CCWTC NEWSLETTER

WOMENS TRAVEL CLUB

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Hello Ladies,

This newsletter is long overdue and my apologies for that - it's been a busy few months for me, many people have recommenced booking travel which has kept me very busy.

Several of our members went to see the Wyong Theatre Group present Nunsense at the Red Tree Theatre in May. The performance was very enjoyable and lots of laughs.

Lunch at Mirra Wines was also very indulgent and the weather was very kind to us...Ana and Kiros are great hosts. We will have another lunch at their beautiful winery after winter.

We also travelled to Europe for 5 and a half weeks. The weather in Europe was amazing, not too many other tourists around either! Masks were worn on public transport, in airports and on planes. We felt quite safe with the protocols in place. We took various modes of transport: Avalon River cruise Budapest to Deggendorf, hired a car and drove through parts of Germany and France and embarked MSC Cruise lines for a Baltic Cruise. One of our flights on the way home was delayed by an hour but overall, everything else went relatively smoothly.

Our radio show is going quite well, we're picking up listeners in other countries. If you want to listen we present a travel program on Central Coast Radio. (www.centralcoastradio.com). CCR is a digital radio station listened to via an app on your phone/device or from their website. We present on Tuesday evenings from 7pm for an hour and the program is replayed on Sunday morning from 11am. We weave our adventures into the show and offer Tips and Tricks on places, accommodation and things we've learned along the way. Listeners can email us to ask a travel question or request a song.

We have a busy few months coming up as well. I'm off to Rome 19th September taking a cruise on Celebrity Apex that includes Cyprus, Greece and Israel. There are still cabins available on the Apex if this is on anyone's wish list. We also have 13 ladies from the travel club cruising to Melbourne at the end of October on Carnival Splendor's Melbourne Cup cruise - which should be a lot of fun.

UPCOMING TOURS 2022/2023

DAY TRIPS COMING UP

Lunch at La Notte Pacific Highway Lake Munmorah

What: 2 course lunch with a glass of wine, tea or coffee

When: Saturday 17th September 2022

Time: 12.30pm Cost: \$55.00

Would love to see you there! If you are coming along I need to know by 6^{th} September 2022. Payment will be due 14^{th} September 2022.

Lunch Cruise on Newcastle Harbour

Where: Cruise leaves Carrington

When: Saturday 12th November 2022 Time: 11.30.

Cost: \$158.00 per person

Includes luncheon cruise, bus and driver

We will have several pick up points for the bus which we'll let you know closer to the day.

Due to popularity of these cruises the <u>last date to book for this is 15th October 2022</u>. If you're interested in this day trip or any of our trips please SMS, phone or email me your details.

Overnight/Weekend trips coming up

March 2023

Snowy Mountains and Canberra 4 nights 5 days

Date and pricing will be advised in mid-October. Please register your interest and I'll contact you as soon as prices are available.

Inclusions:

- Bus and driver for the duration of the trip
- 1 night in Cooma, 2 nights Thredbo, 1 night Canberra
- 4 breakfasts
- 2 dinners
- 1 lunch and schnapps tasting at Wild Brumby Distillery
- Visit Snowy Mountains Hydro Discovery Centre
- Chairlift ticket to the summit of Mt Kosciusko
- Entry to Kosciusko National Park

Whilst in Thredbo choose a walk either to the Summit of Mt Kosciusko, to Dead Horse Gap or take one of the less strenuous walks around the village of Thredbo.





Almost at the summit

suggested walks available

The view from the summit, on a clear day, is amazing.

CRUISING

For all our cruising members we have access to all the special deals sailing around Australia and from Australia as well as international ocean cruising or river cruising. Don't hesitate to ask me about any you might be interested in. Our travel club ladies also receive a small discount.

We have short cruises for those that haven't cruised before and are not so sure about their sea legs and longer cruises for the more seasoned. I'm sure all our members who love cruising would be happy to give a new cruiser their tips on enjoying their first cruise! Whether it's an ocean cruise or a river cruise I love it...nothing better than unpacking once and relaxing onboard or taking an excursion to some fabulous place.

<u>Travel Club Cruise – 3-day Sapphire Coast Seacation</u>

Have you wanted to try cruising but not too sure if it's for you? If so, why not join me and other travel club ladies on the amazing Majestic Princess for this mini cruise long weekend or as the industry calls it, a seacation!

When: November 4th, 2023 (Friday 4th to Monday 7th)

Where: Roundtrip Sydney, Eden, Sydney.

Cost: Interior from \$588 per person, Balcony from \$778 per person, mini suite from \$1,048 per person.

NB: Majestic Princess does not have oceanview cabins.

Excursions: There are 9 excursions in Eden are available at additional cost

Includes: a Beverage Package and wifi plus the company of fabulous ladies.

Bookings are open now so if you're interested in joining the cruise.

For those that would like a longer cruise I'm also looking at a cruise that commences in Brisbane and cruises to Cairns, Airlie Beach, Port Douglas and Willis Island. This one is on 24th November 2023 and involves return flights to Brisbane. More on that one in a later newsletter. However, if it appeals to you let me know.

INTERNATIONAL TOURS 2022-2023



HOI AN, HANOI VIETNAM WITH HALONG BAY OVERNIGHT CRUISE

Ladies Small Group Tour

Flights: \$1,400.00* approx
*flights are subject to increase until paid

Land: \$2,376.00

29 April 2023 – 8 May 2023 10 days 9 nights HOI AN, Hanoi and Halong Bay

OVERVIEW

Hoi An is a city in Vietnam's central coast known for its well-preserved ancient town, cut through by a canal.

The former port city's melting-pot of history is reflected in its architecture, with a mixture of eras and styles from wooden Chinese shophouses and temples to colourful French colonial buildings, ornate Vietnamese tube houses and the iconic Japanese Covered Bridge with its pagoda, a rare find in Southeast Asia.

