CHANGE OF PREMISES

Sales Office
Our new modern Sales Office in Valletta will be fully operational starting from 1st February 2016.

The Savoy Shopping Arcade, St. John Street, Valletta VLT 1112

Head Office
The administration section of Britannia Services Ltd will be fully operational starting from 1st February 2016. All group meetings will be held in the new premises where ample parking for clients is available.

The Landmark, Suite 4, Triq l-Iljun, Qormi QRM 1000 (next to Lidl & Kiabi)
Britannia Tours

Other interesting offers coming soon!

TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Britannia Services Ltd. in conjunction with the Malta Photographic Society are organising a photographic competition.

Send us your photo and enter the chance to win €500 Travel Voucher and a beginners course for 1 person organised by the Malta Photographic Society.

IBBUKKJA L-BTALA TIEGĦEK U TINGĦATA L-P ossibiltà li TIRBAH*

MOTOR TEST SERVICES LTD

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Tnejn - Gimgħa
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Sibt 8.00am - 12.00pm

Ibbukkja l-btala tiegħek u gawdi minn V.R.T. tal-karozza tiegħek b’xejn!
**VISITING** Cologne, Bonn, Maria Laach, Ahr Valley, Ahrweiler, Maastricht, Valkenburg, Aachen and Koblenz

**EASTER/SPRING 2016**

**PRICE INCLUDES**
- 5 nights in 4 star Hotel in Cologne or similar
- Room with private facilities, hairdryer, safe, mini-fridge & cable TV
- Daily buffet breakfast
- Return airport transfers
- Free Koblenz City Tour
- Services of tour leader
- All taxes

**PRICE PER PERSON**

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**PARADE – the climax of the Carnival with its large official parade starting at 10.30am.**

**Carnival in Cologne**

**Friday, 5th February** | We meet our tour leader at the airport at 2.25 p.m. for our Air Malta flight departing at 4.25 p.m. and arriving in Frankfurt at 7.15 p.m. On arrival we go to our 4 star Hotel in Cologne and after check-in we go for a familiarisation walk with our tour leader.

**Saturday, 6th February** | We kick off our holiday with a full day optional excursion in Cologne, where we have a guided walk to the charming old town with its most important monuments, squares and traces of 2000 years’ history. We shall also see the massive Cathedral, which took over 600 years to be built and is a UNESCO world heritage site. Later we proceed to Bonn, the birthplace of world-famous composer Ludwig Van Beethoven. We see amongst other attractions, the House of August Macke and the Poppelsdorfer Castle surrounded by superb landscaped gardens and exquisite scenery. In the evening we start the carnival celebrations with a Ghost Parade, which unlike the other parades in which the ordinary Carnival fan is a mere spectator, everyone who shows up in a ghostly costume can get involved in the Ghost Parade.

**Sunday, 7th February** | Today we go for a full day optional excursion to Ahr Valley, one of the Rhine’s tributaries - this romantic valley with its steep hillsides is Germany’s largest red wine producing area. We visit one of the most important Romanesque Abbeys in the valley – the Maria Laach. A Benedictine abbey in the northwestern part of Germany, picturesquely located on the wooded shores of a crater lake. We then proceed to Ahrweiler, tucked away in a unique natural environment and embedded in vineyards of the valley. We walk through this charming medieval town with half-timbered houses, then we walk through the centre which is surrounded by medieval walls and are still entirely preserved. We also see the market square, the hall church and the town hall. We then return to Cologne where one can enjoy the Carnival celebrations with parties on the streets, in squares and in pubs.

**Monday, 8th February** | We join the tour leader for the much awaited Rose Monday Parade – the climax of the Carnival with its large official parade starting at 10.30am. Its a colourful spectacle with sweets, countless small gifts thrown from the floats and over one million of spectators in costumes. All day the city will echo the sounds of local bands and great music. However, the colourful activities in Cologne don’t stop there: the party will go on in many of the pubs in the city centre, around Heumarkt and Alter Markt squares. Carnival merrymaking continues on until the early hours of the morning!

**Tuesday, 9th February** | Today’s full day optional excursion takes us to Holland, where we go to Maastricht and Valkenburg. In Maastricht we visit the old city centre with impressive monuments and a wide variety of shops. After we proceed to discover Valkenburg, a delightful little Dutch hill town built around a romantic ruined castle. Every February, Valkenburg comes alive with its own famous carnival. The Dutch really go to town to make these annual events full of excitement, spectacle and fun. Fabulously decorated floats and colourful characters in exotic costumes ensure that the carnival parades are not to be missed, whilst bars and cafés are alive with the sounds of local bands and great music.

**Wednesday, 10th February** | Our last half day optional excursion takes us to Aachen. The city’s historical charm invites you to go for a stroll through the narrow alleys and across historic squares. The city is most striking in the centre of the old town with its magnificent cathedral, Gothic town hall and proud town houses which make Aachen a town where its visitors feel right at home. The romantic streets between the St. Castor’s Basilica and the Church of Our Beloved Lady represent today’s main tourist attraction. We then proceed to Frankfurt airport for our Air Malta flight departing at 8.15 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 10.50 p.m.

**Free Koblenz City Tour**

4 star hotel in Cologne
Saturday, 6th February | We meet the tour leader at the airport at 12.30 p.m. for our Air Malta flight departing at 2.25 p.m. and arriving in Zurich at 4.50 p.m. Upon arrival our coach takes us to the 3 star Hotel Ibis Styles Luzern City (or similar) in Lucerne. After checking in, we go out with the tour leader for a familiarisation walk during which we will already feel the carnival spirit prevailing.

Sunday, 7th February | Today, we have a full day optional excursion to Engelberg and the famous Mount Titlis. After breakfast, we depart by coach to the skiing resort of Engelberg, from where we can go up Mount Titlis, with a height of 3239 metres and from where one can enjoy spectacular views. To go to the top, one has to use different funiculars and also a revolving gondola which gets you to the top (extra). At the top, snow is guaranteed all the year round. It is a real wonderful experience! The resort of Engelberg is very popular with thousands of skiers and it is also known for the Benedictine Engelberg Abbey and also for the pure and clean air found in this valley.

Monday, 8th February | Together with the tour leader, we have an excursion on foot around Lucerne. We walk along the river Reuss and in the historical centre, amongst others we see the old streets full of shops, small squares and various fountains. We also see the Water Tower and the Chapel Bridge dating back to the 14th. century, the Baroque style Jesuit Church, the Hofkirche and the Altes Rathaus. The Carnival in Lucerne is one of the most popular in Switzerland and famous for its colourful parades and merrymaking. At this time, the city is transformed into one of music, fun and frolic. Many individuals, wear elaborate carnival costumes and parade along the river and in the streets which create a jovial atmosphere. Today, at 2.00pm we will watch the Wey Parade, known as the Gudismontag. This is considered to be one of the nicest parades of the Lucerne carnival. The parade offers various bands wearing different elaborate costumes and playing joyful music. We also see strange characters with fantastic masks and costumes parading and dancing. Definitely a beautiful spectacle!

Tuesday, 9th February | Today we have a full day optional excursion to Mulhouse and Basel. Since we will be crossing the border, we must not forget to take our passports with us. Our first stop will be in Mulhouse in France which is situated on a plain between the Vosges mountains and the river Rhine. Together with the tour leader, we visit the picturesque historical centre of this city with its narrow streets full of old buildings typical of the Alsace region, squares, shops and coffee shops. One may also visit the museums (extra) over here. There will also be some free time. The city of Basel is considered to be one of the wealthiest and organized in Switzerland, with a predominant German language. In the historical centre, amongst others we will see Marktplatz, the Rathaus, the Munster and Barfusserplatz. There will also be some free time for personal sightseeing or shopping. We return to the hotel and at 7.30pm, we will watch the Monstercorso Parade which is the final parade of carnival and starts off from Bahnhofstrasse. In this spectacle, we see bands wearing different colourful costumes and playing merry music. There will also be characters wearing grotesque masks, humorous and strange costumes, all of which dancing and making merry in the streets. In this way, we enjoy at close range all the fun that carnival brings along with it.

Wednesday, 10th February | After breakfast, we check out of the hotel and depart to Zurich. Upon arrival, we will have a free panoramic city tour. Zurich is a big city full of parks and offers us the possibility for shopping from the pedestrian area of Limmatquai and Niederdorf. Together with the tour leader, we visit the historical centre where, amongst others, we see the Rathaus and the Grossmunster church. We walk along Bahnhofstrasse which leads to the lake. Here we can go for a walk along the lake or otherwise go for a boat ride (extra). After, transfer by coach to Zurich airport for check in. At 5.40 p.m., we depart on Air Malta flight and arrive in Malta at 8.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 22nd March | We meet the tour leader at the airport at 3.25 p.m. for our Air Malta direct flight to Malaga, departing at 5.25 p.m. and arriving in Malaga at 8.20 p.m. On arrival we are transferred to our 4 star central Hotel Cervantes in Torremolinos on the Costa del Sol.

