



EUROPA
NOSTRA

2017 Heritage Tours



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Heritage Tours 2017:

Discovering Lviv, with Warsaw
15 - 21 May 2017
Mantua, Modena & Verona
11-17 October 2017
Advent in Munich
5 - 8 December 2017

Cover:

Lazienki Palace, Warsaw

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Teatro Scientifico Bibiena, Mantua



Dear Members,

During all the years of Europa Nostra's existence (already exceeding 50 years) the Heritage Tours have been a special activity for Members, aimed at highlighting the beauty and importance of Cultural Heritage. Although statistics are not saying all that much, it may be of interest to mention that the total number of tours over these years has now exceeded 200, a respectable number indeed.

For 2017 we offer you another three fascinating destinations, and hope that many members will be attracted to participate. Please note that a strict maximum of 25 participants is applied. Therefore, early registration is of the essence, since time and again members have been disappointed because the tour(s) of their choice were booked out. May I reiterate that – apart from offering enjoyment to the participants – these tours also support Europa Nostra's activities in the field of Heritage in Danger and those in Eastern Europe (the Hans de Koster Fund), which should be an added inducement to join.

Next year's first tour, in May, will take members to the relatively unknown pearl of western Ukraine, the city of Lviv (or perhaps better known by its German name Lemberg). We are proud to be able to show you this unusually attractive and thankfully unspoiled city, which has such a rich history linking it strongly with Poland and Habsburg Austria. The tour will start and end in Warsaw, where some exclusive visits are also planned. If you like something a bit more out of the ordinary, this journey should fit the bill.

In October the glorious cities of Mantua, Modena and Verona in northern Italy will be explored with

the special support of Contessa Fulvia Filangieri di Candida Gonzaga, whose family links go back to the famous rulers of Mantua. An inspiring range of visits to wonderful private palazzos and other splendid sites has been lined up for you, and these should give you a lasting impression of – and a privileged insight into – these stunning cities and their interesting surroundings. Exclusivity may be the appropriate label of this tour.

The final tour in early December will be another very special one: a stay in the elegant city of Munich during that uniquely atmospheric time of the year – Advent –, possibly the best season for a visit. This luxurious tour of the grand capital of Bavaria will enable you to experience its famously high cultural standards and will show you a selection of wonderful sights in an exclusive way. Invitations to private homes for lunch and dinner add to the singularity of this trip, which, we anticipate, will leave you with fond and special memories.

As usual, my colleagues of the Heritage Tours Committee and I welcome you to these original tours and hope you will have a very enjoyable time visiting the great places we have selected for you. Thank you for also supporting Europa Nostra's vital work by joining our tours.



Tom Henkemans
Chairman of the Heritage Tours Committee



Old Pidhirtsi Castle

Discovering Lviv, with Warsaw

15 – 21 May 2017

From the 16th-18th centuries, the kingdom of Poland was one of the great powers of Europe and enjoyed a remarkable era of architectural and artistic achievement. Its borders extended into present-day Ukraine so the historic and cultural legacy of the delightful city of Lviv remains Polish, although rather strong influences of Habsburg Austria are also clearly present. Our journey explores this golden age, interwoven with the theme of restoration, both past and present. A feature of this tour is that directors or curators will accompany most of our visits to museums and palaces.

A short stay in Warsaw, the royal capital, precedes our visit to Lviv. Our hotel is a converted palace on the edge of the miraculously rebuilt Old Town, where historian Christine Rostworowska will accompany an introductory walk. The reconstructed Royal Castle is an eloquent testimony to the Polish spirit and contains, among other treasures, the remarkable views of Warsaw by Bellotto which helped with the rebuilding of the city. Adjacent is the elegant 'Palace under the Tin Roof', where we will be shown the oriental collections. We hope to be received at the Belgian Embassy, in the neo-classical Mniszech Palace. After lunch we shall visit the Tyszkiewicz-Potocki palace, which has fine classicist interiors, some of which survived intact. In the evening members have been invited to drinks with a member of the celebrated Czartoryski family, at her private home.

Wednesday morning will be devoted to Lazienki, King Stanislaus Augustus' enchanting 'Palace on the Water', begun in 1775. We will walk through the Park to the White House, with its charming rococo decoration, continuing



Tyszkiewicz-Potocki Palace 1920s

to the old Orangery, where frescoes have recently been discovered, and the Royal Theatre. After lunch at the former Sobanski Palace, an hour's flight brings us to the city of Lviv, formerly Lwow (also known as Lemberg), where we stay in a restored Baroque mansion, adjacent to the neo-classical Dzieduszycki Palace and close to the main square.

