

# *Time Travel Australia*

*Our Business is in Ruins*

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**Newsletter  
Summer 2016**

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There is not a lot of news in this newsletter as I haven't been on any tours since Ecuador. Apart from the task of completing my PhD, I have been involved in a lot of planning and tour organisation.

Tony Corrigan and I have just finishing sharing the teaching duties for a new course (for us) – 'Where the Rivers Run'. Tony covered the ecological side and I dealt with the archaeology and history. It was well received and a few students indicated a desire to get out and actually see some of what we were talking about. As result we have scrambled together a short tour from Canberra, down the Murrumbidgee to Balranald and then up to Lake Mungo and across to the Darling. We will also visit Willandra National Park and Mildura. We are opening the tour to anyone who is interested although we will keep it to a small group (max. 10).

I am taking a group to Turkey and Greece in September. We were booked out but a recent cancellation has resulted in two places becoming available so if anyone is interested please get in touch.

As a result of a request (yes, we do take requests although we can never guarantee anything!) we are planning a tour to central Queensland in June 2017. We will travel by bus from Canberra and Sydney north to Carnarvon Gorge (via Canowindra and Lightning Ridge). We will return to Brisbane via 1770, Maryborough and Fraser Island with the group flying home from Brisbane. I plan to have an itinerary available by July.

Now for something completely different - I have recently been approached by a colleague who is involved in the excavation of a Neanderthal site in the Czech Republic. He is seeking to finance the dig via crowd funding so I wish him luck. Feel free to donate but we have come up with an

alternative idea – why not join him on the excavation (which is beneath a medieval castle by all accounts) and do some of the work as well as helping to finance the project. Doug Williams will be acting as tour leader as Lad Nejman, the excavation director, doesn't have any experience looking after groups. If I had the time, I would have been tempted myself.

The itinerary for the Camino de Santiago walk is ready for mailing out. I will forward it out to those who have registered their interest. I also have a draft itinerary for the 'Beagle' with costs for anyone else who is interested.

There may not have been a lot of news but we seem to have plenty on offer over the next couple of years.

Happy travels

Chris Carter



*La Granja de San Ildefonso, Segovia, Spain.*

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## **Courses 2016 (Canberra)**

### **An Introduction to Archaeology**

6 sessions, 6-8.00pm from 23 March

Presented by: Chris Carter

By examining the processes involved in archaeology we will use case studies from a range of periods throughout the world to demonstrate and illustrate how the discipline functions. Beginning with a brief history of the discipline, we will cover the study of human history from the migration out of Africa through to the historical period. Using case studies, we will examine a range of time periods and regions from around the world including North Africa, Europe, the New World and the Pacific.

Contact the Centre for Continuing Education at the ANU on 6125 4580 for enrolment details.

## **Scheduled Tours 2016**

### **Where the Rivers Run: The Murrumbidgee, Darling and Murray River Systems**

10 days, April/May 2016-02-16

Led by Chris Carter & Tony Corrigan

Following on from our recent course, we are offering this short tour that will examine the natural and cultural history of the region. From Canberra we will visit Gobarralong and Gundagai, Leeton, Willandra Homestead, Lake Mungo and Balranald. We will spend some nights in shearers' quarters and the tour includes a dinner at Stefano's in Mildura.

Contact Chris for full details.

Places are limited.

