

INSIGHT VACATIONS

The Art of Touring in Style

Enjoy
helpful
photography
tips & tutorials
while on
tour

A SNAPSHOT ON EUROPE

NETHERLANDS, GERMANY, AUSTRIA, ITALY, SWITZERLAND, FRANCE & ENGLAND

12 DAYS DEPARTING 08 AUGUST 2012



ACCOMPANIED BY A
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER



One of the most famous views in Venice - from St Mark's Square over to San Giorgio Maggiore

A Snapshot on Europe

Do you have a passion for photography and would love to improve your skills? Imagine witnessing all the iconic highlights of Europe, from the canals of Amsterdam to the pomp and pageantry of London while enjoying the company of an expert Tour Director PLUS a professional photographer who'll teach you tips and techniques that will help you capture some of the world's most photogenic cities and sites.

DAY 1 – WED 8 AUG: ARRIVE AMSTERDAM

Hotel: Moevenpick City Centre

Welcome to Amsterdam! Upon arrival at Schiphol Airport, transfers for the tour hotel depart at 09:00, 11:30 and 15:30. Later, meet your Tour Director and fellow travel companions for a *Welcome Reception with a light meal and drink*. You will also meet Dr. Ian R. Smith, an experienced professional photographer who will start you on your way to taking amazing photographs of your journey to cherish forever. (WR)

DAY 2 – THU 9 AUG: AMSTERDAM SIGHTSEEING

Take an *orientation tour* past the Mint Tower, floating Flower Market and Royal Palace in Dam Square. Then board a *special canal cruiser* to glide under low bridges, past the magnificent gabled mansions of the 17th century merchants. After a demonstration of diamonds being cut and polished, the afternoon is at leisure. Perhaps enjoy an excursion to the picturesque village of Volendam. (BB)

DAY 3 – FRI 10 AUG: AMSTERDAM – RHINELAND

Hotel: Leonardo Mannheim Ladenburg

Pass Arnhem, renowned for its 'Bridge Too Far', before crossing the German border bound for the Romantic Rhine. Take time to explore the lovely little village of Boppard, before *embarking on your scenic cruise*. Drift past steep leafy vineyards, medieval hill top castles and hear the legend of the Loreley Rock. Rejoin your coach and head for Ladenburg on the Bertha Benz Memorial Route. (BB,D)

DAY 4 – SAT 11 AUG: RHINELAND – INNSBRUCK

Hotel: Hilton Innsbruck

Follow the Neckar river to nearby *Heidelberg*, known for its castle and baroque style Old Town. Skirt the northern Black Forest and head for the rolling Bavarian Alps. Stop beneath the royal castles of *Hohenschwangau* and King Ludwig's fairy-tale *Neuschwanstein*, a beautiful sight to capture. Once over the

Austrian border continue to *Innsbruck*, capital of the Tyrol. Tour the architectural jewels of the city, seeing the 14C houses of the *old town*, *Imperial Palace* and *Golden Roof*. (BB)

DAY 5 – SUN 12 AUG 12 INNSBRUCK – VENICE

Hotel: Bellini Boscolo

Leave Innsbruck and travel across the impressive Europa Bridge, and cross the Brenner Pass into Italy. Follow the Adige River through spectacular scenery down to the great plain. Visit fascinating *Verona*, with its first century *Roman Arena*, maze of elegant squares and, of course, *Juliet's balcony*. Now on to glorious Venice, 'Queen of the Adriatic'. (BB,D)

DAY 6 – MON 13 AUG: VENICE SIGHTSEEING

Relax on a *private launch* as you cruise past the island of San Giorgio to alight at *St Mark's Square*. Stroll along the water's edge to see the *Bridge of Sighs* which connects the *Doges' Palace* with the prisons. It was from here that Casanova made his daring escape! See *St Mark's domed Basilica* and bell tower before embarking on a gondola serenade. *Glide along the atmospheric canals exploring the intimate and hidden parts of this unique city while musicians set the mood with traditional songs*. Now enjoy free time for photography or exploring. (BB)

