



Bella Italia



Our "Wonders of Italy" tour for next April sold out in less than four weeks. Now there are so many people on the waiting list that we are going to start a second tour that

departs three days earlier. This tour visits an astounding thirteen UNESCO World Heritage sites in places such as Milan, Verona, Venice, Pisa, San Gimignano, Siena, Florence, Tivoli, Naples, Pompeii, Amalfi, Rome and the Vatican State. There are no one-night stays, in fact there are two three-night stays and even one four-nighter! Join us for an unforgettable tour to discover the historic, cultural and scenic highlights of Italy.

PHOTO CONTEST



Remember to send in your best photos for our seventh biannual photo contest. Three lucky winners will receive vouchers for \$500 towards their next Rostad tour.

There will also be \$250 second place prizes in each of the three categories: **Scenery, People, and Architecture**. Be sure to print your name, address, tourcode and where the photo was taken on the back of each photo. The deadline for entries is December 31, 2004 and winners will be announced in our next newsletter.

Holy Land Tours

We are excited to see that there is renewed interest in tours visiting the Holy Land in 2005. It has been almost four years since our last group travelled to the Holy Land and there definitely is pent-up demand. Our agents in Jerusalem, who happen to be Palestinian Christians, tell us that groups from North America are returning and they are thankful that business is improving. One of our departures to Israel and Egypt next spring already has over thirty people.

After witnessing the success of this tour, we decided to block space for two more departures in February so that more people could experience this memorable journey. Both tours visit all the important sites including Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee and Jericho. They also cross into Jordan so you can stand on Mount Nebo, walk the ancient streets of Jerash, and admire the incredible landscape of the rose-red city of Petra. The only difference between the two tours is that one tour follows the path of the Exodus, spending three nights in Cairo then one

night in the Sinai so that you can make the unforgettable morning climb to the top of Gebel Musa, or Mount Moses.

If you have not already been to the Holy Land, this is your opportunity to watch the Bible come alive before your eyes. For those fortunate enough to have made the journey previously, you already know how invigorating a journey to the Holy Land can be. Make this the year you walk in the footsteps of Jesus, Moses, Abraham and the disciples.



Cruising Down the River



For the first time ever, a European river cruise was our most popular destination for the fall months. The “Waterways of the Czars” cruise from Moscow to St. Petersburg has been a popular departure for several seasons and this year we also had two groups cruise on the Danube from Vienna to the Black Sea and back to Budapest on the “Eastern European Odyssey”. This is a great way to explore countries that can be tricky to visit any

other way such as Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Hungary, and of course, Russia.

Currently we are offering a \$350 discount on all Viking River Cruise departures in 2005 if you pay in full before December 20. This is in addition to any early booking discount, which means you can save up to \$1300 per couple. Here are some reasons why Viking River Cruises say river cruising is better than ocean cruising:

- You’ll explore charming villages that are inaccessible on an ocean cruise.
- We often dock right in the heart of town, giving you more time to discover the city, rather than travelling from an industrial dock or by small life boats.
- You’ll have more time to take it all in as there are no long lines waiting to go ashore.
- Our truly intimate ships and small number of passengers (averaging 150) make it easy for you to know your fellow passengers and staff.
- You can look forward to visiting one port a day on nearly every itinerary, rather than multiple days at sea.
- You’ll take in ever-changing riverside scenery rather than staring at an endless horizon of ocean waves.
- We invite you to dress casually for your comfort. There are no required formal nights on our ships.
- You’ll cruise on smooth rivers guaranteeing no seasickness.
- You can immerse yourself in your destination with our Old World Highlights lectures, folkloric entertainment and theme dinners.