The following days will be spent exploring this charming city, which is in an advanced transitional phase between neglect and restoration and as yet relatively untouched by tourism. We will walk to the Rynek and visit the prominent Kornajakta Palace, with its Gothic hall and Italian courtyard. The palace once belonged to Jakub Sobieski, father of the future Jan III Sobieski of Poland. Nearby is the delightful 18th-century Pharmacy Museum. We will also be shown the Dominican church, modelled on the Karlskirche in Vienna and the Armenian church, where a mens' choir will sing for us. In the afternoon we will admire the outstanding collection of icons in the National Museum. Later we plan, subject to schedules, to attend a performance at the turn-of-the-century Opera House. On Friday we will extend our perambulations to the Renaissance Boim chapel, the Cathedral, the Jewish Quarter, the restored Bernardine monastery and Halicki Square. We will also be shown the St Paraskeva church, with its famous iconostasis. A drive will take us up to the High Castle, for the panoramic views, and a survey of Art Nouveau architecture, including a visit to the home of artist Olena Kulczycka.

A day's excursion will feature a visit to the moated castle of Olesko, set in lovely countryside, with displays of furniture, tapestries, porcelain icons and paintings. We will also be shown Pidhirsti castle, an evocative shell which was once one of the most splendid magnates' palaces in Greater Poland. We return to Lviv for our farewell dinner. The next morning there will be time for a visit to the Lviv Art Gallery in the Potocki Palace, a collection of Renaissance to 18th-century European painting, before an early lunch and return flight to Warsaw.



The Opera, Lviv



The Cathedral, Lviv



Leopolis Hotel

Price: €3,580
Single Room Supplement: €380

The four price includes accommodation at superior hotels in Warsaw (2 nights) and Lviv (4 nights) / International flights Warsaw/Lviv/Warsaw in economy class / All meals / Ground transport by private coach / Guides / Entrance fees / Taxes

The tour price is based on 20 participants. We hope it will not be necessary, but should the number fall below this we reserve the right to charge a supplement.

Europa Nostra Representative: Dr Reina van Ditzhuyzen
Tour Organiser: Mrs Harriet Landseer

The tour starts on Monday 15 May at the Hotel Regina, Warsaw at 16.00 and ends at Warsaw Airport on Sunday 21 May at 15.40 (subject to LOT schedules).



Mantua

Mantua, Modena & Verona

11-17 October 2017

This original tour combines a trio of the loveliest historic cities in northern Italy: Mantua, still evocative of the brilliant Renaissance court of the illustrious Gonzaga family, Modena, famous for its Romanesque Cathedral, and spectacular Verona, with its rich heritage. We also plan to visit Sabbioneta, and country properties near Lake Garda. The tour will be accompanied by Contessa Fulvia Filangieri di Candida Gonzaga, who is well-known to Europa Nostra members. Her impeccable contacts have ensured a number of exclusive hosted private receptions at fascinating properties.

On the first evening we will take an orientation walk in the centro storico of Mantua, with dinner at the Palazzo Castiglioni, the 14th-century residence of the descendants of Baldassare Castiglione, diplomat and author of 'Il Cortegiano'.

A morning tour of the Palazzo Ducale reveals a city within a city, with older palaces, churches and chapels, courtyards and gardens. Highlights include the apartments of Isabella d'Este and the 'Camera degli Sposi', with Mantegna's vivid portrait of members of Gonzaga family. We will also be shown Leon-Battista Alberti's classic church of Sant'Andrea. A brunch will be served at the neo-classical Palazzo d'Arco, now a museum with collections of furniture, musical instruments, ceramics and paintings. In the afternoon we will be shown the delightful Teatro Scientifico by Bibiena, where the young Mozart performed, as well as, by special arrangement, a private mansion where a remarkable cycle of Quattrocento frescoes has recently been uncovered.

The following day we shall visit the Palazzo Tè, conceived by Giulio Romano as a summer palace on the model of the rural Roman villa. We will also explore the exquisite small-scale city of Sabbioneta, built by Vespasiano Gonzaga as an ideal fortified town, with a theatre by Scamozzi. In the evening a dinner is planned at the Palazzo Nievo-Angeli, where we will be received by Ing. Armando Angeli. This atmospheric palace was home of the 19th-century author Ippolito Nievo.

On Saturday we shall visit the fascinating Benedictine abbey of San Benedetto Polirone, continuing to Modena where we hope to arrange an exclusive visit to an important private palace. We return to Mantua for dinner at the 16th-century Palazzo Panzera, hosted by Dott. Paolo Corbellani. The next day we will visit the picturesque resort of Sirmione, on Lake Garda, continuing for lunch at the fine Palladian-inspired Villa Sigurtà near Valeggio sul Mincio, with a member of the Sigurtà family. We have also been granted a special visit to the historic Villa Arrighi at the medieval village of Castellaro Lagusello, by kind arrangement with owners Marchesi Guido and Paola Tacoli.

