

## Not in the Artic Circle The Other Trips of 2022

In 2022 we undertook a long journey in Norway....this book is about the other 'holidays' in the same year.

.....A tough life, but someone has to do it.



## Valencia





Above: In the Basílica de la Mare de Déu dels Desamparats

Right & next few pages: Las Fallas; Once a year, Valencia in Spain turns into a great happening. Hundreds of giant dolls, rising up to 10 meters, of Politics, Movie stars and Toreadors carried in a parade along a bonfires and pyrotechnic performances way. In spite of the long period that took to create those dolls the climax of the festival is throwing the dolls into the fires. Explosions and the flames are all around.













Above: International Womans day is celebrated in the Cathedral square

Right: We passed this stall every night on the way home





























The Central Market of Valencia





















At the Falla festival the public vote on the best 'model' and it is 'reprieved' by not being burnt to the ground. This is added to all the previous reprieved 'sculptures' which are displayed every year...this year at the Ciudad de las Artes





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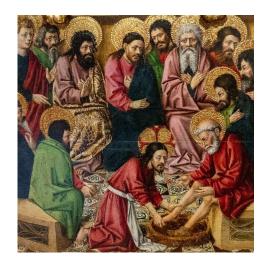
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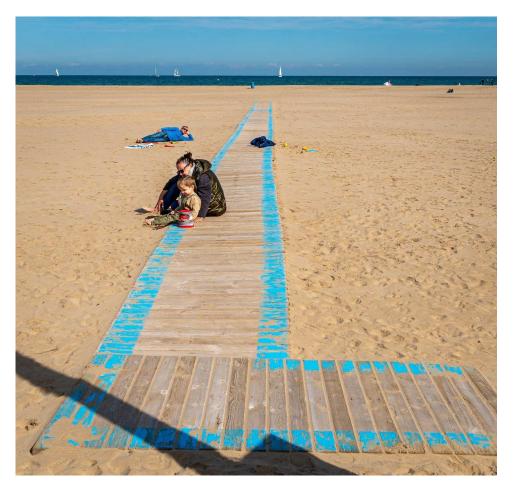
Museu de Belles Arts de València: Some great early stuff. But fell off a cliff with its 18& 19c painting. The Tríptico de la Passión by Hieronymus Bosch where he had inserted a self portrait was outstanding.











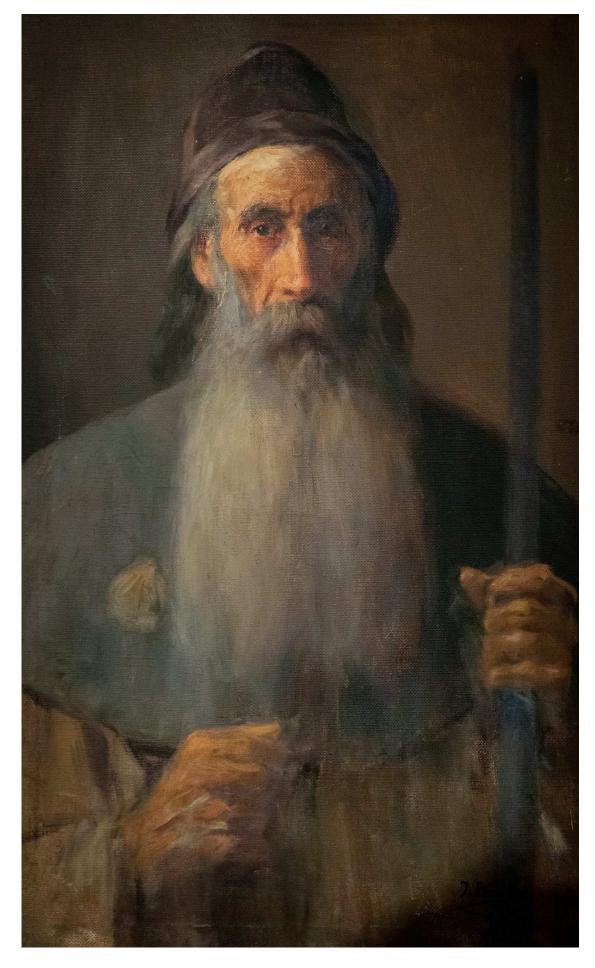
We catch the tram to the beach for a non to exciting Paella at Casa Carmela. Good day out though.







We had a morning free before going to the airport, so we went to Casa Museu Benlliure, Museum featuring the preserved early-20th-century home of painter José Benlliure & his family. It was a delight and a great find.





The painting of the left was called 'The Pilgrim' complete with scallop shells. We agreed it didn't look like me ....even on a bad day

Right; A look down from Torres de Serranos, one of the old gates into the city.



