



Best wishes for a joyous Christmas and good health and happiness in the coming year!

From Rosanne and the team at Calder & Lawson Tours

TOUR UPDATE

We are delighted that we have been able to **guarantee departures for 12 of our 2020 tours**. Two are full but the others have some space available. For our intrepid travellers, our tour to North Korea in October needs one more person and it will go ahead. **If you are interested in joining any of our tours running between March and June, it's time to decide so that you can make plans and we can make them happen.**

CONFIRMED TOURS

March - Cruise & Walk Tasmania

Tasmania, wild and beautiful, faraway yet familiar, has been included in National Geographic's 'Best Trips List for 2020'—as a top adventure destination. Join John and me for a short break cruising the coast on a comfortable expedition ship and enjoying the spectacular coastal walks.

March - Costa Rica

There is still space to join a small group travelling to Costa Rica with tour manager Warwick Silvester. Naturally this tour attracts people with an interest in landforms and biodiversity and you will enjoy the company of likeminded travellers. With a low carbon footprint and investment in education and healthcare, Costa Rica comes out top of the Happy Planet Index.

May - Uzbekistan

East met West along the fascinating ancient trade routes and Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and the Silk Road have always conjured up magical images of fabled oriental cities with golden walls and shimmering turquoise domes. Travelling with tour manager Andrew Matheson, you will experience a rich and full itinerary with many compelling contrasts.

May - Sail & Bike Croatia & Slovenia

Groups who have biked with Leen and Diane Van Duin have loved their leadership style and the fun they create and that is why for some of our clients, this will be their 3rd biking tour with them. We have one cabin left on the 16 cabin yacht for the lucky people who make a quick decision to join this tour.

May - Walking in Italy

John and I are delighted that we can confirm this tour as we think it offers some of the most stunning and varied walking we have done and Michelangelo, who will again be our local guide, is one of the best. Lots of walking, staying put in small villages and not much time in a coach travelling between places are some of the ingredients which make this a great walking tour.

June - Russia and the Baltics

This tour filled fast, but health issues have led to a couple having to pull out. We now have a twin cabin available. Let us know quickly if you are interested.

August - Marquesas

Similarly, we have one cabin left in our allocation on the Aranui, a working freighter, for this 13-day voyage to the dramatic Marquesan islands. Kathryn Hunter led this tour this year and will again in 2020.



CONFIRMED TOURS CONTINUED

August /September - Highlands and Islands of Scotland

One of our most popular tours, combining a seven-night cruise on the board the MV Lord of the Highlands with exploration of Edinburgh, Inverness and the remarkable Orkney Islands. If you haven't attended the Edinburgh Tattoo, we recommend you take our 3 night, pre tour package which enables you to experience this iconic event.

October - Biking New York, Cape Cod and Vermont

Only a couple of spaces left now on this bike tour led by Pat Mandeno. A small group have joined our add-on spending a few nights in Chicago on the way home. This city is becoming a popular place to visit. While there you will take a guided city bike tour and an architecture cruise down the Chicago River to admire the city's renowned buildings.

December - Antarctica

In our opinion, this adventure is a must do! Its easy and relaxing on board your ship as you cruise the Antarctic Peninsula and enjoy the prolific wildlife and out of this world scenery. Give John a call if you would like to know more about this unrivalled experience.



Meredith and Kevin Palmer

CHANGES FOR 2020

At the end of the year, John and I will leave behind the day-to-day responsibility of running the Calder & Lawson Tours business. We are delighted to announce that the business has been bought by a local Hamilton couple, Kevin and Meredith Palmer. Kevin has worked for the Calder & Lawson group for 10 years and many of you will have travelled with him as a Tour Manager. The Company will continue to be a member of the House of Travel group with all the financial security and buying power that entails.

John has been part of this successful company since 1997 and I have enjoyed building and leading Calder & Lawson Tours over the last 7 years. We have had many adventures with you and travelling with such fascinating people has been the most fulfilling and rewarding part of our jobs. Handing over the management of the business to Kevin and Meredith means that we can spend more time with our family, especially our five little grandchildren who live nearby and we look forward to some new challenges - perhaps some long-distance walks!

Although we will no longer be owners of the business, John and I and the other Directors, Leen and Diane, Alastair and Judy will still be involved as Tour Managers. Kathryn and Penny, and our team of Tour Managers will continue with Calder & Lawson Tours and we know that the value of personalised service, care and attention offered by all will continue into the future.



CLOSE DOWN

Our office is closed for the festive season on **Wednesday 18 December** and opens again on **Monday 6 January 2020**.

You can find information about all our 2020 tours on our website.

calderandlawsonstours.co.nz

TOUR OF THE MONTH

Egypt and Jordan 18 May - 6 June | 19 nights

Two more registrations will make this a confirmed departure.

We have received quite a bit of feedback from you about our itinerary in Egypt. Some of you asked why we haven't included a visit to El Alamein, the site of the major battles between the British and Axis forces in 1942. Some of you had relatives who fought there and naturally are interested in visiting that area. We have now amended our itinerary to include a night in Alexandria and a visit to El Alamein.

Other feedback expressed interest in swimming in the Dead Sea and we have also been able to include that in the tour. These changes add one night to the tour, but the price of the tour remains the same. We are unable to guarantee the visit to the Grand Egyptian Museum due to construction delays, but you will visit the Cairo Museum located in downtown Cairo where you can view the world's largest collection of Pharaonic antiquities. You will also marvel at the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx; visit the Luxor temple complex and Valley of the Kings and see the temples at Abu Simbel. Just when you are ready for a change of pace, you will board your Nile Rivership, the Nile Goddess and cruise for four nights. You will also visit the incomparable Petra in Jordan and the magical desert of Wadi Rum before overnighting at the Dead Sea Spa.



Contact us for itinerary and details

Forward this newsletter to family and friends for them to receive our travel inspirations straight to their mailbox.

CALDER & LAWSON TOURS

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455 Grey St, Hamilton East | 07 857 0367 | FREEPHONE 0800 853 276 | cnltours@hotmail.co.nz | www.calderandlawsonstours.co.nz

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