

U3A Denia

Asociación de la
Tercera Edad de Denia
www.u3adenia.org



TRAVEL, ARTS & CULTURE NEWSLETTER

November 2016

Travel Team:

Pam Rowlinson Travel Group Leader/trip
organiser/Editor

Margaret & Bob Kelly

Travel organiser

Jean O'Keefe

Travel organiser

Ginny & Chris Whitehead

Travel organiser

Barbara Tyrell

Travel organiser

Gordon Clifford

Travel organiser

Christine & Neil Parkin

Travel organisers

Message from Pam

Hello everyone

Thank you all for your continued support of the
U3A Dénia travel group.

We have enjoyed many trips during 2016 and
hopefully 2017 will offer many more with new
and different locations being researched by our
enthusiastic new team.

Some of the trips during 2017 are already open
for booking. Others are still being researched
and the details will continue to be updated on
the travel webpages as soon as they are
confirmed.

Pam Rowlinson
U3A Dénia Travel Group Leader

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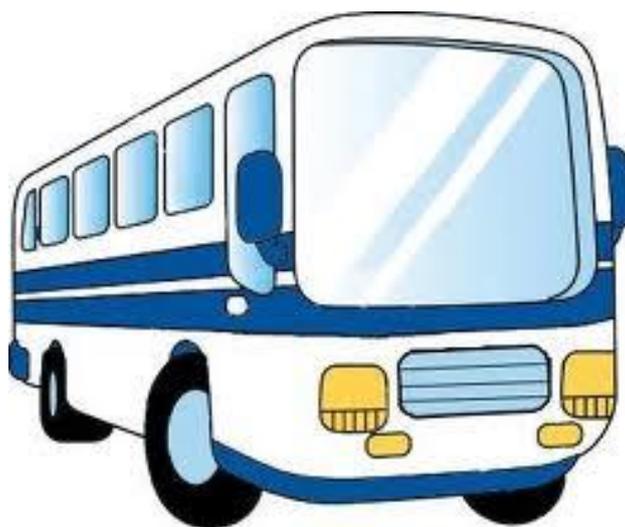
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Proposed Trips



2016 TRAVEL CALENDAR

MONTH	DESTINATION	TRIP LEADER/S
DECEMBER	Valencia Christmas shopping	Margaret & Bob Kelly
	Madrid Christmas Market	Ginny & Chris Whitehead
	Orihuela Christmas break	Margaret & Bob Kelly

2017 PROPOSED TRIPS

JANUARY: 23rd Day trip to Ikea, Valencia - booking now open

FEBRUARY: Trip to Segunto rescheduled for June as boat trip is not advisable for February. An alternative trip is being researched.

MARCH: Sangreal Tour - in search of the Holy Grail - at present only 8 people have shown an interest in this trip

Day trip to Valencia to visit the Fallas displays

APRIL: Teruel and Albarracin - 3 days 2 nights

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MAY: 3rd - 8th May 2017 - A Medieval and Cultural trip to Cataluna
6 days, 5 nights – This trip is now open for bookings

JUNE: 23rd Mojacca
Day trip to Segunto and St Joseph caves with lunch

SEPTEMBER: Nice and Cote d'Azur

OCTOBER: Extremadura

NOVEMBER: Barcelona

DECEMBER: Day trip to Alicante Castle and Christmas Shopping
Christmas Break - location to be confirmed

All the above trips which are not yet open for booking are still being researched. As soon as they are confirmed the U3A Dénia Travel webpages will be updated

2018 PROPOSED TRIPS

Prague/Krakow 4 nights
Rioja to San Sebastian 7 days

9th DECEMBER 2016 - CHRISTMAS SHOPPING – VALENCIA



The ever popular day trip to Valencia for your Christmas Shopping.

Margaret and Bob will be taking this trip.

Full day for you to "shop 'til you drop" or take a more relaxed approach and find the nearest bar/restaurant, it's up to you.

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Cost per person - 8€

Pick up time from:

New Marina Denia - 9.00am

McDonalds Denia - 9.15am

Mas y Mas Ondara - 9.30am

To book go to the U3A Dénia website and sign in (You must sign in to book travel events). Then go to Travel pages and select the Christmas Shopping in Valencia trip then click on [here](#) and enter your details.

23RD DECEMBER 2016 – CHRISTMAS IN ORIHUELA

ALWAYS A POPULAR EVENT



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Departing on 23 December 2016 and returning on 27 December 2016

Margaret & Bob are taking this trip and have reserved 40 rooms, the price is 460.00 Euros per couple and 275 Euros for a single room. These prices can be maintained as a special offer by the hotel until the beginning of June. Any bookings after this may be subject to a price increase. To take advantage of this offer PLEASE BOOK EARLY.

Traditional Christmas break in the four star hotel.

Christmas Day Gala Dinner including drinks

Own Transport to the hotel and back

More details to be announced.

This trip is now fully booked but please email travel@u3adenia.com if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

To book go to the U3A Dénia website and sign in (You must sign in to book travel events). Then go to Travel pages and select the Christmas in Orihuela trip then click on [here](#) and enter your details.

Recent Trips 2016:

Majorca



30 Members of Dénia U3A had a very enjoyable break in Can Pastilla Majorcar at the beginning of October, we began by having boat trip to the island and then being transferred to our hotel, which was really nice with good food and easy links to the rest of Majorca and of course a short walk to the beach and promenade.

Most of the party took trips from the hotel especially the bus, train ride through the island to Soller where the scenery is breath taking. The buses in Majorcar are extremely reasonable so people were able to enjoy making their way to several places on the island by local buses including the beautiful City of Palma which was a short 15 minute ride away.

