

Country House Comfort & Convenience



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The North East and Scottish Borders

4th – 8th September 2017

One of a series of unique, small-group, tours, led by the key experts in the field, exploring the impact of technology on our great country houses and the people who lived and worked there.

Led by Professor Marilyn Palmer MBE

4 nights, half-board in comfortable 4 star accommodation - from £760 per person
(Includes about £86 of entrance and special tour fees. Discount for NT members)

Special half-price book offer:

*"Technology in the Country House" by Marilyn Palmer and Ian West available with this tour
(You will find a description at the end of this document)*

During the late 18th and 19th centuries a variety of technological innovations were becoming available to enhance the comfort and convenience of domestic life but, far from urban centres, the great Country Houses had to be self sufficient in the provision of gas, electricity, sanitation and water supply if they wished to make use of them.

Subsequently, the decline of many country houses, together with their being donated to the National Trust and their opening to the public, has meant that less alteration has taken place than in domestic property and evidence survives of the impact which these innovations had on the buildings, landscape and social structure.

For a number of years Professor Marilyn Palmer and Dr Ian West have been studying the technology in a wide range of country houses, examining both the physical remains and the historical evidence and trying to place them in the wider context of the effects they had on country house servants as well as house owners, families and guests.

Heritage of Industry is delighted to have secured Prof. Palmer and Dr West to lead this series of unique tours where they will guide us through some of these grand residences, help us to understand some of the fascinating artefacts still to be seen and explain how they changed the lives of those who lived there – both above and below stairs.

Unlike coach company tours, which rely on the normal house guides, our expert leaders working in conjunction with the Collections Managers give a unique insight to these properties. In most cases we secure access to the properties early in the day when the houses are not yet open to the public so that we will have the place to ourselves for the duration of the tour and in certain cases have been granted permission to see areas not normally open to the public.

At each property, after our special tour, we try to make time for you further to explore the house and gardens.

This tour explores the North East of England and the Border country of Scotland, an area of great natural beauty and with some magnificent examples of the great Country House with the remains of some fascinating early technology.

The best known house for its technology, Armstrong's Cragside, is included in this tour together with a number of private houses - some only open by special request.

This tour was sold out the first time it ran and we expect great interest so *book early to avoid disappointment*.

Note that the order of visits may vary from that shown below.

ITINERARY

Day 1

The tour begins at our unique and very comfortable hotel in Newcastle where we will be spending our first two nights. The hotel is close to transport links and is a good location for the group to assemble.

Dinner will be served in a private room after which there will be a talk by Marilyn Palmer: “An Introduction to Country House Technology”

Overnight at the hotel in Newcastle.

Day 2

In the morning we will drive to **Cragside** for a full days’ exploration of this huge site. Inside the house we can see how Lord Armstrong, Tyneside’s notable industrialist, engineer, innovator (and arms manufacturer) created one of the most modern and surprising houses for its time in the country. By the 1880s, the house had hot and cold running water, central heating, fire alarms, telephones, a Turkish bath suite, a hydraulic passenger lift and became the first house in the world to be lit by hydroelectricity.

We will begin with a special guided tour of the “Armstrong Trail” led by the site engineer. This starts at the Pump House, which contains the original hydraulic engine that provided drinking water to the house and then winds its way through some of the most beautiful scenery of the estate to the Power House where Armstrong’s hydroelectric generating equipment is housed.

Surrounding the house is one of the largest rock gardens in Europe, planted with heathers, heaths and azaleas. Within the rock garden the paths are narrow with stone steps. In the centre of the rock garden is the restored cascade, which tumbles like a mountain stream to the Debdon burn in the valley.

The Formal Garden, across the valley from the house, is laid out in three terraces on a south-facing slope and is filled with seasonal bedding, trees and shrubs. The garden originally contained a huge glasshouse range where plants from all over the world would have been grown. The magnificent Orchard House is filled with fruit trees of all types.

The Pinetum is a collection of conifers planted by Lord Armstrong over 130 years ago. Some of the trees have grown to be ‘Champions’ – among the largest known examples of their species in England. The plant collection at Cragside is the largest collection in numbers and the biggest in its sheer physical size and Lord and Lady Armstrong directed the planting of seven million trees.

Lunch is available in the café on site.

