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Senior
Discovery
Tours

2023 VOLUME 2 - SPRING / SUMMER TOURS AND CRUISES

Canada (East & West) • U.S.A. • British Isles • Europe
• Walking Tours • Cruises • Coach Tours

PROUDLY CANADIAN  FOR 45 YEARS

Discover Our Beautiful World



PEACE OF MIND

At Senior Discovery Tours, we take care of all the travel details, so all you have to do is sit back and enjoy every minute of your trip. As Canada's largest and most trusted group tour operator for over 45 years, our tours are designed to provide peace of mind and a carefree experience for the mature traveller. We offer over 100 different tour programs which deliver outstanding service, value and discovery, so get ready to fill your minds and cameras with beautiful images, striking landscapes and special moments.



EXCEEDING YOUR EXPECTATIONS

Our Tour Planners travel the globe seeking new destinations, vetting every element of the tour - from perfectly planned itineraries, to personally inspected hotels, and even the menu choices. We don't just try to meet your expectations, we aim to exceed them. We include more meals at local restaurants for authentic dining, not-to-be-missed iconic sights, cultural immersion and off-the-beaten-track experiences, and a number of surprises along the way!



TRAVEL MADE EASY

Our travellers love our tours because, unlike most other tour operators, we include everything: flights, carefully selected hotels, most meals, all tips, all taxes, insurance for cancellation and health while outside Canada, and even transportation between your home and the airport (from most Canadian cities). All prices are guaranteed in Canadian dollars, and there are never any surprise costs or hidden surcharges.

TOUR MANAGERS GO ABOVE AND BEYOND

Our Tour Managers are the best in the business. They go above and beyond to ensure your trip runs smoothly, and that everything is delivered at a superior level of service. Their experience enables them to expertly handle unexpected situations, and their enthusiasm for travel enlivens every tour.

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND PEACE OF MIND

TRAVEL SAFETY IS OUR FIRST PRIORITY

The world of travel has changed, but what hasn't changed is our commitment to the health and safety of our guests. As a company that has been specializing in tours for those 55+ for over 45 years, we remain committed to being the best-in-class for your health and safety. Our team consults with health and security experts worldwide to ensure that your health, well being and enjoyment remain our top priority.

Enhanced Health & Safety Highlights:

- Those travelling outside Canada will be covered by our **Manulife Out-of-Country Health Insurance Plan** (unless you choose to decline it), which **covers all Covid related expenses** (except for testing if this becomes necessary again).
* Manulife terms and conditions apply.
- At the present time we require that **all passengers wear a mask while on our motorcoaches**.
- In order to create the safest group environment on our tours, and to ensure peace of mind for all of our guests, **we require that all of our travellers be vaccinated for Covid 19** (at least 2 shots).
- If there are any health protocols necessary for your tour **we will keep you informed** well in advance of the trip.
- Should any specific requirements be imposed by airlines and/or authorities in the destinations visited, our guests must fully comply.

SPECIAL CANCELLATION TERMS THROUGH THE END OF SEPTEMBER 2023

Please rest assured that you can book your Senior Discovery Tours holiday with complete peace of mind. We will continue to be the travel industry leader by offering a refund policy far more flexible and generous than other tour operators, and have introduced temporary cancellation policies that will be effective for all tours departing before the end of September 2023.

Special Cancellation Highlights:

- Up to 60 days prior to the departure of your tour (90 days prior to the departure for cruises and train tours) you may decide, at your sole discretion, whether or not you want to proceed on the trip. If you inform us by that time that you choose not to go, we will send you a full refund of your deposit / payment (less the \$75 administration fee).
- If you proceed with the tour, you will be covered by our usual Cancellation Policy, which provides coverage in case of emergency illness (including Covid) or injury, right up to your date of departure.
- If you cancel your tour less than 60 days prior to your trip (or 90 days prior for cruises), for a reason not covered in our Cancellation Policy, we have negotiated with our travel partners to significantly reduce our cancellation penalties. More details can be found under our "Terms and Conditions" on the back page of our brochure.

#SAFETRAVELS



We're delighted to announce that we've been awarded the *Safe Travels Stamp* by the World Travel and Tourism Council, recognized globally for adopting safety and hygiene standards issued by government and health authorities around the world, designed specifically to address outbreaks such as COVID 19.

MORE REWARDING TRAVEL



A WELCOME GIFT THE MOMENT YOU JOIN

Enjoying unforgettable travel experiences with Senior Discovery Tours is now even more exciting as we launch our Discovery Rewards program. From exclusive travel items to savings on future tours with us, Discovery Rewards offer exciting ways to get more out of every trip. The more you travel, the higher your Discovery Rewards tier level status and rewards.

- Great travel-related gift items
- Rewards and savings on future tours
- Easy tier levels mean quick member status upgrades



SHARING THE JOY OF TRAVEL

Senior Discovery Tours enjoys some of the best reviews in the travel industry, and we want to reward your loyalty by introducing our exciting new referral program, Blue Sky Referrals. If you're a member of our Discovery Rewards and opt-in to BlueSky Referrals, you may refer 5 family and friends right away! If your referrals stay subscribed to our promotional communications for at least 6 months, you will both be rewarded! Plus, if your referrals complete a trip with us, you will receive savings towards your future tour with Senior Discovery Tours. For over 45 years, Senior Discovery Tours has sent more satisfied senior travellers on more tours than any other Canadian tour operator, and we will continue to measure our success through your positive reviews.



THE CLUB THAT TAKES YOU FURTHER

Senior Discovery Tours has always welcomed the opportunity to offer clubs and associations an exclusive reward for their loyalty when their members travel with us. We offer a 4% commission that will be paid directly to the club/association AND there is no minimum number of bookings required to receive the commission.

If you have any questions or would like to book a virtual presentation for your club/association, please contact us at info@seniordiscoverytours.ca or call 1-800-268-3492.

YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!

Thank you to all clients who have posted positive reviews. We appreciate your feedback and would love to continue to hear about your past travels and memories with Senior Discovery Tours - it's an integral part of helping us plan future tours so we can continue to provide you with superior travel experiences. Please continue to leave us Google and Facebook reviews and share your travel photos using #SeniorDiscoveryTours. Be sure to subscribe to our monthly eNewsletter or request a brochure on our website to get all the latest news about our exciting tours and cruises. Let's connect on social media!

For Full Program Details and Easy Enrollment
visit [SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca](https://www.SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca)

SENIOR DISCOVERY TOURS

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Toronto, ON
M4R 1A9
(416) 322-1500

OTTAWA

392 Richmond Road
Ottawa, ON
K2A 0E8
(613) 722-9400

LONDON

649 Colborne St. Suite 201
London, ON
N6A 3Z2
(519) 433-2300

VANCOUVER

6450 Roberts St. Suite 110
Burnaby, BC
V5G 4E1
(604) 647-0100

CALGARY

11012 Macleod Trail SE Suite 215
Calgary, AB
T2J 6A5
(403) 225-2900

Toll-Free 1-800-268-3492

SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca

Special Notes

*Please see Page 1 for our special
cancellation terms through summer 2023.*

*All travellers must be vaccinated (2 shots)
for Covid 19.*

ALWAYS INCLUDED IN OUR EXPERTLY PLANNED TOURS

- Round-trip transportation between your home and the airport (from many Canadian cities)
- All airfare, airport taxes and fuel surcharges. (Airline baggage fees are *not* included)
- Carefully selected accommodations, including hotel taxes, gratuities and luggage handling (where available)
- All gratuities for hotels, drivers, guides and cruise staff
- Most meals, highlighting local flavour
- Comprehensive insurance plan (health while outside Canada, cancellation, trip interruption, loss of luggage, etc.)
- Plenty of unparalleled sightseeing, and entrance fees
- Expert local guides
- Experienced, professional and engaging Tour Managers
- Prices include all taxes and are guaranteed in Canadian funds!
- Should any kind of Covid testing be required, either before or during your tour, the cost of the testing is *not* included.

*You have the option to arrange your own flights - air rebate will be applied.
If you choose this option, home pick-up and airport transfers not included.*

TO BOOK

- Phone one of our offices, with credit card info, to reserve your space.
- A deposit of \$300 per person for regular tours, or \$700 per person for tours including a cruise, is due upon booking.
- \$75 of your deposit is a non-refundable administration fee.
- For those paying by cheque - please send your deposit (see above) to one of our offices within 7 days of making your booking.
- Balance of payment is due 60 days prior to departure for regular tours, or 90 days prior for tours including a cruise, train or entry visa.

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Canadian Rockies and Beautiful B.C.

Western Canada (especially the Rocky Mountains) is rightly considered to be one of the most beautiful places on earth.

Awe-inspiring mountain ranges with glistening snow-capped peaks, azure blue lakes, huge areas of unspoiled wilderness, an abundance of wildlife and a highly developed tourist infrastructure all combine to make this area one of the world's most desirable travel destinations.

On this tour we will experience the grandeur of Lake Louise, Banff and Jasper National Parks, as well as the exciting British Columbian cities of Vancouver (one of the world's favourite cities) and the capital of BC - Victoria, which resembles a transplanted piece of England. For the stout-hearted we have included some wonderful

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Air Canada flights
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast daily
- 6 dinners
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy,
from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal

July & August tours - \$5497

September tours - \$5297

-
- Single supplement - \$1290
 - Triples - deduct \$150 per person
 - Halifax - add \$190
 - Winnipeg - deduct \$100
 - Edmonton or Vancouver - deduct \$300
 - Calgary - deduct \$500

10 DAYS • 4 DATES IN 2023

JULY 27 - AUGUST 5

AUGUST 17 - 26

SEPTEMBER 7 - 16

SEPTEMBER 14 - 23

adventures ... the Columbia Icefields, the Gondola Lift at Sulphur Mountain, Hell's Gate Airtram and spectacular excursions on Maligne Lake and Banff's Bow River.

So join us in western Canada this year for a truly unforgettable experience.

