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ENCHANTING EUROPE TOUR (12 DAYS) – 2012

Den Haag, Cologne, Innsbruck, Venice, Florence, Rome, Pisa, Mount Titlis, Lucerne, Interlaken, Jungfrauoch, Paris

DAY 1: London – Dover - Ferry – Calais – 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 and The Netherlands to visit Madurodam Model Village to see miniature Holland (or Keukenhof Gardens for arrivals in Holland between March 22nd and May 20th). En route you will see countryside and also the iconic windmills of Holland. After dinner, you may either rest at the hotel or join the *additional excursion - Amsterdam by Night Tour*. We proceed to the cosmopolitan city of Amsterdam for a canal cruise through the city's complex system of waterways. Later we return to our hotel. (Dinner)

DAY 2: The Netherlands - Cologne – Rhine Cruise - Mannheim / Frankfurt area

Proceed east across The Netherlands and 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 3: Mannheim / Frankfurt area – Innsbruck

Depart this morning for Austria. Our journey takes us through the spectacular region of the Bavarian Alps, arriving at Wattens, where we visit the famous Swarovski Crystal Worlds Shop displaying a unique selection of Swarovski products. We then proceed to Innsbruck, the capital of the Tyrol region. Enjoy this charming town of green domes and red roofs - see the Hofburg and the Goldenes Dachl. Late evening check into our hotel. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 4: Innsbruck - Venice / Padova area

This morning we enjoy spectacular scenery as we drive across Europabrücke, one of Europe's highest bridges, winding our way through the Brenner pass to cross the Italian border. We leave behind the mountains for sunny Italy, to visit 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 the 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. Later we check into our hotel. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 5: Venice / Padova area – Pisa - Arezzo

Today we depart for Pisa. On route we cross the Appennines and the gentle hilly countryside of Tuscany to reach Pisa, where we visit the Field of Miracles. Marvel at the marble Cathedral in the Pisan Romanesque style, the Baptistery, and one of the wonders of the world, the legendary Leaning Tower. You have some time to browse through the shops and maybe buy a souvenir for your family and friends. Later we check into our hotel for a two night stay. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 6: Arezzo – Rome – Arezzo

Passing sunlit valleys of the Chianti wine country and ancient fortresses perched high on the hills, we reach the 'Eternal City'. On arrival, you have free time or join the **additional excursion – Visit to Sistine Chapel**, where we meet our local guide who will show us the splendours of the Vatican Museums, including the Sistine Chapel. Later, with the local guide, we will all visit St. Peter's Basilica, a renaissance masterpiece. In the afternoon, we take in other ancient sights - 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. Late evening return to our hotel. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 7: Arezzo – Florence - Lugano – Switzerland

Joining the autostrada, we proceed to Florence. On arrival in the city of the Medicis, we visit Piazzale Michelangelo to enjoy one of the best views of this renaissance city across the River Arno. Later, driving north through Italy, we cross the Swiss border, passing spectacular scenery around the lake regions of Como and Lugano. We make a brief photo stop near Lake Lugano, before driving through the Gotthard tunnel. We arrive at our hotel late evening, and check in for a three-night stay. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 8: Switzerland: Mount Titlis - Lucerne

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. Later we visit the town of Lucerne, to see the Chapel

Bridge and the Lion Monument. This evening, why not join the ***additional excursion - Lake Lucerne Cruise***. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 9: 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 or join the ***additional excursion - Trummelbach Falls***. From there a short drive brings us to Lauterbrunnen, 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 10: Switzerland – Paris

Early morning we leave the Swiss Alps behind us. Once into France, we join the super fast highways, driving past vineyards and mustard fields. Continue onto Paris, one of the most exciting and popular cities of Europe, renowned for its fashion, perfumes, and of course the most talked about French champagne and wines. On arrival in Paris, we check into our hotel for a two nights stay. After dinner you may either rest at the hotel or join the ***additional excursion – River Seine Cruise & Paris by Night Tour*** (*). Enjoy an amazing cruise on the River Seine - admire the spectacular facades from your covered boat. Later on our Paris by Night Tour we will see the main sights illuminated. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 11: 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”. After dinner you may either rest at the hotel or join us for an exciting ***optional Lido Paris Cabaret show***. (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. After dinner you may either rest at the hotel or join us for an exciting ***optional Lido Paris Cabaret show***. (Breakfast, Dinner)

