

# Vacation Guide

## Youth guide to travel in Europe

There's a new trend if not the beginning of a travel revolution in camping vacations for travellers in their 20s and early

30s. This kind of "camping" is a far different thing from "roughing it in the wilderness" familiar to North Americans.

Young international campers in Europe enjoy the convenience of "camping villages", complete not only with showers, flush sanitation, electricity, restaurants and shops, but often discos, hairdressers, beaches or pools. And they pitch their own tent in a reserved spot. It's organized and economical.

For those travellers who want the economy of camping, plus the advantage of holiday arrangements in a package, and the fun of traveling with other people their own age, there are now complete trips to the main tourist centres of Europe and even some which go east into Russia, to Egypt, the Greek Islands, Morocco and Tunisia.

A typical camping trip — and one of the most popular with young adults from all over the world, according to the organizers, Goway Travel of Toronto and the Sundowners of London — is a two week journey starting from London to Amsterdam and going to such historic places as Heidelberg, Munich, Innsbruck, Venice, Florence, Lake Como, Lucerne and Paris.

Cost of the trip is from \$385.00 U.S., and includes ground transportation around the circuit back to the starting point, accommodation in two-person tents (or indoors at special stopovers), a large variety of excursions to famous "sights", and the services of a young trained holi-

day courier, a driver and even a Eurocook who organizes the kitchen activities.

Some of the excursion highlights of this trip include Paris's renowned Pigalle district, a Munich beer hall, and Amsterdam's swinging Red Light area. There are canal cruises in Venice and Amsterdam, art galleries and museums in Munich, Paris and Florence as well as scenic drives along the Rhine Valley and Lake Como, all in the package cost.

In fact about the only thing that isn't included (apart from the return airfare between Canada and Europe) is meals, and these can be arranged economically as an extra. Goway/Sundowners work on the "kitty" plan, whereby each traveller in the group puts in a set amount for meals each day. This approach to food organization has been perfected over several years and it works. The cost is minimal and surprisingly works out to approximately \$3.00 a day.

Of course, each traveller has to supply his own sleeping bag throughout the trip. However, the operators even provide an air mattress and a free suitcase.

Not every night is spent in a tent. During the two-week trip there's a break at Salzburg and two nights in Florence where accommodation is in a comfortable hotel. In fact on

each of Goway-Sundowners' vacations a few days are spent in hotels, chalets or taverns giving the young traveller an opportunity to really freshen up and catch his breath once in awhile.

For those young adults (the organizers say most of their customers are in the 20s age Group) who have more time to invest in a holiday, there's a 46-day camping trip from Amsterdam north through Scandinavia and into Russia, returning via Romania, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Germany. It's a route filled with exotic cities and places... and opportunities for adventure and some trips will be in Moscow during the Olympics.

The price for this complete package is listed at \$1,205.00 U.S., and it includes a long list of sightseeing items, such as visits to the Bolshoi Ballet and Checkpoint Charlie.

Nine nights are spent under the hospitable roofs of small inns and hotels. At other times accommodation is in tents.

