EXPLORE THE PLANET WITH US !

# OakFlall.co.uk



### Welcome to Oak Hall Summer 2023!

There's a world to explore out there and we invite you to come on an expedition with us.



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### FASCINATING PLACES

We are looking forward to travelling to some of the most fascinating places on the planet this year including the gushing geysers of lceland, the bustling bazaars of Jordan and the bright bays of Vietnam. Each destination holds unique treasures: natural wonders, historical splendours, cultural jewels...

### WELCOMING CROWD

Whether you're coming alone or together with others, with Oak Hall you will always find yourself among a positive and welcoming crowd.

### **GOOD NEWS**

At the heart of what we do is the good news that has changed the lives of countless millions across this precious planet: that there is a loving God who has come in the person of Jesus to draw individuals into a relationship with Him. This is why each evening, wherever we are: by a river in France; fjords in Montenegro or a step away from the bustle of the gates of Jerusalem, we listen to a short inspiring Bible message.

> "We hope you enjoy browsing our new programme and we would be delighted to share this summer with you!"

For details about booking, including deposits etc, see page 34.

### **Black Forest**

### walking in the sunshine



### Magnificent scenery

The Black Forest of Germany is ideal for walking, with its beautiful lakes, waterfalls, and marked tracks. There are breath-taking panoramic views as we wander past woodcutters' huts and traditional villages. We enjoy sunshine, fresh air and healthy activity.

Our guest house is on the edge of the village of Bonndorf, in the heart of the Black Forest. Nearby, there is an outdoor swimming pool as well as mini golf, tennis courts and a bowling alley.

### Relaxation and walking

You can come and simply relax in the sunshine or enjoy our optional excursion package as shown below, with a carefully graduated programme of walks designed to suit everybody.

We walk through the forest to the lakeside town of Schluchsee, where we find a relaxing Agua Park. This has a giant slide, jacuzzis, a sunbathing terrace, swimming pools and a restaurant. Mountain bikes are available to hire, as well as boats on the lake.

During our stay we will also enjoy a cruise with the lake steamer on Schluchsee.

### Cable car into the mountains

For spectacular views across the mountains to Switzerland, we take the cable car lift up the Feldberg - the highest mountain in the Black Forest range. From here we walk through wonderful scenery past the little villages where coffee and apfelstrudel are available to refresh us.



### Boating on Lake Titisee

We walk to Titisee, a vibrant lakeside town with numerous souvenir shops and cafés. Canoes and rowboats are available, allowing us to enjoy a voyage of discovery on the lake before returning for a meal at our accommodation.

"Thank you for an amazing holiday. It was truly awesome!" Christine

### Triberg's high waterfalls

There is plenty to see as we travel to Triberg, which has the highest waterfalls in Germany. There is an excellent walk from the top as we make our way down the long track beside the tumbling water. It is also the home of red squirrels and the cuckoo clock.

### Capital of the Black Forest

As a change from walking in the mountains, we take the train to Freiburg. It is the capital city of the region, with attractively restored historic buildings and a maze of pedestrian precincts crowded with every kind of shop.

### En-suite rooms and tasty meals

Our accommodation is simple but comfortable. with a mix of bunk beds and single beds. Most rooms are for four people but you can choose to have two people in the room for a supplement of £48 per person. There are shared showers and toilets on each floor. There are also a small number of single en-suite rooms available (£148 supplement).



Each evening we meet together for a time of singing and a helpful Bible talk.

For a detailed itinerary, see www.oakhall.co.uk or use the QR code above.

Come with us to walk in the fresh air and freedom of the mountains.

### Black Forest by luxury coach

#### Trip Dates Cost BF40 Wed 06 Sep - Fri 15 Sep 2023 £498

The cost includes all taxes, return travel from Folkestone by luxury, air-conditioned double deck coach (other coach pick-up points at Sainsbury's in Otford or Borough Green train station: £16 return). It also includes breakfast, lunch and evening meals while at our accommodation in rooms for four. See above for other room options. Optional excursion package: £58

#### Black Forest - by air Trip Dates Cost BP40 Thu 07 Sep - Thu 14 Sep 2023 £678



The cost includes return flights from London to Basel with British Airways, airport taxes and charges and airport transfers. It includes breakfast, lunch and evening meals while at our accommodation in rooms for four. See above for other room options Optional excursion package: £58

### Spain



### sun-drenched beaches



### An ideal setting

We stay in a beautiful location on the Mediterranean coastline. You can bask in the sunshine on the sandy beach and swim in the warm, clear waters of the Mediterranean. If you're feeling more active, there is so much to do - hire boats, play volleyball, explore the shops.

#### Spain by luxury coach

 Trip
 Dates
 Cost

 SC25
 Fri\* 26 May - Sat 03 Jun 2023
 £428

 SC46
 Fri\* 20 Oct - Sat 28 Oct 2023
 £428

 \*departs Friday evening
 £428

The cost includes all taxes, return travel by luxury, air-conditioned double deck coach from Folkestone (other coach pick-up points at Sainsbury's in Otford or Borough Green train station: £16 return). It also includes accommodation in en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel. Optional excursion package: £78

The coach departs the UK late on Friday evening to allow those who are in school/at work to join the coach. At the end of the holiday, the coach departs on the Friday evening

#### Spain by air

Trip	Dates
SA45	Sat 14 Oct - Sat 21 Oct 2023
SA46	Sat 21 Oct - Sat 28 Oct 2023



London to Barcelona, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, accommodation in en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel. Optional excursion package: £78

The cost includes return flights from

Cost

£628

£628



In May we stay at a hotel in Malgrat de Mar and in October we stay in Pineda de Mar. Both are four-star hotels and have an outdoor pool.

For the May group, our minimum age is lowered from 7 to 3 years old (if accompanied by an adult). All ages will follow the same programme, including excursions and evening meetings as they wish to do.

#### Exploring the local landscapes

Our optional package of three excursions takes us to explore the highlights of the area - Barcelona, Montserrat and Girona with Tossa de Mar.

In Girona, a walk along the old city walls provides an excellent view, while the shops below have lots of interesting items to browse. The river sweeps through the town, just as it did when it brought prosperity in Roman times.

When the Romans captured Tossa de Mar it was already a city full of history. Attractive backstreets provide an interesting area to explore and the medieval fortifications that still enclose the old town offer stunning views over the sandy beach.

#### A world-class city

We visit Barcelona, one of the Mediterranean's most important cities. It is packed with interest and sizzles with creativity. Our coach stays with us to take us between the key sites. The art nouveau buildings created by Gaudi are astonishing, especially his unfinished masterpiece, the Sagrada Familia.

La Rambla is the most famous pedestrian precinct in Spain and is alive at all hours of the day and night the shops, street vendors, cafés and street acts provide the entertainment.

Together with the beach, museums, parks and waterfront entertainment, you are sure to find something to do in Barcelona!

#### Dramatic scenery at Montserrat

We drive through arid, desert-like scenery on our third excursion as the coach climbs to the ancient Benedictine monastery of Montserrat. The scenery has natural beauty, high amongst the mountains with spectacular views. The monastery has many treasures to see and the mountains provide stunning walks and cable car rides.

We meet each evening for a helpful Bible talk and a time of singing.

With the wide, sandy beaches and the attractive towns, this is a winner in every way!

"These holidays are one-of-a-kind and provide incredible opportunities for rest and connection. Thank you!" Jane

### Switzerland

### scenic Churfirsten in the Alps

### An awe-inspiring location

Join us to explore the region of Switzerland known as Heidiland, a beautiful world of mountains, valleys, caves and waterfalls. Whether you enjoy walking, adrenaline-filled activities or relaxing with a lakeside view, there is plenty on offer. There are magnificent mountaintops with blue lakes, sun-blackened farmhouses and lively little towns. The cable cars take you to numerous footpaths, crystal clear alpine lakes and vast pastures.

Our accommodation is on a sunny terrace in the mountains above Lake Walen with awe-inspiring views. The prices for accommodation in Switzerland put holidays in this country out of reach for many, so we are pleased to have use of this accommodation in a stunning setting in the mountains. It is a simple, traditional style building but it is well cared for and has been a favourite with Oak Hall guests for many years.

### Something for everyone

There is plenty to do in the area, including a superb network of walking paths that make it easy to explore, some of which start right by our accommodation. A cable car running up Mount Maschgenkamm goes even higher into the mountains, and another runs down the mountain to Lake Walen.

A toboggan run provides an exhilarating way to see the amazing scenery. A wide range of other activities can be arranged with local suppliers from mountain biking to climbing. The beautiful, clear water is just the right temperature in the summer, and is ideal for swimming or activities on the water. A large indoor swimming pool is also available locally.

### From lake cruises to alpine cafés

Our optional package includes three excursions: A boat trip, a visit to the spa town of Bad Ragaz, and a three-country tour.

For the lake cruise, we travel down the mountain by coach to the lakeside and then cross to Quinten. Here, there is a peaceful settlement that can only be reached by boat. It is a beautiful place to stop at the café for coffee and cake.

### **Exploring Bad Ragaz**

Our second excursion takes us to Bad Ragaz, an attractive town with interesting shops and cafés. It is known for its impressive thermal spa, or for a more active option there is a stunning walk through the gorge.

### A three-country tour

We also enjoy a coach tour exploring three different countries that lie in close proximity to each other. This exciting whistle-stop tour takes us first to Vaduz, the capital of the tiny principality of Liechtenstein. We then explore the ancient city of Feldkirch in Austria, and continue on to Rapperswil in Switzerland, with its beautiful lakefront walks and its castle.

### Remarkably affordable...

The Oak Hall team will be providing us with three meals a day. We invite you to join in the fun and teamwork to assist with laying the tables, for example, on one day of the holiday, making our time in Switzerland remarkably affordable.

Our accommodation has a range of different sizes and styles of room (including bunk beds in some rooms). Rooms for two, three or four people are available. Showers and toilets are located on each floor. A limited number of en-suite rooms for two are available at a supplement of £48 per person.

THE REAL PROPERTY.

### A relaxing atmosphere

PROPERTY AND INC.

We have exclusive use of our mountain centre accommodation and we meet each evening to hear a helpful Bible talk.

Do come and join us to enjoy the relaxing atmosphere that everybody associates with Oak Hall Expeditions.

"We enjoyed the excursions very much. They were each excellent." David

### Switzerland by luxury coach

 Dates Tue 22 Aug - Thu 31 Aug 2023	Cost £498

The cost includes all taxes and return travel by luxury, air-conditioned double deck coach from Folkestone (other coach pick-ups available at Sainsbury's, Otford or Borough Green train station: £16 return). It also includes accommodation in mountain centre rooms for two, breakfast, packed lunch and evening meals while at our accommodation. Optional excursion package: £88

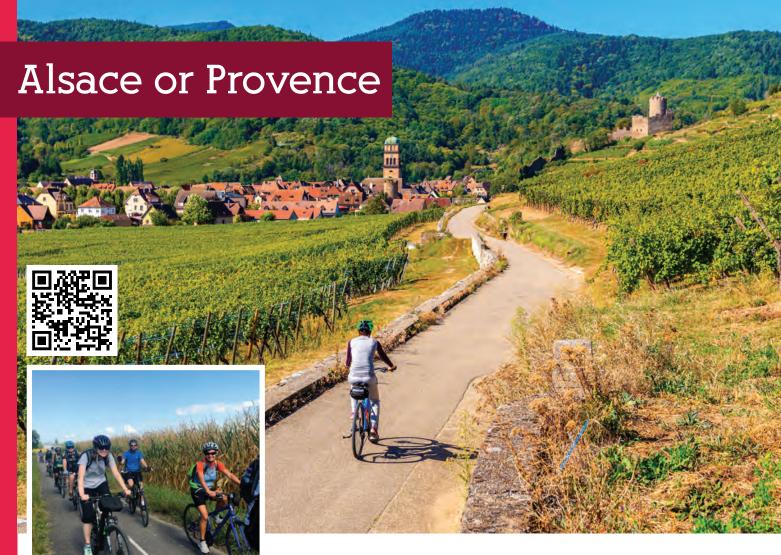
### Switzerland by air

Trip Dates CA38 Wed 23 Aug - Wed 30 Aug 2023

Cost
2823



The cost includes flights from London Heathrow to Basel with British Airways, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, accommodation in mountain centre rooms for two, breakfast, packed lunch and evening meals while at our accommodation.



