

Shell Travel Club Newsletter

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Dear Shell Travel Club Members,

I hope that this finds you well and having had a good summer. Autumn is now fast approaching and the days are getting shorter. Just look forward to the trips that the committee are working on between now and the end of 2025!

Since the last newsletter in May we have run a day trip to the former Battersea Power Station and a river cruise on the Douro in Portugal.

Frieda did a splendid job organising the day trip to Battersea Power Station on the 9th July where 22 members joined. The demand for this trip was so high that another trip was scheduled for the 16th July but unfortunately, the guide was unwell. This rescheduled visit is now on the 17th October. We explored both power stations A and B which have been renovated into an exciting building with shops, restaurants and sports areas. All are open to the general public and local residents.

Earlier this month, Bruce led a party of 13 members on a river cruise along the Douro in Portugal. Having taken part in this trip and being my first river cruise, I can only say it was a fantastic trip. I am now looking forward to the next river cruise Bruce organises!

A great Douro River cruise was enjoyed by 13 members. The weather could not have been better as we enjoyed throughout the week wall to wall sunshine, cloudless skies and temperatures between 22c and 30c. The river was really at its very best as we passed spectacular scenery with the river banks and hillsides smothered with vines. Also, we cannot forget the cavernous locks and seriously low bridges. We continued to glide up stream until we crossed the border into Spain where we visited the historic University city of Salamanca which was one of the big highlights of the week. I feel sure that this trip will be a lasting memory for all who attended.

In early October, Allison and myself will be running a 5 night/6 day trip by coach to Cornwall. There are 46 members on this trip staying at the 4* St Moritz Hotel & Spa on the north coast. Various excursions have been booked and hopefully everyone will have a great time.

Our Annual Festive Lunch has been booked once again at Effingham Golf Club on the 4th December, 2024. This proved to be a wonderful location in 2023 with great food, attentive staff and beautiful surroundings. Since then, apparently, the room we are in has been renovated so should look a little different to last year. Menus and Booking forms with prices were sent out recently and reservations and menu choices can be made by contacting Bruce by email on brucestc75@gmail.com.

Steve is running a trip to northern Cyprus departing 23rd April, 2025. There are currently 25 members on this trip with a few places still available. If interested then please contact Steve on steve_jones2@sky.com.

The AGM is booked for Wednesday 12th March, 2025. We have taken the decision that on this occasion, we will try another venue. As such, we will be holding this event at Reigate Manor Hotel just off J8 of the M25. Bruce is once again organising this function and more details will become available soon. In the meantime, please add this date to your diary along with the revised venue.

On the 7th September, 2025, Bruce has organised a yacht cruise in Croatia. Join him on a super motor yacht as we explore the Northern Croatia coast with visits to Split, Rab, Zadar and other undiscovered islands of the north. We still have availability with lower deck cabins. See cruise full details on the STC website or contact Bruce by email at brucestc75@gmail.com.

Allison and myself are currently looking at another UK short break which is likely to be towards the end of September, 2025. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

Frieda is currently working on a number of interesting day trips to run during 2025. Those being further looked into are: Guided walk around Inns of Court, Beefeater Gin Distillery tour, Houses of Parliament, Chelsea Physic Garden and possibly Chelsea Football Stadium. Let Frieda know if any of these trips are of interest and others that you may wish to add to the list.

As always, we try and give members a variety of different trips to new locations along with a programme of day trips which we hope appeal to the members and in return you show your support and join as many as you can.

Please remember, all current trips and future ones can be found on our website www.shelltravelclub.com along with photos from past trips, newsletters and much more, so please log on and check the site regularly.

Best wishes,

Rob