European Wonderland

We are pleased to announce a new itinerary for Europe that is sure to be a popular addition to our list of tours. This very special itinerary features two-night stays at seven great European destinations and includes overnights in Germany, Switzerland, Austria and the Czech Republic. There are many special highlights throughout the tour including two river cruises, a Swiss folklore show, plus musical performances in Salzburg, Vienna, Prague and Amorbach. You even visit nine different UNESCO World Heritage sites. Our only departure for this tour in 2005 will be May 31 - June 15 and we encourage you to take part in this extraordinary experience.



British Invasion

Tours to the United Kingdom were our best sellers last spring and summer and we anticipate the same in 2005. Here is a sampling of available tours:

Grand Circle of Britain & Ireland

APRIL 28 - MAY 14

Prepare yourself for an unforgettable trip to Great Britain and Ireland, a region filled with rich history, natural beauty, quaint villages and world-class cities. The list of places you will see is astounding: Windsor, Stratford-upon-Avon, the Cotswolds, Warwick, Coventry, York, Hadrian's Wall, Edinburgh, the Trossachs, Dublin, Kerry, Waterford, Cardiff, Bath, Stonehenge and London. Join us on this comprehensive tour that reveals Britain and Ireland as only Rostad Tours can deliver.



Scotland Experience

MAY 12 - 25

This is a very special journey to discover the rugged beauty of Scotland. You'll visit the fabled Highlands, the Borders, the cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, and even the islands of Mull, Iona and Skye. Learn about turbulent Scottish history, famous poets, brave warriors, and even search for the legendary monster while cruising on Loch Ness. Bring your cameras and sense of humour along and experience the essence of Scotland.



Ireland's Charm & Heritage

MAY 25 - JUNE 7

Come along on an enchanting trip to the Emerald Isle. This tour features stunning scenery, friendly people and historical sites all steeped in ancient traditions and folklore. There are plenty of special features included that make this tour stand out from all the rest. The best part is that prices for 2005 are lower than 2004 so this tour is a particularly good value.



Leisurely Britain

JUNE 8 - 22

Immerse yourself in the enchantment and traditions of Scotland and England. Admire stunning scenery and explore historical sites along the way. Mingle with local people and experience their friendly hospitality and culture. This comfortably-paced tour is designed to utilize just four hotels, with a minimum of three nights in each. It is loaded with special features such as a Caledonian folklore show, a Shakespearean play in Stratford, a luncheon cruise on the Thames and a night at the theatre in London.



Insurance – Should I or Shouldn't I?

(From Pat Lough, who travelled with us in March 2004, and asked us to pass this story along to fellow travellers.)

In six weeks I'll join others on a tour to the South Pacific. I'm so excited and just can't wait! I'm completing a form that has a question about health insurance. Do I need this insurance? I have a small travel insurance policy but will it be enough? I put the form down and decide to consider my options later.

Later has come and gone. I must get this form back to Rostad so the decision had to be made. I'm young, I shouldn't need it. I'd rather have the premium money to spend on my trip. With all this rationale there is something that pushes me to purchase the insurance. Yes, you've guessed it. I had an accident, tripped and ended up with two broken ankles. The insurance I purchased proved invaluable. It covered the expenses for an ambulance ride to the hospital, emergency services,

a ten-day stay in the hospital, two cam boots, a walker, x-rays, medications and a nurse to escort me home from Melbourne, Australia to Winnipeg, Canada in first class.

Remember when making your decision to purchase insurance it is with the hope you don't have to claim on it. But from my experience I wouldn't leave Canada without coverage. Thanks to Rostad Tours Ltd. for offering a creditable, worry free insurance package!

Alaska & Yukon Gold Rush

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This tour is unique to Rostad Tours and combines a motor-coach tour travelling along the famous Alaska Highway with a luxury seven-day cruise that sails the Gulf of Alaska and the Inside Passage. During the motorcoach tour, stops are made in Fort Nelson, Watson Lake, Dawson Creek, Whitehorse, Dawson City, Denali National Park, Fairbanks and Anchorage. Then enjoy

being pampered on a Voyage of the Glaciers cruise onboard the fabulous Dawn Princess. You'll cruise the coast of Alaska and BC viewing whales, glaciers calving into icebergs and bald eagles patrolling the coastline. Stops are made in Skagway, Juneau and Ketchikan and you'll enjoy scenic cruising through Glacier Bay National Park and the spectacular Inside Passage.