### France cycling

Hundreds have discovered the delight of cycling along quiet tracks and roads in beautiful scenery on our cycling holidays. We return home healthy and fit, having had an exciting time exploring carefully selected routes. Good quality bikes are available for hire.

#### We offer two destinations in France – Provence or Alsace, both of which are renowned for their stunning scenery.

#### Choose your pace

On both of these cycling holidays we split into different groups depending on the type of cycling you are looking for. Each one will be led by an Oak Hall team member. The first group take everything at a relaxed pace, admiring the scenery, while the fastest group enjoy the chance to prove their fitness! With other groups in between as well, the cycling holidays are ideal for everyone looking for an active and refreshing break.

#### Pre-arranged routes

We will follow a range of carefully selected routes, which gradually increase in length from around 15 - 20 miles on the first day to around 35 - 50 miles on the last day, depending on the destination.

All the rides are of course optional but by increasing the length of the rides through the week, the groups build up their fitness and you may well be surprised to find how far you can cycle! Also, there are options to extend or shorten the distance on some routes.

### The beautiful city of Avignon

VC34 and VC35. The jewel of Provence is the fortified city of Avignon on the banks of the River Rhône, with its castle, Pope's Palace, and hillside gardens. We stay on a campsite which is within sight of the famous bridge ('Pont d'Avignon').

From this base we can cruise by bike through the outstanding scenic beauty of Provence to a different location each time for our lunchtime stop.



#### Lunchtime stops & canoeing

Orange, for example, is an historic town containing an ancient Roman theatre where world-famous concerts are held. Another lunchtime stop is the Pont du Gard, with its famous aqueduct and the option of canoeing on the river.

There are also options at certain points to extend or shorten the distance. For example, on one of the rides you can either stop to explore St Remy, where Van Gogh painted some of his most famous pictures, or challenge yourself by riding up Les Baux de Provence with the reward of excellent views at the top.





### Alsace - vineyards and villages

AL36 - the region of Alsace is popular with cyclists in the know, offering attractive scenery as you pass through vineyards and past rivers. With 2500km of cycle routes available in the region, some suggest that it is France's top cycling destination.

Seemingly every village is a beautiful kaleidoscope of colourful half-timbered houses. The scenic Vosges hills await those who want to challenge themselves. The plains between the hills and the river Rhine are ideal for those looking for more gentle cycling along cycle paths and quiet roads.

Our campsite is located on the edge of one of the region's most attractive villages, Ribeauvillé.

### Cycling through two countries

Each ride takes us to an interesting location for our lunchtime stop. Our first ride visits the village of Kintzheim, which sits in the plain, with the striking

Haut Koenigsbourg chateau towering high above. From Kintzheim, those who wish to challenge themselves can take on the 535m altitude climb to reach the chateau. Most people though will probably opt to take the bus to the chateau and back, before returning to the campsite along the cycle paths through the vineyards.

Another ride takes us south to the stunning town of Colmar. Part of the town is referred to as 'Petite Venise' (Little Venice) because of its canals and colourful houses.

Our longest ride takes us across the border to the Black Forest region of Germany. We cycle alongside the Rhine before exploring the interesting town of Breisach and then returning into France. A number of our rides have options to shorten or lengthen the distance to allow for a range of cycling levels.

At the campsite, we provide the tents and you can bring whatever makes you comfortable for sleeping, such as an airbed (for more information about what to bring, please see the summer section of our FAQs). We generally allocate two people per tent but they are large enough to sleep three people if you would prefer.

After a day's cycling we enjoy an energising meal prepared by the Oak Hall team, as well as a Bible talk that is always a highlight. We can then relax and share stories of the day's cycling or take part in games and activities.

#### Alsace or Provence

Trip	Dates	Cost
VC34	Mon 24 Jul - Wed 02 Aug 2023	£398
VC35	Thu 03 Aug - Sat 12 Aug 2023	£398
AL36	Sat 12 Aug - Mon 21 Aug 2023	£398



The cost includes all taxes, return travel by luxury, air-conditioned double deck coach from Folkestone (other coach pick-ups available at Sainsbury's in Otford or Borough Green train station: £16 return). It also includes camping accommodation and three meals a day while at the campsite. Bike hire: £78

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### Keukenhof

### beautiful spring garden





### An amazing display

In the spring, thousands of acres of bulb fields in Holland display their magnificent colour. We invite you to come with us and enjoy five days in the best of the spring weeks, with no overnight travel.

Our hotel is located just six miles from Keukenhof, where there are more than 7 million tulips, daffodils and hyacinths making a beautiful springtime display. The fragrance and exotic colours surround us as we enjoy the 79 acres of grounds. In addition, there are flower shows in the pavilions.

Keukenhof is listed as one of the ten places you should definitely visit once in a lifetime.

### A unique interactive museum

At the open air Zuiderzee Museum, experience traditional Dutch village life as historic crafts are demonstrated. Walk among the old buildings with the church, the windmill, the cheese warehouse, the shops, fish-curing shed and a large collection of historic wooden ships.

### Keukenhof by luxury coach

TripDatesKH22Tue 02 May - Sat 06 May 2023



The cost includes all taxes, return travel by luxury, air-conditioned double deck coach from Folkestone (other coach pickups available at Sainsbury's in Otford or Borough Green train station: £16 return), four-star hotel accommodation with breakfast and evening meals while at our and en-suite. It also includes entrance fees

Cost

£598

hotel. Rooms are for two and en-suite. It also includes entrance fees to Keukenhof and the Zuiderzee Museum.



### Tulips from Amsterdam

Amsterdam has numerous historic buildings and museums set in a maze of tiny back streets. A canal cruise boat is one of the most relaxing ways to see the city. Numerous cafés provide refreshment as we listen to the tunes played by the bells of a carillon.

### The medieval city of Ghent

In the Middle Ages, Ghent was one of the richest cities in Europe. It still has the atmosphere of a thriving medieval city state. The centrepiece of the city is the Cloth Hall, where the cloth merchants used to meet in the fifteenth century.

### Excellent value

We will be staying in the four-star NH Leeuwenhorst hotel with breakfast and evening meals provided. The hotel is located just six miles from Keukenhof and has an indoor swimming pool. The cost of the coach excursions and the entrance fees to Keukenhof and the Zuiderzee Museum are all included.

After seeing the beauty of God's creation, we will enjoy listening to a Bible message in the evenings.

*"What a lovely trip it was to Holland. I enjoyed the wonderful tulips in particular."* Judy



### Ireland

### awe-inspiring scenery







### The Emerald Isle

Ireland is famous for beautiful scenery, and we are pleased to be sailing to the Emerald Isle this autumn. We will be visiting the scenic southern part of Ireland, staying in Waterford and Killarney. Transport for all the excursions is included and there is no overnight travel.

Our evenings together are always a highlight as we meet for a time of singing and a Bible talk.

#### Cruise the Irish Sea to Waterford

We take a cruise across the Irish Sea, benefitting from the refreshing sea air. Our first stop is a comfortable hotel facing the riverside at Waterford. Ireland's oldest city, Waterford is known for its stunning coastlines and fascinating Viking history.

The town is a jumble of interesting shops and the House of Crystal provides a fascinating insight into the production of the exquisite, world-famous crystal glass. At New Ross we explore the replica of the triple-masted ship 'Dunbrody'. Actors bring the past to life on board, showing emigrants escaping the potato famine by sailing to America.

### Beautiful Killarney

Our second stop is Killarney. Situated on the edge of Killarney National Park, the town is surrounded by the natural beauty that makes Ireland famous - lakes, mountains and woodland. We stay in a three-star hotel on the edge of the town.

A day touring the Ring of Kerry, one of the most famous coastal drives in the world, provides breath-taking views, both inland and along the coast, as we take in the best of traditional Ireland on the Iveragh Peninsula.

### A varied tour

We will also visit Muckross House, which was once visited by Queen Victoria. Many of the rooms in this impressive building have been restored to their original Victorian style. There are also impressive gardens to explore.

*"It was a fantastic holiday; great fellowship and we loved the Irish scenery."* Sarah We return to Waterford for our last night, before beginning our homeward journey.

### A choice of meeting points

There are three pick up points available for this holiday: Otford in Kent, Magor Services (on the M4 at Junction 23A) and Pembroke ferry port.

Take a break and enjoy the renowned countryside of Ireland with us as we travel in our luxury double-deck coach.

### Ireland by luxury coach

Trip Datse IR44 Mon 02 Oct - Sat 07 Oct 2023



The cost includes all taxes, return travel by luxury, air-conditioned double deck coach from Otford, Kent (other coach pick-up points: Magor services and Pembroke Ferry Port). It also includes three-star hotel accommodation with en–suite rooms for two, breakfast and

Cost

£528

evening meals while at our accommodation. The cost of transport for all the excursions is included but please allow for entrance fees (for the Dunbrody ship and Muckross House).

### Amalfi & Sorrento



### Famous around the globe

The area around Sorrento and the Amalfi coast has enchanted celebrities from Cleopatra to Angelina Jolie. It is a place of legendary beauty, where mountains dive into the sea, with beautiful bays and picturesque resort towns.

### An excellent location

We stay in a three-star hotel on the Sorrentine peninsula in the centre of Vico Equense, with its range of attractive buildings and interesting shops. We are also just a short distance from the best ice cream shop in town! The beach and harbour can be accessed by steps down the cliff or by bus. Hotel Aequa has a swimming pool, as well as a terrace and gardens, with excellent views of Vesuvius and the Bay of Naples.

### The stunning Amalfi coast

Our optional package of excursions includes two separate day excursions by coach to explore the Amalfi coast, Vesuvius and the catacombs in Naples.

The Sorrentine peninsula offers a beautiful coastline for us to enjoy. The most dramatic parts are found along the southern side, known as the Amalfi coast, which is approximately 30 minutes drive from our hotel by coach. Our first excursion takes us along this spectacular coastline to explore Amalfi and Ravello.

The town of Amalfi, which gives the coastline its name, is centred around St Andrew's Cathedral and is built into a bay amongst the mountains. It provides a beautiful setting for an ice cream in one of its gorgeous gelaterias. We also stop at Ravello, which arguably offers the best views of the Amalfi coast, due to its high position.

10



### **Mighty Vesuvius**

Our second excursion takes us to explore Vesuvius and also the catacombs in Naples. When Vesuvius erupted in AD79, the local town of Pompeii was buried under 5 metres of ash, leaving the whole town hidden and frozen in time. Our coach will drop us close to the top of the volcano. From here there is a rugged path that leads us up the last few hundred metres to see the crater, which is now dormant.