** This tour is suitable only for the fit and active traveller.*

Day 1: Departure / Calgary / Banff. We depart for Calgary. Upon arrival we enjoy the scenic transfer into the Rocky Mountains and our Banff hotel. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 2: Banff. This morning we take a gondola ride up Sulphur Mountain for breathtaking views of the town and Rocky Mountains. This afternoon we will enjoy a leisurely float trip along the Bow River enjoying the awesome views of the snow-capped Rockies all along the way.

Day 3: Lake Louise / Columbia Icefields / Jasper. We begin the day with a visit of Lake Louise. With its emerald waters set against the backdrop of Victoria Glacier, Lake Louise is probably the most photographed scene in the Canadian Rockies. We then proceed along one of North America's most spectacular highways - the Icefields Parkway, where wildlife sightings are common. Of course we will stop for photos at Peyto Lake. The highlight of the day will be our ride aboard a unique "Snocoach" up the Athabasca Glacier to the Columbia Icefield - the world's largest accumulation of ice south of the Arctic Circle. After our ride we continue on to see Athabasca Falls before arriving in Jasper.

Day 4: Maligne Canyon / Jasper. This morning we visit one of the most spectacular gorges in the Canadian Rockies - Maligne Canyon, where sheer limestone walls plunge to depths of 165 feet. We also visit Maligne Lake, the second largest glacial lake in the world. Our lake cruise offers us breathtaking views of the surrounding peaks, and also Spirit Island.

Day 5: Wells Gray Provincial Park / Kamloops. We enter British Columbia and are greeted with views in the distance of Mt. Robson - the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies, as well as Mt. Terry Fox. Today's highlight will be Wells Gray Provincial Park, with its towering mountains, deep canyons, volcanic cones, ancient old-growth forests, raging white-water rivers, and many beautiful waterfalls. After our visit we proceed to Kamloops.

Day 6: Cache Creek / Fraser Canyon / Vancouver. Our first stop is the Hat Creek Ranch heritage site where we venture back in time to the 1860s for a glimpse into the history of this region. We then proceed to the scenic Fraser Canyon for a ride across the Fraser River on Hell's Gate Airtram, which offers a bird's eye-view of the point where the Fraser River squeezes through Hell's Gate - a narrow gorge where over 200 million gallons of water per minute flow through - twice the volume of Niagara Falls! We end our day in Vancouver.

Day 7: Vancouver. Our morning city tour includes Stanley Park, Gastown, Chinatown and much more. The afternoon is at leisure to explore this beautiful city on your own.

Day 8: Victoria. We take the scenic ferry ride to Victoria and upon arrival immediately proceed to the world-renowned Butchart Gardens, where we can explore the 50-acre display of magnificent floral colour. We then proceed to downtown Victoria where we will see the Inner Harbour, the Empress Hotel, Legislative Buildings and Beacon Hill Park.

Day 9: Victoria. This morning we will enjoy a walking tour of Victoria's Inner Harbour with an entertaining local guide. The afternoon is at leisure to explore this quaint city on your own. With its turn-of-the-century buildings and tweed shops, you might think Victoria is a transplanted corner of Britain! Tonight we enjoy our Farewell Dinner.

Day 10: Home. We transfer to the airport for our Air Canada flight home.



Rocky Mountaineer

Vancouver to Jasper by rail

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Air Canada flights
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Rocky Mountaineer Rail tour.
Complimentary wine, beer, spirits and soft drinks served throughout the rail journey
- Breakfast daily, 3 dinners and 2 lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, or Winnipeg, in Silver Leaf Service - \$6997
.....
- Upgrade to Gold Leaf Service - \$790
- Single supplement - \$1190
- Triples - deduct \$150 per person
- Halifax - add \$390
- Calgary, Edmonton
or Vancouver - deduct \$500

The romance of travelling through the Rocky Mountains by train has always had immense appeal. For some, it is the only way to see what is considered one of the world's most spectacular regions.

The Rocky Mountaineer is considered one of the world's most spectacular rail experiences. As we enjoy the ultra-modern comforts of our train, we will be following the steps of the early explorers as the rails meander over trestle bridges, along rivers and past waterfalls - all the while in the shadows of the magnificent glacier-clad mountains. While onboard, our attendant will entertain us with interesting commentary, serve our meals and ensure our utmost comfort.

We board the Rocky Mountaineer in Vancouver. On the first day we journey through the Fraser Valley and the towering Coastal Mountains. After an overnight stay in Kamloops, we reboard the train en route to Jasper. The train follows the Thompson River to the Monashee Mountains, passing expansive glaciers until we arrive in Jasper in the evening.

There are two types of service aboard the Rocky Mountaineer. *Silver Leaf Service* includes hot breakfasts and lunches

9 DAYS • 3 DATES IN 2023

JULY 15 - 23

AUGUST 19 - 27

SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 1 (Fall Colours)

served at your seat, as you enjoy the spectacular scenery through the oversized panoramic windows. *Gold Leaf Service* includes gourmet hot breakfasts and lunches served in the exclusive Gold Leaf Dining Room, and unparalleled panoramic views through the full-length dome windows. Both services include complimentary wine, beer, spirits and non-alcoholic drinks throughout the rail trip. Note - *Gold Leaf* passengers will be separated from the main group during the journey.

Also included on this tour are three nights in Canada's most beautiful city, Vancouver and three nights in Jasper National Park, with extensive touring and adventures throughout.

Day 1: Vancouver. We fly to Vancouver and transfer to our First Class hotel located in the heart of downtown. The rest of the day is at leisure until our Welcome Dinner.

Day 2: Vancouver. Our city tour includes Stanley Park, Gastown, Chinatown and much more. A highlight of the day will be crossing the Lions Gate Bridge to visit the popular Capilano Suspension Bridge - an opportunity to walk across the 230-foot high bridge perched above the Capilano Canyon. The evening is at leisure to explore Vancouver - annually voted one of the world's favourite cities.

Day 3: Whistler / Vancouver. A spectacular drive on the "Sea to Sky Highway" takes us to beautiful Shannon Falls (for a photo stop) and then to Whistler. This quaint alpine village is North America's most popular mountain resort. There will be free time to enjoy the fresh mountain air while strolling in the village with its quaint shops.

July and August tours - We will board Whistler's "Peak to Peak Gondola" and ride from the peak of Whistler Mountain to the peak of Blackcomb Mountain, and experience the spectacular panoramic views of the Whistler area and surrounding Coast Mountains.

September tour (Gondola not operating) - We arrive in Whistler and visit the award-winning Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, which showcases the art and history of the First Nations People of this area.

Day 4: Rocky Mountaineer / Kamloops. Today we begin our journey aboard "The Most Spectacular Train Trip in the World". Breakfast and lunch are served onboard. On today's full-day rail tour we will pass through the fertile Fraser Valley and enjoy the natural beauty of the scenic Fraser Canyon. One of the canyon's highlights is Hell's Gate, where millions of gallons of water per minute rush through the narrowest point of the canyon. Then, following the Thompson River we cross into Canada's arid interior, arrive in the city of Kamloops and transfer to our hotel for our overnight.

Day 5: Rocky Mountaineer / Jasper. "All Aboard" as the Rocky Mountaineer departs and follows the Yellowhead Route to the quaint town of Jasper. Breakfast and lunch are again served onboard. The train follows the Thompson River along the rolling plateaus into the snowy peaks of the Monashee and Cariboo Mountains. View Pyramid Falls and the expansive glaciers of the Albrede Icefields. As we enter the Rocky Mountain range we pass by Mt. Robson, the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies. In the early evening we arrive in Jasper and transfer to our hotel.

Day 6: Jasper. Our full day of wonderful Rocky Mountain experiences begins with an Interpretive Nature Walk conducted by an accredited local expert. Then our coach will take us along a beautiful stretch of highway teeming with wildlife to one of the most beautiful lakes in the Rockies (if not the world!) - Maligne Lake. Here we will enjoy one of the highlights of the tour - a narrated cruise on the lake's crystal blue waters, surrounded by summits of 10,000 ft. and higher! This area is called the "Hall of the Gods", and for good reason! The cruise features a fantastic view of Spirit Island - one of the most photographed sites in the Canadian Rockies.

Day 7: Jasper. To begin the day we will be gently transported into Jasper's alpine tundra on the Jasper Tramway - the longest and highest guided aerial tramway in Canada. Enjoy the spectacular views of six mountain ranges, glacial fed lakes, the Athabasca River and the scenic mountain town of Jasper. For the highlight of the day we'll embark on a leisurely raft trip down the Athabasca River, a route used by the fur traders. Here we will experience Jasper from a unique perspective as our guide will point out the natural and historic points of interest, as we take in the spectacular Rocky Mountain views on either side of us. Dinner is included this evening.

Day 8: Edmonton. We transfer to Edmonton, where we will have an afternoon at leisure and our Farewell Dinner.

Day 9: Home. Air Canada takes us home.



Victoria, BC

Home and Garden Tour

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada Rouge
- Superior accommodation as described
- Full breakfast daily
- 5 dinners and 3 lunches
- 2 Afternoon Teas
- Many guided excursions
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

Known as “The Garden City”, Victoria’s climate is perfect for a wide variety of gardening, and there are countless impressive gardens throughout the city and surrounding area representing a wide range of styles.

The annual flower count in the spring can be up to 8.5 billion blooms, and so the towns in the Greater Victoria area count their flower blooms in a friendly competition, in order to be the “Bloomingest Community”. One of the city’s most recognizable trademarks is its hanging baskets. Each spring more than 1600 flower baskets hang from lamp posts in a medley of color. This tour is designed for the garden enthusiast to view the beautiful homes and unique gardens of Southern Vancouver Island, all in full bloom! An expert garden guide will accompany us on all garden visits.

Our hotel in Victoria will be the *Royal Scot Hotel and Suites*. This superior Canada Select 4-star, AAA 3-Diamond hotel is located one block from the Inner Harbour and within easy walking distance to the Legislative buildings and downtown. The hotel has an indoor pool, whirlpool, sauna and exercise room. There is also an onsite restaurant and lounge, gift shop, guest laundry facilities, billiards and games room, free WiFi, as well as a free

12 DAYS • APRIL 30 - MAY 11

shuttle service that runs from the hotel to the downtown core for the exclusive convenience of hotel guests.

