



The Art & History of Beer Brewing

Join us to visit Oktoberfest and explore the land where craft brewing was born



Take an Unforgettable Journey Across the Land that Made Beer Brewing an Art

People are often surprised to learn that beer brewing predates written human history. In fact, beer is the oldest known prepared beverage – older than wine by nearly 5,000 years – and most historians agree the invention of beer brewing was a stepping stone to the invention of baking bread. The Hebrew Bible mentions beer as one of the provisions with which Noah stocked his ark and the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, written in the 3rd millennium BC, equates drinking beer with becoming a civilized person. Some even argue that beer helped save early civilizations by sparing countless thousands from deadly, water-borne diseases which were prevalent when clean drinking water was unavailable.

It was in Bavaria, however, that beer was elevated from prosaic to extraordinary. For here, in this beautiful southeastern corner of Germany, the monastic communities of the Middle Ages began brewing beer as a means of both sustenance and income. Over time, each of these monasteries developed its own,

unique brews, and it wasn't long before the flocks of faithful began partaking of the free rations that the monks would provide on holy days and after marriage ceremonies. On non-holy days, however, the monks would charge a fee for the beer and they soon found that plenty of customers were ready to pay for their unique libations. In approximately AD 800 the first commercial brewery was established near what is now Munich, Germany, and it wasn't long before an entire industry was born.

This sojourn explores the fascinating and true craft history of beer brewing in the land where it was perfected. It is carefully designed to help participants learn to identify the subtle differences in taste and style that characterize each fine beer. But it is also about much more than that. Because in Bavaria, beer is a fundamental part of the culture so understanding beer brewing here is a key to understanding this land, its history, and its people.



Tour Itinerary Overview

Sept. 25: Tour begins in Munich, Germany
 Sept. 26: Munich—Gräfelfing —Andechs—Ettal—Munich
 Sept. 27: Munich—Aying—Munich
 Sept. 28: Munich—Weltenburg—Nuremburg—Bamberg

Sept. 29: The day is spent in and around Bamberg
 Sept. 30: Bamberg—Bayreuth—Neuhaus—Franking
 Oct. 1: Franking—Obertrum—Salzburg
 Oct. 2: Salzburg—Munich, where the tour concludes

Day to Day Tour Summary

Sunday, September 25

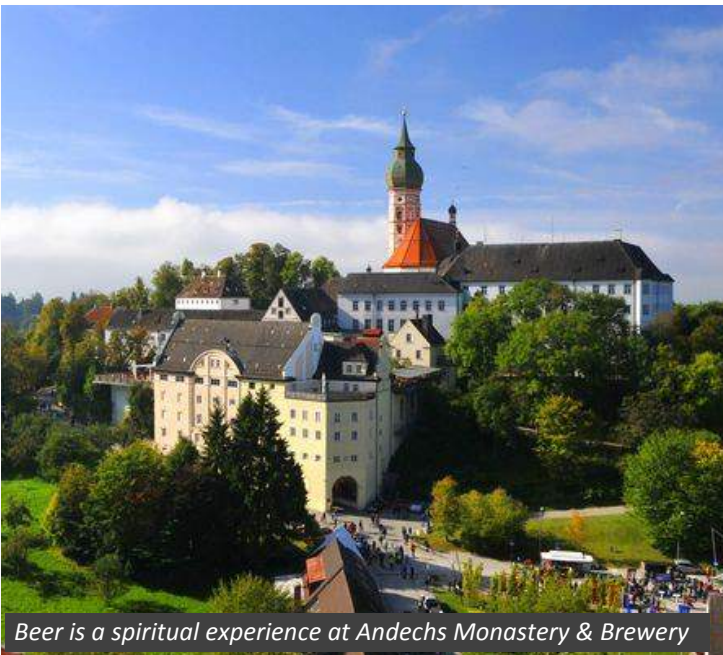
Arriving in Bavaria's capital, Munich, this morning, you transfer to the Platzl Hotel where you are greeted by your Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director. Settle in and relax for a bit, or step out to explore the city with some afternoon free time. Munich was heavily damaged by bombing during World War II, but many of its historic buildings have been rebuilt, including its largest church, the Frauenkirche, and the famous city hall, Neues Rathaus. Today, the city center appears mostly as it did in the late 1800s. This evening you join fellow tour members and leader, Sebastian Sauer, for a guided walking tour of the historic area followed by an opening reception and welcome dinner at the celebrated restaurant and birthplace of the Schneider Weisse Brewery, Weisses Bräuhaus. (R, D)



