



Inside Great Collections of Istanbul, Budapest, Vienna & London: Textiles, Design & Art

29 AUG – 15 SEP 2015

Code: 21537

Tour Leaders **Dr Susan Scollay**

Physical Ratings 

Enjoy rich insights and privileged access to the extraordinary collections of four cities renowned for their holdings of artistic treasures from both East and West.



Overview

Tour Highlights

This tour limited to 20 participants

- Your tour leader is [Dr Susan Scollay](#), an art historian with a particular interest in the traditional art of the Ottoman Turks and the Islamic world – and its resonance in Europe. Susan is joined by specialist curators and collectors who will give tour participants privileged access to their collections.
- Visits to some of the Europe's best known imperial and historic collections as well as hidden, lesser-known and hard to find treasures.
- Explore the great and small bazaars and artisan neighbourhoods of Istanbul and sample culinary delights on a private Bosphorus cruise.
- Experience a blend of magnificent Hungarian tradition and exotic Ottoman legacies in Budapest.
- Attend a performance by the Danube Symphony Orchestra presenting works by Mozart, Brahms, Beethoven, Liszt, Bach, Albinoni, Tchaikovsky and Gershwin at the 19th-century neo-Baroque Danube Palace.
- Enjoy unparalleled art treasures and a tour of the building and a performance at the opulent Vienna State Opera House.
- Be immersed in London's public and private collections, by going behind the scenes with specialists for a close up view of works of art not usually on public display.

18 days in Istanbul, Budapest, Vienna & London

Overnight Istanbul (5 nights) • Budapest (4 nights) • Vienna (4 nights) • London (4 nights)

Overview

On this tour we sample the extraordinary collections of four cities renowned for their holdings of artistic treasures from both East and West. As we travel we'll learn how the great oriental and European carpet, textile and art collections grew from lavish palace and religious treasuries to the preserve of museums and the public domain.

We will begin in Istanbul - the fascinating metropolis that spans East and West - where highlights will include historic carpets, textiles and interiors of the Topkapi Palace Museum, the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art, and the superb collection of the Vakiflar Carpet and Flatweave Museum, recently reopened after more than twenty years. A visit to a private collection of rare Ottoman costume displayed in a house museum on the shores of the Bosphorus will be followed by lunch and an afternoon cruise by private boat back to the old city and its fabled skyline.

Then to Budapest, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, with its rich collections and extensive World Heritage site that includes parts of the Danube River banks and the Buda Castle Quarter. At the Museum of Applied Arts we shall view exquisite antique costume and accessory collection, Fabergé jewels, and Ottoman carpets - a legacy of more than one hundred and forty years of Ottoman rule over a large part of modern-day Hungary. We'll also visit the National History Museum, tour the magnificent interior of the elegant neo-Gothic palace building that houses the Hungarian Parliament and the Hungarian Crown Jewels, and attend a musical performance.

An extended stay in Vienna, a city that resisted Ottoman attack in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, preventing further Turkish incursion into central Europe, will allow us to enjoy its unparalleled cultural

heritage. At the Kunsthistorisches Museum we'll view selected works from the museum's rich collections, including the 12th-century so-called coronation robe of King Roger II of Sicily, one of the most intriguing works of textile art in the world. We'll tour the Schönbrunn Palace with its Gobelin tapestries, draped interiors and extensive gardens, and enjoy privileged access to several recently refurbished galleries of the Museum of Applied Arts, known for its historic oriental carpets and fine furniture. A tour and performance at the Vienna Opera will round out our Viennese experience.

And finally, to London, where our understanding of rare oriental and European carpets will be enhanced by viewing the largest and oldest 'signed' carpet in the world, and undoubtedly the most famous. The 16th-century 'Ardabil' Carpet is one of the Victoria and Albert Museum's star attractions. William Morris, who was instrumental in advising the museum to acquire the Persian masterpiece in 1893, thought it 'a work of art ... of singular perfection.' The Islamic, Indian and Renaissance Galleries at the V&A will reveal other outstanding artworks, as will an exclusive, behind-the-scenes visit to the Clothworkers' Centre, the V&A's new facility for the study and conservation of fashion and textiles. We'll also visit the Royal Asiatic Society, founded in 1823 for a private tour of their extensive library and a viewing of some rare examples of Persian, Arabic, Ottoman, Pali, Sanskrit, Malay and Javanese manuscripts; and the exotic eastern-influenced home of the Pre-Raphaelite artist, Lord Frederic Leighton (1830–96).

Leaders



Dr Susan Scollay

Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society and contributing editor of 'HALI: carpet, textile and Islamic art' (London). Susan brings to ASA tours her deep scholarly expertise and wide experience in the art and culture of the Islamic world and in historic textiles and decorative arts.

ASA Academic Adviser - Arts and Culture of the Islamic World

Susan Scollay is an art historian and curator with extensive international experience, having studied and lived in the United Kingdom, Australia, Europe, the Middle East and the United States of America. She is widely travelled in the Islamic world and since 1984 has done most of her research work in Turkey, allowing her to base herself in Istanbul on a regular basis and regard the vibrant city as her 'second home'. In 2012 she completed her Ph.D. at La Trobe University, Melbourne, writing a cultural history of the lost 15th-century Ottoman palace at Edirne/Adrianople. Susan was specialist guest co-curator of the manuscript exhibition, *Love and Devotion: From Persia and Beyond* at the State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, from March to July, 2012 and again at the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, November 2012 to April 2013. She also edited the exhibition publication, now in its second printing. She is a contributing editor to the prestigious, London-based journal, *HALI: Carpet, Textile and Islamic Art*, and has numerous other publications. Susan is currently an elected Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society and a member of the International Association of Historians of Islamic Art. She is a regular lecturer and consultant to museums in Australia and overseas and, for more than a decade, has led special interest study tours to Turkey, Central Asia and Eastern Europe.



Itinerary

The following itinerary describes a range of sites which we plan to visit. The daily activities described in this itinerary may change or be rotated and/or modified in order to accommodate alterations in opening hours, flight schedules and confirmation of private visits and special exhibitions. Meals included in the itinerary are indicated where B=breakfast, L=lunch and D=evening meal.

Istanbul - 5 nights

Day 1: Saturday 29 August, Arrive Istanbul

- Optional Afternoon Orientation Walk at 1600hrs
- Evening Orientation Talk & Pre-dinner drinks at 1800hrs
- Welcome Evening Meal at the Balıkçı Sabahattin Restaurant at 1900hrs

Our tour commences in Istanbul. Those arriving on the ASA 'designated' flight will be transferred by private coach to the [Armada Hotel](#), located in the heart of the old city. If you are travelling independently to Istanbul, ASA can arrange a private transfer for you, or you should take an officially marked taxi to the hotel.

For those who have arrived earlier in the day, time permitting, there will be an optional orientation walk to the Hippodrome, the site of the old Byzantine Palace and the 16th century 'palace' of Ibrahim Pasha, a walk around Aya Sofya and along picturesque Sogukçesme Street ('The Street of the Cold Fountain') with its restored wooden houses, past the main gate of the Topkapi Palace and back to the hotel.