DAY 7 – TUE 14 AUG: VENICE – LUCERNE

Hotel: Astoria

Head for Lake Garda today, where a drive along the narrow peninsula brings you to the resort of Sirmione, clustered around the 13C Scaligers' Castle. Continue past the beautiful Italian Lake District into the heart of the Swiss Alps. At the village of Stans embark by funicular railway and cable car to the Stanserhorn belvedere – an excellent vantage point for

panoramas of the breathtaking Alpine scenery. Free time to take in the air and perhaps some refreshment before descending to your hotel in Lucerne. (BB)

DAY 8 – WED 15 AUG: WATERFALLS EXCURSION

Cameras at the ready as you embark on a scenic excursion to Lauterbrunnen in the 'Valley of Waterfalls'. See the Staubbach Falls plunging 300 meters and there is the opportunity of taking the funicular up to the Trümmelbach Falls, leaping and gushing through a series of vast eroded potholes - an awesome sight! Back in Lucerne perhaps spend time shopping in the traffic-free Old Town, or try out your photography skills at the *Chapel Bridge*. This evening, *for your dining pleasure, there is a selection of restaurants to choose from*. (BB,DA)

DAY 9 – THU 16 AUG 12 LUCERNE – PARIS

Hotel: Meridien Etoile

Drive to Basel before crossing the Rhine to enter France. Travel through the wine-growing Burgundy region to Paris, the vibrant heart of French life. *This evening we enjoy dinner in a typical Parisian bistro*. (BB,HD)

DAY 10 – FRI 17 AUG: PARIS SIGHTSEEING

Sightseeing with a local guide takes you by *Notre Dame Cathedral* with its famous tale of Quasimodo. Then visit perhaps the best known art collection in the world. *Your guide leads you through the galleries of the Louvre to see the Venus de Milo, Winged Victory, Mona Lisa and many more priceless works* amassed over the ages by the Kings of France. Drive now from the *Place de la Concorde*, down the *Champs Élysées* to the *Arc de Triomphe*. Ascend to the *viewing platforms of the Eiffel Tower* for panoramic vistas over the city. The afternoon is at leisure to enjoy at our own pace. (BB)

DAY 11 – SAT 18 AUG: PARIS – LONDON

Hotel: Thistle Marble Arch

Board the high speed *Eurostar train* today, for a two and a half hour rail journey via the historic *Channel Tunnel* to London. Disembark at St Pancras Station and enjoy an orientation tour on the way to your hotel. See *Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament*, continue past *Downing Street* to *Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus* and finally *Buckingham Palace*. The remainder of the day is then free. Tonight enjoy good food, wine and review some of your group's favourite photos at an *end-of-tour Celebration Dinner*. (BB,CD)

DAY 12 – SUN 19 AUG: DEPART LONDON

After breakfast this morning, bid your Tour Director farewell and transfer to the airport to meet your ongoing flight. (BB)



A misty morning in Holland

**12 DAYS – NETHERLANDS ~ GERMANY ~ AUSTRIA ~ ITALY
~ SWITZERLAND ~ FRANCE ~ ENGLAND**



The fairy-tale castle of Neuschwanstein



The Thames meanders through the beating heart of London

INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

- Amsterdam:** Cruise the waterways in a glass-topped boat. See Dam Square, the Royal Palace and Mint Tower. Witness a demonstration of diamond cutting
- Boppard:** Explore the quaint Romantic Rhine Gorge village.
- Rhine Cruise:** Past villages, vineyards and cliff-top castles.
- Heidelberg:** See the red sandstone castle.
- Füssen:** See the fairy-tale castle of Neuschwanstein.
- Innsbruck:** See the Golden Roof and Imperial Palace.
- Verona:** See the ancient Roman Arena and Juliet's Balcony.
- Venice:** Cruise, with commentary, to St Mark's Square. See the Doges' Palace, Bridge of Sighs and St Mark's Basilica. Enjoy a gondola serenade along the atmospheric canals
- Lake Garda:** See the Scaliger Castle at Sirmione.
- Stans:** Enjoy an exhilarating ride by funicular and cable-car up the magnificent Stanserhorn.
- Lucerne:** See Chapel Bridge. Enjoy a delightful excursion to Lauterbrunnen in the Valley of the Waterfalls
- Paris:** Visit the Louvre Museum. See Notre Dame Cathedral, Place de la Concorde & Opera House. Drive along the Champs Elysées to the Arc de Triomphe. Ascend the famous Eiffel Tower.
- London:** See Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus and Buckingham Palace.
- Scenic Drives:** Fern Pass, Europa Bridge, Swiss Alps.

