

JILL WORRALL TOURS NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2018

Hi Everyone

This comes to you from our foldup camping table which is now serving as my “office”. We’re in the throes of moving.

Yes, the Worrall-Burrows house removal is almost upon us. FINALLY, we have sold our house in Timaru and our shift to Leeston (near Lincoln outside Christchurch) is taking place on December 14. Our new address, by the way is 37 Chervier Street, Leeston. For a start we’re seeing how life goes without a landline so my cell phone 0275 38 99 55 or Derek’s (021 202 6310) will be the best way to make contact in addition to email and good old snail mail.

Meanwhile in the world of Jill Worrall Tours it’s been all go. So, where have I just been and where am I about to go?

Heart of India

I’ve just returned from taking 11 Kiwis to India. We had an amazing time and were so very fortunate to not only see two tigers in Ranthambore National Park, but a magnificent leopard in Narlai as well. Of course, we also saw the Taj Mahal at both dawn and dusk, cruised the Ganges at Varanasi, road camels in the desert, had a wonderful night-time exclusive tour of the Mehrangarh Fort (the former home of the Maharajahs of Jodhpur), a family dinner in Jaipur and even got to help make chapatis in a Sikh temple in Delhi. We were accompanied by my good friend Kush who is an exceptional guide and is always thinking about 10 steps ahead.





Tour feedback

So, what did my tour members think of the tour? Here's some early feedback: "It far exceeded my expectations. Jill, of course, was incredible. I don't know how on earth she does it all, looking after everyone so carefully and still managing to keep her sense of humour intact. Kush was also incredible.... a comment I heard a couple of times from members of the group was "I'll definitely be going on tour with Jill again. Why would you go with anyone else?"



This month's feature tours:

Croatian Odyssey May 6 – May 27, 2019

There are just three cabins left on this in-depth exploration of the Croatian coast and its stunning islands. We have chartered the wonderful Luna again (after the success of this trip in 2017) and will spend two weeks cruising the Adriatic between Split and Dubrovnik visiting at least 10 islands, many of which can't accommodate vessels any bigger than Luna (which has a total of just eight cabins).

We only spend a few hours a day actually at sea so there's plenty of time to explore all the places on our itinerary, both with expert local guides and during plenty of free time so there's no danger of you getting cabin fever! Also, we have our onboard chef who prepares a three-course gourmet lunch or dinner every day and the open bar! All drinks, both non-alcoholic and all local wines, beers and spirits are included throughout the cruise.

There are double and twin cabins still available so if this sounds like you do get in touch with Moray soon. The tour price (which includes flights from NZ) is from \$15,550 pp twin share for a lower deck cabin for this 21-day tour which includes two nights in Zagreb and two in Trogir before we board our luxury cruiser.



Zambia and the Zambezi Aug 31 to Sept 20, 2019

This will be my fourth trip to Zambia and my third to Zimbabwe. I'm anticipating that this time there will be a lot of baby photos going with me as by mid-January (just next month!) I am due to become grandmother to a baby with Kiwi and Zambian parents!

Visiting Atkins' (my son-in-law) extended family in rural Zambia really adds something special to this tour – we'll have family meals, explore their farm, local schools and township. This unique phase of the tour comes between three-night sojourns in three wonderful national parks. We'll start our African safari experience in Zimbabwe in Mana Pools National Park and then Hwange, where we will stay in luxury tented camps. Then after a visit to the stupendous Victoria Falls and then Atkins' home town of Serenje we finish our tour in Zambia's South Luangwa National Park, one of Africa's top safari destinations, but so much less crowded than many other of the continent's parks.

I'll be taking a maximum of 10 people on this tour to ensure everyone has the very best chance to see and photograph the astounding variety of wildlife in these parks. Last year we saw lion, a leopard with cubs, four cheetah siblings, a pack of wild dogs and innumerable buffalo, giraffe, zebra, hyena and other mammals along with crocodiles and gorgeous birds. This time I've also added a visit to a rhino sanctuary near Harare where we'll have the chance to get up close to these critically endangered creatures.



And where to next?

With impeccable timing I've managed to coincide a research trip to the Antarctic Peninsula (via Argentina) with our move! When I said yes to an invitation to join this expedition cruise, I assumed we'd have shifted long before December. However, that was not to be, so I'll set off on Dec 3 for Argentina from my home of 20 years in Timaru and return to my new home in Leeston. We do have professional movers coming in, so those of you who know Derek, have no fear... he's not being left to move us on his own!

I'll get home on Dec 18 and then it's 16 of Derek's family for a weekend BBQ and 12 of my lot coming for Christmas Day. All my idea in a moment of madness as a way to celebrate moving in, which as Christmas approaches now seems a little reckless. If I haven't worked out how to work the new oven by then it will have to be takeaways!

Happy Christmas to you all and I do hope to see you somewhere, sometime on my travels in 2019.

Best wishes

Jill