We will also visit the catacombs in Naples, which provide an interesting insight into the history of the city. Our guide will explain how they are also an important part of the modern society, having been re-opened as part of a social project to develop the local area.



*"It was my first Oak Hall holiday and it was fantastic."* Rachel

The entrance fees for both Vesuvius and the catacombs are included in the excursion package.







### **Exploring Ancient Pompeii**

There are many other things available to do in the local area. To enable the most flexibility, our optional package of excursions only covers two days, leaving plenty of time for you to explore the places of most interest to you, assisted by the Oak Hall leader.

On one of the free days, the leader will take a group to Pompeii. Wandering these ancient streets gives us a unique insight into the world of the New Testament - it's the closest we can get to a time machine that plunges us into the world where Paul and Peter preached. The direct train from Vico Equense to Pompeii takes 20 mins and costs around  $\in$  3 each way. The cost of the train and the entrance fee for Pompeii are payable locally. The site at Herculaneum, which was devastated by the same eruption, is known for its impressive collection of preserved mosaics and frescoes and is accessible on the same train line.

#### Rich in scenery and culture

Another highlight of the area is the island of Capri, a popular retreat for movie stars. You can take a boat ride across to the island and head up on the funicular to explore the glittering shops and enjoy the walks with stunning views.

After each day's activities, we return to our hotel for the evening meal, as well as an inspiring Bible talk and time of singing, which are always a highlight.

### Amalfi by air

Code	Dates	Day	s Cost
AM29	Mon 19 Jun - Wed 28 Jun 2023	10	£898
AM31	Wed 05 Jul - Wed 12 Jul 2023	8	£858
AM34	Wed 26 Jul - Thu 03 Aug 2023	9	£978
AM38	Wed 23 Aug - Fri 01 Sep 2023	10	£978
AM40	Wed 06 Sep - Fri 15 Sep 2023	10	£938
AM45	Tue 10 Oct - Wed 18 Oct 2023	9	£878



The cost includes return flights from London to Naples with British Airways, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, three-star hotel accommodation with air-conditioned, en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel.

Optional excursion package: £78

### **Active Italy**

### sailing, kayaking, walking



### An active break

Do you love the great outdoors? Do you find that an active break is a refreshing break? Join us for a week in a beautiful Italian setting as we enjoy sailing and kayaking on the lake, walking, swimming and more.

The cost of this holiday includes coach and ferry transport for the activities, use of yachts on the lake with a skipper, cycle hire, kayak hire and swimming pool entrance, as detailed below.

### Action-packed activities

In the glorious Oglio Valley the river flows into Lake Iseo. Included in the cost, one of our activities will give us access to a private club on the lake. This includes the use of two 30ft yachts, with a skipper to guide us.

There will also be kayaks available, which we can use to explore the lake at our own pace. We can swim in

#### Active Italy by air

TripDatesCostIA34Wed 26 Jul - Wed 02 Aug 2023£928



The cost includes return flights from London to Milan Malpensa with British Airways, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, three-star hotel accommodation with en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel. The cost also includes coach and

ferry transport for the activities, use of yachts, bike and kayak hire at the lake, forest adventure park, swimming pool. These options are payable locally: free day activities, bike hire on Monte Isola, longer horse riding trek. Please note that the photos are for illustrative purposes only.



the lake and the club also has mountain bikes, which we can use to ride along the edge of the lake and see the water from a different angle. We can take it in turns to use the different equipment and we will have great fun exploring this beautiful scenery.

### The heart of the mountains

Two further days of our activity package will take us into the mountains to walk amongst the inspiring scenery. Lake Moro is a beautiful location, nestled just above the riverside town, where you can try horse riding as part of the activity package. If you wish, you can take part in an optional horse-riding trek further into the mountains. Panoramic views, a restaurant and pedal boating all add to the fun.

A ferry crossing to Europe's largest inland island, Monte Isola on Lake Iseo, opens up a day of discovery, walking or cycling. Alternatively, relax in the lakeside restaurant or enjoy a swim in the lake and take in the spectacular views.

### A range of options

New for 2023, we will be visiting an adventure park in the forest. Suitable for a range of ages and abilities, a series of high ropes and zip lines will provide an exciting way to spend the day. It is also an excellent area for walking.

*"Was just what I needed. Very refreshing physically and spiritually."* Rebecca We also spend a day relaxing at the swimming pool complex with a range of pools and slides.

Our free day allows us to explore the local town or impressive spa facility and enjoy the satisfaction gained from a week of healthy exercise.

### Comfortable accommodation

We will be based in the three-star Hotel San Martino, north of the lake, in the riverside town of Boario Terme. All the rooms are en-suite. After each day we will meet together to hear an inspiring Bible talk, as well as having the chance to share stories from our activities or play games.

Join us this summer for an active break amongst the amazing Italian lake and mountain scenery.



## Norwaymajestic fjords



### Mountains and shimmering lakes

Stay with us in a peaceful location in the heart of the Norwegian countryside. Our modern centre is situated right by the beautiful Skanevik fjord. Well away from the busyness of town and city life, the location is in harmony with nature. Our centre has beautiful views as the sunshine reflects off the water on the fjord and the mountain peaks dominate the skyline. The air is fresher and the scenery more spectacular than you could imagine.

We fly into Bergen and back from Stavanger. The flight times allow us to explore these two locations on the arrival and departure days - an exciting bonus, in addition to the excursion package. In Bergen the view from the top of the funicular railway is one of the most spectacular in Norway and Stavanger has its attractive Old Town to explore.

### A wide range of activities

Our centre is owned by Christians and is ideal for us. We will eat well, with three Scandinavian meals a day provided for us by the Norwegian cooks. Following the evening meal, we meet together for a helpful Bible talk.

One advantage of our accommodation is the sports hall with football, volleyball and basketball courts, as well as table tennis and a trampoline. Or you may prefer just to relax with a book on the leather sofas in the comfortable lounge.

The location of our centre in the heart of the countryside makes it ideal for those wanting to explore the great outdoors. From the private fjord jetty we

have free use of two-man canoes. The water is clear and ideal for swimming. A local walk takes you to an ancient fort, with stunning views and a beautiful lake.

### Mighty waterfalls and glaciers

We have an excellent optional package of three excursions. The first of these takes us to Skanevik, Folgefonna, we walk to a beautiful lake with views of the glacier.

Nine of the twenty highest waterfalls in the world are in Norway and the Latefossen are two of the finest. Steep waterfalls crash down as cascading veils of water and spray, providing long-lasting memories of this beautiful country.

#### Exploring the countryside

A second excursion will take us south, exploring the attractive countryside and stopping off at a couple of interesting places along the way. The small town of Skudeneshavn has almost 130 of the original 19th century timber houses and seafront wharves existing today for us to see.

Åkrahamn offers an attractive, rural beach, which is ideal for swimming, games or just relaxing to enjoy the scenery.

### An interactive Viking museum

Our third excursion takes us to the interesting town of Haugesund. As well as the modern shopping centres and traditional fish market there is also an optional visit to a Viking Farm and museum.



*"My favourite Oak Hall holiday so far!"* Christina

This is an opportunity to explore the fact and fiction of the myths surrounding Norway's past in an interactive way, plus you can even dress up as a Viking!

#### Interesting local activities

In addition to the optional excursion package, there are two other additional activities (payable locally). Firstly, there will be the chance to visit a Norwegian prayer house to hear about its history. Secondly, a short minibus ride takes us to Eikas, followed by a walk to Olensvag and a ride back to the centre.

Join us this summer to experience the beauty of Norway!

## Norway by air Trip Dates Cost NB36 Fri 11 Aug - Fri 18 Aug 2023 £858 The cost includes the flight from London to



The cost includes the flight from London to Bergen, returning from Stavanger with Norwegian Airlines, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, en-suite centre accommodation with three meals a day while at our centre. Rooms have a mix of bunk beds and single beds (rooms for two as standard, rooms for 3 or 4 also available).

### Malta







### Island of legends

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Malta is a beautiful island, nestling below Sicily and far away from the bustle and pollution of major cities. It enjoys a Mediterranean climate, with many hours of summer sunshine making it ideal for enjoying the coast. Snorkelling is one of the most popular activities here.

One famous event in Malta's history is the shipwreck of the apostle Paul. Running aground at 'a bay with a sandy beach' Paul found that 'the islanders showed us unusual kindness' - a characteristic that still defines the Maltese.

### Relaxing with plenty to do

Our three-star hotel is located in Qawra, a seaside town on the peninsula of St Paul's Bay, just a short walk from the shops and cafés at Bugibba.

Hotel II Palazzin features air-conditioned, en-suite rooms for two (rooms for three or four available on request) and a swimming pool. The area of Qawra and Bugibba offers a wide range of activities including water sports. Much of the island's coastline is rugged and this is true for the coastline closest to our hotel. Various parts of the island are accessible for swimming and a sandy beach is accessible using the local bus system. We meet together each evening to hear a helpful Bible talk.

### Valletta, built by medieval knights

Our optional excursion package takes us on three separate day excursions and includes visits to Valletta, Gozo, Mdina and Golden Bay.

The 'Knights of St John' built the intriguing, fortified city of Valletta in the sixteenth century. Here we will see the famous Grand Harbour with the Grand Master's Palace and the beautiful Cathedral, together with

### a beautiful Mediterranean island



many fascinating treasures on display in its museums. The teeming thoroughfares provide great shopping opportunities.

### The Island of Gozo

Gozo is Malta's sister island and is known for its more rural, but beautiful, scenery. In Victoria, the capital of Gozo, there is a charming market square, quaint alleyways, and an impressive citadel. A guide will be with us throughout the day to help us make the most of our excursion.

Intriguing Mdina & Golden Bay

Our third excursion takes us to the attractive walled

city of Mdina, once the capital of Malta, which has a wealth of intriguing back streets to explore. We also visit sparkling Golden Bay, a sandy beach that is a great place to try water sports, such as snorkelling, or to simply unwind.

Leave the British weather behind and come with us to this beautiful island in the Mediterranean.

> "Many thanks for what felt like a perfect holiday!" Samuel

### Malta by air

Trip	Dates	Cost
ML25	Sat 27 May - Sat 03 Jun 2023	£778
ML37	Sat 19 Aug - Mon 28 Aug 2023	£898
ML46	Sat 21 Oct - Sat 28 Oct 2023	£798



The cost includes return flights from London with Air Malta, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, three-star hotel accommodation with air-conditioned, en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel.

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### Sicily

### stunning Italian island





#### Explore a unique island

The natural wonder of Sicily is seen in a variety of landscapes, from the striking features of Mount Etna to the sandy beaches and clear blue seas.

The three-star Hotel Sabbie D'oro is located on the edge of the town of Cefalu, arguably one of Italy's most beautiful seaside destinations. In the town centre, the attractive buildings with their terracotta roofs are embedded dramatically in the side of the hill, rising up from the beach. We can explore the interesting backstreets, shops and cafés, as well as the striking cathedral at the highest point, or relax on the sandy beach.

### "Thanks for another exceptional holiday!" Samuel

### Sicily by air

Trip	Dates	Cost
SY41	Wed 13 Sep - Wed 20 Sep 2023	£898



London to Catania with British Airways, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers and three-star hotel accommodation, with air-conditioned, en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel.

