



MARTIN RANDALL TRAVEL

ART • ARCHITECTURE • GASTRONOMY • ARCHAEOLOGY • HISTORY • MUSIC • LITERATURE

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For immediate release

2019 anniversaries: cultural tours

From Ruskin's Venice to Napoleon at Waterloo

200 years since the birth of John Ruskin, 8 February 1819

[Ruskin's Venice](#)

Through 19th-century writers & artists

20–24 November 2019

Before Ruskin, tourists learnt that Venetian painting began with Titian, and its architecture with Palladio. His 1851 book, *The Stones of Venice*, changed all that by arguing that the city's golden age was in the Middle Ages, not the Renaissance. Born on 8 February 1819, in the year of the bicentenary of his birth we see the buildings and the paintings that informed his brilliant polemic, as well as celebrating his ground-breaking work as a conservationist. Led by Christopher Newall, curator of the exhibition: 'John Ruskin: Artist & Observer' at the National Gallery of Canada and Scottish National Portrait Gallery in 2014.

Prices from £2,410 pp (two sharing) includes return LGW flights, accommodation, travel by private coach, most meals with drinks, talks by the lecturer and all admissions, taxes and tips.

For further information, please call 020 8742 3355 or visit www.martinrandall.com/ruskins-venice

250 years since the birth of Napoleon, 15 August 1769

[Crécy, Agincourt & Waterloo](#)

History, context & battlefield exploration

25–29 September 2019

A study of the most written-about battle in British history, Waterloo, forms the focal point of this five-day cross-country tour. Notably marking 250 years since the birth of France's infamous first emperor, visit the Napoleon museum in the house where he spent the night before the fateful battle. Prefaced by visits to Crécy and Agincourt, the tour begins across the French border at the sites of these two celebrated medieval battles, which have played their own fascinating parts in forging a sense of English national identity. Includes Eurostar travel from London and led by Major Gordon Corrigan, military historian and author of books on both periods.

Prices from £1,790 per person (two sharing) includes return travel from London St Pancras by Eurostar, accommodation, travel by private coach, most meals with drinks, the talks by the lecturer and all taxes and tips.

For further information, please call 020 8742 3355 or visit www.martinrandall.com/crecy-agincourt-waterloo

350 years since the death of Rembrandt, 4 October 1669

Art in the Netherlands

A spectrum of the finest

20–26 October 2019

A seven-day immersive study of Dutch art, based in Utrecht with days spent in Amsterdam, Haarlem, The Hague and Rotterdam. Visit the celebrated collections of the Rijksmuseum, where major works include Rembrandt's *Night Watch*, as well as the house where the artist lived and worked for nearly 20 years, which is well restored and has a display of prints. Continue to explore the evolution of Dutch painting at the Van Gogh Museum and the Stedelijk Museum of Modern Art - from the Golden Age to Van Gogh to Mondriaan. Led by art historian, Dr Guus Sluiter.

Prices from £2,770 pp (two sharing) includes return LHR flights, accommodation, travel by private coach, most meals with drinks, talks by the lecturer and all admissions, taxes and tips.

Caravaggio & Rembrandt

A new naturalism

8 November & 4 December 2019

Few individuals have had such a revolutionary impact on the history of art as Caravaggio, and the day examines the influence of his artistic innovations. Among the other artists studied, therefore, are Rubens, Velázquez, and above all the works of Rembrandt, of which the National Gallery has a world-class collection. The two artists shared much, particularly in their explorations of *chiaroscuro* and use of realism. Led by Dr Helen Langdon, art historian and author of *Caravaggio: A Life*.

Price of £205 pp includes lunch, mid-morning and mid-afternoon refreshments, talks by the lecturer and gallery donations.

200 years since the opening of The Prado, 19 November 1819

Art in Madrid

The Great Galleries

2–6 October 2019

Exploring one of the great art centres of Europe, this five-day tour of Madrid takes in the 'big three'; the Prado, the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection and the Reina Sofía, interspersed with lesser-known collections. A free afternoon during a second visit to the Prado allows time for further exploration and to visit temporary exhibitions. The great Spanish painters are of course magnificently represented on the tour, including Picasso's monumental *Guernica* and Goya's frescoes at San Antonio de la Florida. From Velázquez and Murillo, to Rubens and Hieronymus Bosch, a range of artistic origins and periods are explored. Led by Spanish art historian, Gail Turner.

Prices from £1,940 pp (two sharing) includes return LHR flights, accommodation, travel by private coach, most meals with drinks, talks by the lecturer and all admissions, taxes and tips.

For further information, please call 020 8742 3355 or visit www.martinrandall.com/art-in-madrid

100 years since the death of Renoir death 100th, 3 December 1919

Modern Art on the Côte d'Azur

Picasso, Matisse, Chagall & their contemporaries

21–27 March, 17–23 October, 20–27 December 2019

Drawn by the light and climate, ground-breaking artists transformed the French Mediterranean into a nexus of modern art. This Nice-based tour celebrates their enduring genius with visits to museums and houses associated with Matisse, Chagall, Picasso and Renoir. Highlights include the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild at St-Jean-Cap-Ferrat (for both its art collection and extraordinary gardens) and the Picasso Museum at Antibes, housed in his former studio in the Château Grimaldi. Led by Mary Lynn Riley, Côte d'Azur resident and specialist in 19th- and 20th-century modern and contemporary art.

Prices from £2,630 pp (two sharing) includes return LHR flights, travel by private coach, accommodation, most meals with drinks, the talks by the lecturer and all taxes and tips. The March departure is exclusively for solo travellers.

For further information, please call 020 8742 3355 or visit www.martinrandall.com/modern-art-on-the-cote-dazur

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For further information please contact [Liz Brown](#) or [Lucy Stickling](#) on 020 3948 9743.

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Notes to editors:

Martin Randall Travel is the leading specialist in cultural tours, organising a unique series of all-inclusive music festivals and around 300 small-group tours every year in the UK, continental Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, India, China, Japan, the Americas and Australasia.

All aspects of our cultural tours have been carefully researched, tried and arranged by members of MRT staff, including the most authentic restaurants and comfortable hotels. There are no hidden extras. The price covers nearly everything, including wine with meals and all tips. We do not levy surcharges for fuel or for any other reason.

Martin Randall Travel has won numerous awards, most recently *Best Special Interest Holiday Company* (2018) at the British Travel Awards.