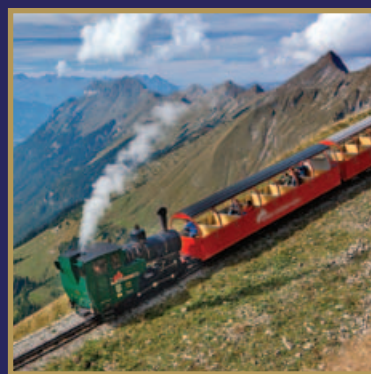




Railtrail

QUALITY ESCORTED HOLIDAYS
BY TRAIN



Touring the UK & Europe by Rail

FOCUS ON STEAM
WITH RAILTRAIL TOURS



GERMANY-AUSTRIA-HUNGARY YESTERYEAR BY STEAM

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ From Germany, through Austria and across the Hungarian border to Budapest - Incredible yesteryear rail journey by express steam locomotive Pacific 01 0509
- ★ Travel in First Class heritage rail carriages
- ★ Steam over the UNESCO protected Semmering Pass; high mountains, spectacular viaducts and tunnels - a world heritage site celebrating great feats of pioneering railway building
- ★ Private steam photo charter at 760 mm Matra Forestry Railway (see optional package)
- ★ Private standard gauge steam charter on rural freight only line in Slovakia (see optional package)
- ★ Journey between 2,000 metre alpine peaks on a great continental railway adventure
- ★ A unique tour combining sensational steam and stunning scenery in First Class style

DAY 1 Wednesday 16 September

We depart London St Pancras International 10.58 hrs by Eurostar to Brussels and by ICE train via Frankfurt Main (dep 17.50 hrs) arriving Ulm 20.07 hrs for a welcome evening meal and one night at our conveniently located hotel. (D)

DAY 2 Thursday 17 September

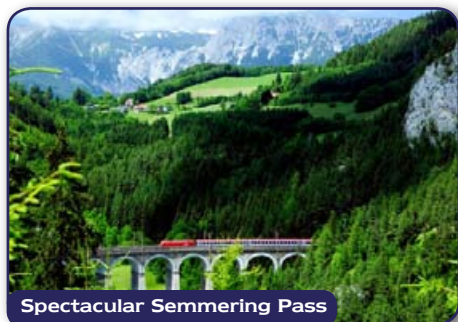
After breakfast we board our very special steam train and travel in First Class heritage coaches hauled at express speeds by Pacific locomotive 01 0509 as we commence our historic steam journey via Augsburg, Munich, Salzburg to Linz in Austria with our evening meal served in the restaurant car en-route. We stay for one night at a Linz hotel. (B,D)

DAY 3 Friday 18 September

Our special train continues on the "Westbahn" route to Vienna via Amstetten and St Pölten and then switching to the "Ostbahn" route we travel via Bruck an der Leitha to the Hungarian border station of Hegyeshalom then continuing via Győr to arrive Budapest circ 15.00 hrs. Here we transfer to our hotel after which there is either time for sightseeing or visit the famous railway museum at the former steam depot depending on which package you book - general sightseeing / steam enthusiast. (B,D)

DAY 4 Saturday 19 September

Today you have the chance to take one of the



Spectacular Semmering Pass

A unique nostalgic adventure by express steam train from Germany through Austria to Budapest in First Class heritage carriages with optional general sightseeing or steam enthusiast excursions. Fabulous journeys, glorious sightseeing.

Fares From
£1699



Pacific Loco 01 0509

following excursions which must be booked at time of tour booking:

Steam Enthusiast Package: Travelling by private coach to the Matra Forestry Railway where we have a private steam photo charter along the whole line with varied photo run-pasts in forests, riverside, rural, and travelling through a colliery! The line is 760 mm gauge and we will be using an ex Romanian 0-8-0.

General Sightseeing Package: Coach trip to the Puszta - we travel by coach into the Puszta to a Csárdá (rustic tavern) for a Mulatsag (traditional entertainment and dancing).

After your excursion, why not relax in a Budapest coffee house dating back to the days of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. (B,D)

DAY 5 Sunday 20 September

Today you have the chance to take one of the following optional excursions which must be booked at time of tour booking:

Steam Enthusiast Package: A sensational day of standard gauge steam in Slovakia where we have a private steam photo charter with a mixed freight and passenger train on a 50 kms freight only line dedicated entirely to us for the day. We are using an ancient 0-8-0 loco with numerous photo run-pasts along this traditional line with semaphore signalling in rural locations and tunnels.

General Sightseeing Package: We take a chartered boat cruise along the Danube through the Danube Bend to Esztergom, one of Hungary's most traditional and historic cities. We complete our stay with our evening meal (B,D)

DAY 6 Monday 21 September

Boarding our historic steam train, we retrace our steps to Győr. Here we take a different route to outward, travelling via Sopron towards Wiener-Neustadt on the "Südbahn" railway. Here the UNESCO World Heritage Semmeringbahn Railway begins, which leads us through tunnels and across viaducts through a region of enthralling alpine mountain scenery up to 2000 metres high. Travelling via Bruck an der Mur, Leoben and Knittelfeld, to Villach and our overnight hotel. (B,D)

DEPARTS

Wednesday 16 September 2015

8
DAYS

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Eurostar and including Budapest General Sightseeing package	£1699
First Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Premier Eurostar and including Budapest General Sightseeing package	£1949
2-day Budapest Steam Enthusiast Package	£195
Single Room Supplement	£195

7 nights' bed & breakfast, 7 evening meals
Standard Class scheduled rail travel and seat reservations where available (subject to selected rail travel option)

First Class reserved seating aboard mainline heritage steam train

All transfers, excursions and admissions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager

Fares based upon sharing a twin-bedded en-suite room; single rooms available for a supplement.

GUARANTEED FARE

If wishing to travel BY AIR to Frankfurt to join the tour: Please contact us for applicable discount.

Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

DAY 7 Tuesday 22 September

Our journey home from Austria begins, travelling on the stunningly picturesque Tauernbahn route to Salzburg, passing famous resorts such as Bad Gastein, en-route to our destination of Mannheim again dining in the restaurant car on board the train. (B,D)

DAY 8 Wednesday 23 September

Departing Mannheim 09.36 hrs (via Frankfurt Flughafen 10.06 hrs) to Brussels and onto London St Pancras International arriving 16.05 hrs. (B)

RHINE & RUHR STEAM EXPLORER



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Private steam charter on the rarely visited metre gauge Selfkantbahn
- ★ Bergische Strassenbahn tram charter in Wuppertal
- ★ Dutch standard gauge steam on the ZLSM 'Millions line'
- ★ Standard gauge private steam photo charter on the Wiehltalbahn
- ★ Superbly atmospheric Dieringhausen steam depot roundhouse, turntable, water cranes etc.
- ★ Steam & heritage diesel on the Vulkan Express - the Brohltalbahn
- ★ Tour of DB museum at Koblenz
- ★ Standard gauge steam on the Ruhrtalbahn
- ★ The magnificent Bochum-Dalhausen loco collection at the former DB depot

DAY 1 Tuesday 29 September

Depart London circ 10.58 hrs by Eurostar to Brussels then onto Cologne via the High Speed line to Wuppertal, where we stay for 6 nights at the InterCity Hotel. During your stay your room ticket entitles you to use the local transport system, including the Schwebebahn, free of charge. We enjoy dinner together at the hotel this evening. (D)

DAY 2 Wednesday 30 September

We travel by rail across the border into Holland for a day of steam and heritage railbus on the standard gauge ZLSM, known as the 'Millions Line', travelling Valkenburg-Simpelveld return by steam and Simpelveld-Kerkrade return by railbus. (B)

DAY 3 Thursday 1 October

Travelling by train to Aachen, our coach transfers us to the metre gauge Selfkantbahn, where we have a private steam photo charter on this rarely visited metre gauge line. After our morning charter we return by regional train to Wuppertal, where we enjoy a special Bergische Strassenbahn tram charter, followed by free time to enjoy the amazing Schwebebahn overhead railway. (B)

DAY 4 Friday 2 October

Today is a fabulous day of steam commencing with a regional train journey to Dieringhausen for a full day private steam photo charter on the standard gauge Wiehltalbahn between Dieringhausen and Wiehl, with numerous photo run-pasts, opportunities for footplate rides etc.



