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GRAND EUROPE TOUR (18 DAYS) – 2013

Brussels, Den Haag / Lisse, Volendam, Amsterdam, Cologne, Rhine Valley, Black Forest, Innsbruck, Wattens, Salzburg, Vaduz, Rhine Falls, Mount Titlis, Lucerne, Zurich, Interlaken, Jungfrauoch, Venice, Florence, Capri, Rome, Pisa, Nice, Paris, London

DAY 1: London – Dover - Ferry – Calais – Brussels – The Netherlands

This morning, at the check-in point, you will meet your Tour Manager and join the coach for a leisurely drive from London to Dover port, to board the ferry for the short channel crossing to Calais. Upon arrival, we proceed through Belgium. We first visit the city of Brussels, where on our orientation tour we see the Grand Place, the Mannekin Pis statue and the Atomium (photo stop). Later we drive to our hotel and check into for a two-night stay. (Dinner)

DAY 2: The Netherlands: Den Haag / Lisse, Volendam, Amsterdam

Today, we visit the Madurodam Model Village to see miniature Holland (or Keukenhof Gardens for arrivals in Holland between March 21st and May 20th). Later, we drive north through the flat landscape of Holland passing windmills from a bygone era, to visit a cheese and clog making farm. You can sample local made cheeses and learn how the famous wooden clogs are made, before visiting the picturesque fishing village of Volendam. We then proceed to the cosmopolitan city of Amsterdam for a canal cruise through the city's complex system of waterways. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 3: The Netherlands - Cologne – Rhine Cruise - Mannheim / Frankfurt area

Proceed east into Germany. Joining the autobahn, we arrive at the famous city of Cologne where you can marvel Europe's largest Gothic twin spire cathedral. Continuing our drive into the Rhine valley we board a cruise ship for an unforgettable trip along the River Rhine. Admire the majestic views, mountain top fairy tale castles and fortresses from a bygone era. Late evening check into our hotel for an overnight stop. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 4: Mannheim / Frankfurt area – Black Forest – Innsbruck

This morning we depart after breakfast - joining the autobahn we enter into the enchanting Black Forest region, where you will marvel at the timeless serenity and unparalleled scenery around you. Our first stop is at a Cuckoo Clock outlet where you have time to shop for cuckoo clocks and other souvenirs. Later we continue our drive to Austria. Our journey takes us through the spectacular region of the Bavarian Alps, arriving at Innsbruck, the capital of the Tyrol region. Enjoy this charming town of green domes and red roofs - see the Hofburg and the Goldenes Dachl. Later we check into our hotel for a two-night stay. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 5: Innsbruck – Wattens – Salzburg - Innsbruck

Today we begin the day with a drive to Wattens, where we visit the famous Swarovski Crystal Worlds, for a tour through the kaleidoscope of senses and to see sparkling crystal artworks by famous artists. Visit the Crystal Worlds Shop displaying a unique selection of Swarovski products. Later we drive to Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace, where our guided walking tour takes us through the old town to see the Dom, the Residenz, Petersfriedhof and the Hohensalzburg fortress, the symbol of the power of the prince-archbishops. Late evening return to our hotel. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 6: Innsbruck – Vaduz – Switzerland: Rhine Falls

This morning we depart from Innsbruck for the Principality of Liechtenstein, where you have some free time in the capital, Vaduz. Later, proceed to Schaffhausen, to visit the majestic Rhine Falls. Continuing our drive, we reach our hotel and check-in for a three-night stay. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 7: Switzerland: Mount Titlis - Lucerne - Zurich

Driving through the Swiss alpine region and the winding mountain roads to the valley of Engelberg, we start our ascent to board the world's first revolving cable car, reaching the peak of 10,000 feet and the highest viewpoint in central Switzerland – Mount Titlis (weather permitting). Visit the Glacier Grotto or enjoy a breathtaking panorama from the sun terrace. In the afternoon, we begin our descent, passing the glaciers and thawing ice, which create majestic waterfalls. We visit the town of Lucerne, to see the Chapel Bridge, the Lion Monument and Lake Lucerne. Later we proceed to the financial capital of Switzerland, Zurich for a panoramic city tour: see two of the major churches in the city - the Grossmünster and the Fraumünster, Bahnhofstrasse - the business and financial centre, and Lake Zurich. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 8: Switzerland: Interlaken – Jungfrauoch

Today, we first drive to the picturesque town of Interlaken, the scene of many “Bollywood” films, where you have some time to browse through the shops. From there a short drive brings us to Lauterbrunnen (or Grindelwald Grund), where we board the train for the scenic journey to Jungfrauoch – Top of Europe, the highest railway station in Europe at 3,454 metres (weather permitting). Visit the Ice Palace with ice sculptures or enjoy the panoramic views from the Sphinx Terrace. Early evening we begin our descent and return to our hotel. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 9: Switzerland – Venice / Padova area