At the end of the afternoon the coach will return to our Newcastle hotel.

After a group dinner in a private room the evening is at leisure.

Day 3

This morning we visit **Alnwick Castle**. There has been a castle on this site for 1,000 years and for the last 700 it has been the home of the Percy family and remains one of the largest inhabited castles.

In 1889, not to be outdone by Lord Armstrong, above, the 6th Duke of Northumberland also decided to install electric lighting. For this purpose he installed a turbine at Lough’s Mill on the river Aln and, with a considerable cable run, was able to run 100 lights at the castle.

We will visit the mill to see the original site, now restored, as well as exploring basement tunnels under the castle for evidence of early hydraulic lifts.

The first garden was laid down in 1750 by the 1st Duke, who employed Capability Brown to landscape the parkland adjoining Alnwick Castle. The 3rd Duke was a plant collector, and led a century of development at Alnwick - he brought seeds from all over the world, and pineapples were raised in hothouses.

In the middle of the 19th century, the 4th Duke created an Italianate garden featuring a large conservatory, and at the end of the century, the gardens were at their grandest, with yew topiary, avenues of limes and acres of flowers but after WWII the garden fell into disrepair.

However, since 1997 the present Duchess has been overseeing what is perhaps the most ambitious garden development since that time and this celebrated project now features many different themes and influences, built around a central water cascade.

Lunch is available in the café on site.

In the afternoon, as a short diversion from great houses, we will visit **Heatherslaw Mill** on the banks of the River Till which is the only working water mill in Northumberland and has a history of over 700 years of milling on this site.

A 16 ft water wheel powers fully-restored mill machinery, including three different pairs of millstones, making high quality, stoneground, wholemeal flour from wheat grown in local fields.

In the evening, after dinner in a private room, Marilyn will talk on the more technical aspects of Country House Technology, including lighting, heating and communications.

Overnight at a very comfortable hotel in Border country.

Day 4

Abbotsford, the former home of Sir Walter Scott, is now open again after an extensive programme of repair and refurbishment. Scott was the first in Scotland to experiment with gas lighting and the first demonstration to outsiders in 1823 was something of an occasion. Scott's biographer wrote "Dinner passed off, and the sun went down, and suddenly, at the turning of a screw, the room was filled with a splendour worthy of the palace of Aladdin". We shall be able to see where this happened and some of the original fittings, which are still in place, amongst many other fascinating artefacts.

At Abbotsford, Scott assembled an estate by various land purchases, created enclosed gardens and parkland to complement the house, and laid out the largely unimproved land to form an extended wooded agricultural landscape which is uniquely adapted to its Tweedside setting.

Unusually, the walled Kitchen Garden is set on quite a steep slope. Angled to the south and west, this gives lovely views up a double herbaceous border to the little gothic Orangery at the top (designed by Scott with John Smith). Behind the borders, the space is divided up into quadrants with vegetable and fruit beds. Looking back down the garden from here, one gets the best view of the house with its multi towers and turrets, its crow stepped gables and romantic architecture.

A little bridge leads over the "moat" through the line of cloister arches through which red roses peep, and down into the Morris Garden. This is named after a character from Rob Roy whose kneeling statue is in the middle of the lawn.

After our visit we will drive to **Traquair House** where we will have a simple light lunch in the café (included).

After lunch we will look inside the house which dates back to 1107 and was originally a hunting lodge for the kings and queens of Scotland. Later a refuge for Catholic priests in times of terror, the Stuarts of Traquair supported Mary Queen of Scots and the Jacobite cause without counting the cost.

We shall spend some time looking at the mechanical bell system which was installed in very historic fabric (even then – 1820s) so that all the bell wires, cranks etc are on show and little has been removed.

The natural beauty of Traquair's grounds are a perfect complement to the intimate nature of the house which nestles amongst the most wonderful trees planted mainly in the 1870's and containing huge Douglas Firs, Limes, Ash, Horse Chestnut and Beech. Perhaps, most spectacular of all is the yew tree circle thought to have been part of the old Ettrick Forest and certainly some of the oldest yews in Scotland.