INCLUDED QUALITY DINING

- A Welcome Reception with light meal and a drink (WR)
- Choose from a selection of Lucerne's restaurants (DA)
- Highlight Dinner in a Parisian restaurant (HD)
- London end-of-tour Celebration Dinner with wine (CD)
- 11 Buffet Breakfasts (BB), 2 three-course table d'hôte Dinners, or Buffets, plus tea or coffee (D)

INCLUDED FIRST CLASS SERVICES

- Escorted by a professional Tour Director
- Accompanied by an expert Photography lecturer
- Headsets for all guided visits and walking tours
- Reserved seats on the hi-speed Eurostar train from Paris to London
- Enjoy the unique comfort of Insight's Luxury air-conditioned 40 seat coach with extended leg room and on-board restroom
- Insight Hotels include all service charges, taxes and portorage
- Insight Traveller Welcome pack
- Airport arrival and departure transfers as specified in the itinerary

DR. IAN R SMITH, SALISBURY, ENGLAND

This tour is accompanied by Dr. Ian R. Smith, an experienced professional photographer who will be available to help you get the most out of your camera equipment and the locations visited.

Ian will help you consider the creative aspects of photography such as composition and viewpoint as well as technical considerations involved in optimising, movement and depth of field. The intention is not to bombard you with technical jargon but to help you achieve the best images possible with your own camera and enjoy the wonderful locations visited on the tour.

There will be some specific support and guidance sessions based at the hotels as well as assistance available during excursions.

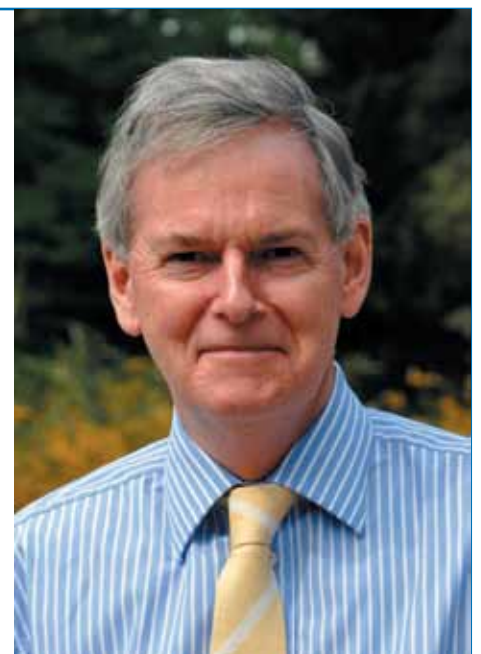
Ian R Smith is a University educator with a love of travel. Ian began his career in industrial and commercial photography as an assistant to Belgian photographer Stuard Bisserot, and later qualified as a medical photographer.

After finding his vocation in teaching, Ian completed his Doctorate in 1994 specialising in establishing and evaluating international links between colleges and has served as an external examiner, visiting lecturer and consultant at some of the leading colleges and universities in Europe.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society and an Associate of the British Institute of Professional Photography. He is a past Vice President of the Photo Imaging Educational Association (US).

Ian is married with two sons, one an industrial designer in Australia and the other a photographer and social media designer working in London.

Currently, Ian heads the Bournemouth University BA (Hons) programme in Photography, taught at Salisbury College, UK.



Terms & Conditions

Tips & Taxes & Portage: Insight hotels include all service charges, taxes and portage. All tips are included for services on tour provided by dining-room waiters, chambermaids and porters at hotels.