The weather was extremely kind to us, so many of us spent some time just lazing beside the pool and enjoying the numerous local bars. Some of our more energetic members took out bikes for 4 not realising what hard work they were. Then very happy group returned by boat to Dénia.

Cuenca:



47 members of U3A Dénia set off on a trip to Cuenca. Our accommodation was in the family run Hosteria Canete the location of which was in a beautiful autumnal setting.



After lunch we had a guided tour of the village of Canete where we saw the model of a procession – above.

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After breakfast we visited Ventana del Diablo (window of the devil), with it's fantastic view and then a visit to the 'Enchanted City'



Unfortunately it was not 'enchanted' on our visit as the Heavens opened and it absolutely poured with rain.

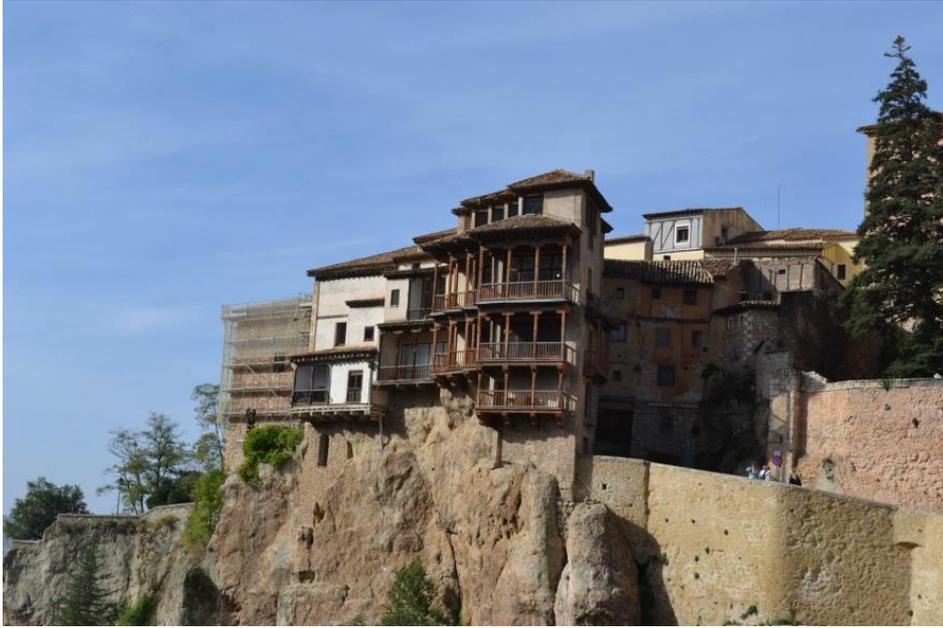
A very soggy group then went to a barbeque lunch in a wooden cabin with a beautiful log fire which soon warmed us up. The food and wine kept flowing and several members of the group let their hair down and danced the afternoon away.

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On the last day we visited Cuenca with its hanging houses – only three of which are now left complete. This was a very pretty village with its coloured houses and interesting streets.

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The weather was kind to us on this occasion and we all enjoyed the visit.

Xativa and a visit to a craft brewery



We had a bad start as the coach had a problem with gears so he took us to Viva Espana and we had a coffee (and brandy) while we waited for a replacement bus to arrive from Benidorm. By the time the coach had crawled to Viva Espana we only had to wait 20 minutes so it wasn't too bad.



From then the day went really well - when we got into the centre of Xativa (which used to be the walled part of the city) the guide took us round to various places of interest such as where Alexander Borjia was born and the hospital which was built for the poor etc. She was very patient with us and waited until we were all assembled at each place of

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interest before giving her commentary. Her knowledge of Xativa and the whole area was very impressive. She told me she came from the Valencia area and loved to talk about it. She knew so much of the history of the Moors and Romans etc. She didn't need any notes - it was all in her head and her enthusiasm and love of where she came from came across strongly.

After just over an hour's tour we then boarded the dotty train which took us over some of the ground we had already covered but with far less detail of what we were looking at. We got almost to the castle with just a short walk up a slope to the restaurant.



The tables were set up outside with wine, water and bread. The meal was typical of the area - they catered for 2 people who couldn't eat the starter because it contained fish and for 3 vegetarian rice dishes with no problem at all and the wine kept flowing - well it did on our table with Brenda as our volunteer spokesperson who chatted up the waiter!

After the meal we returned on the train to the bus and went to the Socarrada brewery where we were met by Sergio one of the joint owners - flutter flutter!! He was very nice and spoke English which he kept apologising for but was really very good. He explained the process of brewing their particular types of ale. This was followed by a tasting.



The first ale we were a little suspicious of because it was served in large bottles and when the bottle was half empty the beer seemed to be cloudy. To be honest if I had served it as a landlady it would have been returned - but the owner said that it was because the beer fermented in the bottle and the sediment was actually yeast. So once I realised that it was going to be good for me I drank up without a further word. The second beer - the Socarrada - was lovely. It was brewed with honey and a fusion of rosemary. A little bit flatter than beers we are used to drinking in the UK but very nice. We were advised that this beer needed to be drunk with food - so nibbles were provided. They also brewed a Christmas ale but we were not allowed to sample or purchase any of that as they had a contract with Corte Inglés that it could only be sold through them.

Peter Jackson, one of our group, has instructed me that I can add a new entry on my CV – **I am now fully qualified to organise a piss up in a brewery!!**

Finally 46 happy revellers returned to Dénia having enjoyed a great day out.

Situation Vacant

I would very much appreciate some help from a volunteer who would be prepared to take on the role of Treasurer for the U3A Travel Group. If you are interested please contact me at pamrowlinson@u3adenia.org