

MOTORBIKE TOURS

www.motorbike-tours.co.uk
info@motorbike-tours.co.uk



We're back from Ally Pally

By Alan

Even though it was lovely to meet you all at Alexandra Palace, we were still pleased to climb the steps to our plane for our journey back to Spain. We were lucky with the weather; not too much sunshine for sure, but at least it didn't rain while we were there and the temperature held up too.

Some of you who attended the show and visited our stand, will by now have received an email from us, but if you slipped through the net, I'd just like to re-iterate our thanks for coming to see us. It's always good to meet people face to face and I'm sure we'll be seeing some of you again in the not too distant future.

The downside of the show was having to share a hotel room with Thoughtful Mark, who despite his name, couldn't stop the alarm on his mobile phone going off at 5am every morning. Even if he turned off the phone, it came back on at 5am. I almost flushed it down the loo. Queen's 'I want to break free' will never be the same for me. What



Inside This Issue

We're back from Ally Pally	1
What Suzy Tingle said	2
Group and Club Bookings	3
And Finally	4

with that and his morning marching routine (ex-serviceman), I came home in a bit of a state and slept for a long, long time. I think my wife thought I had been misbehaving. Anyway, we're over it now and raring to get back to touring.

While we were at the show, we realised that many of you are new riders or have come back to biking after a few years away. Some of you were a little apprehensive about coming on a tour, but I'd like to assure you that all are welcome. The tours do exactly what it says on the tin; they are tours, not races.

One of the exciting new developments we are pursuing at the moment is a range of tours for clubs and groups. These feature log cabins, swimming pools, flexible pick-up points, starting dates and duration. If you are a member of a club or group email me alan@motorbike-tours.co.uk for more information. We are at present working on a downloadable e-brochure.

Thanks to all of you for reading this newsletter. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

Alan www.motorbike-tours.co.uk

Suzy Tingle, the well respected motorcycle journalist came to see us at Ally Pally

Motorbike Tours Show Quality at the Palace

One of my passions is motorcycling, another is touring, so when I had the opportunity to visit the Motorbike-Tours stand at Alexandra Palace in London, I jumped at it.

By Suzy Tingle

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[PRLog \(Press Release\)](#) – March 4th 2009 –

Three red and yellow Spanish flags made it easy for me to find the Motorbike Tours stand at the ‘Ally Pally Motorcycle Show’ at Alexandra Palace, London. After I had received a warm welcome from Alan and Thoughtful Mark (as he is commonly known), I took a closer look at the posters and photographs pinned on the back wall, which depicted the ‘Grand Tour of Spain’ and ‘The Spanish Heartland Tour’.

Alan soon explained to me that all dates for the ‘Grand Tour’ had been fully booked during the first two days of the show, and there was also limited availability on the ‘Heartland Tour’, such had been the interest shown in the stand. But apparently, that’s not the end of the story; More tours aimed at the group booking sector are to be introduced, the cost of which, will be determined by the number of riders in the group. Flexibility seems to be the byword for these tours. The participating group or club can choose from a selection of tours on offer, but are also able to select their preferred dates and meeting points.

‘They will also have an input into the daily tour

What we are trying to do, is tailor the tours to the needs of the rider

It’s all about the open road



destinations,’ said Alan. ‘What we are trying to do, is tailor the tours to the needs of the rider. The same policy of lead rider and back-up vehicle will still be in place, but the rest of the tour will, in some ways be designed by the most important people involved, that’s the people who are paying for it all, the riders. The tours will be from one base, so if there is someone who really doesn’t want to go out on a particular day, they can stay by the swimming pool or go off by themselves for the day. It’s up to them.’

