

Preface

This is one of the most important writings about travel, but there was nothing new in what Nugent said.

Before this the classic writings of Oratio, Strabone and Pausania understood that *dilettare* (to give pleasure) and *istruire* (to teach) was, and is even today, the goal of good teaching.

These travels, were done by rich British young men, the goal was to complete their education.

In the 1790's, in his writings "The Voyage of Italy", Richard Lassels called them "The Grand Tour".

The travels represented a formation and education period ,during which young men matured, so when they returned to their country they could take their place in society.

For this reason The Grand Tour had to last according to the family's wealth.

At the beginning people that went for The Grand Tour usually visited only Northern Italy, then they also went to Naples and then even to Sicily.

According to Doctor Johnson, the man who had not been to Italy was conscious of his inferiority.

This is a passage (from the work of Francis Bacon called "Of Travel", written in 1615) that the English travellers know "*by hearth*".

Francis Bacon - Of Travel

This passage speaks about Francis Bacon's ideas about travelling.

He advises people that want to go to a foreign country, first to learn the language of the country they want to visit.

He says that travelling is part of young people's education and a good experience for all people.

He says that young people should travel with a tutor or a servant.

"Francis Bacon was writing this for rich people of course, because only they had servants and tutors".

The tutors or servants should visit a country before, so they can give good advice about the places and people that the young men are going to see.

When they go for sea-voyages young men should write diaries because during these voyages, there is nothing to see, except the sky and the sea. In land-travel they shouldn't write any diaries, because there are many things to do and see.

The most important things to visit in foreign countries are: the courts of princes, the courts of justice, the churches, the monasteries, the monuments, the walls and the fortifications, the libraries, the colleges and treasuries of jewels and rarities.

According to Bacon if somebody wants to do a journey, and he has a young man to take with him, he should have some knowledge of the language, he should take a diary with him and not stay long in the same city. He should change his lodging from one part of the town to another.

He shouldn't stay with his countrymen, but in the good company of the people he is visiting.

He should get in touch with the people where he goes, so that they can help him to visit and know the things that he likes. In this way he doesn't waste any time.

He should avoid the company of choleric and quarrelsome people.

When he returns home he shouldn't forget the places and the manners of the people where he stayed.

An important thing is that he shouldn't change his country manners for those of the foreign countries he has visited.