Scenic Valleys in the Austrian Tyrol
10 days

The Zillertal is situated in the centre of the Austrian Tyrol Province and is one of the most popular holiday regions. Regarded as 'typical Austrian' it has timbered houses with carved shutters and balconies as well as painted facades. In the summer the meadows are full of wild and mountain flowers and the balcony window boxes are overflowing with pink, white, scarlet, red and yellow hanging plants.

Our holiday is based in Hippach in the centre of the Zillertal. It is ideally situated for walking with 200 km marked rambling paths or just walks along the beautiful promenade of the River Ziller. Alternatively take the famous Zillertal narrow-gage steam-train to famous resorts nearby such as Mayrhofen or Zell am Ziller.

We are staying in our, now even more, fabulous Hotel Neue Post (****). During your stay you can enjoy: substantial breakfast-buffets with organic section; 5-course dinners with choice; salad-buffet; fruit and cheese board; table-tennis; use of the ‘textile’ sauna with ice-crash fountain; aroma-steam-bath; organic-room-sauna; salt-grotto; romantic rest room; hot-whirl-pool; fitness-centre; an indoor swimming pool with waterfall and other features; sunbathing lawn; free use of bicycles and tennis courts. In addition: welcome cocktail; gala-dinner; dessert buffet; grill evening as well as dance/entertainment evenings.

All rooms have television, radio, telephone, balconies, safe, hair-dryer and dressing gowns. For a charge you can also use the play-centre with darts, billiards, table-football, flipper, fruit-machine, as well as the sun-studio, the massage & cosmetic studio or enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride. Overnight stops are in Hotel MercureKoblenz (****) + Hotel Maritim Königswinter both overlooking the Rhine.

Programme:
Saturday: Departures 06.00 to 06.30 hrs; lunchtime train; arrival mid-evening
Sunday: Departure after buffet breakfast; toilet + lunch stops; arrival early evening
Excursions: Guided Tour of Ski Jump with ‘live’ Jump + free time in Innsbruck; Hintertux Glacier By glacier-express; Aachensee by steam-train + boat; Swarovski + Rattenberg
Sunday: Departure after buffet breakfast; toilet + lunch stops; arrival early evening
Monday: Departure after buffet breakfast; afternoon train; return 20.30 to 21.00 hrs

The 10-day package price includes:
- 4-star coach travel and Eurotunnel return
- 1 night’s Bed/Buffet Breakfast in Mercure, Koblenz, Germany
- 1 night’s Half-Board in Maritim Königswinter, Germany
- 7 nights’ Half Board in Hotel Neue Post, Austria including all services mentioned above
- Coach excursions to Innsbruck, Hintertux, Achensee, Swarovski, Rattenberg incl. entrance fees
- Courier/hostess service throughout

Departure Date: Saturday 2. June 2018 - £ 898.00
Single Occupancy £ 85.00
Divided for over 40 years, much of the Harz in Northern Germany has been hidden from the outside world behind the Iron Curtain. Now its towns and villages are open to visitors once more. Forested mountains, wild flower meadows, dramatic rock formations, crystal-clear lakes and babbling brooks have inspired poets and writers for centuries. Visit the splendidly preserved medieval city centres with their half-timbered masterpieces of architecture or take a ride on the delightful narrow-gauge steam trains. Experience the traditional customs, which are still actively followed and reflected in folk dances, costumes, fairy tales and sagas. With over 8,000 km/5,000 miles of nature trails and hundreds of cultural attractions, the Harz is a unique part of Germany. We are staying in Braunlage, a popular spa and winter sports resort, nestled among fabulous mountain forests and romantic river valleys in the heart of the Harz National Park.

The tour is based in the **** Maritim Berghotel Braunlage situated in a peaceful location on a hill overlooking the resort. The hotel’s amazing facilities include: a large restaurant; garden café on the 10th floor with afternoon tea-dance on Sundays; bar; old English pub with terrace where afternoon tea is serves as well; “spa & beauty care”; outdoor and indoor pool with sauna and fitness area; tennis courts; swingolf; volleyball; archery range; table-tennis; boccia court; giant chess; bike rental as well as a year-round guest programme.