Highlights of this exceptional tour+cruise travelling May 25 - June 13 include:

- > A relaxing soak in the Liard Hot Springs
- > Watching a spectacular show about the Aurora Borealis at the Northern Lights Centre
- > Attending the classic vaudeville revue "Frantic Follies"
- > Visiting a gold mining dredge and panning for gold
- > Enjoying a three-hour river cruise on the Riverboat Discovery
- > Attending a Salmon Bake and "Golden Heart Revue" at Alaskaland
- > Enjoying a Natural History tour of Denali National Park
- > Seeing Mt. McKinley, North America's highest peak at 20,320ft.
- > A seven-night cruise on the Dawn Princess to Vancouver



Come with us on an adventure of a lifetime – North to Alaska – the rush is on!

Cruise Corner

Through our relationship with Advantage Travel and Cruise Centres, we have access to incredible cruise fares throughout the year to virtually all destinations. Here are a few sample rates that include port charges to whet your cruising appetite.

Ryndam	Panama Canal	January 13	16 days	from \$2357
Coral Princess	Panama Canal	February 6	10 days	from \$2071
Veendam	Panama Canal	April 16	22 days	from \$3275
Amsterdam	South America	February 26	16 days	from \$2369
Rotterdam VI	Southern Caribbean	Feb 14 or 24	10 days	from \$1740
Dawn Princess	Western Caribbean	February 18	10 days	from \$1479
Sun Princess	Eastern Caribbean	March 29	10 days	from \$1521
Volendam	Southern Caribbean	March 30	10 days	from \$1291
Ryndam	Mexican Riviera	Feb 14 or Mar 6	10 days	from \$1250
Statendam	Hawaii	March 21	15 days	from \$2637
Star Princess	Baltic	May 25	10 days	from \$2312
Westerdam	Baltic	June 30	10 days	from \$2430
Golden Princess	British Isles	July 1	10 days	from \$2524
Westerdam	Baltic	August 19	10 days	from \$2388
Westerdam	European Capitals	September 18	14 days	from \$2112
Prinsendam	Black Sea	October 16	12 days	from \$2380
Statendam	Alaska Glacier	June 24	7 days	from \$1130
Volendam	Alaska Inside Passage	July 6	7 days	from \$1130
Island Princess	Alaska Cruise-tour	August 27	12 days	from \$3242



Costa Rica... A Paradise To Share

Come with us in February to explore one of the most bio-diverse regions in the world. Located between Nicaragua and Panama, with an ideal climate throughout the year, Costa Rica has a strategic geographic location since it serves as the biological bridge between North and South America. Roughly 18% of Costa Rica's territory is designated as National Park or Reserve, including two parks declared World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. It borders both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, located just a few hours apart, and contains everything from volcanoes to cloud forests to tropical plains to exotic beaches.



Our itinerary is designed to show off Costa Rica's tremendous assets. Here are some of the highlights you will encounter on this special tour:

- **La Paz Waterfall Gardens** – a nature hike and visit to the world's largest butterfly garden
- **Coffee Tour at Café Britt** – a theatrical dramatization portraying the production of coffee
- **Lankester Gardens** – view over 800 species of exotic orchids
- **Pueblo Antiguo** – visit a unique theme park and enjoy typical cuisine and a folklore show
- **Tortuguero National Park** – a nature hike, slide show and canal boat tour
- **Arenal Volcano** – a nature hike to the base of this active volcano
- **Tabacón Hot Springs** – soak in the twelve mineral hot pools and waterfalls
- **Sevatura Suspension Walkway** – admire the virgin cloud forest from its canopy
- **Ocotol Beach Resort** – two free days to enjoy the beautiful warm beach
- **Sarchi** – visit this artisan town with its countless souvenir and handicraft stores