Wednesday, 23rd March | We start our holiday with a full day optional excursion to Seville, the capital of Andalucia, where we start our day with a city tour of this important historical city. We walk through the town centre towards the Cathedral (included) which is the third largest in the Catholic world, the Giralda, the Alcazar Palace, the Tower of Gold and a view of the river Guadalquivir. Some free time is given and later we proceed to the famous Plaza d’Espagna and the beautiful Maria Luisa gardens before we make our way back to Torremolinos.

Thursday, 24th March | This morning our optional full day excursion takes us to Córdoba, a city of history and arts. We visit the famous mesquita, Cordoba’s Cathedral (included), fully decorated for the Holy Week festivities, and walk to the antique Jewish quarters, a labyrinth of narrow winding streets of great charm and beauty. Free time is given to explore the traditional piazzas, the roman temples and monuments.

Friday, 25th March | The morning is free to relax and enjoy Torremolinos. After lunch we go for an optional half day excursion to Málaga. We discover the city centre walking through the piazzas and beautiful streets decorated for the Holy Week activities followed by a visit to the imposing Málaga Cathedral where we attend the last part of the Good Friday service. We later join the thousands of people that throng the squares and streets of Málaga for the traditional Good Friday processions an amazing experience! We return late to our hotel. (Due to this occasion, today we have lunch instead of dinner)

Saturday, 26th March | Our full day optional excursion today takes us to the Rock of Gibraltar which is a duty free British territory. This is a great opportunity for one to do some shopping in the Main Street. We suggest that you visit the spectacular St Michael’s Caves, Europa Point and the famous Barbary Apes (entrance & transport extra).

Sunday, 27th March - Happy Easter! | We head off on our optional full day excursion driving by the old romantic road to Ronda. We have time to visit Plaza de Toros, the 18th century bullring and its bullfighting museum (extra), home of some of the most famous matadors in history. We then join the locals in the Easter procession with the statue of the Risen Christ and the statue of Our Lady carried shoulder high by young women. One can attend the Easter Sunday mass celebration in Ronda’s cathedral adorned with the Good Friday antique statues.

Monday, 28th March | Another full day optional excursion takes us to historic Granada, located at the foot of the Sierra Nevada. We visit the Capilla Royal, the gothic Granada Cathedral (included) and later explore the maze of ancient narrow streets in the city centre which are full of fascinating curiosities, local crafts and delicacies. Later we visit the famous Alhambra (included) built on the top of a hill. The palace complexes and Generalife Gardens, beside the Albaicin, have been declared World Heritage Sites. We will visit the incredible Alhambra complex, hills, village, the old Alcazaba and The Generalife Gardens, the summer residence of the Nazari Monarchs, along with the Palace of Carlos V.

Tuesday, 29th March | After breakfast we check-out of rooms (please consult with your tour leader should you wish to enquire for late check-out) and enjoy our last day with a full day optional excursion heading first to Mijas, an old village perched on the mountains, with its whitewashed houses, cobbled streets, old wine taverns and typical boutiques filled with beautiful pottery and artistic leather objects d’arte. Later we proceed to the beautiful coastal town of Marbella, playground of the rich and famous, stopping to visit Puerto Banus, the main port of Marbella’s three boating marinas. We return to the hotel for dinner and later we make our way to Malaga airport for our Air Malta flight departing at 2.45 a.m. (early Wednesday 30th March) and arriving in Malta at 5.30 a.m.
23 - 28 Marzu
(25 Marzu - Festa PUBBLIKA)

23 ta’ Marzu | Il-grupp jiitaqà l-ajruport fil-10.40 p.m.


Fid-9.00 p.m. niehdu sehem fil-funzjoni ta’ Flamis ix-Xirka li ssir fil-Baziikla San Piju X.

25 ta’ Marzu (Ġimgha l-Kbira) | Wara l-kolazzjoni nagħmil l-mixja tal-Via Crucis fuq l-gloliha de’ l’Espeluges. Wara din id-devozzjoni mmorrnu naraw DVD dwar il-Messaqgà ta’ Lourdes. Pranzu u wara fit-3.00 p.m. nattendu għall-funzjoni tal-Ġimgha l-Kbira fil-Baziikla San Piju X. Cena u wara fid-9.00 p.m. niehdu sehem, bhala grup, fil-Via Sagra Internazzjonali.


27 ta’ Marzu | It-titiqra titlaq minn Lourdes ghal Malta fis-7.00 p.m. (Please ask for booking conditions)

28 ta’ Marzu | It-titiqra titlaq minn Lourdes ghal Malta fis-7.00 a.m. (Please ask for booking conditions)
**Vietnam & Cambodia Discovery**

**EASTER/SPRING 2016**

VISITING Hanoi, Halong Bay, Hoi An, Hai Van Pass, Danang, Marble Mountain, Hue, Saigon, Mekong, Phnom Penh, Angkor Temples & Siem Reap

**International flights with Emirates Airline**

**€2749 FROM**

**20 March - 4 April**

(25 March - Public Holiday)

**4 star hotels, all excursions, meals & entrances included as per programme**

**Sunday, 20th March** | We meet at the airport for our Emirates flight to Hanoi via Bangkok. The flight leaves at 2.55 p.m. and arrives in Dubai at 01.25 a.m. early Monday morning.

**Monday, 21st March** | Our Emirates flight depart to Bangkok at 3.05 a.m. and arrives at 12.05 p.m. we then board our flight to Hanoi leaving at 3.55 p.m. On arrival at 5.45 p.m. we are transferred to our 4 star hotel. We check in and free time to relax after the long flight and to familiarize ourselves with Hanoi. We later have a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Hanoi.

**Tuesday, 22nd March** | We start our holiday with a city tour of Hanoi, where first we visit the complex dedicated to Ho Chi Minh, the nation's founder. This complex also comprises the One Pillar Pagoda, whose origins date back to the foundation of the city. Then we visit the Tran Quoc Pagoda, Hanoi's oldest pagoda on the bank of West Lake. Lunch at a local restaurant and in the afternoon we visit Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam (Temple of Literature & Vietnam’s first university). Constructed in the 11th century, the gardens and the well preserved architecture offer a relaxing glimpse into Vietnam’s past. We take a cyclo ride around the Old Quarter streets which were named after the specific goods once offered for sale at these places. We stop at Hoan Kiem Lake to learn about legend of the lake and visit Ngoc Son Temple, followed by a Water Puppet show - a uniquely Northern Vietnamese art form depicting scenes from rural life and episodes of national history. Overnight in Hanoi.

**Wednesday, 23rd March** | Breakfast and we depart from our hotel to Halong Bay, one of the World Natural Heritages recognized by UNESCO with over 3,000 spectacular limestone islands rising from the clear, emerald sea in the Gulf of Tonkin. Upon arrival, we are transferred to our Cruise ship where we will enjoy a welcome drink before checking in. While we pass by many rocky islets, caves, floating villages and beaches, our fresh seafood lunch will be served on board. We then stop to explore Surprise Cave, one of the most beautiful caves of the bay. Some free time for swimming or relaxing on the sundeck. Later the cruise ship will move in a quiet area to dock for the night. Typical Vietnamese dinner will be served on board. Overnight on board.

**Thursday, 24th March** | Early birds can attend a Tai Chi demonstration on the sundeck at the break of dawn. Breakfast is served while we continue exploring Halong Bay by sailing across its 2000 islets. Arriving at the dock we disembark and are transferred back to Hanoi. Lunch at a local restaurant and we make our way to the airport for our flight to Danang. Upon arrival, we are transferred to our hotel. Overnight in Hanoi.

**Friday, 25th March** | Today we go for a guided walking tour around Hoi An Ancient Town. Where we visit the Japanese covered bridge, Chinese assembly hall, a typical Vietnamese merchant’s house, one of the interesting museums and the local market. There are numerous art galleries, souvenirs and tailor shops where you can get some express made-to-measure clothes if you like. We then visit a craftsman home in the old streets where a brief introduction on the history of the lanterns and will go through the stages of making them. We will make a lantern by your own and we will keep it as a souvenir of our time in Hoi An. Lunch at local restaurant and the rest of the afternoon is free for leisure. Overnight in Hoi An.

**Saturday, 26th March** | We leave Hoi An to Hue via Danang where we pass through the Hai Van Pass, which ranks among the top rides in Vietnam with sweeping vistas to historic sites. At the base of the mountain we stop and soak in the beautiful views of one of Vietnam’s most scenic spots. Upon arrival in Danang, we make a stop to visit the Cham Museum where it houses the finest collection of Cham sculptures. We will see many sandstone carvings, statues of genies and female dancers and numerous valuable artifacts. Then we proceed to the Marble Mountains with many sandstone carvings, statues of genies and a stone carving village at the foot of the mountain. We continue to Hue, upon arrival at our hotel we check-in and then have lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon we visit the Imperial Citadel where Kings of Vietnam’s last feudal dynasty ruled from 1802 to 1945, we will see amongst other the Flag Tower, Nine Holy Cannons, Ngo Mon

**www.bsl.com.mt**

8 | BRITANNIA TOURS EASTER/Spring 2016 (PLEASE ASK FOR BOOKING CONDITIONS)
Gate, Thai Hoa Palace, Nine
Dynastic Urns and the Forbidden Purple
City. We then continue to visit the Tomb of King Tu Duc, the ‘jewel of Hue’, which is set in an elegant garden with a magnificent lake and pavilion complex. Overnight in Hue.