There will be a short orientation talk with pre-dinner drinks for all participants before dining together at one of the old city's best fish restaurants. (Overnight Istanbul) D

Day 2: Sunday 30 August, Istanbul

- Topkapi Palace Museum, including the Harem and Çinili Kiosk
- Aya Sofya
- Hippodrome
- Süleymaniye Mosque complex
- Tombs of Süleyman the Magnificent and his wife, Roxelana, and Sinan
- Evening meal at the Matbah Restaurant at 1930hrs

We spend the whole morning in the Topkapi Palace Museum complex with its airy pavilions set in large open courtyards and extensive gardens. First we'll visit the protected zone of the palace – the *harem* – where the sultan's family and an array of concubines, eunuchs and slaves lived in luxurious privacy beyond the outer and inner zones of the palace complex and away from prying eyes. The Topkapi Palace was begun by Mehmet the Conqueror with scope for grand ceremonies and for the increased seclusion that he believed befitted his role as a ruler straddling 'two worlds', that of the East and the West. We'll enjoy a sampling of the palace's spectacular collections of ceramics, tiles, jewels, armour, manuscripts and carpets. A highlight will be the Çinili Kiosk, the oldest of the Palace buildings still standing, built by Mehmet the Conqueror in the 15th century in Persianate style. Today it houses an outstanding collection of ceramic tiles and objects.

After lunch at leisure in the Topkapi Palace grounds we'll walk along the Hippodrome, the most significant remnant of Constantine's early development of the city. Once a site for sporting contests and festivals, the Hippodrome is related spacially to the Byzantine ceremonial route along the present-day Divan Yolu, along which Istanbul's efficient tram system now moves thousands of passengers every day. The ceremonial route terminated at Aya Sofya (Haghia Sophia, the church of Holy Wisdom, 531–537 AD), now a museum where we'll view its spectacular mosaics, soaring pillars and pendentives and exquisite light.

The city of Istanbul, currently one of the largest urban centres in the world, has evolved over centuries in the historic political and religious centre of the eastern Mediterranean. Inaugurated by the Emperor Constantine in 330 AD on the site of ancient Byzantium, the city of Constantinople was the capital of the eastern Roman Empire and later the holiest city in eastern Christendom. It was all but destitute in 1453 when the Ottoman sultan, Mehmet II, 'Mehmet the Conqueror' (r. 1451– 1481), stormed the ancient defence walls, wrested control from the final Byzantine emperor, and began the process of transforming the stricken city into the third and last Ottoman capital, Istanbul. By the 16th century, during the reign of Süleyman the 'Magnificent' as Europeans called him, Ottoman art and architecture achieved its 'golden age'.

Today's program ends with a visit to the Süleymaniye, the great mosque complex commissioned by Süleyman and designed and built by the greatest Ottoman architect, Sinan. The complex was begun in 1550 and completed in 1557. Built high above the Golden Horn, the Süleymaniye remains Sinan's finest work in Istanbul. The dome stands 48 metres above the ground and 26.5 metres wide – still smaller than that of Aya Sofya from which it took its inspiration – but the Süleymaniye is perfectly unified geometrically and is generally considered to have the edge in terms of architectural harmony.

In the extensive grounds are the tombs of Süleyman and his wife, Roxelana. Nearby, along one of the outer walls of the mosque complex is the tomb of Sinan. The dome and four elegant minarets of the Süleymaniye are visible from all over the city and mark the outer edge of Istanbul's distinctive and unrivalled imperial skyline. The building was a step up in size in terms of the monumental architecture of the Ottomans, and it also introduced a new style in the decorative arts used in the decoration of both religious and secular buildings throughout the empire. It was the first royal mosque to use underglaze painted tiles from Iznik in a colour scheme that was new to Ottoman art and new to Islamic tilework in general. The warm tomato red

colour developed in Iznik tiles in the 1550s and the exuberant style of their decoration became the preferred form of embellishment for all buildings constructed under court patronage in Süleyman's era – a time when many of the Ottoman art objects that are now housed in significant world collections were being produced in unprecedented quantities.

This evening we dine together at the Matbah Restaurant, specializing in so-called 'Ottoman Palace Cuisine'. Matbah offers dishes that were first devised in the palace kitchens between the 13th and 19th centuries. (Overnight Istanbul) BD

Day 3: Monday 31 August, Istanbul

- Kariye Cami (Church of St. Saviour in Chora)
- Lunch at Asitane Restaurant
- The Golden Horn
- Grand Bazaar: visit to carpet and textile wholesalers

This morning we'll visit the beautiful Byzantine Church of Saint Saviour in Chora, or Kariye Cami, as it's known to the Turks. Situated inside the Theodosian Walls on the Sixth Hill of the city, the first church and monastery on the site were out in the countryside. The words 'in Chora' refer to its original siting in the country. The present church dates from the 11th century, was remodelled in the 12th century and again in the early 14th century, continuing in use as a church until 1510 when it was converted into a mosque by Atik Ali Pasha, the Grand Vizier of Sultan Beyazit II. The church's mosaics and frescoes, considered some of the best in the world, were covered over but not destroyed in the conversion. In 1948 restoration commenced under the sponsorship of the Dumbarton Oaks Centre for Byzantine Studies in Washington, D.C. The restoration is now complete and the building is open as a museum.

After lunch at the Asitane Restaurant, famed for its traditional Ottoman cuisine, we'll drive along the Golden Horn towards the Bazaar district past the Eyüp Mosque, one of the city's most sacred sites. The mosque complex was built by Mehmet the Conqueror over the supposed tomb of Abu Ayyub al-Ansari, the Prophet Muhammad's companion and standard-bearer. Tradition says he died in the first Arab siege of Constantinople from 674 to 678 and was buried somewhere outside the city walls. Turkish Muslims regard Eyüp as the third most sacred place in the Islamic world after Mecca and Jerusalem. After the mosque was built at the place where the tomb was accidentally 'discovered' during Mehmed II's siege of Constantinople, it became the place where the Ottoman sultans were girded with the sword of Osman on their ascension to the throne.

The last stop of the day is at the Grand Bazaar. Inside its labyrinthine streets, literally thousands of shops offer a dazzling variety of goods from antiques to plastic toys, utilitarian bath towels to priceless jewellery and works of art, trinkets to treasure. We will focus on the vast array of carpets and textiles from Turkey and the Middle East, Central Asia and Iran. We will visit several of the long-established dealers in the Bazaar who deal in high-quality carpets and also wander in the quiet alleys and courtyards towards the periphery where, from hidden warehouses, more recent arrivals wholesale quantities of embroideries, *ikats*, shawls, and other weavings. Afterwards we'll return to our hotel via the vibrant commercial area that leads from the Bazaar to Divan Yolu. Here, international cafés and retail chains stand alongside more traditional merchants and craftsmen whose forebears have operated in the vicinity since the Bazaar was built in the 15th century. (Overnight Istanbul) BL

Day 4: Tuesday 1 September, Istanbul

- Dolmabahçe Palace

- Sadberk Hanim Museum
- Bosphorus Cruise & Lunch
- Rüstem Pasha Mosque in the Spice Bazaar area (optional)
- Performance of Istanbul's Whirling Dervishes, Hodjapasha Dance Theatre (1900-2000hrs)

This morning we drive to the opulent European style Dolmabahçe Palace completed by Sultan Abdul Mecit in 1856 and to which the Ottoman sultans moved in the dying days of their once great empire. We'll see the impressive entrance gate; the crystal staircase built in the shape of a horseshoe; the great Ceremonial Hall with what is reported to be the heaviest chandelier in the world; and reception rooms such as the luxurious Süfera Salon and the 'Red' Room used to receive foreign ambassadors. Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the modern Turkish republic died in his bedroom in the Dolmabahçe Palace in 1938.