	2022	Walk ed		for fast walk	time	Stps	
S	03-04-2021	3.1		-	2.03	9556	
M	04-04-2021	1.9	18		1.32	6346	
T	05-04-2021	13.2	97		6.27	29076	
W	06-04-2021	15.6	105		6.37	34543	
T	07-04-2021	11.6	129		5.32	27158	
F	08-04-2021	6.1	58		3.15	14495	
S	09-04-2021	8.1	51		4.00	19253	
S	10-04-2021	8.2	69		4.32	20195	
M	11-04-2021	12.2	80		6.31	27398	
T	12-04-2021	8.9	129		3.30	19199	
W	13-04-2021	10.4	114	1	4.50	23912	
T	14-04-2021	2.8	36	100	1.34	8108	

The photos are from my annual walk, this time for most of the trip I had the company of lan, my brother. It started in St Malo by taking the water bus to Dinard.

I ended the journey by filling in the missing bit from Dinard to St Malo, taking the water bus again. It was a great time ...walking, eating and chatting.





The ship on the right was not our ferry from Portsmouth...just leaving at the same time.

## Walking the GR 34 in Brittainy from St Malo to Plouha





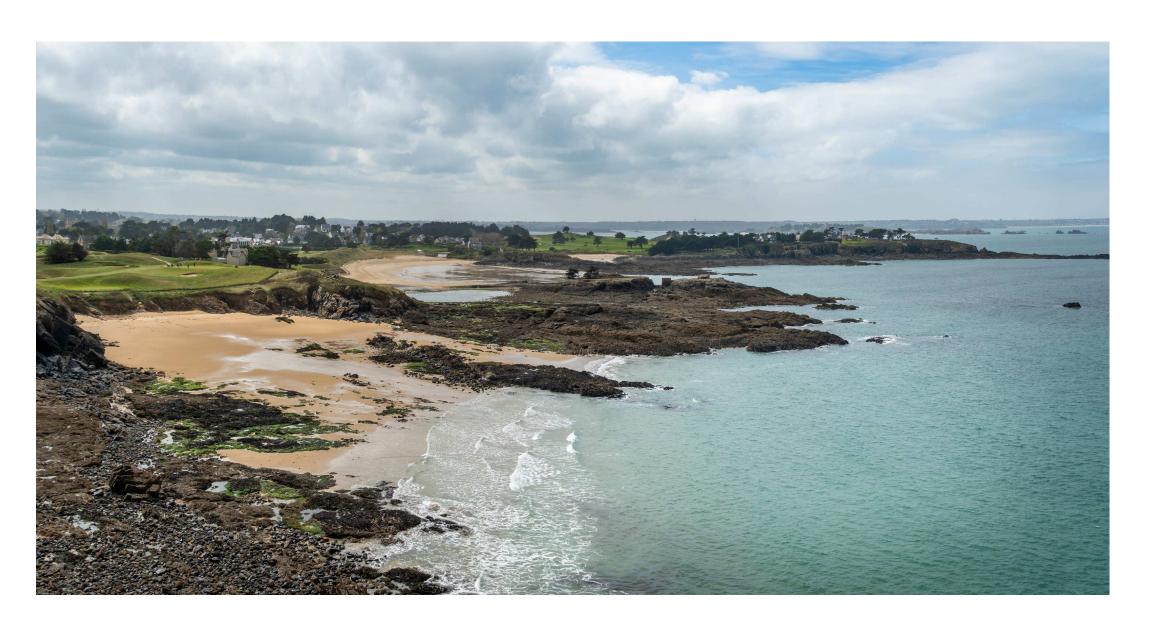


What a great lunch we had in Saint-Lunaire...simple French cooking at its best.

The missing section was quite deliberate, designed to fit in with lan's time available



