

12th May.

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your mother's day card. It was also good to get your letter with the details of your grand European special. It sounds great.

You may be surprised to know that mum and I plan to go overseas this year for a change.

We leave Melbourne on a British Airways direct flight on Sunday 21st June, arriving London at about midnight, the 25th, leave London on 29th June on a BA flight to Dublin, hire a car for a week, leave Dublin 5th July for Edinburgh by the Irish airlines - Aer Lingus. (Hope that all the Irish stories are untrue, and that we actually arrive at the right destination), We hire another car in Edinburgh and meander down through ~~England~~ Scotland, England & Wales back to London.

We have booked both ways to London & return as direct flights with B.H. with stops only in Perth & Bombay, to cut down on travelling time. I know that there are cheaper ways to go, but one of the perks is that one (or even two) can book to a destination in Europe, fly to London, and use the European part later at very little extra cost. Under this scheme we fly out of London on 31st July for Vienna, and fly back to London on 3rd August to connect with our return flight to Australia.

By co-incidence I think that this places us in Vienna at the same time as G.E.30. We don't yet know our hotel, except that we have stipulated that it be centrally placed in the city. Unfortunately, the Schönbrunn palace is not available.

We will send you a full itinerary when all is finalized, and if you feel like escaping from your converted concentration camp for an hour or two, we could perhaps have a slice of sacher torte together in the hotel where it was invented. I could also offer my services as a German speaking guide, and mum could check out any young fraulien you may care to bring along.

We did intend to return to Vienna in any case, last time there our bookings were messed up and we were put into a hotel miles out of town. It also rained non-stop, and as a consequence we did not see all that we wanted to see. If it embarrasses you to have your elderly and senile parents there at the same time as you, just ignore us if you see us in the street. On the other hand we would be very glad to see you and to swap notes.

Love

Mad.