Enjoying a toast in a tent at Munich's Oktoberfest

Monday, September 26

Following breakfast we travel just outside Munich to the renowned Doemens Academy of Brewing, established in 1895 as First Munich Brewing Academy. Here we attend a workshop that introduces us to the history of beer, the raw materials for brewing, and the brewing process and how it has evolved over time. Afterward, we travel south into the foothills of the Alps to visit historic Andechs Monastery and its celebrated brewery. Following a guided tour of the site that offers us a glimpse at the work of Benedictine monks who carry on a tradition of crafting Andechs beers going back some six centuries, we enjoy a traditional Bavarian meal accompanied by the delicious brews at the monastery's outstanding restaurant. This afternoon, we continue south into the Alps to visit Ettal Abbey where we sample the brews that Benedictine monks have been perfecting for over 400 years. Upon our return to Munich, we spend the evening enjoying Oktoberfest, getting an insider's view of this annual celebration of beer. The legendary festival hosts more than 6 million visitors over the course of 16 days, and has been held in Munich since 1810. (B)



Beer is a spiritual experience at Andechs Monastery & Brewery

Included meals are indicated in parentheses following each daily description:

B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner; R = Reception

Day to Day Tour Summary

Tuesday, September 27

This morning we take a short train ride through the Bavarian countryside to the picturesque village of Aying where we enjoy a tour of the Aying Brewery. While founded in 1878, in 1999 Aying opened a new, state-of-the-art brewing facility that is one of the most advanced beer production sites in Europe. Our visit here provides an exemplary model of how modern technology and tradition can intersect to create beers of exceptional quality on a mass scale. Returning to Munich, we make our way back to the Oktoberfest grounds where we enjoy a group lunch in a festive tent. After enjoying the delicious meal of traditional German specialties, the remainder of the day is free for you to explore more of the city on your own (or perhaps remain at Oktoberfest). Tonight, a beer stroll is offered for those who wish to partake at some of Munich's most famous beer halls, Spatenhaus and Hofbräuhaus among them. (B, L)

Wednesday, September 28

Departing Munich this morning we travel north to the region of Hallertau, the world's largest hop-producing area. Here we visit the Deutsches Hopfenmuseum (German Hop Museum) to explore the fascinating botanical aspects of brewing and discover how this prized ingredient influences each brew's taste and character. Afterward, we continue to the secluded monastery, Kloster Weltenburg, nestled in a picture-perfect location on the banks of the beautiful Danube River. The monks at Weltenburg have been brewing celebrated beers since 1050, making this one of the oldest monastic breweries in the world. Together we enjoy a hearty, Bavarian lunch in the monastery's biergarten as we sip its

"We were somewhat apprehensive to try an organized tour, but this experience was phenomenal."

-Barbara B., Annapolis, MD



Kloster Weltenburg and its brewery sit on the stunning Danube

famed brew from steins and watch boats come and go upon the steady current of the mighty Danube. This afternoon we continue our journey north to the historic city of Nuremberg where we enjoy an engaging tour of its picturesque center before descending to explore the city's fascinating web of rock-cut beer cellars that lie beneath its streets. For over 700 years the denizens of Nuremberg have been storing their beloved low-temperature-loving, bottom-fermenting "red beer" in these subterranean cellars that are cut into the Burgsandstein (Nuremberg's red sandstone). In some cases these cellars reach an impressive four-layers deep, and they are so stable that during the air raids of World War II many citizens found shelter in these historic vaults which now span over six acres. This evening we travel north into the region of Upper Franconia—the epicenter of brewing in Bavaria—to the spectacular city of Bamberg which was awarded the status of UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1993 due to its impressively well-preserved architecture. The interesting mix of magnificent architectural styles and baroque town houses creates an atmosphere which captivates many visitors as soon as they arrive. Following some time to relax, we gather to enjoy a special dinner together at one of the city's historic restaurants and then visit some of its most lively and atmospheric beer halls. (B, D)