Early morning we depart for Italy. Driving south through the Gotthard tunnel, we pass spectacular scenery around the lake regions of Lugano and Como. Crossing the Italian border, we continue on the autostradas, to Venice, the city of unparalleled beauty and romantic gondolas. Our tour starts with a boat ride to St. Mark's Square – the most elegant square in the world, to see the Bridge of Sighs, the Doges Palace and Basilica di San Marco. Here we also have a chance to watch the Venetian glass blowers at work and maybe buy a souvenir for the family. Arrive at our hotel late evening and check in. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 10: Venice / Padova area – Florence – Rome

Today we depart for Florence. Watch the amazing scenery change as we cross the Appennines and the gentle hilly countryside of Tuscany to reach Florence. On arrival in the city of the Medicis, we will visit Piazzale Michelangelo to enjoy one of the best views of this renaissance city across the River Arno. You then have some free time to wander around this city, where traffic is banned from the historic centre, admiring its timeless beauty. Later we continue our journey to the 'Eternal City', where we check into our hotel for a two-night stay. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 11: Rome – Naples – Capri - Rome

Today we drive south down the Italian peninsula and past the well-tilled fields and orchards of the Neapolitan countryside. After crossing Naples, we reach the harbour where we will take the high-speed boat to Capri, the beautiful dream island of the Mediterranean. Weather-permitting, we will take the motor launch and row boats to the unique Blue Grotto, a large cavern lit by sunlight reflecting off the submerged limestone walls. Later you have some time off on your own to browse through the shops. Late afternoon we begin our return journey by the high-speed boat to the Naples harbour and then back to Rome. Return to our hotel. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 12: Rome – Arezzo area

This morning, we meet our local guide and proceed to the Vatican City, where we will visit St. Peter's Basilica, a renaissance masterpiece. Later, we take in other ancient sights of Rome - Piazza Venezia, the Roman Forum, which was the political centre of the Roman Empire, Colosseum, Circus Maximus, and the spectacular Trevi Fountain, where you may make a wish. Early evening we depart from Rome and drive to our overnight stop- check into our hotel on arrival. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 13: Arezzo area - Pisa – Sanremo area

Today we depart for Pisa, where we visit the Field of Miracles. Here you can marvel at the marble Cathedral in the Pisan Romanesque style, the Baptistry, and one of the wonders of the world, the legendary Leaning Tower. Continuing our journey, we drive past spectacular scenery along the Ligurian Sea and arrive at the Italian Riviera region, and early evening we check into our hotel. After dinner, you may either rest in your hotel or join the *additional excursion – Monte Carlo by Night Tour*. (Breakfast, Lunch, Continental Dinner)

DAY 14: Sanremo area – Nice – Lyon area

This morning, we visit a French Perfumery to see a demonstration of how French perfumes are made. Later we visit Nice, where on our panoramic tour we see the main sights, including the Flower Market and the Promenade des Anglais, a sea-front avenue, where you can take a leisurely stroll. Proceeding, we drive through the Provence of Cezanne and Van Gogh onto the Lyon area where we check into our hotel for an overnight stay. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 15: Lyon area – Paris

Today we depart for Paris, one of the most exciting and popular cities of Europe, renowned for its fashion, perfumes, and of course the most talked about French wines. On arrival in Paris, we visit the third floor (*) of the Eiffel Tower to witness a spectacular panoramic view of the city. Later, we check into our hotel for a two-night stay. Tonight, you may either rest at the hotel or join us for an exciting *optional Lido Paris Cabaret Show*. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 16: Paris

Today you have the choice of two exciting day tours;

Paris City Tour

This morning, on our orientation tour of Paris, we will be introduced to the main sights of this beautiful city: Hotel des Invalides, Arc de Triomphe, Champs Elysees, Place de la Concorde, and the Opera. Later, we proceed to Versailles, to visit the magnificent Gardens at the Palace of Versailles, the former residence of the famous “Sun King”. This evening, enjoy an amazing cruise (**) on the River Seine - admire the spectacular facades from your covered boat. Then on our Paris by Night Tour (***) we will see the main sights illuminated. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

OR

Disneyland Paris Theme Park (****)

This morning we drive to the famous Disneyland Paris Theme Park where a day of excitement awaits the entire family. Meet your favourite Disney characters, watch amazing shows, ride the hair-raising “Space Mountain: Mission 2” roller coaster, enter Indiana Jones and the Temple of Peril and find yourself in a runaway wagon speeding through the ancient ruins. This evening, enjoy an amazing cruise (**) on the River Seine - admire the spectacular facades from your covered boat. Then on our Paris by Night Tour (***) we will see the main sights illuminated. (Breakfast, Dinner)

DAY 17: Paris – Calais - Ferry – Dover – London

This morning we visit a French perfumery for some last minute shopping. We then depart and journey north for Calais to board the ferry for the return channel crossing. On arrival at Dover port, we proceed to London, where we board the London Eye for a spectacular bird’s eye view of the English capital. A flight on the London Eye lasts for approximately 30 minutes - relax in one of the 32 high-tech glass capsules and enjoy the London skyline. Later check into our hotel for an overnight stop. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 18: London – Check-out from Hotel

This morning check-out of the Hotel (before 11:00 a.m.) and proceed for your flight / home, on your own. The Tour ends. (Breakfast)

Note (*): The reservation for the visit to the Eiffel Tower is subject to availability, and could be up to the 2nd Floor or 3rd Floor.

