

# NEWS



October 2007

## 'AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT'

### WALKING HOLIDAYS SPECIALIST, RAMBLERS WORLDWIDE HOLIDAYS IS OFFERING A RANGE OF SPECIAL TOURS TO UNDISCOVERED DESTINATIONS IN 2008

Walking holidays specialist, Ramblers Worldwide Holidays is offering a range of special tours to 'undiscovered' destinations in 2008.

Here are a few to whet the appetite!

#### WALKING THE WILD COAST OF CATALONIA

Ramblers Worldwide Holidays is offering two very different holidays to the fascinating region of Catalonia, Northern Spain.

The first, is an 11-day tour embracing the Costa Brava (The Wild Coast), which begins at Alt Empordà with its dramatic rugged scenery.

This two centre holiday begins in El Port de la Selva, a sheltered harbour with access to two of Spain's long distance paths. These include the picturesque tour of Cadaques (where Dali lived and worked) the Cap de Creus National Park, the Monastery of Sant Pere de Rodes, South to Baix Empordà and the second centre, the bustling port of Palamos, the medieval villages and cork woods of Les Gavarres and many old smugglers' paths.

**Lead in price £699** 11 days in two centres, flights, half board accommodation at 3-star Hotel Porto Cristo – El Port de la Selva (breakfasts and dinners taken in the hotel) and 3-star family run Hostal Catalina – Palamós (breakfasts will be taken at the hotel and dinners in local restaurants) and the services of a tour leader.

#### ELBA – IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF NAPOLEON

A one-week, easy paced tour of this beautiful Italian island whose history is so inextricably linked to the Emperor Napoleon who was exiled there when he abdicated for the first time.

The third largest of Italy's islands Elba offers superb beaches, walking, history and culture.

The base for this holiday is on the edge of Portoferraio, the capital, with a short walk to the town centre. Included in the leisurely itinerary is a climb up Monte Capanne at 1100m, the highest point on the island.

**Lead in price £596** includes flights, transfers, half board accommodation at 3-star hotel Villa Padulella in Portoferraio and the services of a tour leader.

# THE WORLD'S MORE BEAUTIFUL ON FOOT

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## AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT (Continued)

### A JOURNEY ACROSS THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

This fantastic 14 day journey across the Himalayas from India and Nepal to Tibet and China – incorporating one of the most spectacular train rides in the world – must rank amongst Ramblers Worldwide Holidays most exciting adventures.

It is a holiday that spans hugely diverse cultures and landscapes and incorporates one of the world's most isolated countries and one of its most populous.

The journey begins in the beautiful city of Delhi followed by some amazing flights and sights embracing Nargarkot, Kathmandu (capital of Nepal) and Lhasa (capital of Tibet).

From Tibet, it is a train ride on the newly built railway that crosses the vast plateau to China. This 24 hour journey finishes in the fascinating city of Xining. Thence it's a flight to Beijing where one walks The Great Wall (partially!) and visits the famous Ming Tombs.

**Price £2044 includes** flights, transfers and travel by road, rail and air, hotel accommodation and one night onboard train (4-berth cabins only), and the services of a tour leader. (Meals – breakfasts in hotels, dinners in hotels and local restaurants and lunches either in restaurants or picnics).

### SARAJEVO

A one week holiday in Bosnia and Herzegovina – a beautiful country still recovering from the aftermath of a brutal 4-year war.

Sarajevo – a city, which was virtually destroyed by the conflict – is now rising like a 'Pheonix from the Ashes'.

The holiday provides an opportunity to visit the ancient city centre, with its mosques, cathedrals and bustling markets and the site where Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated – an event, which triggered off the First World War.

The tour also includes four days walking in the surrounding Dinaric Alps, (home of the 1984 Winter Olympics), the Sarajevo War Tunnel and the famous bridge at Mostar.

**Lead in price £713** includes flights, transfers by road and rail, 3-star Hotel Saraj, breakfasts in hotel and dinners taken in local restaurants and the services of a tour leader.

### CHILE – THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

A diverse 16-day journey in Northern Chile which includes a beautiful coastline, alpine valleys and Atacama – the World's driest desert.

This holiday begins in the exciting capital of Santiago and thence to the coast at Valparaiso (a natural amphitheatre overlooking the Pacific Ocean); the La Campana National Park (with views over the Andes and Ocean); and El Cajon del Maipo (a beautiful river valley south east of Santiago).

Next, it's a complete change of scenery with a flight to Calama and onto San Pedro de Atacama in the heart of the desert to see highlights like, the Atacama Salt Lake and El Tatio geysers.

## **AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT (Continued)**

After the desert what better way to slake one's thirst than a flight to La Serena and Vicuña in the Elqui valley – centre of the Chilean Pisco brandy industry. Highlights – apart from the brandy – include, the Mamalluca Observatory and the stunning night sky.