Next we'll visit the Sadberk Hanim Museum, a private house museum that occupies adjacent waterfront villas on the shores of the Bosphorus near Sariyer. This type of wooden mansion was built for wealthy residents of Istanbul during the 18th and 19th centuries. The highly ornamented buildings served as summer residences and usually incorporated a jetty and boathouses. The museum is named after the wife of the late Vehbi Koç, one of Turkey's wealthiest businessmen. It houses her private collection of archaeological and ethnographic material and also hosts changing exhibitions of Ottoman art.

For lunch we board our private boat for a 3-hour cruise along the Bosphorus back to the old city. We'll enjoy a selection of *mezze* (small plate) dishes accompanied by various fruit juices and wines as we meander past historic villas – or *yalis* as they're known in Turkish – that have been restored in recent years and make a great display. The Bosphorus is a natural waterway that divides the Asian and European sides of Istanbul, providing a passage from the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara and hence via the Dardanelles to the Aegean Sea that leads into the Mediterranean. The Bosphorus is the world's narrowest strait used for international shipping. From the water there is an unrivalled view of the Istanbul skyline and its landmark bridges and monuments.

Following lunch there will be an optional visit to the beautiful, small mosque that Süleyman's Grand Vizier, Rüstem Pasha, endowed and built in the lively market quarter that surrounds the Spice Bazaar. It was designed and built by Sinan, and is a fraction of the size of the great imperial mosques such as the Süleymaniye and the so-called 'Blue' Mosque, built by Ahmed I in the early-17th century. The Rüstem Pasha mosque marks the high point of Iznik tilework in the 16th century. Completed two years after the Süleymaniye in 1561, the year that Rüstem Pasha died and five years before Süleyman's death, almost every vertical wall surface inside the mosque, and part of its exterior, is tiled from top to bottom.

Early this evening we'll attend a short recital of Sufi music and a *sema* ceremony of the Mevlevi dervishes held in a beautifully restored 16th century *hamam* (bathhouse) complex in a residential neighbourhood near the Istanbul ferry terminals. (Overnight Istanbul) BL

Day 5: Wednesday 2 September, Istanbul

- 'Intersecting Worlds: Ambassadors and Painters' exhibition, Pera Museum
- Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art
- Vakıflar Carpet and Flatweave Museum
- Reception and viewing of private collection of carpets and textiles at the Mehmet Çetinkaya Gallery, Arasta Bazaar
- Evening Meal at the Armada's roof-top terrace restaurant (1930hrs)

This morning we'll drive cross the Galata Bridge to the Pera Museum in Beyoğlu to view an elegant

exhibition that highlights the extensive contacts between Europe and the Ottoman Empire from the 17th to the 19th centuries as portrayed by various court painters. Drawn entirely from a private Turkish collection and including noted artists such as Jean-Baptiste Vanmour and Fausto Zonaro, the paintings were designed to accompany the detailed written reports about the Ottoman Empire that European delegations sent home on a regular basis.

In the afternoon we visit two museums renowned for their outstanding collections of manuscripts, miniatures, carved wood, metal objects and especially oriental carpets of an age and type rarely seen in the rest of Europe.

The Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art is housed in the 'palace' of Ibrahim Pasha, Süleyman the Magnificent's first Grand Vizier. Constructed in 1520 on the west side of the Hippodrome, the building's magnificent reception hall and numerous rooms leading off long, cool corridors have been recently refurbished and display the rare works in a setting completely in tune with their aesthetics. We will focus on the display of carpets, some of them dating to the Seljuk empire based in Central Anatolia in the 12th and 13th centuries. These rare pieces were brought to Istanbul for safe keeping in the early 20th century from a number of mosques in Konya after German archaeologists recognised their importance.

The survival of large numbers of beautiful old carpets in Turkey is a result of the traditional custom of *vakif*, or pious donation to mosques. In recent years the Turkish government has recognised the unrivalled artistic expression of the national heritage amassed in this way and has opened a number of museums in which to house its treasures. One such is the Vakıflar Carpet Museum, recently opened in the buildings that once operated as the soup kitchens attached to Aya Sofya when it was a mosque from the 15th century until the demise of the Ottoman empire after WWI. The new museum currently displays about 60 carpets mostly dating from the 16th to 19th centuries, with some early examples from a group found in the architecturally unique Ulu Mosque in Divigri near Sivas in eastern Turkey.

Later in the afternoon we'll stroll through the Arasta Bazaar, part of the Sultan Ahmet Mosque complex ('Blue' Mosque) and enjoy a reception and viewing of a private collection of outstanding textile art. This evening we dine at the hotel's terrace restaurant overlooking the Bosphorus. (Overnight Istanbul) BD

Budapest - 4 nights

Day 6: Thursday 3 September, Istanbul – Budapest

- Fly PC457 Istanbul Sabiha Gokcen Airport (dep 0955hrs) – Budapest (arr: 11115hrs)
- Museum of Applied Arts
- Welcome to Budapest: Dinner at the Art Deco style Callas Café (1930hrs)

After breakfast we take our flight to Budapest which is due to arrive in the late morning. After clearing customs we board our coach and transfer directly to the Museum of Applied Arts. Here, we take a guided tour of the building as well as a tour focussing on textiles and treasures of the Islamic art collection.

The 17,000 items in the museum's textile and costume collection represents a wide range of techniques and periods of textile art. Complementing the textiles themselves is a historical collection of equipment used in their production. The oldest items, forming a section of their own, are the Coptic textiles. Also notable are the medieval priest's robes, and particularly well represented is the uniquely Hungarian form of embroidery practised in 16th and 17th century noble households, the so called *úrihímzés*.

The museum also holds the world's second most important collection (after the Museum of Turkish and

Islamic Art in Istanbul) of Ottoman Turkish carpets, especially the fine types known as “Transylvanian” carpets after the area where most of them have been found. Among the textiles of the Esterházy Treasury is a very famous Persian tapestry, many Hungarian ceremonial costumes and special saddle covers and saddles.

In the late afternoon we transfer to our hotel, where following some time at leisure to check-in to our rooms, we dine together at the Art Deco style Callas Café, located only a few metres from our hotel on Andrassy Avenue. (Overnight Budapest) BD

Day 7: Friday 4 September, Budapest

- Orientation Walking Tour of Pest including St Stephen’s Basilica & House of Hungarian Art Nouveau
- Morning coffee break at the Secessio Café
- Parliament House Tour
- Museum of Ethnography

This morning we take an orientation walk of Pest. We begin with a visit to the splendid interior of Budapest’s largest church, the Basilica of St Stephen, designed in 1845 by Jozsef Hild and Miklos Ybl. Apart from its value as an imposing piece of architecture, the basilica also houses a precious relic; the arm of St Stephen, the first Christian king of Hungary circa 975–1038.