Sunday, 27th March | We are transferred to the pier to take a boat to visit Thien Mu Pagoda on the bank of the scenic Perfume River. We then continue by bus to visit Tomb of King Khai Dinh, its interest lies within its uneasy combination of Vietnamese and European features and the use of fragments of ceramics and glass for decoration. Lunch at local restaurant and after we are transferred to the airport for our flight to Saigon. Upon arrival, we go at our hotel for check-in. Overnight in Saigon.

Monday, 28th March | Check out from our hotel to visit the incredible network of the underground Cu Chi Tunnels constructed by Vietnamese fighters during the long struggle for independence and reunification. This network of over 200 km of tunnels became legendary during the 1960’s when they played a vital part in the American War, allowing the Viet Cong to control a large rural area close to Ho Chi Minh City. In their heyday, the tunnels were functioning underground cities. Then we head back to the city for lunch at local restaurant. In the afternoon, we visit the War Remnants Museum and the Reunification Palace. We end the day with a visit to the Saigon Notre Dame Cathedral and the bustling Ben Thanh Market for shopping. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

Tuesday, 29th March | Depart from our hotel in the morning for a 2 hour pleasant drive to Ben Tre province, crossing Rach Mieu bridge. On arrival in Hung Vuong Pier, we hop on a motorized boat were we cruise Ben Tre river – one of the tributaries of Mekong river. Our first stop is at a brick factory to know more about the traditional ways to make the main material of the many houses in the Mekong Delta. We then visit one of the many coconut processing workshops located along the canal. We return to the boat and go through the natural creeks to a village where we see some locals making sleeping mats. Lunch at a riverside restaurant, afterwards we take a rowing-boat along the beautiful water palm creek before boarding the boat to go to Saigon. Upon arrival, check-in at our hotel. Overnight in Saigon.

Wednesday, 30th March | The day is free for shopping or to discover more the capital. Later we are transferred to the airport for our flight to Phnom Penh in Cambodia. Upon arrival, check-in at our hotel. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

Thursday, 31st March | Phnom Penh has been the capital since 1866 and although it suffered extensive damage during the Khmer Rouge era, the city still retains its rustic charm. Accompanied by an English-speaking local guide we will tour the city to discover its ancient and recent past. We will visit Cambodia’s Royal Palace, which stands majestically in the city center just off the riverfront area. Several buildings are open to visitors including the Silver Pagoda whose floor is lined with solid silver tiles. We then continue to the Cambodia National Museum that is located in a fabulous old building, the Museum is filled with art and artifacts dating back to the pre-Angkorian era. At the north end of the city is the hilltop pagoda of Wat Phnom, for which the capital was named. Climb the stairs to the top of the hill for fabulous views of the city below. Lunch at a local restaurant. Then in the afternoon we go to visit Tuol Sleng Prison (S-21) and the Killing Fields which is a sobering reminder of the evils of the Khmer Rouge regime. Although not a joyful tour, visiting these monuments unlocks keys to understanding the development of this still developing country. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

Friday, 1st April | Free time until we make our way to the airport for our flight to Siem Reap. Upon arrival, pick up and transfer to our selected hotel. Lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon we go to Angkor Wat, one of the modern wonders of the world. The temples are set among a large forest with shaded roads which are relatively quiet. On arrival at the temple, we stroll through the intricately carved pathways that still show hundreds of fine carvings of Apsara and Hindu mythology and discover small shrines still in use today by local people. Will be amazed by the sheer size of the temple and will learn how the Khmer Empire prospered between the 11th and 13th century. Overnight in Siem Reap.

Saturday, 2nd April | Today we go to Angkor Thom, the ancient royal city of the Khmer Empire with its centre piece; the Bayon temple. Although it may look like a shapeless mass of stone, further scrutiny reveals towers with enigmatic faces of former King Jayavarman VII. The Terrace of the Elephants, served as a platform from where the King could welcome back his victorious army. The Terrace of the Leper King holds perfect carvings winding along a narrow passage that leads to the Baphuon complex. We then continue to Ta Prohm, considered to be one of Angkor’s jewels with it’s overgrown fig trees, giving a haunting yet exotic atmosphere. The roots of the trees have merged over the centuries through the temple’s huge stone blocks, emphasizing a ‘forgotten city’ feeling. Lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, we visit the Banteay Srei temple. It was built in the 10th century and was dedicated to the Hindu god - Shiva. This red sand-stone temple is one of Angkor’s most significant structures as its walls are decorated with elaborate carvings which have been preserved remarkably well and provide an excellent view into the Angkor civilization and their beliefs. Overnight in Siem Reap.

Sunday, 3rd April | The day is free to enjoy Siem Reap with its colonial and Chinese-style architecture in the Old French Quarter, and around the Old Market. In the city, there are museums, traditional Apsara dance performances, Cambodian cultural village, souvenirs and handicraft shops, silk farms and many markets. We suggest you visit the Psar Chaa – Old market which every day is packed with locals as well as tourists. There are many stalls which you can find everything you can imagine - from spices, snacks, souvenirs, linen, clothes, leather goods, home furnishings and more. Not to be missed are stalls that sell Cambodian silk scarts or shawls. (Check-out time is at noon). Later in the afternoon we are transferred to the airport for our departure flight back home, leaving at 8.30 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 2.10 p.m. (Monday, 4th April).

**PRICE PER PERSON**

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**PRICE INCLUDES**

- Emirates flights to Bangkok and back (via Dubai)
- Vietnam Airlines flight from Bangkok to Hanoi and internal flights to Danang & Saigon
- Cambodia Angkor Air internal flights to Phnom Penh & Siem Reap
- Bangkok Airways flight from Siem Reap to Bangkok
- 13 nights accommodation in 4 star hotels
- 13 buffet breakfasts, 10 lunches and 2 dinners
- Meals (except for breakfasts) are taken in typical local restaurants
- All transfers in a private air conditioned vehicle
- All excursions guided by English speaking guide as indicated in itinerary
- Entrance fees to places of interest as shown on itinerary
- Services of Tour Leader
- All taxes

* Please ask for more information regarding the triple rooms in Halong Bay
* Early booking discount valid if deposit is paid by 15th January
Easter in Austrian Tyrol

Lakes & Mountains plus a touch of Italy, Switzerland & Germany

VISITING Oberammergau, Pfunds, Merano, Lago di Resia, Serfaus, Fiss, Ladis, Samnaum, Kaunertal, Swarovski Crystal World, Innsbruck, Livigno, Seefeld, Garmisch Partenkirchen and Mittenwald

Free excursion to Oberammergau
4 star Hotel Tyrol with Wellness & Spa Area

Friday, 25th March | We meet our tour leader at 7.25 a.m. for Air Malta flight departing to Munich at 9.25 a.m and arriving at 11.45 a.m. On arrival, we start our drive towards Oberammergau in Bavaria, Germany. The town is famous for its production of a passion play every since the 17th century, its woodcarvers, the attractive fresco paintings and their characteristic decorations. Time for lunch (extra) and also some free time for personal sightseeing is given. We later proceed towards Pfunds where we check in at our 4 star Hotel Tyrol.

Saturday, 26th March | On our first optional full day excursion we cross over to Italy, passing through the Dolomite region arriving in Merano, which was the old capital of the Tyrolean region. Our trip passes through wonderful mountain scenery till we reach this Italian medieval town, centred on Gothic Via dei Portici. On our way we make a short stop at Lago di Resia on the Reschen Pass.

Sunday, 27th March – Happy Easter! | Morning at leisure where we can join the tour leader for a walk around Plunfts taking us through the serene streets with decorated houses, dwarfed by pine clad mountains rising steeply into an unspoilt countryside. We have time to hear Mass. Late in the morning we take an optional half day excursion to visit the picturesque villages of Serfsaue, Fiss and Ladis. Our first stop will be in Serfaus. Here we have time to go on the mountain by cable car (extra). Later we drive to Ladis, passing through Fiss. We stop in Ladis and walk around Lake Landerer and take a look at Laudegg Castle dominating the lake.

Monday, 28th March | Today’s full day optional excursion first takes us to Samnaun, where shopping is of great value in this duty free zone in Switzerland. Later we proceed to Kaunertal. The breathtaking natural beauty of the high Alps is revealed in all its glory and you will be impressed by the magnificence of the Alpine landscape. Our last stop will be a visit to the old Roman road Via Claudia.

Tuesday, 29th March | For our full day optional excursion today we drive to Wattens and discover Swarovski Crystal World (extra). Our guide will give an introductory welcome before enjoying a dazzling tour of this fantastic place. After this impressive experience we proceed to Innsbruck, capital of Tyrol. We shall have a walking city tour around the narrow streets of the old town before seeing the main sights, including the Golden Roof, Hofburg Palace, St Anne’s Column and Maria Theresien Strasse, a main shopping street full of historic architecture.