Vulkan express Brohltalbahn

Enjoy an intensive all steam action tour featuring a metre gauge private steam charter, mainline steam, heritage railways, superb steam depots, and all at a great value fare.



Steam charter on the Wiehltalbahn

Fares
From
£1095

7
DAYS

DEPARTS

Tuesday 29 September 2015

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Eurostar	£1095
First Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Premier Eurostar	£1245
Single Room Supplement	£140

6 nights' bed & breakfast, 1 evening meal, 1 light lunch
Standard Class rail travel and seat reservations where available (subject to selected rail travel option)

All transfers, excursions and admissions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager

Fares based upon sharing a twin-bedded en-suite room; single rooms available for a supplement.

GUARANTEED FARE

Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

HOTEL

InterCity Hotel, Wuppertal

This city centre, English-speaking, hotel has a pleasant bar and restaurant serving local and international specialities. Modern en-suite rooms include satellite TV, radio, mini-bar and WiFi.

We have included a light lunch and, of course, ample opportunity to enjoy the atmosphere of the former DB steam shed at Dieringhausen, with its superb collection of steam and heritage diesel, electric, battery locos and railcars. (B,L)

DAY 5 Saturday 3 October

We travel by train along the majestic Rhine to Koblenz for a tour of the DB Museum, before retracing our steps along the river to Brohl for an afternoon ride on the Vulkan Express, featuring newly reintroduced steam to Oberzissen then heritage diesel up the incline to Engeln, returning to Brohl as outward before taking the regional service back to Wuppertal. (B)

DAY 6 Sunday 4 October

A short regional train journey brings us to Hagen, where we board our steam service for the journey along the Ruhrtalbahn to Bochum-Dalhausen. Here we enjoy a guided tour of this wonderful former DB depot, with around 20 steam locomotives and as many heritage diesel, railcars, electrics, battery electric, EMUs, and even a battery electric railcar. We utilise one of the railcars for the journey back along the Ruhrtalbahn to Hagen and regional train back to Wuppertal. (B)

DAY 7 Monday 5 October

It's time to bid farewell to Wuppertal and journey back by ICE train and Eurostar to London. (B)



Tram charter Wuppertal



Selfkantbahn steam charter



WELSH MEGA STEAM – NORTH WALES

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ By steam along the whole of the new Welsh Highland line
- ★ Steam on the Ffestiniog Railway
- ★ The great fun of the Llanberis Lake Railway
- ★ Steam to the summit of the Snowdon Mountain Railway
- ★ Enjoy the original Welsh Highland Railway (Heritage) line at Porthmadog
- ★ Ride the Great Orme Tramway with magnificent seascape views
- ★ Railcruise along the scenic Conwy Valley line
- ★ The opportunity to combine with the Welsh Mega Steam – Mid Wales

DAY 1 Saturday 29 August

Inclusive rail travel from your home station to arrive Llandudno Junction (circ 14.15 hrs). Then by private coach into Llandudno for a ride up the Great Orme heritage tramway before continuing to Bangor where we have three nights half board accommodation in en-suite rooms at the University. (D)

DAY 2 Sunday 30 August

We travel aboard our private coach to the foot of Snowdon for a return journey on the Llanberis Lake Steam Railway. Then to the summit of Snowdon (weather permitting) on the breathtaking Snowdon Mountain Railway (steam haulage service). (B,D)

DAY 3 Monday 31 August

One of the great circular wonders of the world as we travel by coach to Caernarfon to travel the new Welsh Highland line by steam to Porthmadog Harbour. We then have an enjoyable return run on the Welsh Highland (Heritage) line followed by free-time in Porthmadog. We then travel by steam up the Ffestiniog line to Blaenau Ffestiniog then down the picturesque Conwy Valley line to Llandudno Junction and onwards to Bangor. (B,D)



Great Orme Tramway

A fabulous short break featuring the wonderful North Wales steam lines – Snowdon Mountain, Ffestiniog, Llanberis Lake, and the new wonder of the world – the Welsh Highland Railway and lots more!

Fares From £479



Ffestiniog Railway

4 DAYS

DAY 4 Tuesday 1 September

After breakfast we transfer to Bangor station for homeward trains. (B)

Or continue onto the full 8 day Welsh Mega Steam tour as below ...

DAY 4 Tuesday 1 September

Whilst your luggage travels on the bus we hop on and off to photograph steam along the Welsh Highland line before joining the scheduled train service at Porthmadog to Fairbourne, for a steam run along the sand dunes. We then continue by train to Machynlleth and onwards by coach to Aberystwyth University. In the evening we take the Aberystwyth Cliff Railway 'funicular' to enjoy an evening meal at a quality restaurant at the top of the cliff. (B,D)



Snowdon Mountain Railway

© Crown copyright (2013) Visit Wales



Welsh Highland Railway

© Welsh Highland Railway

DEPARTS

Saturday 29 August 2015

FARES

FARE REGION	FIRST	STANDARD
London: Euston	£669	£559
Greater London	£725	£579
South of England	£725	£579
East Anglia	£765	£605
South West	£749	£619
Heart of England	N/A	£569
Midlands	N/A	£529
Yorkshire	N/A	£569
North East	N/A	£599
North West	N/A	£535
South Wales	£669	£575
North Wales	N/A	£509
Scotland	£749	£619

Tour Base Fare
(Joining Llandudno Junction / Leave Welshpool) £479

NO Single Room Supplement

3 nights' bed & breakfast, 3 evening meals
Rail travel & seat reservations from your Home station to Tour Base (Standard or First Class)
All excursions & admissions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager
Fares are based on single room en-suite accommodation.

Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

ACCOMMODATION

Bangor University

The tour stays at Bangor University accommodation which is all en-suite and offered as single rooms only. Those travelling together may request adjacent rooms.

Half-Board accommodation, including breakfast and evening meals are served at the University and included in your tour fare.

WELSH MEGA STEAM – MID WALES



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Steam on the whole length of the Vale of Rheidol Railway
- ★ Wonderful seascapes on the historic cliff funicular at Aberystwyth
- ★ Private steam charter at the Corris Railway and workshops tour
- ★ The 'grandad' of preservation – the immortal Talylylyn Railway
- ★ The Bala Lake Steam Railway
- ★ The Welshpool & Llanfair Railway Gala
- ★ A full day rover on the Llangollen Railway to Corwen
- ★ The opportunity to combine with the Welsh Mega Steam – North Wales

DAY 1 Tuesday 1 September

Travelling along the beautiful Mid-Wales line to Machynlleth and onwards to Aberystwyth University. In the evening we take the Aberystwyth Cliff Railway 'funicular' to enjoy an evening meal at a quality restaurant at the top of the cliff. (D)

DAY 2 Wednesday 2 September

The Vale of Rheidol Railway is our base for the morning as we take a return journey over the whole length of the line to Devils Bridge and back to Aberystwyth, experiencing the journey behind one of the line's steam locomotives. Our afternoon features the ever popular visit to the Corris Railway where we have a private steam photographic charter before enjoying a tour of their workshops. In the evening we again take the Aberystwyth Cliff Railway 'funicular' to enjoy our restaurant evening meal. (B,D)

DAY 3 Thursday 3 September

We transfer again today. With luggage stored on our coach we spend the morning visiting the famous Talylylyn Railway, with ample time for our return journey along the whole length of the line from Tywyn Wharf



Talylylyn Railway

Talylylyn Railway

A relaxing 5 day tour featuring SEVEN glorious heritage lines in mid Wales - Including a spectacular cliff-top funicular, the Tallylylyn - the 'Grandad of preservation', and B.R.'s last steam line – the Vale of Rheidol.