All hotel rooms have flat screen TVs, quality robes, electronic safe, iron and ironing boards and complimentary newspaper.

Three types of rooms are offered:

The *Standard Room* has 1 or 2 queen-size beds, small fridge, microwave, coffee maker, kettle, dishes & utensils.

The *Studio Suite* - ideal for couples or singles, has a comfortable seating area, fully equipped kitchen, dining table and chairs. The bedroom with a queen size bed is set apart with a partition wall.

The *One Bedroom Suite* has a separate bedroom (2 twins or 1 king bed) and living room. Your home away from home experience is complimented by a full kitchen and dining room.

** This tour is suitable only for the fit and active traveller.*

1. A sightseeing tour of the highlights of Victoria including a stop to tour beautiful **Finnerty Gardens**. Finnerty has over 4,000 trees and shrubs including 1,500 rhododendron and azalea plants, and companion plants – ferns, vines, groundcovers, ornamentals – artistically displayed on six acres at the SW corner of University of the Victoria's campus.
2. A **walking tour** of Victoria's fabled Inner Harbour area with an entertaining local guide.
3. We visit **Craigdarroch Castle**, a Victorian-era Scottish Baronial mansion, designated a National Historic Site of Canada.
4. We tour the **Jewel Box Cottage and Gardens**, one of Victoria's most beautiful spring gardens. This intimate cottage garden combines a large collection of spring flowers and wonderful foliage plants, with shrubs to create layered artistic borders.
5. We tour the beautiful **Waterfront Garden** and the award winning **Four Seasons Garden** - voted Canada's #1 Residential Garden by Canadian Gardening Magazine. It was designed with attention to foliage combinations as well as sequence of bloom (first bloom is in January!) This garden has been an ever evolving garden with new beds, hardscaping and new plant introduction.
6. We tour the beautiful gardens at **Government House** - official residence of British Columbia's Lieutenant Governor. Then we visit **Ross Bay Villa Historic House** - a fine example of 19th century Victorian architecture. Afternoon Tea is included today.
7. A fascinating guided **walking tour** of Victoria's downtown will focus on the **French History** in the area.
8. We visit the gardens of **Hatley Castle**, which were developed over 100 years ago and are now a National Historic Site and home of Royal Roads University. The four major gardens - Japanese Garden, Formal Italian Garden, Walled garden and Rose Garden are set in a classic Edwardian park design. A pub lunch is included today.
9. We visit the famous **Butchart Gardens**, a 50-acre showplace of numerous incredible gardens. Lunch at the Gardens is included. Later we enjoy a guided tour of the **Robert Bateman Centre** – an exhibit of original works by the world's greatest wildlife artist. The collection is the largest ever assembled for public view.
10. We visit **Point Ellice House** - a beautifully kept Victorian house that belonged to the O'Reilly family for generations. This estate offers a vivid glimpse into the life of one of BC's most influential families of the 19th century. Lunch at a local restaurant is included. Later we visit **Miniature World**, which consists of over 85 miniature dioramas and displays. including the World's Largest Doll Houses circa 1880, the Great Canadian Railway, one of the World's Largest Model Railways, the World of Dickens and Olde London Towne of 1670.
11. We tour **Abkhazi Gardens** - an exquisite heritage home and garden, former residence of Prince and Princess Abkhazi of Georgia (formerly in Russia) who settled in Victoria. After touring the gardens, Afternoon Tea will be served in the former living room.
12. Join in on an informative talk on the wildlife and ecosystems found along BC's southern coast, before embarking on a **nature walk to Beacon Hill Park with a local naturalist**.

COST per person, double occupancy, from Toronto

Standard Room - \$4297

Studio Suite - \$4447

One Bedroom Suite \$4597

Single Supplement • Standard Room - \$790 • Studio Suite - \$990 • One Bedroom Suite - \$1190

- Ottawa or Montreal - add \$90 • Halifax - add \$290 • Winnipeg - deduct \$100
- Edmonton or Calgary - deduct \$200 • Vancouver - deduct \$300



The Maritimes

With spectacular coastlines, picturesque villages and distinguished culture, the Maritimes are sure to delight every visitor.

We begin this tour in Nova Scotia, where we visit the famous lighthouse at Peggy's Cove, the Fisheries Museum in Lunenburg and the historic Fortress of Louisburg. During our stay in the capital of Halifax we will be entertained at the Grafton Street Dinner Theatre, see the Exhibition Hall at Pier 21 and have a chance to sample the local beer during our tour of Alexander Keith's Brewery!

In St. John, New Brunswick we explore the historic Loyalist Trail, the remarkable Reversing Falls and the scenic Fundy Trail on the Bay of Fundy (with some of the world's highest tides).

Prince Edward Island, Canada's smallest province and home of *Anne of Green Gables*, is renowned for its red soil, sand dunes and 800 km. of spotless white sand beaches. During our visit to Charlottetown, our Confederation Capital, we learn the important role this province played in the early history of Canada. We will also enjoy a performance of "*Anne of Green Gables*" at the Confederation Theatre (alternate show in September).

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Air Canada flights
- First Class hotels
- Full Breakfast daily
- 8 dinners, including a lobster dinner and 2 dinners with entertainment
- Theatre performance (*Anne of Green Gables*) at the Confederation Theatre
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal
 - July & August tours - \$5397
 - September tours - \$5297

-
- Single Supplement - \$1290
 - Triple reduction - \$150 per person
 - Halifax - deduct \$500 (land only)
 - Winnipeg, Vancouver, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$590

14 DAYS • 5 DATES IN 2023

JULY 28 - AUGUST 10

AUGUST 11 - 24

AUGUST 25 - SEPTEMBER 7

SEPTEMBER 1 - 14

SEPTEMBER 15 - 28 (FALL COLOURS)

No trip to the Maritimes would be complete without a tour around the awe-inspiring Cabot Trail in scenic Cape Breton. The trail loops around the northern tip of Cape Breton Island, passing through charming communities offering breathtaking scenery.

As well as being one of the most beautiful and historic areas in North America, the spirit of hospitality found in the Maritimes is legendary. Come join us as we embark on an adventure that promises unforgettable experiences and memories to treasure.

** This tour is suitable only for the fit and active traveller.*

Day 1: Halifax We fly to Halifax and transfer to our downtown hotel. The balance of the day is at your leisure.

Day 2: Halifax. On our city tour of Halifax our kilted guide will tell tales of the past, present and future of Nova Scotia's capital. We will walk through the Victorian Public Gardens and stop at the top of Citadel Hill to view the Harbour and downtown area. Afternoon at leisure. Our unique dinner this evening at the Grafton Street Theatre features a musical comedy!

Day 3: Peggy's Cove / Lunenburg / Annapolis Valley. Our first stop is at one of the most picturesque locations in the Maritimes, Peggy's Cove. This quaint, rustic cove is famous for its neat houses, barren rocks, weathered wharves and a lighthouse point that offers a sweeping view of the ocean. Then we proceed to Lunenburg, home of the Bluenose, where we visit the Fisheries Museum with its fine collection of Maritime artifacts. We continue on to the Annapolis Valley.

Day 4: Annapolis Valley / Saint John. We travel along the historic Evangeline Trail and first stop at the Grand-Pré National Historic Site, made famous by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem, *Evangeline*. We then board the Fundy Rose ferry for a delightful cruise across the Bay of Fundy to the Loyalist City of Saint John.

Day 5: St. Andrew / Saint John. This morning's tour of Saint John includes the famous Loyalist Trail and the Reversing Falls, where the ocean waters rushing upstream form a whirling, foaming torrent. We spend the afternoon in the picturesque town of St. Andrew where you will have free time for lunch and shopping, then return to Saint John for our overnight.

Day 6: Hopewell Rocks / Moncton. Today we visit the impressive Hopewell Rocks. Take a moment to appreciate the intricacies of nature and explore the quiet coves with flowerpot-shaped rock formations bearing such names as "Mother-in-Law", "ET" and "Lover's Arch". We continue to Moncton for our overnight.

Day 7: Prince Edward Island. After a stop at Shediac, known as the "Lobster Capital of the World", we drive across the Confederation Bridge to P.E.I. and our hotel in

Charlottetown. The rest of the afternoon is free. This evening we enjoy a musical performance of "Anne of Green Gables" at the Confederation Theatre (alternate show in September).

Day 8: Prince Edward Island. Our guided tour of P.E.I. begins in Charlottetown and the historic Confederation Centre, where the Fathers of Confederation met during the Charlottetown Conference. Then we travel through the bright green rolling countryside and visit the home of Anne of Green Gables at Cavendish, and the famous wharf in North Rustico. Tonight we will enjoy a lobster dinner at a local restaurant (alternatives available).

Day 9: Baddeck. We return to Nova Scotia by ferry and proceed to Baddeck, located in the heart of Cape Breton's most picturesque area. We visit the Bell Museum, where the famous inventor perfected his many inventions, and then proceed to Baddeck for our overnight.

Day 10: Cabot Trail / Sydney. A full day tour of the scenic Cabot Trail. Nature lovers and photographers will have a field day with the meandering glens, rugged coastlines and the constantly pounding surf.

Day 11: Louisbourg / Sydney. We proceed to the impressive Fortress of Louisbourg for a guided visit. This National Historic Site was the largest historic reconstruction in Canada. This evening we will have dinner at a local restaurant, followed by a special performance by local musicians.

Day 12: Halifax. We return to Halifax.

Day 13: Halifax. This morning we visit Pier 21 - an exhibit recreating the immigration experience. Innovative displays, evocative soundscapes and interactive technology are used. We then enjoy an informative tour of Alexander Keith's Brewery - the oldest working brewery in North America. After we learn about the beer, the brewery and life in Halifax in 1863, we visit Stag's Head Tavern to listen to toe tapping music, and of course sample Keith's finest ale. The afternoon will be at leisure to explore on your own in Halifax - an excellent city for strolling. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 14: Home. We fly home with Air Canada.