Wednesday, 30th March | This morning we leave Tyrol for a full day optional excursion driving to Livigno, the famous ski resort in the Alps, offering its breathtaking nature and crisply fresh air. Livigno is one of the largest and highest ski areas in the region and a duty free resort. There is a wide choice of bars, cafés and restaurants as well as a considerable number of shops. On our return to the hotel, if we have enough time we can stop in the Latteria de Livigno (extra) where we can buy Livigno cheese or simply indulge in an ice-cream (extra), Italian style!

Thursday, 31st March | A totally different full day optional excursion takes us to three localities set amongst the Alps. Our first stop will be in Tyrolean Seefeld, a peaceful village on the plateau surrounded by mountains. We later cross into the Bavarian town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany’s largest alpine ski resort and also a playground for cyclists, hikers and mountain climbers. Our last stop is in the Bavarian village of Mittenwald set at the foot of the German Alps.

Friday, 1st April | We have an early departure to Munich airport for our Air Malta flight departing at 12.40 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 2.50 p.m.

PRICE PER PERSON

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<tr>
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Note: City tax of €1.70 per person per night (from 16 years upwards) is to be paid directly at hotel.

PRICE INCLUDES

Air Malta return flights to Munich
7 nights in 4 star Hotel Tyrol in Plunfts or similar
All rooms with private facilities and TV
Welcome Drink
Daily buffet breakfast
Free usage of indoor swimming pool
Free excursion to Oberammergau
Return airport transfers
Services of tour leader
Airport taxes & service charge

EXCURSIONS

Children under 12 pay half

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<td>Seefeld/Garmisch Partenkirchen/Mittenwald</td>
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Tuesday, 22nd March | We meet our tour leader at 7.25 a.m. for our Air Malta flight to Munich departing at 9.25 a.m. On arrival at 11.45 a.m. our coach takes us to visit the Bavarian capital, Munich and stroll around Marienplatz with its majestic town hall. We have lunch (extra) followed by free time in the vast pedestrian area for personal sightseeing and shopping. We will later proceed to our 3 star Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten in Berchtesgaden and check in.

Wednesday, 23rd March | We start our holiday with a familiarisation walk around Berchtesgaden, a picturesque and historic town with an original charming character. Late morning we go on an optional excursion to Mondsee, a typical quaint Austrian village on the banks of Lake Mondsee. We visit the impressive St Michael’s Church, made famous for the marriage scene in the popular movie ‘The Sound of Music’. After lunch (extra) we proceed to two lake side villages, St Gilgen and St Wolfgang.

Thursday, 24th March | Today our optional full day excursion takes us to the UNESCO region of Dachstein, visiting Hallstatt Lake and of course, the Hallstatt Salt Mines! We take a funicular (extra) to reach the Hallstatt upper valley where the famous prehistoric burial ground can be found. From here we start our journey in the 7,000 year old Salt Mines (extra) with the ‘Man in Salt’ accompanying us through time. We go down a 64 metre wooden slide, known to be Europe’s longest, or else take the staircase nearby.

Friday, 25th March | Another full day optional excursion takes us to Zell am See, famous for its emerald green lake surrounded by the dominating Alps and for the oldest church in the region dedicated to St Hippolyte. We will wander among the charming pedestrian streets and a visit to the lake side park is a must. From the town we ride a gondola lift up to the peak of Schmittenho¨he Mountain (extra) and enjoy the fabulous scenery.

Saturday, 26th March | Today we cross to Germany and visit Rosenheim, the third largest city in Bavaria for a full day optional excursion. We meet the local guide who will take us around and explore the various important sights of this exciting city which delights visitors with its flair Alpine charm and history. Free time for lunch (extra) and time for personal sightseeing and shopping is given. In the afternoon we head to Chiemsee, where we take a boat ride to Chiemsee Palace, known as the ‘Bavarian Versailles’ (boat ride and entrance extra).

Sunday, 27th March - Happy Easter | Today’s full day optional excursion takes us to visit the mighty 11th century Hohenwerfen Castle (extra), a location for the 1969 film ‘Where Eagles Dare’. The guide in historical costume will show us around different chambers, dungeons, royal apartment, belfry, suits of armours and more. We attend the birds of prey flight demonstration and also participate in the Easter Egg Hunt! After this adventure we proceed to Lake Konigsee, Germany’s cleanest and deepest lake. Time to go around the shore area and have lunch (extra) before boarding the boat (extra) and cruise silently across the lake between the towering rocks, arriving on the peninsula of St Bartholomew with the unmistakable red onion domes atop its pilgrimage church.

Monday, 28th March | Our last full day excursion takes us to immortal Salzburg, the heart in the heart of Europe. It is known as the birthplace of Mozart and the location for the setting of the film “The Sound of Music.” Time to go around the unique pedestrian streets, alleys and squares and admire the numerous impressive buildings, churches with their graceful domes and spires, the formidable cliff-top fortress and the mountains beyond. We can take the funicular up to Hohensalzburg Fortress (extra) and enjoy the amazing view from up top.

Tuesday, 29th March | After breakfast, we check out of our rooms and make our way towards Munich Airport for our flight departing at 12.40 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 2.55 p.m.
Holy week in Abruzzo & San Giovanni Rotondo

VISITING Silvi Marina, Lanciano, Fossacesia, the old procession of Good Friday in Chieti, Citta Sant’Angelo, the procession ‘Madonna che Scappa’ in Sulmona, Scanno, the National Park of Majella, Guardiagrele, San Giovanni Rotondo, Penne and Pescara

4 star Hotel in Silvi Marina

Thursday, 24th March | At 5.45 a.m. we meet at the airport for check-in. At 7.50 a.m. we depart on our Air Malta flight to Rome Fiumicino airport. Upon arrival at 9.20 a.m. we depart by private coach to Silvi Marina and check into Abruzzo Marina 4 star Hotel, situated near a sandy beach overlooking the Adriatic Sea. In the afternoon one can join the tour leader for a familiarisation walk.

Friday, 25th March - Good Friday | After breakfast we go on our optional full day excursion to Lanciano, one of the nicest towns in this region. We visit the historical centre full of medieval architecture including Santa Maria del Ponte and Santa Maria Maggiore. Lanciano is well known for the Eucharistic Miracle that took place in the 8th century. Living proof of this miracle can be seen in St. Francis church where the Host-Flesh can be very distinctly observed. Afterwards we proceed to Fossacesia where, set among beautiful scenery, we visit the 12th century abbey of San Giovanni in Venere. In the afternoon we go to Chieti where we visit the historical centre and later assist to the Good Friday procession, one of the oldest in Italy.

Saturday, 26th March | Today our optional full day excursion takes us to the large and modern shopping complex IPER Citta Sant’Angelo where we have free time for shopping. Afterwards we visit the historical and cultural centre of Citta’ Sant’Angelo. Here we visit the Collegiate church of St. Michael Arcangel boasting an old tower 48m high. The day proceeds with a visit to wine cellar where we have a wine tasting session complemented by bread and olive oil produced locally.

Sunday, 27th March - Happy Easter! | Today in our full day optional excursion, accompanied by an English speaking guide, we visit Sulmona where we assist to the famous procession ‘La Madonna che Scappa’, a traditional procession where the statue of the Madonna is carried across the square while the bearers run to encounter the statue of the resurrected Christ. We then have a traditional Easter lunch which is included in the price of the excursion. In the afternoon we leave for Scanno, which is close to the National Park of Abruzzo, and is well known for its artistic artisan works, namely bronze and filigree gold that are made by women who still wear the traditional costume. We visit a place where gold is processed.

Monday, 28th March | Another full day optional excursion takes us to Majella National Park accompanied by an English-speaking guide. This is a full day dedicated to nature and the mountains where we have a very pleasant and stress free walk – certainly a day for nature lovers. Before returning to hotel we stop at the pretty village of Guardiagrele.

Tuesday, 29th March | Today we offer you a full day optional excursion to San Giovanni Rotondo, the town of Padre Pio. The local guide will show us round the Sanctuary and the new church designed by Renzo Piano. We will also walk along the Via Sagra.

Wednesday, 30th March | Our last optional full day excursion take us to Penne accompanied by a local guide. We first have a short stop near the lake of Penne, a nature reserve boasting 1300 hectares of natural land where it is possible to observe many different bird species. We then proceed to the historical centre of Penne, particularly the Duomo of San Massimo and the church/ convent of Santa Maria in Colleromano. In the afternoon we visit Pescara where we have free time to visit this beautiful Italian town.

Thursday, 31st March | Early breakfast and we are then transferred to Fiumicino airport from where at 10.00 a.m. we depart on our Air Malta flight and arrive in Malta at 11.25 a.m.

