

January 2018

Travel Team:

Pam Rowlinson Travel Group Leader/trip

organiser/Editor

Jean O'Keefe Travel organiser Ginny Whitehead Travel organiser Chris Whitehead Travel organiser Gordon Clifford Travel organiser Liz Jones Travel organiser Graham Cromack Travel organiser Travel organiser Christine Parkin Travel Treasurer Len & Audrey Roper

Message from Pam

The Travel team wish all of our members a Very Happy and Healthy New Year.

We thank you for your continued support and hope to see many of you on our trips which we have planned for 2018.

We always welcome your comments and suggestions so please contact travel@u3adenia.com with any contributions.

Pam Rowlinson Travel Group Leader U3A Dénia

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Christmas in Nerja:





The hotel was situated right on the beach and is used by Saga.





The U3A group carol singing





Enjoying the Gala Dinner

The Christmas lights in Malaga

The travel team are considering this hotel for Christmas 2018. Details will be published as soon as they have been confirmed.

FEBRUARY:



BENIDORM PALACE





Departing on 7 February 2018 and returning on 8 February 2018

Treat yourselves to an overnight stay in the fabulous fourstar Melia Hotel in Benidorm, with tickets to the show, a gala meal, wine and cava.

We'll travel by coach in the morning to the hotel, which is just down the road from the Benidorm Palace. We can check in and use their spa facilities. This beautiful hotel has a spectacular lagoon pool with waterfalls and is surrounded by tropical vegetation. It also has a heated indoor pool, complete gym, sauna and two whirlpools. Buses and taxis stop outside so you can enjoy an afternoon here or shop or sightsee in town.

Benidorm Palace is just 450 mtrs from the hotel and is within easy walking distance on the flat

Dinner starts at 8.30pm and the show finishes at 12.30am.

Buffet breakfast next morning will set you up for the day and you'll have free time before we depart for Dénia around four in the afternoon.

Benidorm Palace menu:

Marinated chicken salad with bacon, crunchy croutons and Gran Palace sauce

Pumpkin cream soup

Grilled fillet steak with port sauce, potato gratan and sautêed vegetables

Chef's special dessert

Wine and Cava throughout the meal

Cost for a double room - 240€ Cost for a single room - 150€

Pick up time from:

New Marina Denia – 11.00

McDonalds Denia - 11.15

Mas y Mas Ondara - 11.30



Payment slips have now been issued and payment is due by 10th January

There are a few places left for this event - please go to the Travel Bookings section on the U3A website

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WINE TASTING

22 February 2018



A WINE EXPERIENCE FOR APPRECIATORS OF FINE WINES

VENUE: New Café Solés, Las Marinas

TIME: 6.30 PM

COST: €15 per person

To include samples of 4 wines, 1 white, 2 red and 1 Prosecco and a glass of whichever you prefer

A presentation from Mark O'Neill

Tapas

Santa Ana Malbec from Argentina

Guilhem Rouge from France

Rimera Luz Sauvignon

Fiabesco Prosecco

Mark O'Neill, an Irishman who lives in Valencia, has 30yrs experience in the wine industry and is holder of the prestigious WSET Diploma.

He has an online business called The Wine Place.es – an online store offering wine lovers in Spain the opportunity to enjoy carefully selected imported wines.

Mark writes weekly columns in the Spanish newspapers El Mundo and 5 Barricas sharing his experiences and ideas on the world of wine with the readers. He also broadcasts a weekly wine programme on Levante Radio.

He is also a WSET Approved Programme Provider offering courses to professionals and wine enthusiasts, cursos.thewinplace.es. His objective is to introduce a global perspective for those working in the wine business while providing wine enthusiasts with the confidence to explore the world of wine.



There are some places left for this event. Please go to Travel Bookings on the U3A website

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MARCH:

Mar Menor - 3 nights, 4 days



Three night, four day trip to Mar Menor and the Roman ruins in Cartagena Sunday 25 to Wednesday 28 March 2018

DAY ONE

Depart from Dénia with a lunch stop on the way, arriving at the Costa Narejos Hotel in the afternoon. Situated in Los Alcazares, and just 100 meters from a lovely beach, this modern 4-star hotel has free wi-fi, a Turkish bath, spa and jacuzzi. Dinner is buffet-style with wine and water included.

DAY TWO

After breakfast, we'll take a short drive to La Zenia shopping centre. All your favourite shops are here ladies and there is Decathlon and Leroy Merlin for the boys! There will be free time for shopping and there are plenty of options for lunch. We'll return to the hotel in the afternoon. Dinner and overnight.

DAY THREE

After breakfast we'll take the coach to CARTAGENA.

Founded around 220BC, Cartagena boomed during the Roman period. With our English-speaking guide, we'll be visiting the famous Roman Theatre Museum, a beautifully structured museum with an impressively restored 1st century amphitheatre.

Cartagena is also famous for producing Licor 43 (Cuarenta Y Trés) and we'll be visiting the factory and sampling the wares.

We'll see the old town and, for those with a head for heights, we'll take the panoramic lift for a fabulous view of Cartagena and the surrounding area. There will then be free time to wander around the historic buildings with an optional lunch ($\leq 17-\leq 20$) before we return to the hotel late afternoon. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4

After breakfast, we return to Dénia stopping on the way back for lunch.

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

All meals are buffet style (no tourist menus) and include wine and water.

Services of a Gandia Tours Guide (Rolf) throughout the trip

Local English-speaking guide in Cartagena

Entry to the Roman Theatre Museum

Trips are optional and you are under no obligation to take any of them if you prefer to do your own thing.

COSTS

€215 per person in double / €255 in single room.

There are some places left. Please go to Travel Bookings on the U3A website

APRIL: 19th April

Day trip to Albufera



9:15 - Departure from Dénia by bus

10:15 - Arrival at el Palmar where we will meet our guide

10:30 – We go by bus to a Barraca – visit to a traditional Valencian house.

11:30 – Walking tour of an hour to see the 3 different landscapes of the Albufera (very relaxed walk)

12:45/13:00 - Paella lunch at restaurant

15:00 – Visit of Casa de la Demanà, a tradicional fishermen building

16:00 - Boat tour to see some local fauna and flora of the area

17:00 – Departure by bus to Dénia.

Cost per person - 43€ including lunch

There are some places left for this event. You must sign in on the Home page of the U3A website book travel events.

Pick up time from:

New Marina Denia - 8.45

McDonalds Denia - 9.00

Mas y Mas Ondara - 9.15



MAY:

Wednesday 13th





The activity will be placed in the area of Hoces de Cabriel only one hour from Valencia city and it will be consisting in a 2 hours of exhilarating white water descending on the Cabriel river.

There is up to several kilometers of navigable water with different grades along the way, in spring time (April, May) this descent can be wilder than the rest of the year and in summer period (from June to 31st Aug) it is perfect for families and for none experienced people.

The day starts at the PaddleinSpain Centre Group - located in *Venta del Moro*.

You will receive your equipment and be able to get changed in our facilities. You will meet your instructor, the one who will be accompanying you all the time on the tour and they will give you a

briefing on safety and <u>Rafting</u> techniques. Afterwards that will be the moment to brave the Cabriel river rapids, completing the route and finish the run.

Cost: €70 per person including transport from Dénia/Ondara. The more people that book the lower the price.

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<u>Further trips under consideration:</u>

Visit to the amazing architecture of Lanzarote

Northern Lights

Christmas 2018

Please book early for Travel trips/events as places are filling up already – once any of the trips/events are fully booked we will compile a waiting list