Llangollen Railway

© Dave Gibson

to Nant Gwernol before heading off for an afternoon on the Bala Lake Railway with photo run-pasts to end the day. Then it's on to Wrexham University, our home for the next two nights in en-suite rooms. (B,D)

DAY 4 Friday 4 September

After breakfast we depart by coach to the standard gauge Llangollen Steam Railway to enjoy a full day of steam riding the line, including we anticipate the new extension to Corwen. Plus we take a tour of the shed which, with their fine collection of locomotives, has a real "ex British Railways" atmosphere, along with viewing progress on the new-build locomotives. (B,D)

DAY 5 Saturday 5 September

we travel to the Welshpool & Llanfair Railway for their Annual Gala Day with extra activity and visiting engines in steam. This really is a fabulous rural countryside railway as we ride between Llanfair Caereinion and Welshpool behind steam, including tackling the steep Golfa Bank. Plenty of time to see other workings today, including the "vintage" train with Countess and replica Pickering coaches, whilst enjoying repeat journeys along the line, before departing by train from Welshpool at 17.00 hrs to homeward stations. (B)



Welshpool & Llanfair Railway

© David Marsh

Fares From £599

5 DAYS

DEPARTS

Tuesday 1 September 2015

FARES

FARE REGION	FIRST	STANDARD
London: Euston	£789	£679
Greater London	£845	£699
South of England	£845	£699
East Anglia	£885	£725
South West	£869	£739
Heart of England	N/A	£689
Midlands	N/A	£649
Yorkshire	N/A	£689
North East	N/A	£725
North West	N/A	£655
South Wales	£789	£695
North Wales	N/A	£649
Scotland	£869	£739

Tour Base Fare £599

(Joining Machynlleth / Leave Welshpool)

NO Single Room Supplement

4 nights' bed & breakfast, 4 evening meals
 Rail travel & seat reservations from your Home station to Tour Base (Standard or First Class)
 All excursions & admissions as detailed
 Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager
 Fares are based on single room en-suite accommodation.
 Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

ACCOMMODATION

Aberystwyth & Wrexham Universities

The tour stays at University accommodation which is all en-suite and offered as single rooms only. Those travelling together may request adjacent rooms.

Half-Board accommodation, including breakfast and evening meals are included in your tour fare.



SWISS MOUNTAIN STEAM

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Your choice of First or Standard Class rail travel to Switzerland and return
- ★ Shimmering blue lakes, past alpine meadows, up to heavenly skies, by steam train
- ★ Ride the extended Furka Steam Railway – original route of the Glacier Express
- ★ The amazing Brienz Rothorn steam mountain railway
- ★ Chartered steam train up the spectacular Schynige Platte
- ★ Lunch at the Schilthorn summit – James Bond 007 mountain
- ★ Lake Thun cruise & funicular up Harder Kulm
- ★ Coffee & cake at the Panorama Restaurant at Harder Kulm
- ★ Stay in beautiful car-free alpine spa town of Wengen
- ★ Bernese Oberland Pass – offering freedom of the region on your free day

DAY 1

Relax as we take you by high speed train from the bustle of early morning London to Interlaken, then by local train to idyllic Wengen and a welcome evening meal at our hotel. (D)

DAY 2

A day of steam in wonderful mountain scenery on the Brienz Rothorn Railway, Switzerland's oldest steam cog railway. It has climbed Rothorn Kulm (2244m) since 1892 at incredible gradients; the thrilling ride leads to spectacular mountain panoramas. We then cruise Lake Brienz by paddle steamer. (B,D)

DAY 3

Joining a train to Thun, we set sail on Lake Thun towards Interlaken. On arrival we catch the funicular up the Harder Kulm, whose peak boasts magnificent views of lakes and mountains, and a lovely Panorama Restaurant, where we enjoy a welcome coffee and cake. (B,T,D)

DAY 4

Travelling high into the mountains along part of the current Glacier Express route to Realp, where we board a steam train on the Furka Steam Cog Railway along the original 'Glacier Express' route - crossing viaducts, through tunnels and past alpine meadows full of flowers. Marvel at the Rhone glacier viewed



Furka Railway

Switzerland and steam trains - a delightful combination as we take you to the heart of this beautiful country to experience some amazing mountain rail journeys and glorious lake steamer cruises.

Visit www.railtrail.co.uk to view our TOUR FILM of this acclaimed steam holiday.

Fares From **£1595**



Brienz Rothorn Railway

between snow-covered mountain peaks en route to the line's newly extended terminus at Oberwald. (B,D)

DAY 5

A day at leisure allows you to relax in Wengen or maybe use your Bernese Oberland Pass to explore the public transport system of this beautiful region. Most railways are covered in the pass, including the lines to Lucerne and Bern, Switzerland's handsome capital city. Or maybe visit Gstaad on the Golden Pass Line, or use your pass to gain a discount on the Jungfrau Railway. (B,D)

DAY 6

Another special highlight awaits today, as we head for Wilderswil, where we join our private steam charter train up to Schynige Platte through alpine pastures, with great views of the Mönch, Eiger and Jungfrau. (B,D)

DAY 7

One of the most amazing journeys in Switzerland as we travel by train and cable car to the summit of the 'James Bond' mountain – the Schilthorn. Here we have lunch in the revolving restaurant, Piz Gloria from where 200 mountain tops can be viewed including the Eiger and the Jungfrau. (B,L,D)

DAY 8

We return by high speed trains to London, arriving late afternoon. (B)



Piz Gloria restaurant – James Bond mountain

DEPARTS

Wednesday 29 July 2015
Wednesday 12 August 2015
Wednesday 26 August 2015
Wednesday 9 September 2015

8 DAYS

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Switzerland, including Standard Eurostar	£1595
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First Class rail travel to / from Switzerland, Standard Premier Eurostar	£1895
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Single Room Supplement	£95
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7 nights' bed, breakfast, 7 evening meals, 1 lunch, 1 coffee & cake
Eurostar and rail travel to and from Switzerland in the class of your choice
Standard Class 6 Day Bernese Oberland Pass
All excursions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager
Hotel Portage

GUARANTEED FARE

HOTEL

Sunstar Hotel, Wengen

This 4-star hotel is noted for its caring reputation and beautiful setting with panoramic views. It is located in the centre of Wengen - just 200m from the station - a small, car-free spa town situated on a sheltered terrace at over 1300m above sea level, the majestic peaks of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau as a backdrop. Pure mountain air invites sheer relaxation. Enjoy delicious evening meals with choice of main dishes in the lovely restaurant. Leisure facilities include bar, indoor pool, steam bath, sauna and sunbathing lawn. Bedrooms are en-suite, with TV, radio, telephone, safe, hairdryer and free mini-bar (mineral water, soft drinks, fruit juices and beer).

MEININGEN STEAM FESTIVAL & MORE



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Superb mainline steam with Pacific 01 118 Frankfurt - Meiningen
- ★ Visit the world's greatest steam locomotive works festival
- ★ Footplate rides, locos being serviced, turntable in use, etc etc
- ★ Rare steam haulage at Eisenbahnfreunden Wetterau
- ★ Private steam charter at Fortuna Mines Solm
- ★ Private vintage steam tram charter on Darmstadt tram network
- ★ Private steam charter at Frankfurt Feldbahn

DAY 1 Thursday 3 September

We depart London St Pancras International 10.58 hrs (Ebbsfleet 11.15 hrs) by Eurostar to Brussels and by ICE train to Frankfurt arriving 17.30 hrs for a welcome evening meal at the conveniently located Leonardo Hotel close to the main station. (D)

DAY 2 Friday 4 September

After breakfast we travel by regional train to Wetzlar where we transfer by private coach to Solms. Here we enjoy a private steam charter at the former mine's railway, which is now the Grube Fortuna line, with steam locomotive 'Brigadelok' along with numerous photo run-pasts and footplate rides.

