

CCWTC NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO 12 | FEBRUARY/MARCH 2023

Hello Ladies,

Well, Christmas and New Year's celebrations are over for another year – the years seem to be moving way too quickly for me!

Since the last newsletter I've travelled to Europe again and spent a few days in Rome before joining a Celebrity cruise taking in parts of Greece, Cyprus, Turkey and Israel. My first visit to Israel which I found very interesting.

The Melbourne Cup cruise was fun, twelve of our members and me embarked the Carnival Splendor for the 6-day cruise. The highlight was attending the Melbourne Cup. Sadly, the weather was not kind to us for the whole cruise and the day of the Melbourne Cup was overcast with rain showers in the morning which moved on for the running of the Cup. As we left the racecourse hail started to hit us! A couple of ladies on the cruise had worn white pants suits on the day – you can imagine the state of their pants at the end of the day - covered in lots of mud!

Our Christmas was different this year – we travelled to London over the Christmas period and spent NYE in Venice. It was our Coach Captain's 'big' birthday and he requested a dinner in Paris 😊. You just can't go to Europe for a week in January so we went for 3 weeks. It was bitterly cold but no snow fell.

Our radio show is going quite well, we've been broadcasting for 12 months now. It is 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. It's a fun show...

I've also been busy putting together exciting tour options for the travel club. However, if you have an idea let me know, we're here for our members and very happy to offer tours our members would like to do.

Unfortunately, airfares are still at a premium which makes some land trips quite expensive. I'm constantly working with suppliers to get the best deal for all our members. To that end I've been able to get a substantial sum off the New York and Southern USA trip in September...you'll find the updated pricing further on in the newsletter. We also must consider this is a fully guided, private, small group tour just for us so not having 30 or 40 people on the tour makes it that little bit more expensive but makes it much more comfortable, fun, more flexible, we can hear and see our guide and we travel at a comfortable pace.

Many companies offer small group tours of 20 but they will often join a larger group from other companies or even the same company for some of the excursions....we don't!

Let's get down to the important part of our newsletter and that's the travel offers.....



Contact Details

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Email: kerin@ccwtc.com.au

Before I get into that you'll notice over the next few weeks our website will change to a different look. Our tours will be listed and have a link for anyone interested to joining the tours to do so on the tour itself. Much easier than sending an extra email, of course, if you have a question regarding the tours please contact me direct by phone or email.

Everyone is getting ready to travel again and there are many exciting options out there for us all. I have our travel club Vietnam trip in May and I've also booked a cruise around Japan for August. Exciting times

UPCOMING TOURS 2023/2024

DAY TRIPS COMING UP

Lunch at Lakeside Café Murray's Beach

2 course lunch (entrée & main) with a glass of wine, coffee or tea

When: Saturday 25th March 12.30pm

Time: 12.30

Cost: \$70.00

I'll send out menu for prebooking Friday 17th.

Lunch at Avoca Beach

Where: Avoca Beach house Restaurant and Bar

When: 22nd April 2023

Time: 12.30pm

Cost: To be advised – depending on numbers from northern part of CC a bus may be required.

Lunch at Gunyah Hotel Belmont

3 course lunch with a glass of wine \$75.00

When: Saturday May 6th

Time: 12.30

Cost: \$75.00

Overnight/Weekend trips coming up

Snowy Mountains and Canberra Trip has been postponed due to issues with accommodation and transport – a new date will be decided and listed on Fb and the CCWTC website.

Ladies on the list for this trip please let me know if you're still interested and I'll contact you once I have the new date.

Hunter Valley Wine & Food Tasting Weekend – June 2023

Trip will leave the Coast at 10.30 am. Included will be several wine tastings, chocolate and cheese tastings, lunch both days and breakfast on Sunday morning.

Staying in the Hunter Valley overnight Saturday night before returning to the Coast on Sunday after lunch.

More information in the next newsletter. If you're interested please let me know and I'll place you on the list. As always this is a small group trip and our winery tours are always popular.

There are more tours in the 'works' and once we have good pricing I'll place them on the website and let you know via Fb or the travel club Fb Group Page.

CRUISING

For all our cruising members we have access to all the special deals sailing around Australia/New Zealand and 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.

Travel Club Cruises

3-day Sapphire Coast Seacation

CALL TO ACTION 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! Bookings are open now so if you're interested in joining the cruise let me know asap as a seacation is very popular and they book out very quickly. This is another very popular short break cruise.

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

Where: Roundtrip Sydney, Eden, Sydney.

Cost: Interior from \$683 per person, Balcony from \$860 per person, mini suite from \$1029 per person.

NB: Majestic Princess does not have oceanview cabins.

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

Includes: a Plus drinks package, 2 fitness classes and wifi plus the company of fabulous ladies.



3 Days | 1 Port

Why not get a group of your friends or family together and join us on this mini break. Cruising is so relaxing with everything being done for you – I always feel thoroughly spoiled when cruising.

Queensland – roundtrip Brisbane

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 on 24th November 2023. We will fly to Brisbane (either separately or together depending on your preference and how long you'd like to stay in Brisbane). Cabins are booking steadily and I'm taking bookings now – if you're keen to do this cruise let me know asap.

We also have a CALL TO ACTION on this one too. There are only a couple of these destination cruises a year. If you want to sail on this cruise let me know asap so cabins can be held with a small deposit as cabins are selling fast.

