

# Monte Carlo, Nice, the Italian Riviera & Liguria.

October 16th 2016.



On a bright autumnal Sunday morning 31 members, family & friends met at Bristol Airport for our flight to Nice. After an uneventful flight we were met in Nice by our Tour Manager Terence & transferred by coach to our hotel in Diana Marino where we would stay for the next 5 nights.

Monday - we travelled to Monte Carlo where we met our guide- unfortunately the changing of the guard didn't take place outside the Royal Palace but we visited the Cathedral where Princess Grace was married to Prince Ranier. In the afternoon we visited the beautiful Villa & Gardens of Ephrussi de Rothschild -the fountains danced to music & it was enchanting.

Tuesday-Market Day in Diana Marino! Some members decided to spend all day here but after lunch most of us travelled to Dolceacqua where we explored the old town & climbed up many steps to the ruins of the 12th to 15th century castle. Certainly worth it for the wonderful views from the top.

Wednesday- Genoa was the destination & once again we had guided tours, first seeing the Palazzo Rosso followed by Palazzo Reale in the afternoon. We also had a wonderful panoramic view of the city.

Thursday-we were due to spend the day in San Remo but Terence, our Tour Manager suggested that we may like to visit Finalborgo. After a short journey we arrived at this

ancient medieval village, full of character as well as having a castle & retaining its medieval walls. All this is centred around a square surrounded by a mix of buildings including bars, restaurants & ice cream venues!

All our meals in our hotel had been of a very high quality but we were in for a surprise for our desert on our final evening - the lights were dimmed & the waiters entered with a flambe Baked Alaska! We also were given a glass of sparkling wine- all this had been arranged by Terence, yet again! He also arranged a birthday cake for Cherelyn.

Friday-we checked out of our hotel soon after 9am & travelled to Nice -here we were able to enjoy 3 hours of leisure to explore the city. Many explored the lovely flower market, or strolled along the Palais des Anglais stopping for refreshments on the beach. Time soon passed & we met up for the final journey to Nice Airport saying our farewells to Terence & Paolo (our driver)

Once again we had an uneventful journey back to Bristol Airport where we bid our farewells to our holiday friends & made our way home. Another enjoyable holiday!