Newfoundland and Labrador

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Moderate accommodation (best available in most cases)
- Full Breakfast daily
- 10 dinners and 1 lunch
- Whale Watching Cruise and Gros Morne Cruise
- Theatre show and other local entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

Between the Old World heritage, scenery that changes mile by mile, the most spectacular coastline in Canada, quaint coastal villages and the smiling, friendly people who speak with an Irish lilt, you will find that Newfoundland is truly a very special place.

On this tour we will explore all four regions of the province: the beautiful Northern Peninsula where the Vikings landed ten centuries ago; the Central and Eastern Regions with their wilderness forests and seaside villages; the Avalon Region featuring the historic capital of St. John's; and an overnight in Labrador - one of the world's last great wilderness areas. Highlights of our visit to Newfoundland will be a fjord cruise in Gros Morne National Park and a Whale Watching Cruise.

After this tour, which showcases the best of "The Rock's" hospitality, we have no doubt that you will want to return to visit Newfoundland.

COST

per person, double occupancy
from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal

June and September departures - \$5597

July and August departures - \$5797

• Single Supplement - \$990 • Triples - deduct \$150

• Halifax - deduct \$200

• Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$390

14 DAYS • 16 DATES IN 2023

June 9 - 22

June 16 - 29

June 23 - July 6

June 30 - July 13

July 7 - 20

July 14 - 27

July 17 - 30

July 28 - August 10

July 31 - August 13

August 7 - 20

August 11 - 24

August 14 - 27

August 18 - 31

August 25 - September 7

September 8 - 21

September 15 - 28

Day 1: Corner Brook. We fly to Deer Lake, Newfoundland. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel in Corner Brook.

Day 2: Corner Brook. Our city tour includes Captain Cook's Lookout for a spectacular view over the city and the Bay of Islands. We then enjoy the scenic drive along the Captain Cook Trail to the charming fishing village of Lark Harbour. This afternoon we visit the Corner Brook Museum with its outstanding display of old maps and memorabilia from this area's logging and fishing heritage.

Day 3: Gros Morne National Park / Northern Peninsula. Today we tour Gros Morne National Park with its dramatically beautiful scenery. We will enjoy an entertaining boat crossing on lovely Bonne Bay, stop for the spectacular view at Lobster Cove lighthouse, and see the famous Arches carved by the pounding ocean. We then proceed to our hotel on the Northern Peninsula.

Day 4: L'Anse aux Meadows / St. Anthony. We first visit L'Anse aux Meadows, the fascinating historic site of North America's first Viking Settlement. Next is the Grenfell Centre, commemorating the life of medical missionary Sir Wilfred Grenfell. We proceed to our hotel in St. Anthony.

Day 5: Labrador. This morning we take the ferry from St. Barbe across to Labrador (one and a half hours). Our sightseeing in Labrador includes Point Amour Lighthouse - the tallest in Atlantic Canada, and Red Bay Whaling Station - a UNESCO World Heritage Site that was a major site of Basque whaling in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Day 6: Gros Morne National Park. We ferry back to Newfoundland and return to beautiful Gros Morne National Park, this time for a two-night stay.

Day 7: Gros Morne National Park. We spend the day in the park and see some of the world's most unique geological features (the park is also designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site). Included is a cruise inside an ancient fjord on Western Brook Pond (weather permitting). Tonight we attend the Gros Morne Theatre Festival for some fine local entertainment.

Day 8: Gander. We begin with a visit of King's Point Whale Pavilion to see the impressive 52-foot humpback whale skeleton on display. We will have time at the popular Pottery Museum and Shop, and then enjoy a delicious "Lunch By the Sea" overlooking Green Bay. We continue

to Grand Falls for a visit of the Salmonid Interpretation Centre - one of North America's largest fishing projects.

This evening we will enjoy a visit and talk by the former mayor of Gander who will describe the experience of how the townspeople opened their homes to thousands of stranded travellers on 9/11/2001, as depicted in the popular play "Come From Away".

Day 9: Twillingate / Gander. Our first stop is the Beothuk Interpretation Centre to learn of the indigenous people of the island. We then travel along the Road to the Isles to the rugged north coast and the fishing villages on Notre Dame Bay. We continue to Twillingate - one of the oldest seaports in Newfoundland and still a fishing and sealing town. Here we visit the Twillingate Museum with its fine collection of antiques, and St. Peter's - the oldest wooden church in Newfoundland. This evening we enjoy a "Jiggs" dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 10: Clarenville. We travel through Terra Nova Provincial Park and on to the picturesque historical fishing port of Trinity - first used by fishing ships around the 16th century and recognized for its beautiful heritage buildings. Our overnight is in nearby Clarenville.

Day 11: St. John's. We travel along the rugged coastline past scenic Conception Bay. We stop in Heart's Content to visit the Cable Station, then continue on to St. John's.

Day 12: St. John's. St. John's is one of North America's oldest settlements. Our city tour will trace this history and will include a visit to Signal Hill with its striking view of the city and historic port. Afternoon at leisure to explore this friendly, charming city. You may want to stroll in Old St. John's to shop for local handicrafts.

Day 13: Whale Watching / St. John's. We embark on an exhilarating marine wildlife adventure to Witless Bay Reserve - home to thousands of puffins and the best whale watching in North America. On the way back to St. John's, we stop at Cape Spear - the most easterly point of land in North America. This historic sight was, in WWII, used as a strategic defense position against Nazi submarines. The rugged scenery here is spectacular. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner featuring a traditional "Screech-In".

Day 14: Home. We fly home from St. John's.



California Here We Come

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full American breakfast daily
- 10 dinners and 2 lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Calgary or Edmonton - \$6797
- Single Supplement - \$1590
- Triples - deduct \$200 per person
- Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$190
- Vancouver - deduct \$100

On this tour we will start in San Francisco, explore the Golden State's stunning coastline and finish in San Diego, taking in the best of California.

Tour Highlights:

- San Francisco: Known for its hilly landscape, iconic Golden Gate Bridge, cable cars, colourful Victorian houses and the historic Fisherman's Wharf. In the bay sits Alcatraz Island - site of the notorious former prison.
- Redwood Forest: Historic Steam Rail journey
- Monterey: Cannery Row, one-time center of the sardine-packing industry, was immortalized by novelist John Steinbeck. Equally famous is the Monterey Bay Aquarium.
- 17 Mile Drive: One of California's top scenic drives - beautiful beaches, sea lions, the famed Lone Cypress, huge mansions and championship golf courses.

12 DAYS • MAY 4 - 15

- San Simeon: Home to the legendary Hearst Castle.
- Solvang: A quaint Danish village.
- Santa Barbara: The "American Riviera".
- Los Angeles / Hollywood and Beverly Hills: "The City of Angels" is home to America's film and TV industry.
- Newport Beach: One of the largest recreational harbours on the west coast.
- San Juan Capistrano: California's most famous mission, known for the "miracle" of swallows' return.
- San Diego: Gaslight District, Balboa Park and Old Town are but a few of the world-class attractions.

** This tour is suitable only for the fit and active traveller.*

Day 1: Departure / San Francisco. We depart for San Francisco. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel in the heart of the city, with time at leisure before our Welcome Dinner.

Day 2: San Francisco. We tour America's Favourite City, starting with a casual walking tour of Chinatown. Then we see Ghirardelli Square, Fisherman's Wharf and other famous sights. Then we cross the Golden Gate Bridge and stop for panoramas of San Francisco and the Bay area. In Marin County we will see one of America's wealthiest communities, and the picturesque town of Sausalito.

Day 3: Alcatraz / San Francisco. This morning we cruise on San Francisco Bay to Alcatraz Island and the infamous former federal prison, which was home to the likes of Al Capone, "Machine Gun" Kelley and Robert "The Birdman" Stroud. There are videos, self-guided walks, an audio tour and talks on topics such as "Famous Escapes". Afternoon at leisure to explore San Francisco at your own pace.

Day 4: Redwood Forest / Salinas / Carmel. En route to Carmel we stop by the Redwoods State Park to board a historic Steam Rail ride through the majestic old-growth Redwood forest. After a western style lunch we'll walk through this majestic forest, then proceed to Salinas to visit the Steinbeck Center - a multi-media museum which brings to life the novels and personal world of author John Steinbeck, who was born here. Then we continue to the oceanside artisan town of Carmel, for a 2-night stay.

Day 5: Monterey / Carmel. We visit historic Monterey, California's old capital, to see Steinbeck's Cannery Row and visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium - the largest aquarium in the west. Then we proceed to Carmel, considered the most beautiful spot on the coast. See why as we drive along the Del Monte Forest 17 Mile Drive where lavish mansions were built by tycoons in the 1920's. The views of the sea and rugged coastline are unsurpassed.

Day 6: Big Sur, Hearst Castle and Solvang. We continue the thrilling drive down the Pacific Coast Highway (acclaimed as the most beautiful drive in North America) where the mountains drop steeply to the sea. Passing the fantastic Pacific panoramas of Big Sur we arrive at San Simeon, home of the famous Hearst Castle. We visit this fabulous estate and explore the small kingdom of castles, fountains and European art treasures. You won't believe your eyes! We overnight in Solvang, reminiscent of a quaint Danish town.

Day 7: Santa Barbara / Los Angeles. We drive down the coast to Santa Barbara, noted for its architectural beauty. We'll enjoy a guided stroll through the Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens, followed by a visit to historic downtown Santa Barbara, before proceeding to LA for a 2-night stay.

Day 8: Los Angeles. On our tour of Los Angeles we will pass by famous sights such as historic Olvera Street (birthplace of LA), Rodeo Drive, Sunset Strip, Beverley Hills and more. Our walking tour will take us into the heart of Hollywood where we will see the famous celebrity hand and footprints on the Walk of Fame, and also Awards Walk - home to the Academy Awards. Then we will head over to the Farmer's Market, followed by a visit of the famous Getty Museum - an architectural landmark with breathtaking views and a world-renowned art collection.

Day 9: Santa Monica / Newport Harbour Cruise / Mission San Juan / San Diego. We begin the day with a casual stroll along the colourful and historic Santa Monica pier, before we head to Newport Beach (where the rich and famous moor their yachts) for a relaxing Harbour Cruise along the California Riviera. This afternoon we'll visit one of the California's famous old missions - the Mission San Juan Capistrano, surrounded by one of the oldest neighbourhoods in California, before we head to San Diego's historic Old Town for our final 3 nights.

