

STAFF REWARD

INTRODUCTION

After a particularly successful year a Dutch lingerie company were organizing their annual staff event through Mauri. This was the first time that they had hosted an event outside of the Netherlands so enlisted our help and expertise to ensure the whole trip ran smoothly and was a success. We organized all elements of the 2½ day event including restaurants, hotels and transport for the clients.

PROGRAM DETAIL

Client Name: Mauri

Date of Experience: September 28th – 30th 2007

Experiences: Wine Tasting, Catamaran, Bus tour, Jet-ski, Speed Boat, Kayaks, Banana Boat

Group Size: 85 participants

Duration of Event Program: 2½ Days

CHALLENGES AND OBJECTIVES

- To provide an itinerary for a 3 day visit that was logistically manageable whilst at the same time being exciting and unique.
- To cater for a wide age range and for participants with their partners.
- To reward staff for a successful year.
- To keep staff motivated for the forthcoming year.
- To ensure the smooth running of logistics and keep to the tight schedule.
- To provide the right balance between activities and free time.

OUTLINE OF EVENT

Day 1: The work began as soon as the flight landed with a scheduled pick up from the airport to take the clients directly to their first experience of the trip. Lifestyle Barcelona representatives escorted clients onto buses and on to a restaurant in the Penedes, where after enjoying a traditional lunch they separated into 2 groups and went for a tour of one of the oldest wineries in Catalunya, learning about the history and tradition of wine. After the tour, all the clients congregated in the cellar and enjoyed a glass of locally produced cava before heading back to Barcelona where Lifestyle Barcelona check in assistants waited at their luxurious Hotel to arrange the group check in and to ensure they were all settled in their rooms. In the evening members of the Lifestyle Barcelona team guided the group through the streets of Barcelona to an exclusive club for an evening of food, drink and music, where the venue was privatized for the occasion.

Day 2: The day began with some free time for the clients to spend on their own exploring the city or doing some shopping. At 13:00 we gathered the group on the Hotel terrace to brief and prepare them for the days activities. We led them down to the Port to board a beautiful Catamaran, where they enjoyed a 2 hour cruise accompanied by live music, with a guitarist and saxophonist plus a buffet lunch and an open bar. When the Catamaran was anchored a jet-ski, speed boat, kayaks and a banana boat were all provided for the clients to enjoy, whilst others had a dip in the sea or relaxed on the boat. After the watersports the Catamaran sailed into the harbor of Port Olympic where they headed to a nearby restaurant and were greeted with welcome drinks as they waited for dinner to be served. The traditional meal was complimented by live flamenco dancers, performing while a plethora of decadent deserts were enjoyed by the group. The clients were then taken back to the Hotel at the end of the evening.

Day 3: Before the clients headed back to the Netherlands we had one more experience organized for them, a guided tour of the city in an open top bus. After checking out the hotel they boarded the bus for the tour which included all the major attractions including the Sagrada Familia, Parc Guell and Camp Nou, the FC Barcelona stadium. The tour ended with lunch in another beautiful restaurant before boarding the busses and heading for the airport.

SOLUTION TO CHALLENGES

We were posed with some challenges here as the group was so large and the age range so varied. The clients' partners were invited along therefore we avoided any teambuilding exercises. We succeeded in providing an interesting and balanced program that suited everyone's needs. The Wine Tasting catered for the people interested in experiencing gastronomy and culture; the Catamaran was perfect for the main event as it gave those that wanted to relax the opportunity to do so while the more adventurous and daring took part in watersports, and the trip was then rounded off with a chance for everyone to see the sights of the city aboard an open topped bus.

"I am still receiving messages from participants to thank me for the very good time they had in Barcelona. I can't thank you enough for everything you did to make this event so successful."

Luc Sweerts, Owner, Mauri