After taking lunch at the railway we stay close to Frankfurt in the afternoon with a 3 hour private vintage steam tram charter of Darmstadt which will take us over this extensive tram system concluding in the rush hour! the tram is an Henschel built locomotive with open carriages, great fun. (B,L)



Frankfurt Feldbahn



Darmstadt Steam tram

A wonderful late summer break of great German steam in a variety of gauges! Amazing steam-hauled railway journeys, great photo opportunities and the best Railway Works steam show in Europe!



Meiningen Loco Works

Fares
From
£999

5
DAYS

DAY 3 Saturday 5 September

The big event, as we take a fantastic mainline steam run with Pacific 01 118 and heritage coaches from Frankfurt to Meiningen, where we visit this famous, now unique, railway works on its annual festival day.

This is time-warp time; we tour a traditional railway works with other steam-hauled charters arriving adding to the numerous locomotives on-site in steam and under repair. Guest locos being serviced, turned on the turntable, and other locomotives giving footplate rides, it is simply one of the best steam days to be experienced in this day and age and very reminiscent of loco works open days in the UK of the 1950's & 60's. (B)

DAY 4 Sunday 6 September

A new venue for Railtrail this morning as we travel to the Eisenbahnfreunde Wetterau at Bad Nauheim for a 20 Kms steam excursion to Münzenburg and return with their dainty little Henschel 0-6-0T built in 1904.

Then concluding this excellent tour with a private steaming at one of our favourite venues the Frankfurt Feldbahn, where around 14 steam locomotives will also be specially paraded for photos and a private barbecue. (B,D)

DAY 5 Monday 7 September

We depart from Frankfurt 10.16 hrs and travel via Brussels and then Eurostar to arrive (Ebbsfleet 15.45 hrs) London St Pancras International 16.05 hrs. (B)



Eisenbahnfreunde Wetterau

DEPARTS
Thursday 3 September 2015

FARE	
From London St Pancras International:	
Standard Class rail travel to / from Frankfurt, including Standard Eurostar	£999
First Class rail travel to / from Frankfurt, including Standard Premier Eurostar	£1225
Join & leave tour in Frankfurt	£795
Single Room Supplement	£99
4 nights' bed & breakfast, 2 evening meals (1 is barbecue) and 1 lunch. Standard Class rail travel and seat reservations where available (subject to selected rail travel option) All transfers, excursions and admissions as detailed Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager Fares based upon sharing a twin-bedded en-suite room; single rooms available for a supplement.	
GUARANTEED FARE	
Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.	

HOTEL
Leonardo Hotel Frankfurt City Centre
Situated a short distance from the railway station, city centre and river bank, the hotel has a bar and bistro restaurant and offers bright modern en-suite bedrooms with air conditioning, TV, safe, internet access and hairdryer



Meiningen Loco Works



HARZ MOUNTAINS STEAM - THE JEWEL OF GERMANY

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ First Class rail travel to Germany and return including Standard Premier Eurostar
- ★ Enjoy the famous Harz Mountains steam railway; travel freely with our included 3-day Freedom of Harz Pass
- ★ Traditional 'Hansel & Gretel' towns
- ★ Pastoral landscapes and forests
- ★ Schwebebahn 'dingle-dangle' railway
- ★ Explore the medieval town of Quedlinburg
- ★ Discover Wernigerode's 'fairytale' castle
- ★ 4 star quality hotels in Wuppertal & Wernigerode

DAY 1 Saturday 26 September

By Eurostar to Brussels including light meal and onward by high-speed train to Wuppertal for a welcome evening meal at the InterCity Hotel. (E,D)

DAY 2 Sunday 27 September

An amazing and totally unique journey on Wuppertal's century-old 'space ships' - the Schwebebahn elevated railway - before continuing to historic Wernigerode the capital of the Harz Region, at the foot of the beautiful Harz Mountains. (B,D)

DAY 3 Monday 28 September

We board the bimmel-bahn road train to visit Wernigerode's 'fairytale' castle perched high above the town. The afternoon is yours to stroll at leisure in the gardens, explore the market place and see more of this lovely town. (B,D)

DAY 4 Tuesday 29 September

The sound of the powerful steam locomotive reverberates around the valley sides as we climb steeply, through deep forests, to the summit of Brocken Mountain formerly occupied by 2,000 Russian soldiers and spy cameras overlooking the border to the west. Today, it is a nature reserve and we can enjoy the magnificent views in peace before returning by steam train to Wernigerode. (B,D)



Quedlinburg

© GNTB

A First Class rail holiday to enjoy picturesque towns and villages surrounded by a panoramic range of rocky crags romantic valleys, and fairytale woods - full of folklore, witches and steam trains.



Harz Mountains Railway

Fares From £1095

© Harzer Schmalspurbahnen

DAY 5 Wednesday 30 September

By train to Quedlinburg, for a magical, charming, rural journey by narrow gauge steam train through the romantic Selke Valley to the small spa, hunting lodge town of Alexisbad, beloved by Hitler's generals. After lunch we return by train for a guided walking tour of the UNESCO protected, medieval town of Quedlinburg. (B,L,D)

DAY 6 Thursday 1 October

A day of choice to relax and explore the traditional shops and cafés of Wernigerode, or to use your Harz Mountains Railway Pass and venture further by steam train. Perhaps cross the mountains north-south, with cork screw turns, pastoral plateau landscapes, and deep thick pine forests rich with local folklore of witches, disturbed only by wild boar. (B,D)

DAY 7 Friday 2 October

Bidding farewell to beautiful Wernigerode we return by high speed train via Cologne, Brussels and Eurostar with light meal en route, arriving back in London in the evening. (B,E)



Wernigerode

© GNTB

DEPARTS

Saturday 26 September 2015

7 DAYS

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

First Class rail travel to/from Germany, including Standard Premier Eurostar	£1095
Single Traveller Supplement	£110

6 nights' bed & breakfast, 6 evening meals, 1 lunch Eurostar Standard Premier rail travel with 2 light meals First Class rail travel to & from Germany All transfers, excursions & admissions as detailed Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager Hotel Portage
GUARANTEED FARE

HOTELS

InterCity Hotel, Wuppertal
This city centre, English-speaking, hotel has a pleasant bar and restaurant serving local and international specialities. Modern en-suite rooms include satellite TV, radio, mini-bar and WiFi.

Hotel HKK, Wernigerode
This stylish, English-speaking, hotel is close by the historic Old Town, and features modern, comfortable en-suite rooms. Enjoy culinary delights in the buffet restaurant and relax in the Berliner Ziller bar or Top Fit Club.



Schwebebahn

© GNTB

GOLDEN HARZ ENTHUSIAST STEAM FESTIVAL



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ A unique three days of steam charters with mixed stock and 3 heritage locos.
- ★ More steam than ever before on this superb value tour.
- ★ Special transporter photo train carrying standard gauge waggons
- ★ Travel over the whole of the Harz System with heritage locomotives
- ★ Double headed steam including black Mallet to Nordhausen
- ★ A classic heritage day from Wernigerode to Hasselfelde including the Stiege loop
- ★ Steam & heritage stock up the Harzgerode branch
- ★ Storm to Brocken summit with heritage coaching stock
- ★ We recreate the parallel departure from Alexisbad, which is no longer possible on public days
- ★ Special train charter on the Selkethal with some overtaking en route and photo run-pasts.
- ★ Enjoy your stay in the beautiful historic town of Wernigerode
- ★ Great value tour fare, including HALF BOARD hotel accommodation

DAY 1 Wednesday 14 October

We depart London St. Pancras International 10.58 hrs and travel by Eurostar to Brussels and onwards via Cologne to Bielefeld and the Hotel Bielefeld close by the station. We have a welcome evening meal at a local restaurant (D)

DAY 2 Thursday 15 October

After breakfast we travel by train via Hannover to Wernigerode arriving 12.38 hrs Choose to either have an afternoon at leisure in beautiful Wernigerode town or after depositing luggage at the excellent HKK Hotel we take a steam run up to Drei Annen Hohne before enjoying our first multi-choice buffet evening meal at our hotel. (B,D)

DAY 3 Friday 16 October

We now have three days of steam charters (organised in conjunction with "Friends of HSB") utilising the heritage coaching set, saloon bar car for food and drink, and various freight wagons. The days will feature photo run-pasts, parallel departure, photographic freight, mixed passenger and freight, travel over the whole of the Harz Railway system including both branch lines and an amazing double header to Nordhausen which sees little steam these days. Basically, our Railtrail tour will feature special workings not seen in the normal HSB operation!