Day 10: San Diego. The city is known as the quintessential "Navy Town" rich with a vibrant maritime history. Its waterfront is graced by the famous 25 feet / 6000 pound "Kissing Sailor" statue. Our full-day tour will touch upon the old and new parts of this historic city including Mission Bay, the hilly peninsula of Point Loma with panoramic views of the bay and ocean, Cabrillo National Monument, the Gaslamp Quarter, Old Town and more.

Day 11: San Diego Zoo and Harbour Cruise. Today we visit the world famous San Diego Zoo, voted the world's #1 zoo. This non-profit wildlife sanctuary is home to more than 3500 rare and endangered animals representing more than 650 species, and a botanical collection with more than 700,000 exotic plants. Enjoy the double-decker bus and "SkyFari" aerial tram ride during your visit. Later, we will bid farewell to San Diego with a harbour cruise capturing the city at its best, followed by our Farewell Dinner.

Day 12: Home. We fly home with Air Canada Rouge.



Music City to the Big Easy

- **Nashville** • **New Orleans** • **Memphis**
- **Natchez, Mississippi**

This tour will take us on a journey through the musical heart of America, better known as “The Mojo Triangle”. This cultural area, located between Nashville, Memphis and New Orleans, is the musical birthplace of Country, Blues, Jazz and Rock n’ Roll.

We begin with a 4-night stay in Nashville – the ‘Country Music Capital of the World’, better known as ‘Music City’. The best performers of all musical genres play here at over 120 live music venues throughout the city.

Then it’s off to Memphis - the Birthplace of the Blues and Home of Rock & Roll. A Mojo Tour (led by a Memphis musician) will have us laughing and singing along.

In Mississippi we will stay in the beautiful antebellum town of Natchez, with a visit of a unique plantation home.

Then we continue to New Orleans for a 4-night stay in a central French Quarter hotel. The city that gave the world Jazz, Bourbon Street, Creole culture and Oysters Rockefeller has a style and history all its own. There will be plenty of time to stroll the romantic old-world streets, Jackson Square and The French Market.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full Breakfast daily (except for the day of the Jazz Brunch)
- 8 dinners, 2 lunches, Jazz Brunch
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6797
-
- Single Supplement - \$2190
- Calgary or Vancouver - add \$390
- Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - add \$490
- Winnipeg or Edmonton - add \$590

12 DAYS • APRIL 15 - 26

Tour Highlights:

- Stay at the Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville
- Grand Ole Opry performance
- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Lunch and Cruise on the General Jackson Showboat
- Wildhorse Saloon line dancing
- “Soul of Nashville” show at the Ryman Auditorium
- Graceland tour
- Mojo Memphis singing tour
- Plantation home carriage tour and Southern dinner
- New Orleans Jazz Brunch
- Cajun Swamp tour
- New Orleans Cooking School dinner
- French Quarter and Cemetery tour
- Jazz music at the legendary Preservation Hall

Day 1: Nashville. We depart for Nashville, and upon arrival transfer to the *Gaylord Opryland Resort* where we will experience the finest in Southern hospitality.

Day 2: Nashville. Our city tour includes visits to the Country Music Hall of Fame, with its musical exhibits that showcase Nashville's contribution to the songwriting and recording industry, and the Historic RCA Studio (Elvis recorded many songs here). We will also stroll down the Music City Walk of Fame and along Honky Tonk Highway! Tonight we enjoy a boot stomping dinner at one of Nashville's historic Honky Tonks.

Day 3: Nashville. We begin with a visit of Andrew Jackson's Hermitage - a beautiful historic Tennessee farm, and learn about the humble beginnings of this man who became one of America's most visionary Presidents. Then we step aboard The General Jackson Showboat - a paddlewheel riverboat (the largest showboat in the country) - for an afternoon of great food, entertainment and wonderful views. Tonight we enjoy dinner, a show at the Grand Ole Opry and then get behind the scenes with a Backstage tour of the other side of the Opry!

Day 4: Nashville. We begin with the new "Soul of Nashville" experience at the historic Ryman Auditorium (Mother Church of Country Music). Then we will drive through some of the most elite neighborhoods in Nashville and see the homes of the movers and shakers of this vibrant city.

Day 5: Graceland / Memphis. We travel to Memphis with a stop at Graceland - home of Elvis Presley. Elvis has sold over 1 billion records worldwide - more than anyone in music history. We will tour his house, cars and jets before continuing to our hotel in central Memphis.

Day 6: Memphis. We begin with a special musical "Mojo tour" of Memphis, singing along with the guide. Included is a visit to Sun Studio, the Rock 'n' Roll Museum and the Civil Rights Museum. Then we will walk and explore the historic downtown including Beale Street - one of the world's most interesting and infamous streets - rich with stories of musical legends, gangsters and Civil War heroes. Don't forget to watch the famous "Peabody Duck March" near our hotel. This evening we return to Beale Street for dinner, music and lively street entertainment.

Day 7: Natchez. We proceed to beautiful and historic Natchez Mississippi - an antebellum town on the Mississippi River. After a horse-drawn Carriage Tour of the City, and then visit the historic Glenfield Plantation home. We will be welcomed by the 5th generation owner who will guide us through her fine Southern home and serve up a true Southern dinner.

Day 8: Natchez / New Orleans. Following our Southern Breakfast at our hotel, we drive to the river for a unique tour of

Frogmore Plantation and Gin - designated one of the top Must See places in the south! Frogmore is a working cotton plantation that takes us from the 1850's (when the plantation was worked by slaves), to a modern day computerized gin. Enjoy the stories and join in with the music, pick a bowl of cotton, visit the slave cabins and learn about plantation life. Back aboard the coach listen to specially recorded blues, ragtime and jazz music prior to our stop at the Delta Music Museum. Here we learn about the fascinating life stories of Jerry Lee Lewis, Aaron Neville, Conway Twitty, Fats Domino and others as we listen to their music. Then we proceed to the Jazz capital - New Orleans!

Day 9: New Orleans Walking Tour. We begin the day with a lively Jazz Brunch at the landmark Court of Two Sisters. Then we'll take a walking tour through the historic streets and alleys of the French District, including a stroll along the world famous Bourbon Street with its remarkable architecture and hidden courtyards. The colourful characters to be found here include musicians, magicians, voodoo practitioners and artists. We will stop at the French Market, take a trolley ride along River/Canal Street and enjoy a Tour and Tasting of the famous traditional Sazerac cocktail at the Sazerac House. Then, we'll hop aboard Pedi-cabs that will whisk us to Preservation Hall where an acoustic Jazz concert awaits us. In 1961 this venue was founded to preserve Traditional New Orleans Jazz! This evening you may wish to enjoy one of the many local eateries or stop in at Pat O'Brian's for a "Hurricane".

Day 10: New Orleans. Today we'll experience how this melting pot of French, Spanish, African and Cajun peoples is reflected in the architecture, cuisine and culture of the city. We will drive through the beautiful Garden District, visit one of the unique above-ground cemeteries and learn about the supernatural beliefs of many of the city's inhabitants. We will hear stories about Marie Laveau - known as the Voodoo Queen, and Anne Rice - the famous story-teller of New Orleans culture. We'll finish the day with a visit to the Mardi Gras World and learn about the history of what the city is most famous for - the Carnival and Mardi Gras! This evening we'll watch and learn about the local cuisine and enjoy dinner at the famous New Orleans Cooking School.

Day 11: Swamp Tour / New Orleans. We embark on an adventurous Swamp Tour, and see the flora and fauna of this unique area, and the dense moss-covered trees that add to the atmosphere. Our included lunch will include the specialty of the area - Andouille Sausage! This evening is our Farewell Dinner at the legendary Tujagues Restaurant.

Day 12: Home. Air Canada takes us home.



Towns and Villages of Quebec

Departs from Toronto, Hamilton, Whitby and Kingston

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation by deluxe coach with Wi-Fi
- First Class hotels (*Chateau Laurier* in Quebec City)
- 9 breakfasts, 7 dinners and 1 lunch
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3* (except of course round-trip airfare)

COST:

- \$3797 per person, double occupancy
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Triples - deduct \$70 per person

There is good reason why Quebec is known as “La Belle Province”.

While the splendour of its cities, towns and countryside have enticed artists like the Group of Seven, its history, delicious cuisine and that French “joie de vivre” unique in North America have seduced visitors to return again and again.

Our journey begins and ends with stays in the vibrant city of Montreal with its delightful mixture of old and new. Montreal has great shopping, cafes, museums and beautifully restored buildings, especially in the Old Montreal quarter and its historic waterfront.

After Montreal we explore the nearby Eastern Township region, a veritable country paradise with mountains and valleys that are home to the most picturesque villages and rural landscapes. We will enjoy quality wines and delicious food produced proudly in this region.

We then enjoy a 2-night stay in Quebec City, one of Canada’s outstanding cities and a designated UNESCO World Heritage site with over 400 years of history. Fall under the charm of the walled city’s cobbled streets lined with art galleries, artisan shops, bistros and horse drawn

10 DAYS • JUNE 12 - 21

carriages. Stroll on the Governor’s Promenade which offers spectacular views of the St. Lawrence Seaway and Orleans Island - known as the garden of Quebec with its typical New France architecture, rural tradition and gorgeous scenery over the Montmorency Falls and Quebec skyline.

Next we travel through the picturesque Charlevoix region. A highlight of the tour will be our scenic train journey along the Beauré hills and the St. Lawrence River coastline, where we will see historic hamlets and the shores where hundreds of migrating birds come to rest and feed. We will visit the pretty village of Baie St-Paul, where a thriving artist community exhibits a colourful and dazzling version of the surrounding landscape. We will stay in Tadoussac, a lovely village on the banks of the St. Lawrence River and first trading post in Canada, now renowned worldwide as a prime holiday resort. Visitors come from around the world to watch the flow of the whales and the tides in this pristine environment – an unforgettable experience!