Continuing past Liberty Square we reach the House of Hungarian Art Nouveau. This stunning apartment block was designed by Emil Vidor in 1903, for the Bedö family. Its three levels display furniture, porcelain, ironwork, paintings and *objets d’art*.

Following a coffee break at the lovely Secessio Café we continue our walk to Parliament House, an eclectic masterpiece designed by Imre Steindl (1902). Here, we take a guided tour of the magnificent interior (our visit is subject to Parliament not being in session).

This afternoon we visit the Museum of Ethnography which is one of the oldest institutions in Hungary. The collection includes pieces from everyday Hungarian life from before World War II, including pottery, costumes, boats, and furniture. (Overnight Budapest) B

Day 8: Saturday 5 September, Budapest

- Coach Orientation tour of Pest including Andrassy Avenue, Heroes’ Square, Gresham Palace, Inner City Parish Church & The Palace of Arts
- National Museum with Ottoman Specialist
- Jewish Quarter
- Evening performance of the Danube Symphony Orchestra and Cimbalom Show, Danube Palace (2000hrs)

We start the day with a coach orientation tour of Pest, beginning with a visit to Andrassy Avenue. Lined with spectacular Neo-Renaissance mansions and townhouses featuring fine facades and interiors, this boulevard was recognised as a World Heritage Site in 2002. We also visit the lovely Gothic-Baroque Inner City Parish Church which still boasts a *mihrab* dating from the period of Turkish occupation; Heroes’ Square with its vast monument of the seven Magyar tribes; and view the façade of the Gresham Palace located in Roosevelt Square. This palace is one of Budapest’s finest commercial buildings (Zsigmond Quittner, 1906). Our tour concludes with a view of the Palace of Arts (Művészetek Palotája or MŰPA), the new cultural hub of Budapest, located within the Millennium Quarter of the city. Opened in 2005 the palace is home to

three institutions – the Béla Bartók National Concert Hall, the Ludwig Museum and the Festival Theatre.

In the afternoon, we visit the National Museum, dedicated to the history of Hungary. En route to the hotel we pay a visit to the historic Jewish quarter which was established in the 18th century. The district boasts many fine houses and religious buildings including the enormous Central Synagogue (Lajos Forster, 1854-59), Imre Varga's Holocaust memorial (1991) and Otto Wagner's Rumbach Sebestyán utca synagogue (1872).

Our day is planned to conclude around 4.30pm so that you may have time at leisure to arrange an early dinner. This evening we attend a performance. The Danube Symphony Orchestra presents in their Cimbalom Show great works by Mozart, Brahms, Beethoven, Liszt, Bach, Albinoni, Tchaikovsky, and Gershwin at the neo-Baroque Danube Palace. **(Overnight Budapest) B**

Day 9: Sunday 6 September, Budapest

- Fishermen's Bastion & Mátyás Templom (Castle Hill)
- Medieval town of Buda
- Afternoon at leisure

This morning we make our way by bus to Castle Hill. We tour the Neo-Romanesque Fishermen's Bastion, and visit the great Mátyás Templom, tracing the original Gothic form of the church on the much-restored façade as well as exploring the spectacular 19th century interior.

We spend the rest of the morning exploring the medieval town of Buda. The entire area, which is protected by UNESCO, has been carefully restored since World War II and much of the original street pattern of the medieval city still exists together with many of the original buildings. For those wishing to taste Hungarian pastries, there will be an opportunity to do so at the little coffee house, Ruszwurm Cukrászda, which dates from 1827 and is the only classic coffee house in the Castle District.

The afternoon is at leisure. You may wish to join an optional excursion to the Veli Bej Bath, which is one of the recently restored thermal Turkish baths in Budapest. The core of the historical (and now contemporary) bath complex is the octagonal main bath from around 1574 built by Sokollu Mustafa Pasha, the Ottoman Turkish-Bosnian dignitary. He was the pasha, and Turkish leader in Buda who built most of the now famous Turkish baths in Budapest, including Rudas Baths and Racz Baths (at that time Budapest was Buda, Pest and Obuda separately).

Alternatively you may wish to visit the Hungarian National Gallery housed inside the Royal Palace. In addition to its treasury of Hungarian art history, in 2015 it is expected to include a number of paintings currently held in the Museum of Fine Arts (scheduled to be closed in 2015 for redevelopment as part of the "Liget Budapest" project – Budapest's new museum quarter in City Park).

Another option is to visit the tomb of Gül Baba, a renowned Sufi poet who died on the battlefield during the 1541 conquest of Buda as part of Süleyman the Magnificent's Ottoman army. The 16th century octagonal building in its garden setting remains a place of pilgrimage, and is considered to mark the northernmost extent of Muslim control in Europe. **(Overnight Budapest) B**

Vienna - 4 nights

Day 10: Monday 7 September, Budapest – Esterházy Palace – Sopron – Vienna

- Esterházy Palace, Fertöd
- Sopron

Today we travel from Budapest to Vienna via one of the palaces of the great Esterházy family located in Hungary, at Fertöd. This palace was built in the 1760s for Prince Miklós Esterházy (1714-90). Designed in the Louis XVI style and surrounded by extensive French gardens, its interior boasts ornate Rococo panelling with stucco decoration and frescoes by Johann Basilius Grundemann (*Apollo of the Chariot of the Sun*) and Josef Ignaz Mildorfer.

In the afternoon we visit Sopron which has a large number of Gothic churches. Its centre is made up of fine streetscapes of mansions from the Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo periods, many of which incorporate elements of more than one style, having been slowly transformed from the thirteenth to the eighteenth centuries. We may also view remains of the old Roman city walls which were strengthened by the Hungarians between the ninth and eleventh centuries. (Overnight Vienna) B

Day 11: Tuesday 8 September, Vienna

- Schönbrunn Palace
- The Dorotheum with expert Wolfgang Matschek

A short subway ride takes us to Schönbrunn (commenced 1696). The core of this palace, built upon the site of an earlier hunting lodge, was the Habsburg response to Versailles. The present design took shape under the Empress Maria Theresia and reflects her refined tastes. Although Schönbrunn was inspired by the great palace of Louis XIV, it was not conceived as a grand statement of the semi-divine status of a Sun King. Instead, it was designed to be a somewhat homely residence, reflecting a more casual, less rigid court etiquette than that which dominated that of the court of the French king.

We'll walk through many of the rooms of this large complex with its luxurious interiors and treasures of art and furniture, in order to gain a sense of the ideals espoused by the Habsburg court at the time. We then explore the palace park, which is laid out upon an axis between the palace and the Gloriette, a Neo-Classical triumphal arch perched upon the top of a hill, and the site J. B. Fischer von Erlach originally chose for the main palace building. From here a fine vista takes in Schönbrunn's gardens and the mass of the palace.

Following time at leisure for lunch we return to central Vienna by U-bahn to visit the Dorotheum. Established in 1707, this is one of the world's oldest auction houses. Here, Wolfgang Matschek, an expert on oriental carpets, textiles and tapestry, will give us a talk and show us some of their interesting items coming up for auction. (Overnight Vienna) B

Day 12: Wednesday 9 September, Vienna

- Kunsthistorisches Museum
- Afternoon at leisure
- Evening performance of *La Traviata* at The Vienna State Opera (1900-2130hrs)

We'll spend the morning in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, one of the great art galleries in the world. The Habsburgs were great collectors of art and, drawing on the cultural riches of their extensive empire, were able to amass a huge collection of works from Bohemia, the German territories, the Low Countries, Italy and Spain. We view a selection of the paintings, not only from the point of view of style but also as visual 'historical documents', illustrating the manner in which the Habsburg dynasty grew into one of the greatest

ruling families in Europe.