PRICE PER PERSON

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* Special price applies when half board & all excursions are taken

PRICE INCLUDES

Air Malta return flights to Rome
7 nights in 4 star Hotel Abruzzo Marina in Silvi Marina or similar
Rooms with private facilities, hairdryer, tv, safe and free wi-fi
Daily buffet breakfast
Return airport transfers
Services of a tour leader
Airport taxes & service charge

EXCURSIONS

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12 | BRITANNIA TOURS EASTER/Spring 2016 (PLEASE ASK FOR BOOKING CONDITIONS)
**Scenic Italy & Switzerland**

**25 March - 1 April**

(25 & 31 March - Public Holidays)

**EASTER/SPRING 2016**

**VISITING** Milan, Arona, Lago Maggiore, Lugano, Locarno, Stresa, Borromean Islands, Macugnaga, Orta, Zermatt-Matterhorn, Como & Bellagio

**Free excursion to Milan**

4 star Hotel Atlantic in Arona on Lago Maggiore

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**Friday, 25th March** | We meet the tour leader at 7.00 a.m. at the airport departing to Milan Linate at 9.00 a.m. Upon arrival at 11.00 a.m. we proceed for our free excursion to Milan, the capital of Lombardy. We proceed to visit the Duomo, The Galleria Vittorio Emanuele and see the Teatro della Scala from the exterior. We later proceed to our 4 star Hotel in Arona on Lago Maggiore.

**Saturday, 26th March** | This morning we drive to Switzerland on our full day optional excursion heading to Lugano, where we will visit the Church of Sta Maria Degli Angeli and continue our visit to the centre of Lugano. Then we proceed to a Lake Cruise (extra) on Lago di Lugano. In the afternoon we leave to Locarno at the very north-eastern part of Lago Maggiore where we enjoy the wonderful scenery.

**Sunday, 27th March** | Lago Maggiore is on the programme for our optional full day relaxing excursion to explore the islands on the lake. Our coach takes us to Stresa where after some free time for souvenir hunting we set off by boat (included) with the tour leader to Isola Bella for a visit of the sumptuous Borromeo Palace and its Italian-style gardens. We then visit Isola dei Pescatori, a tiny, quiet island with old churches and a good selection of fine restaurants. Finally, we cruise around Isola Madre, the largest island on the lake.

**Monday, 28th March** | We board the coach and drive to Zermatt, in Switzerland. We stop first at Taesch where we take the train (extra) to Zermatt (it is not possible to visit Zermatt by coach because it is a car free zone). The climax in Zermatt is the climb on the Klein Matterhorn where you will visit the Glacier paradise by a 3 tier system of cable cars (extra), with scenery worth the price of the cost of climbing and which will not be easily forgotten!

**Tuesday, 29th March** | Today is market day in Arona. This morning we suggest you indulge yourself to some shopping by visiting the stalls along the main road edging the lake. Early afternoon, we go on an optional excursion for the quaint village of Orta, situated on Lago d’Orta. On our way we stop to admire the statue of St Charles Borromeo, born in Arona. Upon arrival in Orta, we take a chu-chu train (extra) which takes us up the Sacromonte to admire the view of Lago D’Orta and Isola di San Giulio, an island with a beautifully frescoed basilica. Later the train takes us down to Piazzale Prarondo where we have time to have a snack and roam around the narrow cobbled streets, or perhaps you might like to take an optional short boat trip to the island of San Giulio (extra). We are later picked up by the chu-chu train to be transferred to the coach and drive towards Arona.

**Wednesday, 30th March** | We start with a full day optional excursion which will take us for quite a long but an extremely rewarding scenic drive to Zermatt, in Switzerland. We stop first at Taesch where we take the train (extra) to Zermatt (it is not possible to visit Zermatt by coach because it is a car free zone). The climax in Zermatt is the climb on the Klein Matterhorn where you will visit the Glacier paradise by a 3 tier system of cable cars (extra), with scenery worth the price of the cost of climbing and which will not be easily forgotten!

**Thursday, 31st March** | Today’s optional full day excursion takes us to Como. We stop and admire the Duomo and also enjoy a short boat ride (extra) on the world famous Lago. In the afternoon we proceed towards the village of Tremezzo located on the western shore of Lake Como from where we get a boat (extra) to Bellagio - one of the most attractive lake resorts. Bellagio is a small village at the tip of a long hilly promontory between the two southern branches of Lake Como. We will have lunch (extra) and spend a relaxing afternoon in this tiny town with lovely views and classy boutiques.

**Friday, 1st April** | This morning is free to enjoy the lovely surrounding of the hotel for the last time. At around noon we leave to the airport for our Air Malta flight from Milan Linate departing at 3.40 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 5.35 p.m.
Easter in Toscana & Le Cinque Terre

VISITING Montecatini Alto, Montecatini, Pisa, Lucca, Siena, Greve in Chianti, Florence, Volterra, San Gimignano, Cinque Terre, Pienza, Montepulciano and Cortona

Free excursion to Montecatini Alto and Cortona
Central 4 star Grand Plaza Hotel in Montecatini

Friday, 25th March | We meet our tour leader at the airport at 9.30 a.m. for our Air Malta flight to Rome departing at 7.30 a.m. and arriving in Rome at 09.20 a.m. We board our coach and drive to Montecatini Alto which is a characteristic medieval village, lying a few hundred metres above the ‘new’ town. The views are splendid and the delightful Piazza Gausti is home to some good bars and restaurants. We later proceed to our hotel in Montecatini, popular for its wonderful scenery, thermal baths and the Chianti wine.

Saturday, 26th March | Today’s optional full day excursion is to Pisa and Lucca. Our first stop is in Pisa where we see the “Campo dei Miracoli”, the world famous leaning Tower, the Cathedral and the Baptistry. We then proceed to Lucca. The town centre is a gem with its beautiful medieval buildings and artisan shops. It is set inside a ring of Renaissance walls fronted by gardens and huge bastions.

Sunday, 27th March | Today, Easter Sunday we go to Florence on an optional full day excursion. Here Easter is celebrated with the Scoppio del Carro, explosion of the cart which is dragged through Florence by white oxen. Following mass, the Archbishop sends a dove-shaped rocket into the cart, igniting the fireworks held in the cart. This spectacular display is followed by a parade in medieval costumes. We spend the rest of the day seeing amongst others the Duomo, Piazza Signoria and Ponte Vecchio.

Monday, 28th March | Our optional full day excursion will first take us to Siena, most famous for the Palio, the annual horse-race held in Piazza del Campo. We will see the Basilica of San Domenico, the Cathedral and many other sites. Later we visit Greve in Chianti, where an antiques and collectors fair is held every year on Easter Monday in Piazza Matteotti. On display are old and reproduction rustic furniture, old tools, farmhouse and vineyard artifacts, ceramics, glassware and cutlery, a very good range of embroidered linen, very interesting iron work, paintings, postcards, books, silver gilt and many more. Along the street off the square, locally gastronomic products and of course Chianti wine will be available.

Tuesday, 29th March | We board the coach and go for a full day optional excursion to another part of Tuscany visiting Volterra and San Gimignano. We have a short stop in Volterra. This city conserves a medieval aspect, not only for the 12th century city walls, but also because of the urban layout with narrow streets, palaces, tower houses and churches. We drive to San Gimignano, probably the most famous small town in Italy, which dominates the Val d’Elsa with its breathtaking skyline bristling with towers.

Wednesday, 30th March | We depart for La Spezia for a full day optional excursion. We take a ferry included (weather permitting) to Cinque Terre, one of the most beautiful areas of the Liguria region. Here, five small villages are nestled in the cliffs overlooking the sea and hills where the land’s finest wines are grown. We make a short stop in the picturesque village of Monterosso.

Thursday, 31st March | This morning we go on another full day optional excursion which takes us to Pienza and Montepulciano, the two jewels of the Renaissance. Montepulciano is known for its very impressive Renaissance buildings, its beautiful churches and especially for its “Vino Nobile” (noble wine), one of the most distinguished of Italian wines in the world. There is plenty of sightseeing and the cathedral is well worth a visit. Pienza is a UNESCO protected town having a world famous cultural and natural patrimony.

Friday, 1st April | After we check out of the hotel we proceed to Rome Airport but on our way we stop in the historic hilltop town of Cortona, and stroll through the charming medieval streets with its beautiful architecture. We later proceed to the airport for our return flight departing at 11.00 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 00.25 a.m. (Saturday 2nd April).

PRICE PER PERSON

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*Special Price applies when half board & all excursions are taken
Note: City Tax of £1.40 per person per night (from 11 years upwards) is to be paid directly at Hotel.

PRICE INCLUDES

Air Malta flights to Rome
7 nights in 4 star Grand Plaza Hotel in Montecatini
Rooms with private facilities, hair-dryer, and TV
Welcome drink
Daily buffet breakfast
Return airport transfers
Free excursions to Montecatini Alto and Cortona
Services of tour leader
Airport Taxes & Service charge

EXCURSIONS

Children under 12 pay half
Pisa and Lucca €39
Florence €39
Siena & Greve €39
Volterra and San Gimignano €39
Cinque Terre (Boat included) €49
Pienza & Montepulciano €40
Thursday, 31st March | We meet our tour leader at 5.15 a.m. for our flight departing to Vienna at 7.15 a.m. On arrival at 9.30 a.m., our coach will take us to our 4 star hotel in Vienna. Since check-in is normally in the afternoon, we will leave our luggage in the luggage room and go for an optional half day city tour of the capital city of Austria and Queen of the Danube: Vienna. We will see the Opera House, the Fine Arts Museum, the Parliament and the Belvedere Palace – the residence of Prince Eugene of Savoy (extra). We then make our way back to our hotel and check in.