Day to Day Tour Summary

Thursday, September 29

Following breakfast we enjoy a guided walking tour of historic Bamberg and then pay a visit to the famous Weyermann Specialty Malting Company which produces an extensive variety of malts used by brewers around the world. Afterwards, we travel outside the city and into the beautiful Franconian countryside to tempt our palates at some of the regions most celebrated and picturesque craft breweries. Returning to Bamberg this afternoon, we enjoy some free time to explore and shop (or perhaps sample some more beer). Later, against the backdrop of the setting sun, we gather to pass the evening enjoying the city's beloved outdoor beer cellars which are found nestled upon the hills that surround the town center. (B)

Friday, September 30

We depart Bamberg this morning and enjoy a pleasant drive through the beautiful Upper Franconia region of Bavaria. We stop in the town of Bayreuth to visit the Maisel Brewery and Cooperage Museum which provides us with a glimpse of the significant role that casks and their coopers play in the maturation of beer. This afternoon we venture off the beaten path into the Upper Palatinate (Oberpfalz) region of Bavaria, home to the legendary Zoigl beer—only available here in the remote north where it's brewed. We sample this unique, dark-ish artisanal brew and enjoy lunch in one of the few remaining communal brew-houses where it is still crafted by families on a rotating basis. Tonight we rest our heads at one of the world's few



Stunning Alpine Scenery en route to Salzburg

beer spas, tucked away in a dense, picturesque forest on the German-Austrian border. Our stay here is made even more unique with the opportunity to indulge in a therapeutic beer bath before we gather for a gourmet beer-and-food pairing dinner, complete with a cooking demonstration by the chef. (B, D)

Saturday, October 1

Today we experience a true highlight of the tour—the unique opportunity to put our beer knowledge into practice with a working session at a craft brewery high in the breathtaking scenery of Austria's Tyrol. Together we craft our own beer, from deciding the recipe and selecting the malt through starting fermentation. Throughout the unique experience, we sample the full range of excellent beers produced by this distinctive Alpine brewery as well as enjoy a traditional lunch with its founders. This afternoon we continue to historic Salzburg which offers one of the best-preserved city centers in the German-speaking world, earning it a listing as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We enjoy a walking tour of the Old Town followed by a visit to the celebrated Stiegl Brauwelt museum where we have the opportunity to sample some jungbier (young beer). This evening we gather for a special closing reception and final dinner together. Afterward, we visit some of this city's beloved beer halls. (B, L, R, D)



Romantic Burghausen Castle looms above as we cross into Austria



Day to Day Tour Summary

Sunday, October 2

After breakfast this morning you take a “final exam” in brewing and beer tasting, which tests your newly-acquired beer knowledge. Upon successfully passing, you are awarded a *Certificate of Beer Knowledge* signed by our tour leader himself. Afterward, we enjoy some more time to explore Salzburg’s charming and historic center. You may wish to tour the actual home where Mozart was born (the Mozarteum), explore the iconic Hohensalzburg Fortress which towers above the Old Town, or simply wander the narrow streets lined with cafes and shops. Midday we experience breathtaking Alpine scenery on the bus journey back to Munich where our tour concludes. Those who are able may choose to stay an extra night here in order to attend the festive closing ceremonies of Oktoberfest this evening. (B)



