

# EXPLORE!

## TRIP NOTES



### Prague to Meissen by Bike (CCZ 2017)



TRIP DURATION  
**8**  
DAYS



**Tour Style:** Classic  
**Accommodation**  
**Grade:** Standard

**Tour Type:** Small Groups  
**Cycling Grade:** Easy

**Trip Code:** CCZ

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## Trip Highlights - Prague to Meissen by Bike

- ✓ Prague - Wander the streets and soak up the atmosphere in one of Europe's most beautiful cities
- ✓ Cycling the Elbe Valley - Relaxing cycling on attractive river-side cycle paths
- ✓ Terezin - Historic fortress and World War II Nazi concentration camp
- ✓ Saxon Switzerland - Bike through sandstone gorges and wooded valleys
- ✓ Dresden - Traffic-free arrival into the heart of Germany's finest Baroque city
- ✓ Litomerice and Pirna - Attractive and characterful market towns, built around wide, cobbled squares
- ✓ Meissen - Medieval town famed for its porcelain

## Trip Essentials

**Accommodation:** 7 nights Standard Hotel

**Included Meals:** 7 breakfasts, 0 lunches, 0 dinners

**Start Point:** Join trip: Prague

**End Point:** Trip ends: Prague

**Included Bike:** 21 gear Bird custom hybrid bike.

Electric bikes (e-bikes) are available for an additional cost for the duration of the holiday (£105). You will be required to pay a refundable deposit upon collection of the e-bike in country. Please contact us for more details or to request your e-bike.

**Transport:** Bus, Bicycle

**Countries:** Czech Republic, Germany

## Prague to Meissen by Bike

Explore this ancient landscape as we cycle through the basalt hills of the Czech Republic to the sandstone canyons of 'Saxon Switzerland'. The Vltava and Elbe Rivers meander throughout this delightful region and link some of central Europe's finest historic towns and cities. Along the way we visit the fortress town of Terezin and explore the beautiful Czech capital of Prague.

### Why Book this trip

Unlike many other operators, we include the hire of your bike in the overall cost of the holiday: you don't need to bring your own or pay extra to hire one locally. We also provide a support vehicle, spare parts and take care of day to day bike maintenance. All you need bring is your own helmet.

### Cycling Information

On this trip we cycle 229 km over five days (an average of 46 km per day). The terrain is mostly flat with several short uphill sections, generally when ascending out of river valleys. We mostly follow well maintained asphalt riverside cycle paths (70%), with short sections on gravel tracks and minor roads. A support vehicle carries our luggage from point to point throughout but cannot escort the rides along the cycle paths. We have graded the route as easy.

### Suitability

We've given each of our tours a comfort rating and a tour pace, walking or cycling grade to give you a general idea about the level of activity on each tour and the standard of accommodation you will be staying in at the end of your day's adventure.

Often you'll stay in different styles of accommodation during your tour; so we make an average rating across the entire tour. For more information on where you'll stay each night, please refer to the day by day tour itinerary.

### Accommodation Grade: Standard

Our mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en-suite facilities.

### Tour Style: Classic

Packed with adventure, these tours offer inspiring destinations and authentic travel experiences at a reasonable price. Using all kinds of transport and accommodation, we'll take you off the beaten track to discover the true heart of the people and places you visit.

### Cycling Grade: Easy

Suitable for cyclists who enjoy easy and relatively short rides on flat or gently undulating terrain. Ideal if you simply want to explore a region by bike at a relaxed pace.

## Your trip itinerary

### Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested.

### Your Tour Leader

An Explore Leader is an integral part of any Explore trip and your trip will be led by one of our experienced Explore Leaders who have been handpicked and expertly trained. We believe that our Explore Leaders are the key to the success of our trips; they are passionate travellers who are bursting with first-hand local knowledge which they love to share. Your Explore Leader will also take care of all the planning and organisation throughout your journey. Their passionate approach will make this trip fun and inspiring, bringing the destination to life whether you're travelling alone or with others.