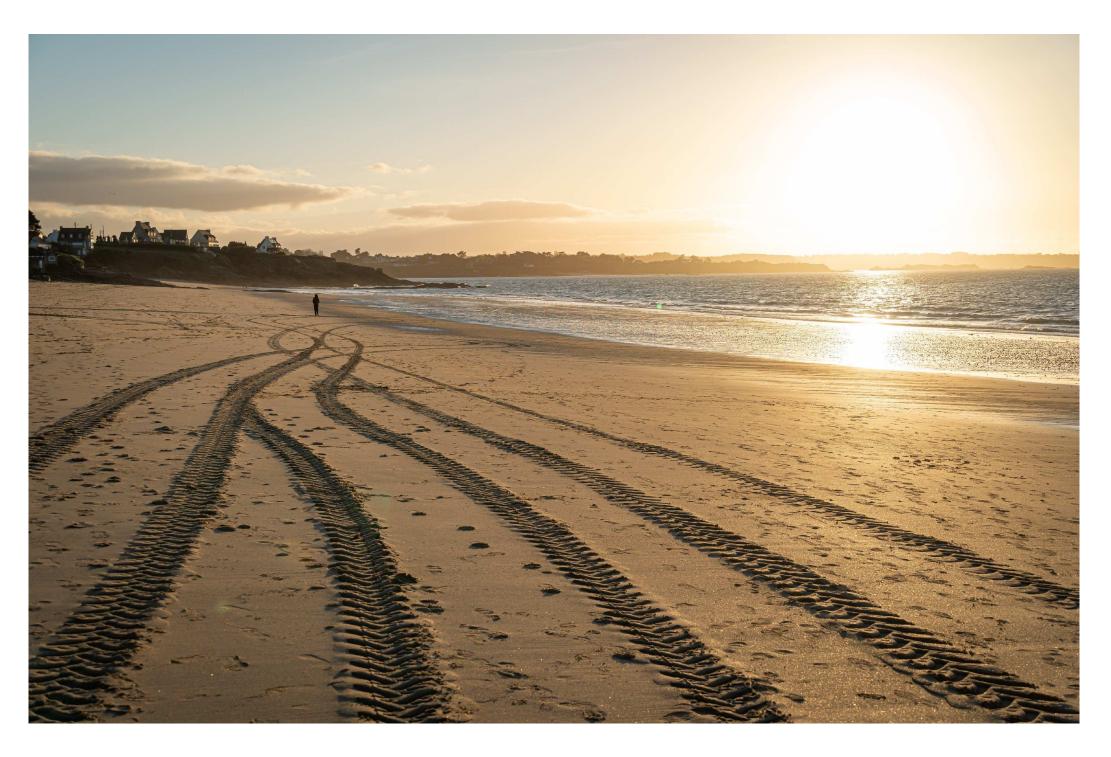






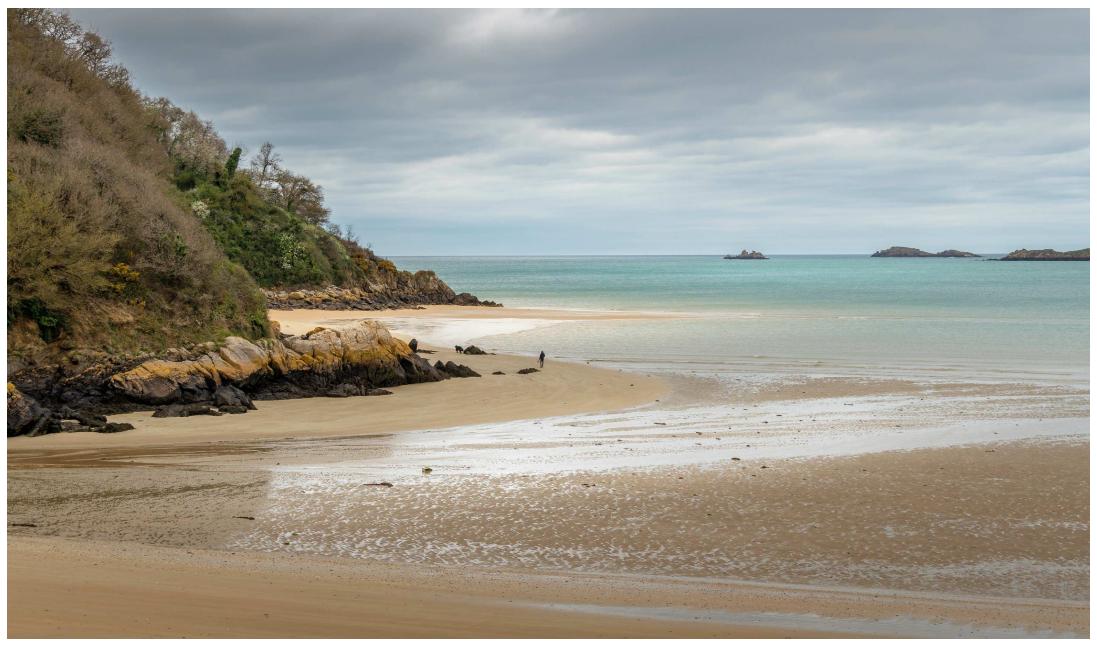












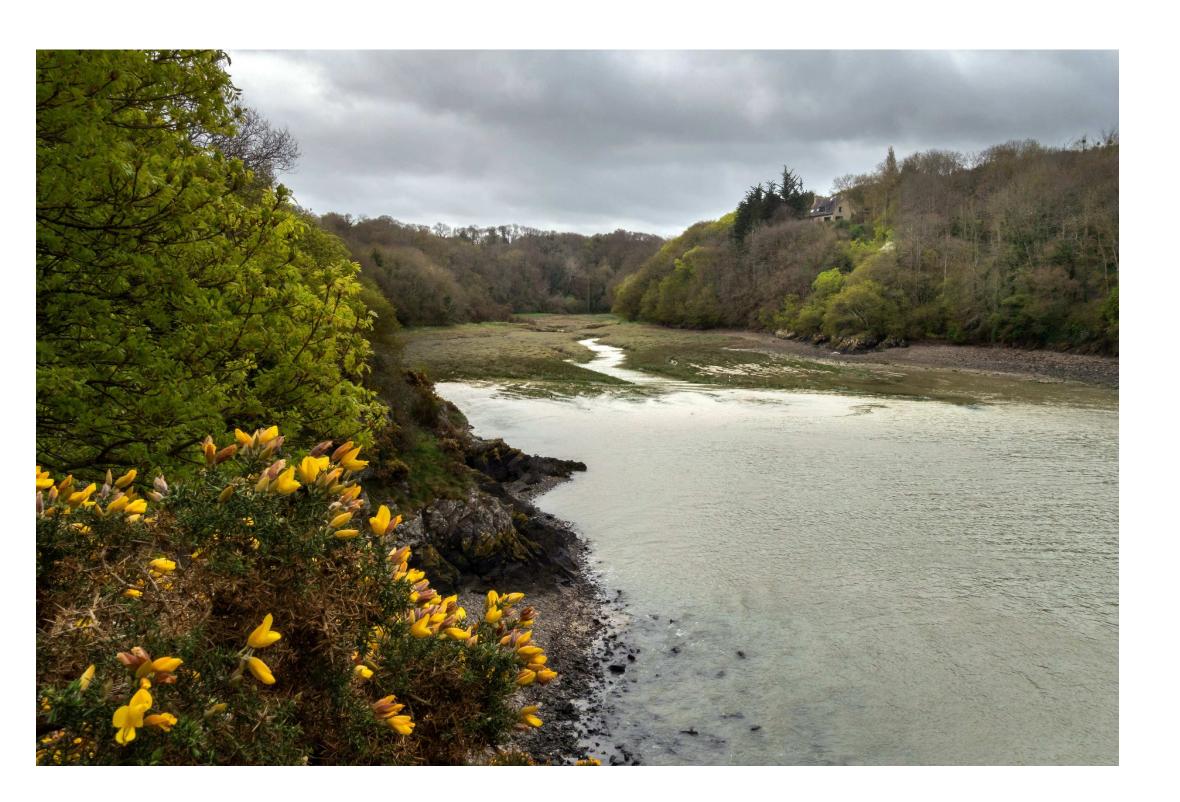
Occasionally a lunch stop can be delightful from every point of view, food, scenery, weather, company and seating arrangements. This stop ticked all the boxes.













































On a linear walk finding food is one of my main challenges. As it was a Sunday the chances of finding grub in the evening was not good. However I found a beach café two miles before the end of my journey serving fish and chips...very good it was