Queensland
Roundtrip from Brisbane

7 nights

Port Douglas
Cairns
Airlie Beach
Willis Island
Scenic Cruising
Great Barrier Reef
South Pacific Ocean
AUSTRALIA
Brisbane

Brisbane ▶ Airlie Beach (for the Whitsundays) ▶ Cairns ▶ Port Douglas (for the Great Barrier Reef) ▶ Willis Island (Scenic Cruising) ▶ **Brisbane**

2023 DEPARTURE | Coral Princess®
Nov 24 Fri

\$102^{pp} value included each day!

Princess Retail Price (AUD)	
premier beverage package	\$87 ^{pp}
Wi-Fi	\$15 ^{pp}
TOTAL per day	\$102^{pp}

Fares: twin share pp from:

Interior: \$1,579, Oceanview \$1879, Balcony \$1,999,
Mini Suite \$2,569 and Suite \$3,579

- Princess Plus is the best value for your cruise holiday if you need wi-fi and like a drinks package. As you can see by the little highlights box total per day without Princess Plus would be \$102 pp so you're saving around 400 over the cruise.

INTERNATIONAL TOURS 2023-2024



HOI AN, HANOI VIETNAM WITH HALONG BAY OVERNIGHT CRUISE

Ladies Small Group Tour

Flights: \$1,300.00* approx

Land: \$2,376.00

*flights are subject to increase until paid

8th May 2023 – 17 May 2023 9 days 8 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:

- 8 nights' accommodation in **your own room Hoi An, Hanoi**
- **Single cabin with balcony on Ha Long Bay cruise**
- 8 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners
- 11 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

We have 8 travelling on this popular trip this year – if you're still thinking about joining us let me know asap. Airfares are still rising but our land content isn't! It's a fabulous trip as well with our own guides and drivers.

Music Tour of the South with New York 17 days

Departs 16th September 2023

Small Group Tour max 15.



ITINERARY

New York 5 nights, Nashville 3 nights, Memphis 2 nights, Natchez 1-night, New Orleans 4 nights, Dallas/Fort Worth 2 nights.

HIGHLIGHTS

New York - Central Park, Greenwich Village, 9/11 Memorial, Little Italy, Central Park and much more. New Orleans - Preservation Hall evening Jazz concert, Cajun Country experience, entrance to Oak Valley plantation, French Quarter, Steamboat Jazz Cruise including lunch or brunch. Nashville - Country Music Hall of Fame, historic RCA Studios, Ryman Theatre, backstage tour of Grand Ole Opry and more, Memphis - guided tour, Beale Street, Sun Studios, Graceland, visit Elvis' childhood home in Tupelo, and so much more. See full itinerary for more information.

INCLUSIONS

Transport in air-conditioned coach and driver as per itinerary, accommodation, breakfast daily, 2 lunches, 7 dinners, sightseeing and entrance fees as per itinerary, private guides on guided tours (bus and walking tours) in each city. Portage of 1 bag will be available at all hotels.

Full itinerary is on the travel club website.

EXCLUDED

International and internal flights

Travel Insurance

Items not listed in itinerary.

Land Content: ~~\$13,560~~ UPDATE - now \$10,490.00 per person (thanks to our generous supplier)

**This is a small group tour and price is based on 10 to 14 guests twin share . There is a single supplement of \$3,000.

** When looking at the price of this tour you must consider this is a fully guided, private, small group tour. We don't have 30 or 40 people on the tour which makes our trip a little bit more expensive. However, it is more personal, comfortable, fun and a more flexible tour. As well, we will all be able to hear and see our guide and travel at a comfortable pace.

PORTUGAL: DOURO RIVER CRUISE 27 June 2023

Has Portugal been on your bucket list – why not take a leisurely cruise along the Douro River.

Prices start at \$5,869.00 Prices are per person twin share. **NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT CABINS MAY BE AVAILABLE** which means you can enjoy your own cabin however they are limited so early bookings are required.

Bookings must be made before 31st March 2023 to secure your cabin....cabins are limited.

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.



Salamanca



Mateus Palace



Castelo Rodrigo



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

We're working on 2024 trips now. No, it's not too early as popular places and cruises are being booked up already. Travellers are keen to see the world again.

Here's what we have on offer, so far, for 2024.

AUSTRALIA:

- **MARCH**
 - **KOSCIUSKO AND CANBERRA 5 DAYS**
- **NOVEMBER**
 - **WESTERN AUSTRALIA – PERTH, MARGARET RIVER AND ROTTNESST ISLAND**

INTERNATIONAL

- **FEBRUARY**
 - **ICELAND 8 DAYS**
- **MAY**
 - **JAPAN - WISTERIA FESTIVAL 8 DAYS**
- **JUNE/JULY**
 - **EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISE 8 DAYS**
 - **CHAMPERS AND CHATEAU TOUR OF CHAMPAGNE Region FRANCE 8 DAYS**
 - **ISTRIA/SLOVENIA SMALL GROUP TOUR 10 DAYS**
- **OCTOBER**
 - **PRINCESS CRUISE TO NEW ZEALAND 13 DAYS**
- **NOVEMBER**
 - **TBA**

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 15 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 198 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.

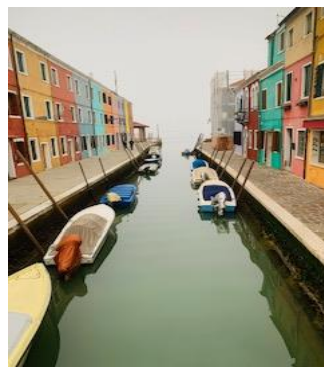
Below are a couple of photos from our European trip in December.



Christmas Tree The Ritz London.



Theatre District London



Fabulous Colours of Burano (Venice).



Bastille Paris France

That's it from my desk! 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.

Best Regards

Kerin



Happy St Patrick's Day to all our Irish members, families, and friends!