



Jill Worrall Tours Newsletter June 2023

Hi Everyone,

This newsletter comes to you from the Adriatic Sea between the island of Mljet and the walled city of Dubrovnik in Croatia.

I don't usually send out newsletters while on tour but I'm not coming home straight from this tour, but instead heading to Ireland for my Walking Ireland's Pilgrim Trails tour. That means I won't be able to be in touch with you all until early July which is too long.

I will tell you more about the Croatian cruise later in this newsletter but first an update on other tours.

Tour Updates

Full Tours!

My Ireland tour, which may have started by the time you are reading this, is full, as is the Egypt and Jordan tour in November. It's wonderful to have all these tours full and such an enthusiastic response to the first of the 2024 tours. Your interest and support for my tours is always deeply appreciated and never taken for granted! I will always be doing my utmost to offer you fantastic, unique tours with the invaluable help of Moray looking after your bookings, flights, and other travel details.

Update on 2024 Tours

Scandinavia and the Northern Lights – 27 Jan to 17 Feb 2024



We only need just a few more people to make this tour a confirmed departure. It is certainly proving very popular! This tour will start in Sweden's capital Stockholm before we take an overnight ferry to Helsinki, the capital of Finland. From here some serious Northern Hemisphere winter fun begins! As we move north beyond the Arctic Circle there will be wonderful opportunities to see the spectacular Northern Lights. Seeing these, a bucket list item for many people, can never be guaranteed but by taking you so far north and including an overnight stay in heated glass igloos and four nights on a cruise that will take us beyond any light pollution I'm maximising our chances! There will also be sleigh rides pulled by reindeers, a chance to try snowmobiling and ice fishing and something that has long been on my bucket list, a night in one of Scandinavia's legendary ice hotels.

HOUSE OF TRAVEL

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The glass igloo hotel has recently featured on TV and should still be available on various streaming services including You Tube, check out Episode 3, Series 1 of the World's Most Secret Hotels. We will also visit Santa Claus's village in Finland, a chance to indulge in a little bit of magic!

The tour ends with a cruise from north to south along Norway's stunning coastline with its mountains, fjords and picturesque towns. This cruise is exceptionally popular and securing cabins is not easy, which is one prime reason why I'm telling you about this trip now = we only have two more cabins left for this tour and once they are taken, it will be almost impossible for us to get any more.

So, do think about joining me on what will be a true once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

You will have stories to tell about this tour for years to come!

PS If you are worried about the cold - don't be. I will be sending out a list of clothing recommendations much earlier than usual and as the saying goes "There is no such thing as cold weather, just the wrong clothes!". Also, unlike so many places in NZ during winter, you will never be cold indoors - hotels, restaurants, shops, our cruise ship are always beautifully warm inside.



Vietnam and Cambodia – 28 Mar to 15 Apr 2024

The full itinerary and pricing for this tour is available now and bookings are already coming in. "1With two luxury cruises included (one around Halong Bay and a longer cruise on the Mekong River) plus a tour of one of the archaeological and historic wonders of the world, Angkor Wat, this is a tour not to be missed. Plus, it's not too far from home so shorter flights and an easier time adjustment. IF you would like the full itinerary emailed to you, please let Moray know.



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As you know, these days, cruise companies especially, are getting very demanding with their payment requirements! So, we need to be able to confirm this tour and have deposits paid by June 26. I know this does not give you much time to think about the tour, but the cruise people give me no option! I know you won't regret joining me on what will be a wonderful tour and as I've mentioned before....if we don't reach our required numbers by June 26 your deposit will be refunded in full.

Central America – 30 April to 21 May 2024

The full itinerary and pricing for this tour will be available soon but in brief will include Panama and a cruise along the canal, Costa Rica's wildlife, Caribbean coast and cloud forests and Guatemala's Spanish colonial gem Antigua, Lake Atitlan and of course the amazing, ruined Mayan city Tikal. If you would like to go on the priority mailing list for this tour do get in touch with Moray.



TOUR Report - Cruising the Adriatic

I'm typing this newsletter sitting on the stern deck of Luna, a luxury motor yacht as we head for Dubrovnik. It's an almost cloudless day and we've just finished breakfast at our outside table. Soon we'll be dropping anchor in a beautiful inlet near to the island of Sipan for a swim off the stern swimming platform. After that it will be nearly time for a pre-dinner drink (we have an open bar on Luna) and then a three-course lunch. As several tour members aboard have told me more than once over the last 12 days or so, life doesn't get much better than this! We've already visited the islands of Vis, Lastovo, Brac, Hvar, Korcula and Solta and as always on a Jill Worrall Tour there have been some surprise extras too such as bonus island visits, a winery tour, and some live entertainment (which my group don't even know about yet!) It's been a wonderful cruise and we still have several days to explore Dubrovnik and to take a day tour to the neighbouring country of Montenegro.





On the Home Front

At the moment there is actually no-one at home other than Flynnie our little ginger cat and two goldfish! Derek landed in the UK just yesterday to spend some time with his daughter Rachael and I will be joining him next week for a few days before I head to Ireland. Meanwhile Rachel, Atkins along with Natey and Zoe have returned home from their five-week trip to Zambia. They had a wonderful time with the children meeting their African grandparents, great grandmother and many uncles, aunties and more than 20 cousins.

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They also went on safari and Nartey loved seeing his first wild elephants. Zoe, at about 14 months, was too young to understand too much about what was going on, but she certainly charmed everyone. She decided to take her first steps just minutes before the long flight home but has decided that was it for now and hasn't tried again since!

And that's it from me for now - the next newsletter will be in early July once I am back from Ireland.

Best Wishes,
Jill



Georgia has her own wheels now.