Day 1: Departure / Montreal. We depart for Montreal. Upon arrival we check-in at our centrally located hotel. Later, we enjoy our Welcome Dinner.

Day 2: Montreal / Magog. We begin the day with a sightseeing tour of Montreal's highlights; Mount Royal, lively Sainte-Catherine Street, Notre-Dame Cathedral and quaint Old Montreal. This afternoon we depart for the Eastern Townships with a scenic diversion on Quebec's wine route. Here we will enjoy a visit and tasting at an award-winning winery. We continue on to our resort hotel nestled by a scenic lake.

Day 3: Magog. Our first visit in the Eastern Townships is to Fitch Bay Bleu Lavender - pioneer of the Quebec lavender culture and one of the largest lavender farms in Canada. We continue to the town of Stansted - listed as one of Quebec's Most Beautiful Villages and home to some magnificent 19th-century buildings. The community straddles the friendliest border in the world, including the famous CANUSA (Canada-USA) Street, with the border actually running down the middle of the road. Here we will enjoy a visit to the Colby-Curtis Museum - a historical heritage landmark with a remarkable collection. In the afternoon we will enjoy some free time in the charming town of Magog with its numerous shops, cafés and pleasant lakeside promenade.

Day 4: Quebec City. We depart for Quebec's capital - Quebec City, for a 2-night stay. Upon arrival in the city we will embark on a guided tour of the most famous sights including Place Royal, Little Champlain Quarter, the Plains of Abraham and the port where so many immigrants first set foot on this new land after their long crossing over the Atlantic.

Day 5: Quebec City. This morning we will drive through picturesque Orleans Island. These country roads are full of history, old architecture and pastoral landscapes - truly a regional jewel! We will visit an historic home and the Bilodeau Orchard where cider making is an art form passed on through generations. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Old Quebec's enchanting streets, boutiques and museums - all within walking distance of our hotel.

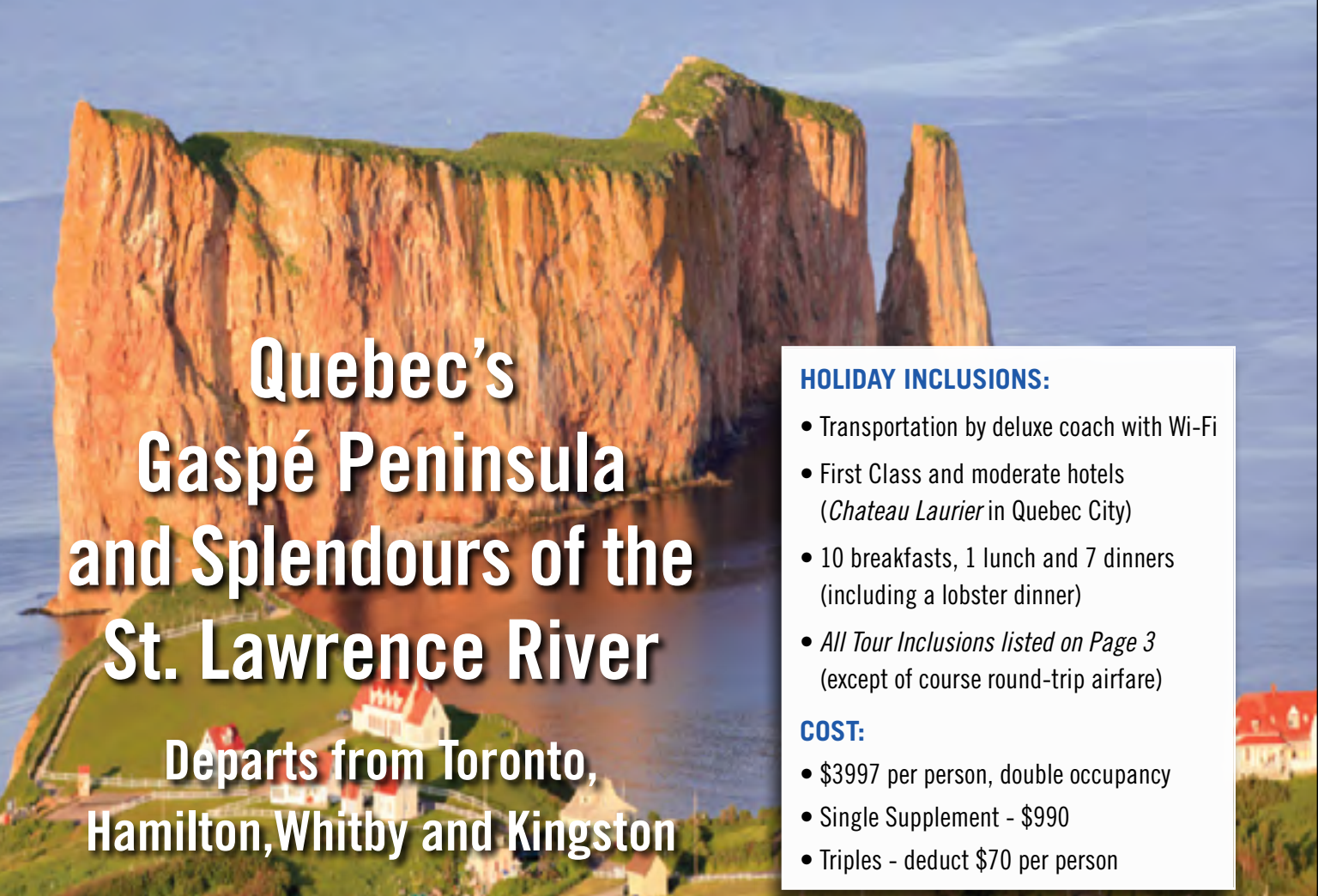
Day 6: Quebec City / Tadoussac. A short drive takes us first to Montmorency Falls - a magnificent cascade 100 feet higher than Niagara! Then, for what may be the highlight of the tour, we board a train journey that will take us along the St. Lawrence River and through the beautiful Charlevoix region. En route we will stop in Baie-Saint-Paul - a charming little town of artisans nestled in a valley. Here we will have some free time to visit the many art galleries in town and enjoy lunch at one of the quaint bistros. We continue by coach on our scenic route to our final destination, Tadoussac at the mouth of the Saguenay Fjord.

Day 7: Tadoussac. Today we enjoy another tour highlight - a whale watching cruise on the magnificent St. Lawrence River, which is renowned for its large concentration of resident belugas and humpback whales. The afternoon will be at leisure to take in the beauty of the site, take a stroll on the beach or one of the picturesque walking trails by our hotel, or to perhaps visit the Marine Mammal Interpretation Center.

Day 8: Montreal. We depart for Montreal. En route we will drive on the first road built in New France, "Le chemin du Roi", where you can see some of the area's finest and oldest homes. We then stop for lunch at an authentic and lively Quebecois sugar shack, where we will enjoy some traditional "reel" and "rigidons" music, as well as a taste of maple taffy on snow! This evening we will have a chance to try our luck at the Montreal Casino, brimming with the vitality so characteristic of one of North America's most exciting cities.

Day 9: Montreal. This morning we visit Montreal's Botanical Gardens, ranked as one of the world's largest and most spectacular garden with its collection of 22,000 plant species, 10 exhibition greenhouses and some thirty thematic gardens. The afternoon is free to visit one of the city many unique museums, do some fine shopping or simply enjoy the view from one of the city's many terraces. Tonight enjoy our Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 10: Home. We proceed home bringing with us fine memories of "La Belle Province".



Quebec's Gaspé Peninsula and Splendours of the St. Lawrence River

Departs from Toronto,
Hamilton, Whitby and Kingston

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation by deluxe coach with Wi-Fi
- First Class and moderate hotels (*Chateau Laurier* in Quebec City)
- 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 7 dinners (including a lobster dinner)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3* (except of course round-trip airfare)

COST:

- \$3997 per person, double occupancy
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Triples - deduct \$70 per person

The beauty of the Canadian coastline is legendary, especially in Quebec where it is adorned by the rugged Atlantic shores and the majestic St. Lawrence River.

Explorers and scientists alike have all been dazzled by the beauty, bio-diversity and colossal size of the St. Lawrence. The river consists of over 1200 kms of waterways dotted with charming villages, rolling hills, picturesque coves and quaint inlets.

On this delightful tour we will enjoy the fresh sea air as we explore the scenic route along the south shore of the St. Lawrence, including the loop around the extraordinary Gaspé Peninsula. At this isolated promontory, which boasts one of the most stunning coastlines in Canada, you will see remnants of a colourful colonial past, as well as rusting shipwrecks and migratory whales. Just like the whales, centuries of visitors including Normans, Bretons, Basques and Portuguese have been attracted to the rich fishing grounds here, while English, Scottish and Irish fugitives settled on the south shore during upheavals

11 DAYS • 3 DATES IN 2023

JULY 5 - 15

AUGUST 9 - 19

AUGUST 22 - SEPTEMBER 1

back home such as the Great Famine. Small communities of colourful farm buildings and silver spired churches contribute to the striking landscape, not to mention the famous pierced rock in Percé, glacier-patterned cliffs, endless beaches, mountainous, forested hinterlands and the breathtaking Parc Forillon.

Our meals will feature regional local specialties. Hotels for this tour have been carefully selected based on location, and, they are family-owned, so that we may experience the hospitality and “joie de vivre” the local inhabitants are so well known for.

Day 1: Departure / Montreal. We depart by coach for Montreal. Upon arrival we check-in to our centrally located hotel, and enjoy our Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 2: Montreal. We begin with a sightseeing tour of Montreal's highlights; Mount Royal, lively Saint-Catherine Street, Notre-Dame Cathedral and quaint Old Montreal. In the afternoon, we will take a guided cruise on the St. Lawrence River, from the Old Port of Montreal to the Boucherville islands, and learn about the maritime history of this fascinating city.

Day 3: Rivière-du-Loup. Our first stop today is Saint-Jean-Port-Joli. For generations the local artisans here have depicted French Canadian customs through sculptures displayed throughout the village. We will visit the Woodcarving Interpretation Centre and enjoy some time at leisure. Later we continue to Rivière-du-Loup on the shore of the St. Lawrence River.