too... You do not get a glass of rose in an english chipy. The crepe was the most I could find in the evening.





In the evening sitting outside at the beach café in Saint-Quay-Portrieux by the beach swimming pool I ate this dish of scallops and a grain risotto with char grilled vegtables.

It was delicious... probably one of the best meals I have ever had ...the two glasses of rose helped.

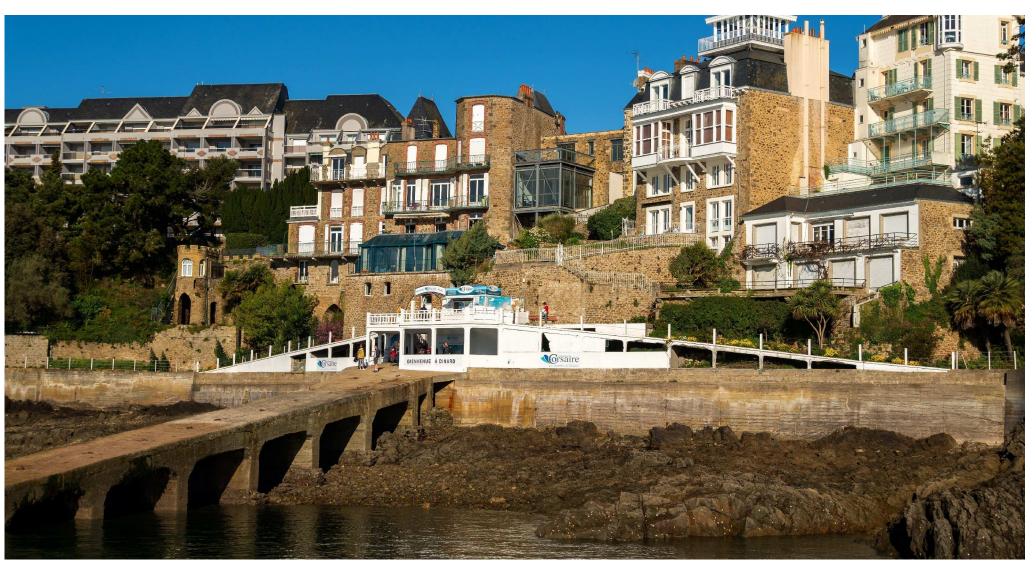






Breakfast in St Malo before catching the water bus to Dinard, I was given half a loaf of bread....to my shame (sort of....) I ate it all.