Over a week, you'll be introduced to the diverse culture of Central Vietnam and uncover the truths of why this region of Vietnam is so special, and how it differs from the rest of the country. From pristine beaches to delicious seafood and ancient temples, Central Vietnam will put a smile on your face!

INCLUDED:

- 9 nights' accommodation in your own room Hoi An, Hanoi
- Single cabin with balcony on Ha Long Bay cruise
- 9 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners
- 14 activities
- Private airport transfers
- Entrance fees
- Ground transportation
- Licensed English speaking guides
- Flights international and domestic*
- Lots of laughs and making new friends

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Half day Hoi An City Tour
- Red Bridge Cooking Class and cruise up the river
- Ba Na Hills Golden Hand
 Bridge day trip
- Hanoi Walking Tour
- Lan Ha Bay overnight cruise (Halong Bay)
- Hanoi City & Food Tour
- Free time for shopping and visiting a tailor, pool time or a spa treatment

EXCLUDED:

- Entry visa
- Travel Insurance
- Gratuities
- Personal expenses
- Laundry
- Alcoholic Beverages

The 2023 Vietnam tour has been extended by 2 days to include Hanoi which is an extremely interesting city. This is a great trip, very popular with our ladies and we stay in 4.5- and 5-star accommodation.

SMALL GROUP SICILY FOOD AND WINE TOUR June 2023

8-day **PRIVATE** hosted tour starting in Catania ending in Palermo.

Prices start at \$4,550.00 pp* twin share (based on 5 travellers). Single supplement of \$794.00 applies

When: June 2023

Would you like to:

- Delve into the Sicilian culture and learn cooking tricks in a typical Sicilian family trattoria
- Discover the best of Sicily through its rich cuisine and colourful street food.
- Taste the best Sicilian wines and learn how it is produced
- Be treated like royalty on a small private tour with your own guide

If you answered yes, this tour is for you! Why not organise a group of your girlfriends and take this fun tour? Everything is taken care of all you need to do is arrive -- with your luggage!

This tour is focused on your travel group (min 6 - max 8). A small group tour is perfect to ensure you're travelling in comfort, have your own space, personal attention, and priority access to sites.

COVID-19 safety health and safety measures are in place from the private vehicles, local suppliers to the guides safety is assured on these tours!

What's included:

- Arrival and departure transfers
- 4* Accommodation twin share
- English speaking driver and guide
- Transport in a Mercedes minivan throughout the tour
- Covid-19 health and safety measures
- Meals: 7 breakfast, 6 lunches, 1 dinner
- Tours: Taormina lifestyle gourmet walking tour, Cooking class, Etna food & wine tour, Noto walking tour with seafood lunch, Ortigia food & wine tour, Syracuse Winery tour with lunch, Palermo Street food tour

Not included:

- Flights are not included however EYS is able to organise flights for your trip.
- Meals not mentioned above
- Items of a personal nature



Catania

Noto

Syracuse

Contact Kerin for further information and to book. kerin@ccwtc.com.au or ph 0421 581 611

*Payment plans are available – no extra cost.

PORTUGAL: DOURO RIVER CRUISE 3rd June 2023

Has Portugal been on your bucket list - we're taking a cruise along the Douro why not join us?

Prices start at \$4,100.00 based on Cat E cabin Panoramic window French Balcony from \$1100.00 Prices are per person twin share

What's included

- 7 nights' accommodation in a spacious stateroom including a desk and seating area, free wifi, bottled water replenished daily
- Welcome cocktail, welcome dinner and a gala dinner
- Lots of amenities including a sun deck with a pool, fitness room, main lounge and bar with panorama views and daily entertainment
- All onboard dining, a regionally inspired menu made with locally sourced ingredients
- Sparkling wine and fresh orange juice art breakfast, unlimited wine, beer and soft drink with lunch and dinner.
- Sandwiches and snacks served daily on the main lounge
- Sip and Sail cocktail hour with complimentary wine, beer, spirits and soft drinks.
- Guided tours in every destination, personal headset for exploring easily, different tour options depending on you level of activity.

Why not join this trip to the Sicily trip to enjoy a truly spectacular holiday! You won't be disappointed.







Salamanca

Mateus Palace

Castelo Rodrigo





Contact Kerin for further information and to book. kerin@ccwtc.com.au or ph 0421 581 611

^{*}Payment plans are available – no extra cost.

Our focus is on small private group tours to ensure our safety and well-being whilst travelling and living our best life. These tours can be for 4 people up to a maximum of 10 people - priced accordingly of course.

Your Women's Travel Club is all about the experience so if there's somewhere you'd like to experience let us know!!!

We have 170 members and without your interaction we don't know if the tours we're putting together interest you or not. So please, don't be shy, tell us where you would like to go!!

At the present time airlines, some tour operators and suppliers require their customers to be double vaccinated before allowing us to make any bookings. Covid protocols are changing all the time so keep an eye on this space each newsletter.

Pricing for all our trips will be added to our Facebook page and our website. Please register your interest if you're keen to book your place now.

PAYMENT PLANS

Interest free payment plans* are also available on international holidays and selected local holidays.

• A minimum on international trips is \$250 per month and full payment must be completed before travelling

Below are a couple of photos from our European trip.





Amazing Budapest

Visiting Passau on our river cruise

Linz cathedral

We loved our second river cruise, it'so relaxing and generally has less than 150 passengers. Ours only had 47 passengers this time.

That's it from me! If you have any questions or have a trip you think we should look at – let me know!

Until next time - keep well, stay safe and I look forward to travelling with you on one of our day trips, weekend trips or international trips.

Best Regards

Kerin