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How we love to walk in Europe! Where else is there the chance to rub shoulders with so much history, both ancient and modern and so many different cultures?

Alsace is possibly the least “French” of our Walks in France. We have been singing the praises of this region for many years and it’s no surprise that one of our favorite little towns has just received a big accolade! Read on to find out more.

The Dalmatian Coast of Croatia is something else entirely. This is a dazzling seascape, in a land that welcomes us with open arms and is happy to share its secrets.

Different yet again, walking the trails between Vienna and Prague offers not only a wonderful double capital city experience, but also the chance to discover the unspoiled, absolute jewel that is the Czech Republic.

This is a good time to discover a Europe less-traveled. I promise you won’t be disappointed!



Vienna to Prague

Discover the Czech Republic

Vienna and Prague – the two gems of Central Europe. Beautiful, elegant, interesting capital cities and the start and end point for our much-loved Walk at the Crossroads of Europe.

We meet in Vienna: ornate, fun and oozing history, before beginning a journey that will take us across the Austrian border and into the Czech Republic.

The years of communist rule when Czechoslovakia was effectively closed meant that very little changed over the centuries and thus a very distinct culture survives, alive and well.

People here love to walk. This country has some 25,000 miles of walking trails and no wonder.

It is a land of gently rolling hills, tree-lined roads, twisting rivers and ancient forests. The trail leads us to grand chateaux, delightful villages, wonderful examples of Baroque architecture and towns like the delightful Cesky Krumlov, almost unbelievable in its beauty and state of preservation.

All too soon we'll see the "Thousand Spires" of beautiful Prague. Wandering the old streets and crossing the lovely Charles Bridge we'll set our watches by the famous astronomical clock and say farewell over a memorable dinner at a fine city restaurant.

You are sure to want to spend more time in Vienna or Prague (or both). Contact our Travel Desk who will be pleased to help extend your stay.



Croatia

The magical Dalmatian Coast

Get ready to discover the Dalmatian Coast. Is it surely one of Europe's most beautiful shorelines.

We meet in Dubrovnik, an ancient walled city that has been brought back to life with meticulous care. A walk along the battlements offers a view of medieval and Baroque splendors across the famous orange-tiled rooftops to the Adriatic sea. Narrow alleys and cobbled streets add to a timeless quality.

And that's true of the Dalmatian Coast as a whole. Off-the-beaten-track islands, quiet coves and stone-built fishing villages make you feel as if you're visiting mediterranean Europe at its most unspoiled.

Croatia's second city Split was built around the ancient emperor Diocletian's rather sumptuous palace. Split is a bustling maze of houses, churches and chapels with a backdrop of dramatic coastal mountains spilling down to a turquoise sea.

But as this is a coastline of 1,000 tiny isles, no trip would be complete without some island-hopping!

Hvar is a slim slice of land dotted with jagged inlets, craggy peaks, vineyards, olive groves,

lavender plantations and abandoned stone villages.

While Hvar Town is a fashionable hangout for urbane travellers and celebrities, the town itself is laced with narrow stone-paved streets and picture-perfect, terracotta-roofed houses.

Bra island is famous for its dazzling white stone, used to build the palace in Split and, indeed, the White House in Washington. It also boasts the iconic beach of Zlatni rat, surely one of the most stunning in Europe.

And you heard it here first: Balkan cuisine could be the next big thing. The landscape's natural larder provides a multitude of fresh produce ripened under all that sunshine. A focus on traditional favorites means we are in for a real treat when we sit down to dinner. The local wines (they've been making them here since Roman times) are pretty terrific too!



Alsace

Discover Europe's Best Destination

Forget Paris or Berlin. Alsace has been hiding a celebrity.

Yes, the crazy-pretty little town of **Colmar has just been voted the Best European Destination in 2020.**

Colmar is the heart of the Alsace wine route. And the heart of Colmar is "la Petite Venise," also called Little Venice. Half-timbered buildings line the canals in central Colmar, creating a city center that feels similar to Venice.

This whole region where France touches Germany is a wonderful blend of Franco- German culture. Colorful, half-timbered buildings line cobblestoned streets bedecked with flowers.

Some of the most famous Alsatian vineyards spread over the picturesque hills here. We wander where the Vosges mountains rise from the vineyards and explore more picturesque villages and historical landmarks.

Adding to the fairytale atmosphere, forbidding and ornate castles sit high in the foothills, testament to an earlier time when territory was everything and wealthy noblemen were

more than ready to defend it.

We stay in Colmar at La Maison des Tetes. In the very heart of things, this magnificent 17th century former mansion house is one of Colmar's most beautiful and emblematic buildings which is classed as an historic monument.

Join us in Alsace in September and step into the fairytale!