Today's special starts with a Rollbockzug - a photo steam charter using the dual gauge transporter waggons carrying standard gauge

Enjoy an intensive all steam action tour featuring a metre gauge private steam charter, mainline steam, heritage railways, superb steam depots, and all at a great value fare.



Harz parallel departure

Fares From £935

6 DAYS

DEPARTS

Wednesday 14 October 2015

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Eurostar	£935
First Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Premier Eurostar	£1235
Single Traveller Supplement	£99

5 nights' bed & breakfast, 5 evening meals
Standard Class rail travel (subject to selected rail travel option) and seat reservations where available
All transfers, excursions and admissions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager
GUARANTEED FARE
Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

HOTELS

B&B Hotel Bielefeld, Bielefeld

Located 200 metres from the station the hotel offers modern bright rooms designed in functional style, featuring a seating area, a flatscreen TV with free Sky channels, and an en suite bathroom. Breakfast is buffet style.

Hotel HKK, Wernigerode

This stylish, 4 star hotel is close by the historic Old Town and offers modern, comfortable rooms, featuring flat-screen TV and radio. Enjoy culinary delights in the buffet restaurant and relax in the bar or sauna, steam bath and Jacuzzi.

DAY 4 Saturday 17 October

A fabulous day today as we board our heritage train, this time hauled by 1914 built Henschel 99 6101 ("Pffif") double heading with a beautiful 100 years old black Mallet as we travel over the whole of the Harzquerbahn line from Wernigerode to Nordhausen before returning as far as Eisfelder Talmühle where we take the Selkethal line along the branch to Hasselfelde including the Stiege loop. As regular participants know there will be many opportunities for photo run-pasts throughout all days. (B,D)

DAY 5 Sunday 18 October

Using the powerful Krupp 99 6001 and heritage stock we head away from Wernigerode back along the Harzquerbahn to Eisfelder Talmühle then heading onto the Selkethal via Alexisbad to travel up the Harzgerode branch before returning to Alexisbad and onwards to the Selkethal terminus at Quedlinburg - thereby completing our travel over the whole of the Harz railway system. A superb day to end a superb steam tour, as we return to Wernigerode by private bus for our farewell evening meal and another convivial evening in this delightful town. (B,D)

DAY 6 Monday 19 October

With an abundance of memories of a fabulous event, we return by train via Hannover and Cologne to London St Pancras International arriving 19.03 hrs (B)



Wernigerode Shed

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Rail travel from London to Belgium and return
- ★ Explore the "Three Valleys Steam Railway Festival" with a two day pass
- ★ Included entry to the Three Valleys Railway Museum in Treignes
- ★ Private photo steam charter on the "Petit Train du Bonheur" – the "Little Train of Happiness"
- ★ Visit to the Tramway Museum at Thuin
- ★ Specially chartered rides on the museum's electric tram and Autorail car
- ★ Tour & Tasting of the Aulne Abbey Brewery
- ★ Tour, tasting and dinner at the Biercée Distillery
- ★ Tour, tasting and dinner at the Chimay Visitor Centre
- ★ Tour, tasting and dinner at the Fagnes Brewery

DAY 1 Thursday 24 September

Travel from London St Pancras International by Eurostar to Brussels. Here we change trains and continue to Charleroi for four nights at the Ibis Hotel. This evening we enjoy dinner in a local restaurant. (D)

DAY 2 Friday 25th September

Our first day begins with a transfer to Rebecq for a leisurely ride on the "Petit train du Bonheur" – the Little Train of Happiness. The track along the River Senne was closed in 1961 and lay dormant until the local owner of a steam locomotive bought the Rebecq station building and began the project of restoring steam to the "Valley of the Birds". We have a private photo steam charter over this 4km 600mm line not previously visited. We follow this charming start to the day with a visit to the Brewery of Aulne Abbey for a tour and tasting. The afternoon continues in Thuin, where we visit the historic Tramway Museum, which houses 30 restored vehicles and preserves a rural route that retraces the history of the world's largest tram network. During our visit we ride on specially arranged electric trams and autorail cars. The day ends at the Distillery of Biercée for a tour, tasting and dinner. (B,D)



Three Valleys Steam Railway

An action-packed Belgian tour featuring two days at the 3 Valleys Steam Festival and much more – vintage trams, the "Little Train of Happiness", visits to a distillery and three Belgian breweries!



Belgian Beer & Steam – a winning combination!

Fares From **£695**

5
DAYS

DEPARTS

Thursday 24 September 2015

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Belgium, including Standard Eurostar	£695
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Single Room Supplement	£120
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4 nights' bed & breakfast, 4 evening meals Eurostar and Belgian rail travel to Charleroi and return All transfers, excursions & admissions as detailed Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager

Fares based upon sharing a twin-bedded en-suite room; single rooms available for a supplement.

GUARANTEED FARE

Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

HOTEL

Ibis Hotel Charleroi

The Ibis Hotel is situated opposite Charleroi Sud railway station, close to the centre of the town. Rooms feature satellite television, air-conditioning and bathrooms with either a tub or shower.

DAY 3 Saturday 26th September

For the first day of the "Three Valleys Steam Festival", we depart Charleroi by train. A day ticket is provided for you to discover the lines at your leisure. A fuller programme will be announced closer to the date, but the themes for this year's event will include first aid, the Red Cross and the work of firemen, plus the reconstruction of a train. In 2014 there were 10 locomotives involved. After a day's exhilarating steam, we meet up for our transfer to Chimay. It is not possible to visit the monastery itself, but we enjoy a tour and dinner at this world-famous Trappist beer's visitor centre. (B,D)

DAY 4 Sunday 27th September

Experience a second day at the "Three Valleys Steam Festival" and perhaps visit the Three Valleys Railway Museum at Treignes, before we meet up again for our final brewery visit. The Brasserie des Fagnes is situated just outside Mariembourg, where we visit the old and modern breweries, taste one of the special brews and enjoy a final relaxing dinner together in the Belgian countryside. (B,D)

DAY 5 Monday 28th September

Leaving Charleroi, our journey home involves a change in Brussels, where we join the Eurostar service to London St Pancras. (B)



Petit Train du Bonheur



Three Valleys Steam Railway

YORKSHIRE DALES RAIL ALE TRAIL



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Discover Harrogate from a hotel just yards from Betty's and other attractions
- ★ Steam to your heart's content at the Keighley & Worth Valley Autumn Gala
- ★ Enjoy Haworth in the heart of Brontë Country
- ★ Spend a day in York to visit the National Railway Museum
- ★ Experience a tour and tasting at the York Brewery
- ★ Steam through the Dales on the Embsay & Bolton Abbey Railway
- ★ Discover Wensleydale on board the preserved Wensleydale Railway
- ★ Get a taste for Yorkshire at the Black Sheep Brewery

DAY 1 Thursday 8th October

Arrive in Harrogate and make your way to the Yorkshire Hotel, situated at the very heart of the town, opposite Betty's Tea Rooms and just a short walk from the shops and the famous Turkish Baths. (D)

DAY 2 Friday 9th October

A short local train journey today takes you through quaint Knaresborough to historic York, which boasts many attractions, not least the Minster, city walls and, of course, the National Railway Museum. After free time to discover the NRM and the city's other attractions, we meet up for a visit to the York Brewery, set within the city walls, where the brewing process is explained on a guided tour, including four tasters of the brewery's products. (B,D)



National Railway Museum



Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

Enjoy a day at the Keighley & Worth Valley Autumn Steam Gala and two other great Yorkshire heritage railways, plus a visit to York and two great breweries. Don't be bitter – hop on!



