



EUROPA  
NOSTRA

# Heritage Tours 2018





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Reinildis van Ditzhuyzen  
Robert Engels  
Walter Hagg  
Barbara Zander (Secretary)

**Heritage Tours 2018:**

Edinburgh & The Borders  
22-28 May 2018

The Canton of Bern  
10-15 September 2018

Genoa & Portofino  
22-27 October 2018

**Cover:**

Edinburgh, from Calton Hill

**This page:**

Enfilade, Palazzo Rosso, Genoa



## Dear Members,

It is a real pleasure for me to introduce the three tours we have planned for you in 2018, the European Year of Cultural Heritage. To mark this special year on the calendar, we offer you some great destinations in various parts of Europe. Whichever tour – or tours - you choose, you will be rewarded with a region known for its impressive patrimony and outstanding beauty. As ever, a number of private visits are only possible because of Europa Nostra's status and contacts.

Our first destination will be Edinburgh and the Scottish Borders, in May. Within a short drive of the capital, one of the most attractive cities of the British Isles, we find an array of impressive private houses and some glorious unspoilt countryside. An exclusive visit to Royal Yacht Britannia will be something different again. We are sure that this tour will give you a superb impression of the brilliance of Scotland's historic places, stately family homes and scenery.

Our tour of the Swiss canton of Vaud in 2006 turned out to be one of the very best and most successful tours ever offered to our members. We are delighted that Europa Nostra's Council member from Switzerland, Gianfederico Pedotti, has been willing to create a similarly spectacular tour for September 2018, this time to the Bernese Oberland. Again, we shall have the privilege to be welcomed at a range of outstanding private castles and mansions, some set in awe-inspiring lakeside scenery, such as can only be seen in Switzerland. This is a genuinely unique tour and thus needs no further recommendation.

In October it is Italy's turn again. In the fascinating city of Genoa, restored in recent decades, the doors of the most exceptional palazzi will be opened to our members, through personal introduction. If you like the typical grandeur of Italian houses, this tour will show you some of the very best. We will also venture into the hills of neighbouring Piedmont and to the elegant resorts of the Ligurian coast, exploring both by coach and boat. A tour perfectly suited to Italy lovers.

As you know, your participation in these tours contributes to the work Europa Nostra is so successfully engaged in to protect Europe's indispensable cultural heritage. Therefore, we do hope that the tours will be well supported, and that we shall welcome some first-timers as well as our regular travellers. Please book early, as the tours may sell out quite promptly – first come, first served!

Just for the sake of good order, we would like to remind you that, considering a fair amount of walking is involved in each tour, participants are expected to be able to walk without any problem.

The Members of the Heritage Tours Committee again wish you enjoyable travels with Europa Nostra and look forward to your participation in these incomparable tours. Thank you so much for your highly valued loyalty and support.

*Tom Henkemans*

Tom Henkemans  
Chairman of the Heritage Tours Committee



Arniston



Hopetoun House

## Edinburgh & The Borders

22–28 May 2018

As the cradle of the Scottish Enlightenment in the 18th century, Edinburgh was famed as 'The Athens of the North' and attracted artists, architects and aesthetes as well as men of letters, philosophers and scientists. This is reflected in a number of great houses, many still lived in by the original families. Most of the houses on this itinerary are being opened specially for Europa Nostra and several contain world-class art collections. We shall be staying in Edinburgh's Georgian 'New Town' and on a ducal estate in the Borders.

Our hotel in the Scottish capital dates from the 19th century and is ideally located on stately George Street. On the first evening, we will be welcomed for drinks at a private house in Royal Terrace, before dining at the pre-eminent New Club (founded in 1787), overlooking Edinburgh Castle. Next morning we will drive to one of Scotland's great stately homes, the splendid Hopetoun House, seat of the Marquess of Linlithgow, designed by William Adam. Later, there will be an opportunity to view the Queen's Gallery at the Palace of Holyrood, an exclusive visit to Royal Yacht Britannia and dinner at the elegant headquarters of the Scottish Malt Whisky Society.