Here are two comments from last year's tour to Costa Rica:

My expectations were high already (as this was our 3rd Rostad Tour), but it was even better than I had imagined. – M. R., QC

Wanted a naturalist trip, and got it in spades!! – A. T., ON

Winter Holiday in Turkish Riviera

Our agents in Turkey have negotiated fantastic rates at two five-star hotels in Antalya, situated alongside the Mediterranean coast on what is known as the Turkish Riviera. You can choose from the Sheraton Voyager Resort & Spa, or the beautiful Falez Hotel and enjoy two weeks of relaxation for just CA\$840 per person, based on double occupancy. Airfare is additional but this rate includes your transfers from the airport, a fruit basket on arrival and a lavish buffet breakfast and dinner each day. This is the perfect time to use any frequent flyer points you have been accumulating – then enjoy the fitness facilities, heated swimming pools, saunas, Turkish baths and ample opportunities for shopping and sightseeing. The rates are valid until March 31, 2005 and you can extend your stay for as long as you wish.



Holy Land Experience

ISRAEL & JORDAN

CAESAREA · MEGIDDO · GALILEE
JORDAN RIVER · NAZARETH · JERASH
AMMAN · MOUNT NEBO · PETRA
JERICHO · MASADA · DEAD SEA
JERUSALEM · BETHLEHEM

February 19 – March 4, 2005

Bible Lands Discovery

EGYPT, JORDAN & ISRAEL

CAIRO · GIZA · MOUNT SINAI · AQABA
WADI RUM · PETRA · MOUNT NEBO
AMMAN · JERASH · GALILEE
NAZARETH · MEGIDDO · CAESAREA
JERUSALEM · BETHLEHEM · MASADA
DEAD SEA

February 22 – March 10, 2005

Turkey & the Early Christian Church

ISTANBUL · ANKARA · CAPPADOCIA
KONYA · ANTALYA · PAMUKKALE
IZMIR · EPHEBUS · PERGAMUM
TROY · GALLIPLI

April 11 – 20, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Bruce Miller & Rhea Jansen

April 19 – May 5, 2005

Tour Hosts: Doug & Jeanette White

May 10 – 26, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Harry Steele & Barb Gregg

October 11 – 27, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Shaun Hatfield
& Cheryl Nickerson

Greece: An Aegean Adventure

ATHENS · MT. OLYMPUS
THESSALONIKI · PELLA · VERGINA
PHILIPPI · METEORA · DELPHI
MYKONOS · KUSADASI · PATMOS
RHODES · CRETE · SANTORINI

April 23 – May 7, 2005

Tour Hosts: Dr. Austin & Jean Fennell

Leisurely Spain and Portugal

AVILA · MADRID · TOLEDO
CORDOBA · COSTA DEL SOL
GRANADA · GIBRALTAR · SEVILLE
ALGARVE · FARO · LISBON · CASCAIS
EIGHT UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

March 31 – April 18, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. David Reeve
Dr. Donal McKeown

Wonders of Italy

MILAN · LAKE DISTRICT · VERONA
VENICE · PISA · MONTECATINI TERME
SAN GIMIGNANO · SIENA · FLORENCE
TIVOLI · SORRENTO · NAPLES
POMPEII · CAPRI · AMLFI COAST
ROME · VATICAN CITY

April 19 – May 4, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Karl and Barb English