## DAY 1 Join trip in Prague

We join our trip in Prague, a city of superlatives, once described as the most beautiful city in the world it straddles the Vltava River, its relaxed charm at once evident. Twelve centuries have adorned it with a labyrinth of old streets, wonderful palaces and bridges and architectural styles which cover everything from the Medieval through to Art Nouveau. This is a city that has, over the centuries, echoed to some of Europe's most dramatic events, from the Thirty Years War to the 'Velvet Revolution' that finally saw the end of communist rule, and the past centuries have left an indelible mark on the city, one that UNESCO has recognised as a jewel of cultural heritage.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

 **Included Meals:** None

## DAY 2 Cycle to Melnik via the 'Garden of Bohemia'

Taking to the saddle after breakfast this morning we begin our journey by following the river towards the rolling landscape of the 'Garden of Bohemia'. Travelling across a countryside of undulating hills our destination for today is the small town of Melnik, located on a hill above the confluence of the Vltava and Elbe rivers. This is the centre of Bohemia's wine growing region and the town lies in the shadow of the impressive church of SS Peter and Paul and the magnificent adjoining chateau, which dates from the 16th and 17th centuries (The original castle was destroyed by Swedish troops during the Thirty Years War). ( Our total cycling distance today is approximately 50 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 3 Pedal to Litomerice stopping to visit the vast Terezin fortress

Crossing over the Elbe we cycle along the left bank, towards the town of Roudnice, where we stop for lunch. A small town built on the banks of the Elbe, Roudnice nestles around its impressive Baroque castle. We then continue to the vast fortress town of Terezin, which was built in the 18th century but achieved notoriety during World War II under the Nazis, who turned the town into a Jewish ghetto and the fortress into a concentration camp. Today the fortress remains a memorial to those atrocities, with a symbolic cemetery in front of the main entrance. A short distance from Terezin lies the town of Litomerice, our final destination for today, whose wide market square contains a number of attractive Baroque and Renaissance buildings. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 41 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 4 Ride through wooded valleys, rolling hills and along the river via Strekov Castle to Decin

We begin the day with a walking tour of Litomerice, including a chance to climb the chalice-shaped tower of the Town Hall, with its panoramic views of the town and valley. Taking to our bikes we return to the river and wind our way through a wooded valley, where rolling hills tumble down to the river. High above looms the mysterious castle of Strekov, standing on a precipitous basalt crag high above the river, a setting that proved irresistible to many of the great Czech Romantics as well as the German composer Richard Wagner, whose visit to the castle in 1842 inspired his great opera Tannhauser. We stop for lunch near the town of Usti nad Labem, then cycle past the Neo-Renaissance chateau of Velke Brezno en route to Decin, our overnight stop close to the German border. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 48 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 5 Cross into Germany, visit the impressive Konigstein fortress and continue on to Pirna

Taking riverside cycle paths out of Decin we head for the German border, crossing close to the spa towns of Schilka and Bad Schandau. We continue west, passing bizarre sandstone cliffs and rock formations as we head for the impressive fortress of Konigstein, the largest fortification in Europe. Dramatically located 240 metres above the Elbe on a high plateau, we have panoramic views from the ramparts over the surrounding countryside. Continuing through the rocky terrain of Sachsische Schweiz (Saxony's Switzerland) we reach Pirna, a small market town just to the south of Dresden. Small restaurants and bars spill out onto Pirna's attractive, cobbled town square, which is also overlooked by the castle and church tower. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 44 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**



 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 6 Cycle via Dresden to Meissen

Our last day's cycling is arguably the most exciting, as we follow a route from Pirna past sandstone hills and through beautiful riverside meadows to the city of Dresden, the 'Florence of the North' as this Saxon capital was once known. Our journey takes us past the restored Pilnitz Castle, once the summer retreat of Saxon royalty, and the so-called 'Blue Wonder', Germany's first suspension bridge dating from 1893. As we approach Dresden the riverside mansions become ever more impressive and grandiose, until one final bend reveals the city's famous skyline of domes and towers (all re-built following the devastating allied bombing raids of World War II). We plan to stop in Dresden for lunch and enjoy some time exploring the Old Town on foot. The city boasts a remarkable collection of fine buildings, including the Zwinger Palace, the Semper Opera House, the Royal Palace and the Cathedral. Later we continue our journey along the river through rich winelands to the lovingly preserved town of Meissen. Famed for its porcelain and dominated by the magnificent medieval fortress of Albrechtsburg and the adjoining Meissen Cathedral, the town is the perfect place to end our journey and perhaps enjoy a celebratory glass or two of the local produce. Our total cycling distance today is approximately 46 kilometres