**Price £2599** includes flights, transfers and travel within Chile by air and road, half board accommodation and the services of a tour leader.

## **CAMINHA ON THE RIO MINHO, PORTUGAL**

A one-week holiday in the relatively undiscovered north-west corner of Portugal. This holiday is centred in Caminha on the sparkling waters of the Rio Minho.

It is a diverse region of sea, river, mountain and coast with a history and culture that goes back to Celtic times.

Caminha, (apparently so named by Christ when he and St Peter walked these lands), has everything to offer the discerning traveller. Wonderful walks along vine covered lanes, the fragrant woods of the Serra d'Agra, ancient villages, fishermen's cottages, the Mountain of Santa Tecla, and the Celtic settlements at nearby Valença, Tuy and Viana do Castelo.

All rounded off with an excellent local Vinho Verde!

**Lead in price £583** includes flights, transfers, 7 nights at 4-star Hotel Porta do Sol in Caminha, half board with most meals taken at the hotel and some in local restaurants and the services of a tour leader.

## **NORWEGIAN MOUNTAIN WONDERLAND**

A 12 day holiday in the 'Home of the Giants' – Norway's spectacular Jotunheimen National Park.

Awe-inspiring walks including, Norway's highest peak, Galdhopiggen (weather permitting!); glacial lakes, waterfalls, lakes, snow fields, many a jagged peak and between Memurubu and Gjendensheim the fantastic Besseggen Ridge. On one side 'hangs' Lake Gjende whilst on the other, 400m below, is Lake Bessvatnet.. Truly a sight to behold!

**Lead in price £1169 includes** flights, transfers, first and last night in hotels the remainder of accommodation is in 'touristhytten', warm comfortable mountain lodges, sharing 4–6 in a room, all meals and the services of a tour leader.

## **SWEDISH BALTIC SUMMER**

A one-week holiday in Sörmland, southern Sweden with pine forests, blueberry bushes, sandy beaches and red painted summer cottages.

From a base in Nyköping, holidaymakers will enjoy a wide range of walking and sightseeing including the 1000km Sörmlandsleden trail; the Stendörren Nature Reserve (with its amazing network of footbridges); Gripsholm Castle, the waterside towns of Strängnäs and Trosa; and to cap it all historic Stockholm – the country's capital.

**Lead in price £628** includes flights, transfers, half board accommodation and the services of a tour leader.

## AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT (Continued)

### CARINTHIA, AUSTRIA

A 9-day holiday on the shores of Lake Millstatt in the southern province of Carinthia, Austria.

Influenced by a warm Mediterranean climate, the 14km long lake is renowned for swimming and walking.

Several routes lead to nearby Alps and peaks and meander through meadows, woods and mountain streams. One of the walks follows an ancient pilgrim's way using a lake steamer to return from the hike to an old fortress, Burg Sommeregg.

**Lead in Price £599** includes flights, transfers, half board accommodation and the services of a tour leader.

### SOUTH KOREAN ODYSSEY

A fascinating 18-day undiscovered Asia. A relatively unexplored 'Eastern Gem', South Korea provides the enthusiastic walker with magnificent countryside and national parks – despite its booming economy and the impact of industrialisation.

The journey begins in Seoul and spans many diverse landscapes including, Seoraksan and Deogyosan (two of the finest national parks in Asia); the throbbing fish markets of Busan; the coastal sights of Mokpo; the Gongju national museum and a chance to swim in tea at Yulpo Korea!

**Lead in price £2498** includes flights, transfers, half-board accommodation, travel by road, rail and air and the services of a tour leader.

### CRUISING AROUND THE DALMATIAN ISLANDS

A one week leisurely cruise aboard a private motor yacht amongst the many beautiful islands between Dubrovnik and Split.

The cruise begins at Dubrovnik – one of the most picturesque ports in the Mediterranean and thence down the coast to Split, home of Diocletian.

Other highlights of the tour include, Elaphiti Island and Mljet Island (one time home of Odysseus), Hvar (one of the Adriatic's best preserved medieval towns) and the stunning Korula islands.

**Lead in price £1038** includes flights, transfers, full board accommodation on board the MB Nikola, a 27m motor yacht recently refurbished to a high standard offering 17 en suite cabins exclusive to Ramblers Worldwide Holidays clients and the services of a tour leader.

### CRETEAN COAST

A one-week holiday based at Kastelli, the western most town of the north Cretean coast. A discrete destination off the 'beaten track' where holidaymakers can explore gentle olive groves, dramatic hills and coastal paths. Highlights include, the gorge of Sirikari, walks to various archaeological sites, Kastelli's new museum, the wild island of Gramvousa (once a hideaway for pirates) and its Venetian fortress.

**Lead in price £610** includes flights, transfers, half board accommodation with dinners taken at local tavernas and the services of a tour leader.

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