Day 4: New Richmond. We continue along the St. Lawrence through the picturesque Matapédia Valley - renowned for its salmon rivers, heritage homes, historic churches and covered bridges. We enter the Gaspé Peninsula and this afternoon visit Miguasha National Park - a UNESCO World Heritage Site where you will see incredibly well-preserved plant and fish fossils from the Devonian period (some 380 million years ago). We overnight in New Richmond, located on the banks of the Cascapédia River.

Day 5: Percé. Today we enjoy the views of picturesque century-old fishing villages, pristine rivers and mountains as we follow the shores of Chaleur Bay - a member of the *Most Beautiful Bays in the World Club*. En route we visit the "Banc-de-Pêche-de Paspébiac" historic site which once belonged to Jersey's most important dry-salted cod exporting company. We will learn about the history of fisheries in Canada through artifacts and live story-telling. Then we head to quaint Percé village, with the famous nearby Percé Rock rising out of the sea. We will visit Percé's new attraction, Geopark. Supported by UNESCO, one of the main features of the park is a suspended glass walkway offering spectacular views over Percé Rock, and trails to some other local geological wonders. We will enjoy a 2-night stay in this wonderful place. Tonight we enjoy a dinner of fresh lobster at a local restaurant.

Day 6: Percé. This morning we enjoy an unforgettable cruise around Percé Rock and Bonaventure Island, where we can view the spectacle of 250,000 nesting birds (including puffins) on the rugged cliffs. You may want to disembark on the Island for a close encounter with the largest community of Northern Gannet in North America. The afternoon is at leisure to either enjoy a nature walk on Bonaventure Island or Percé Rock, or take in the spectacular views from the promenade along the seafont, lively with boutique shops and cafés.

Day 7: Matane. We enjoy the scenic drive around the Gaspé Peninsula, with its perfect blend of sea and mountains, coastal villages and sheltered fishing coves. En route we visit the Musée de la Gaspésie, and then venture into Forillon National Park, bordered by the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Gaspé Bay. The scenery is stunning here with its boreal forest, unique geological formations and abundant wildlife. Later we travel to Matane, famous for its "Nordic shrimps", windmills and the Matane River - the only place in Quebec where you can fish in the town square!

Day 8: Reford Gardens / Kamouraska / Quebec City. Our first stop is Reford Gardens, internationally renowned as an exceptional horticultural achievement with its 3000 native and exotic plants. Then we visit the town of Kamouraska, with its old-world charm, ancestral homes and mesmerizing seascape. There will be some free time to perhaps enjoy some smoked eel or browse in the handicraft shops. We end this wonderful day in charming Quebec City for a 2-night stay by the old city walls.

Day 9: Quebec City. On our guided city tour we see Place Royal, little Champlain Quarter, the Plains of Abraham and more. In the afternoon we visit the iconic Château Frontenac for a guided tour, followed by a special lunch overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The rest of the day is free to explore Old Quebec's enchanting streets, historic buildings and views of the majestic St. Lawrence River from the Governor's Promenade.

Day 10: Montreal. We proceed to Montreal, for an afternoon at leisure. Your Tour Manager will be on hand with suggestions. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 11: Ontario. We bid "au revoir" to La Belle Province and return to Ontario by coach.



New York, New York

Departs from Toronto and Hamilton

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation by deluxe coach with Wi-Fi
- First Class hotel (in the heart of Times Square in New York City!)
- 4 breakfasts (3 full breakfasts and 1 continental breakfast)
- 4 dinners
- Broadway play - the Neil Diamond musical "A Beautiful Noise"
- All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3 (except, of course, round-trip airfare)

COST:

- per person, double occupancy - \$2747
- Single Supplement - \$590
- Triples - deduct \$50 per person

Immerse yourself in New York City and you'll see why it's like no other place on earth.

Only here will you find all of America's best attributes - diversity, culture, and style - intensified in such an intriguing way. Our tour will feature all of New York's highlights: the Empire State Building; Statue of Liberty; Rockefeller Center; Times Square; Brooklyn Bridge; Soho; Central Park and much more. In addition to our sightseeing tours, we'll enjoy a harbour cruise, plenty of time for shopping and the Neil Diamond musical, *A Beautiful Noise*.

After an overnight en route in upstate New York we continue on to our First Class hotel in the heart of Times Square for a 3-night stay. Our hotel is the *New York Marriott Marquis*, located near some of NYC's most exciting attractions, including Rockefeller Center, Radio City Music Hall and the Theater District.

5 DAYS • MAY 14 - 18

Tour Highlights:

- Central Park
- World Trade Center Observatory
- Empire State and Chrysler Buildings
- Harbour Cruise to the Statue of Liberty
- Trump Tower
- Rockefeller Center
- Times Square
- Wall Street
- Brooklyn Bridge
- Broadway musical play *A Beautiful Noise*

Day 1: Departure / Albany, NY. We depart from pre-determined pick-up points in the Toronto / Hamilton area. After crossing the border we travel through New York State to our stopover point - Albany, NY. Tonight we enjoy our Welcome Dinner.

Day 2: New York City Tour. We proceed to New York and upon arrival we begin our first city tour. Today we will see Times Square, Central Park and many other sights. We then continue to the One World Observatory World Trade Center and take the elevator to the top for the world-famous city views this amazing landmark provides. We will enjoy dinner at a downtown restaurant before proceeding to our hotel, the *Marriott Marquis*.

Day 3: New York City Tour. A full day of sightseeing in the "Big Apple" today. We drive to Manhattan for a guided panoramic tour of the major highlights; the Chrysler Building, Rockefeller Center, Soho and the famous shops of Fifth Avenue. We also see some beautiful views of the Brooklyn Bridge. This afternoon we embark on a narrated harbour cruise to the Statue of Liberty. Our on-board guide will bring New York's sights and fascinating history to life while we enjoy views of the world's most famous skyline.

Tonight we hit Broadway and enjoy the hit show *A Beautiful Noise* - the story of how the legendary Neil Diamond became a "national treasure" comes to life on stage in this uplifting new Broadway musical. The show features Neil's hit songs including "Sweet Caroline", "America", "Cracklin' Rosie" and many more.

Day 4: New York City. A day at leisure for sightseeing and shopping. Perhaps take the ferry to Staten Island, explore the artist enclave of Greenwich Village or visit one of the many fantastic museums the city has to offer. Your Tour Manager will be full of suggestions. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 5: Return Home. We cross the border back into Canada, with a stop at the Duty Free Shop. We arrive home in the early evening.



Washington, DC

departs from Toronto
and Hamilton

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation by deluxe coach with Wi-Fi
- First Class hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 1 dinner)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3* (except, of course, round-trip airfare)

COST:

- per person, double occupancy - \$2297
- Single Supplement - \$490
- Triples deduct - \$50 per person

The capital of the U.S.A. is an exciting city that combines grand government buildings with museums, monuments, memorials.

A city steeped in history, power, intrigue and beauty, Washington has broad, tree-lined streets and imposing monuments of founders and heroes, as well as the White House - home to all the U.S. Presidents since 1800.

We enjoy our first taste of history en route to Washington as we visit the Gettysburg National Military Park. The famous battle here was a turning point in the Civil War, and was the inspiration for President Abraham Lincoln's immortal "Gettysburg Address".

Our touring in Washington includes the well-known highlights: Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, Capitol Hill, the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials, Arlington National Cemetery and more. We also have the opportunity to visit one of the 19 museums that are part of the Smithsonian Institute.

6 DAYS • MAY 4 - 9

Our hotel in the Washington area will be the First Class *Hilton McLean Tyson Corner*, located in McLean, Virginia - a quick drive from Washington just over the Potomac River. The hotel has a restaurant, fitness centre and indoor pool, and all guest rooms have a TV, coffee maker, hair dryer and complimentary wireless internet.

After our visit of Washington we travel to the City of Brotherly Love — Philadelphia. Our touring here will show us the birthplace of American independence, including the historic Liberty Bell — Philadelphia's landmark as well as Independence Hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed.

Day 1: Departure. We depart and travel through New York State, overnighing in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Day 2: Gettysburg / Washington. We continue on our scenic drive to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. We stop at Gettysburg National Military Park where a guide will conduct us through the famous Civil War battlefield with commentary. Then we proceed to Washington for a 3-night stay.

Day 3: Washington. Today we will have a full-day guided tour of Washington, during which we will see the National Mall, Library of Congress, the Supreme Court, the Washington Monument, Capitol Hill, the U.S. Capital Building, the White House and much more. A tram tour of the Arlington Cemetery is included.

Day 4: Washington. Today's touring begins at the Smithsonian Institute, where you can choose from one of 19 museums or the National Zoo to visit. We will then visit George Washington's house in Mount Vernon for a tour of the house and grounds. There will be some time at leisure in the afternoon to visit or revisit one of the many attractions or museums in the U.S. capital. At night, all of Washington's monuments are brilliantly illuminated, so after dinner we will enjoy an "Illumination Tour" of the city.

Day 5: Philadelphia. We head for Philadelphia where we will stop for lunch and enjoy a city tour. Famous sights here include Elfreth's Alley, Christ Church, Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, the waterfront at Penn's Landing, the many landmarks in the Historic District and the Philadelphia Museum of Art - home to Rocky's statue and the famous steps! After our tour we check in to our hotel in central Philadelphia. This evening is our Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 6: Home. We continue our drive back to Hamilton and Toronto, and following our stop at the Duty Free Store we arrive in the early evening.



Cape Cod

Plus Boston, Nantucket Island
and Newport, Rhode Island

Departs from Toronto
and Hamilton

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation by deluxe coach with Wi-Fi
- Moderate accommodation
- 6 breakfasts (4 full breakfasts and 2 deluxe continental breakfasts)
- 6 dinners
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3 (except, of course, round-trip airfare)*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy - \$2497
- Single Supplement - \$390
- Triples deduct - \$50 per person

Cape Cod is a pine-scented, sea swept peninsula that extends its arm out into the Atlantic Ocean.