Overnight stops are in the **** Hotel Carat in Monschau and ** Ibis Bruges Centre in Bruges.

Programme:

Sunday: Departures 06.00 to 06.30 hrs; lunchtime train; arrival in Monschau early evening
Monday: After Buffet Breakfast travel to Braunlage with stops en route; arrival late afternoon
Tuesday: Free day
Excursions: Medieval Goslar with local guide; Traditional Steam Train Package; Europa-Rosarium In Sangerhausen; Selketal Steam Train and a visit to quaint Quedlinburg
Sunday: Free day
Monday: After Buffet Breakfast travel to Bruges with stop en route; arrival late afternoon
Tuesday: Departure after Buffet Breakfast late morning; afternoon train; return 18.30 to 19.00 hrs.

The price includes:

- 4-star air-conditioned coach and Eurotunnel return
- 1 night’s Bed & Buffet Breakfast + Buffet Evening Meal in Hotel Carat Monschau, Germany
- 7 nights’ extensive Bed & Buffet Breakfast in Hotel Ibis Bruges Centre, Belgium
- 7 nights’ extensive Bed & Buffet Breakfast with Champagne in Maritim Berghotel Braunlage
- 7 x 3-course meals (choice of chef); use of pools + facilities as above; LAN or WLAN; spa resort tax
- Coach excursions as mentioned above including train, guides and entrance fees

Departure Date: Sunday 29. July 2018 - £ 969.00
Single Occupancy £ 172.00
Zundert Dahlia Parade
5 days

Zundert is located in Holland just over the border from Belgium, and on the first Sunday in September, it is host to the annual Zundert Flower Parade. It is one of the most spectacular parades around and, until recently, had been a well-kept secret.

What began in 1936 as a small flower parade has become the oldest and most celebrated spectacle for blooms in Europe. Ever since its beginnings, Zundert has hosted the annual Bloemencorso with participants using dahlia for their breathtaking displays and building gravity defying sculptures on their amazing parade floats. These huge floats must be seen to be believed - using only dahlia, the colourful creations are designed and built by twenty hamlets even down to cultivating and picking the flowers themselves. Grand Stand tickets have been reserved to allow you to watch this amazing spectacle in comfort.

The tour is based in the city-centre **** Theater Hotel in Antwerpen, Belgium situated next to the theatre which overlooks a large square of the same name. Our hotel has a restaurant and there are also countless eating places close-by, among them an absolutely fabulous one only 5 walking minutes away. Also close to our hotel is Rubens House, once the residence of the legendary Flemish Painter and now a museum with a beautiful garden and Antwerpen’s Botanical Gardens.

Programme:
Friday: Departures 06:00 to 06.30 hrs; lunch-time train; afternoon arrival.
Saturday: Free day in Antwerpen to explore the many sights and for shopping
Sunday: Coach excursion to Zundert. Watch the Parade from your comfortable Grand Stand seat
Monday: Coach excursion to the Botanical Gardens at Meise. Enjoy the guided tour and the train
Tuesday: Departure after late breakfast; afternoon train; return 19.00 to 19.30 hrs

The 5-day package price includes:
- 4-star Coach Travel and Eurotunnel or Ferry return
- 4 nights’ Bed & American Buffet Breakfast (Hot/Cold) in Theater Hotel, Antwerpen
- Coach excursion including entrance fees and Grand Stand tickets in Zundert
  - Coach excursion including entrance fee, guided tour + train in Meise
- Courier/Hostess throughout

Departure Date: Friday 31st August 2018 - £ 429.00
Single Occupancy in double room £ 173.00
Honfleur lies at the foot of a hill overlooking the wide waters of the Seine estuary opposite Le Havre and close to the exit of the impressive Normandy Bridge in northwestern France.

Bathed in the soft light of the northern sea, it is the most picturesque of ports appealing greatly to 19th century painters, writers and poets. The streets and quaysides are full of character and the ‘Old Harbour’ shelters a fishing fleet as well as yachts and pleasure craft. The unusual and narrow slate-faced houses, which add so much to the atmosphere, house mainly fish and other restaurants, where artists still mingle with visitors. The town’s Sainte-Catherine Church, with its detached bell-tower, is the largest church made out of wood in France.

