

# **TRAVEL, ARTS & CULTURE NEWSLETTER**

# **April 2017**

Travel Team:

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Travel organiser Travel organiser Travel organiser Travel organiser Travel Treasurer

Message from Pam

A big thankyou to everyone for continuing to support U3A Dénia Travel – we have many new members who are now enjoying travelling with us.

Owing to recent events I feel it is necessary for me to emphasise some of the 'Terms and Conditions' when booking for travel trips/events.

Please do book for an event that you are interested in but then, if you decide that you cannot go for any reason prior to the trip being confirmed as going ahead then it is not a problem. Once you make a reservation you will receive an automated email confirmation of your reservation. Confirmation that the trip is going ahead can only be made once the minimum number of travellers has been obtained to make the trip viable. Once

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Page 9 Alicante castle and **Christmas shopping**  the minimum number is achieved then the confirmation/payment slip will be issued to everyone registered.

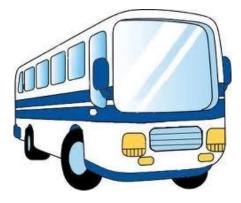
However, once a trip has been confirmed as going ahead – (the issuing of the confirmation/payment slip) – then cancellation is only possible in extreme circumstances – as quoted in the Travel Terms and Conditions which everyone has to agree to before they can make a reservation. This has to be enforced to ensure that the trip can go ahead at the agreed price and to prevent cancellation.

It is not pleasant to have to have disagreements with members when trying to enforce these conditions but they are necessary as cancellations are very disappointing for everyone concerned – including hotels, coach company etc. but especially for the other members who have registered for the event. Once deposits have been made by members who have registered then these payments have to be refunded – with bank charges incurred by U3A Dénia Travel.

So please – do register for any trip or event that you are interested in but do ensure that you have marked your calendar with the correct date and should you need to cancel please do so immediately as once the trip has been confirmed then the Terms and Conditions will apply.

Pam Rowlinson U3A Dénia Travel Group Leader

# Proposed Trips



### **2017 TRAVEL CALENDAR**

| MONTH      | DESTINATION   | TRIP LEADER/S        |
|------------|---|----------------------|
| JUNE:      | 11 <sup>th</sup> Catamaran Sunset Cruise                |                      |
|            | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Day trip to the St Joseph Caves        |                      |
| SEPTEMBER: | Ubeda and Baeza – 3 days, 2                             | 2 nights             |
| OCTOBER:   | Special event – the craziest of Details to be confirmed | uiz in the world     |
| NOVEMBER:  | Barcelona – 4 day, 3 nights                             |                      |
| DECEMBER:  | Day trip to Alicante Castle an                          | d Christmas Shopping |
|            | Christmas Break – details 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** 

Rioja to San Sebastian 7 days Extremedura – May 2018

### June 2017

# **Catamaran Sunset Cruise**



By popular demand we are again organising an adult only Catamaran Sunset Cruise to help raise money for a 'family day out' in the summer for the children who are resident in the care home in Dénia.

This will take place at 7.30pm on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2017 until 10.00pm.

We have managed to keep the price the same as last year -  $\leq$ 30 per person. The price will include musical entertainment, food bag and half a bottle of wine per person.

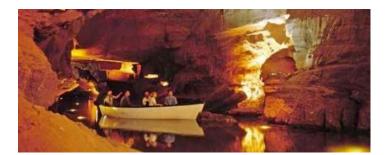
There will also be a raffle.

**Bookings are now open** for this event – so come along and help us 'Rock the Boat' once again.

There are a few places left for this event. If you have guests visiting at this time then you are very welcome to include them – adults only though. Don't leave it until the last minute as places are filling very quickly.

# 22<sup>nd</sup> June

### Day trip to St Joseph Caves



This day trip includes a boat trip along the underground river to see the many features/formations and ancient cave paintings accompanied by an English speaking guide. The boat trip is followed by a 3 course meal:

First Course: Chicken and Tomato salad Rice Mariniera Cream of potato and leek Canelones with lobster

Second Course: Skewer "El Guano" Secret Iberian BBQ Eggs with smoked salmon Tuna caramalised with soy

Desert: Panacotta Cake Natural Pineapple Chocolate brownie

Price €50 per person. Booking now open. Guests welcome



# September 2017

# 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> September

# Ubeda and Baeza



Jaen – Ubeda – Baeza 3 days 2 nights

DAY 1: Dénia – Jaen – Baeza

Early morning departure towards Jaen with stops en route. Arrival and free time to visit Jaen with its Cathedral and Arab baths. Continuing to Baeza, arrival, dinner and accommodation.