The cost includes return flights from



#### Hotel above a sandy beach

The hotel has a swimming pool. A series of steps wind their way down the cliff to the hotel's private, sandy beach at the bottom. The steps are always in the shade, making the walk down to the beach more pleasant.

There is air conditioning in all the bedrooms and a good number of them have a sea view. For a supplement of  $\pounds$ 49 per person for the week, the hotel can guarantee one of these rooms, otherwise they will allocate as many sea view rooms to our group as they have left when we arrive.

### Cruising to the islands

Our optional package of two excursions explores the intriguing Aeolian islands, as well as visiting Monreale and Castelbuono.

One advantage of our location in Cefalu is that the boat to the Aeolian islands departs from the town itself. On the island of Lipari, off the north coast of Sicily, we can explore the town with its picturesque harbour and attractive houses. We can visit the cliff-top citadel with its interesting museum, explore the island's beaches or snorkel in the crystal-clear waters. There is also the chance for us to enjoy island hopping as we take the ferry to the nearby island of Vulcano, known for its mud baths and dark volcanic rocks.

#### Monreale and the mountains

Monreale has an impressive cathedral from the 1100s with vibrant mosaics and striking architecture. The attractive Belvedere public gardens are free to enter and have a palace as their backdrop.

On the same day, we travel to the attractive medieval village of Castelbuono in the mountainous Madonie national park. Why not visit the castle or one of its famous pastry shops?

#### Mount Etna's striking landscape

This year we will be using Catania airport on the south side of the island, which is close to Mount Etna. We will therefore visit Etna on our last day before travelling to the airport for the evening flight. This means that the visit is part of the main holiday package rather than the optional excursion package

Mount Etna is the highest volcano in Europe at 3350m, and is arguably the most impressive feature of Sicily. Parts of the area have been preserved for wildlife to flourish, while others are accessible to visitors, giving us the chance to explore the intriguing volcanic landscape and craters.

After the day's activity, each evening we will have an opportunity to meet together for a helpful Bible talk.

### Andorra

### nestled in the Pyrenees





### A unique mountain principality

Andorra is an independent state, high in the mountains It has some of the most stunningly rugged scenery in Europe. Narrow valleys wind between high mountains, which soar to 2946m (9665ft).

We offer an optional excursion package on three of the days and you can also explore the stunning scenery by foot, enjoying the interesting local walks.

### An unspoilt, perfect escape

Created in the 800s to protect France, today Andorra is unspoilt and quiet. Its small size makes it easy for us to explore; this summer it is accessible to us as the perfect escape out of the busyness of life into the tranquillity of the mountains.

### Staying high in the mountains

Our four-star hotel is located on the edge of the village of Arinsal, in the heart of the mountains. Hotel Sant Gothard has facilities that include an outdoor swimming pool, tennis courts and mini golf. The village centre, with a cable car, small supermarket and cafes etc, is 15 mins by foot.

### **Exploring Andorra together**

Our optional package of three excursions will give us the opportunity to discover the highlights of Andorra. Climbing by coach to the top of the Arcalis valley, with impressive views along the way, we reach the Creussans chair lift. From the top there are excellent views across Andorra and into France. We then have the option of a walk that takes us alongside the river to the interesting town of Ordino.

### Peaceful mountain villages

We will also have a day travelling through unspoilt, picturesque villages. Pal is an example of classic Andorran architecture. Standing by the church, the views of the village below are a gift for any photographer.

We also stop at Lake Engolasters, which is in a beautiful setting and is the largest lake in Andorra. There is an optional walk available for us to enjoy here.

### An attractive Spanish town

Another day, we cross the border into Spain to visit the interesting Catalan town of Seu d'Urgell. This town is named after its ancient and impressive Romanesque cathedral, built in the 11th to 12th centuries. It was also the site of the kayak contest in the Barcelona Olympics. Like everything in the region, this historic town is set against the backdrop of beautiful mountains.

### High in the Pyrenees

On our free days, there are plenty of interesting walks or other activities on offer. You might choose to take the Arinsal cable car up higher into the mountains or a local bus to Andorra la Vella, the highest capital city in Europe. It has an impressive setting in a steep gorge and is famous for its low tax regime in the shopping centres.



"Great mix of activities and places - very happy!" David

After a day by the hotel swimming pool, walking in the mountains or adventure in the towns we can enjoy a meal and spend time listening to an inspiring Bible talk.

Join us to explore this unusual and beautiful destination, high in the Pyrenees.

Anc	lorra	by	air	

Trip	Dates	Cos
AN37	Wed 16 Aug - Wed 23 Aug 2023	£71
AN40	Wed 06 Sep - Wed 13 Sep 2023	£69



The cost includes return flights from London Heathrow to Toulouse with British Airways, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, four-star hotel accommodation in en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel.

book now www.oakhall.co.uk

### Montenegro



### Inspiring scenery

Montenegro is one of the last undiscovered jewels of Europe. Nestling against the Adriatic Sea, this small, proud land sweeps up from shimmering lakes and rivers to the soaring mountains that give this fairy-tale destination its distinctive name.

The dramatic, fjord-like Kotor bay is flecked with islands, fishing boats and rare sea birds. It is surrounded by steep mountainsides and is rightly a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### Hotel on the Bay of Kotor

We fly into Dubrovnik, which is very close to the border with Montenegro. We will stay right on the coast in a three-star hotel at Denovici, on the edge of the beautiful Kotor Inlet. Hotel Milena is surrounded by orange groves and there are sun loungers available at the front of the hotel by the sea.

Wandering along the seafront with stunning views of the bay, stopping off at the cafés and restaurants, is a very pleasant way to spend an afternoon. Make sure that you head along to the amazing new marina and resort at Porto Novi. This is just 1km from the hotel and has been designed to rival luxury marinas such as St Tropez.

### A land of stunning beauty

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From crashing mountain streams to the refreshing lapping of the lagoons and pools that curl around the coast, Montenegro is a land of contrasts and beauty.





Our optional package of three excursions takes us to explore the highlights of the area: Dubrovnik, Kotor and the Blue Cave.

### Relaxing cruises on Kotor Bay

A boat cruise through a narrow inlet leads to this magnificent bay, with intriguing islands and ancient monasteries. The town of Kotor itself, with its dramatic waterfall, is famed for its Venetian city walls and medieval old town.

Another cruise takes us to the Blue Cave, where the water has a striking azure tint, with the opportunity to swim if you would like to do so. Our boat also stops at Herceg Novi, which has been ruled by many different empires, all keen to make the most of its strategic position on the Bay of Kotor. If you don't have enough time to visit everything on our stop, you can easily return by public bus on a free day. You might choose to visit the interesting Kanli Kula fortress, hire kayaks at the beach, or take the attractive promenade walk.

### a remarkable coastline







*"It was a lovely holiday in very beautiful surroundings in Montenegro! And it was great to meet other Christians and make a few new friends."* Anna



### Dubrovnik - Croatia's Pearl

With ancient city walls that sweep down to the harbour, quaint cafés and yachts nosing the water at the quay, Dubrovnik is often called "the Pearl of the Adriatic". We will cross from Montenegro into Croatia to spend the day in this beautiful town.

#### A marvellous destination

Each evening, we meet together for a time of singing and an inspiring Bible talk.

This will be an unforgettable journey to the sunshine, coasts, history, beauty and vibrancy of Europe's youngest nation. Delightful Montenegro, still undiscovered by many, will be a destination to talk about for years to come.

### Montenegro by air

Trip	Dates	Days	Cost
MT28	Tue 13 Jun - Thu 22 Jun 2023	10	£858
MT31	Thu 06 Jul - Sat 15 Jul 2023	10	£858
MT40	Tue 05 Sep - Tue 12 Sep 2023	8	£798
MT41	Tue 12 Sep - Tue 19 Sep 2023	8	£778
MT42	Tue 19 Sep - Tue 26 Sep 2023	8	£758



The cost includes flights from London to Dubrovnik. It also includes airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, three-star hotel accommodation with air-conditioned, en-suite rooms for two (rooms for three and family rooms also available), breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel. Optional excursion package: £78.

### Slovenia

### Europe's hidden gem



-	

### Stunning natural beauty

Slovenia, in the heart of Europe, offers some of the most stunning scenery in the whole continent. Yet, despite its position and amazing natural attributes it is unknown to many. A relatively young country, this hidden gem is famous amongst those in the know for its snow-capped mountains, underground caverns and extensive forests.

There is plenty to see and enjoy within these natural landscapes, as well as the attractive towns and villages. The country's relatively small size also means that everything is easily accessible. The Slovenes are sincere and hospitable, proud of their country and happy to show it off.

### Three-star hotel with pool

New for 2023, we will be staying in the beautiful Slovenian countryside, using the bedrooms in the three-star part of Hotel Spik. From the hotel terrace we have stunning views of the surrounding mountains.

### Slovenia by air

 Trip
 Dates

 SF38
 Tue 22 Aug - Tue 29 Aug 2023

 SF39
 Wed 30 Aug - Wed 06 Sep 2023



20

The cost includes return flights from London to Ljubljana with British Airways, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, three-star hotel accommodation with en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel. Optional excursion package: £88

Cost

£858

£828

There is a swimming pool, beach volleyball and a badminton court plus table tennis at the hotel, all of which are available free of charge. Other options, which are payable locally, include a water pool and sauna complex, plus bike hire.

Walks available from the hotel include a trail to a waterfall and there is also a cycle path towards Kranjska Gora. If you would like to head further afield on the free days, there is a bus stop 10 mins walk from the hotel.

### Explore Ljubljana

Our optional package of three excursions includes Ljubljana, Postojna Caves and Lake Bled.

The capital city, Ljubljana, is small and pretty, easy to get around, and full of surprises. It offers rich tradition, youthful vibrancy, and numerous green spaces. Ljubljana has a medieval city centre with a castle and beautiful Baroque buildings. Picturesque bridges across the River Ljubljanica and the vast Tivoli Park, stretching into the pedestrianised city centre, make up the mosaic of the city.

### **Beautiful Bled**

We also visit Lake Bled, a stunning glacial lake that is fed by thermal springs.

There is a public beach area on the lake, where you can swim, relax under umbrellas and play on the slides. You might choose to take a ride on a traditional wooden boat to the church-topped island in the middle of the lake, or climb up to the medieval castle. Bikes are available for hire, as well as kayaks and paddle boards on the lake.



After all that activity, no trip would be complete without tasting the legendary dessert that is the Bled cream cake!

### An incredible cave system

The Postojna Caves are an amazing natural site perhaps the most impressive public caves in Europe. They are a fantastic web of tunnels and galleries, with an astonishing diversity. As the only cave system that can be reached using an underground train, its easy access makes it the perfect place to explore. We travel for 2km on the cave train before continuing the tour on foot.

We also visit the striking Predjama castle, which was built in the mouth of a cave, high up in a cliff face. Its intriguing history includes a secret passage which enabled the inhabitants to repeatedly replenish their supplies, to the confusion of their attackers.

### An excellent end to the day

After each day's activity we meet together to hear an inspiring Bible talk.

Join us this summer to explore a hidden gem at the heart of Europe.

"We had a fantastic time in Slovenia which was stunningly beautiful, and we were blessed by being with a lovely group of people." Melissa

### Albania

an Adriatic secret





### An exciting opportunity

In recent years, the south-eastern corner of Europe has become an increasingly popular place to spend your holiday. With stunning beaches stretching along the Adriatic Sea and breath-taking mountain scenery, this region has a lot to offer.

