true "bucket list" is an inspiring activity, that certainly helped to while away those lockdown hours. Reminiscing about the wonderful and beautiful things you've done in life, and then contemplating all of the amazing things you have yet to experience.

- Kelsey



SUMMER 2021
VOLUME XX NUMBER 2

INTO THE HEART OF EUROPE

THE NEWSLETTER OF DISCOVER EUROPE LTD.

122 Island St.
Keene, NH 03431

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



SENAIQUE ABBEY, PROVENCE

OUR CONCIERGE PROGRAM - LUXURY PRIVATE TRAVEL IDEAS

For the past twelve years, Discover Europe has worked closely with our bespoke concierge travel partner, *The Culture Concierge* (formerly part of The English Manner), and their founder, former Member of The Royal Household, Alexandra Messervy. Alexandra and her team have designed, orchestrated, and hosted tours with us in partnership, including the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen, the Royal Weddings of HRH The Dukes of Cambridge and Sussex, and many historic tours such as a tribute to Downton Abbey, the Knights Templar, and some stellar private garden tours. Later this summer, we join together again to explore Royal Wessex and the Yorkshire featured in the award-winning TV series *All Creatures Great & Small*. In 2022, we intend to offer a unique tour to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of the longest ever serving British monarch!

This year, perhaps more than any other, we are all aware of the advantages of private travel. The knowledge that a tailor-made vacation package, where every detail is taken care of, and guests, whether traveling alone or as a family group, can be assured of personal service and a dedicated assistant, means that you can relax knowing that your safety, health and well-being have been paramount in our planning.

While the requirements of group travel and booking far ahead make vacations less easy this year, we recognize that some of you may just want to book at the last minute, as restrictions lift, and try something different. Here is where we can assist, together with our unique British partners. *The Culture Concierge* offers a full custom-design service, suggesting areas and places to visit, arranging luxury ‘outside the box’ accommodation, transportation, drivers, and tours. Making recommendations for hotels, outstanding self-catering homes from castles to cottages of the highest standards, with private chefs or local restaurant lists, locations to visit, places and things to do, private transport, and specialist guides. They are delighted to be able to offer advice and suggestions based on their almost 40 years of experience in Royal and luxury travel and services, and their unrivaled network of providers and special services gives a guaranteed assurance of a safe, and trouble-free vacation.

A few ideas to whet your appetite:

- A tour of the Scottish Highlands and Islands with a fantastic driver-guide
- Hidden Devon and Cornwall, self-drive or chauffeured
- City lovers can enjoy our preferential rates at a private member Club in London
- Everyone loves the Cotswolds! The finest walks, sights and gourmet delights.
- Take over a picturesque ancestral home - with butler service to boot!



YOUR CAR AWAITS YOU