DAY 2: Baeza – Ubeda – Baeza

Breakfast and departure towards Ubeda, arrival and free time to visit the town with its very well conserved old town with the services of a local guide. Both towns were the border between the Christian and the Arab world for a long period. The old towns that are full of palaces with the families coat of arms made out of stone on the doors. In the afternoon continuing to Andujar, arrival and free time to visit the city. Return to the hotel.

DAY 3: Baeza - Guadix - Dénia

Breakfast and departure for Dénia with free time for lunch in Guadix and the possibility to visit one of the typical cave houses. Arrival in Dénia.

INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

- Modern air conditioned bus with video, fridge, reclinable seats
- All transfers and excursions mentioned
- 4\* hotel in Baeza
- Half board from dinner on the first day to breakfast on the last
- Water and wine with meals

- Visit to an olive oil factory Almazara
- Guide from Gandia tours

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

Entrance to monuments and museums etc.

PRICES:

| 20 – 25 pax | €235 per person |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 26 – 35 pax | €220 per person |
| 36 – 46 pax | €200 per person |
| 47 – 55 pax | €180 per person |

Single supplement €75

This trip is advertised for the 20 to 25 pax initially. Prices may reduce depending on the number of travellers.

#### Booking now open. Guests welcome

#### **November:**

### Barcelona



4 day/3 night stay in Barcelona with English speaking guide

DAY 1: Dénia - Barcelona

Early morning departure towards Barcelona. Stops en route in Peniscola or Taragona. Arrival and accommodation in the hotel.

DAY 2: Barcelona (Montserrat)

Breakfast and tour of Barcelona with official guide included passing the buzzing Plazas de Catalunya and Espana continuing to Montjuic with it's beautiful view of the city, museums, Spanish village and castle. Continuing to the Gothic quarter passing the famous statue of Columbus and the Sagrada Familia Cathedral. Continuing to Montserrat with its monastery and the Basilica of the Virgin and museum. Return to the hotel, free time and accommodation.

### DAY 3: Barcelona

Breakfast and free day in Barcelona or half day tour of the architectural building by Gaudi famous Catalan architect with the Parque Guell continuing to the sacred family work with a visit to the temples with its impressive towers. Free afternoon and accommodation in the hotel.

### DAY 4: Barcelona - San Sadurni - Castalla

Breakfast and departure towards Sant Sadurni with a visit to a famous wine cellar. Continue to the Costa Blanca with stops en route.

INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

- Modern air conditioned bus with video, fridge, reclinable seats
- All transfers and excursions mentioned
- Visit of Barcelona with official guide
- Hotel Cristal/Exe laictana 4\* in Ramblas area
- Half Board
- Gandia tours guide

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

- Entrance fees to museums, monuments etc.

Prices:

| 20 to 25 pax: | €380 per person |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 26 to 35 pax: | €350 per person |
| 36 to 46 pax: | €330 per person |
| 46 to 55 pax: | €305 per person |

Single supplement: €100

This trip has been initially priced at the 20 to 25 pax. This price will be reduced depending on the number of travellers. Price includes the visit to the winery on the last day.

### Booking now open. Guests welcome

### **December:**

Alicante

# 1<sup>st</sup> December



A visit to Santa Bárbara castle in the morning with English speaking guide to explain the important role played in the Spanish civil war.

Free time for lunch and afternoon shopping.

A visit to the Santa Barbara Castle with 1 hour tour with English speaking quide

You can't fail to notice this impressive castle situated on an outcrop over looking Alicante City. It's one of the largest medieval fortresses in Europe and covers the complete summit of the Benacantil Mountain. Originally built by the Moors in the 10th century, the castle received its name from the conquest of King Alfonse the Wise that took place on 4th December 1248: Saint Barbara's day. Over the following centuries it was developed and extended leaving it with three main areas all dating from different eras.

Santa Barbara Castle has everything you would expect, cannons, a palace, dungeons, a moat, the ruins of a small church and of course that famous lookout tower.

After the castle visit we will have free time for lunch in Alicante followed by Christmas shopping

€16 per person

The price shown is based upon 35 travellers - the more travellers there are the lower the price will be.

Booking now open. Guests welcome