We are pleased to introduce you to Albania, occupying the stretch of coast between Montenegro and Greece. In recent years, this country has been appearing on many of the lists of top new destinations to visit.

Albania has a rich history, and due to its geographical location, you can find traces of Italian and Ottoman influence. The unique Albanian language has helped preserve and shape the culture and identity of the Albanian people. Albania's tourism industry and infrastructure are developing rapidly, which makes this an exciting time to visit the country.

### Relax on the long, sandy beach

During our time in Albania, we will be based in a four-star hotel at the southern end of Durres. The Albanian Star hotel is right on the seafront, with the long sandy beach stretching out to the north. It also has a swimming pool. Taxis are less expensive than in the UK and can take you to the centre of Durres at the northern end of the city.

Originally founded by Greek colonists from Corinth and Corfu, today Durres is a modern city, but with signs of its ancient past. In the city centre you can see the ruins of the amphitheatre and other indications

of its long history interwoven with the city landscape. It is easy to see why people have chosen to live in this city for thousands of years, as Durres is renowned for its sandy beaches and Mediterranean climate.

Each evening we will get together to hear from God's word and worship together.

### City of a thousand windows

Our optional package of three excursions will take us to a range of interesting places around the country. A journey south will take us to the UNESCO protected city of Berat. Completely surrounded by mountains, this city is nearly 2500 years old and is located in the picturesque "garden region" of Albania. Because of its typically Ottoman architecture, and the way the houses are perched on the mountainside, Berat is often referred to as the 'City of a Thousand Windows'.

The different periods of Albanian history also meet here, as you look out from the ancient castle. On the mountainside the name of the former dictator 'Enver' was once etched, but now it has been changed to the English word "never".

### A colourful surprise

Tirana, the capital, is a surprise to many as a city bursting with colour. The grey concrete blocks of the 20th century are now covered with all kinds of colours, patterns and pictures. All over the city, new parks and creative building projects are cropping up. Visit the popular Bunk Art museums, take a cable car to the nearby Dajti mountain, or spend an afternoon in one of the trendy cafés in the Blloku district, which previously was reserved for the Albanian elite.



### A beautiful region to explore

Our third excursion will take us close to the Montenegrin border, where we will experience the beauty of northern Albania with a boat ride.

Local companies offer additional excursion options, payable locally, such as a day trip to Kosovo or a jeep trek in the mountains.

We are excited to be returning to Albania and we hope you will be able to join us.

"The country is beautiful with an interesting culture and history." David

### Albania by air

Trip	Dates	Cost
AR27	Sat 10 Jun - Mon 19 Jun 2023	£798
AR42	Wed 20 Sep - Fri 29 Sep 2023	£798



The cost includes return flights from London to Tirana with British Airways, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, four-star hotel accommodation in en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel. Optional excursion package: £78

### Greece







#### An inspiring country

Ancient history, natural beauty, and an idyllic climate all combine in Greece to create a wonderfully attractive country. It is the place where the apostle Paul preached; the home of the Greek heroes; a land full of ruined temples and theatres where almost every hill has inspired a major poem. The weather is warm and so is the sea. It is the perfect place to unwind and to visit uniquely evocative places.

#### The clear blue Aegean sea

Our three-star hotel is in the town of Nea Makri, on the Aegean coast between Marathon and Cape Sounion. Hotel Thomas Beach is located only 150m from the sea and has en-suite, air-conditioned rooms. A walk along the attractive sea front will take you to the harbour and a sandy beach. Being an authentic Greek town, away from the tourist traps, Nea Makri gives a real flavour of the country. It provides an excellent location to unwind as you relax in the hotel garden around the swimming pool, visit a traditional taverna by the marina or walk along the coast to the site of the battle at Marathon.

#### The remarkable city of Athens

Our optional excursion package includes three excursions: Corinth, Nea Styra, and Athens with Cape Sounion.

Athens is on everyone's list of must-visit destinations. It has been home to some of the most famous characters in history, such as Plato and Socrates; it is the city of architecture, drama, music and philosophy. Today it is as full of energy as it has been for the last 3,000 years, and it is still dominated by the Acropolis: a 100m high rock formation crowned with the beautiful Parthenon temple and littered with grand buildings (cost of Acropolis entrance included).

### Stunning scenery and views

As part of the same excursion, we will visit the Temple of Poseidon at Cape Sounion, perched on a rocky headland 65m above the sea. On a clear day you can see the surrounding Greek islands, such as Kea and Egina, as well as the Peloponnese. The grandeur of the temple and its epic setting combine to form one of the most dramatic scenes in Greece.

### sun, sea and culture









"A really fantastic week full of fun, refreshment, beauty and fellowship. It was everything I was hoping for." Andrew

### The intrigue of Corinth

Heading south, we will stop to see the Corinth canal, a stunning channel cut 63m down into the rock, with azure blue water glistening at the bottom. We then travel on to the Acrocorinth, an ancient ruined fort that stands high above the surrounding terrain with amazing views. There will also be the chance to visit the ruins of ancient Corinth, a city dominated in ancient times by the temple to Venus, but where St. Paul saw large numbers turn to Jesus and experience His revolution in their lives.

### Cruising across the Aegean

We will also take a cruise by ferry to Nea Styra. There are excellent views of the surrounding countryside and mountains as we cross the Aegean sea. At Nea Styra there is a sandy beach, as well as a waterfront with shops and tavernas. At the end of each day we will have the opportunity to enjoy dinner at our hotel and meet together for a helpful Bible talk.

### Greece by air

Trip	Dates	Days	Cost
<b>GR25</b>	Sat 27 May - Sat 03 Jun 2023	8	£798
GR36	Mon 07 Aug - Wed 16 Aug 2023	10	£898
GR37	Wed 16 Aug - Fri 25 Aug 2023	10	£898
GR41	Wed 13 Sep - Fri 22 Sep 2023	10	£848
GR46	Sat 21 Oct - Sat 28 Oct 2023	8	£798



The cost includes return flights from London to Athens, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers and three-star hotel accommodation with air-conditioned, en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotel.

23

Optional excursion package: £98

### Schladming – Austria

### beautiful mountain scenery





### Glaciers, cities and lakes

We are excited to be returning to this stunning Alpine region of Austria. There's so much to do in the area, in addition to the beautiful natural scenery of mountains, lakes and waterfalls. If you enjoy walking, cycling, ice caves, museums or even go-kart trikes, you'll love exploring this area!

### The excellent Summer card

The cost of the accommodation includes a tourist tax, which entitles you to a local card offering free or discounted admission to over 100 attractions in the Schladming area. These include a number of lifts and cable cars, such as the ride up to the stunning Dachstein Glacier, entrance to a variety of museums, parks and pools, plus free access to buses which operate throughout the local area.

> "Thank you for a great holiday. We met some lovely people and saw some beautiful places." Ian

### Austria - Schladming - by air

 Trip
 Dates

 SE34
 Thu 27 Jul - Thu 03 Aug 2023

 SE35
 Thu 03 Aug - Thu 10 Aug 2023



The cost includes return flights from London Heathrow to Munich with British Airways, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, and accommodation with breakfast and evening meals. It also includes the tourist tax, which entitles you to the Dachstein summer card, offering free cable car rides etc. Optional excursion package: £68

Cost

£788

£788

### Introducing Hotel Taferne

We stay at the three-star, family-owned Hotel Taferne in the village of Mandling, on the edge of Schladming. An ideal location for a week of the best mountain adventures!

A continental breakfast will be served each morning. After a day of exploring, we return home to Hotel Taferne where we will enjoy an appetising three-course meal served to us by the hotel staff.

### A range of room options

The hotel is comfortable and all bedrooms are en-suite. We will use most of the rooms for two people, but some of the rooms can be used for three or four people if you prefer. Many of the beds are Austrian-style (one frame with separate mattresses and duvets). There are also a small number of single rooms.

### The Hills are Alive

Our optional excursion package takes us on three day trips to explore this historic and scenic region -Salzburg, Halstatt and the Dachstein Glacier. The cost of the excursion package covers hiring the coach to visit places not included on the card.

Famous for its role in The Sound of Music and as the birthplace of Mozart, our first excursion takes us to the city of Salzburg. This city is a world-renowned destination for scenery, history and culture. Once you've hit all your 'must see' locations, take time to explore the rich history and baroque architecture or enjoy the interesting parks and cafés.

### Amazing glacier views

For our second excursion we will make our way to the stunning Dachstein glacier, with snow all year round and stunning views. Coach transport from the hotel and the cable car ride up the glacier are included. At the top there are various options available, payable locally, including the suspension bridge and ice palace or you can just enjoy the amazing views.

### Salt Lake City

Join us for our third excursion, a day in Hallstatt, known famously for its salt mines and the charming villages on either side of the tranquil lake. You might choose to take a boat ride between the villages, traverse through the Dachstein Ice Cave, spend the day walking along the trails nearby, or explore the story of the region in the Hallstatt Museum. The museum, the salt mines and the Dachstein Ice Cave are designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In the evenings, a time of singing and a helpful Bible talk are always a highlight.

### Free Day Fun

On the three free days, a bus will collect us from the hotel to enable us to make the most of the activities available on the Summer card. For those looking to get out and enjoy some activity in the fresh air, there are miles of cycle paths, marked hiking trails and swimming lakes to discover, as well as free or discounted admission to dozens of local attractions with the Summer Card. Visit traditional mountain huts, explore museums featuring the local history, or race down the mountain on three-wheeled go-kart trikes - there is endless fun to discover here!

book now **www.oakhall.co.uk** 

### **Italy Tour**

world-famous



#### Amazing scenery and culture Oak Hall's tour of Italy offers the chance to visit some of the most famous sights in the world!

The tour departs the UK by coach but if you would like to do so, you can arrange your own flights to meet us at the first hotel in Premeno near Lake Maggiore at the start (Milan Malpensa is the closest airport) and leave the group in Lido di Jesolo (Venice) at the end (Marco Polo airport is the closest).

In each city, there is an amazing variety of things to do. The Oak Hall team will give you information on the different things you might like to do and people generally then head off in smaller groups to see the things of interest to them.

### Relax by the lakeside

Following our journey to Italy, the country's lakeland region provides a superb start to our tour, an idyllic combination of lakes and mountains. Our hotel is located a short drive from Lake Maggiore, which is often bathed in brilliant sunshine and is the ideal place to relax for our first two nights in Italy. A boat takes us out on the lake to explore the beautiful Borromean islands.

### The leaning tower of Pisa

From Lake Maggiore, we travel south through the beautiful, green, rolling hills of the Umbria region to the town of Montecatini Terme, where we spend three nights. This is an ideal location to explore the highlights of Tuscany.

En route, we visit the Leaning Tower of Pisa, which is one of the most iconic sites in Italy. We will have time to capture some creative photos and also appreciate the other splendid buildings that rise from the emerald-green lawns of the Camp dei Miracoli.

### Florence and Siena

Florence is home to many of Italy's Renaissance treasures, with its spectacular Duomo dominating the city's skyline. The absorbing art galleries contain many masterpieces, including those of Michelangelo.

The city of Siena, with its narrow streets and rose-coloured brick medieval buildings has many fine sights to view, particularly around the Piazza. We also visit the typical, unspoilt culture of San Gimignano. Known as the 'city of beautiful towers', it is one of the best-preserved medieval towns in Tuscany.

