## Today's Travellers: Meeting New Friends and Expanding Horizons

When I started in the travel business, most tours were on big coaches and cruise ships. They offered significant dollar value but, nowadays, many people want smaller groups, more active participation and better options for single travellers.

Today you can travel on group tours with less than 12 people. Explore the tiny back roads and quaint village streets the big coaches can't negotiate. Likewise, small ship cruise tours and river barges navigate beautiful coastlines. rivers, tiny coves and smaller seaside cities, with more time for you on-shore.

These tours are moderately active with walking, cycling and paddling options to help stimulate your appetite for the delicious local meals that await you. Tours can be themed for interests in culture, art, wildlife, food, photography, beer and wine and have activities like cooking classes, tango lessons and even citizen science projects. You can also ditch the despised single supplement if you haven't got a ready travel partner. Some tours even provide a private room at no extra charge.

Even more close up, there are hundreds of fully dedicated walking tours, treks and cycling trips all over Europe and many other countries. Something really exciting is the wide availability of electric assisted bikes. Hills be gone, Umbria here I come.



Colourful Streets of Old Cartagena

Private tours and self guided adventures can be cheaper than group tours, surprisingly. I've designed and taken these myself and they save you a lot of pain and hassle if you want to travel on your own. Like a group tour, everything is planned and prepaid and a local company provides the services. These are worth investigating if you can't find a group tour that fits you.

Regardless of your preferences, group tours, big and small, are a boost to your social life. Travel with like minded folks who then become friends. What could be better?

George Duffy www.flightcentreindependent.ca/GeorgeDuffy

## Tours As Active As You Are Camino de Santiago 8 Days Group (No Sgl Sup, Pvt Room)

Colombia Journey Cultural Tour 12 Days Croatia Coastal Small Ship Cruising 8 Days Not Your Typical Tuscany (Agriturismo) 8 Days Quintessential Burgundy by Barge and Bike 10 days Kenya Uganda Rwanda Safari 16 Days Galapagos and Peru Complete 24 Days Cruise Iceland's Coasts 8 Days Amalfi Coast 8 Days Self Guided Walking Havana Jazz Festival (Jan) 7 Days Independent Pkg And many more

independent Call 778-383-6369 Toll Free 1-888-543-6450 Email: george.duffy@fcitravel.ca

Contact us and ask for details on tours with no single supplements and our \$25.00 Valhalla Pure Outfitters gift card offer.

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