Our excursions take us to the stylish seaside resort of Fécamp, famous for the superb Bénédictine Palace where the well-known liqueur has been produced for centuries, and Monet’s stunning gardens in Giverny.

The holiday is based in the superb **** Hotel Mercure which is situated on the edge of the Old Town with superb views of the stunning Normandy Bridge. The hotel has been totally renovated recently and is now air-conditioned throughout. It has no restaurant as countless eating places are situated only a few minutes’ walk away.

**Programme:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Departures 06:00 to 06:30 hrs; lunchtime train; arrival late afternoon</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Buffet Breakfast; free day</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Buffet Breakfast; coach excursion to Palais Bénédictine in Fécamp</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Buffet Breakfast; coach excursion to Monet’s Gardens in Giverny</td>
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<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>Departure after breakfast; afternoon train; return between 19.30 hrs.</td>
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**The 5-day package includes:**

- 4-star coach travel and Eurotunnel return
- 4 nights’ Bed and Buffet Breakfast in Hotel Mercure Honfleur Centre, France
- Coach excursions to Fécamp including entrance fee and guided tour
  - Coach excursion to Giverny including entrance fee
  - Courier/hostess throughout

**Departure Date:** Sunday 30, September 2018 - £ 469.00
**Single Occupancy in double room £ 156.00**
Monschau Christmas Markets
4 days

Monschau is our most popular Christmas Market destination due to the unbeatable combination of a small ‘fairy-tale’ town with crooked half-timbered houses, a superb hotel and a shorter journey.

On the Belgian/German border you find the ancient Eifel town of Monschau, with its tall, narrow, slate-roofed houses huddled together at one end of a winding gorge carved from the rock by the River Rur. Monschau owes its wealth to the cloth-making industry started here in the 16th century. It flourished and grew into a small town in the 18th century and its buildings, especially the grand houses, are predominantly Baroque in style, contributing to its charm.

Its sights include the half-timbered façades of the old buildings, which overlook the stream, the castle, the ruins of a watch-tower and the magnificent Troistorff and Rotes Haus mansions. Besides, Monschau has a good range of superb specialist shops and cafes! The Christmas Market is small, but very atmospheric because of its programme including nativity plays, alpenhorn concerts, Christmas carol services and much more. Not to be missed are the superb Mustard Mill and the massive Indoor Craft Market. And once the countless ‘day trippers’ have gone home you have the entire town to yourself when, all lit up, it is at its most romantic! Our coach excursion will be to the nearby Christmas Markets in Aachen in Germany, where you also find superb department stores.

Our weekend is based in the ideally situated Hotel Carat (German ****), just above the entrance to the Old Town. The hotel has an indoor swimming pool, sauna, solarium, a fitness studio as well as a beauty-farm! Breakfast and the evening meal both consist of superb hot and cold buffets and you shall be spoilt for choice again!!

Programme:
Thursday: Departures 06:00 to 06.30 hrs; lunch-time train; arrival early evening; buffet dinner
Friday: Coach excursion to Aachen Christmas Markets; buffet dinner
Saturday: Free day in Monschau with guided walking tour of the old town; buffet dinner
Sunday: Departure after breakfast; afternoon train; return 20.00 to 21.00 hrs

The 4-day package price includes:
• 4-star Coach Travel and Eurotunnel or Ferry return
• 3 nights’ Bed/Hot & Cold Buffet Breakfast and Hot & Cold Buffet Evening Meal
• Coach excursion to Aachen Christmas Markets
• Guided walking tour in Monschau with local guide
• Courier/hostess throughout

Departure Date: Thursday 29. November 2018 - £ 359.00
Single Occupancy £ 68.00
Bruges in Belgium is the best-preserved medieval town in Europe as it escaped enemy action in both world wars and was declared World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2002 as well as European City of Culture. Its romantic streets and the canals are tree-lined and beautifully lit at night. You can explore this magic historical town by horse-drawn carriage, by sightseeing bus or through our guided tour. Shopping is excellent with various department stores, specialist boutiques and countless lace and chocolate shops side by side and all beautifully decorated. The food, like everywhere in Belgium, is superb and plentiful.

