

EUROPE REVISITED

(ALMOST)

THE PLAN!

1. FLY TO LONDON 15 DECEMBER 2018
2. RELAX AND PLAN FOR ITALY.
3. FLY TO ROME 17 DECEMBER
4. TAKE A TRAIN TO TURIN 17 DECEMBER
5. VISIT THE SITES AND SHOP TURIN UNTIL 21 DECEMBER.
6. TAKE THE TRAIN TO ROME.
7. TOUR ROME AND THE VATICAN, EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY.
8. CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AT THE VATICAN.
9. BACK TO LONDON THE 27TH.
10. FLY HOME THE 28TH.

PRE-PLANNING

- LAST TIME IN EUROPE WAS 1987, RETURNED STATESIDE FOR FINAL TOUR AND RETIREMENT FROM THE ARMY AFTER ALMOST 25 YEARS.
- WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT GOING BACK TO EUROPE EVER SINCE.
- BOTH KIDS OUT OF THE HOUSE, MY DAUGHTER TO SINGAPORE WITH HER HUSBAND.
- MY SON IN THE MILITARY, IN FACT RETIRING FROM THE ARMY AFTER 20 YEARS.
- OUR DAUGHTER AND SON IN LAW DECIDED WE WERE GOING BACK!

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- THEY SET UP A TRIP AND ITINERARY TO TRAVEL TO LONDON, UK AND THEN ON TO ROME, ITALY WITH A SIDE TRIP TO TURIN, ITALY BY RAIL FOR SHOPPING AND SIGHT SEEING AND A POSSIBLE EXCURSION TO POMPEI!
- TICKETS WERE PURCHASED TO FLY TO LONDON AND INCLUDED MY WIFE'S SISTER.
- OUR DAUGHTER ARRIVED THE ELEVENTH OF DECEMBER TO VISIT AND FLY WITH US.
- MY SISTER IN LAW ARRIVED THE FOURTEENTH.
- ALL WAS SET TO TRAVEL TO NASHVILLE, BOARD LONDON AIR SUNDAY THE SEVENTEENTH, SPEND THE DAY AND THEN FLY TO ROME.

BRITISH AIR





FISH AND CHIPS WITH A PINT OF BITTERS-YUM



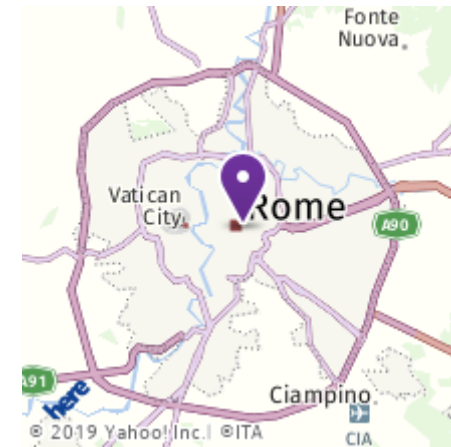
ON TO ROME





FCO Rome Fiumicino Airport – crowded waiting [area](#) at the peak of the holiday season.

AFTER SPENDING THE NIGHT IN ROME, WE WERE TO BOARD THE TRAIN FOR A SIX HOUR TRIP



TO TURIN, ITALY.

Shopping
Good food
See the sites!



And
Side trip to Pompei



RETURN TO ROME

- See some of the sites and enjoy typical Italian meals.
- Visit the Vatican, tour the crypts, mint and shops and eventually attend Christmas Eve Mass with the Pope!







MY IDEA OF A GOOD TIME

OUTSIDE OF SEEING OLD BUILDINGS, MUSEUMS AND BONES IN CRYPTS
IS TO
COLLECT COINS
IN
THIS
CASE

EUROS, ITALIAN STYLE



COMMON CENTS AND EUROS FROM 1 TO 50 CENTS AND EUROS. THE GOLDEN 10, 20 AND 50 CENTS ARE FIRST MAP. THE DARKER COINS ARE SECOND MAP.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
CONSTITUTION 2018 COMMEMORATIVE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY ONE EURO

1ST AND 2ND MAPS



ITALY 10 CENT

UP TO 2007



2008 ON



2007 SEPARATE COUNTRIES, IN 2008 EUROPE WAS 'UNIFIED'

MANY OF THE EU COUNTRIES USE A COMMON THEME TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AND THEIR CURRENCY. IRELAND USES THE IRISH HARP FOR EXAMPLE. SOME COUNTRIES, SUCH AS ITALY, HAVE SO MANY IMAGES IDENTIFYING THEM THAT THEY USE THESE IMAGES INSTEAD. FOR THEIR CENT AND EURO COINS. THEY DO NOT NEED A COMMON THEME. AFTER ALL THE COINS HAVE THE SAME VALUES AND IMAGES AS THE REST OF THE EU – THE NUMBER AND THE MAP –TO IDENTIFY THEIR VALUE!

AND



VATICAN CITY 1 CENT THRU 2 EURO COMMON COINS, POPE JOHN PAUL, INTERREGNUM (VACANT), POPE BENEDICT AND POPE FRANCIS AND THE 2018 COMMEMORATIVE CANNONIZATION OF POPE PAUL VI.



DECEMBER 13, 2018

TO THE ER NOW!



14TH

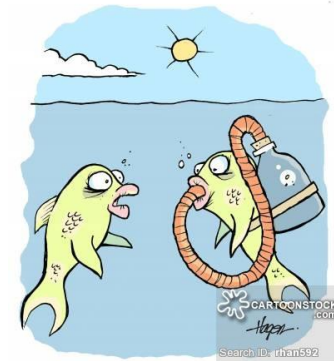


Surgery 4 hours
Hospital stay 6 days
Recuperation 30 days and
Ongoing!



"Can you believe that people inhale the gases we expel—sick, right?"

'The best laid plans of mice and men often go
awry!
Or
"Man proposes, God disposes!"



NOW REMEMBER, YOU HAVE ENOUGH WATER FOR
HALF AN HOUR, THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO COME DOWN.

REPUBLICAN HEALTHCARE



OOPS, WRONG SLIDE!

SO
INSTEAD OF
LONDON
ROME
TURIN
'THE VATICAN',
AND MAYBE POMPEI

Hospitals! Ya gotta love 'em!



No, not this!



More like this!



Or this!

Now parking tokens for local hospital are required to exit a parking area or garage. No token? \$1.00 OR \$5.00 please! Do you realize how many times one can go in and out of a parking area over a six day period and then two weeks of testing? One area was 'free parking', of course that area was several blocks away!

MAYBE SOMEDAY!

NO TRIP

BEST NON-TRIP EVER! GOT MY WIFE BACK, MY SON, MY DAUGHTER AND SISTER-IN-LAW WERE WITH US THROUGH THE WHOLE ORDEAL AND LIFE IS BETTER THAN EVER!

FAMILY TRUMPS TRAVEL ANY DAY.