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 7 Drive to Prague; afternoon walking tour

This morning we return to Prague by bus, a journey of about 2.5 hours. After checking into our hotel we have an afternoon walking tour of the Czech capital. Among the many points of interest are the Old Town Square and City Hall with its Astronomical Clock, set amid centuries-old houses and arcades. We walk across Charles Bridge, the oldest and most handsome of Prague's many bridges, and visit Hradcany (the Castle District) with its Gothic cathedral, immense castle walls and beautiful views over the city skyline.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**  
**Single Room Available**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 8 Trip ends in Prague

The trip ends in Prague this morning after breakfast.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## Accommodation and Meals

### Accommodation Notes

Standard - Our mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en-suite facilities.

### Food & Drink

Included meals: 7 breakfasts, 0 lunches, 0 dinners included in the price of this trip. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals. Please note that costs for drinks and meals can vary depending on location.

## Budgeting for your Trip

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the trip price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

### Food

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

### Czech Republic

**Lunch £:** 8.00

**Dinner £:** 12.00

## Germany

**Lunch £:** 8.00 - 10.00

**Dinner £:** 18.00

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## Drink

The prices for drinks can vary greatly depending upon location and the prices detailed below are an average guide. In general you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or local bar to be less expensive, whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive.

## Czech Republic

**Bottle of Beer £:** 1.50

**Water £:** 1.00

## Germany

**Bottle of Beer £:** 3.00

**Water £:** 1.30

## Other Sightseeing & Activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

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## Optional Excursions

Melnik- Wine tasting GBP 4, Castle GBP 2, Ossuary GBP 1.50

Konigstein- Fortress GBP 10

Dresden- Allow a few pounds for entrance fees if you wish to visit sights during your free time in the city

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## Tipping - Tour Leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Explore Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

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## Tipping - Local Crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Explore Leader may organise a group tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the trip. Accordingly you should allow approximately £20 for tipping.

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## Foreign Exchange

### Czech Republic

**ATM Availability:** Most major towns

**Credit Card Acceptance:** Most major credit cards are accepted, but ask first

**Travellers Cheques:** Can be exchanged at banks and exchange shops

**Local Currency:** Euros; Czech Koruna

**Recommended Currency for Exchange:** British Pounds Sterling and US Dollars are readily exchanged

**Where to Exchange:** In most major towns. Your Tour Leader will advise you on arrival. When exchanging money always keep your receipts for changing the money back

### Germany

**ATM Availability:** ATMs are readily available throughout Germany.

**Credit Card Acceptance:** Most major credit cards are accepted, but ask first.

**Travellers Cheques:** Can be exchanged at banks and exchange shops.

**Local Currency:** Euro

**Recommended Currency for Exchange:** GBP and USD are readily exchanged.

**Where to Exchange:** We recommend that you change any currency into Euros prior to arrival. Bureau de Change are generally only found in major cities and large airports.

## Joining your Trip

### Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

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## Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found on our website at [www.explore.co.uk](http://www.explore.co.uk), in the tour specific dates and prices section.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer. For more information please refer to <https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers>.

## Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer please refer to <https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers>.

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## Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

## Important Information

### Travel Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

**EXPLORE!**  
The Adventure Travel Experts

CAMPBELL IRVINE  
DIRECT TRAVEL INSURANCE



Travel Insurance is essential. If you have not already arranged cover, please contact our recommended Travel Insurance providers [www.campbellirvinedirect.com/Explore](http://www.campbellirvinedirect.com/Explore) who offer Travel Insurance specifically designed to cover travel with Explore or call **Campbell Irvine Direct** on Tel: 020 7938 1734

Explore Worldwide is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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## Travel Aware

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice follow the link at [www.explore.co.uk/travel-safety](http://www.explore.co.uk/travel-safety)

We strongly advise that you register with the FCO to receive updates to the travel advice for your chosen destination. A hard copy of the current FCO Travel Advice for your chosen destination is available by contacting [cr@explore.co.uk](mailto:cr@explore.co.uk) or 01252 379438.

