



OVERSEAS STUDY TOURS NEWS – 02/2018

Bookings for tours must be on an overseas tour booking form and may be sent in at any time to the tour organiser whose name follows the tour details. Fuller details and closing dates will be announced in news sheets during the course of the year. During the course of the year various weekend events become known and extra tours will be operated taking in the more interesting events. **LCGB Tours are operated by LCGB solely for its members. Participation in LCGB tours entails compulsory LCGB Membership.**

Tour 01/18	Trier Plandampf	Friday 27th April to Wednesday 2nd May 2018
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Bookings closed with 37 participants

(John Cramp)

Tour 02/18	Ethiopia/Djibouti	Autumn 2018
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Some positive news at last in respect of our plans to ride the 'new' Chinese built standard gauge line linking Addis Ababa to Djibouti. The first scheduled passenger train from Addis to Djibouti ran on Wednesday 3rd January. Since then, things have gone very quiet, other than the occasional report of some extremely late running! There is even confusion as to whether the service is a daily (daytime) train in each direction, or just a down train and up train on alternate days. Of course, there is nothing whatsoever, as yet, on the Ethiopia Djibouti Railway Corporation website! So, we continue to live in hope that mid/late October this year may come to fruition.

30 names are currently on the 'interested' list. We are happy to add more names at this time, but if it becomes necessary for logistical reasons to limit numbers, we will give priority to those already registered. Hopefully the next update will be to declare 'GO', and request formal deposits. Again, please send an email.

NB – please note that Colin will be away until Sunday 18th February, so emails only please, and even internet access is likely to be sporadic 1000 miles up the Amazon!!!

(Colin Miell)

Tour 03/18	Dordrecht/Dordt in Stoom	Friday 25th to Monday 27th May 2018
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Nine participants signed up, which is really gratifying given the number of times the LCGB has covered this amazing festival of steam. Accommodation still on hold at the Bastion Hotel, but we are being pressured to release any spare rooms. So, this is, of necessity, **the final call for this tour**. Eurostar to Brussels/any Belgian Station can probably still be booked at reasonable prices, but given that this is our Bank Holiday Weekend, flight options are getting very expensive, especially via Rotterdam/ Den Haag. Cheaper via Amsterdam Schiphol, but not as convenient! If you are not 'on the list', and are interested in participating, please send an email.

(Colin Miell)

Tour 04/18	Baltic States with IRS	Thursday 13th to Sunday 23rd September 2018
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We currently have 19 bookings and the tour remains open for bookings. It would be useful to get a couple more as the GBP rate is still a bit lower than our original costings. We have also requested a steam charter at Gulbene which I am sure most of the group would appreciate but this will cost us a little extra. We also have steam at Panevėžys n.g. with Гр-319, at Ventspils n.g. with steam train (МЛ-611, 631) and Lavassaare n.g. with steam train K44-332. It would be useful if could encourage anyone interested to book so we can ask everyone to book flights and get hotels etc. confirmed.

(Adrian Palmer)

Tour 05/18	IGE/Eisenbahn Romantik Winter Steam in Bulgaria	Friday 9th to Sunday 18th February 2018
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Bookings closed with 6 participants.

(Brian Garvin)

Tour 06/18	Cuba with PTG	Monday 19th February to Sunday 4th March 2018
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Details were included with previous Bulletins. **LAST CALL FOR BOOKINGS!**

(Adrian Palmer)

Tour 07/18	Russia	Saturday 29th September – Saturday 13th October 2018
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Remains open for bookings. Details were enclosed with the previous Bulletin.

(Brian Garvin)

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