



*Heritage*  
GROUP TRAVEL



Cultural Group Travel at its best

## About us

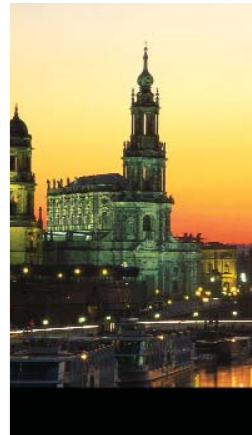
Heritage Group Travel is the leading provider of imaginative, high quality cultural group tours to member organisations and affinity groups throughout the UK. We have been in business for over 15 years, and during that time we have arranged hundreds of tours for client groups ranging from Patrons and Benefactors of major national museums to smaller local societies.

Our success is a result of painstaking detail in the service we provide to the group or society organiser, from help in planning inspirational itineraries through to faultless administration in the execution of the trip itself. We are thoroughly professional, and our track record of retaining clients year after year is our greatest advertisement.

## Our tours

We don't sell pre-arranged tours to the public at large. We concentrate on inspiring and crafting interesting itineraries and on providing meticulous travel arrangements for individual groups. The tours in this brochure represent a range of our most successful ideas and destinations. Full itineraries are available by calling 0800 92 94 96 or by visiting our website [www.grouptravel.co.uk](http://www.grouptravel.co.uk). Each one can be tailored to the needs, budget and interests of your group. The underlying theme which underpins every tour we arrange is cultural heritage in its broadest sense. This is where our passion lies, and we'd be delighted to share our knowledge and experience with you.

*a group tour  
company with a  
personal touch*



## Expert guides and lecturers

The success of a tour hinges to a large degree on the person charged with leading it. We attach great importance to the selection of guides and lecturers who are both highly qualified and personable. We use both UK and overseas experts, often art historians and always the best in their field. They bring a tour to life through the depth of their cultural understanding and local knowledge. Some groups prefer to be accompanied by a well-known UK lecturer whilst others prefer to call on our extensive list of overseas cultural associates. We always avoid the random use of "ordinary" city guides.

## Exclusive insights

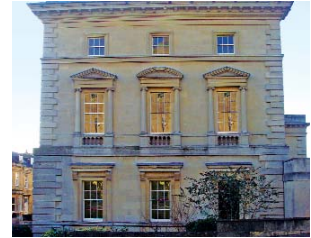
Private views or visits to places which are little known to the public at large are often a feature of the tours which we arrange. In the past, we have enjoyed exclusive access to some of world's greatest cultural treasures, including private visits to the Sistine Chapel in Rome, the Louvre in Paris, the Hermitage in St Petersburg and the Prado in Madrid, to name but a few. Equally, we are constantly discovering little-known private treasures such as independent museums, châteaux or gardens. Here we can offer you crowd-free exclusive cultural insights, often in the company of the owner.

## Our team

Our small team has vast experience of arranging tailor-made group tours. Staff members comprise a mix of linguists, travellers, arts graduates and administrators and we aim to be courteous and professional in all our dealings with clients. We always return phone calls promptly and answer correspondence with the minimum of delay. We do not have an automated telephone queuing system - your call will always be answered quickly, and by a real person. Our office in the heart of Georgian Bath is a refreshing antidote to the growth of call centres.



*Our Managing Director, John Iles*



*Heritage offices in Bath*

## Hotels

We don't cut corners in order to offer artificially low prices. Our hotels are chosen with the group and the itinerary in mind, and this usually means centrally located, comfortable hotels of at least 3, usually 4, and sometimes 5 star standard. Wherever possible and within budgetary constraints we choose properties which offer a degree of charm and style, shunning the anonymity of impersonal chain hotels.