Following an afternoon at leisure, this evening we attend a performance of *La Traviata*, an opera by the Italian Romantic composer Giuseppe Verdi, at the magnificent Vienna State Opera. (Overnight Vienna)
B

Day 13: Thursday 10 September, Vienna

- Museum of Applied Arts (MAK): Guided tour of the Textiles and Carpets Collection with Dr Barbara Karl, Head of the Textiles Department
- Hofburg Schatzkammer (Treasury)
- Hofburg Crypt in the Capuchin Church
- Evening performance: String Quartet at St Anne's Church (2030-2130hrs)

This morning we take the U-bahn across to MAK, the Museum of Applied Arts, which contains an exceptional collection of textiles and carpets. The collection's main emphases lie in medieval fabrics, Safavid and Ottoman carpets, lace, Biedermeier textiles, and textiles from around 1900, with a further prominent group of objects being late-ancient Egyptian (so-called "Coptic") textiles which were acquired early in the collection's development.

One of the collection's highlights is the group of Wiener Werkstätte textiles. The artists associated with Koloman Moser and Josef Hoffmann, who founded the Wiener Werkstätte in 1903, had great success with the innovative fabrics which they began creating around 1910; these were mostly printed fabrics meant for use in fashion design and interior decorating. The MAK owns the material legacy of the Wiener Werkstätte, and its almost 16,000 fabric patterns designed by numerous artists thus amount to a nearly complete documentation of Wiener Werkstätte textile production.

The MAK's collection of classic knotted carpets, which includes almost 200 objects, is one of the world's most famous and most valuable. At its centre are the unique Safavid, Ottoman, and Mamluk rugs of the 16th and 17th centuries, which are considered some of the most outstanding examples of this art form. They include the famous silk hunting carpet (Kashan, Central Persia, first half of the 16th century) and the world's only extant Mamluk carpet that is made of silk (Cairo, Egypt, ca. 1500). Most of these world-famous pieces had entered the possession of the Austrian Imperial Court before the conclusion World War I, after which they were officially transferred to the new Austrian state in 1919. An additional source was the former Imperial and Royal Austrian Trade Museum, from which carpets and carpet fragments were purchased in 1907.

Following some time at leisure for lunch we visit the Hofburg Schatzkammer (treasury) to view the superb collection of Habsburg treasures. This unique store of regalia, jewellery, precious garments and portraits charts the progress of the Imperium from the 10th to the 19th century. The various items in the Treasury functioned as visible symbols of the Habsburg rulers' legitimacy and power. The objects reflect the way in which ritualistic finery and precious works of earlier imperial dynasties were accumulated by the Habsburgs in order to provide a visual manifestation of their status and position. Here you will see such treasures as the Imperial Crown (German, 10th century), the Imperial Cross (German, 10th century), the regalia of Rudolf II (Prague, 1602) and the Burgundian Chain of the Golden Fleece (Burgundy, 1429).

In the Treasury we'll also see the famed coronation mantle of the Norman King, Roger II of Sicily. This beautifully preserved, embroidered masterpiece was made in the first half of the 12th century in the royal workshops in Palermo, Sicily and became part of the historic insignia of the Holy Roman Empire.

Our day concludes with a visit to the crypt in the Capuchin Church, located in the nearby Neuer Markt. After 1633, most of the Habsburg monarchs and their families were buried here. Many of the tombs are beautiful works of art and are among the finest funerary monuments in Europe. We take particular note of Balthasar Moll's grand tomb for Maria Theresia and her husband, Franz Stephan of Lorraine, completed in 1753.

This evening we attend a String Quartet concert at St Anne's Church. The concert includes works by great classical composers such as Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert. The string ensemble is comprised of graduates from Europe's top conservatories who now perform in renowned orchestras in Vienna. (Overnight Vienna) B

London - 4 nights

Day 14: Friday 11 September, Vienna – London

- Fly BA697 Vienna Airport (dep. 1150hrs) – London Heathrow (arr. 1315hrs)
- Royal Asiatic Society

After checking out of our hotel, we transfer by coach to the airport for our flight to London Heathrow. We are scheduled to arrive into London in the early afternoon, where upon we transfer directly to the headquarters of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain founded in 1823. We will enjoy refreshments and a tour of their renowned library, followed by a private viewing of some rare examples of Persian, Arabic, Ottoman, Pali, Sanskrit, Malay and Javanese manuscripts.

Afterwards we transfer to our hotel in South Kensington where there are numerous choices for an independent dinner. (Overnight London) B

Day 15: Saturday 12 September, London

- Leighton House with Senior Curator, Daniel Robbins
- Afternoon at leisure

This morning we visit the Leighton House Museum, the former home of the Victorian artist Frederic, Lord Leighton (1830-1896). The only purpose-built studio-house open to the public in the United Kingdom, it is one of the most remarkable buildings of the nineteenth century, containing a fascinating collection of paintings and sculpture by Leighton and his contemporaries. Built to Leighton's precise requirements, the house was extended and embellished over the 30 years that he lived in it. From modest beginnings it grew into a 'private palace of art' featuring the extraordinary Arab Hall with its golden dome, intricate mosaics and walls lined with beautiful Islamic tiles. Upstairs, Leighton's vast painting studio was one of the sights of London, filled with paintings in different stages of completion, the walls hung with examples of his work and lit by a great north window. Following our visit to this extraordinary studio-house, the afternoon will be at leisure. (Overnight London) B

Day 16: Sunday 13 September, London

- Victoria & Albert Museum
- Afternoon at leisure

Today we spend the morning at the Victoria and Albert Museum. We'll enjoy a guided tour of highlights of the Islamic, Indian and Renaissance Galleries with a special focus on rare oriental and European carpets and textiles and related artworks. We will view the 16th century 'Ardabil' Carpet, the largest and oldest 'signed'

oriental carpet in the world, gaining an understanding of how it came to be in the Victoria and Albert Museum's collection and learning about its structure and dyes. The afternoon is free for you to further explore this museum at leisure. (Overnight London) B

Day 17: Monday 14 September, London

- Embroiderer's Guild House, Walton-on-Thames
- National Gallery
- Evening Farewell Meal in the Vanderbilt Suite, Radisson Edwardian Vanderbilt Hotel (1900hrs)

This morning we travel by private coach to Walton-on-Thames to visit the Embroiderer's Guild House. Founded in the early 20th century, it houses a collection of over 11,000 embroidered objects dating from the first millennium BC. A private guided tour gives us a unique opportunity to experience textiles from a range of cultures.

Following some time at leisure for lunch we visit the National Gallery at Trafalgar Square, built in 1838 to house the national collection of paintings and artwork in the Western European tradition. During our tour we will focus particularly on oriental carpets and textiles used in portraits and other works. Highlights will include Jan van Eyck's *Arnolfini Portrait* of 1434 and the intriguing work known as *The Ambassadors* painted in 1533 by Hans Holbein the Younger.