The mighty Alps rise behind Salzburg's Old Town and Fortress

The Beer Cellars of Bamberg



Centuries ago, deep in the hills of Bamberg, a network of tunnels was created when local people dug for sand to use as scouring powder. Until this time brewers had kept their beer cool by cutting massive (and heavy!) chunks of ice from the rivers. Recognizing the opportunity to save money and a lot of work, they decided to take advantage of the consistently low temperatures in these tunnels, ideal for the fermentation and storage of bottom-fermented beer. Shady lime and chestnut trees were planted on the top of the hills and the grounds were covered with gravel in order to keep the subterranean temperatures as low as possible. Before long, people realized that sitting under these shade trees on top of a hill drinking beer was the perfect way to spend a summer day, and thus the concept of going uphill to drink beer in the garden “on the cellar” was born.

Today, Bamberg boasts myriad beer cellars where you can have your beer served directly from the recesses of the very hill that you sit atop. It is not at all unusual to see people with picnic baskets in tow, spreading out table cloths and enjoying the day with friends and family. Many of the gardens also offer traditional German cuisine and come complete with an attentive wait staff, ever on the lookout for steins laying on their side—a clear signal that a fresh brew is in order. Whether alone or with companions, dining or drinking, taking in the magnificent views or engrossed in lively conversation, you are sure to appreciate your time spent “on the cellar”.