### Ancient city of Rome

We then head further south to spend three nights just outside Rome. We travel by train into the centre of this amazing city, steeped in history, which is the heart of the ancient Roman Empire and of modern-day Italy.

> *"Another great Oak Hall trip. Well done to all concerned."* John

The capital city boasts a stunning array of sights to match its celebrated past and present. You will have two full days to explore the remarkable sights of Rome, including the Colosseum, the Sistine Chapel, and the Trevi Fountain.

### Venice - canals and gondolas

We conclude our tour in Lido di Jesolo, where we spend three nights. This famous beach resort on the Italian Adriatic provides an excellent base from which to explore Venice. Our coach takes us on the short ride to the waterbus. There are excellent views as we cross the lagoon to visit this unique city, comprised of a myriad canals and an abundance of elegant palaces and fine buildings.

For a detailed itinerary, visit www.oakhall.co.uk or scan the QR code above.

The evening meetings, with an inspiring Bible talk and time of singing, are always a highlight.

### Italy Tour by luxury coach

TripDatesDaysCostRM41Sat 16 Sep - Fri 29 Sep 202314£978



The cost includes all taxes, return travel by luxury double deck coach from Folkestone to Italy (other coach pick-ups available at Sainsbury's in Otford or Borough Green train station: £16 return). It also includes en-suite

three-star hotel accommodation in rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotels. Coach excursions to the places listed are included, as well as the waterbus into Venice, the train into Rome and the boat trip on Lake Maggiore. Please allow for any entrance fees (e.g. Lake Maggiore islands).

### Jordan



## adventure and Biblical highlights

#### Touring an amazing land

Our tour of Jordan takes in the highlights of this attractive and welcoming country. We stay in three-star hotels and visit the key places of interest. A local guide reveals to us the country's past, as well as its interesting current life and culture. It is a busy and exciting tour, packed with fascinating sights and staying in three different hotels as we travel across the country to make the most of our time in Jordan.

#### Seeing key Biblical sites

Lying to the east of modern-day Israel, Jordan contains a number of sites of Biblical importance. It was home to the Israelite tribes of Reuben and Gad, as well as Israel's neighbours such as Moab, Edom and Ammon. We visit Mount Nebo, experiencing the same view that Moses had as he looked across into the Promised Land. We also visit sites relating to the New Testament including Machaerus, the palace where Salome danced for King Herod and John the Baptist was beheaded.

#### Jordan by air

#### JD28 Sat 17 Jun - Sat 24 Jun 2023 JD41 Sat 16 Sep - Sat 23 Sep 2023



26

The cost includes direct return flights from London to Amman, airport taxes and charges, all coach transport, three-star hotel accommodation with en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals at our hotels, guide service, £25 for tips, the 4 x 4 trek and all entrance fees (including Petra). for those flying with the group which

£1478

£1498

A group visa will be issued for those flying with the group, which is free of charge. Many nationalities can join the free group visa, including British citizens. The standard deposit for this tour is £150.

#### Experiencing natural wonders

There will be opportunities to experience the beautiful natural features of this country. Swimming in the Dead Sea is an experience in itself - floating on your back is effortless as you relax and look across to the hills on the other side in Israel. In the Wadi Rum region, local Bedouin take us in their 4 x 4s through the desert where Lawrence of Arabia trekked and befriended the local people. We also visit Aqaba on the Red Sea, with the option of a boat ride on the Red Sea including snorkelling (payable locally).

#### Marvelling at an ancient culture

The jewel in Jordan's crown is Petra, named as one of the seven wonders of the modern world and built more than 2,000 years ago. An evocative walk takes us through the gorge to the Treasury, catching glimpses through the rocks of this remarkable cliff carving before the view opens up to reveal its full splendour.

For a detailed itinerary, visit www.oakhall.co.uk or scan the QR code above.

We meet each evening for a time of singing and a helpful Bible talk.





"Interesting historical and Christian sights, interactive experiences, good food & weather." Michael



### Iceland







### built on the

Amazing scenery Join us this summer to explore the spectacular landscape of this unique country. Our coach from the airport takes us across lunar-like lava fields to our accommodation on the south-west side, one of the most interesting parts of Iceland.

### Iceland's famous geyser

On subsequent days, a local coach that is equipped for the terrain will take us on five excursions, as detailed below, to experience the breath-taking scenery of Iceland.

The country's famous geyser, Strokkur, emits fountains of hot water up to 20 metres in height. Gullfoss, arguably the finest of Iceland's many waterfalls is nicknamed "the golden falls" because of the rainbows that appear when the sun shines. The falls provide a spectacular sight amidst the barren Thjorsa Valley.

### Dramatic Landmannalaugar

The unique Landmannalaugar area is one of the most striking locations in Iceland. We have the opportunity to relax in a natural hot pool before taking a walk into the green, orange and pink-coloured valleys that surround the contrasting frozen black lava fields. En-route we view the mighty Hekla Volcano.

### A warm Icelandic welcome

Accommodated in a centre that is hosted by a Christian team, we always receive a warm welcome. Breakfast, packed lunch and a hot evening meal are all included.

### The vibrant city of Reykjavik

We will spend a day exploring the capital city of Reykjavik,

built on the shores of the Faxa Bay. There are stunning views over the city and beyond to Mount Esja. We can browse the interesting local shops and take a walk along the quayside.

### Waterfalls and lava fields

Glaciers, waterfalls and lava fields are all features of the varied landscape of South Iceland. We travel to Skogar to gaze upon a picturesque and unforgettable waterfall as it cascades over 60m of sheer cliffs. Just outside Vik there is an impressive arch that has been cut into the rock by the sea and is now large enough for boats to pass through. It is also sometimes possible to see puffins here.

### The fabulous Westmann Islands

We head out by boat to the beautiful Westmann Islands, with their steep cliffs that are home to a large bird population. Here you gain a real sense of rural Icelandic life and the amazing history of this country. There is the option of a separate tour of the islands once we arrive.

### Horse riding, jeep safari & more...

In addition to the excursions mentioned above, there are further exciting possibilities, which are payable locally. These include a dip in the thermal pools at the Blue Lagoon, whale watching (while in Reykjavik), horse riding and a jeep safari around the Myrdalsjokull glacier.

Each day we meet together in the evening to hear a helpful Bible talk.

"Fantastic time away - enjoyed the amazing scenery, meeting new people and the Christian teaching." John



### Iceland by air

TripDatesCostIC38Wed 23 Aug - Fri 01 Sep 2023£1728



The cost includes return flights from London to Reykjavik with Icelandair, airport transfers, airport taxes and charges. Our accommodation has bunk bed rooms that can sleep up to four or six, but we use them as rooms for two. Showers and toilets are available

along the corridor. Three meals a day are included while at our accommodation, as well as coach transport for the excursions. Please allow for entrance fees (e.g. Blue Lagoon) and any additional activities, which are payable locally. The standard deposit for this holiday is £150.

# Nepalthe mighty Himalayas

### Marvel at amazing scenery

Nepal is a country of stunning beauty. The Himalayas run right across the country and contain 8 of the 10 highest mountains in the world. The best way to explore the country's unrivalled scenery is by foot and our trek will allow us to enjoy the mountains, valleys, rivers and forests. We visit Nepal in October, thought by many to be the best time for trekking in the country.

We walk through rice-growing valleys, up terraced hillsides, along high ridges to reach remote mountain villages. The trek takes us along semi-tropical riverbeds, through pine and rhododendron forests. With such beauty and dramatic contrast, the scenery is simply spectacular.

### The beautiful Annapurna Range

The Annapurna Region is something that has to be experienced to be appreciated in all its majesty. We travel by coach to Pokhara, the location for the start of our trek, and return to Kathmandu the same way at the end. This is a wonderful way to see the Nepalese countryside.

#### Nepal by air

 Trip
 Dates

 NP43
 Sat 30 Sep - Sat 14 Oct 2023

 NP44
 Sat 07 Oct - Sat 21 Oct 2023



28

The cost includes indirect flights from London Heathrow to Kathmandu, airport taxes and charges, a sightseeing tour, hotel accommodation in Kathmandu and Pokhara, bus transfer to Pokhara, 'tea house' accommodation during the trek (in

£2148

£2148

rooms for 2), three meals a day after arrival, guide team, trekking permits and tips of  $\pounds$ 30. Nepalese Visa (needs to be obtained in advance): currently  $\pounds$ 25. The standard deposit for this tour is  $\pounds$ 150. We will have a chance to visit this interesting lakeside resort and acclimatise to our surroundings before starting the trek. The dramatic views of Fishtail Mountain are the entry point for us to experience the beauty of the Himalayas.

#### An active adventure

It is important to have a reasonable level of personal fitness, as there is generally around 4 - 6 hours of walking each day during the trek itself. The Poon Hill trek is a well-established route, with paths that are generally either flagstone or stepped.

In terms of the level of difficulty and fitness required, each part of the trek is roughly equivalent to a day's hill-walking in the Lake District or Snowdonia. The highest point on our trek is 3210m (though we have views of mountains that are much higher than this). Each day we generally walk in the morning, stop for a sit-down lunch, then set off again and arrive at the next tea house early or mid-afternoon.

### Exploring the capital city

During our stay we will enjoy a sightseeing tour in the Kathmandu Valley as we soak in the impressive scenery and Nepalese way of life. Stroll through the bazaars, filled with local souvenirs such as Tibetan carpets of yak wool or Kashmir rugs.

There is the option of a flight that takes us up to view the stunning Mount Everest from the skies. We also often have the opportunity to join local Christians to hear about the work they are doing in the country. In Kathmandu and Pokhara we stay in hotels with en-suite rooms for two. During the trek itself, we stay in 'tea houses', which provide simple accommodation in bedrooms for two people.

### An excellent local support team

We will be using the services of a very reputable trekking company in Nepal. They will provide us with a team of guides, cooks and porters who will carry our luggage and lead us through the spectacular scenery.

Our cooks provide us with three meals a day. The evening cuisine is a mixture of Nepalese food (meat, rice and vegetables) and western-style meals.

#### A remarkable opportunity

Being amongst such incredible scenery will be an experience unmatched anywhere else. As we hike through mountain communities, we will see authentic Nepalese life in the hill villages. We meet in the evenings to hear an inspiring Bible talk in this beautiful setting.

For a detailed itinerary, visit www.oakhall.co.uk or scan the QR code above.

This trekking holiday is well suited to those who have the adventurous Oak Hall spirit and are glad to join in with an active expedition!

"A really great trip! It far exceeded my expectations." Rachel

### Canada

### Toronto, Niagara, Montreal



### O Canada!

Canada is a nation of spectacular scenery, intriguing cities and a multicultural spirit. Flying into Toronto and out of Montreal allows us to make the most of our time as we explore Canada's natural beauty and cultural diversity through both English and French-speaking regions of this remarkable nation.

### Toronto, the cultural centre

Our tour touches down in Toronto. Located on the shores of Lake Ontario, Toronto is not only the finance capital of Canada but also a cultural hub of the country. A guided tour will introduce us to the most famous landmarks, including the CN tower and Yonge Street, and give us a true feel for this dynamic and multicultural city.

### A thousand islands

From Toronto we will drive along the shores of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River to Kingston, the former capital of Upper Canada. On a boat cruise through the thousand islands we will enjoy Canada's iconic natural beauty as we watch for glimpses of castles, cosy cabins and lighthouses tucked among the myriad islets that fill this stretch of the St. Lawrence River.