Just south of Edinburgh are several fine houses associated with the Adam family of architects. Henrietta Dundas will show us around Arniston, a Baroque mansion which has been in her family for centuries and has a fascinating history and contents. Next, we will be received for lunch by the More-Nisbett family at The Drum, a handsome Palladian house noted for its plasterwork.

On Friday we drive north across the Firth of Forth to the historical kingdom of Fife to visit two remarkable houses which are not opened to the public. The first is a 17th-century house, with an interior remodelled from 1785, the home of Richard Monro-Ferguson. The second contains wonderful art collections, including rare early Italian paintings and other treasures, collected by generations of connoisseurs. We will be hosted for lunch by Lord and Lady Balniel.

Leaving the capital, we head for the scenic Borders, pausing at the evocative ruin of the neo-Palladian Penicuik House. A beautiful garden and lunch at Portmore House, courtesy of Mr and Mrs David Reid, provides a delightful contrast. Later, we will visit the Glen, home of the Tennant family, a typical example of the Scottish Baronial style, with interiors by Robert Lorimer, 'the Lutyens of the North'. A drive along the unspoilt Tweed Valley brings us to the comforts of the Roxburghe, more charming country house than hotel, which is part of the ducal estate of Floors. *If all participants book early, we should secure exclusive use for our two nights' stay.*

From here we visit the treasure-house of Bowhill, seat of the Duke of Buccleuch, with a fabulous art collection, and Mellerstain, with its gracious Adam interiors. In between, we will see the lovely rose garden at Carolside and enjoy lunch in the house with Mr and Mrs Antony Foyle. Finally, we have been granted a special visit to Mertoun, to see the exceptional picture collection of the Dukes of Sutherland, a rare privilege.



Mellerstain



The Tweed Valley



Bowhill



Carolside

**Price:** €3,420  
**Single Room Supplement:** €520

The tour price includes: Accommodation at a first-class hotel in Edinburgh (4 nights) and a superior hotel near Kelso (2 nights) • All meals except one lunch and one dinner • Ground transport by private coach • Guides • Entrance fees • Taxes.

**Europa Nostra Representative: Robert Engels**  
**Tour Organiser: Frances Roxburgh**

The tour starts at 16.30 on Tuesday 22 May at the Principal Hotel, Edinburgh and ends at Edinburgh Airport by 13.00 on Monday 28 May.



Bern

## The Canton of Bern 10–15 September 2018

Recalling the highly successful tour of the Canton of Vaud in 2006, we are pleased to offer you a unique opportunity to enjoy the splendours of Switzerland, in a special way. We are indebted to Europa Nostra's Swiss Council member, Mr Gianfederico Pedotti, for creating another exclusive experience, with special access to various privately-owned homes in this most scenic region. The historic and luxurious Bellevue Palace, splendidly located in the heart of Bern, will be our base for five nights.

The Old Town of Bern, with its narrow arcaded streets and ancient towers remains evocative of the Middle Ages. An expertly guided stroll around the historic centre precedes dinner together at the hotel. Our first excursion will take us to charming Spiez, on Lake Thun, for an introduction to the area and a guided tour of the medieval castle with the owner, Mr Georg von Erlach. Set on a spur overlooking the lake, Schloss Spiez contains fine Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque furniture and notable stained glass. We continue to scenic Lake Brienz for lunch on the terrace of the Grandhotel Giessbach. Next, we descend by the historical funicular to join the steamship 'Lötschberg' – dating from 1914 - and cross to Interlaken. Nearby, we will be received by Dr Bernard Steck at the 18th-century 'Campagne d'Allmendingen'. The 'campagne' was a country house, built as a summer home for the Bernese nobility and this is a delightful example.

On Wednesday we leave for Riggisberg to spend the morning at the fascinating Abegg Foundation with the Director, Dr Regula Schorta. The Foundation is one of the widest-ranging private collections of historic textiles in the world and is committed to their conservation and study. We will be shown the wonderful exhibits, the restoration studios and the Villa Abegg, private home of the owner. Returning to Bern, we will be received at the patrician Beatrice von Wattenwyl-Haus, now the official guesthouse of the Swiss Federal Council. Later, we will have dinner at Schloss Burgistein, hosted by Europa Nostra member and former Ambassador, Mr André von Graffenried. The castle, dating from the 13th century, has been in his family for 300 years.