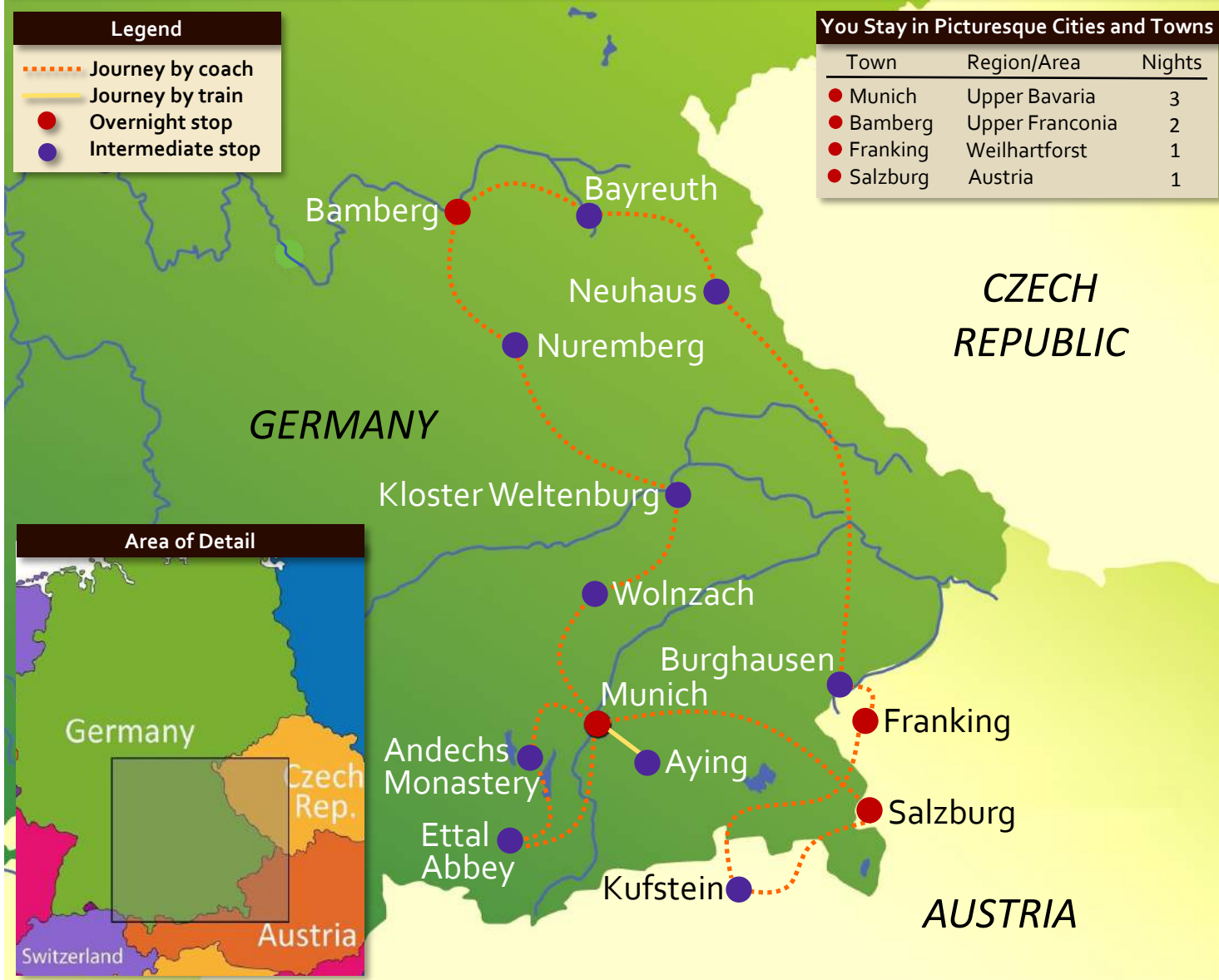


Your Tour Leader Is a Celebrated German Craft Brewer and a Recognized Expert on Historical Beers



For over a decade Sebastian Sauer has been on the cutting edge of Germany's craft beer scene as a respected independent brewer, consultant, and expert on the history of German beers. As a celebrated craft brewer, Sebastian specializes in creating unique new brews as well as resurrecting forgotten and classic styles of German beer to offer to today's discerning beer consumer. His company Freigeist Bierkultur brews at three locations across Germany and exports its beers world-wide. In 2009, Sebastian founded Bierkompass, a beer importer which brings the finest craft brews from around the world to the German market. In 2014, *Men's Journal* magazine included Freigeist's cheekily-named Ottekolong on its list of the 100 Best Beers in the World. As a much sought-after speaker, Sebastian travels the globe to introduce beer lovers to different styles of brew as well as to reawaken interest in historical beers.

Your Journey Explores the Most Celebrated Beer Brewing Centers of Bavaria





Atmospheric Hotels Create the Perfect Backdrop for Your Tour



Hotel Platzl—Munich

Consistently rated among Munich’s best hotels by travelers, Hotel Platzl is ideally situated in the heart of Munich’s Old Town, just steps from all of the city’s attractions. Occupying one of Munich’s oldest and most historic buildings, Platzl has been welcoming visitors for over a century. Today, each of its beautiful rooms has been lovingly restored and offers a tranquil respite from the bustling city outside.



Romantik Hotel Messerschmitt —Bamberg

Dating to 1832, Romantik Hotel Messerschmitt enjoys a prime location right in the center of the UNESCO World Heritage city of Bamberg. Many of its well-appointed rooms offer sweeping panoramas of the historic Old Town. All of Bamberg’s attractions are just steps away, including the famous cathedral, the Altes Rathaus (Old Town Hall), along with the city’s numerous beer halls and beer cellars.



Hotel Elefant—Salzburg

The traditional, family-run Hotel Elefant is housed in a historic, 750-year-old building in the heart of Salzburg’s Old Town. The hotel is located directly off the city’s main street—the charming Getreidegasse—which offers enticing shopping and dining options as well as various romantic passageways and courtyards to explore. All of Salzburg’s main attractions are nearby, including Mozart’s birthplace, Salzburg Cathedral, Mirabell Castle and the Hohensalzburg Fortress.