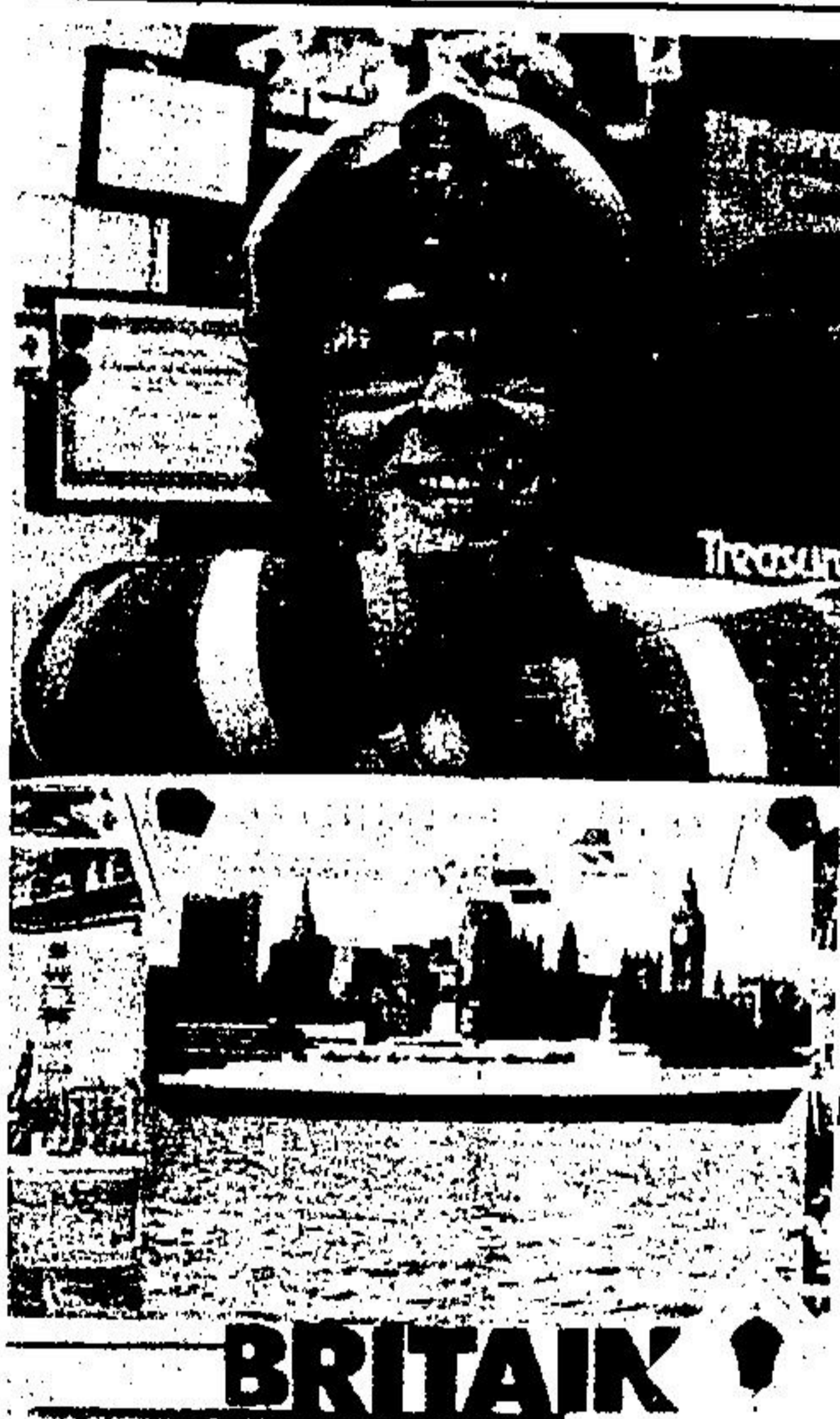
Another European tenting trip offered by the same travel organizers is for five weeks. It covers the Rhine district and through the Alps into

Italy, but also includes southern France and northern Spain. It's a more leisurely journey, too, with two-night stopovers in nine cities, and nine nights with indoor accommodations.

What these trips set out to prove to the young adult is that a European adventure holiday can be inexpensive and fun. At the same time, a pre-arranged schedule permits the traveller to see the time-tested highlights along the way, and also get to know travellers from other countries.

In short, they try to remove the uncertainties of solo travelling without spoiling the fun. And that's a very interesting contribution to modern travel.

Goway Travel in conjunction with the London-based Sundowners have developed a wide range of European camping holidays from two weeks to ten weeks with many departures from April to October. For full details see your travel agent or drop Goway Travel a line at 53 Yohge Street, Suite 101, Toronto. They will happily put you in touch with a knowledgeable travel agent in your area.



Ed Cochrane, owner of Cochrane Travel Bureau in the Moore Park Plaza, has just returned from a tour of duty on a Caribbean cruise ship. Mr. Cochrane is planning to celebrate the 2nd anniversary of Cochrane Travel (Herald photo)

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