Embsay & Bolton Abbey Railway

Fares From **£395**

5
DAYS

DAY 3 Saturday 10th October

Today's excursion skirts the Dales as we transfer to Keighley for the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Autumn Steam Gala. An included day ticket allows you to ride the scenic line all day through countryside made familiar through film in the Railway Children, hopping on and off as you please. Why not break off in Haworth, the home of the Brontës, and visit the Parsonage, before we meet up in Keighley for the return journey to Harrogate. (B,D)

DAY 4 Sunday 11th October

A fabulous tour of the Dales awaits today, as we transfer first to Bolton Abbey for a ride on the Embsay & Bolton Abbey Railway along the former Skipton-Ilkley Line to Embsay Station, which was built in 1888. Heading north by coach through the heart of the Yorkshire Dales, we pick up the Wensleydale Railway, a preserved railway servicing locals and tourists alike on a scenic line through Wensleydale that once connected the East Coast Mainline with the Settle & Carlisle. Our circular tour of the Dales then ends in Masham with a tour and tasting at the excellent Black Sheep Brewery. (B,D)

DAY 5 Monday 12th October

We bid "ah'll sithee" to Yorkshire and make our way home. (B)



Taster at York Brewery

DEPARTS

Thursday 8 October 2015

FARES

FARE REGION	FIRST	STANDARD	RC
London: Kings Cross	£550	£485	-£10
Greater London	£600	£505	-£10
South of England	£605	£510	-£15
East Anglia	£610	£515	-£15
South West	£675	£550	-£20
Heart of England	£585	£505	-£10
Midlands	£535	£465	-£10
Yorkshire	N/A	£445	-£5
North East	£535	£490	-£10
North West	N/A	£470	-£5
South Wales	£625	£525	-£10
North Wales	N/A	£490	-£10
Scotland	£600	£515	-£10

Join & Leave at Hotel £395
Single Room Supplement £120
 4 nights' bed & breakfast, 4 evening meals
 Rail travel & seat reservations from your Home Station to Tour Base (Standard or First Class)
 Rail & coach travel, with transfers as described
 All excursions and admissions as detailed
 Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager
 Hotel Portage

HOTEL

The Yorkshire Hotel, Harrogate

Situated right at the centre of "The English Spa", the Yorkshire Hotel is just footsteps away from Betty's, the Spa, the Royal Pump Room, green parkland and other attractions. The hotel boasts a lounge, bar and brasserie, whereas rooms feature tea/coffee making facilities. Railtrail has chosen to include rooms at the front of the hotel, which vary in shape and size, but which feature a view of Harrogate's 'Old Town' and parkland.



SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS STEAM & MALT TRAIL

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Enjoy a day at the Bo'ness & Kinneil Steam Gala
- ★ Explore both branches of the West Highland Line in their autumnal glory
- ★ Experience the spectacular line over Rannoch Moor to Fort William
- ★ Reach Mallaig at the end of the northern branch by Jacobite Steam Train
- ★ Pass through lochs and glens en route to Oban
- ★ Hop across to the Isle of Mull to visit Duart Castle
- ★ Learn about the distilling process and have a 'wee dram' at the Oban and Glengoyne distilleries
- ★ Enjoy a ceilidh at our hotel in Crianlarich at the junction of the two West Highland branch lines

DAY 1 Thursday 22nd October

Arrive in Crianlarich and make your way to our hotel for four nights, the Crianlarich Hotel, just a short walk from the station which serves both branches of the West Highland Line. During your stay there will be two nights' entertainment at the hotel, including a ceilidh on one evening. (D)

DAY 2 Friday 23rd October

After breakfast this morning we rejoin one of the world's greatest railway journeys to head through a region of high moors and wilderness inaccessible by road on the stunning northern branch of the West Highland Line. As you cross Rannoch Moor look out for Corour Station, the highest mainline station in the UK, before our descent to Fort William, overlooked by the mighty Ben Nevis. At Fort William we change onto the final Jacobite Steam Train of the season, which hauls the final leg past Loch Linnhe into breathtaking Glenfinnan and onwards towards Mallaig, with the Small Isles looming tantalisingly close offshore. After free time in Mallaig to sample the local catch, we make the return journey by steam and mainline service to Crianlarich. (B,D)

DAY 3 Saturday 24th October

Lochs, glens, islands and malt await today, as we explore the western branch of the West Highland Line. After yesterday's heather-

The Western Highlands offer amazing colours in Autumn and this special departure promises an action packed few days. Explore both branches of the West Highland Line, visit the Isle of Mull, ride the Jacobite Steam Train to Mallaig, and visit two distilleries for a tour and a 'wee dram'. Not forgetting a day excursion to the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway Steam Gala!

Fares From £445



Jacobite Steam Train

framed wilderness, today is a contrast of quintessential Highland lochs and glens in golden autumn hues. Reaching Oban, we leave the mainland by ferry for the Isle of Mull, where we enjoy a visit to Duart Castle, the proud ancestral home of the Clan MacLean. Returning to Oban, we experience a fascinating tour of the Oban Distillery, culminating in a 'wee dram'. After the return journey past Loch Etive and the appropriately named Loch Awe, relax in our hotel bar with its extensive range of malts. (B,D)

DAY 4 Sunday 25th October

Today our tour reaches its peak with a coach transfer through majestic scenery to the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway Steam Gala. Details of the specific steam trains are yet to be confirmed, but our day rover ticket allows you to hop on and off at your leisure. Our return journey to Crianlarich is punctuated with a visit to the Glengoyne Distillery for a tour climaxing with a tasting of their fine malt. (B,D)

DAY 5 Monday 26th October

Our hotel in Crianlarich bids "Haste ye back," as we make our way home from the majestic autumnal Western Highlands. (B)

DEPARTS

Thursday 22 October 2015

5 DAYS

FARES

FARE REGION	FIRST	STANDARD	RC
London: Euston	£745	£610	-£25
Greater London	£795	£630	-£25
South of England	£800	£645	-£30
East Anglia	£805	£650	-£30
South West	£805	£650	-£40
Heart of England	£695	£585	-£30
Midlands	£655	£570	-£25
Yorkshire	£610	£550	-£20
North East	£575	£530	-£15
North West	£600	£540	-£15
South Wales	£725	£600	-£30
North Wales	£645	£560	-£25
Scotland	£545	£520	-£10
Join & Leave at Hotel	£445		
Single Room Supplement	£60		

4 nights' bed & breakfast, 4 evening meals
 Rail travel & seat reservations from your Home Station to Tour Base (Standard or First Class)
 Rail & coach travel, with transfers as described
 All excursions and admissions as detailed
 Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager
 Hotel Portage



Enjoy finest malt whisky



Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway

HOTEL

The Crianlarich Hotel

Crianlarich is the junction village where the West Highland Line veers northwards and westwards over moors and through glens to the sea. Our hotel sits a short walk from the station, with 36 bedrooms, an AA rosette restaurant and Scottish snug bar – a great place to relax with a malt after a day's exploring.