The Highlights and Special Features of Your Tour

- A special introductory program on the history and process of beer brewing at the world-renowned Doemens Academy of Brewing in Munich
- Enjoy a guided tour of the historic monastery and brewery at Andechs in the foothills of the Alps
- An opening reception, beer tasting, and dinner at Munich’s celebrated *Weisses Bräuhaus*
- A special, guided visit to the fairgrounds of Oktoberfest and lunch in one of its festive tents
- A private, guided visit to the Deutsches Hopfenmuseum in Wolnzach
- A guided walking tour to the great beer halls of Munich, including Spatenhaus, Der Pschorr, and Hofbräuhaus
- Visits to celebrated monastic breweries, including Kloster Weltenburg and Kloster Ettal
- Enjoy an evening beer stroll through the medieval town of Bamberg —a UNESCO World Heritage Site along Germany’s Romantic Road
- Visit the remote Upper Palatinate region of Bavaria and sample the legendary Zoigl beer
- Spend a night in the Weillhartforst of Austria at one of the world’s only beer and wellness spas
- Enjoy a gourmet food-and-beer pairing dinner with a cooking demonstration by the chef
- Participate in a hands-on beer brewing experience at working craft brewery high in Austria’s Tyrol
- Spend a night in the historic Old Town of Salzburg, Austria—a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Take a tour of Nuremberg’s network of historic beer cellars and enjoy a tasting of the celebrated beers that mature in them



Tour Details

The Art & History of Beer Brewing

Dates:

September 25—October 2, 2016 (Sojourn #1131639)

Price:

\$3,795/Person (Double Occupancy)

\$4,395/Person (Single Occupancy)

[Click here to register online!](#)

Tour begins/concludes:

Munich, Germany

Optional air package*:

\$1,199/Person

*Includes round-trip airfare New York – Munich, airport transfers in Germany, and 100% travel assurance. Departures from other US gateways also available. Price subject to change until booked.

Price Includes:

Eight-day travel program of sightseeing, beer tastings, visits, presentations, and discussions led by Sebastian Sauer, 7 nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated on the day to day summary, welcome and farewell receptions, all entrance fees, visits, excursions, and sightseeing as noted in the detailed itinerary, private guides, ground transportation by private, executive-class motor coach, all gratuities (except for hotel porters), and all other sojourn activities as described in the day to day summary.

Price Does Not Include:

Airfare; airport transfers; meals not indicated in this detailed itinerary; beverage options other than water, wine, beer, or soft-drinks with group meals; local transportation by bus, taxi, metro or light rail; passport or visa fees and necessary photos; immunizations; travel insurance; excess baggage charges; airport taxes; medical, hospitalization, or evacuation costs; gratuities for hotel porters; laundry; other personal items, including incidental hotel charges; any other item not specifically indicated.

Arrival and Departure Information

Meeting location:

The meeting point for this tour is the Hotel Platzl in Munich, Germany. Those making their own travel arrangements should plan to arrive between 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM on Sunday, September 25. You will be greeted by your Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director who will assist you with checking in.

Sojourn Start Time:

The program begins at 4:00 PM on September 25, 2016. The first activity is a special, guided walking tour of historic Munich followed by a welcome reception with tour leader, Sebastian Sauer.

Sojourn Conclusion:

Your tour concludes at approximately 1:30 PM on Sunday, October 2, 2016 in Munich, Germany. The bus will drop participants at the airport first and then in the city center. If making your own onward flight/travel arrangements, please allow enough time for properly checking in at the airport before your flight's departure.

Early Arrival or Late Departure:

Scholarly Sojourns is happy to assist you with booking additional nights prior to the start of your tour or following its conclusion. Often we are able to secure better rates than are available to the general public.

Registration Information

To register or for further information:

Call us: 1-800-419-3443

We are ready to assist you Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (EST).

Visit us at: www.scholarlysojourns.com

Here you will find an online registration form as well as a printable version. You will also find the most up-to-date details on this sojourn and all of the other unique travel programs offered by Scholarly Sojourns.

Other Information

Sojourn Combinations: Save \$250 per person and receive a free transfer between locations when you book two consecutive sojourns.

Please Note: The information presented here details this sojourn's planned activities, meals, accommodations, and starting/ending times. We reserve the right to make changes which will improve the program or when circumstances beyond our control necessitate such modifications. Prices are subject to change until booked. Complete terms and conditions are available at our website.