Next, we drive into the neighbouring canton of Vaud, to Oron-le-Châtel, a pretty village on the banks of the river Flon. After visiting the Château d'Oron, with its fine collections of porcelain, remarkable library and elegant music room, we continue to the medieval city of Murten (Morat) for lunch on the shores of the tranquil Lake Morat. There will be free time to explore and to complete the 'chemin de ronde' of the ramparts. In the evening, Gianfederico Pedotti and his wife, Maria, have graciously invited participants to dine at their charming family home in Richigen.

On Friday members will enjoy a private visit to the impressive Renaissance castle of Oberdiessbach, dating from 1668, with Mr Sigmund von Wattenwyl. We continue to the picturesque market town of Langnau, in the rolling hills of the Emmenthal valley, for lunch at a typical inn. In the afternoon we will be taken round the famous century-old Kambly biscuit factory by Mr Oscar Kambly, to include a visit to the private art collection. Our farewell dinner will be held at the exclusive club of the Grand Société de Berne, in the 18th-century Hôtel de Musique. Finally, we will enjoy a visit and tasting at the Weinhaus Schipf, dating from 1398, with Mr Kaspar von Meyenburg.



DS Lötschberg



Oberdiessbach



Château d'Oron

Lake Thun

**Price:** €3,790  
**Single Room Supplement:** €750

The tour price includes: Accommodation at a deluxe hotel in Bern (5 nights)  
• All meals except one dinner • Ground transport by private coach • Guides  
• Entrance fees • Taxes.

**Europa Nostra Representative: Reinildis van Ditzhuyzen**  
**Tour Organiser: Antonia Lloyd Owen**

The tour starts at 16.30 on Monday 10 September at the Hotel Bellevue Palace, Bern and ends at Zurich Airport by 15.00 on Saturday 15 September.

Image credits: Oberdiessbach © Markus Beyeler <http://www.markusbeyeler.ch>;  
Château d'Oron © André Locher, [www.swisscastles.ch](http://www.swisscastles.ch)



Cervara



Palazzo Spinola

## Genoa & Portofino 22–27 October 2018

This exclusive tour reflects the 'Golden Age' of the great maritime republic of Genoa. In the 16th century the foremost palaces of the city were meticulously recorded on the 'Rolli di Genova' and their noble occupants obliged, by public lottery, to host visiting dignitaries. Members of Europa Nostra will be accorded a similar privilege, through personal introduction. We shall see how austere buildings conceal magnificent interiors and a wealth of art treasures. The tour concludes with a short stay in the resort of Santa Margherita, visiting the enchanting Portofino peninsula.

A traditional hotel in the historic centre is our base for exploring Genoa. After gathering here on the first evening, we proceed for drinks at an elegant private apartment, by kind invitation of Contessa Rachele Guicciardi. The Villa Lo Zerbino, set in parkland with well preserved Seicento frescoes and neo-classical decoration, is the venue for an introductory dinner. We have invited Conte Gaddo della Gherardesca, President of the Associazione delle Dimore Storiche, to join us.

We have special permission to enter some of the patrician palaces along the stately Via Garibaldi, with their great saloni, sumptuously decorated with gilt and stucco, as well as frescoes, paintings and tapestries depicting glorious episodes in Genoese history. These include Palazzo Lomellino and Palazzo Carrega-Cataldi, both listed on the 'Rolls'. We will also visit the art galleries of Palazzo Rosso and Palazzo Bianco. Lunch will be at Genoa's most exclusive club, the Società del Casino. Later we will be

received at Palazzo Negrone, home of Marchese Bendinelli Negrone and at Palazzo Cattaneo della Volta, that of Marchesa Elena Cattaneo. Both these palaces are of considerable historic and artistic value.

On Wednesday we will visit the church of San Matteo, founded in 1125 as the chapel of the Doria family, and walk through the Old Town to the National Gallery of Palazzo Spinola.

After lunch in the old port, we will visit the Villa del Principe, the Renaissance palace of the celebrated Admiral Andrea Doria. Later there will be a private reception at Palazzo Pallavicino, where our hostess is Marchesa Emanuela Brignone Cattaneo Adorno.