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## Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

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## Visa Information

Czech Republic: Visas are not required by EU, US, Australia, New Zealand and Japanese citizens. Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office. Please note that you should carry your passport with you at all times when in Czech Republic for identification purposes as police officers may fine you or arrest you if you fail to do so.

Germany: Visas are not required by EU, US, Australia, New Zealand and Japanese citizens.

Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See [www.travcour.com](http://www.travcour.com) to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on **0208 5431846**.

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## Vaccinations & Protection

### Czech Republic

Nothing compulsory but we recommend protection against tetanus, diphtheria, hepatitis A, typhoid and polio. Tick-borne encephalitis is recommended by some medical sources if travelling in certain areas of Eastern Europe, at specific times of the year. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at <http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/> and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed before departure.

### Germany

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against tetanus, polio and hepatitis A. Tickborne encephalitis is recommended by some medical sources if travelling in certain areas of Europe, at specific times of the year. Check latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at <http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/> and from your local healthcare provider.

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## Preparing for your Trip

### DAILY DISTANCES

Day 2	50km
Day 3	41km
Day 4	48km
Day 5	44km
Day 6	46km

### Bike Details

Your included bike is a 21 gear Bird custom hybrid bike and will be the correct frame size for your height. A 40 litre pannier and water bottle holder are included as well as the facility to fit your own pedals or saddle if you wish to bring them. A support vehicle carries the luggage from point to point but cannot always access the cycle routes. We provide spare parts and take care of the day to day maintenance. All you need to bring is your own helmet.

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## Climate

### Czech Republic

The Czech Republic has a temperate continental climate, with relatively hot summers and cold, cloudy and snowy winters. Most rain falls during the summer. The temperature difference between summer and winter is relatively high, due to the landlocked geographical position.

### Germany

Germany has a variable climate with frequent changes of weather from day to day. Expect a contrast of warm summer days with the possibility of showers at any time.

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## Clothing

Pack generally for warm to hot conditions. A windproof and waterproof garment is needed as rain can fall at any time during the season. Take a fleece or warm sweater, particularly for departures early and late in the season. Summer cottons or medium weights in spring and autumn.



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## Equipment

On all Explore cycle holidays we strongly recommend you bring along and wear your cycle helmet. In case of an accident resulting in personal injury, certain insurance policies are invalidated in cases where a helmet was not being worn. Cycle glasses to protect against dust, pollen and the sun, padded cycle gloves and a water bottle or water delivery system (e.g. camelback or platypus) are also useful. You may choose to bring your own gel seat cover for added comfort. If a handle bar bag or pannier is not provided (check bike details) then you may like to bring a small rucksack to wear while cycling. Other items to consider bringing are a sunhat and sun cream, torch, earplugs and insect repellent. Please carry some or all of your cycling equipment e.g. helmet as part of your hand luggage.

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## Footwear

If you are not bringing cycle shoes then try to bring stiff-soled shoes as these are better for cycling - transmitting your energy into the pedals more efficiently. This becomes more relevant and recommended the more demanding the grade and distances to cover. SPD cycle shoes are not well suited to trip that combine sightseeing with cycling. Comfortable shoes, trainers, sandals or flip flops are useful when not on the bike.

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## Luggage: On Tour

We recommend you bring a daypack and one main piece of luggage in a soft rucksack or holdall (total allowance: 44lb/20kg) which will be transported between hotels while you cycle. Not a framed rucksack or suitcase. Check the bike details section to see if a pannier or handlebar bag is provided on the bike.

