

1977

BUDGET BUS



BUDGET BUS - 1977

1977 marks our ninth year of successful passenger transportation in Europe and the East.

It started as a one man, one bus operation, and over the years has grown into a much larger organisation consisting of several coaches, drivers, agents, and subcontracts.

Essentially Budget Bus is still what it used to be - cheap and fun. The management is still the same and its purpose is still the same, ie. to provide an economical means of transport and travel.

This year there has been a small increase in fares due to the ever increasing costs of operation (and the ever decreasing £ !), however we feel sure that you will regard your money well spent on what many passengers feel is the journey of a lifetime.

For those who enjoy travelling overland, and are limited funds, Budget Bus is ideal for you.

OVERLAND TO INDIA (5 WEEKS)

The Budget Bus route to India takes you through ten countries, and the duration of the tour is scheduled at five weeks. The journey could in fact be completed in just over three weeks, but we allow extra time so as to keep the daily mileage down and thus make the trip more relaxing. Also we give you an opportunity to do some sightseeing in the major cities.

EUROPE: *

On the day of departure passengers meet outside the Totteridge Tube Station in London, where they are met by a coach to transfer them, free of charge, to Dover.

In Dover you board Budget Bus and drive onto the Cross Channel Ferry, to dock in Belgium four hours later.

The day after departure you travel through Belgium into Germany, where you camp for the night in the vicinity of Wurzburg.

Progress through Europe is generally fairly rapid as there is little to see in the way of interesting sights along the autobahns. When necessary we leave the autobahn to camp.

On the third day we continue South through Germany via Munich, and into Austria for an overnight stop in Salzburg. Time permitting, you can visit the beautiful castle that dominates Mozart's city.

The fourth day takes you on a pleasant drive through the Austrian countryside to the Yugoslavian border, via Graz. Our overnight stop here is at a campsite near the border at a town called Maribor.

The Yugoslavian Autoput passes through Zagreb, Belgrade, and Nis; a two day journey before reaching Greece.

On the seventh day we reach Kavalla, a lovely fishing village in Northern Greece. Here we spend an extra day to relax and enjoy a swim in the sea. You can also take a boatride to an offshore island.

TURKEY:

The ninth day of our trip takes us across the Turkish border at Ipsala. From here we drive directly to Istanbul - 'Gateway to the East'.

In Istanbul we have a three day stopover, and plenty of time to explore this fascinating city. Visit the huge covered bazaar, or join a ferry up the Bosphorous to the Black Sea, or to an offshore island. Explore the Aya Sofia, and the Blue Mosque, or just sit in the Pudding Shop and drink Turkish coffee.

The four day journey through Central and Eastern Turkey goes via Ankara, Sivas, Erzincan and Erzurum. Near the

Iran border we pass the foot of Mt Ararat, legendary resting place of Noah's Ark. Overall, Turkey provides some splendid views especially from the high Mountain Passes.

IRAN AND AFGHANISTAN:

We stop overnight in Tabriz at the well equipped campsite and the next day complete the journey to Tehran, the capital of Iran.

This modern boom city has much to offer, so we spend an extra day here to collect mail and visit some of the sights; the Golestan Palace is well worth seeing.

From Tehran we travel North to the Caspian Sea. A one day drive takes us across the Elburz Ranges, passing the foot of Mt Damavand, to one of the small villages along the fertile coastal strip.

The next day we journey through National Parkland towards the desert. With luck we may catch a glimpse of some wild animals that inhabit the forests. The desert is in sharp contrast with the scenery we have left behind, and remains the same until we reach Pakistan. Our last stop in Iran is Mashhad. Here we obtain our Afghan visas and if you have time you can see the Gold Domed Mosque - regretfully, non-Moslems cannot go inside.

A one day drive from Mashhad takes us to the Frontier of Afghanistan. Crossing this border is usually quite a lengthy business, so we arrive in Herat late in the evening. In Herat we spend an extra day to view (from a horse and buggy if you like) the bustling activity of a town that holds endless fascination for the Western mind.

Again we cross desert country, to reach Kandahar in the South late the same day.

The next day we drive to Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. You stop here for at least two days. Many passengers find this city the most interesting en route, so make the most of it!

Four weeks after departure from London we leave Kabul and travel a short distance before descending through Kabul Gorge. On to the Khyber Pass, in the Hindu Kush Ranges, and we are in Pakistan.

PAKISTAN AND INDIA:

In Pakistan, the difference is apparent. People everywhere and numerous street vendors selling their merchandise.

A night in Peshawar before heading to Lahore, via Rawalpindi, and Islamabad, the Capital of Pakistan.

We are now nearing the end of our tour, but first we spend a day in Lahore, the seething commercial capital of Pakistan. Here you can see an English film, or just wander around and absorb the new atmosphere.

Twenty miles away you cross the Pakistan/India border from where you drive directly to DELHI, your destination.

*Should the route via France and Italy in Europe be taken, then you will be advised before departure.

ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD:

When possible we use campsites; tents are supplied free of charge by the company and these are generally two-man, although larger ones are also used. Sometimes it is necessary to use hostels or hotels, especially in major cities where campsites are a long way out of town.

Campsite fees, hotel fees, and food are your own cost, and we estimate that you will need between £1.50 to £2 per day to cover these items.

There is no camping on the November trip due to the weather conditions, so you should allow a little more per day to cover the extra accommodation costs.

Cookers are also supplied free of charge by the company. These are convenient for brewing tea, coffee, soup, or light meals.

VEHICLE:

For transport Budget Bus uses 41, 45, or 52 seater coaches. These are given thorough preparation before departure, however on a trip of this nature, vehicle breakdowns can occur and therefore a comprehensive range of spare parts are carried.

Please note that this is a 6000 mile journey and can impose quite a strain on first time travellers. Cultural Shock is not uncommon as during the trip you will encounter many diverse ways of life, values, and customs. The Tour Leader is always there to help you.

WHAT TO BRING:

The following is a suggested wardrobe for your guidance when packing. You do not need a lot of clothes, and remember that too much gear can be a hindrance rather than a help. Basic garments can always be obtained en route, and often more cheaply. Baggage allowance is 44lb.

Li-Lo (airbed), Groundsheet (not supplied by company), Sleeping -bag, Rucksack or suitcase, Bag or pouch, Jacket or coat depending on the season, 2 pairs jeans, T-shirts or singlets, Smart slacks/Long skirt, Pyjamas, Underwear—quick drying, Longjohns for Winter departures, Sandals, Shoes or boots, Pullover or cardigan, Set of toilet articles, Socks, Handkerchiefs, Writing materials, Swimming trunks, Towels, etc.

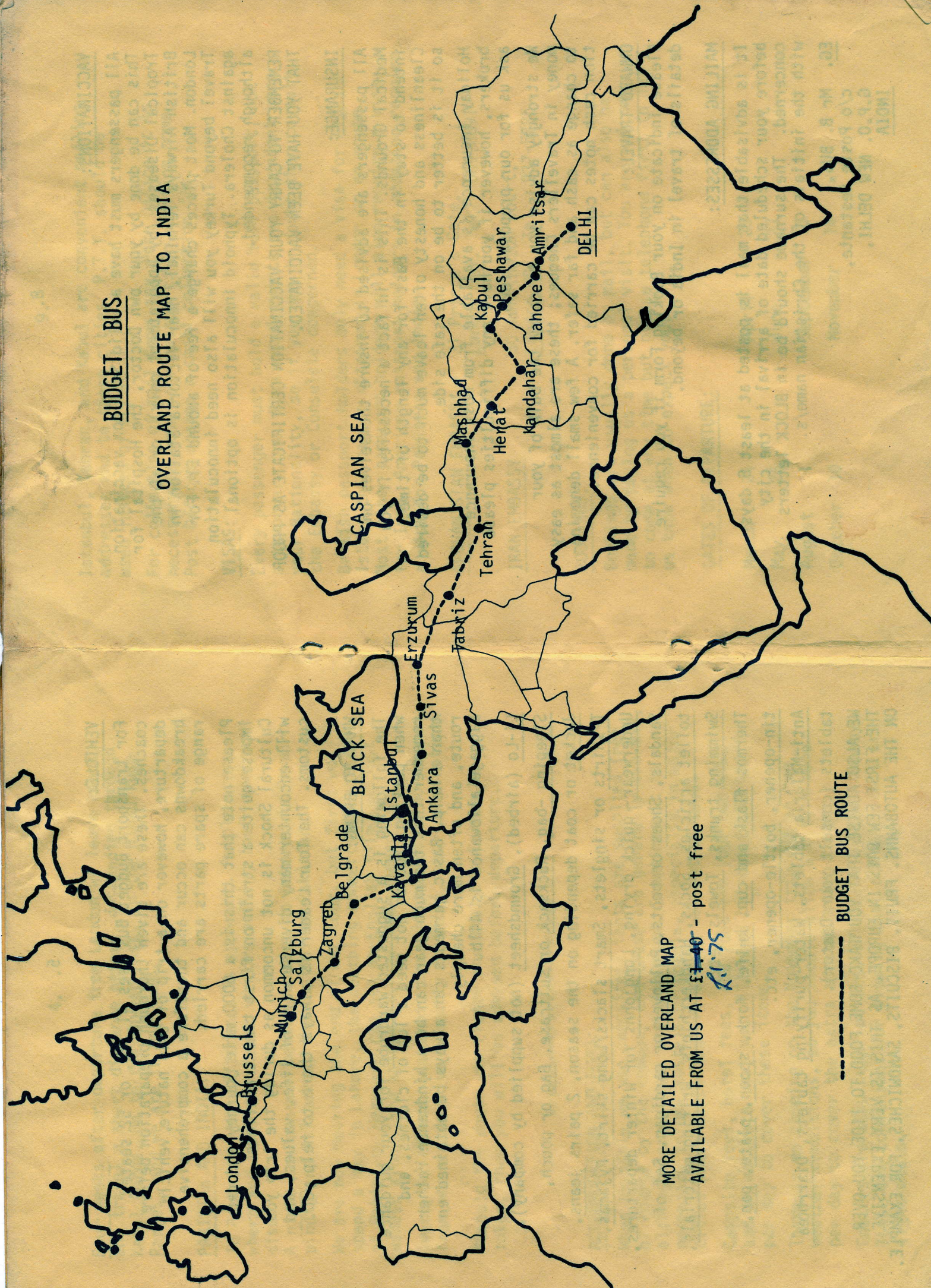
Thermos flask and cup, knife, fork, spoon, plate, pan, tin-opener, bottle-opener, etc.

