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Barcelona... by trike

SOME TRIKE IT HOT

IN Barcelona we decided not to go one of the ship's excursions and contacted Lifestyle Barcelona to organise our own special tour.

With specialist guidance, we were able to avoid the tourist traps and see sights that otherwise would have remained hidden.

We were collected from the gangway and taken for a short ride to Barcelona's heliport for a flight over the city's major sights.

It cost around 67 pounds each and the fact that there was no commentary and the pilot remained silent throughout, hardly mattered because it was easy to pick out the landmarks, especially the Nou Camp football ground and the Olympic stadium.

Back on the ground, we were whisked away to our mystery transport for a tour of the city- a giant chopper tricycle. We sat back and let our friendly Dutch driver take us round the city. The tour cost just over 140 pounds and one of the highlights was seeing Gaudi's masterpiece the Sagrada Familia, where people were taking more pictures of us than of the cathedrals's spires.

We ended up at a quiet beachside car park where we could take the trike controls our selves.

For lunch we avoided the over-rated Las Ramblas and had a rustic meal costing us just over 30 pounds for the two of us in a quaint cheese shop in the shadow of the city's Gothic cathedral.

The day was worth every penny and thoroughly recommended for any visitor to Barcelona.

For Further details, see www.lifestylebarcelona.com