April 16 – May 1, 2005

Tour Host: Rostad Tours Representative

European Wunderland

GERMANY · SWITZERLAND · AUSTRIA
CZECH REPUBLIC

May 31 – June 15, 2005

Scenic Scandinavia

COPENHAGEN · VAXJO · STOCKHOLM
LILLEHAMMER · GEIRANGER FJORD
LOEN · BERGEN · GEILO · OSLO

May 31 – June 14, 2005

Tour Host: Rostad Tours Representative

July 11 – 25, 2005

Tour Hosts: Dr. Roger & Lynda Ellis

Luther and the Music of Europe

BERLIN · ERFURT · LEIPZIG
WITTENBERG · PRAGUE · TELC
VIENNA · DANUBE CRUISE
SALZBURG · INNSBRUCK
OBERAMMERGAU · ASCHAFFENBURG
WORMS · AMORBACH

September 13 – 29, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Richard & Barb Hall

European Treasures

GERMANY · CZECH REPUBLIC
AUSTRIA · ITALY · VATICAN STATE

September 13 – 28, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Karl & Rev. Heidi Sievert

Eastern European Cultures

BERLIN · WARSAW · AUSCHWITZ
CRACOW · LVIV
CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS · BUDAPEST
BRATISLAVA · BRNO · PRAGUE

September 27 – October 12, 2005

Tour Hosts: Brian & Sharon Wright
Karl & Helen Klopper

London's Theatre and Surroundings

WINDSOR CASTLE · LONDON
CANTERBURY · DOVER · COTSWOLDS
BLENHEIM PALACE

Featuring three nights at the theatre

April 4 – 11, 2005

Tour Hosts: Ernie & Joan Tetreault

Grand Circle of Britain & Ireland

WINDSOR · STRATFORD
COTSWOLDS · WARWICK · COVENTRY
YORK · HADRIAN'S WALL
EDINBURGH · TROSSACHS · DUBLIN
KERRY · WATERFORD · CARDIFF
BATH · STONEHENGE · LONDON

April 28 – May 14, 2005

Tour Hosts: Al & Vera Thompson

Scottish Highlands & Islands

EDINBURGH · ST. ANDREWS
PITLOCHRY · HIGHLANDS
ORKNEY ISLANDS · ULLAPOOL
OUTER HEBRIDES · ISLE OF SKYE
OBAN · MULL · IONA · AYR

May 11 – 26, 2005

Tour Hosts: Don & Margaret Laing
David & Susan Butler-Jones

Scotland Experience

GLASGOW · THE BORDERS
NEW LANARK · STIRLING
TROSSACHS · ISLE OF IONA
ISLE OF SKYE · INVERNESS · PERTH
ST. ANDREWS · EDINBURGH

May 14 – 25, 2005

Scottish & English Highlights

GLASGOW · OBAN · ISLE OF IONA
LOCH NESS · PERTH · STERLING
EDINBURGH · THE BORDERS
HADRIAN'S WALL · YORKSHIRE DALES
YORK · COVENTRY · STRATFORD
COTSWOLDS · BATH · STONEHENGE
WINDSOR · LONDON
CANTERBURY · DOVER

May 11 – 26, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Jim & Shirley Redpath

A Celtic Adventure

DUBLIN · GALWAY · CONNEMARA
DONEGAL · GIANT'S CAUSEWAY
BELFAST · SAINT PATRICK CENTRE
BURN'S COUNTRY · GLASGOW
ISLES OF MULL & IONA · STIRLING
PERTH · ST. ANDREWS · EDINBURGH

May 15 – 29, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Dr. Das & Angela Sydney

Ireland's Charm & Heritage

DUBLIN · WATERFORD · KERRY
DINGLE PENINSULA
CLIFFS OF MOHER · GALWAY
CONNEMARA · BUNDORAN
ENNSKILLEN · DERRY
ANTRIM COAST · BELFAST

May 24 – June 7, 2005

Leisurely Britain

GLASGOW · TROSSACHS · EDINBURGH
NEW LANARK · THE BORDERS
HADRIAN'S WALL · YORK
YORKSHIRE DALES · COVENTRY
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
COTSWOLDS · OXFORD
WINDSOR · LONDON