Friday, 3rd April | Today we will go for another exciting excursion. Our coach will take us to Schonbrunn Palace where we will be able to visit the Palace (extra), its gardens and also the zoo (extra), known to be the World’s oldest existing zoo. Later in the afternoon, our coach will take us back to our hotel. For those who would prefer making their own way to the city centre to enjoy further free time, kindly advise your leader.

Saturday, 4th April | This morning our full day optional excursion takes us to Bratislava, the capital city of Slovakia. Our coach will pass by the most important places, historical and cultural sites outside of the Old Town. We then stop at Bratislava Castle (extra), Napoleon’s Hill and Slavin with their fantastic panoramic views. We then continue our way along the Danube to the magnificent ruins of the Devin Castle (extra), situated above the confluence of the Danube and Morava Rivers, boasting a superb view over the countryside and neighbouring Austria.

Sunday, 5th April | Since today is our last day, we’ve got a day at leisure to enjoy Vienna in whatever way you seem most fit for you. You can visit Mariahilferstrasse, one of the main shopping streets in Vienna, or why not visit the large and famous amusement park, Prater? With so many attractions to visit, this place is ideal to finish of this lovely holiday! We later return to our hotel. (check out is at noon). We then board our coach and make our way towards Vienna airport for our flight departing at 5.00 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 7.10 p.m.

Thursday, 31st March | We meet our tour leader at 10.55 a.m. for our Air Malta flight to Milan Linate departing at 12.55 p.m and arriving at 2.50 p.m. We proceed to our hotel in Courmayeur, Valle d’Aosta. The narrow streets of this old village are alive throughout the year. It is snuggled right up to the mountains. We head first to Chamonix, a world famous skiing resort by Mont Blanc. We take the famous Mer de Glasse.

Friday, 1st April | Today we head to Switzerland on a full day optional excursion starting with a guided tour of Chillon Castle (extra) built in 1536 and situated on the edge of Lake Geneve. We later proceed to Montreaux, the world famous spa. The town is exceptional with palm trees and camellias lining the lake’s promenade. Our next stop is in Gruyeres, where we visit the lovely hill town with its magnificent medieval appearance.

Saturday, 2nd April | An optional full day excursion with a difference awaits us driving up to the mountains. We head first to Chamonix, a world famous skiing resort by Mont Blanc. We take the tram (extra) to go up the mountain where we see the famous Mer de Glasse.

Sunday, 3rd April | We check out of our rooms and make our way towards Milan for a free panoramic city tour of the Capital of the Lombardy region. Our coach will drop us off near Castello Sforzesco and we will then make our way on foot to visit the Duomo, the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele and see the Teatro Della Scala from the exterior. We will then enjoy some free time before we make our way to Milan Linate for our Air Malta flight departing at 9.25 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 11.15 p.m.
Short Break in Classical Umbria

VISITING Parco dei Mostri in Bomarzo, Passignano, Perugia, Lake Trasimeno, Orvieto, Civita di Bagnoregio and Spoleto

**Special Price**

- Adult in Triple: €379 €329
- Adult in Twin: €409 €359
- Adult in Single: €459 €409
- Child sharing: €349 €299
- Half Board: €39

*Special price applies when half board & all excursions are taken*

Note: City tax of €1 per person per night is to be paid directly at hotel

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- 3 nights in 3 Star Hotel in Passignano
- Daily buffet breakfast
- Rooms with private facilities, A/C and TV
- Services of Tour Leader
- Free excursion to Parco dei Mostri in Bomarzo
- Airport taxes & service charge

**EXCURSIONS**

- Child under 12 pays half
- Perugia/Lake Trasimeno: €38
- Orvieto/Civita di Bagnoregio: €39
- Half day Spoleto: €29

**PRICE PER PERSON**

- Adult in Triple: €379 €329
- Adult in Twin: €409 €359
- Adult in Single: €459 €409
- Child sharing: €349 €299
- Half Board: €39

*Price includes return flights to Rome Fiumicino, 3 nights in 3 Star Hotel in Passignano, Daily buffet breakfast, Rooms with private facilities, A/C and TV, Services of Tour Leader, Free excursion to Parco dei Mostri in Bomarzo, Airport taxes & service charge.*

**Thursday, 31st March**

We meet our leader at 5.35 a.m. for our flight to Rome Fiumicino departing at 7.35 a.m. On arrival at 9.00 a.m. our coach will take us towards a very interesting Park (entrance extra). The so-called Monster Park or Sacro Bosco in Bomarzo, in the province of Viterbo, is a monumental complex situated on the slopes of a real natural amphitheatre and is considered to be one of a kind in the world. We have time to walk around the park, take photos and astonish ourselves with such grandeur. We will later continue our drive to Passignano where we check in our 3 star Hotel, situated on Lake Trasimeno.

**Friday, 1st April**

Today our optional full day excursion will first take us to Perugia, the cosmopolitan and international capital of the region. Perugia was founded by the Etruscans around the seventh century BC. The centre is one of the largest in Italy and the main monuments of the city date back to the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. We will have enough time to see the main highlights of this city before we enjoy personal free time for sightseeing, shopping and lunch. We will later make our way towards Lake Trasimeno where we will visit the Nature Centre “Oasi la Valle” (entrance extra). The Trasimeno is visited by hundreds of migratory birds of different species: many stop to nest, the others just to stock up on food. Our guide will take us on a journey along the lake and we can watch the wildlife and the protected nature of this place with binoculars!

**Saturday, 2nd April**

Today our optional full day excursion will take us to Orvieto. The site of the city is among the most dramatic in Europe, rising above the almost-vertical faces of tuff cliffs that are completed by defensive walls built of the same stone called Tufa. We will first visit the Underground Tunneling system (extra), a long kept secret with labyrinths and caves and tunnels all lying beneath the surface. Their spectacular nature has also yielded many historical and archeological finds. We will then proceed to the Pozzo di San Patrizio (extra), an enchanting well built by orders of Pope Clement VII. We will also visit the Albornoz Fortress (extra), the Duomo and other sites this city has to offer. We will also have enough time for lunch (extra). We will later make our way towards Civita di Bagnoregio, listed as one of the most beautiful villages in Italy. We will walk through hundreds of years of history and enjoy some free time for personal sightseeing before we make our way back to our hotel.

**Sunday, 3rd April**

Our half day and last optional excursion today will take us towards Spoleto, known to be an important Roman colony. We will see the Duomo, considered to be the most attractive landmark of the town. Here one can find various paintings, including a fifteenth century A.D. painting belonging to Filippo Lippi. At the top of the hill we find Ponte delle Torri, a medieval masterpiece, standing 220 meters high. After enough time for personal sightseeing, we return to our hotel. Check out of rooms by noon. Later in the afternoon, we will make our way towards Rome Fiumicino for our flight departing at 10.15 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 11.40 p.m.

**Cruises 2016**

Please ask us for more details!

- **Danube River Cruise**
  - **21-28 July**
  - **VISITING** Passau, Vienna, Budapest, Bratislava, Durnstein, Passau

- **Fjords Cruise**
  - **7-14 August**
  - **VISITING** Amsterdam, Bergen, Hellesylt, Geiranger, Alesund, Eidfjord

- **Alaska & Canadian Rockies**
  - **15-30 July**
  - **VISITING** Vancouver, Icy Strait Point, Hubbard Glacier, Juneau, Ketchikan

- **Rhone River Cruise**
  - **19-26 August**
  - **VISITING** Tournus, Chalon Sur Saone, Macon, Trevoux, Viviers, Arles, Avignon, Lyon

- **Mediterranean Cruise**
  - **13-20 August**
  - **VISITING** Venice, Kotor, Corfu, Athens, Mykonos, Argostoli

**Alaska & Canadian Rockies**

**Rhone River Cruise**

**Mediterranean Cruise**

**Please ask us for more details!**
Easter/Spring 2016
April 22 - 29

€579

Imperial Journey into the world of wine
Slovakia & Austria plus a touch of Hungary

VISITING Budapest, Bela, Visegrad, Esztergom, Szentendre, Bratislava, Vienna, Grinzing, Burgenland and Lake Neusiedl

Free panoramic city tours of Budapest and Bratislava
4 star Hotel in Vienna and 5 star Chateaux Hotel in Bela

Friday, 22nd April | We meet our tour leader at the airport at 7.55 a.m. for our Air Malta flight to Budapest departing at 9.55 a.m. On arrival at 12.00 p.m., our coach will take us for a free panoramic city tour of the capital city of Hungary, Budapest. We will see the Castle District (Fishermen’s Bastion), the Gellért Hill (Citadel) and the impressive neo-gothic House of Parliament before we continue our drive and head towards our hotel in Bela, where you will be welcomed with a glass of sparkling wine!

Saturday, 23rd April | Our first optional full day excursion will take us on a trip down memory lane and straight into Hungary’s history – The Danube Bend. This unforgettable tour takes us along the “Blue Danube” with stops in Visegrád, Esztergom and Szentendre. In Visegrád we walk on the 750 year-old stones of the formal Royal Residence. We later stop in Szentendre, the artist’s village. It is a small baroque city at the gate of the Danube Bend. Our last stop today will be in Esztergom: the Northern gate of Budapest – the centre of the Catholic Church.

