

Hi Everyone

By the time you read this I will be back (hopefully!) to full speed after a very exciting and rewarding time in Mongolia. My small group of intrepid Kiwis had a wonderful time there as we explored the far west of Mongolia, along with the central region and the South Gobi. I will tell you all about it in the July newsletter!

My May Tour



Just a few days before the Mongolia tour departed I arrived home from my Croatia Odyssey tour! It was a bit of a guest appearance at home but necessary so that we could get to Mongolia for a special mini-Nadaam festival staged for us in the South Gobi (more about that next month!)

My Croatia Odyssey tour featured two weeks on the M/V Luna. There were 13 of us on board, including my very good friend and Croatian tour operator and guide Zlatko, along with five crew, including Philip the chef who we all agreed should be granted some kind of Croatia culinary treasure status. The only unfortunate feature of two weeks of Philip's meals is that some of us have come home with a little more than we left with...

That aside, we had a wonderful time cruising around Croatia's islands and coastline. We were even fortunate enough to strike Dubrovnik when there were no vast cruise ships in port! I fell in love all over again with Vis (and a number of houses just crying out for renovation...) but also enjoyed visiting the town of Vela Luka on Korcula for the first time. We also stayed in Zadar on the mainland before our cruise and got to hear the rather eerie but strangely soothing sounds of its famous sea organ.

Along with our actual time at sea we visited a working lighthouse, tasted some of Croatia's best wines on the Peljesac peninsula, climbed up to one of Tito's Second World War hideouts, had dinner at a family farm, took short boat trips to two tiny monastic islets, listened to superb Croatia a cappella singing and explored the beautiful limestone-paved streets of towns and villages on Hvar, Korcula, Split and Vis.

Luna is a very popular ship so as I left, I asked the skipper to reserve two weeks for us in May 2021. Chartering an entire ship (even a small one like Luna with just eight cabins) is a major commitment however, so by January next year I will need to know if we have enough people keen to join me. Do get in touch, if you are interested or know of anyone else who might like to cruise the Adriatic with me.

Some tour feedback:

‘A BIG thank you again for taking us on yet another exquisite adventure.’

‘Croatia exceeded our expectations’

‘It was indeed a great trip thanks Jill’

‘The two best tour leaders’

Tour information Events

Before I headed off to Croatia in May I visited House of Travel offices in Auckland, Tauranga and Wellington to talk about my tours to both agents and their clients and took part in House of Travel’s Auckland Travel Bazaar which attracted thousands of visitors. There was so much interest in the tours I didn’t sit down for about six hours!

More information sessions around the country are planned for later this year so watch this space!

Tour updates

Islands of the Mediterranean

This tour in September-October this year is proving very popular and there are just four places left. It’s not too late to book so if you’d like to join me on this journey to Malta, Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica and Elba do contact Moray soon.



This Month's Feature Tours

Hola Cuba 2019!

Oct 31 - Nov 18, 2019

An 18-day tour from \$14,995 pp, share twin

A very special small-group tour with Jill that will take you the full length of Cuba, encompassing this island's fascinating history, its unique culture and music and its beautiful landscapes. Perhaps best of all, because we have chosen to stay mostly in privately owned accommodation where you will have a fantastic opportunity to get to know the Cuban people.

You will stay in a range of different homes, some in historic houses, with all rooms featuring private bathrooms. Breakfast is included every day along with eight lunches and six dinners while we are in Cuba.

Our tour includes five nights in Havana, a day trip to Vinales, plus visiting Trinidad, Camaguey, Santiago de Cuba, Baracoa, Holguin, Sancti Spiritus and Santa Clara. I will also be taking you out to listen to some fantastic Cuban music and there will be a chance to swim in the warm tropical waters of the Caribbean.



Explore Colombia

Feb 19 – Mar 7, 2020

Price \$16,995 pp share twin

Be among some of the first New Zealand groups in recent years to explore Colombia, a hidden gem of South America. My itinerary reflects the rich diversity of Colombia's attractions – from Tayrona, a

Caribbean coast National park to 5000-year-old stone statues in the Andes mountains, Spanish colonial towns including the Queen of the Caribbean, Cartagena; we will also spend two nights in one of the most legendary bird watching lodges in all of South America (El Dorado) and search for flocks of flamingos on the Caribbean coast and pink dolphins in the Amazon basin.

We have almost reached our minimum numbers for Colombia, we just need a few more to join to make this a confirmed departure.



Jill's Journey Club

Welcome to Derek and Carol Barnes, Dawn and John Scott and Lois and Duncan Farmer. In due course you will be receiving your JJC luggage tags and gift. The special JJC discount is available for your third Jill Worrall Tour onwards. We now have nearly 80 travellers who have been on tour with me at least two times in just the last few years!

That's all for now as I need to pack for Mongolia! Will tell you more about that adventure in the next newsletter.

Best wishes

Jill