DRESDEN FESTIVE STEAM



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Stay in the beautiful city of Dresden at this magical time of year
- ★ Superb mainline steam with Pacific Class 01 509 to Prague
- ★ 2nd Mainline steam excursion to beautiful Görlitz in Upper Lusatia
- ★ Fabulous Saxon narrow gauge steam on three famous rural lines: the Zittau, Weisseritzalbahn & Lossnitzdackel
- ★ The final extension of the Weisseritzalbahn to Kipsdorf is due to be re-opened
- ★ Explore the renowned Dresden Christmas Markets
- ★ Dresden Museum of Transport & Altstadt steam depot
- ★ View glorious Saxon countryside & villages off the tourist trail
- ★ An all-rail holiday
- ★ Independent Travel Fare available: arrange own travel to / from Dresden

DAY 1 Wednesday 2 December

We depart London St Pancras International 10.58 hrs by Eurostar to Brussels, and then by ICE train via Frankfurt (18.11 hrs), to Erfurt and the InterCity Hotel adjacent to the station, where we have a welcome evening meal. (D)

DAY 2 Thursday 3 December

After breakfast we travel by regional train to Dresden, arriving 13.30 hrs. We then take an afternoon steam train ride along the Lossnitzgrundbahn - a superb 17kms long, 750mm gauge line with eleven stations between Radebeul and Radeburg and return to enjoy our first night of the Christmas festivities in beautiful Dresden. (B)

DAY 3 Friday 4 December

We begin with a guided tour of Dresden Transport Museum plus the atmospheric steam loco depot at Dresden Altstadt, followed by a return steam ride on the second of our fantastic Saxony narrow gauge lines, up the picturesque Weisser valley currently some 15 kms to Dippoldiswalde but the new extension to Kipsdorf is due to open in time for our visit. Alternatively, you may wish to relax in Dresden and explore other magnificent



Taking on water, Zittau

A stunning winter wonderland tour to the beautiful city of Dresden, combining great steam trains, scenic journeys, enchanting countryside and magical festive markets in wonderful traditional towns.



Winter Steam in Saxony

Fares From **£1199**

7 DAYS

DEPARTS

Wednesday 2 December 2015

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Eurostar	£1199
First Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Premier Eurostar	£1479
Single Room Supplement	£145

6 nights' bed & breakfast, 1 evening meal, 1 light lunch
Standard Class rail travel and seat reservations where available (subject to selected rail travel option)
All transfers, excursions and admissions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager

GUARANTEED FARE

Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

HOTEL

InterCity Hotel, Erfurt

Situated adjacent to the station the hotel has a pleasant bar and restaurant serving local and international specialities. Modern en-suite bedrooms include TV, radio, mini-bar and WiFi.

Ibis Hotel, Dresden

A short stroll from the station, located in the heart of the city near to the historic Old Town, the Ibis hotels are inviting and modern, with comfortable bedrooms, air-conditioning, WiFi access, satellite TV and ensuite bathrooms with shower and hair dryer

attractions such as the stunning rebuilt Frauenkirche, Semper Opera House, Royal Palace, Procession of Princes, Bruehl Terrace, and Zwinger Palace. All these beautiful historic buildings form the magnificent waterfront along the River Elbe, also home to the world's biggest paddle steamer fleet. (B)

DAY 4 Saturday 5 December

Today we have the first of our mainline steam train journeys, with express passenger Pacific locomotive 01 509 hauling our vintage train travelling through the region known as "Saxon Switzerland" where the railway clings to the banks of the River Elbe on its scenic route to Prague in the Czech Republic, for a sightseeing visit to this fabulous historic city at this festive time of year. (B)

DAY 5 Sunday 6 December

Our second mainline steam excursion takes us from Dresden to the eastern most town in Germany - the beautiful town of Görlitz, with its unadorned streets, cobbled market place, and famous art nouveau store (location for the Ralph Fiennes film 'The Grand Budapest hotel') plus of course a very traditional Christmas market in the most traditional of settings. This excursion is again due to be hauled by Pacific steam locomotive 01 509 however an alternative excursion for those wishing to travel behind a different locomotive is being planned. (B)

DAY 6 Monday 7 December

Today you may wish to spend the day Christmas shopping in Dresden, or go on our search for "Steam in the Snow" that takes us to the Polish border for one of Saxony's finest narrow gauge routes - from Zittau to the mountain spa resorts of Oybin and Jonsdorf, which is still very much a public service over the ten mile long route, and includes lunch and an engine shed tour at the junction station of Bertsdorf. (B,L)

DAY 7 Tuesday 8 December

We depart Dresden by train at 08.19 hrs, travelling via Frankfurt (14.00 hrs) and Brussels to arrive London St Pancras International at 19.57 hrs. (B)



Dresden



RHINE VALLEY CHRISTMAS MARKETS & STEAM

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Standard Class travel from London to Germany and return
- ★ 4 nights at the family-run Hotel Pinger in Remagen
- ★ Excursion to Cologne with its five Christmas Markets
- ★ Excursion to Linz & its Christmas Market
- ★ Return journey on the Kasbachtalbahn Railway
- ★ Return journey on the Vulkan Express by steam
- ★ Visit to Ahrweiler Christmas Market

DAY 1

We depart London St Pancras by Eurostar, speeding across Kent and towards France. Our Eurostar terminates at Brussels, where we change onto a high-speed train into Germany. Our hotel for four nights is the Hotel Pinger in the Rhine riverside village of Remagen. (D)

DAY 2

Today we travel to Cologne by train to visit its Christmas Markets. In the weeks before Christmas Cologne's squares are transformed into a sea of festive colour. From the station it is a short walk to Cologne's Gothic masterpiece cathedral, which overlooks the Christmas Market at the Dom, the largest Christmas tree in the Rhineland and over 100 stalls selling wooden toys, hearty food, warming drinks and a myriad of Christmas decorations. A short walk further is the Christmas Market at the Alter Markt in the Old Town amidst pretty squares and Cologne's famous brewery taverns. If you would like to venture further afield, a local road train connects you to Cologne's other markets, including the 'Market of Angels' at Neumarkt and the Rudolphplatz Christmas Market at Hahnenort, one of the old city gates. On the bank of the Rhine, close to the Chocolate Museum, is the Maritime Christmas Market with a nautical theme. (B,D)

DAY 3

This morning we take the train along the Rhine to Brohl, where we join the Brohltalbahn. Otherwise known as the Vulkan Express, the line meanders up through the Brohl Valley into the Eifel Hills, whose dramatic rock formations

Hot chestnuts, almonds, glühwein – Germany's Christmas Markets are a taste sensation. Explore Cologne's varied markets, the quaint smaller markets of Linz and Ahrweiler, and explore the Rhine Valley by rail, including the Vulkan Express by steam!

Fares From £495



Vulkan Express by Steam

© C. Lewis

5 DAYS

DEPARTS

Thursday 26 November 2015
Thursday 10 December 2015

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Eurostar	£495
Single Room Supplement	£70

4 nights' bed & breakfast, 4 evening meals
Eurostar Standard Class rail travel
Standard Class rail travel to Remagen and return
All transfers, excursions & admissions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager

GUARANTEED FARE

Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

HOTEL

Hotel Pinger, Remagen

Conveniently situated for Remagen's centre and its railway station, yet just a short stroll from the Rhine Promenade, the family-run Hotel Pinger is very much the hub of this small Rhineland town. The hotel boasts a traditional restaurant, bar and coffee shop and has been family owned for three generations.

were created during a period of volcanic activity. The railway has recently reintroduced steam to the line and today's steam-hauled journey leads us to the village of Oberzissen. Returning to Brohl by steam, we continue by scheduled service through the Ahr Valley, an enclave of red-wine production, en route to the pretty walled-town of Ahrweiler. Here we enjoy free time at Ahrweiler Christmas Market, beautifully situated amidst the Old Town with traditional goods and tasty delights galore. (B,D)

DAY 4

Travelling southwards along the Rhine to Koblenz, the town at the river's confluence with the Moselle, we switch to the river's right bank. At Linz-am-Rhein we enjoy another quaint little Christmas Market, set within the half-timbered buildings of the Old Town, offering a timeless atmosphere and the wonderful aromas of Germany during Advent. From Linz we join the heritage Kasbachtalbahn Railway, whose 1950s Uerdinger Railbus transports us to the 'Old Brewery' and another festively adorned Christmas Market. (B,D)

DAY 5

Leaving Remagen, we change trains onto the high speed line in Cologne. In Brussels we join the Eurostar service to London St Pancras. (B)