We continue to Verona, the handsome city set in a loop of the river Adige. Our hotel, the renowned Due Torri, is a 15th-century palace, a short walk from the Piazza delle Erbe, once the Roman Forum and the Piazza dei Signori, centre of civic life in medieval times. Subsequently there will be a visit to the gardens of the Villa Guerrieri-Rizzardi; lunch at a privately-owned vineyard and a special farewell dinner at the magnificent Palazzo Canossa, as guests of Marchesi Isa and Guidalberto di Canossa.

On the last morning, there will be a reception at the monumental Palazzo Bevilacqua, and a visit to the beautiful Giardini Giusti with Marchesa Sandra Imperiali di Francavilla Giusti del Giardino.



Palazzo d'Arco



Verona



Palazzo Canossa

Price: €3,390
Single Room Supplement: €320

The tour price includes accommodation at a comfortable hotel in Mantua (3 nights) and a superior hotel in Verona (2 nights) / All meals except one dinner / Ground transport by private coach / Guides / Entrance fees / Taxes

The tour price is based on 20 participants. We hope it will not be necessary, but should the number fall below this we reserve the right to charge a supplement.

Europa Nostra Representative: Mr Tom Henkemans
Tour Organiser: Miss Frances Roxburgh

The tour starts on Wednesday 11 October at the Hotel Casa Poli, Mantua at 17.00 and ends at Hotel Due Torri, Verona by 13.00 on Tuesday 17 October.



Advent in Munich

5 – 8 December 2017

For centuries Munich, seat of the dukes, electors and, later, kings of Bavaria, was splendidly endowed with great palaces and art collections. Over our pre-Christmas stay we shall appreciate the cultural legacy of the powerful Wittelsbach dynasty and attend a seasonal performance at the Opera, as well as enjoying the hospitality of our Munich hosts. As a seasonal treat, we shall be staying at the famous Bayerischer Hof hotel, the epitome of luxury in this delightful city.

Our hotel is close to the Marienplatz, heart of the old city and site of the Town Hall with the famous carillon or Glockenspiel and the festive Christmas market. It is also within easy walking distance of the distinctive Gothic Frauenkirche and the Jesuit church of St Michael, dating from the 16th century. All of these will be included on an introductory walk, the first afternoon. We have then been invited to dine at the home of Mrs Jeanette Scholz, the Europa Nostra representative and member of Europa Nostra's Heritage Tours Committee, already known to many of you.

The following morning we will drive out to Schloss Nymphenburg, the beautiful summer palace of the Bavarian sovereigns and prince-electors from the mid 17th century. After admiring the Banqueting Hall or

Festsaal and the 'Gallery of Beauties' or Schönheitsgalerie, we will be shown the Marstallmuseum, a display of carriages in the former stables as well as the collection of Nymphenburg porcelain. Next, the Duke of Bavaria has graciously offered to host members for a drink at his home. After lunch at a rustic Bavarian restaurant, we return to the historic centre to explore the vast Residence of the Wittelsbach dynasty, dating from 1385. In addition to the Royal Apartments, we will be shown the delightful rococo Theatre, designed by François de Cuvillies and the dazzling Treasury, where an exclusive tour will enable us to study the priceless objects in detail. The Residenz also holds a more select Christkindmarkt. In the evening, we will attend a performance at the Opera, subject to schedules, with dinner in the interval. The Nationaltheater, home to the Bavarian State Opera, was built 1811-1818 and has one of the largest stages in the world. Full details of the performance will be available nearer the time.

On Thursday, we plan a visit to Schloss Lustheim, a delightful Baroque hunting lodge and garden palace, which now houses the Ernst Schneider Collection of Meissen porcelain, the finest such collection outside Dresden. We return to Munich for a private lunch with Mr and Mrs Peter Siemens at their lovely home. The afternoon will be mainly devoted to a curator-led visit of the magnificent collections of European old master paintings in the Alte Pinakothek, systematically acquired by generations of the Wittelsbach dynasty. It is one of the world's most famous art galleries, with particularly important German, Dutch and Flemish masterpieces. There will also be free time to address the serious matter of Christmas shopping. Dr and Mrs Peter Küchler are kindly hosting us for our farewell dinner.