Arundel

A night away, starting off at Boshum, followed by a tour of Arundel Castle and its Tulip filled garden. The next day a train ride to Amberley with a walk back to Arundel. A grand two days out.









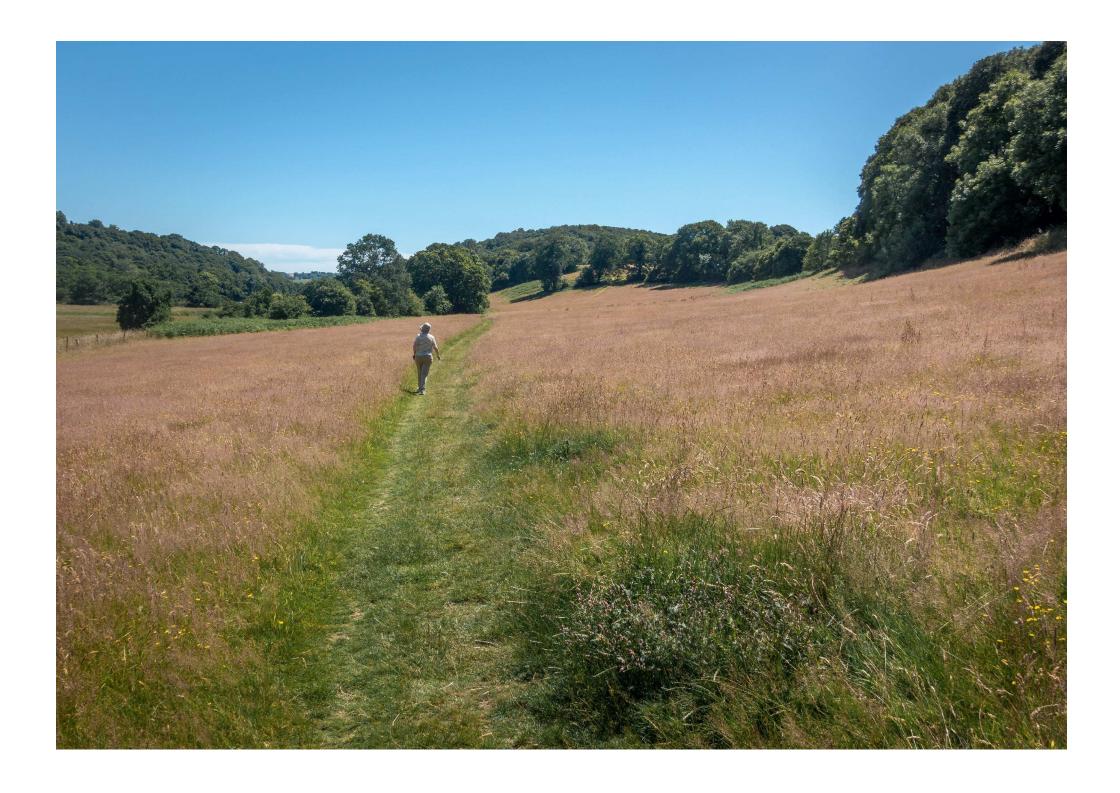












## Cornwall

In July we stayed in an Airbnb near Lostwithiel. The weather was great and we spent most of our time loafing. Ian joined us for a couple of days.













## Italy

In September we anjoyed a three week trip to Italy starting with a week in San Gimignano