### **Art, Treasures and Cuisine of Peru**

16 days, August/September 2016

Led by Chris Carter

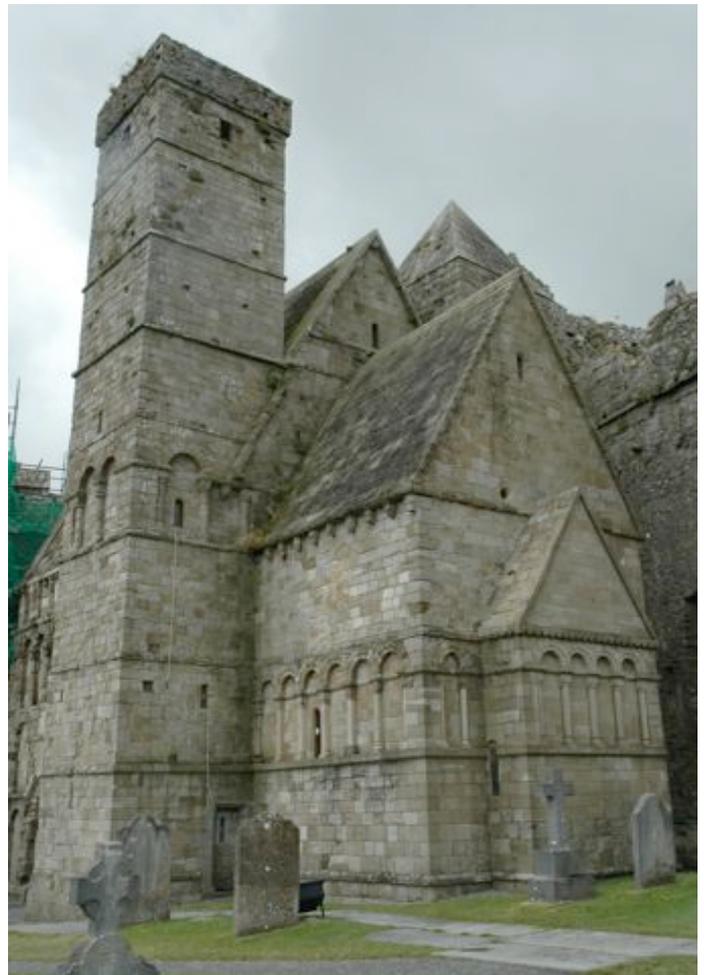
From ancient civilisations to the world's most 'in-demand' cuisine, Peru offers an extraordinary melange of archaeological sites; golden treasures from the Incas; a flourishing contemporary art scene; sacred, mystical landscapes and an extraordinary food culture.

Delving deep into Peru's fascinating ancient

civilisations, begin with the Moche culture (100 – 800 AD) followed by a journey high in the Andes to Cusco, the Sacred Valley of the Incas and Machu Picchu, the most famous remnant of the Inca civilization of the 14th and 15th centuries.

Finish in the capital Lima for an exploration of the city's emerging art scene and the Mistura Food Festival, a 'must-do' event for any serious foodie.

This tour is being organised by Renaissance Tours, Sydney. Please call 02 92995801 for further information.



*Cormac's Chapel  
The Rock of Cashel, Ireland*

### **Half the Perfect World**

#### **A Tour of Turkey & Greece:**

21 days from 9 September 2016

Led by Chris Carter & Susan Lever

Turkey and Greece are situated where Europe meets Asia and has for millennia been a junction

for cultures from north, south, east and west.

Beginning in the spectacular city of Istanbul located on the Bosphorus, we will travel on to visit the battlefields of Gallipoli, see legendary Troy, walk the streets of Ephesus, traverse some of the ancient cities along the south coast before crossing the Aegean, visiting some of the Cycladean islands en route including a stopover at Naxos and Mykonos.

The tour will combine expert guidance through the archaeological sites, both well known and obscure, with chances to indulge in the natural beauty, rich contemporary culture and legendary cuisine of Turkey and Greece. The tour includes three nights aboard a yacht cruising the south coast of Turkey.

Only two places are available due to a cancellation.

Contact Chris for more details.

**In Search of Neanderthals:  
Archaeological Excavation, Pod Hradem Cave  
Czech Republic**

20 days, September 2016

Led by Lad Nejman & Doug Williams

Join a team as they search for the evidence of Neanderthals on the Moravian plain. The site is located in the spectacular Moravian Karst region near Macocha abyss, one of the deepest abysses in central Europe. It is located directly underneath the ruins of a Medieval castle – a remarkable place in itself.

Previous excavations retrieved portable art objects, stone blades along with the remains of cave bears, mammoths and woolly rhinos and radiocarbon dated to between 50,000 - 30,000 years ago. The excavation was not completed and the director now wants to extend the depth of the earlier trench.