Our weekend is based in the cosy **Ibis Brugge Centrum**, situated in the most romantic part of Bruges, very close to “Minnewater - the Lake of love” and the peaceful and unique Begijnhof – the Nunnery. Our Ibis has a restaurant but you can also eat in the restaurant of the Novotel, just across the courtyard, or the countless restaurants close-by. In addition, the Christmas Markets and the town’s most famous museums are also situated just a stone’s throw away.

As from the end of November the City of Bruges transforms into a magical Christmas wonderland with Carillon Concerts and the Festival of Ice and Snow Sculpture to name just two. The central square, known as Markt, is beautifully decorated and lit and its Ice Ring is surrounded by Christmas Market and Food Stalls. A coach excursion to the Christmas Market in Ypres, where the number of stalls has reached 40 now, completes this tour. Please note that Belgian Christmas Market Dates and other events are subject to change without notice.

**Programme:**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Departures 07:00 to 07:30 hrs. lunch-time train; arrival mid-afternoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Morning guided walking tour of Bruges; Free afternoon.</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>General Market in Bruges in the morning; Coach Excursion to Ypres</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Departure after lunch; afternoon train; return 19.00 to 19.30 hrs.</td>
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**This 4-day package price includes:**

- 4-star coach travel and Eurotunnel or Ferry return
- 3 nights’ Bed/Buffet Breakfast in Hotel Ibis Brugge Centrum, Belgium
- Guided walking tour of Bruges
- Coach Excursion to the Christmas Market in Ypres
- Courier/hostess throughout

**Departure Date:** Thursday 6th December 2018 - £ 349.00
**Single Occupancy in double room £ 126.00**
New Year Gala Königswinter - 4 days

Königswinter is not really that well known, although it is the setting of one of Germany’s most popular fairy-tales and legends! It is situated at the foot of the Seven Mountains just south of Cologne, renowned for the Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs tale. The town itself is dominated by the jagged Drachenfels (dragon's rock) Ruins where, so legend has it, the hero of the Nibelungen Siegfried slew the dragon then bathed in its blood to become invulnerable!

A funicular from the idyllic wine-town of Königswinter takes the visitor to a terrace near the ruins of the castle tower, from where a vast panorama can be enjoyed right across the Westerwald, the Eifel Plateaux, Bonn, Bad Godesberg and finally Cologne. Halfway up to the Drachenfels the neo Gothic Schloss Drachenburg (Dragons fortress) is situated in the middle of a park. Wonderful walks are possible here.

Our gala tour is again based in the luxurious **** Hotel Maritim, situated immediately on the Rhine promenade with the Dragons Fortress and Rock behind it. The hotel offers a large terrace with panoramic views of the Rhine, an indoor swimming pool, sauna, steam-room, solarium, fitness studio and beauty salon where massage can be arranged at a supplement. The spacious ‘Comfort’ rooms booked have tea/coffee making facilities and free internet access.

Our New Year’s Eve Gala takes place in the hotel’s elegant ballroom or restaurant. There you can enjoy the gala-buffet, New Year’s Eve programme including live bands, entertainment and the fireworks over the River Rhine at midnight. After midnight soup, to warm you up, the party continuous until the early hours ……

Programme:

Sunday: Departures 06:00 to 06.30 hrs; lunch-time train; early evening arrival; evening meal
Monday: Free Day; take the local + regular train to Bonn or Cologne; New Year’s Eve Gala
Tuesday: Explore Königswinter/Drachenfels or make use of the wonderful facilities of the Hotel
Wednesday: Departure after breakfast; afternoon train; return 20.00 to 20.30 hrs.

The 4-day package price includes:

- 4-star Coach Travel and Eurotunnel or Ferry return
- 3 x accommodation; 3 x Hot/Cold Champagne Buffet Breakfast; 2 Evening Meals;
- Welcome Drink; New Year’s Eve Gala incl. Aperitif, Gala Dinner, all drinks + Programme
- Courier/Hostess throughout

Departure Date: Sunday 30. December 2018 - £ 565.00
Single Occupancy in double room £ 63.00