



21 February 2011

UTRACKS' NEW HIKING TRIPS FOR 2011

Feel like lacing up your boots and taking to the outdoors? European activity holiday specialist UTracks has number of new hiking trips for 2011 – including:

French Riviera on Foot *8 days*

Launch: February

This self-guided trip explores the relaxed charm of this eternally panoramic part of Provence. Follow paths to hilltops and across plateaus, taking in the sweeping views to the coast and beyond. Visit Gourdon, rated the most beautiful village in France, explore the tunnels of the Gorges du Loup, and be enchanted by Vence with its lovely setting, colourful flowers and markets, which have inspired many famous artists, painters and sculptors such as Matisse and Dufy.

Price: £770 per person

Crete: Mountains and Coast *8 days*

Launch: May

Explore the southwest coast of Crete, with its spectacular White Mountains, deep gorges and coastal trails that lead visitors to charming fishing villages and quiet beaches, accessible only by boat. Packed with highlights such as a walk through Samaria, the largest gorge in Europe, the self-guided trip will appeal to lovers of coastal landscapes, history and traditional Greek culture. Whilst the focus is on walking, there is ample time to swim at unspoilt beaches and explore picturesque coastal villages.

Price: £650 per person

The Francigena Way *9 days*

Launch: March

From Canterbury in England to Rome in Italy, the 1,900km 'Francigena Way' dates back to the 11th Century when pilgrims travelled across Europe on foot to visit the site of Martyrdom of St Peter and St Paul in Rome. This trip takes in the section of the trail from Orvieto in Umbria through the region of Lazio to Rome, passing by ancient relics and hill top towns.

Price: £850 per person

Best of Algarve *8 days*

Launch: March

The Algarve has long been known for its picturesque beaches, lively towns and laid back lifestyle – but away from the tourist centres there is a huge interior that sees very few visitors and a spectacular coastline that remains unspoilt! This self-guided walking route offers a wide variety of walking terrain, from mountains and cliff tops to valleys and coastal ridges. En route visitors can view the wonderful diverse flora and fauna and experience first hand the friendliness of the local people.

Price: £690 per person

Highlights of the Pyrenees *8 days*

Launch: May

The Pyrenees mountain range is home to some of the most remote and interesting hiking terrain in Europe. Based in the traditional village of Baresges, visitors will discover the numerous trails through the Pyrenees National Park, including to the famous 'Cirque de Gavarnie', Pont d' Espagne and the Vignemale. In the company of a qualified mountain guide, hikers will discover the history, language and culture of the region as well as the geology and birdlife. These guided walks range from introductory (on 'gentle' weeks) to more demanding ('intermediate' weeks), on alternate weeks throughout the walking season.

Price: £790 per person

Mount Olympus Walk *8 days*

Launch: May

Mount Olympus' high summits are allegedly saturated by the nectar of the ancient Greek gods and is also known as the seat of Zeus. This ancient image of the infamous peak, with its uncounted natural treasures is protected by the Mt. Olympus National Park. Trekking to the various peaks of the mountain, experiencing the spectacular views and absorbing the vast legacy of ancient civilizations on the high mountain plateaus is the essence of this rewarding guided walking holiday.

Price: £850 per person

To order UTracks' new brochure for 2011 please call 0845 241 7599 or go to www.UTracks.com. Quoted prices are inclusive of accommodation, most meals, equipment

rental, experienced guides, luggage transfers between hotels (where applicable) and clear maps with images. Flights from the UK are not included but can be booked on request.

-Ends-

Notes for editors:

A list of all UTracks' new trips for 2011, with detailed description about each itinerary, can be found at http://www.utracks.com/utuk/index.php?section=whats_new&id=276302

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