Anti-Malaria tablets, Water-purifying tablets, Diarrhoea tablets (consult your Doctor).

WE ALSO ADVISE THAT YOU TAKE SOME FOOD TO TIDE YOU OVER THE FIRST FEW DAYS IN EUROPE, AS THIS IS VERY EXPENSIVE ON THE AUTOBAHNS. FRUIT, BISCUITS, SANDWICHES, FOR EXAMPLE.

BUDGET BUS

OVERLAND ROUTE MAP TO INDIA



MORE DETAILED OVERLAND MAP
AVAILABLE FROM US AT \$1.40 - post free
2.175

----- BUDGET BUS ROUTE

VACCINATIONS:

All passengers must have a valid Smallpox vaccination. This can be done by your own Doctor, the Hospital for Tropical Diseases (by appointment only), or at the British Airways Terminal, near Victoria Station in London. Most places charge a fee of around £1. For Travel beyond Turkey you will also need inoculation against Cholera. Typhoid inoculation is optional although recommended.

REMEMBER TO CARRY YOUR VACCINATION CERTIFICATE AS PROOF THAT YOU HAVE BEEN VACCINATED.

INSURANCE:

All passengers are advised to insure themselves on Medical Grounds. This is in fact a necessity if you intend to stay in the East for any length of time. Cleanliness and honesty often leave much to be desired so it is better to be on the safe side.

Holiday insurance is available from most insurance brokers, however if you have any difficulties please ask us for our proposal form.

We strongly advise you to carry the bulk of your money in Travellers Cheques; these are almost as easy to change as cash and far safer. A few small denomination cash notes can be carried for convenience.

ONWARD TRAVEL:

Please indicate on your Booking Form if you require details of travel in India or beyond.

MAILING ADDRESSES:

It is advisable that mail is posted at least 8 days before your scheduled date of arrival in the city concerned. The surname should be in BLOCK letters with the initials of the Christian name/s.

EG. Mr B. BUS,
c/o Poste Restante,
G.P.O. NEW DELHI,
INDIA

Istanbul, Tehran, and Kabul are convenient mailing addresses and to these cities P.T.T. should be used instead of G.P.O.

For collection of mail from any Post Office it is necessary to show your passport. In addition, some Post Offices charge a small collection fee.

VISAS:

Every passenger must hold a valid 'full' passport, not a temporary one. Visa requirements are dependent upon your Nationality, so if you are in doubt then consult the Embassy or Consulate concerned.

British passport holders only need a visa for Afghanistan; this can be obtained in London or en route. Most other passport holders will also require a visa for Iran. American passport holders in addition require a visa for Pakistan and India.

AFGHANISTAN EMBASSY - 31 Prince's Gate,
London SW7. Tel. 589-8891

IRAN EMBASSY - 50 Kensington Court,
London W8. Tel. 937-5225

BOOKINGS:

Bookings are usually done by mail, but can also be made by paying us a personal visit. You are welcome to come at any time but please telephone first to let us know when to expect you.

DATES OF DEPARTURE:

March	21	April	25
May	26	June	27
August	1	September	5
October	10	November	14

COST OF JOURNEY:

The journey proper commences in Dover. Transport from London to Dover is free of charge.

		Up to May 31	From June 1
LONDON	to DELHI -----	£79	£89
LONDON	to ISTANBUL -----	£38	£42
LONDON	to TEHRAN -----	£59	£65
LONDON	to KABUL -----	£75	£84

You may also join the coach en route. If you join in Istanbul then the fare will be £20 less. If you join in Salzburg, the fare will be £4 less.

Please indicate when booking if you require details on return travel with Budget Bus.

'TOUR-EAST' :

Tour-East caters for those who have more time and money to spend on their overland journey.

These tours follow a similar route to Budget Bus and in addition go through Southern Turkey, the Middle-East, and Nepal. There is also an Expedition through Africa later in the year.

Fares start at £109.

Please ask us for more details if you are interested.

NOTES

EUROPEAN GROUP

egta

TRAVEL ASSOCIATION



**34 Oakleigh Park North,
LONDON N20. 01-445-8608**