"Have enjoyed another fabulous Oak Hall holiday - always excellent value for money and include so many things to see." Amanda

### Heart of the nation

We will continue onward to the nation's modern capital, Ottawa. A guided tour will help us get our bearings of the city and its most notable sights before concluding with a visit to the impressive Museum of Canadian History, where we will have the opportunity to learn more about Canada's national heritage.

On our free day in the capital why not visit one of the national museums or take a tour on Parliament Hill? You could also sample some Canadian cuisine and shop for souvenirs at the famous Byward Market, or simply soak up the sights of the city from the banks of the scenic Rideau Canal.

### Le Canada francophone

The next leg of our tour will take us to Quebec, the largest French-speaking province in Canada. Admire the star-shaped citadel and impressive fortifications as we enjoy a guided tour of Quebec City, the oldest city in Canada and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the evening we will enjoy the local cuisine and old-time atmosphere at a "sugar shack", a traditional cabin where maple syrup is made each spring.

From Quebec City we will continue on to Montreal, stopping to experience a traditional Huron village where we will discover the heritage of one of Canada's many indigenous peoples.

### A chic metropolis

In Montreal, a guided tour will take us through this chic and vibrant city as we explore its extensive underground pedestrian network of cafés and shops, as well as taking in the views from Mont Royal, the



triple-peaked hill from which the city gets its name. We will have some time at leisure in Montreal to further explore the city. We recommend grabbing a doughnut and a coffee from Tim Horton's, Canada's favourite coffee shop, before we return to the UK.

For a detailed itinerary, visit www.oakhall.co.uk or scan the QR code above.

As always, we will round off our days with a time of singing and an encouraging Bible talk. Don't miss out on this unforgettable tour!

### Canada by air

TripDatesCN42Thu 21 Sep - Sat 30 Sep 2023



The cost includes direct flights from London Gatwick to Toronto, returning from Montreal. It also includes airport taxes and charges, coach transport, hotel accommodation with en – suite rooms for two. Breakfasts and evening meals are included (either at the hotel or at local restaurants/diners). Guided

Cost

£2148

tours in four cities, the boat trip at Niagara and at Thousand Islands, entrance fees to Museum of Civilization and Hurons Village are included, as well as tips for the guides, restaurant/ hotel staff and coach drivers. Most British citizens do not require a visa to visit Canada but you do need to apply for an Electronic Travel Authorisation. For passports of another nationality or status, please check with your embassy. The standard deposit for this tour is £150.

book now **www.oakhall.co.uk** 

### **US West Coast**

### a road trip stateside





### Oak Hall go west

We are pleased to be returning across the Atlantic again, for a 10-day American road trip in the heart of the west coast of the United States. This unique opportunity will take you to the intersection of four different states to see some of the most amazing scenery in the world.

### City of angels

Our journey begins in the south west of California, as we land in Los Angeles, the film capital of the world.

US West Coast by air		
	Dates Mon 21 Aug - Thu 31 Aug 2023	Cost £2498

US41 Wed 13 Sep - Sat 23 Sep 2023

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to Los Angeles, returning from San Francisco, airport taxes and charges. airport transfers, two/three-star hotel accommodation in en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at our hotels (often the evening meals will be at a local diner/chain restaurant), coach transport, tips

The cost includes flights from London

£2498

for the driver and entrance fees to the National Parks. Most British citizens with an e-Passport can register for the Visa Waiver Programme. For more information, visit the FCO travel advice page for the USA. For passports of another nationality or status, please check with your embassy.

The standard deposit for this tour is £150

30

Here we will get a feel for this vibrant city, as we explore the glamorous districts of Santa Monica and Beverly Hills. Walking along the famed Hollywood Boulevard, with the handprints of film celebrities embedded in the concrete, we begin to see the impact showbusiness has had on this city.

### Into the wild

As we check out from our hotel in California, we will travel comfortably by air-conditioned coach to the Joshua Tree National Park, with its strange rock formations and unique trees stretching their arms to the sky as if in prayer.

### Route 66

We journey on along the famous Route 66, heading straight to the wild wild west of Arizona and Utah, once part of the American frontier. Here we will stand in awe as we look out over the Grand Canyon. After many years of erosion, the Colorado river now flows more than a mile below the rim of the canyon, creating a remarkable natural sight.

Other natural highlights of the area that we will be seeing include Lake Powell and the striking canyon at Horseshoe Bend. Kanab is often referred to as 'Little Hollywood' because of the number of western movies that have been filmed there. At Zion Canyon there are 2000ft cliffs, and plateaus covered in pine and juniper trees. We also stop overnight at Las Vegas.

### An action-packed tour

To make the most of our time in the country, on most days we will move to a new region and a new hotel. On our travels we will see incredible contrasts as we



travel across the different US states. After the scenery of canyons and rivers, our tour then takes us to peer into the fresh pine woods and spectacular vistas of the Yosemite National Park.

In the evenings, we will meet for a time of singing and to hear a helpful talk from the Bible.

### If you're going to San Francisco...

This memorable trip will finish with a visit to the magnificent city of San Francisco, high on a hill above the blue sea. Catch a cable car to Chinatown, admire the view of the Golden Gate Bridge or enjoy fresh seafood down in Fisherman's Wharf. San Francisco is one of the world's most filmed and photographed locations, which means you might suddenly find yourself in the sequel of your favourite film!

For a detailed itinerary, visit www.oakhall.co.uk or scan the QR code above.

Join us this summer for an adventure stateside.

"The best holiday ever. I don't think anything could top this one! " Doreen

### Vietnam

### breath-taking scenery



Vietnam's verdant landscapes, striking history and delicate cuisine offer an exciting destination for an Oak Hall tour. Come and join us for a gripping journey through this South East Asian land by road, air and sea!

We start by exploring Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) in the south of the country. Internal flights help to reduce the amount of travelling. The first flight takes us to see the highlights of the central region around Hoian and Hue. A second flight takes us north to explore Hanoi and the remarkable Halong Bay before we return to Ho Chi Minh.

We meet each evening during the tour to hear a helpful Bible talk.

### **Majestic Saigon**

In Ho Chi Minh City, grand palaces contrast with humble markets and busy backstreets. We also head out of the city to the Mekong delta to explore this area, which is rich in agriculture and criss-crossed by sparkling waterways. At Cuchi we can explore the tunnels used during the Vietnam War, as well as learning more about this painful part of the country's history at the War Remnants Museum in Saigon.

We also witness the skills of the local people as we take our seats at an impressive acrobatic show.

### New option - Golden Hand Bridge

At Hoian we learn how to cook some local cuisine in Tra Que village. We enjoy a free day on Hoian's beautiful beaches, or explore the atmospheric riverside town with its rich, cultural heritage.



New for this year, there is an optional day trip to the Golden Hand Bridge, payable locally, on the Hoian free day. This is a striking new bridge that has been built in the mountains above Da Nang where two giant hands appear to hold the golden bridge in mid air.

The City of Hue radiates the glory of a traditional former capital with the "Perfume River" and Tombs of the Kings. Exploring the Forbidden City, we again breathe the atmosphere of an ancient land before enjoying dinner in a garden-house restaurant.

### The atmospheric capital city

The sights and sounds of Hanoi's Old Quarter form the backdrop to the next stop on our expedition as we explore these historic streets.

Viewing ancient Buddhist architecture, such as the Lotus-inspired "One Pillar Pagoda" or "The Temple of Literature" built in 1070, we glimpse something of Vietnam's distant past. By way of contrast, we visit the Ba Dinh Complex associated with Ho Chi Minh and his declaration of independence. Hanoi is also famous for its attractive lakes.

### Heading east to Halong Bay

From Hanoi we head out to the jewel in Vietnam's crown at Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The road glides by the Red River Delta, passing green paddy fields and rural villages dotted with farmers using buffalo for ploughing.



Halong means "Descending Dragon", an evocative name for this magnificent bay with its limestone rocks and grottoes. We stay overnight on a comfortable boat amidst the emerald waters. Dining on fresh seafood and stopping to swim or kayak, our cruise is a wonderful highlight of the tour.

For a detailed itinerary, visit www.oakhall.co.uk or scan the QR code above.

"The whole trip was exceptionally well organised and enabled us to explore and experience the different areas of Vietnam." Michelle

#### Vietnam by air

Trip	Dates	Cost
	Wed 16 Aug - Wed 30 Aug 2023 Wed 13 Sep - Wed 27 Sep 2023	£2098 £1998



The cost includes direct return flights from London to Ho Chi Minh (Saigon). It also includes airport taxes and charges, all transport within the country (including three internal flights), three-star hotel accommodation in en-suite rooms for two, breakfast each day plus lunch or dinner, boat trip, entrance fees, and guide services. Tips of £30 are included

for the guides and drivers. The leader will give guidance on additional tips for restaurant staff etc. British Citizens currently do not require a visa to visit Vietnam. For up-to-date details of the visa requirements for different nationalities please visit the Vietnamese embassy website. The standard deposit for this tour is £150.

### **Israel and Palestine**



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### Study tour of a lifetime!

Oak Hall have been travelling to Israel for over forty years - experience that we have used to hone these tours so that they are packed with interest. Israel and Palestine provide an ideal opportunity for us to explore the Scriptures in the locations where the events took place.

Enjoy being with a friendly Oak Hall group for the study tour of a lifetime. Each tour stays at either two or three hotels to make the most of our time in the country. We explore three main locations and their surrounding areas: Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Galilee.

### The country of orange blossom

Following the flight from London to Tel Aviv we emerge from the aircraft into the distinctive atmosphere of this exciting country. Often the air is heavy with the scent of orange blossom. We transfer by coach from the coastal plain and climb into the hill country to arrive in Jerusalem.

Our leaders know each area well from previous visits. They will read the relevant Bible passages in the locations where the events occurred. We will also have an hour together each evening to sing God's praises and benefit from a Bible message.

### Ancient city of Jerusalem

A walk around the city walls of Jerusalem helps us to find our bearings. The bazaars within the walls are crammed with merchants selling every conceivable type of merchandise.

Our excursions will also take us to explore all the key sites, such as the Mount of Olives, the Garden of



of King David to the Babylonian destruction of the city.

### Old & New Testament archaeology

For the adventurous in the group, wading through the water tunnel built by King Hezekiah is a never-to-be-forgotten experience. The Israel Museum contains much of archaeological interest. In the Shrine of the Book we can examine the Dead Sea scrolls, which give further proof of the reliability of the Scripture texts.

### The peaceful Garden Tomb

The Garden Tomb is in a peaceful location, which is in startling contrast to the Old City of Jerusalem. In this beautiful garden there is an empty tomb and a cliff face bearing the features of a skull. It is an inspiring place, where you can reflect on the triumph of the risen Lord Jesus. As we read the Scriptures, it is easy to imagine the amazing events of the first Easter.

### Surprises of the Judean Desert

We will drive through the Judean Desert, seeing part of the old track from Jerusalem to Jericho where the story of the Good Samaritan is set. At the Wadi Kelt we look out over the wild countryside where the Lord Jesus Christ faced the temptations. It also gives us an insight into the lifestyle of John the Baptist who lived in this wilderness.

The desert is full of surprises for those who enjoy the great outdoors, with desert flowers, and the sudden springs gushing from the sides of ravines and giving life to the soil. At night the silent desert is cool and majestic; in the day it is hot and dry, with a shimmering grandeur.

### The Dead Sea Scrolls

At Qumran we see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Here a sect lived away from civilization awaiting a coming Messiah, and the remains of their buildings can still be seen.