This evening we walk to the Radisson Edwardian Vanderbilt Hotel. Here we enjoy a farewell evening meal in the Vanderbilt suite, a sumptuous room with a beautiful, painted glass window, dark wood panelling, and frescoed ceiling. This is a step back in time, reminiscent of old-world glamour! (Overnight London) BD

Day 18: Tuesday 15 September, London

- The Clothworkers' Centre for the Study and Conservation of Textiles and Fashion, Blythe House
- Airport transfer for participants departing on the ASA 'designated' flight

This morning we visit Blythe House in West London to take a private guided tour of the Clothworkers' Centre for the Study and Conservation of Textiles and Fashion. There are over 104,000 objects stored at Blythe House ranging from small archeological textile fragments from Egypt to enormous tapestries created for medieval European palaces. Our special access will include the opportunity to view artworks usually held in storage. These include textile fragments excavated in north-west China by Sir Aurel Stein (1862–1943) in the early 20th century, rare carpets from the Persian classical era, luxurious velvets from the Ottoman court and from Renaissance Italy, and a selection of William Morris carpets and textiles.

Our tour officially ends this afternoon. Passengers travelling on the ASA 'designated' flight will transfer to the airport for the return flight to Australia. Alternatively you may wish to extend your stay in London. Please contact ASA if you require further assistance. B

Accommodation

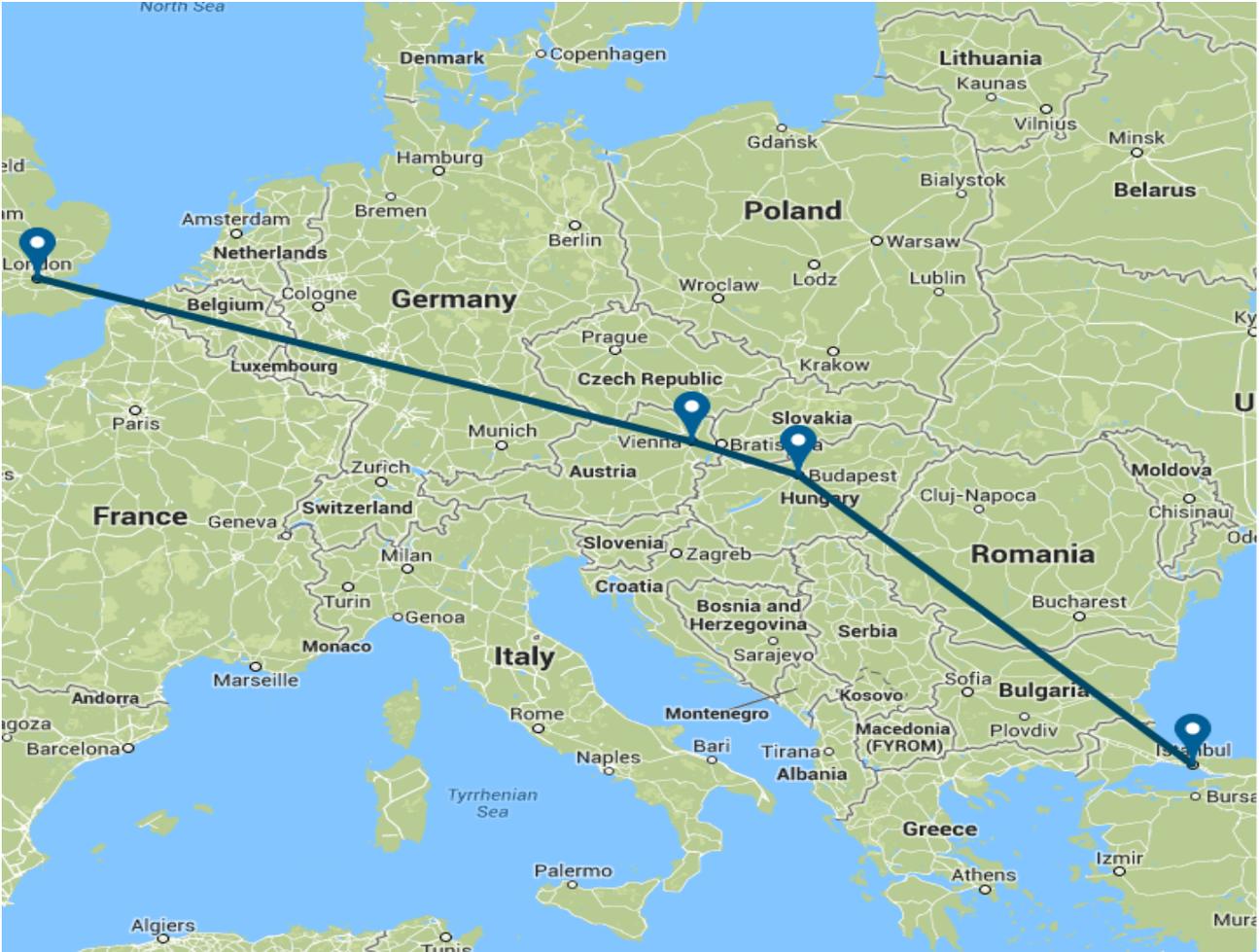
18 days in Istanbul, Budapest, Vienna & London

ASA has selected 4-star hotels that are themselves historical buildings and/or are located in historical centres. All hotels provide rooms with private facilities. Single rooms may be requested – and are subject to availability and payment of the single supplement. Further information on hotels will be provided in the 'Tour Hotel List' given to tour members prior to their departure.

- Istanbul (5 nights): 4-star Armada Hotel - located in the heart of Istanbul's historic peninsula, within walking distance of the Archaeology Museum, the Topkapi Palace, the Cisterns, Sultanahmet Square and Grand Bazaar. www.armadahotel.com.tr
- Budapest (4 nights): 4-star Hotel K & K Opera - located next to the Opera House in the centre of Budapest's 'Broadway Quarter'. The pedestrian area, Váci utca, as well as many key sights are within easy walking distance. www.kkhotels.com
- Vienna (4 nights): 4-star Hotel Royal - located in the heart of the city near St Stephen's Cathedral. www.kremslehnerhotels.at
- London (4 nights): Fraser Suites Green Gate - a boutique hotel offering serviced, self-catering apartments; located in Kensington - conveniently situated within walking distance of the Victoria & Albert Museum (650m), Knightsbridge, Chelsea, Hyde Park, the Royal Albert Hall and Harrods. These serviced apartments offer all the facilities and services of a central London hotel, including buffet breakfast with hot items, high-speed wireless internet and 24-hour reception. london-queensgate.frasershospitality.com

Note: Hotels are subject to change. In this instance a hotel of similar standard will be provided.

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

AUD \$8990.00 Land Content Only - Early-Bird Special: book before 31 March 2015

AUD \$9190.00 Land Content Only

AUD \$1920.00 Single Supplement

For competitive Economy, Business or First Class airfares and/or group airfares please contact ASA for further information.