Although there are no formal gardens at Traquair there are some beautiful and relaxing spaces in the grounds where you can enjoy the wildlife or just relax and enjoy the peace. The old walled garden houses the Cottage Restaurant and visitors are invited to take tea amongst the old apple trees and relax with the gentle sound of the fountain from the garden pond. A new herbaceous border is also being developed in this area. At the west side of the house you will discover Cupid's garden tucked away where the theme of the planting is white and grey and is a genuinely romantic spot. Near Cupid's garden you will also find the Croquet Lawn where a heather hut built in 1834 still stands.

We will also have the opportunity to visit the small brewery on-site which was established in the early 1700s for local consumption but today sells its beers through outlets all over the world.

After dinner the evening is at leisure.

Day 5

Manderston is the supreme country house of Edwardian Scotland; the swan-song of its era and was the house where the TV reality show "The Edwardian Country House" was made.

It is a house on which no expense was spared with opulent staterooms, the only silver-staircase in the world and extensive "downstairs" domestic quarters which we will enjoy exploring and we shall see the largest range of service bells yet found during Marilyn and Ian's researches and much else besides. We also plan to visit the generator house on the Home Farm – sadly no engine is left but the very ornate building is well worth a look.

The house stands in 56 acres of formal and informal gardens, with magnificent stables and a stunning marble dairy. Beyond the lawn in front of the house is the gateway to the formal garden with the gates gilded, to catch the light from the setting sun. A gate in the style of eighteenth-century architect James Gibbs and a portico of spiralled columns add to its grandeur.

On the south side of the house, are four formal garden terraces still planted in Edwardian style. A geometric terrace is now stocked with floribunda roses and hostas. To one side is a small grass terrace, edged by four large stone vases. Below it, through a wrought-iron gate with griffins adorning the piers, is a tennis lawn, and below that, a croquet lawn. There is a stone dovecote on the far side by the elevated terrace provided for spectators.

The lower terraces are surrounded by a bank of rhododendrons down to the lake, smoothly achieving the transition from nineteenth-century formal gardens to eighteenth-century picturesque landscape. The lake, the shape of the landscape and the Chinese bridge, probably date from the time of the eighteenth-century house. The combination of formal and informal gardens at Manderston is unique in Scotland.

A simple light lunch is included.

After the visit the coach will return to Newcastle main railway station where the tour ends.

OUR GUIDE

Professor Marilyn Palmer MBE read History at St Anne's College, Oxford, and then worked in teacher training before joining the History Department of the University of Loughborough and becoming its Head in 1983. She transferred to the University of Leicester becoming Head of the School of Archaeology and Britain's first Professor of Industrial Archaeology. She is President of the Association for Industrial Archaeology and was a Commissioner with The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England before its amalgamation with English Heritage. She serves on committees concerned with her discipline for The National Trust and the Council for British Archaeology and is the Subject Adviser for Archaeology for the University of the Third Age, for whom she runs study days as well as a large Archaeology Group. She was awarded an Award of Merit by the Society for Historical Archaeology of the USA in 2005 for her success in integrating industrial archaeology into mainstream archaeology and then an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list in June 2015 "for services to Industrial Archaeology and Heritage"

ACCOMMODATION

Our hotel in Newcastle was built c1850 and is a grade 1 and 2 listed building which boasts elegant architecture and was opened by Queen Victoria. All rooms are en-suite, fitted with television with digital and music channels, tea and coffee making facilities and small fridge. Guests have free access to the leisure club, which includes a gymnasium, swimming pool, plunge pool, Jacuzzi, sauna and steam room.

Our hotel in the Scottish Borders is an 18th Century listed building. The en-suite rooms are equipped to the highest standard including TV and Radio, hairdryer, tea & coffee making facilities and Complimentary Arran Aromatics Toiletries. Each room has been individually decorated to make your stay restful and relaxing. Luxurious linens and soft furnishings with a modern Scottish twist give each room its own unique character.

TRANSPORT

The tour starts at our hotel in Newcastle on the Monday evening and ends at the main railway station Newcastle by about 14:45 on the Friday afternoon.

Newcastle is well served by road, rail and air transport links from the rest of the UK, mainland Europe and the United States. As we expect group members to come from many different locations we leave you to make your own travel arrangements to and from Newcastle to suit your own convenience and use of alternative departure points.

Travel during the tour will be by luxury, air-conditioned coach.

Detailed joining instructions will be supplied in good time.