## Single travellers

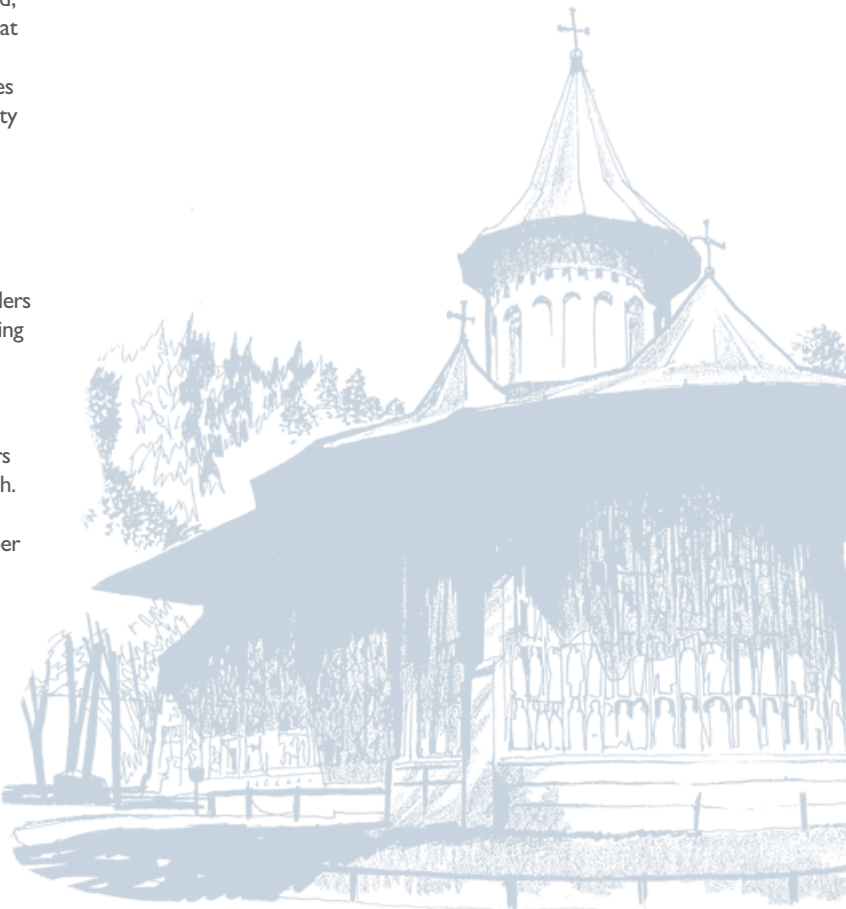
We appreciate that single travellers pay disproportionately more than couples since most hotels charge a supplement for sole occupancy of a room. We make every effort to help single travellers by keeping supplements to an absolute minimum and by negotiating a sufficient number of single rooms on behalf of the group.

## Support for the organiser

We help our clients achieve their goal of arranging first-class tours for their groups by offering advice and support from start to finish. We provide professionally-produced individual itineraries and booking forms from the outset to help you recruit a viable number of travellers, and our ongoing administrative support ensures a worry-free and enjoyable experience for the organiser.

## Transport

As an independent operator, Heritage Group Travel has no affiliation with one particular airline or coach company. We arrange travel to suit the particular circumstances of the group, and the dramatic increase in the number of flights from regional airports means that the choice of suppliers and destinations is greater than ever.



## SOUTHERN EUROPE & MEDITERRANEAN

**CROATIA:** Hidden Treasures of Croatia **GREECE:** Cities and Cultures of Ancient Greece **ITALY:** Tuscan Treasures; Hill Towns of Umbria; Palladio & North Italian Cities of Art; The Este & Montefeltro Territory; Bay of Naples; Splendours of Rome; Sicily: Cultural Crossroads of the Mediterranean; Genoese Palazzi and Churches **MALTA:** Malta & Gozo: Cultural Treasure Islands **PORTUGAL:** Art & Architecture in Lisbon; A Taste of Portugal **SPAIN:** Madrid & Old Castille; Barcelona: Gothic to Gaudi; The Pilgrim Route to Santiago de Compostela; Valencia: Ancient & Modern; Andalusia's Moorish Heritage **TURKEY:** Istanbul: Empires of East and West; Turkey's Aegean Coast

*a selection  
of recent tours*



## WESTERN & NORTHERN EUROPE

**AUSTRIA:** Vienna: City of Museums & Music; Baroque Salzburg **BELGIUM:** Brussels: Art Nouveau to Art Deco; Flemish Heritage **FRANCE:** Châteaux of the Île de France; Fine Art on the French Riviera; Art Lovers' Paris; Border Heritage of Alsace & Lorraine; Normandy: Châteaux, Parks & Gardens; South West France: Albi, Carcassonne and Toulouse; Dukes of Burgundy **GERMANY:** Dresden: Jewel of Saxony; Berlin: Paintings, Palaces & Parks; Bavaria: Princes, Palaces and Kings; Coburg: In the Footsteps of Victoria & Albert **HOLLAND:** Dutch Art Treasures; Castles & Gardens of Gelderland **SWITZERLAND:** A Catalogue of Collections

## EASTERN EUROPE

**BALTIC STATES:** Hanseatic Heritage of the Baltic States **CZECH REPUBLIC:** Prague: Collections of the Czech Capital; Moravia: Castles & Cultures **HUNGARY:** Fine Art & Folk Architecture  
**POLAND:** Cultural Treasures of Poland; Krakow: Poland's Other Capital **ROMANIA:** The Painted Monasteries of Romania **RUSSIA:** St Petersburg: City of the Tsars; Moscow: Russian Arts Capital  
**SLOVAKIA:** Galleries & Gothic Treasures