Luggage allowance on trip: 20kg

## General Information

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### Country details

#### Czech Republic

**Population:** 10,535,811

**Size of Country:** 78,866 sq km

**Major Language:** Czech

**Religion:** Mainly Christian

**Time Difference to GMT:** +1

#### Germany

**Population:** 81,799,600

**Size of Country:** 357,021 sq km

**Major Language:** German

**Religion:** Christian

**Time Difference to GMT:** +1

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### Electric Supply & Plugs

#### Czech Republic

2 Pin Round

#### Germany

2 Pin Round

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## Why Choose Explore

We've been creating award-winning pioneering adventure holidays for over 30 years, earning the trust of thousands of delighted customers, who feel safe in our hands. Our tour leaders have expert local knowledge and our tours are designed to take you off the beaten track to see the most exotic, inspiring and dramatic places in the world.

- With over 30 years' experience, we are passionate about what we do.
- Pioneering small group adventures, self-guided, private journeys & tailor-made holidays.
- Award winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one of the driving principles of Explore.

Our adventure holidays are full of exciting things to see and do, exploring in small groups travelling by bus, boat, plane, rickshaw, camel, or any number of unusual forms of transport. Often you will stay in family run hotels and village houses and enjoy authentic local cuisine. In this way, it's easy to discover the true heart of the people and the place you travel to - and make some new friends along the way. Each tour is uniquely different, so please feel free to browse through our tours to see what may whet your appetite.

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## Cool Earth

Explore are proud to support Cool Earth in their effort to reduce global carbon dioxide levels through the prevention of deforestation in the South America rainforest. Cool Earth focus on areas in immediate danger of deforestation, supporting local communities to be forest guardians. To date 350,000 acres of rainforest has been protected. Saving rainforest also protects rare animals and plants, allows local forest communities to maintain their way of life, and protects a major source of oxygen and fresh water. When you travel on an Explore holiday we make a donation to Cool Earth that exceeds the impact of our customers flights each year.

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## Earth Matters

We are passionate about sustainable travel and work hard to create tours where your holiday delivers real benefits to the local communities. We minimise our impact by travelling in small groups, respecting local cultures, reducing waste and offsetting 100% of the CO2 from our flights.

When you travel with Explore, you are directly contributing to local economies and helping empower the people you meet. We currently support a range of charities and good causes, including: Toilet Twinning (helping to flush away poverty), Lone Buffalo Foundation (a community project based in Laos providing creative skills for young people) and have recently supported women's cooperatives in Borneo and Morocco. We are a member of Tourism Concern's Ethical Tour Operator Group ([www.tourismconcern.org.uk](http://www.tourismconcern.org.uk)) and support their campaign for fair and ethical tourism. We also care passionately about the world's wildlife and actively support and promote the Born Free Organisation and Mahouts Elephant Foundation.

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## Booking Your Holiday

### Peace of mind - book with confidence

You can book your Explore holiday with confidence, as all monies paid to us for your trip are fully protected. Explore is a fully bonded tour operator licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and by ABTOT.

The air holiday packages (Tours including flights) that we advertise are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 2595. In addition, As a member of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), Explore has provided a bond to meet the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note that packages booked outside the UK are only protected when purchased directly with Explore.

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### Reserving your place

To reserve your place on this tour you will need to check availability on the Explore website or through our dedicated call centre based in the UK where you can. Our tours can fill up quickly so you are advised to book as early as possible. If your chosen date is 'Available' or 'Guaranteed' we will be able to provisionally hold you a space for up to 48 hours.

For Self-Guided holidays and Private Journeys simply choose your date of travel and let us know so we can confirm all ground services.

The easiest way to confirm your booking is through our website. When you are ready to book, we normally require a 10% non-refundable deposit, but for some holidays this may be more to cover such items as permit fees, internal flights or other non-refundable services. If your travel starts within 60 days of booking, full payment will be required at the time of booking

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### 100% No Surcharge Guarantee

The price paid for our holidays is no longer subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges unlike the vast majority of other adventure tour operators. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings departing between 1st January 2016 and 31st December 2017.

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### Trip Itinerary Versions

Itinerary details may vary depending on departure date and alternative itineraries for this tour may exist. Please refer to the dates and prices page on our website to check which itinerary operates on each departure date.

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes.

Please note: 2017 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 2017. 2018/19 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 2018.

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