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 4-star hotels.
- Buffet breakfast daily, lunches & evening meals as indicated in the itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch & D=evening meal
- Drinks at welcome and farewell meals. Other meals may not have drinks included.
- Transportation by air-conditioned coach as outlined in the itinerary
- Internal flights economy class: Istanbul - Budapest (Day 6) and Vienna - London (Day 14)
- Airport-hotel transfers if travelling on ASA's 'designated' flights
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person at hotels (not at airports)
- Lecture and site-visit program
- Entrance fees to museums and monuments
- Use of audio headsets during site visits
- Tour reference book
- Public transport in Budapest, Vienna and London
- 3 musical performances (1 in Budapest and 2 in Vienna)
- Tips for the coach driver, local guides and restaurants for included meals.

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- International Airfare: Australia-Istanbul, London-Australia
- Personal spending money
- Airport-hotel transfers if not travelling on the ASA 'designated' flights
- Luggage in excess of 20 kg (44 lbs)
- Travel Insurance.



Physical Endurance & Practical Information

Physical Ratings 

The number of flags is a guide to the degree of difficulty of ASA tours relative to each other (not to those of other tour companies). It is neither absolute nor literal. One flag is given to the least taxing tours, six to the most. Flags are allocated, above all, according to the amount of walking and standing each tour involves. Nevertheless all ASA tours require that participants have a good degree of fitness enabling 2-3 hours walking or 1-1.5 hours standing still on any given site visit or excursion. Many sites are accessed by climbing slopes or steps and have uneven terrain.

This 18-day tour involves:

- Extensive walking (usually 9.00am – 5.00pm), use of city public transport, and standing during museum and other site visits
- Walking on uneven terrain, cobbled streets, and up and down hills and/or flights of stairs
- The use of audio headsets which amplify the voice of your guide (despite noisy surroundings). This technology also allows you to move freely during site visits without missing any information.
- 4-star hotels with three hotel changes
- You must be able to carry your own hand-luggage. Hotel portage includes 1 piece of luggage per person

It is important to remember that ASA programs are group tours, and slow walkers affect everyone in the group. As the group must move at the speed of the slowest member, the amount of time spent at a site may be reduced if group members cannot maintain a moderate walking pace. ASA tours should not present any problem for active people who can manage day-to-day walking and stair-climbing. However, if you have any doubts about your ability to manage on a program, please ask your ASA travel consultant whether this is a suitable tour for you.

Please note: it is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to

their suitability to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. For further information please refer to the ASA Reservation Application Form.

Practical Information

Prior to departure, tour members will receive practical notes which include information on visa requirements, health, photography, weather, clothing and what to pack, custom regulations, bank hours, currency regulations, electrical appliances and food. The Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade website has advice for travellers see: www.smartraveller.gov.au

Booking Conditions

ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION FORM

Please complete the ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION and send it to Australians Studying Abroad together with your non-refundable deposit of AUD \$500.00 per person payable to Australians Studying Abroad.

Passport Details

All participants must provide no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the program a photocopy of the front page of their current passport.

Single Supplement

Payment of the single supplement will ensure accommodation in a single room throughout the tour. The number of single rooms available is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.



Reservation Application

TOUR NAME _____

TOUR DATES _____

Please complete **one application, per person in block letters and sign**. Parental signature is required for participants under 18 years of age. Please mail this form with the appropriate deposit to: **P.O. Box 8285, ARMADALE, VICTORIA, 3143**. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation.

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other _____

FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____

MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

Date of birth ____ / ____ / ____ GENDER Male Female

Passport Number _____ Expiry date ____ / ____ / ____ Nationality _____

Colour copy of my current valid passport enclosed I'm renewing my passport ASA has a colour copy of my current passport

Travel Plans

I wish ASA to book my airfare, please contact me to discuss my options. Business Class Economy Class

I plan to leave Australia before the tour commences. Planned departure date ____ / ____ / ____

I will be arranging my airfare independently and taking the Land Content Only option.

Frequent Flyer _____ Name of Airline _____ Airline Seat preference _____
Membership # _____ (please note request only)

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: a twin-bedded room a double-bedded room a room for sole occupancy

I am travelling: on my own with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

I do not have any specific dietary requests

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:

fish poultry red meat dairy products

eggs pork nuts

Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Other _____

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence Postal Mail Email Address _____

Emergency Contact Details

Note: this person **MUST** be available by telephone and be present in Australia for the duration of your tour with ASA

Name _____ Relationship to Traveller _____

Address _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist ASA to determine, where necessary, whether ASA is able to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs and whether your health and safety (or that of your fellow travellers) is likely to be compromised given your choice of tour. It will also assist you and ASA if you fall ill or have an accident whilst travelling.

- ASA reserves the right to decline your Reservation Application if this Medical Information section is not completed properly and may reject or cancel your reservation, or terminate your participation on any tour, if ASA subsequently learns that you have failed to make full and proper disclosure.
- ASA is committed to protecting the privacy of your personal information. ASA's privacy policy is available for viewing at www.asatours.com.au
- If ASA has any concerns about the information you have provided, it will contact you to request clarification before considering your Application.
- ASA requires you to consider carefully your limitations in light of ASA's Physical Endurance Star Rating System in ASA's Brochure and Itinerary when choosing your tour.
- If you are not likely to satisfy ASA's Participation Criteria (see below), ASA, in its sole discretion, may reject your Reservation Application.
- It is a condition of your tour that you agree to accept the directions of ASA's Tour Leaders in relation to your suitability to participate in activities planned on tour.
- ASA reserves the right to cancel your participation on a tour if your behaviour is in ASA's opinion causing undue distress or damage to any person or their property.
- If your participation is discontinued during a tour, ASA will assist by arranging your onward travel (if required) at your own cost, but you will not be refunded for forfeited parts of the tour.
- ASA tour groups are not accompanied by a medical practitioner. ASA recommends that you see your doctor for advice about your specific needs while overseas. You may also wish to contact a travel and vaccination clinic for advice. www.traveldoctor.com.au tel: 1300 658 444; www.travelvax.com.au tel: 1300 360 164.
- Travel insurers require you to declare all existing medical conditions.
- Please carry a complete list of medications with you during the ASA tour. Include **generic names** of each medication (consult your local pharmacy for information).

Please mark **X** in the YES or NO box to every question below and provide details where necessary:

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. The responsibility of the Tour Leader is to ensure that the larger group enjoys a relaxing and informative journey, and he or she cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing individual assistance to any one guest.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Can you walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Can you walk unassisted on and over uneven surfaces? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Can you climb at least 3 flights of stairs and/or walk up and down steep slopes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Can you walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15 - 20 minutes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Can you organise, manage and carry your own luggage? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Can you follow and remember tour instructions and meet punctually at designated times and places? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Can you administer your own medication? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. Do you have impaired vision or hearing which may impact your capacity to participate on this tour? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Mobility and Fitness

As many of ASA's international sites do not provide access to wheelchairs or similar mobility aids, we regret that ASA tours are not suitable for people who require the use of a walking frame, wheeled walker, wheelchair or motorised scooter.

1. Do you suffer from any medical conditions that may compromise your mobility and/or fitness to participate on this program? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

Allergies and/or Food Intolerances

ASA will make reasonable endeavours to organise meals to suit you, provided that you give ASA adequate notice of your specific dietary requirements or allergies. You may be required to research dietary alternatives, as not all destinations may be able to offer suitable food substitutes.