What's Not Included: Airfares, airport taxes and charges imposed by third parties, passports and applicable visa fees, laundry, phone calls, items of a personal nature, beverages, meals and sightseeing not detailed on the itinerary, tips and gratuities to the Tour Director, coaches drivers and local city guides, excess baggage, optional excursions and travel insurance. Please note that travel insurance is highly recommended. Please see your Travel Agent for further details.

Deposit: A deposit of USD\$200 per person is required within 7 days of booking.

Final Payment: Required to your Travel Agent no later than 70 days prior to departure.

Price: The advertised price is in US dollars. No surcharges in regards to cost or currency fluctuations will be made once deposit is received. This guarantee excludes fuel surcharges and does not apply to any taxes, charges or levies imposed by any government or its agencies. No discounts are applicable with this tour.

Cancellation Fees: The following scale of charges apply when cancellation is notified:

No of days prior to tour commencement.	Cancellation fee a % of total tour price
More than 70 days	loss of deposit
Between 69 & 30 days	38.5%
Between 29 & 8 days	55%
Between 7 days to departure	100% of fare

Amendments: A fee of \$50 may apply to any change made to your booking once confirmed.

Refunds: No refund is available if cancellations occur after the tour has commenced or in respect of any tours, accommodation, meals or any other services not utilised.

Itinerary Changes & Tour Cancellation: Insight Vacations reserves the right to vary itineraries should circumstances dictate, as well as cancel or reschedule any tour departure in accordance with operating requirements, or circumstances beyond its control. The advertised tours require minimum numbers to depart. Should these not be met Insight Vacations reserves the right to alter or cancel arrangements.

Hotels: The hotels listed in the itinerary are confirmed, although subject to change for reasons beyond our control.

Rooming Arrangements: Please note that single accommodation is usually limited. Occupying a single room either by choice or circumstance is subject to the applicable supplement.

Tour Membership: Any person aged 8 years or more is eligible, though if under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. The Tour Director may, at his or her discretion, require any person to withdraw from any tour if he or she deems the person's acts or conduct offensive or a nuisance to other passengers, and we shall have no further liability.

Porterage: for one suitcase on tour is included in the tour price and at arrival or departure from each tour hotel. Due to limited coach capacity this single bag should have a weight not exceeding 30kg (66lbs) and dimensions not exceeding 77.5cm (30.5in) x 56cm (22in) x 32cm (12.5in). Charges will be levied in the event these limits are exceeded and our promise to transport you as indicated may be invalidated. Note: Airlines may restrict check-in baggage to 20kgs per person.

Documentation: Approximately 2 weeks prior to departure from North America, documentation will be received by your travel agent including a tour itinerary, a full Hotel list, an Optional Excursion list, baggage labels & ticket wallet.

Holidays & Changes: During local or national holidays abroad, certain facilities such as museums, sightseeing tours and shopping may be limited. In such instances, and whenever possible, slight itinerary adjustments are made by Insight Vacations to minimise inconvenience to our passengers. If, however you feel your enjoyment might be diminished by such minor limitations please check with the respective national tourist office before selecting a specific departure. Similarly, holidays, closing days and other circumstances may necessitate a change of the day of the week for scheduled highlight dinners, sightseeing or other activities. Due to the unreliability of domestic air scheduling, religious festivals, and other unforeseen circumstances, the itineraries, hotels or order of sightseeing may change at short notice.

Pre or post tour accommodation is subject to availability. If not available, an alternative may be offered.

Booking Terms and Conditions: These conditions incorporate the basis upon which bookings are accepted by your Travel Agent and Insight Vacations. These conditions must be carefully studied prior to making the commitment of paying the deposit as they must be referred to. By making a booking you are agreeing to these terms & conditions. Insight is not responsible for the costs of any other travel arrangements affected due to our cancellations or re-scheduling of any tour departure. For further information about Insight Vacations please refer to Insight's brochure.

Tour Prices - US\$

\$3840 p.p. in a twin room

\$1084 single supplement

Limited seats available, avoid disappointment and reserve your spot today!

Insight's Low Airfare Promise: Insight promises to provide the best airfare available to us at the time you make your reservation. Airfares are not included in the prices above.



For bookings and enquiries, please contact your local Travel Agent

Agents please contact
Insight Vacations
on **800-582-8380**

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