## ASIA

**CHINA:** Heritage of Empires **INDIA:** Forts & Palaces of Rajasthan  
**INDOCHINA:** An Introduction to Indochina, Vietnam & Cambodia

## MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

**JORDAN:** Petra & the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; Jordan & Syria: Civilisations of the Middle East  
**LIBYA:** Treasures of Tripolitania

## THE AMERICAS

**CENTRAL AMERICA:** Panama & Costa Rica  
**MEXICO:** From the Mayans to the Aztecs  
**PERU:** From the Amazon to the Andes  
**USA:** Art and Architecture of New York; Boston & New England;  
Art Collections of Chicago

## UNITED KINGDOM

Great Houses of Norfolk; Cardiff: Capital Collections;  
Houses & Gardens of Northern Ireland;  
Chester & Liverpool; Northumberland: Land of the Prince Bishops;  
Edinburgh & Glasgow



## Our credentials



Heritage Group Travel is a proud member of AITO (Association of Independent Tour Operators).

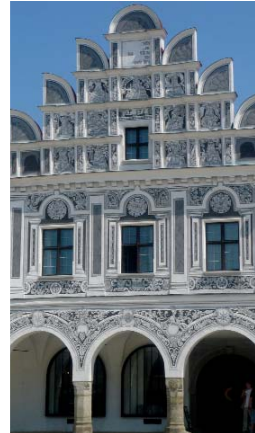
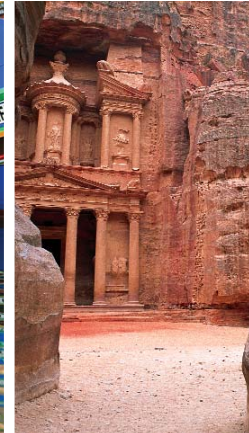
Admission to AITO is highly selective and most members are owner-managers who strive to create overseas tours and holidays with high levels of professionalism. We all share a concern for quality and personal service. The Association's code of conduct encourages the highest standards in all aspects of tour operating.

## Financial security



Your money is completely safe with us. Heritage Group Travel is fully bonded both with the CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) and ABTOT (Association of Bonded Tour Operators Trust), which means that in the unlikely event of our insolvency any money paid to us in advance would be refunded. It also means that any stranded clients would be brought home at no extra cost to them. In fact, our financial position is such that we exceed by a considerable margin the minimum criteria laid down by the bonding organisations that vet company accounts on a regular basis.

*what our clients  
say about us*



These pages contain a cross-section of unsolicited comments from recent clients.

“Our tour to Madrid was a huge success - the itinerary was nicely balanced between history, art and religious buildings, the hotel was lovely, and of course the icing on the cake was Mauricio who was perfect in every way. You will have your work cut out to impress us so much on future tours!”

“When you said "hand on heart" that Jordan was one of your favourite places, we knew that this tour was the one to go for, and it came up to every expectation and more.....We can't wait for next year's trip.”

“Thank you so much for the trouble you took to make the visit (to the Bay of Naples) such a success. It was the most fabulous trip, and I feel very fortunate to have been part of it...Fiorella was a star throughout and her knowledge and joie de vivre (sometimes under difficult circumstances) made everything come alive.”

“Before anything else I must thank everyone involved at Heritage Group Travel for the best and most trouble-free tour I have ever "organised". I put that in quotes as all the organisation, bookings, phone calls, confirmations were taken off my shoulders; very different from my previous experience.”

“I have been involved in study tours now for forty years and I have to say that this was one of the smoothest and most enjoyable that I have known.”

“This is just a small token in grateful thanks to all who helped on our astonishingly successful trip to Rome. Nothing went wrong. Everything worked to the second. All very un-Italian.”

“All home again after a fantastic holiday (to St Petersburg). Elena is all you said and more; she worked so hard and her depth of knowledge about history, architecture and art in general is incredible. My personal thanks to all at Heritage for steering me through this, my first attempt at an overseas trip.”

“Heritage just gets better and better!”

## Some of our clients

**Benefactors and Patrons of major museums**

**Groups from NADFAS**

**The Art Fund - regional groups**

**Friends of Museums and Art Galleries**

**Friends of Cathedrals**

**National Trust Associations and Centres**

**Tutors and Lecturers**

**The Historical Association**

**Continuing Education Centres**

**Affinity Groups**

**Specialist Press**





# Heritage

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**AITO**

TOURS WITH  
100% FINANCIAL PROTECTION

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