

In Hannibal's Footsteps (Day by Day)

Day 1: Flight from Australia to Valencia via Madrid *or* Barcelona (3 nights at the Westin Hotel)

Day 2: 1st Seminar (*Introduction and Overview*) and **Welcome Dinner**

Day 3: Tour Valencia and Segunto. In Valencia visit the old city and the fabulous City of Arts and Sciences (designed by Calatrava). Whilst in Segunto, we visit the ancient stronghold of Seguntum (scene of the battle between Hannibal and the Romans), the Castello di Seguntum and the Roman Theatre.

Day 4: 2nd Seminar (*The Punic Wars*) and train to Barcelona (2 nights in the Hotel Arts), performance in evening at Gran Teatre del Liceu. (Free time in afternoon)

Day 5: 3rd Seminar (*The Carthaginians*) and touring Barcelona: including La Casa Batlló, Museu Marítim de Barcelona, the Picasso Museum and the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (Iberia at time of Punic Wars)

Day 6: Train to Aix-en-Provence and free afternoon (4 nights in the Villa Gallici)

Day 7: 4th Seminar (*Hannibal on the Rhone*) and touring Arles. In Arles we will spend the day touring the famous Roman Amphitheatre, vast underground granary, baths etc, the Alyscamp (ancient burial grounds) etc. As well we will visit places associated with Van Gogh.

Day 8: Touring the Camargue (where Hannibal began his expedition), Aigues Mortes (medieval, defensive, walled town) and Nimes (Pont du Gard aqueduct, Roman arena). A barbecue lunch will be arranged at a horse-riding establishment in Aigues Mortes after guests have had an opportunity to experience the flora and fauna of the Camargue from horseback. (Note also: bull fights are held in the Nimes Arena - need to check and see if one is scheduled while the group is in the area)

Day 9: 5th Seminar (*Crossing the Alps*) and touring Avignon, another area passed by Hannibal. Here we will visit the Palace of the Popes and other important sites.

Day 10: Coach to Sisteron (1 night in the Le Bonne Etape Chateau-Arnoux) We follow the River Durance to Sisteron, travelling through villages like Manosque, made famous in literature. This is the route chosen by Hannibal.

Day 11: Coach from Sisteron to Quillestre (1 night Hotel Les Barnieres): this journey of a couple of hours will follow the route of Hannibal, allowing time for a walk into the Combe du Queryas, which Hannibal was tricked into entering.

Day 12: Coach, crossing into Italy to Alba (2 nights in the Castello di Santa Vittoria). We cross into Italy close to the Col de la Traversette, where Hannibal crossed the Alps. Journey will take about 3 hours with lunch at Molines.

Day 13: 6th Seminar (*The story of the truffle*) and a tour of Piedmont. We will have a tour of the country where the famous Alba truffles are found, enjoying a culinary experience at dinner.

Day 14: Coach to Florence (3 nights in the Villa Medici) - free afternoon

Day 15: A selective tour of Florence and the 7th Seminar (*Hannibal's victories in Italy*). Today will allow for optional tours. For those who have not visited Florence, a specialised tour of the key sites will be arranged. For others, a tour will be organised that follows the adventures of the 'Marshall of Florence', a fictional character made famous by the author Magdalen Nabb.

Day 16: **Options:** A tour of Siena and San Gimignano **or** Assisi (basilica and Giotto frescoes)

Day 17: Train to Rome (3 nights in the Hassler or Excelsior hotels) - free afternoon in Rome

Day 18: **Optional tours of Rome:** Ancient Rome, Renaissance Rome or The Vatican.

Day 19: 8th Seminar (*Hannibal and Rome*) Optional tours repeated

Day 20: Flight to Tunis - (2 nights in The Residence hotel) Tour of Carthage and the Bardo Museum and the final, 9th Seminar, (*Conclusions and Quizzes*)

Day 21: Optional all day tour by coach to Essakia, the site of the Battle of Zama and important WW2 battles **OR** a tour of Tunis, including the Souk. **Final dinner** will be held in The Residence.

Day 22: Flight to Australia via Rome