Linz at Christmas



Kasbachtalbahn

© Carl Otto Ames



Cologne Market

FESTIVE HARZ STEAM & THE KAISER'S CARRIAGE



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Standard Class travel from London to Germany and return
- ★ Specially chartered journey on Kaiserwagen on Wuppertal's 'dingledangle' railway
- ★ Free time at Wernigerode's lovely Christmas Market
- ★ Action-packed steam-hauled journey up the Brocken Mountain
- ★ Excursion to UNESCO World Heritage Goslar with its Christmas Market

DAY 1 Monday 14 December

We depart London St Pancras by Eurostar, speeding across Kent and towards France. Our Eurostar terminates at Brussels, where we change onto a high-speed train into Germany. Our hotel for one night is the InterCity Hotel Wuppertal. (D)

DAY 2 Tuesday 15 December

Wuppertal is well-known throughout journey for its unique 'Schwebbahn' suspended railway, which floats high above the River Wupper. The railway dates from the early 1900s and prior to its opening Kaiser Wilhelm II made a test run with his wife Auguste Viktoria from Elberfeld to Vohwinkel. We enjoy a nostalgic journey in the specially chartered Kaiserwagen's beautiful red carriage. Rejoining the German rail network, we continue to Hanover and onwards to Wernigerode, where our hotel for three nights is the HKK Hotel. (B,D)

DAY 3 Wednesday 16 December

Today we enjoy an exhilarating ride aboard the Brockenbahn, a steam-hauled journey



Harz Railway

© Chris Lewis



Wernigerode Christmas Market

Imagine the sweet aroma of chestnuts, almonds and spicy, warming gluhwein amidst the half-timbered picturebook squares of Wernigerode and Goslar - a perfect pre-Christmas backdrop. And not forgetting a mountain steam adventure and a journey aboard the Emperor's Carriage!



Harz Steam Snow

Fares From **£675**

5 DAYS

DEPARTS

Monday 14 December 2015

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Germany, including Standard Eurostar	£675
Single Traveller Supplement	£80

4 nights' bed & breakfast, 4 evening meals
Eurostar Standard Class rail travel
Standard Class rail travel to Wernigerode and return
All transfers, excursions & admissions as detailed
Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager

GUARANTEED FARE

Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

HOTEL

InterCity Hotel, Wuppertal

The InterCity Hotel puts you right in the centre of Wuppertal, close to the main station and just a short walk from the Schwebbahn.

HKK Hotel Wernigerode

This stylish 4 star hotel is close to the historic Old Town and features modern, comfortable en-suite rooms. Enjoy culinary delights in the buffet restaurant and relax in the Berliner bar.

DAY 4 Thursday 17 December

Our excursion by regional railway takes us to the historic and charming town of Goslar. At any time of year Goslar, with its imperial heritage and gorgeous Old Town, is worth a visit. With more than 1,500 half-timbered buildings, Goslar deserves its UNESCO World Heritage status. However, in the weeks leading up to Christmas, the town hosts one of northern Germany's best Christmas Markets in one of the most beautiful surroundings. (B,D)

DAY 5 Friday 18 December

Leaving Wernigerode, we change trains in Hanover and Cologne. In Brussels we join the Eurostar service to London St Pancras. (B)



Kaiser's Carriage

© Chris Lewis



Goslar



BLACK FOREST NEW YEAR STEAM & MORE

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Steam through the heart of the Black Forest on the Zollernbahn steam line
- ★ Enjoy a second day of Black Forest steam on the Three Lakes Line, climbing from Titisee lake-side to almost 1000m
- ★ Introductory tour of historic Freiburg aboard a private charter vintage tram
- ★ Celebrate New Year's Eve in attractive Freiburg
- ★ Optional tour to French National Railway Museum, Mulhouse or freetime in Freiburg
- ★ Visit Aachen with its stunning cathedral
- ★ Explore the 'Millions Line' by steam
- ★ Enjoy free time in pretty Maastricht

DAY 1 Monday 28 December

We depart London St Pancras International by Eurostar to Paris, and then by high speed train via Mannheim to Freiburg im Breisgau an attractive city and gateway to the Black Forest and a welcome evening meal at the conveniently located Novotel hotel. (D)

DAY 2 Tuesday 29 December

We commence our stay with an introductory tour of the city in our privately chartered vintage tram. Afterwards you can choose to either enjoy the day in beautiful Freiburg, taking the funicular railway that connects the city with the Schlossberg Hill to enjoy the spectacular views, visit the Old Town and the Gothic Minster or join your tour Manager on an optional rail excursion (fares payable locally) to visit the French National Railway Museum at Mulhouse. (B,D)

DAY 3 Wednesday 30 December

Today we have the first of our mainline Black Forest steam train journeys, Organised by the Zollernbahn, our train steams through the heart of the Black Forest on the scenic Schwarzwaldbahn route, famed for its tunnels. We travel from Triberg to St Georgen and onto Hausach. Here we have free time



Freiburg

© FWTM / Raach

Enjoy a special New Year tour as we steam through glorious Black Forest scenery in its magical winter setting with New Years Eve celebrations in beautiful Freiburg and a steamy sojourn in Holland.



Lake Titisee Steam

Fares
From
£1250

7
DAYS

to admire the model railway version of the Schwarzwaldbahn, before retracing our tracks to Triberg. (B,D)

DAY 4 Thursday 31 December

Our second mainline steam excursion takes in the high Black Forest Line between Titisee and Seebrugg, known as the 'Three Lakes Railway' as it steams past the lakes Titisee, Windgfallweiher and Schluchsee on a 19km stretch. One of southern Germany's most scenic lines, it reaches an altitude of almost 1,000 metres at its highest point. Back in Freiburg, we enjoy New Year's Eve dinner and entertainment, before Freiburg's sky is illuminated by fireworks at midnight. (B,D)

DAY 5 Friday 1 January

Bidding farewell to the Black forest region we again travel in comfort and relaxation aboard our Inter City express train to Koln (Cologne) and onwards by regional train across the border into Belgium and the city of Aachen for a welcome evening meal at the Ibis Hotel (B,D)

DAY 6 Saturday 2 January

Our rail excursion takes us across the border into the Netherlands province of Limburg, where we join the 'Millions Line'. Originating from the early 20th century, the line gets its name from the cost of laying tracks between Valkenburg and Kerkrade – a million guilders per kilometre! Today, steam and railcar excursions operate the line. We enjoy a return steam journey from Valkenburg to Simpelveld.

On the return journey you have the option of spending some free time in Maastricht, the pretty town on the River Meuse. Back in Aachen, why not visit the cathedral, the resting place of the Emperor Charlemagne, who made Aachen his capital. (B,D)

DAY 7 Sunday 3 January

We conclude this fabulous tour with a leisurely morning sightseeing in Aachen, perhaps visiting the beautiful cathedral, before departing by train to Brussels for our Eurostar to London St Pancras International arriving late afternoon. (B)

DEPARTS

Monday 28th December 2015

FARE

From London St Pancras International:

Standard Class rail travel to / from Freiburg, including Standard Eurostar	£1250
First Class rail travel to / from Freiburg, including Standard Premier Eurostar	£1475
Single Traveller Supplement	£175

6 nights' bed & breakfast, 6 evening meals including New Year's Eve Celebratory Dinner
Standard Class rail travel and seat reservations where available (subject to selected rail travel option)
All transfers, excursions and admissions as detailed Services of experienced Railtrail Tour Manager

GUARANTEED FARE

Important Note: Whilst the arrangements for all described steam train travel are in place we do reserve the right to make substitutions should it be deemed necessary for whatever reason. Your acceptance of this is a condition of your booking.

HOTEL

Novotel Freiburg

A short stroll from the station and Freiburg's Old Town, the 4* Novotel sits next to the city's concert hall. Rooms are comfortably furnished and feature free wifi. The inviting spa area boasts a sauna and a heated indoor pool.

Ibis Aachen Marschierort

Conveniently situated between Aachen's railway station and city centre, the Ibis has a restaurant and bar. Rooms are en-suite with shower and feature flat screen tv, hairdryer and desk.



Black Forest steam in the snow

© J. Wieg