On the last morning, we will enjoy a guided visit to Villa Stuck, a Jugendstil house built for one of the founding members of the Munich Secession, Franz Stuck and decorated with his own works of art. This will be followed by a visit to the Lenbach House, built in the style of a Florentine villa, where we will focus on the avant-garde Blaue Reiter collection, including paintings by Kandinsky and Klee. We will have lunch together to mark the end of this tour.



The Frauenkirche



Price: €1,840
Single Room Supplement: €480

The tour price includes accommodation at a deluxe hotel in Munich (3 nights) / All meals / One opera performance / Ground transport by private coach / Guides / Entrance fees / Taxes

The tour price is based on 20 participants. We hope it will not be necessary, but should the number fall below this we reserve the right to charge a supplement.

Europa Nostra Representative: Mrs Jeanette Scholz

Tour Organiser: Mrs Antonia Lloyd Owen

The tour starts on Tuesday 5 December at the Hotel Bayerischer Hof, Munich at 15.00 and ends there on Friday 8 December by 14.30.

Europa Nostra

The Voice of Cultural Heritage
in Europe



Europa Nostra is the pan-European federation of heritage NGO's which is also supported by a wide network of public bodies, private companies and individuals. Covering 40 countries in Europe, the organisation is the voice of civil society committed to safeguarding and promoting Europe's cultural and natural heritage. Founded in 1963, Europa Nostra is today recognised as the most representative heritage network in Europe.

Our activities are centred on celebrating, protecting and lobbying for cultural heritage – which are all intertwined.

In partnership with the European Commission, our organisation runs Europe's most prestigious heritage awards scheme. The EU Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards celebrate and promote best practices in conservation, research, dedicated service, and education, training and awareness-raising. Since its launch in 2002, a total of 426 exemplary heritage achievements from 34 countries have been recognised.

Europa Nostra campaigns to save Europe's threatened monuments, sites and landscapes, in particular through 'The 7 Most Endangered' programme. Established in 2013 and run in partnership with the European Investment Bank Institute, this programme identifies some of the most threatened landmarks and mobilises public and private partners - at local, national and European levels - to find a viable future for these sites.

Our organisation contributes to the formulation and implementation of European strategies and policies related to heritage, through a structured dialogue with European Institutions and through the coordination of the European Heritage Alliance 3.3. Every year, Europa Nostra organises the European Heritage Congress, the largest gathering of heritage professionals and volunteers on a European scale.

Our Heritage Tours are exclusively created for and especially tailored to Europa Nostra's Individual Members. Members of Europa Nostra Member Organisations may also join these tours. Every booking on these tours financially benefits the activities undertaken by our organisation.

For detailed information about Europa Nostra, please visit our website:

www.europanostra.org

Making a booking

Making a booking

As places on each of the three tours are limited, especially single accommodation, we recommend that initially you telephone us on **0044 (0)20 7386 4690** or email us on **info@specialtours.co.uk** to make a reservation.

Thereafter, please complete the booking form and forward it to The Ultimate Travel Company Limited. At this stage a non-refundable deposit of €350 per person is required, payable by bank transfer or debit / credit card as indicated on the booking form. We have the facility to accept payment by most major credit and debit cards and are now able to take these payments in Euros at no additional charge. If you are booking less than eight weeks prior to departure the full cost of the tour is payable.

On receipt of your booking form and deposit we will confirm your booking in writing, then no less than 10 weeks before departure we shall send you further information relevant to the tour you have booked, together with a final invoice which will also show any surcharges due (if applicable). You must pay the invoice within 14 days of the invoice date otherwise we reserve the right to treat the booking as cancelled and apply the cancellation conditions as set out below.

Your travel documents will be dispatched approximately 10 days before the date on which the tour actually begins.

Fitness to travel

Whilst we do not impose any age limitations on joining a tour, participants must be reasonably fit. The very nature of the sightseeing involved in our tours (and the difficulties of direct access by coach in various places) means that a considerable amount of walking and standing is unavoidable on almost all tours. We regret that our tours are not suitable for people who have difficulty in walking, may require wheelchair assistance at any time, or are unable to keep pace with the group.

If you are in any doubt as to the suitability of a tour, please make this known to us before you book and we will advise you accordingly. The Ultimate Travel Company reserves the right to decline a reservation without necessarily giving a reason.

Passport, Visas & Health

All clients are personally responsible for ensuring that they have a valid passport / identity card, any required visa, and conform to the health regulations required by the relevant country.

Booking Conditions

The tours featured in this brochure are operated by Specialtours at The Ultimate Travel Company Limited, which is registered in England under company number 3528325.

Suppliers

The Ultimate Travel Company Limited acts only as agent for the owners of accommodation and services provided, for all carriers by air or otherwise and for road transport proprietors, and all bookings must be accepted subject to the ticket or transport conditions and regulations of the carriers or transport proprietors, and also subject to the laws of the country in which such carriage or other facility is required.