### The beautiful En Gedi Oasis

At the oasis of En Gedi we will be right by the Dead Sea. This beautiful area, where David hid from Saul, has lush vegetation and fascinating wildlife. We cool our feet in the clear, fresh waters of King David's Spring and understand the significance of streams in the desert.

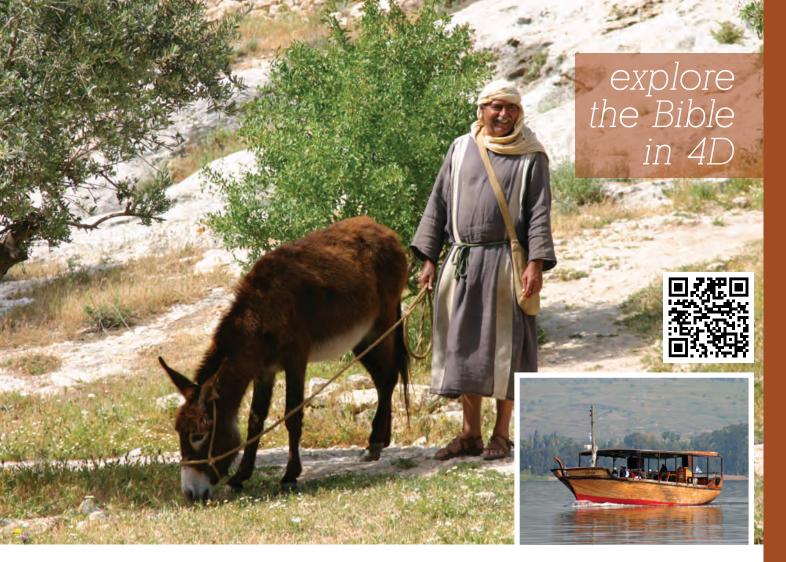
### Sunshine at the Dead Sea

The Dead Sea with its rich content of mineral salts is 1.200 feet below sea level. We have the opportunity to swim in the special waters and afterwards to bask in the desert sunshine. At Masada we visit the ancient Judean fortress. The cable car takes us up to the heights where the defenders fought against the Romans after the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70.

### The fields at Bethlehem

At Bethlehem, we look out from the hills across the fields where the shepherds received the joyful news on the first Christmas. In the town we visit Manger Square and the busy, narrow streets that were equally crowded on that important night.

"It has inspired me more and more to read God's Word. I would love very much to visit Israel again. Thank you for everything" Clive



### The battles of Jericho and Hazor

We climb the ancient mound where the city of Jericho stood. It is a moving experience to read the account of the taking of Jericho as Joshua obeyed the Lord's instructions. We consider the significance of faith for all those involved in the story. Jericho is still a place of springs and we have a chance to enjoy locally grown fresh fruit.

### Capernaum by Lake Galilee

The area around Lake Galilee is green and beautiful, with the Golan heights in the distance. Capernaum is the location of the little fishing town where Jesus stayed with Peter. A later synagogue gives us a suitable place to read the record of the declaration by Jesus that He is the Bread of Life.

We sit by the shore at Tabgha and consider the feeding of the five thousand and also the reinstatement of Peter following the resurrection. We also visit the site of Korazim which, together with the town of Capernaum, heard Jesus preach yet still rejected Him.

### Across Galilee by boat

A relaxing boat ride takes us across the beautiful Sea of Galilee with all the stories of fishing, storms and the Lord's care.

### Springs and the River Jordan

At Dan we see the gushing springs in the foothills of Mount Hermon. Further south, these become the rushing waters of the River Jordan.

Banyas (Caesarea Philippi) has the caves where Baal was worshipped and later the god Pan was revered.

Here too, political power was recognized with the building of Herod's palace. We read of how Jesus brought His disciples to this area to ask them who they considered Him to be. Peter made the declaration upon which the Church was founded.

### The busy streets of Nazareth

We visit a fascinating reconstruction of a village as it would have been in the time of Jesus and meet a shepherd, weaver and carpenter. The donkey turns the olive press as we sit by the village well. Later we listen in at the synagogue. The Bible accounts come alive.

### Fortress site above Armageddon

At Megiddo we explore the fortress site which guarded the plains below. So many Old Testament battles were fought here. A Canaanite High Place testifies to the corrupt religious practices overthrown by the Israelite invasion. The drinking troughs remind us of the huge number of horses stabled here by King Ahab. We can imagine the shouts of the charioteers as they battled on the plain below. Also called Armageddon, it illuminates some of John's vision in Revelation.

### Where Jesus walked

We have been leading these tours since 1980 and we love exploring landscapes, cities and archaeological sites that illuminate the Bible. We have found that the best way to do so is by coach and then by foot. This gets us up close to the sites and opens our eyes to their relevance. In Old Jerusalem there are many steps and there is rough terrain in other places. It is a brilliant experience, but you do need to be ready for each day to be an active time. If that sounds off-putting, please do contact us to discuss further. We want to ensure that this is the ideal tour for you.

### A range of options

Some tours begin in Galilee or Bethlehem rather than Jerusalem, but they all visit the same locations.

For a detailed itinerary, visit www.oakhall.co.uk or scan the QR code above.

God continues to work out His sovereign purposes and our study tour is a vivid reminder to pray for Israel and Palestine.

### Israel and Palestine by air

Trip	Date	Cost
<b>IS28</b>	Wed 14 Jun - Sat 24 Jun 2023	£1778
IS34	Fri 28 Jul - Mon 07 Aug 2023	£1798
IS41	Sat 16 Sep - Tue 26 Sep 2023	£1798
IS44	Wed 04 Oct - Sat 14 Oct 2023	£1798
IS46	Sat 21 Oct - Tue 31 Oct 2023	£1798
IS48	Mon 30 Oct - Thu 09 Nov 2023	£1798

At the time of printing, our first five tours are fully booked, so are not included in the list above. We usually run Israel tours from March - November and release the dates on the website 9 or 10 months in advance (due to the airline schedules).



The cost includes direct return flights to Tel Aviv from London Heathrow, airport taxes and charges, airport transfers, tourist class hotel accommodation with air-conditioned, en-suite rooms for two, breakfast and evening meals while at

our hotels, all coach transport and entrance fees, Galilee boat ride and tips. British citizens do not need a visa to visit Israel. For passports of another nationality or status, please check with your embassy. The standard deposit for this tour is £150.

## Launch off to somewhere **special** this **summer**



### An adventure awaits

The Oak Hall programme has been carefully developed over the past 62 years - join us this summer as the adventure continues! The atmosphere on an Oak Hall holiday is positive and encouraging: meet new friends and share an exciting expedition. We pray that you will find the evening Bible talks especially helpful. We endeavour to keep Oak Hall excellent value for money and many team members give freely of their time to make the expeditions a success.



### It is easy to book your holiday

Book your place for a small deposit (£50 unless specified). Please book as soon as possible as prices occasionally increase nearer to the holiday and supplements may apply - particularly for flights. Your deposit and any room supplements are non-returnable. Your balance is due two months before departure. We may not be able to issue reminders, so please note this date, as after this point we may pass on any unpaid place to another guest. After the two-month payment deadline, the full cost is non-returnable. Please ensure you have travel insurance by the time you pay the balance.

### An interest packed summer

Our style and planning have the 20s and 30s in mind but all are welcome. Our lower age limit is 18, unless accompanied by an adult. Our holidays are not suitable for under 7s (except for the Spain holiday in May, when the lower age limit is 3). If you have a pre-existing medical condition, please include a note with your reservation so that, if necessary, we can let you know about facilities available.

### Excellent campsites and mountain centres

For the camping holidays, our tents sleep two or three. Please bring an airbed, sleeping bag, towel, crockery and cutlery.

In our Swiss mountain centres and French campsites, you have the opportunity to make a packed lunch each morning. With our centralised cooking, we cannot provide for special diets and offer only a limited vegetarian option. Once or twice during the expedition you will be invited to help the cooks before and after the meal (eg. washing up).

#### Good hotels all over the planet

We carefully select good hotels where we are welcomed back year after year. The ability of different hotels to cater for dietary requirements can vary. Please contact us for details. Swimming pools and other facilities may not always be open due to maintenance or seasonal closure. As the brochure is printed months in advance, the hotel, and even the resort, may change.

### Meeting others and sharing together

On our holidays, there is the opportunity to share a room. The Oak Hall office will place you into a shared room with others of the same gender and where possible, a similar age to you. If you are coming with friends or family, please indicate this at the time of booking and you will be accommodated with them wherever possible. Mixed accommodation is only available for married couples or families.

### The world's most advanced coaches

We travel by our own luxury, double deck coach. Among the world's most advanced, with full climate-controlled air conditioning, reclining seats, and washroom, it is a very comfortable ride! We cannot carry alcohol on our coach or in our baggage trailers.

#### Convenient starting points

Most coach expeditions begin at **Folkestone** in Kent. From here, we travel with Eurotunnel or by ferry to **Calais** in France. Pick up points are often available at **Borough Green Train Station** and **Otford**, Kent (£16 return). You can park at our Manor House in Otford for the duration of your holiday (£17) and even enjoy an overnight stay at Otford Manor before or after some expeditions (from £33 per night).

### Scheduled flights with the best airlines

Flight timings can be found on our website and will also be sent to you nearer the date of your departure. Dates are correct at the time of going to print. Occasionally, airlines reschedule and you may need to be flexible by a day or two. We use return tickets and if you do not travel out with the group, the airline will usually automatically cancel the inbound flight. Please note that airport taxes are subject to change.

If you wish to arrange your own flights, please contact us. You can often meet us at the destination airport so that you can join our transfer coach. If you miss our transfer coach, you would need to make your own way to or from the resort.



Our service to you

We do our utmost to ensure everything is in place for you to have an enjoyable time and work hard to make sure everything runs smoothly. If there is a problem during your holiday, please advise our resort team so the matter can be resolved on the spot. In the unlikely event that any difficulty cannot be resolved, please write to us within 14 days of your return, giving your booking reference number and all relevant details.

### Everything is secure

Payments for coach holidays are kept in a Trust Account until after your holiday is completed. This provides your security for protection against the unlikely event of insolvency and ensures a full refund and repatriation.

All the flight-inclusive holidays in this brochure are **financially protected by the ATOL scheme** (Oak Hall Expeditions Ltd. ATOL Licence 3207). When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go

### Let friends know about Oak Hall!

Most people come through personal recommendations. We would be delighted to send you more brochures for your friends.

As your holiday approaches, we will carefully keep in touch from our team's home - Otford Manor here in the hills of Kent - where you are always welcome to come and visit.

We look forward to a great summer with you: making new friends and exploring new destinations!

wrong. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. For more information visit: www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate

Usually your group will be a minimum of 20 persons. We will notify you two months in advance in the unlikely event of a holiday cancellation. We will absorb any changes in currency exchange rates up to 2% deviation from the rate on 1 November.

### The right travel documents

British Citizens will need a full 10-year passport for overseas travel. Allow at least six weeks to obtain or renew one. We will advise guests of any visas required for British Citizens. If you are not a British Citizen, please contact the consulates of the countries we will be travelling through to check current visa and entry requirements.

Please see our full booking terms and conditions online: www.oakhall.co.uk/terms



Book by post using the form at: www.oakhall.co.uk/summerbooking Tel: 01732 763131 Email: office@oakhall.co.uk Post: Oak Hall, Otford, Kent, TN15 6XF















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