I left the stand for a while because I could see I was getting in the way as the crowds built up, but when I returned, Alan resumed telling me of the advantages of the club/group booking tour. ‘There will be tours set in various parts of the country (Spain), so obviously the tours in the south aren’t as easy to reach as the northern based ones, but a pillion could fly down to say, Malaga for instance, whilst their partner rides through France and Spain.’ Alan paused for a moment to hand an information pack to a member of the public. ‘The other good thing about this type of tour is the price. Because, when we receive a group booking, we can be sure of the numbers involved in each tour, we are in a position to offer a really attractive price for a shared log cabin with swimming pool and restaurant facilities. We are also hoping to offer a ‘Fiesta Night’, which would include a Barbeque and drinks. It should be a lot of fun.’

Reluctantly, I said my goodbyes to the boys and left the show. I must say, I did like the idea of a motorbike tour in the Spanish sunshine, but stopped short of booking, mainly due to work commitments, but I could see the huge advantages such as costs and flexibility that a bike club or group could enjoy. I’m not a member of a club, but I do have some biker friends who may get together for a holiday, if I can persuade them, that is. Anyway, I had a great day at Alexandra Palace.

Suzy Tingle - London

A caption describes the picture or graphic.

Group and Club Bookings

One of the things we have been working on lately has been group bookings. We've put our heads together and come up with, what we think is a good idea. The key word here is flexibility, and I hope you're going to like what you hear.

There are a number of advantages to our scheme, which we hope will make this a very attractive offer.

- Start date decided by group
- Input from group regarding each day's guided tour.
- Optional rest days
- Duration of tour decided by group
- Meeting point to suit group
- Theme of tour decided by group
- Individuals can spend the day by the pool if they so wish.
- Fiesta Night where possible

These tours will be from a fixed base and feature daily guided tours. We will put forward suggestions, but the group will have the final decision.

There will be tours in various parts of Spain, mostly using log cabins that sleep from 2 to 6 people. As the group will choose how many guests will use each cabin, they will influence the price of the tour. The cabins are situated in rural or coastal areas and enjoy such facilities as swimming pool, restaurant, launderette, supermarket etc.

The four tours we have on offer at the moment are based in or near Soria, The Sierra de Francia, Tarragona and Andalucia respectively, but there are more in the pipeline.

The tour based near Soria could include a visit to the Black lagoon, Wolf River Canyon, The Monasterio de Piedra, the mediaeval village of Calatanazor, riding in the sierras or the historic town of Burgo de Osma.

The Andalucia tour in the south of the country could well include a couple of days in Morocco or a visit to



the world famous Alhambra Palace in Granada. Cordoba and Seville are within striking distance too. Because this tour is quite a ride from the ferry, we would be willing to pick up would be pillion riders from Malaga airport, should they wish to shorten their ride.

The Sierra de Francia is ideally placed for visits to the National Motorcycle Museum, Merida, Salamanca and Portugal.

If you book early for the Tarragona based tour, we can usually reserve log cabins by the sea. This tour is perfect for visits to Barcelona, Valencia and the impressive Benedictine Monastery that sits high upon Montserrat.

We don't want to boast, but we know a lot about Spain, that's why we concentrate on Spain. We don't try and spread ourselves too thinly. We don't do France or Germany, because we know nothing about those countries. We live in Spain and have travelled extensively within the country.

Whatever you decide upon, you can be sure that the lead bike and back-up vehicle will always be there to ease the way. I would like to emphasize that we don't leave people behind. We live in Spain, we speak Spanish, so if there's a problem, we will stop and assist in any way we can. Not all motorbike tour operators do this; some even charge you for the privilege.

Where and when possible, on tours of at least six nights, we will include a fiesta night. This would be on us, as a thank you for spending your holiday with us. We will supply the barbeque, beer and sangria.

[Click Here](#) for more details about Club & Group bookings

And Finally

You may have noticed that this newsletter contains a couple of photos from the 'Ally Pally Motorcycle Show'. I'd just like to point that Alan is the good looking one with the severe haircut. It's the first time I've seen the back of my head for a long time, so the first chance I get, I'm taking that wig back to the shop; it's got a right hole in it.

Bye, we hope to see you soon.

Alan and Thoughtful Mark

If you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter, please send a message to alan@motorbike-tours.co.uk

Thanks to everyone that
came to see us

