



# **OVERSEAS STUDY TOURS NEWS - 10/2023**

Bookings for tours must be on an overseas tour booking form and may be sent in at any time to the tour organiser whose name follows the tour details. Fuller details and closing dates will be announced in news sheets during the course of the year. During the course of the year various weekend events become known and extra tours will be operated taking in the more interesting events. LCGB Tours are operated by LCGB solely for its members. Participation in LCGB tours entails compulsory LCGB Membership.

#### **2024 Tours**

India – Tour will depart end of February 2024. Details included with previous Bulletin. However we have requested newly restored AWE class on the mainline Rewari. Also sheds / workshop in Kalka / Amritsar and at in Kangra (Tour contact Adrian Palmer)

# Bangladesh – In conjunction with India

Day 1 ARRIVAL DHAKA Fly Udaipur / Delhi / Dhaka at 1250/1415 hrs and connect to 1700/1945 hrs (baggage straight through to Dhaka). Met and transferred to hotel to check-in for overnight in Dhaka. Day 2 DHAKA Visit Kamlapur Railway Station, Kamlapur Railway Work-shops, Rail Bhavan to see the Old Locomotive set as an exhibit on the Road-Island. Old city rickshaw ride. Back to the hotel and overnight at Dhaka.

Day 3: DHAKA—CHATTOGRAM (Pahartoli Work-Shop & Rail Museum ) Take the Intercity Train Sonar Bangla Express: Departure Dhaka at 07:00 AM. And arrival Chittagong at 12:15 PM. This train journey time only 5 hours 15 minutes. Upon arrival , move to Pahartoli Railway Carriage & Workshop to see the Steam Locomotive, other Locomotives as well and the Saloon Car which used to be use by the Dignitaries. Then move to Ambagan Road, Pahartoli to visit the Bangladesh Railway Museum. It was a bungalow before it was turned to a museum on 15 November 2003, which showcases a rich collection of relics used in Assam Bengal Railway (1942), Eastern Bengal Railway (1947) and Pakistan Railways (1961). The preserved artefacts mainly belong to mechanical, electrical, telecommunication, signal, traffic and engineering departments of the Bangladesh Railway. The collection also includes different kinds of lamps and lights, fans and bells, uniforms and accessories of station masters, signalling equipment, transmitters, analogue telephone, monograms, track switches and railway sleepers. Completing the visit move to hotel Agrabad / to check-in. Overnight at Chittagong.

Day 4 CHATTOGRAM – DHAKA & CITY TOUR Take the Suborna Express(701) at 07:00hrs and arrive Dhaka at 12:20hrs followed by City tour of Dhaka. Completing the tour back to hotel in the late afternoon, Overnight at Dhaka

Day 5: DHAKA TO SAIDPUR Take the Nilsagar Express (765) at 06:40 , ETA Saidpur 14:42 hrs. Upon arrival visit Chini Mosque, Dharma Paul's Garh, A village. Overnight at Saidpur.

Day 6 SAIDPUR WORKSHOP & RAIL MUSEUM

After breakfast move to the Saidpur Work-Shop. It is the largest Railway Workshop in Bangladesh and it was established more than 150 years ago. Now-a days all Repair & Maintenance works of all kinds for Trains are done here. For Rail-enthusiasts there are 3Nos. old Locomotives; one Narrow Gauge Steam Engine CS -15 (10 feet 6 inch in height, 19 feet long & Weight 11.76 ton) built in 1936, another Coaldriven Broad Gauge Steam

SGC-Z 240 (53 feet 10 inch long, & built in 1921) and the other is Meter Gauge Locomotive or Engine MHZ -8(3332), Length-38 feet, built in 1982. Move to the Hotel for overnight.

Day 7: SAIDPUR TO KHULNA Take the Rupsha Express (728) from Saidpur to Khulna at 09:30hrs, ETA Khulna 18:30 hrs. Upon arrival transfer to hotel to check-in for overnight.

Day 8 KHULNA- SUNDARBANS-MONGLA - - KHULNA—KOLKATA (train operates on SUN/THU only) Early B/F, check-out & drive an hour to Mongla for an excursion trip to the Sundarbans visiting Karamjal Forest Station by a Small Vessel. Visiting the Forest, back to Mongla and move to the Railway Station to

board the 1330hrs Bandan Exp for Kolkata. Arrival Kolkata at 17:40hrs. Further transfer to Kolkata hotel for a night stay with a farewell meal.

Day 9 KOLKATA / outward Full day guided city tour with Tram ride. Transfer to Kolkata international airport for onward flight. Dates / prices expected shortly. (Tour contact Adrian Palmer)

**Hungary** – This is the proposed programme, note now starting point Vienna Airport , Austria which is well served by flights from the UK. Exact dates / prices available shortly

Day 1 Start Vienna Airport Bus transfer 80 km Hotel Sopron

Day 2 Bus transfer 15 km Széchenyi Múzeumvasút Nagycenk visit Steam special train 492.013 "András" Bus transfer 140 km Hotel Lenti

Day 3 Bus transfer 10 km State Forest Railway Csömödér/Lenti visit Steam special train 490.2002 Resita (ex CFF 764.460) Bus transfer 100 km Hotel Balatonfenyves

Day 4 Bus transfer 10 km Steam special train 490.053 MÁV Balatonfenyves Bus transfer 170 km Hotel Budapest

Day 5 Bus transfer 20 km Budapest Children's Railway depot visit Steam special train 490.039 or 490.056 Bus transfer 20 km Hungarian Railway Museum visit Bus transfer 20 km Hotel Budapest

Day 6 Bus transfer 230 km ZSUZSI Erdei Vasút visit Steam special train 394.023 "Zsuzsi" Steam Workshop Debrecen visit Bus transfer 230 km Hotel Budapest

Day 7 Bus transfer 50 km Királyréti narrow gauge Railway visit Steam special train 490.2004 Resita "Morgó" Bus transfer 50 km Hotel Budapest

Day 8 Bus transfer 90 km Kemence Forest Museum Railway visit Steam special train 356.301 "Triglav" Bus transfer 90 km Hotel Budapest

Day 9 Bus transfer 240 km to Vienna Airport . Date and price confirmation expected shortly. (Tour contact Adrian Palmer)

**Bulgaria** – We had hoped to include details with this circular but we are waiting the outcome of a price renegotiation. Please register for full details when available. (Tour contact Adrian Palmer)

**Angola -** Angola. Proposals are with our agent in Lobito. It is hoped to offer a tour lasting 2 weeks in the period between mid-August and mid-September 2024. (Geoff Warren)

**Dordrecht** Friday to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Expressions of interest to Colin Miell

### Circulation of Overseas Magazines 2024.

Over the last few years the number of members using this service has decreased whilst subscription to the magazines and postal charges have increased. It is no longer possible for LCGB to subscribe to magazines that incur a severe loss. For example the German magazine LOK-Report costs LCGB £94 and to post £28 but only one person is on the circulation list bringing in £30. Other magazines are in a similar state; this situation cannot continue.

Consequently for 2024 only Eisenbahn Kurier is offered on circulation with a cost to members of £36. All other magazines will lapse. (Brian Garvin)

#### **CONTACTS - Overseas Tours Committee comprises:**

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