DAY 12: Paris – Calais - Ferry – Dover – London

This morning we visit the third floor (**) of the Eiffel Tower to witness a spectacular panoramic view of the city. Later, you have some time to browse through the shops, or join the *additional excursion – Visit to Louvre Museum*, where you can see the famous Mona Lisa painting by Leonardo Da Vinci. Next we visit a French perfumery for some last minute shopping. Early afternoon we 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 the tour ends, and its time to say farewell to all the friends you have made on tour. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Note (*): Please note that the *additional excursion – River Seine Cruise & Paris by Night Tour* may be operated on either Day 10 or Day 11 as per convenience.

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.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

THE NETHERLANDS: Visit Madurodam Model Village (or Keukenhof Gardens between March 22nd and May 20th)

COLOGNE: Visit the Gothic Cathedral – “Dom”

RHINE VALLEY: Scenic drive and River Rhine Cruise

WATTENS: Visit to Swarovski Crystal Worlds Shop

INNSBRUCK: Orientation Tour including the Hofburg and Goldenes Dachl

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

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

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

FLORENCE: View of the city from Piazzale Michelangelo

SWITZERLAND: Cable car ride to Mount Titlis, visit to Lucerne and Interlaken, and train ride to Jungfraujoeh - Top of Europe

PARIS:

Paris City Tour: Orientation Tour of Paris, visit to the Gardens at the Palace of Versailles, third floor (**) of the Eiffel Tower, French Perfumery

OR

Disneyland Paris Theme Park: Visit to Disneyland Paris – one day unlimited pass, third floor (**) of the Eiffel Tower, French Perfumery

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES:

- 11 nights in a First Class Hotel with private facilities
- 11 Vegetarian Buffet Breakfasts, 10 Indian Vegetarian Lunches (Hot / Packed) (1 additional Lunch on Day 11 for Paris City Tour passengers) and 11 Indian Vegetarian / Non Vegetarian Dinners
- Meal Plan is indicated at the bottom of your daily Itinerary: Breakfast, Indian 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
- Services of Bi-lingual “Taj Tours” Tour Manager throughout the Tour

TOUR DEPARTURES (2012):

Tour Code: 12D – ENC (out Wednesdays – return Sundays)

April	18
May	02, 23
June	06, 13, 20, 27
July	04, 11, 18, 25
August	01, 08, 15, 22, 29
September	05, 12, 19

ADDITIONAL EXCURSIONS (GBP):

Excursions	Adult	Child (2 – 11 years)
Amsterdam by Night with Canal Cruise	£20.00	£15.00
Visit to Vatican Museums	£25.00	£25.00
Lake Lucerne Cruise & Trummelbach Falls	£30.00	£20.00
River Seine Cruise & Paris by Night Tour	£20.00	£15.00
Supplement for visit to Disneyland Paris Theme Park on Day 11	£25.00	£25.00
Lido Paris Cabaret Show	£90.00	£90.00
Visit to Louvre Museum	£12.00	£7.00

TOUR PRICES (GBP):

	TOUR PRICES
Adult	£1,350.00
Child 2 – 11 yrs	£1,050.00
Infant 0 – 23 months	£250.00
Single Person	£1,650.00

Early Bird Discount:

Book 8 weeks in advance and get **£50.00 off the tour price or 1 night pre-tour and 1 night post-tour in London** per adult or child.

Extra Special Discount:

Book before 31st January, 2012 with deposit payment, and get **pre-tour Panoramic London Sightseeing Tour and Paris by Night Tour free of cost.**

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