The highlight of the following day, after a visit to the Palazzo Reale, is an excursion into the hills of neighbouring Piedmont. Here we will be received for lunch at Castello di Montaldeo by Marchese Clemente Doria and his wife, Ilaria. We continue to our hotel in the resort of Santa Margherita Ligure, where we will dine together.

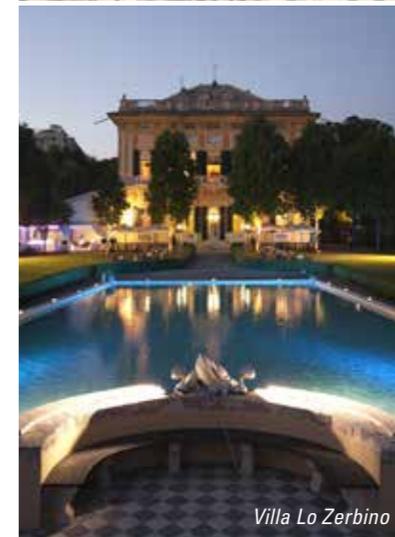
The promontory of Portofino, fortified since Roman times, has long been renowned for its mild climate and luxuriant vegetation. Our day's excursion starts with a visit to the restored Abbey of Cervara. Next we shall cross by boat from Santa Margherita to the attractive harbour of Portofino, with its castle and picturesque houses. Sig.ra Mavi Tonolli will show us her restored rustic tower, with its beautiful views over the bay. After lunch at the famous Hotel Splendido, we return to enjoy Santa Margherita. On the last morning, we will be received for refreshments by Contessa Maricle Langosco di Langosco at her attractive hunting lodge and garden.



Palazzo Reale



Old Port, Genoa



Villa Lo Zerbino



Palazzo Carrega-Cataldi

**Price: €3,450**  
**Single Room Supplement: €350**

The tour price includes: Accommodation at a first-class hotel in Genoa (3 nights) and a superior hotel in Santa Margherita Ligure (2 nights) • All meals except one dinner • Ground transport by private coach • Guides • Entrance fees • Taxes.

**Europa Nostra Representative: Walter Hagg**  
**Tour Organiser: Nicola Howard**

The tour starts at 17.45 on Monday 22 October at the Hotel Bristol Palace, Genoa and ends at Genoa Airport by 14.00 on Saturday 27 October.

# Europa Nostra



Civil society in action for Europe's heritage

Europa Nostra is the most representative heritage organisation in Europe with members from over 40 countries. Our pan-European federation of heritage NGO's is supported by a wide network of public bodies, private companies and individuals. Since 1963, we have celebrated, protected and lobbied for Europe's heritage.

In partnership with the European Commission, our organisation runs Europe's top heritage Awards scheme. The **EU Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards** celebrates best practices in conservation, research, dedicated service, and education, training and awareness-raising. Since its launch in 2002, over 450 exemplary heritage accomplishments from 34 countries have been recognised.

Europa Nostra campaigns to save Europe's most threatened monuments, sites and landscapes, in particular through the **7 Most Endangered programme**, in collaboration with the European Investment Bank Institute. Since its launch in 2013, we have listed and mobilised efforts to save 22 threatened heritage landmarks across Europe.

Our organisation contributes to the development of **European strategies and policies related to heritage**, through a structured dialogue with **European institutions** and the coordination of the **European Heritage Alliance 3.3**.

Europa Nostra is an official partner and has been closely involved in the preparations for the **European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018**. Europa Nostra is organising special editions of the Awards scheme and the 7 Most Endangered programme as well as a series of events and activities throughout Europe in the framework of the Year. We will transform our annual congress into a true **European Cultural Heritage Summit**, which will be held from **18-24 June** in **Berlin**. Europa Nostra, the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation (SPK) and the German Cultural Heritage Committee (DNK) will co-host the Summit, which will provide a unique platform for exchanges among heritage players, a wider circle of stakeholders and the general public. In 2018, our Heritage Tours will also mark this special Year.

Find out more and join us:

[www.europanostra.org](http://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 or 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](http://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](mailto:info@specialtours.co.uk)

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