Above and following pages: We have a day trip to Siena









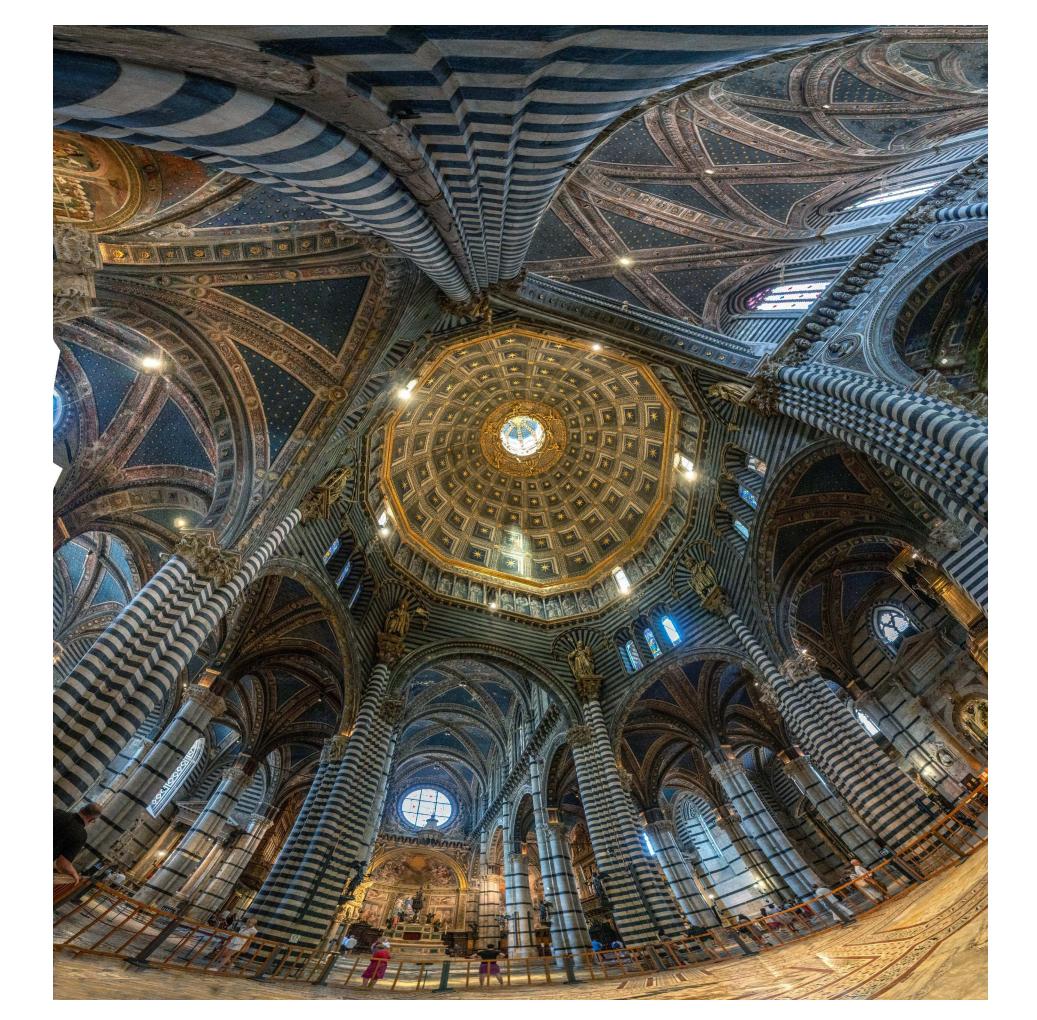


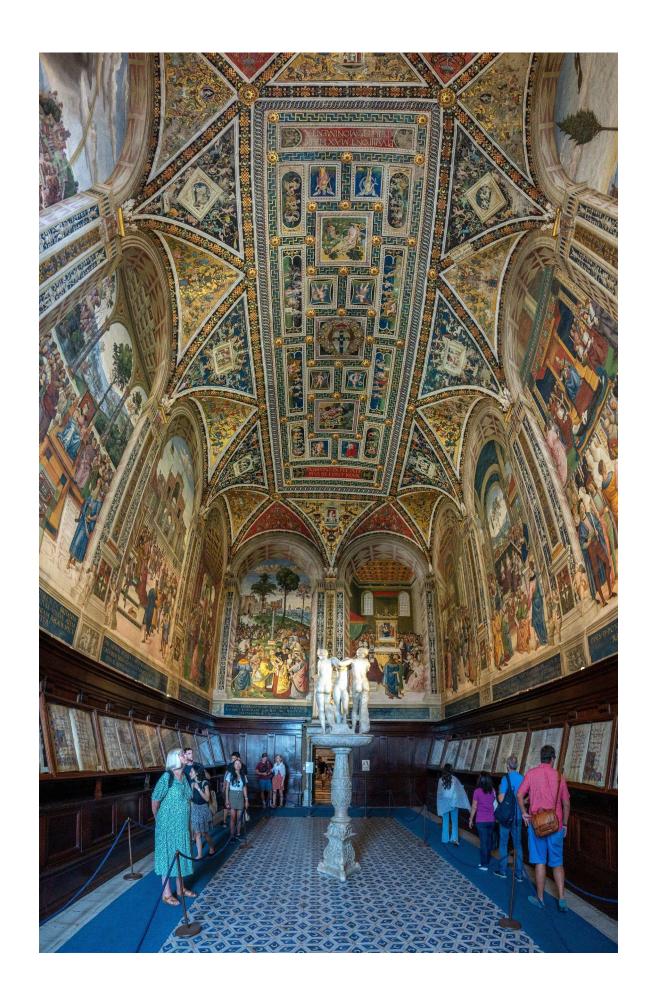
















A day trip to Certaldo, not a lot here after you have climbed the hill in the railway.....except the slowest cafe in Italy







Our Airbnb in San Gimignano, with Mr T the high speed tortoise.