June 8 – 22, 2005

Great Britain Experience

GLASGOW · OBAN · ISLE OF IONA
LOCH NESS · INVERNESS
HIGHLANDS · ST. ANDREWS
EDINBURGH · THE BORDERS
HADRIAN'S WALL · YORK · EPWORTH
COVENTRY · STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
COTSWOLDS · BATH · AVEBURY
WINDSOR · LONDON

June 29 – July 14, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Philip Newman
& Kim Logan

Scotland: The Spirit of the Land

GLASGOW · KILMARTIN
ISLES OF MULL & IONA · MALLAIG
FORT WILLIAM · LOCH NESS
INVERNESS · CLAVA CAIRNS · PERTH
ARBROATH · ST. ANDREWS
EDINBURGH

September 16 – 29, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Dr. Kathy Edmison
Wanda Barr
Carell Farmer

South Pacific Adventure

COOK ISLANDS · AUCKLAND
ROTORUA · CHRISTCHURCH
MOUNT COOK · QUEENSTOWN
MILFORD SOUND · DUNEDIN
MELBOURNE · PHILLIP ISLAND
CANBERRA · SYDNEY

February 27 – March 20, 2005

Tour Hosts: Ven. Larry & Betty Mitchell

Pearls of South East Asia

THAILAND · SINGAPORE · MALAYSIA
BALI · HONG KONG

February 14 – March 4, 2005

Tour Host: Canon Gordon Kinkley

Costa Rica Discovery

SAN JOSÉ
TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK
ARENAL VOLCANO
TABACON HOT SPRINGS
MONTE VERDE CLOUD FOREST
OCOTAL BEACH RESORT

February 2 – 16, 2005

Cultural Treasures of Mexico

MEXICO CITY · OAXACA
MONTE ALBAN · PALENQUE
CAMPECHE · UXMAL · MERIDA
CHICHEN ITZA

February 16 – March 2, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Murdo & Marie Marple

The Fairways, Châteaux, and Vineyards of France

VERSAILLES · FONTAINEBLEAU
LOIRE VALLEY · BLOIS · AMBOISE
BORDEAUX · SAINT-EMILION
MEDOC · PARIS

Featuring seven rounds of golf
and four wine tastings at chateaux

April 29 – May 13, 2005

Tour Hosts: David & Tracy Rostad

Glories of Imperial Russia

ELEVEN-NIGHT RIVER CRUISE FEATURING:
MOSCOW · RED SQUARE · KREMLIN
UGLICH · YAROSLAVL · GORITZY
VOLGA-BALTIC WATERWAY
KIHZI ISLAND · ST. PETERSBURG
HERMITAGE MUSEUM

May 17 – 29, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. Des & Joan McCalmont

May 20 – June 1, 2005

Tour Hosts: Rev. George & Donna Davidson

September 20 – October 2, 2005

Tour Host: Gertie Gatzke

Eastern European Odyssey

A LUXURIOUS CRUISE

ON THE BEAUTIFUL DANUBE

AUSTRIA · SLOVAKIA · HUNGARY
ROMANIA · BULGARIA

October 1 – 16, 2005

European Adventure

LUXURIOUS RIVER CRUISE

FROM AMSTERDAM TO VIENNA

NETHERLANDS · GERMANY · AUSTRIA

October 12 – 25, 2005

Alaska Highway – Klondike – Glacier Explorer

ALASKA CRUISE & MOTORCOACH TOUR

GRANDE PRAIRIE · FORT NELSON
WATSON LAKE · WHITEHORSE
DAWSON CITY · FAIRBANKS
DENALI NATIONAL PARK
ANCHORAGE · SEVEN-NIGHT VOYAGE
OF THE GLACIERS CRUISE

May 25 – June 13, 2005



A WORLD of EXPERIENCE

Ask your Tour Hosts about their next tour!

FOR ITINERARY DETAILS AND BROCHURE REQUESTS CHECK OUR WEBSITE OR CALL US

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