COST

The cost of the tour is £760 per person sharing, single supplement £110, with a discount of £16 per person for National Trust members (there is only one NT property on this tour, NT membership cards must be carried with you). The single supplement reflects the additional charges made by the hotel for single occupancy.

In organising these very specialist and unique, small group, tours we do not enjoy the same economies of scale which are available to us for our larger group tours. Nevertheless we believe that the cost represents excellent value for money and compares very favourably with other specialist operators.

The cost includes:

- An itinerary packed with visits to fascinating sites
- 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast
- A light lunch on Days 4 & 5
- Luxury air conditioned coach transport to all sites and driver tip
- All entrance fees (amounting to about £86)
- Uniquely qualified expert guiding and services of an experienced tour manager throughout
- Research for the visit
- Professionally produced, comprehensive tour notes

Excluded are:

- Lunches (except Days 4 & 5)
- Drinks
- Expenses at the hotel other than dinner, bed & breakfast

All costs are in Pounds Sterling (GBP) and are based on present accommodation, transport costs and taxes. Any change in these may necessitate a price change.

CANCELLATION CHARGES, HEALTH & INSURANCE

Please note that cancellation charges will apply from 10th July 2017, and, although these will be modified to the extent that costs are not actually incurred, you are strongly advised to insure against the need to cancel.

Non-UK residents also need to consider medical treatment and repatriation charges in the event of illness etc. Participants who do not have travel insurance must nevertheless accept full responsibility for these eventualities.

If you do not already have travel insurance then you may like to contact Avanti Travel Insurance, who specialise in providing cover tailored for those with pre-existing medical conditions and with no upper age limit, for both single-trip and annual policies, quote reference "Heritage of Industry" for a competitive quote.

Website: <http://www.avantitravelinsurance.co.uk> Email: enquiries@avanti.co.uk

Telephone: 0800 888 6195

PASSPORTS, VISAS & IMMIGRATION

Non-UK residents must ensure that they carry a valid passport for entry into the UK and may need a visa. To check visa requirements visit the UK Border Agency website:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration>

Heritage of Industry cannot be held responsible for any problems with entry into the United Kingdom.

BOOKING

All bookings should be made online at <http://www.heritageofindustry.co.uk> or on the attached form and will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to space availability. Booking is subject to a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20 people. Book as soon as possible and **by 10th July 2017** to ensure a place **but please feel free to enquire after that date if a place is still available**. We will contact you as soon as possible to confirm the booking and to issue an invoice for the balance of the price.

A non-refundable deposit of £75 per person is required on booking. Bookings can be made definite only when the booking form and deposit are received and accepted in writing/email by Heritage of Industry Ltd. The company's standard terms and conditions apply. The balance of the price is to be paid to Heritage of Industry Ltd on presentation of the invoice. All monies paid to Heritage of Industry Ltd will be held, in accordance with government regulations*, in a customer protection account until the tour is complete so that *your money is safe no matter what happens*.

If you wish to take advantage of our special offer of a copy of Marilyn and Ian's book "Technology in the Country House" put "Yes" on the booking form and include the additional cost of £30.00 with the deposit.

Books will be dispatched as soon as they are available - this should be in early September 2016 depending on the delivery time from the publisher, or as soon as possible after booking. Note that if for any reason we are unable to run the tour then your deposit of £75 will be returned to you as normal but you may keep your copy of the book.

Payment should be made via electronic banking but sterling cheques drawn on a UK bank are also acceptable – details are on the booking form.