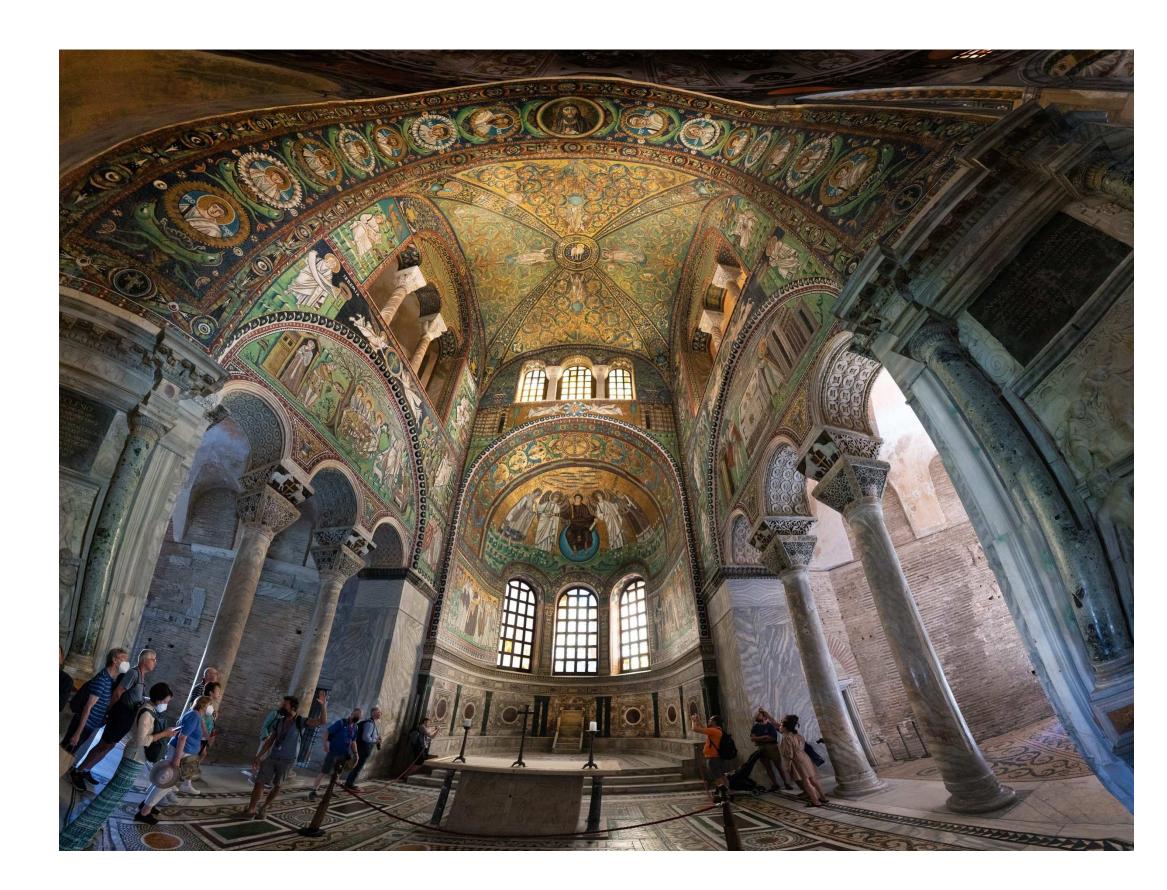
Next we spend three nights in Ravenna







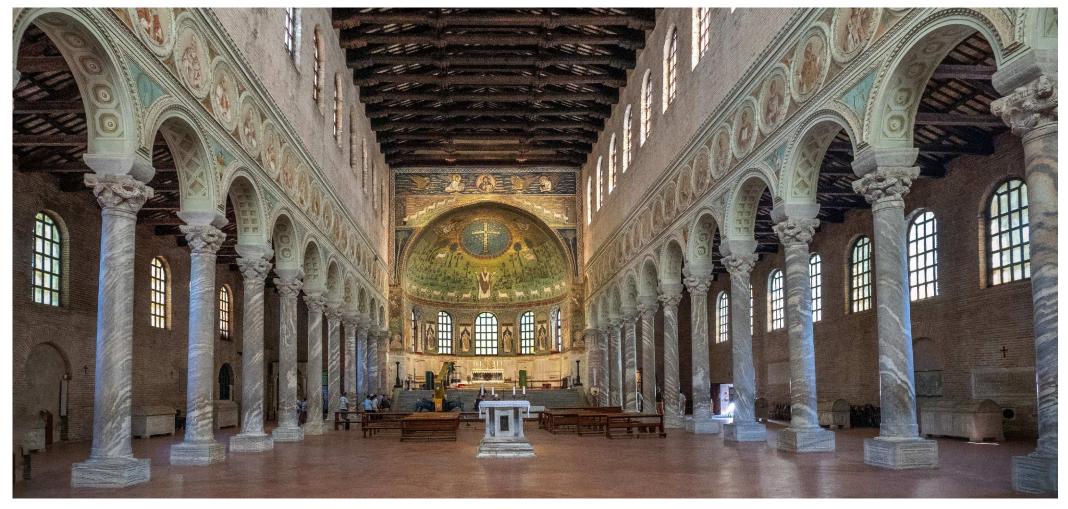








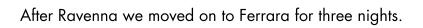




































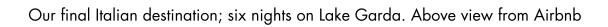




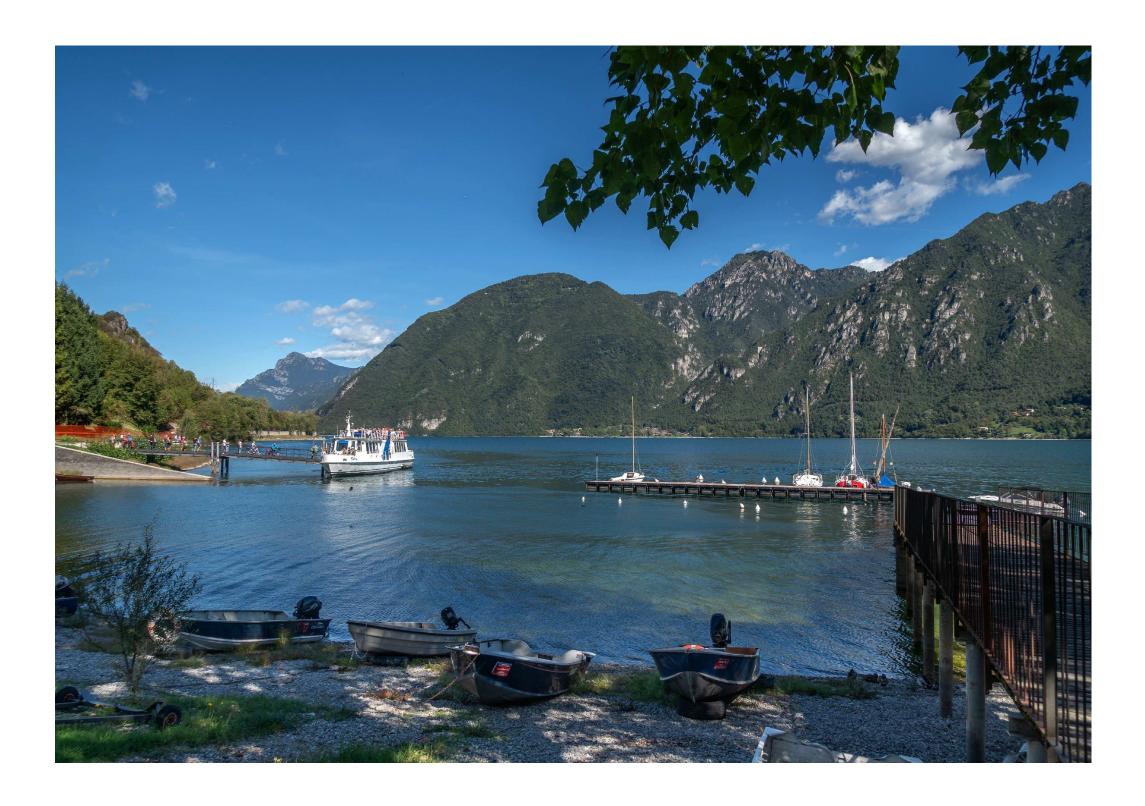
















After a day loafing in Salo, we take a drive to lake, D'Anfo











Above: Isola del Garda

Over: Last lunch before going home and getting COVID on the 'plane





## Alsace

Rob and I go walking for a long weekend once a year....this year to The Alsace. Having booked it all up ages ago.... Rob tests positive for Covid the day before. Sad to be without our son, drinking buddy and walking playmate I go ahead with the trip as it was too late to cancel anything. Having just recovered from Covid myself, my speed was very slow, but the weather and autumn colours of the vines was magnificent.



Above: My COVID tests

Right: I bought salad meals in the supermarket with a huge selection of SB's available locally, not to mention a good supply of wine and no supervision..... I had a great time overindulging





























## Bristol

A three day trip to Westonbirt, The National Arboretum and Bristol.