PRICE PER PERSON

**Special Price**

Adult in Triple €679 €579
Adult in Twin €719 €619
Adult in Single €879 €779
Child sharing €499 €399
**Half Board** €129

* Special price applies when all excursions are taken
**Half board consisting of 4 dinners with water (still-sparkling) in Bela and 2 dinners in Vienna (3-course menu)
Note: City tax of €1.10 per person per night is to be paid directly at hotel

PRICE INCLUDES

Air Malta flights to Budapest and returning from Vienna
4 nights accommodation at the 5* Chateaux Bela Hotel in Bela, Slovakia
3 nights accommodation at the 4* Arcotel Wimberger in Vienna, Austria
Welcome Sparkling wine upon arrival in Chateaux Bela
Rooms with private facilities
Daily buffet breakfasts
Return airport transfers
Free panoramic city tours of Budapest and Bratislava
Services of tour leader
Airport taxes and service charge

EXCURSIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADULT</th>
<th>CHILD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Danube Bend €42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vintage Festival (including vineyards) €59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vienna City tour and Schlumberger tour (incl. entrance) €49</td>
<td>€39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grinzing (incl. 3 course dinner with 1/4l wine and music) €29</td>
<td>€18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burgenland (incl Cruise on lake, Horse carriage ride and winetasting) €59</td>
<td>€49</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

You visit the largest cathedral of Hungary.

Sunday, 24th April | Today our full day optional excursion will enable us to spend the whole day together with our viticulturist in his vineyards, where we will hear everything about the way how wine is made! We will experience the ultimate wine country atmosphere while enjoying local Slovakian cuisine in the beautiful surrounding of Bela’s vineyards. In the afternoon, we will have the pleasure to taste the excellent wines of Chateau Bela during a visit at the wine cellar.

Monday, 25th April | Today we will enjoy a full day to ourselves where we can discover Bela on foot whilst enjoying the beautiful surroundings, we can relax at the Fitness Center, the sauna & steam bath or if the weather is fine – the outdoor pool. Also we’ll have the possibility to play tennis, football, volleyball, handball and much more.

Tuesday, 26th April | After checking out of our rooms, we will make our way towards the beautiful capital of Slovakia – Bratislava. Our guide will show us the Danube city with a walking tour through the centre. After some further free time, we board our coach and make our way towards Vienna where we will check in to our hotel.

Wednesday, 27th April | We start off our full day optional excursion showing us the highlights of Vienna, city of romance and music. We travel through the famous Ringstrasse, home to the Opera House, the Burg Theatre and the Houses of Parliament. We will also see many other sites including Belvedere Palace and of course, the best-known landmark of all, Vienna’s Cathedral, the Stephansdom. In the afternoon, something special is waiting for you: The Schlumberger-cellars in Vienna! Take a stroll through the 300-year-old world of the Schlumberger-cellars and experience tradition and innovation, together with a glass of sparkling wine. In the evening, we will go to the wine-growing village of Grinzing, where dinner and an evening of wine and songs awaits us (evening is optional).

Thursday, 28th April | Today, our full day optional excursion will take us to visit Burgenland, the most sunny province in Austria, where you can almost believe that you are in Hungary! See the romantic Steppes countryside by Lake Neusiedl and experience the fabulous culinary delights of this region, created from a blend of Austrian and Hungarian cuisines. We will visit a cellar in the wine-growing village of Rust, and enjoy a traditional lunch, accompanied by Hungarian Gypsy music. A short boat cruise on Lake Neusiedl will enable us to view the landscape from a different perspective.

Friday, 29th April | Today, we have a whole day at leisure to enjoy our last day in Vienna. Check out of rooms is at noon. We later depart the hotel and make our way towards the airport for our flight departing Vienna at 7.55 p.m. and arriving in Malta at 10.05 p.m.

BRITANNIA TOURS EASTER/SUMMER 2016 (PLEASE ASK FOR BOOKING CONDITIONS) | 17

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Explore
Mexico &
Guatemala

VISITING Cancun, Chichen Itza, Valladolid, Merida, Celestun Flamingo Park, Campeche, Palenque, Mishol Ha & Agua Azul waterfalls, San Cristobal de las Casas, Sumidero Canyon, Chiapa de Corzo, Zinacatan, San Juan Chamula, Guatemala, Panajachel, Lake Atitlan, Antigua, Flores, Tikal and Xoximilco

€3899
FROM

5 June -
23 June
(7 June -
Public Holiday)

4 star hotels,
all excursions
& entrances
included as per
programme

International flights with British Airways

Sunday, 5th June | We meet at the airport for our British Airways flight to Cancun via London. The flight leaves at 8.40 a.m. and arrives in London at 10.55 a.m. We then proceed to our airport hotel for our overnight stay.

Monday, 6th June | Check-out and make our way to the airport for our flight to Cancun. The flight leaves Gatwick airport at 11.25 a.m. and arrives in Cancun at 3.45 p.m. Upon arrival, our English speaking guide will be waiting for us and then we are transferred to our hotel for check-in. Later we join the tour leader for a familiarization walk. Overnight in Cancun.

Tuesday, 7th June | We start our holiday with an excursion that takes us to the UNESCO World Heritage Site - Chichén Itzá, the most important archaeological zone in Yucatan. We explore the ancient capital of the Mayan Empire, where we see the pyramid or Kukulcan temple, the Ballgame Court, the Skull temple, Jaguar's temple, the Observatory, the One Thousand Columns Square and the Sacred Well. It was built by the Mayas around 600 A.D. and in 2007 it became one of the 7 wonders of the world. We then proceed to one of the most famous cenotes (a natural sinkhole) - Ik-Kil. At Ik-Kil cenote, one can swim, browse Mayan handicrafts or admire the beautiful botanical grounds. Afterwards our tour guide will take us to Valladolid, known for its quiet streets and sun-splashed pastel walls. Overnight in Merida.

Wednesday, 8th June | Our day starts with a guided city tour of Merida. We get to know Merida’s delightful and bustling city centre, which boasts plenty of colonial churches and mansions to admire. Known as ‘the white city,’ for its clean, white buildings that seem to sparkle in the sunshine, Merida was established when the henequen industry was at its peak. We admire the wrought iron railings, carved wooden doors and charming courtyards as we stroll along Montejo Avenue, the Cathedral and the Government Palace. Evening at leisure. Overnight in Merida.

Thursday, 9th June | We make our way to Campeche and on the way we stop in Celestun, a beautiful estuary of pink flamingos. The estuary is a natural breeding ground for flamingos and other birds. Watch numerous birds flock on shore as they eat the shrimp-like crustaceans that give the flamingos their unique pink color. The declared Biosphere Reserve is one of the only places in the world to view such numbers of these fascinating birds in the wild! Overnight in Campeche.

Friday, 10th June | Be prepared for a great day as we explore the rich culture of the beautiful colonial Campeche, the historic downtown area and museums. Located on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, the city features fortresses build by the Spanish conquistadores during the 15th century. We visit the San Jose el Alto stronghold, San Francisco and San Roman church, the Nuestra Senora de la Soledad bastion and the cathedral. We also visit the Armoury Museum and Puerta de Tierra. Overnight in Campeche.

Saturday, 11th June | Early departure from Campeche to go to Palenque. We visit Palenque’s Archeological site, which is one of the most remarkable cities of the Mayan world. The city was founded around 100 B.C. and its development lasted nearly a thousand years, after which it was abandoned. The buildings that can be seen today are the Palace and the Temple of the Inscriptions. This Temple safeguards King Pakal’s tomb, the most famous ruler of Palenque. We then proceed to our hotel for check-in. Overnight in Palenque.

Sunday, 12th June | Today we relax at two world-class waterfalls, Misol-Ha and Agua Azul, both known for their bright blue waters and stunning jungle setting. Misol-Ha, a beautiful waterfall of about 35 metres, where we can freshen up in its natural pool surrounded by rain forest of the Chiapas highlands. We then go to visit Agua Azul waterfall, which will amaze us with its incredible turquoise color due to the dissolved salts in it, and its lush vegetation and petrified trees. We continue on to San Cristobal to our hotel for check-in and overnight.

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Monday, 13th June | After breakfast we leave our hotel to go and enjoy the delights of the Sumidero Canyon. Where our boat trip takes us on a spectacular journey with some of the canyon walls towering 1000 mts above us. The wildlife on display is spectacular, and our boat takes us past one or two caves and cascades in the area. Our trip along the canyon will be followed by a tour of the magical town of Chiapa de Corzo. A town that was the first settlement founded by the Spaniards with its Mudéjar fountain known as “La Pila”, built in the XVI century; it is sample of the colonial architecture with an Arabic influence. Overnight in San Cristobal.

Tuesday, 14th June | This morning our guide takes us for a city tour through San Cristobal’s cobbled streets, churches and markets; soaking up the unique ambience and the wonderfully clear highland light. Then we go to discover two picturesque towns inhabited mostly by descendants of Maya-Tzotzil culture. In these villages reigns a peaceful atmosphere with simple and friendly natives who keep many of their traditions, ways of life and original beliefs. In San Juan Chamula we see the church of San Juan Bautista, a beautiful and humble building inside which clearly seen religious syncretism of this population. In the community of Zinacantan we see local women artisans, which produce beautiful fabrics using ancient techniques. Here you can buy blankets, tablecloths, pillowcases, costumes and other textiles made from cotton fibers of high strength. Overnight in San Cristobal.

Wednesday, 15th June | Early breakfast and we depart to Guatemala, where we cross the border (departure/entrance tax between Mexico & Guatemala of USD28 pp has to be paid). Once we are in Guatemala we proceed to Panajachel, located on the shores of Lake Atitlán. Overnight in Panajachel.

Thursday, 16th June | Today’s excursion takes us by boat to Santiago Atitlán. We cross Lake Atitlán, which is considered one of the wonders of the world and enjoy the magnificent view of the volcanoes and Mayan villages all around. Upon arrival at Santiago Atitlán - the most ancient village, we learn about the local Saint Maximon. On our return we are picked up and go to towards the highlands, to one of the most colorful and famous native flea markets. Surrounded by valleys, with mountains serrating the horizons, Chichicastenango can seem isolated in time. We go round this small stucco-white town and visit St Thomas temple where it is common to find “Shaman” (religious leaders) to practice traditional rituals. We have some free time for shopping in the market. Outstanding among the items offered are textiles, particularly the women’s blouses. The manufacture of masks, used by dancers in traditional dances has also made this city famous for woodcarving. Overnight in Panajachel.

Friday, 17th June | We are transferred to Antigua - one of the oldest cities in the Americas, a place of rare beauty, major historical significance and vibrant culture. A former capital, the city boasts an impressive catalogue of colonial relics in a magnificent setting. Streetscapes of pastel facades unfold beneath three volcanoes (Aigua, Fuego and Acatenango). Many old ecclesiastical and civic structures are beautifully renovated, while others retain tumbledown charm, with fragments strewn about park-like grounds. We go round the cobblestoned streets and see the America’s Colonial Monument, Plaza de Armas, The Palace of the Captains, the Cathedral and churches amongst others. We arrive at our hotel late in the afternoon. Overnight in Antigua.

Saturday, 18th June | The morning is free to relax and enjoy this beautiful city. In the afternoon we are transferred to the airport for our flight to Flores. Upon arrival we are taken to our hotel in El Remate for check-in. Overnight in El Remate.

Sunday, 19th June | An early start to the day and we go to El Peten, to visit the crown jewel of Mayan ruins in Guatemala - Tikal. Its name means “Place of Voices” and though it has many of the same beautiful temples as its well-known counterparts in Mexico, Tikal stands apart because of its location deep in the jungle. We walk under a thick canopy of trees to explore the plazas, pyramids, and temples of Tikal. Settled around 700 BC, Tikal flourished during the Classic Period, between 200 and 900 AD. As the capital of a conquest state, it served as a center for trade and economy, growing to a population of almost 100,000 before its decline. We see Complex Q & R, the Central Acropolis, Temple I “The Great Jaguar” and Temple II “Of the Masks”. Overnight in El Remate.

Monday, 20th June | Transferred to the center of Flores to board a boat to go to Santa Elena and see the caves of Act-n Kan. These caves form a large network of underground passageways. We admire the large stalactites and stalagmites in the cave. Here the natural formations are so distinctive that some have nicknames like “The God of Rain and “The Elephant Foot.” We continue crossing Lake Petén Itzá to go to Petencito Island, home to a zoo. Paths will take us past enclosures of native species, including ocelots, jaguars, and spider monkeys. Tropical birds and wild pigs roam free. From here, the boat tour continues to the archeological site of El Mirador, on the peninsula of Tayasal. Tayasal was an important site during the post-classic era of the Maya. This city held out against the invading Spaniards the longest of any Mayan city. The El Mirador pyramid still stands, encased in encroaching plants. Overnight in El Remate.

Tuesday, 21st June | We are transferred to the airport for our morning flight to Cancun via Belize. (departure/entrance tax of Flores USD33 pp, Belize USD26 pp & Cancun USD26 pp has to be paid). Upon arrival we are transferred to our hotel for check-in. We have time to rest before we are picked up at 6pm and taken to Xoximilco for our excursion where we board a trajinera for a nighttime cruise that takes us to sail along the beautiful canals. On board we enjoy a tasty Mexican dinner with an open bar (tequila, beer, fruit flavored beverages and sodas). Overnight in Cancun.

Wednesday, 22nd June | Morning at leisure for shopping or to enjoy the facilities of this beach hotel. We are picked up from hotel at 1:30pm for our transfer to Cancun airport to board our flight back home. Our flight leaves at 5:35 p.m. (via London) and arrives in Malta at 4:00 p.m. (Thursday, 23rd June).

**PRICE PER PERSON**

- Adult in Triple: €3899
- Adult in Twin: €4099
- Adult in Single: €4549
- Child Sharing: €3569

Please ask at the desk for visa requirements.

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- British Airways flights to/from Cancun (via London)
- Internal flights from Guatemala to Flores and from Flores to Cancun
- 1 night accommodation in 3 star Catwick Airport Hotel
- 16 nights accommodation in 4 star hotels
- 1 English buffet breakfast
- 16 American breakfasts and 1 Mexican dinner
- All transfers in a private air conditioned vehicle
- All excursions guided by English speaking guide as indicated in itinerary
- Entrance fees to places of interest as shown on itinerary
- Services of Tour Leader
- Airport taxes, service charge and hotel taxes

BRITANNIA TOURS EASTER/SPRING 2016 (PLEASE ASK FOR BOOKING CONDITIONS) | 19

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Lake Bled in Slovenia
plus a touch of Italy & Austria

VISITING Bled, Bohinj, Mount Vogel, Kranjska Gora, Ljubljana, Venzone, Monte Lussari, Villach, Klagenfurt, Novo Mesto, Krka River, Postojna Caves and Predjama Castle

Direct flights to Ljubljana
Hotel rooms refurbished in January 2014

FRIDAY | We will meet our leader at 4.05 a.m. for our direct Air Malta flight to Ljubljana departing at 6.05 a.m. On arrival at 8.00 a.m., we proceed to our 3 star central Hotel Krim in Bled. Since check in is normally done in the afternoon, we will leave our luggage at the hotel and go for our full day optional excursion to explore the town of Bled, known as the pearl of the Slovenian Alpine region. We visit Bled Castle (extra) and then proceed to Bohinj, the largest glacier lake in Slovenia, situated in the region of the Julian Alps. We will take a cable car (extra) up to Mount Vogel and admire the stupendous view till we reach the summit. We later return to our hotel and check into our rooms.

SATURDAY | This morning we go on an optional full day excursion to visit Ljubljana, the capital city of Slovenia. This friendly city has a baroque section of the old town, with narrow cobbled streets nestled between the castle slopes and the river Ljubljanica. Particular highlights of the old town include the Cathedral of St Nikolai, the city hall, the three bridges and the open market. After the guided tour, we will take a boat ride (included – weather permitting) on the River Ljubljanica to admire the city from the river banks.

SUNDAY | An enjoyable full day optional excursion is planned to visit Kranjska Gora. Set near the borders with Austria and Italy, this winter and summer tourist resort touches Triglav National Park. The picturesque village still retains its identity and it is fun to make use of the cable cars which are welcome to a tasting of home-made bread, salami sausage and local wine. The raft experience takes us to the main sights around this beautiful river while being entertained with live music on board (weather permitting).

THURSDAY | Today our full day optional excursion takes us to Postojna and Predjama. Postojna caves (entrance extra) are amongst the largest in the world. There are 22 kilometres of amazing stalagmite and stalagmite structures. An electric train will take us into the caves and then a guide will walk us through the most dramatic parts of the caves. We will also visit Predjama Castle (entrance extra), a unique structure in Gothic style built right in the mountains under a natural rocky arch.

FRIDAY | Early check out of rooms followed by departure to Ljubljana Airport for our Air Malta flight departing at 8.50 a.m. and arriving in Malta at 10.45 a.m.

PRICE PER PERSON

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<tr>
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<th>Price per Person</th>
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<td>Half Board (5 Buffet plus 1 Slovenian Buffet Dinner and 1 Candlelight 4-Course Dinner)</td>
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PRICE INCLUDES

Return Air Malta direct flights to Ljubljana
7 nights in 3 star Hotel Krim in Bled
7 buffet breakfasts
Welcome drink
Rooms with private facilities, A/C & TV
Return coach transfers
Services of tour leader
Airport taxes & service charge

EXCURSIONS

Children under 12 pay half
Bled/Bohinj/Mt Vogel £19
Kranjska Gora £39
Ljubljana £38
Venzone/Monte Lussari (Italy) £38
Villach/Klagenfurt (Austria) £40
** Novo Mesto Farm/Raft £48
Predjama Castle/Postojna Caves £30
** Price of this excursion includes the entrance, tasting of local wine, boat ride, music on board and guides
All excursions are guided by an English speaking guide

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