Cancellation

You or any member of your party may cancel your tour at any time providing that the cancellation is made by the person who signed the booking form and is communicated in writing. Cancellation charges, based upon the length of time prior to departure when said cancellation is received, will apply. The sum due, shown below, is stated as a percentage of the total tour cost.

More than 70 days	Deposit
69 to 30 days	50%
29 to 15 days	75%
14 days or less	100%

If you are obliged to cancel you may, with reasonable notice, transfer your booking to a third party who satisfies any conditions necessary to take that tour; in which case we reserve the right to levy an administration charge.

Alterations by The Ultimate Travel Company

We will do our utmost to provide the tour arrangements that have been confirmed, but we must retain the right to modify or cancel any tour, flight schedule, accommodation or arrangement should unforeseen circumstances amounting to 'force majeure' arise. In such circumstance we will inform you as soon as possible, and, should the change be such that it alters the nature of the tour, we will give you the choice of an alternative tour or a full refund of all monies paid. In recognition we will absorb all financial loss, except personal expenditure, consequent upon cancellation due to 'force majeure'. We shall not cancel any tour for reason of political tension or natural disaster unless specifically recommended to do so by the relevant government office.

Tour Cancellation

The price of a tour is based on a varying minimum number of passengers travelling. If the minimum number is not reached, at least 8 weeks prior to the scheduled departure date we will either cancel the tour and offer a full refund, or we may propose a supplementary charge which, subject to passengers agreement, will enable the tour to operate.

Our Liabilities

We do not exclude or limit any liability to our clients which may arise from proven negligence by any person employed directly by us or by our suppliers and subcontractors, servants or agents of the same whilst acting in the course of their employment (other than air and sea carriers performing any domestic internal or international carriage of whatsoever kind) in respect of death, bodily injury or illness. Such liabilities shall be subject to English law and all proceedings shall be within the exclusive domain of the English courts. We shall endeavour to afford general assistance to our clients in the event of illness, injury or death during the period of the tour. We accept responsibility for ensuring that all parts of the tour are supplied as described and that all services shall reach a reasonable standard. These obligations and responsibilities shall be limited to where international conventions in respect of air or sea carriers apply. We do not assume responsibility for loss or expense due to war, riot, strike, terrorist activity or natural disaster.

Travel Insurance

We believe travel insurance is essential and reserve the right to cancel a booking if cover is not obtained. Care should be taken to ensure you have adequate cover particularly for cancellation and emergency repatriation in the event of medical problems.

Complaints & Arbitration

We endeavour to resolve any complaints on the spot, however if the matter cannot be resolved please write our Managing Director, Nick Van Gruisen, within 14 days of the end of the tour. We will endeavour to resolve the problem as promptly as possible. In the unlikely event that the problem is not amicably resolved the case may be referred to arbitration, if the customer so wishes, under a special Scheme arranged by the Association of British Travel Agents and provided by CEDR Solve, Europe's leading commercial and workplace mediation service.

The scheme provides for a simple and inexpensive method of arbitration on documents alone with restricted liability on the customer in respect of costs.

The Scheme does not apply to claims for an amount greater than €5,000 per person. There is also a limit of €25,000 per booking form. Neither does it apply to claims which are solely in respect of physical injury or illness or their consequences. The Scheme can however deal with compensation claims which include an element of minor injury or illness subject to a limit of €1,500 on the amount the arbitrator can award per person in respect of this element. The application for arbitration and Statement of Claim must be received by ABTA, who will forward them to CEDR Solve, within eighteen months of the date of return from the holiday. Outside this time limit arbitration under the Scheme may still be available if the company agrees, but the ABTA Code does not require such agreement. Full details will be provided on request or can be obtained from the ABTA website (www.abta.com).

Baggage & Personal Effects

These remain your responsibility and risk at all times.

Final Note

The tour organiser, in conjunction with the appropriate medical advice if applicable and in consultation with Europa Nostra, has the right to disqualify any client at any time during the course of the tour, if considered necessary for the medical well being or safety of the individual or in the tour organiser's opinion, the client's actions are materially affecting the enjoyment of the tour for the remainder of the group. Any decision with regard to any reimbursement for any part of the tour not completed will be decided between the Managing Director of The Ultimate Travel Company Limited and the tour organiser.

Data Protection Statement

Please be assured that we have measures in place to protect the personal booking information held by us.

Full details of our data protection policy are available upon request.

For further details and reservations
please contact:

0044 (0)20 7386 4690 or
info@specialtours.co.uk

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