Note (**): Please note that the River Seine Cruise may be operated on either Day 16 or Day 17 as per convenience.

Note (***) : Please note that the Paris by Night Tour may be operated on either Day 15 or Day 16 as per convenience.

Note (****): A supplement is payable for the visit to Disneyland Paris Theme Park – the details are mentioned under **Additional Excursions** below.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

BRUSSELS: Orientation Tour including the Grand Place, Mannekin Pis and Atomium (photo stop)

THE NETHERLANDS: Visit Madurodam Model Village (or Keukenhof Gardens between March 21st and May 20th), Cheese & Clog making Farm and Volendam; Amsterdam Canal Cruise

COLOGNE: Visit the Gothic Cathedral – “Dom”

RHINE VALLEY: Scenic drive and River Rhine Cruise

BLACK FOREST: Visit Cuckoo Clock outlet and scenic drive

INNSBRUCK: Orientation Tour including the Hofburg and Goldenes Dachl

WATTENS: Visit to Swarovski Crystal Worlds

SALZBURG: Guided Walking Tour of Salzburg

VADUZ: Free time in the City Centre

SWITZERLAND: See the Rhine Falls, cable car ride to Mount Titlis, visit to Lucerne, Zurich and Interlaken, and train ride to Jungfrauoch - Top of Europe

VENICE: Boat ride to St. Mark’s Square, visit St. Mark’s Square - see the Bridge of Sighs, Doges Palace and the Basilica di San Marco

FLORENCE: View of the city from Piazzale Michelangelo and free time in historic centre of the city

CAPRI: Visit the Blue Grotto (weather permitting), free time

ROME: Guided City Tour including a visit to St. Peter’s Basilica; see Piazza Venezia, the Roman Forum, Colosseum and Circus Maximus; visit the Trevi Fountain

PISA: Visit Field of Miracles – see Cathedral, Baptistry and Leaning Tower

ITALIAN RIVIERA: Scenic drive

FRENCH RIVIERA: Visit French Perfumery and Nice

PARIS:

Paris City Tour: Third floor (*) of the Eiffel Tower, Orientation Tour of Paris, visit to the Gardens at the Palace of Versailles, River Seine Cruise (**), Paris by Night Tour (***) and French Perfumery

OR

Disneyland Paris Theme Park: Third floor (*) of the Eiffel Tower, visit to Disneyland Paris – one day unlimited pass (****), River Seine Cruise (**), Paris by Night Tour (***) and French Perfumery

LONDON: Visit the London Eye

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES:

- 17 nights in a First Class Hotel with private facilities
- 17 Vegetarian Buffet Breakfasts, 15 Indian Vegetarian Lunches (Hot / Packed) (1 additional Lunch on Day 16 for Paris City Tour passengers) and 17 Indian / Continental - Vegetarian / Non Vegetarian Dinners
- Meal Plan is indicated at the bottom of your daily itinerary: Breakfast, Indian / Continental - Vegetarian / Non Vegetarian Dinner, Indian Vegetarian Lunch (Hot / Packed)
- Return channel crossings by Ferry
- All coach transportation by executive cruise liners from departure to tour termination points
- All sightseeing, entrances and excursions as mentioned in the Itinerary
- All tips and service charges
- Services of Bi-lingual Tour Manager throughout the Tour

TOUR DEPARTURES (2013):**Tour Code: 18D – GRA** (out Fridays – return Mondays)

April	5, 26
May	17, 31
June	14, 28
July	12, 26
August	16, 30
September	13
October	04

ADDITIONAL EXCURSIONS (GBP):

Excursions	Adult	Child (2 – 11 years)
Monte Carlo by Night Tour	£25.00	£25.00
Lido Paris Cabaret Show	£90.00	£90.00
Supplement for visit to Disneyland Paris Theme Park on Day 16	£25.00	£25.00

TOUR PRICES (GBP):

	TOUR PRICES
Adult	£1,995.00
Child 2 – 11 yrs	£1,570.00
Infant 0 – 23 months	£380.00
Single Person	£2,550.00

Special Offer:**Paris by Night Tour** included.

Adult Rate is based on 2/3 Adults (12+ years) sharing Twin / Triple Rooms

Child (2-11 years) must share a Room with 2 Adults

Infant price is for Coach Seat only

Discounts available for groups of 15+ passengers