With its dune-lined beaches, atmospheric towns full of shingled thatched cottages, quaint seafood restaurants and rustic, laid back appeal, it's no wonder that Cape Cod has been one of the most popular holiday destinations on the east coast of the U.S. for so many years.

Once you experience this tour with us, we guarantee that You're sure to fall in love with Old Cape Cod.

7 DAYS • MAY 7 - 13

Tour Highlights:

- Plymouth Rock
- Sandwich
- Cruise to Nantucket Island
- Excursion to Newport, Rhode Island
- Whale Watching in Provincetown
- Hyannis
- Kennedy Memorial
- Eastham Windmill
- Boston's Quincy Market and the Common
- And much more!

Day 1: Departure from pre-determined pick-up points in the Toronto/Hamilton area. We travel through the lovely scenery of New York State and arrive at our stopover point, Albany, the state capital.

Day 2: After breakfast we proceed to Cape Cod. Enroute we'll stop at America's Home Town - Plymouth, where the Pilgrims first settled in 1620. A picture stop will be made at the Plymouth Rock, Forefather's Monument and the Mayflower II - a reproduction of the ship that transported the Pilgrims to the New World. Our hotel is in South Yarmouth. This evening we will enjoy our first dinner on the Cape.

Day 3: A full day of exploring Cape Cod, beginning in the Cape's hub, Hyannis. Here we stop at the Kennedy Memorial, then drive along Main Street, through the village of Hyannisport - home of the famous St. Francis Xavier Church and also the Kennedy Compound. We then travel along historic Route 6, stopping on the way at the Eastham Windmill and a typical Cape Cod lighthouse. Driving through the Cape Cod National Seashore we reach the historic North Shore and spend some time in Provincetown. This charming town was the scene of the first landing of the Pilgrims, and is now an art colony with many fascinating sights and shopping boutiques. In Provincetown we board a boat for a whale watching excursion, led by a naturalist who will provide commentary on the various marine life we will see during our cruise.

Day 4: Today we visit Newport, Rhode Island, which is best known for its opulent mansions built by America's rich and famous of the 1890's, many of which are now museums. A local guide will meet us and guide us through the city, including the famed Ocean Drive and the Bellevue Avenue Mansion area. Admission to one of the mansions is included.

Tonight we enjoy some local entertainment during dinner.

Day 5: This morning we will enjoy a cruise to Nantucket Island which, for 100 years, was the greatest whaling centre in the world. Today it is a picturesque island of beautifully preserved homes, cobblestone streets and unique charm. Enjoy a tour of the island and then free time for browsing the galleries, shops and museums before we return to the Cape.

Tonight we enjoy a special lobster dinner (with alternative entrees available upon request).

Day 6: We depart the Cape for Boston, perhaps America's most historic city. We will enjoy a guided tour of the various historical landmarks for which this city is famous, such as Back Bay, Beacon Hill, Boston Common, the Public Gardens and the original site of Cheers. There will be some time for lunch and shopping at Boston's famous Quincy Market. Then we travel through the charming villages and countryside of Massachusetts until we arrive back in Albany for our dinner and overnight.

Day 7: We continue our journey homeward via the duty-free shop, taking with us fond memories of beautiful Cape Cod.



Branson (Missouri)

Departs from Toronto and Hamilton

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation by deluxe coach with Wi-Fi
- First Class accommodation
- 7 breakfasts (2 deluxe continental breakfasts and 5 full buffet breakfasts)
- 7 dinners
- All shows and attractions as described in the itinerary
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3* (except, of course, round-trip airfare)

COST:

- per person, double occupancy - \$2897
- Single Supplement - \$690
- Triples deduct \$70 per person

Branson, known as one of the friendliest places on earth, is a small town nestled in the heart of the Ozark Mountains with more live shows than anywhere else in the world!

The hospitality is obvious from the moment you arrive, but what makes Branson a truly magical place is the entertainment - more live shows are located here than anywhere else in the world! For this reason, over the past 20 years Branson has attracted millions of visitors.

We have included in this tour a variety of the finest musical shows and attractions that Branson has to offer. We will attend 6 top shows. Each entertainer and production team brings their own unique touch to every performance - a veritable feast of entertainment!

8 DAYS • MAY 7 - 14

Added features of this tour include sightseeing tours of St. Louis and Branson, with a visit to the famous Titanic Museum and a shopping excursion. Branson boasts a variety of unique shopping adventures and you can even visit an authentic "old time" five and dime store.

So join us on this adventure to Branson where we know you'll have the time of your life!

Day 1: Departure / Columbus, Ohio. We depart from pick-up points in the Toronto / Hamilton area, and cross into the US at Fort Erie with an opportunity to purchase Duty-Free. Tonight's overnight is in Columbus, Ohio, with dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 2: St. Louis. We travel to St. Louis, Gateway of the West, known for its iconic Gateway Arch - America's largest man-made monument. Upon arrival we check-in to our centrally located hotel.

Day 3: St. Louis / Branson. We enjoy a tour of the grand old city of St. Louis, including the historic Soulard District, Forest Park - site of the 1904 World's Fair - and of course the Gateway Arch. We then continue to Branson, for a 4-night stay. Tonight we enjoy our first evening of entertainment at the *Grand Jubilee Show*. Audiences fall in love with the power harmonies and dynamic performance of Branson's finest quartet. The high energy and versatility of the entire cast astound with songs from Country to Gospel and 50's to modern day.

Day 4: Branson. This morning we embark on a sightseeing tour of Branson, including a visit to the Titanic Museum and a ride on the Scenic Railway through the Ozark Mountains.

This evening after dinner we will attend Branson's #1 show - *Hits of the 50's & 60's* - a non-stop, high energy, phenomenal hit musical featuring the hit songs of legendary artists like Elvis, Buddy Holly, Sonny & Cher, The Monkees, The Supremes, the Temptations, the Beatles and many more! With a repertoire of more than 90 songs, and an astonishing 100 costume changes, this is truly an unforgettable theatre experience.

Day 5: Branson. This morning we see the "Acrobats of China" featuring the New Shanghai Circus. This high energy production features an exciting array of spectacular acrobatic feats that'll have you holding your breath!

This evening we head to Shepherd of the Hills to enjoy the Whodunnit Hoedown Murder Mystery Dinner. The hoedown takes a hilariously dark turn when legendary Fiddler Squeaky Bowman meets his mysterious demise, with an entertaining list of suspects. Enjoy the delicious dinner, lots of laughs and, who knows, you might figure out Whodunnit!

Day 6: Branson. This morning we attend the exciting Clay Cooper Country Music Show. Clay and his fantastic cast of fifteen veteran entertainers perform a high-energy show of singing, dancing, gun-slinging, rope-twirling and hysterical comedy!

This evening we're "All Aboard" the famous Showboat Branson Belle for a fun-filled dinner cruise and entertainment. We begin with a visit to White River Landing followed by a two-hour cruise on Table Rock Lake for fabulous dining and award-winning theatre.

Day 7: Indianapolis. We say farewell to Branson and travel through scenic Northern Missouri and Indiana. Our overnight and Farewell Dinner will be in Indianapolis.

Day 8: Home. After our buffet breakfast we return to Canada, arriving back in the Toronto area by early evening.



First Class London Show Tour

Join us on this visit to Old London Town, (Theatre Capital of the World), to take in some of the top shows, visit your favourite attractions or stroll along the Thames.

As well as the meals and tours included in our itinerary, we have pre-booked excellent seats for three of the most popular shows in town, which tentatively include:

1. **Hello Dolly.** This brilliantly feel-good musical is a glitzy revival of a well-loved classic. Olivier Award winner Imelda Staunton stars as New York socialite Dolly Levi, who has made a nice business out of matchmaking for high-class clients. But this schemer is always on the hunt for new opportunities, and soon sets out to secure her own favourable engagement.
2. **Tootsie.** How far would you go to land your ideal job? This out-of-work actor has finally made it big on the Broadway stage - disguised as a woman who has captured the heart of a nation. Now too deep into his lie, he finds himself flung from one awkward and hilarious situation to another. Tootsie is a hilarious

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotel
- Full English breakfast daily
- 4 dinners and a pub lunch
- 3 pre-booked shows with transportation
- Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Windsor Castle, Tower of London, Royal Mews and much more
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal, Halifax or Vancouver - \$5197
-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$290
- Edmonton - add \$590

10 DAYS • AUGUST 14 - 23

and uplifting musical based on the hit comedy film from 1982, starring Dustin Hoffman.

3. **Your choice between 3 theatre productions!** For your 3rd theatre night you will be given the choice between 3 of the hottest West End theatre offerings.

We will stay at the centrally located *Park Plaza Waterloo* (or similar). This First-Class hotel is situated on the south side of the River Thames, and boasts dramatic views of the river and the London skyline. It is within walking distance of some of the city's most impressive landmarks such as the House of Parliament, Big Ben and the London Eye, etc. The hotel features stylishly modern furnishings with First Class facilities. All Superior guest rooms are air-conditioned with Flat screen TV, safe, coffee/tea facilities and complimentary WIFI. There is also access to a state-of-the-art fitness centre including an indoor pool, sauna and steam room.

Day 1: Departure. We depart for London with Air Canada.

Day 2: Arrival London. We arrive in London in the morning and transfer to our hotel. There will be an orientation walking tour around the area, with some free time before this evening's Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: London Tour / Theatre. London is bursting with centuries-old landmarks. Today's full-day tour will be by both coach and walking to take in the major highlights: Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, Piccadilly Circus, Trafalgar Square, St. Paul's Cathedral, Tower Bridge and the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, along with visits to Westminster Abbey and the Canadian War Memorial. This evening is our first night at the theatre.

Day 4: Tower of London / Greenwich. We board a Rover riverboat at the London Eye and cruise along the Thames to the Tower of London – one of the world's most famous fortresses, where the ancient stones reverberate with dark secrets of the past. The Tower houses the magnificent Crown regalia. In the afternoon, we'll continue to cruise the Thames to the maritime village of Greenwich, where we'll see the world's oldest surviving tea clipper – the *Cutty Sark*, and the Old Royal Naval College. