

FMC TRAVEL CLUB

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The FMC Travel Club offers wonderful small group holidays that support FMC. Many satisfied past travellers have shared their comments to us. Check out dossiers from past trips to see how we do things and get on contact lists for advertised trips. See also the FMC website (www.fmc.org.nz).

Trip concepts and possible leaders are always welcomed too.

2010 SCHEDULE

TASMANIA departs 22 February. Our near neighbour is a perfect destination for an FMC-style tramping holiday, and our itinerary combines the best aspects of Australia's smallest state. The 2010 trip is full already, but a repeat is planned for early 2011.

NEPAL departs 4 April. **Itinerary change!** Following our successful trip into the Everest and Gokyo Lakes region this year, we are now repeating that instead of the previously advertised Langtang trip. Graham Foulds leads this spring departure. Awesome Himalayan tramping, Sherpa culture, the wonders of the Kathmandu Valley plus a safari in Chitwan National Park. Be quick!

VANUATU departs 21 April. A five-island exploration of this tropical country in the company of friendly locals. Plenty of tramping through jungles to active volcanoes, rugged coastlines, hot pools and more. Witness the land diving festival

and try superb snorkelling. Bring an adventurous spirit. Contact me urgently.

SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND departs June. Several national parks and World Heritage sites wrapped up in a three-week trip at a pleasant time of year. Fraser Island, Lamington National Park, Carnarvon Gorge and more. Contact me urgently.

ALASKA plus YUKON departs July. Come for an exceptional experience in this frontier landscape. We tramp and travel our way from the Alaskan Panhandle and into the interior covering 4,000 kilometres by land. Discover the Klondike gold rush history across the Chilkoot Trail and the amazing wildlife in Denali, Kluane and Wrangell-St Elias national parks. Open for registrations.

LADAKH and SPITI departs July. Join Margaret Clark on her trip to an area she has explored for many years. The western Himalaya is a stunning and timeless landscape, where Buddhist ways, monasteries, forts and festivals abound. Excellent tramping, bring an adventurous spirit! Open for registrations.

Three European trips that link one to the other:

NORTHERN ENGLAND departs 23 June. A lovely combination of the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District – two of the best landscapes and recreational areas in England. Our day tramps are varied and

Poling dugout canoe, Rapiti River, Royal Chitwan National Park, Nepal



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interesting and there is cultural exploration too. David Henson ably leads this trip from Manchester. Combine it with your visit to family or friends, or follow it with Switzerland. Open for registrations.

SWITZERLAND plus! departs 19 July. The Italian Dolomites – The Swiss Alps – Circuit of Mont Blanc. Choose one, two or three sections! Arguably the finest European tramping is contained in this trip, brilliantly led by Marianne Reinhard, our regional expert. The limestone Dolomites are a contrast to Switzerland, with cultural differences too. The Mont Blanc circuit has been much anticipated. Comfy accommodation and efficient transport links it all together. Open for registrations.

TURKEY departs late August. Ancient and modern, west and east, Europe and Asia – Turkey is a fascinating blend of history, culture and scenic beauty. Plenty of fine tramping in different regions plus sites of antiquity and of course, Gallipoli. This combination gives a superb insight into an exceptional country. Open for registrations.

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO Thank you for the many enquiries! A holy year in 2010 means the trail will be overrun with pilgrims and walkers, making logistics difficult and quality of experience reduced. Leader Helen Burns and I have decided to delay the trip 12 months to September 2011. See below.

Tentative ideas for 2011 (* awaiting leaders)

Tasmania February

Bhutan/Sikkim* March/April or October/November

South Africa* most months possible

South Australia* April to October

Mongolia July

Alaska/Yukon* July/August

Switzerland plus – June to September

Rockies of USA/Canada* May to September

Iceland* July/August

Camino de Santiago September

North Queensland* May to October

Other possible destinations I'd like to offer include: Yunnan China; parks of southwest USA; sections of long distance trails in USA; Peru; more of western Canada; Papua New Guinea; and a range of trips in Australia, such as the Larapinta Trail and parks of Victoria and New South Wales.

All enquiries to

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Churches, Cortina D'Ampezzo, Dolomiti, Italy Photos: Shaun Barnett/Black Robin Photography