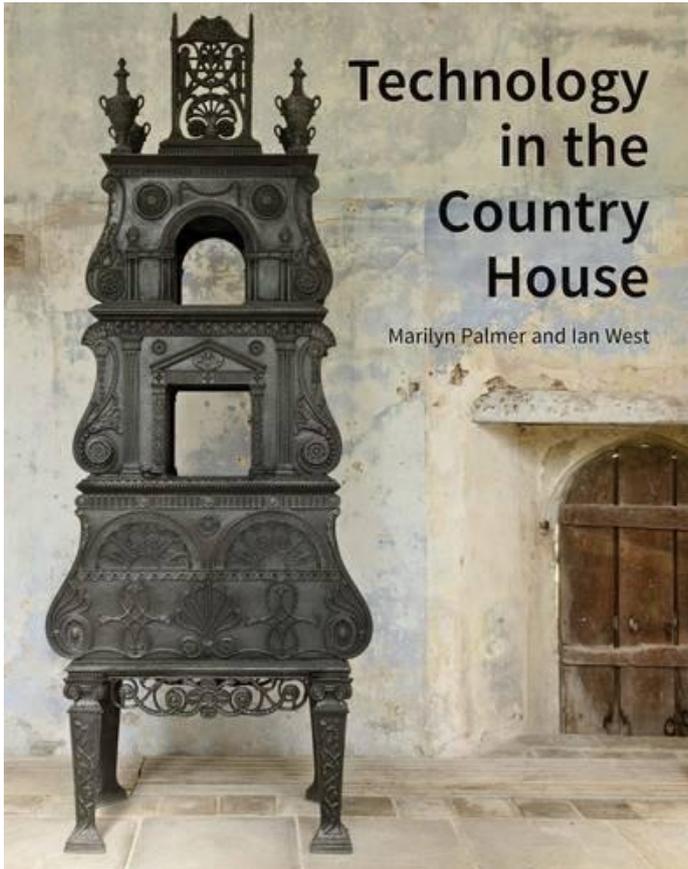
Enquiries about this tour should be directed to Bill Barksfield, Managing Director, Heritage of Industry Ltd, The Gables, 20 Main Road, East Hagbourne, Oxon OX11 9LN Tel: +44 1235 352275

Email: bill@heritageofindustry.co.uk

* *The Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 (SI 1992 No. 3288)*

Heritage of Industry

Journeys into the Industrial Past



Technology in the Country House

By Marilyn Palmer and Ian West

Published by Historic England

272 pages | 210 colour plates, 37 halftones,
21 illustrations, 3 line drawings | 8.5" x 11"
ISBN 978-1-84802-280-5

Hardcover. Published 28th August 2016.
Price: £60.00

*Available through Heritage of Industry at
half price with any Country House
Comfort and Convenience tour booking
(one per booking)*

Visits to country houses are an important leisure pursuit throughout the British Isles, not just to appreciate their superb architecture, great paintings and elaborate furniture but also to experience something of the past life of our great families and their households.

Mark Girouard suggested in *Life in the English Country House* that 'even when the customs have gone, the houses remain, enriched by the accumulated alterations, and often accumulated contents of several centuries. Abandoned lifestyles can be disinterred from them in much the same way as from the layers of an archaeological dig'.

By the 19th century, life in most country houses changed as a result of various technical inventions such as improved water supplies, flushing water closets, boilers and pipes to provide central heating, internal communications by bells and then telephones, and better lighting by means of gas and electricity.

Country houses, however, were usually too far from urban centres to take advantage of centralised sources of supply and so were obliged to set up their own systems if they wanted any of these services to improve the comfort of daily living. Some landowners chose to do this; others did not, and this book examines the motivations for their decisions. It also sets out to discover what evidence has survived for the impact of technological innovation on the buildings, contents, parks and gardens of country houses and on the lives of the people within them.

In the course of their research, the authors have visited nearly one hundred houses around the United Kingdom, mostly those open to the public and the majority in the hands of the National Trust.

Many books have been devoted to the life of those in domestic service in such houses, but this book looks not so much at the social records of their lives as the actual physical evidence for the greater levels of comfort and convenience sought by landowners in country houses from the 18th to the early 20th

Heritage of Industry Ltd, The Gables, 20 Main Road, East Hagbourne, Oxon OX11 9LN
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Heritage of Industry

Journeys into the Industrial Past



BOOKING FORM

COUNTRY HOUSE COMFORT & CONVENIENCE (North East)

4th – 8th September 2017

Please book on-line if possible at <http://www.heritageofindustry.co.uk>

Otherwise print out and complete this form in block letters and return it to:

Heritage of Industry Ltd, The Gables, 20 Main Road, East Hagbourne, Oxon OX11 9LN

PLEASE BOOK BY 10th July 2017 **but please enquire after that date for available places.**

NAME:

TELEPHONE

Day:

ADDRESS:

Evening:

Mobile:

Email:

I WISH TO BOOK (subject to availability) place(s)

on Country House Comfort & Convenience (North West), 4th – 8th September 2017

The names of the other member(s) of my party are:

There are National Trust member(s) in my party

Please book the following hotel room(s): single twin Double

I would like a copy of Marilyn & Ian's book at half price (£30.00 in addition to the deposit): { Yes / No }

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (Dietary etc. Please give details, or any other comment):

I am making payment of £ non-returnable deposit of £75 each for persons {+ £30 for the book}

{ By direct transfer to HSBC, Penn Road, Beaconsfield Branch Code: 40-09-29 Account: 41352261

BIC: MIDLGB2118D IBAN: GB60MIDL40092941352261 Using reference: *Your surname* }

{ By the enclosed cheque, payable to Heritage of Industry Ltd } *delete as required*

I heard about this tour: Marilyn's Talk / Previous client / Recommended by friend / AIA / SIA /

Newcomen / Local IA Group / The Garden / H of I Newsletter or email / Social media / Web search

I have read the terms and conditions which are accepted by me on behalf of all the persons named above. We agree to your maintaining such records as are appropriate to this and other tours and understand that the information will only be released to those involved with the organisation of these tours or used to inform me about other events.

SIGNATURE:

Date:

Heritage of Industry Ltd, The Gables, 20 Main Road, East Hagbourne, Oxon OX11 9LN

Tel/Fax: 01235 352275 Email: info@heritageofindustry.co.uk <http://www.heritageofindustry.co.uk>

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Heritage of Industry

Journeys into the Industrial Past

Terms and Conditions

1. Heritage of Industry Ltd undertakes tours on the basis of these terms and conditions, which, read with the booking form and the information accompanying it, set out the full terms of your agreement with Heritage of Industry Ltd ('the Company'). No variation can be accepted unless made in writing and signed by the Company.
2. Bookings can only be made definite when the completed booking form plus the deposit specified on the booking form is received and accepted in writing by the Company. The deposit is not refundable.
3. The balance of the tour price must be received by the Company not later than 8 weeks before the first day of the tour or as specified in the booking arrangements failing which the booking may be cancelled and cancellation charges (equivalent to the amount of deposit) levied.
4. In the event that the booking is made less than 8 weeks before the first day of the tour then the full amount of the tour price will need to be paid immediately.
5. In the event that you wish to cancel your booking, you must notify the Company in writing. If the notification of cancellation is received by the Company more than 8 weeks before the first day of the tour then only the deposit will be forfeit. If the notice is received less than 8 weeks before the first day of the tour the following charges will apply: 6 to 8 weeks, 50% of the tour price; 4 to 6 weeks, 75% of the tour price; 4 weeks and under, 100% of the tour price. No refund at all will be given for any cancellation on or after the first day of the tour or for any meals, trips or other facilities not used or taken.
6. The Company will make every effort to operate the tour as confirmed to you. However, the Company reserves the right to cancel or vary any aspect of the tour should this become necessary due to any circumstances beyond the Company's reasonable control such as war, political unrest, industrial action, exceptionally inclement weather or other circumstances amounting to force majeure, or any other circumstances which in the opinion of the Company require the cancellation or variation of the tour. In the event of cancellation, you will be notified immediately and offered either an alternative comparable tour or a refund of all monies paid as appropriate.
7. The Company does not own or operate any of the means of transport you will be using or the hotels, restaurants, buildings or other sites that you will be staying at or visiting. Accordingly, the Company cannot accept any liability whatsoever for any loss injury or damage that may occur or that you or those accompanying you may suffer as a result of any negligence or breach of contract or failure to perform any other duty by any owner employee servant or agent of any such means of transport, hotel, restaurant, building or other site.
8. The Company also cannot accept any responsibility for any loss damage or personal injury howsoever arising suffered by you or those accompanying you whilst on any tour unless such loss damage or personal injury is the direct result of negligence by the Company itself.
9. In the event that you have any complaint in connection with the management or operation of any hotel, restaurant or other premises which are on part of the tour organised by the Company then that complaint should be made immediately to the management of that hotel, restaurant or premises so that the complaint can, if possible, be acted upon immediately.
10. No claim or complaint that you may have against the Company can be accepted unless such claim or complaint is notified in writing to the Company within 7 days from the end of the tour.

May 1999