1. Do you have any food allergies or intolerances? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

2. Have you ever had an anaphylactic reaction to anything? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

Do you carry an epipen? YES NO

3. Do you have any other allergies or reactions to anything, including medical drugs? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

Existing Medical Conditions

You alone are responsible for managing any existing medical conditions, your medication and any medical equipment that you may need when on your tour. Please plan for contingencies and take extra medication, dietary supplements and/or fully charged batteries for medical equipment if your health and safety depends on these. You should take into consideration that power sources at some destinations may be unavailable, inadequate, inconvenient or unreliable.

1. Have you any significant medical conditions that may impact your capacity to complete this tour? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

2. Do you require some form of powered medical aid, such as a CPAP machine? YES NO

These machines may not be operable on certain international flights, modes of transport, in remote or other areas with inadequate or unreliable power sources without a fully charged independent long life battery or batteries.

Diabetics: You may be travelling and sightseeing for many hours at a time. Insulin dependent diabetics must carry extra supplies of insulin (as this medication cannot be obtained in some destinations), regulators, applicators, storage and refrigeration equipment, as well as any necessary supplements. Accommodation may not provide refrigerators in rooms.

3. Are you diabetic? YES NO

Are you insulin dependent? YES NO

4. Do you suffer from travel sickness? YES NO
 Remember to use an appropriate medication while on tour.

Declaration

I declare that: I have read and understood the ASA Tour Itinerary, Reservation Application and Booking Conditions. I am aware of ASA's terms as relating to refunds, cancellations, responsibility and liability. I understand that ASA relies upon this declaration when considering this Application. I accept the inherent dangers, risks and uncertainties in travel and those beyond ASA's control and understand they may occur before or during any tour. I have made full and complete disclosure and have not knowingly withheld any medical information about myself from ASA. I have completed this Reservation Application honestly and accurately. I warrant that I am able to participate independently in all activities described by ASA in the itinerary without assistance from any person.

I will advise ASA in writing if any aspect of my fitness and or health conditions change materially at any time before my departure date. I understand and accept that the itinerary, accommodation and lecturers scheduled for this tour may change.

I agree and consent that ASA may give my personal information in this Reservation Application to tour service providers and relevant authorities as required by law, but only for the purpose of making bookings with and engaging services associated with the tour. I understand that if I do not consent to the use of my personal information for this purpose, ASA will decline my Reservation Application.

In consideration of ASA's acceptance of my Reservation Application, I irrevocably release and indemnify ASA from all claims that I, or any other party, may have against ASA its employees, invitees, agents and contractors, however arising in respect of any loss, damage, injury, death or expense incurred in the course of booking, preparing for, travelling to, on and from or cancelling any tour.

I release and indemnify ASA with respect to:

1. Every general risk to which I or my personal belongings may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour;
2. Every special risk, in particular medical risks, to which I may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour arising from, including, but not limited to:
 - a. intermittent power cycles and/or the temporary or permanent loss of power (beware CPAP or any other medical machine users);
 - b. dietary, food or other allergies (ASA cannot guarantee that traces of items to which you are allergic are not present in food or drink you are served, medication you are administered or other substances with which you may come into contact);
 - c. any event or situation that may compromise the administration of necessary medication or my health, safety and wellbeing generally; and
 - d. any event or happening beyond ASA's control
3. All claims arising as a result of my or ASA's cancellation or termination of any tour, part of a tour or of my continued participation on a tour for any reason (subject to ASA's refund conditions below).

Limitation of Liability

ASA is not a carrier, event or tourist attraction host, accommodation or dining service provider. All bookings made and tickets or coupons issued by ASA for transport, event, accommodation, dining and the like are issued as an agent for various service providers and are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by each service provider. ASA is not responsible for their products, services, terms and conditions. If a service provider cancels or does not deliver the product or service for which you have contracted, and does not give a refund, your remedy lies with the service provider, not ASA.

ASA will not be liable for any claim (e.g. sickness, injury, death, damage or loss) arising from any change, delay, detention, breakdown, border closures, cancellation, failure, accident, act, omission or negligence of any tour service provider or authority however caused (contingencies). You must take out such travel insurance as is available against such contingencies.

ASA's liability in respect of any tour cancelled or changed will be limited to the partial refund of amounts you have paid, less an administration fee of \$500 and other costs and charges of third party service providers. No compensation will be payable to you by ASA where ASA cancels or changes a tour, or any part of a tour.

ASA reserves the sole discretion to cancel any tour or to modify itineraries in any way it considers appropriate and in the best interests of health, safety and wellbeing of tour participants. Tour costs may be revised, subject to unexpected price increases or exchange rate fluctuations.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSITS

A deposit of \$500.00 AUD per person is required to reserve a place on an ASA tour.

CANCELLATION FEES

If you cancel your booking the following charges apply:

- More than 75 days before departure: \$500*
- 75-46 days prior 25% of total amount due
- 45-31 days prior 50% of total amount due
- 30-15 days prior 75% of total amount due
- 14-0 days prior 100% of total amount due

*This amount may be **credited** to another ASA tour departing within 12 months of the original tour you booked. We regret, in this case early-bird discounts will not apply.

We take the day on which you cancel as being that on which we receive written confirmation of cancellation.

UNUSED PORTIONS OF THE TOUR

We regret that refunds will not be given for any unused portions or services of the tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation, flights or transfers.

WILL THE TOUR PRICE OR ITINERARY CHANGE?

If the number of participants on a tour is significantly less than budgeted, or if there is a significant change in exchange rates ASA reserves the right to amend the advertised price. We shall, however, do all in our power to maintain the published price. Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of ASA make it necessary to change airline, hotel or to make amendments to itineraries. We will inform you of any changes in due course.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

ASA requires all participants to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. A copy of your travel insurance certificate and the **reverse charge** emergency contact phone number must be received by ASA no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the tour.

FINAL PAYMENT

The balance of the tour price will be due 75 days prior to the tour commencement date.

PLEASE READ THE ABOVE CAREFULLY, PRINT AND SIGN BELOW

- I accept the conditions on this booking form I have read the information about the physical requirements of the tour in the detailed itinerary and confirm that I am able to meet these requirements

Applicant's Signature

Print Full Name

Dated

Tour / Course Name

Name of Traveller 1 _____

Name of Traveller 2 _____

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$ _____ (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

The above amount is payable for:

- Intention to Travel Tour Deposit
 Balance of Payment Upgrade from Intention to Travel to a Deposit
 Travel Insurance Other (eg. Airfares, Accommodation) _____

International Payments

Welcome to our international travellers! If you are making a payment and do not have an Australian bank account/credit card, we can only accept payment as follows:

- via credit card with the applicable fee - the credit card company/bank will set the exchange rate
- via bank transfer; please give your surname and tour code (eg. Smith 21705) as a reference and ask your bank to allow for all charges.

Bank cheques or personal cheques will not be accepted.

By Cheque (accept Australian cheques only)

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
Swift Code ANZBAU3M
BSB 013-423
Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No. _____

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended

Date Money Transferred _____

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard, Visa & American Express 2%

Please debit my: Mastercard Visa American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____ Security Code (CVC) _____

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ) _____

Cardholders Name _____

Cardholders Billing Address _____

Postcode _____

State _____ Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Cardholders Signature _____