Accommodation will be in a local hotel with all meals provided.

The field work will be followed by an optional short tour of the region including a visit to Prague and Brno.

Contact Chris for further information.

**The Magic of Peru**

18 days, November 2016

Led by: Chris Carter & Janelle Woodham

From the snow-capped peaks of the Andes to the dry coast of Peru, the depths of Colca Canyon, Lake Titicaca, mystical Machu Picchu and colonial Cusco and Arequipa. The *culture* has developed from a fusion of an indigenous past, Colonial conquest and modern immigration - a mix of place and character that varies from north to south.

We'll try some of the finest cuisine in the world in Lima and Cusco; drive through the Andes and visit Machu Picchu – the lost city of the Inka.

Call Janelle on 02 62232780 for details.



*In Search of Neanderthals, Pod Hradem Cave,  
Czech Republic. Photo: L. Nejman*

**Scheduled Tours 2017**

**In the Wake of the Beagle:  
The Voyage of Charles Darwin**

In 4 modules for a total of 42 days

January/February 2017

Led by: Chris Carter

From Cambridge University to the Galapagos Islands, we will follow the route of the Beagle in an attempt to better understand the voyage of Charles Darwin and how it shaped his thinking. We will visit a Museum in Cambridge where many of his specimens are still housed and Down House in Kent before flying to Rio de Janeiro; cruise from Buenos Aires via the Falklands, around Cape Horn to Valparaiso; journey up the

west coast of Chile and Peru before spending seven days cruising the Galapagos Islands.

While we will not be able to follow the Beagle's itinerary in its entirety, we will certainly experience many of areas visited by Darwin and see how his observations helped develop his understanding and eventual theories.

This tour can be taken as whole or in part, joining the group at convenient points along the way.

Contact Chris for more details.

### **Camino de Santiago: Via de la Plata – Sevilla to Santiago de Compostela**

21 days, April/May 2017

Led by Chris Carter

Well, we are not walking the entire distance! Via Sevilla, Merida, Caceres and Salamanca we will follow the Via de la Plata by bus, walking only selected sections until just beyond Tabara. From that point we will walk the rest of the way to Santiago de Compostela.

As we have done previously, we will not be staying in refugios or hostals. Accommodation will be in hotels, generally for 3 night stays, and we will have a bus that will pick us up each afternoon to return to the hotel. We will then be taken back to where we left off to continue walking the following morning. We will be walking 15 days out of the total 21 for a total distance of around 320km.

We will also offer a six day tour around Madrid prior to the main tour.

Contact Chris for more details.

### **Perfect One Day:**

#### **Central Queensland**

16 days, June/July 2017

Led by Chris Carter & Tony Corrigan

Join us as we travel north from Canberra and Sydney through northern NSW via Lightning Ridge into Queensland. We will explore parts of the Carnarvon Gorge National Park before heading across to the coast at 1770, Lady Musgrave Island and Fraser Island.

Full details will be available in a few months. If

you are at all interested, please register your interest now as places will be limited.

### **The Southern Cone:**

#### **Argentina & Chile**

21 days, November 2017

Led by: Chris Carter & Penny Heath

The *place* - contrasting countries from the snow-capped peaks of the Andes, the vast Pampas, jungle shrouded Iguazú Falls to cosmopolitan Buenos Aires. The *culture* - evolved from a fusion of an indigenous past, Colonial conquest and modern immigration - a mix of place and character that varies from north to south and west to east, absorbing that of its neighbours while each place created a sentiment of its own.

We'll see tango in BA; taste the wines of Mendoza; drive through the Andes passing by Aconcagua – the highest mountain in the Southern Hemisphere; walk on a glacier; and marvel at the awesome scenery of the Patagonian national parks.

An itinerary will be available later in the year but feel free to express your interest in the meantime.

Contact Chris if you are interested or have any questions.

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Please contact us directly if you have any questions or require further information for any of the tours.

We are always looking for ideas for new tours, feel free to forward any ideas.

Chris Carter

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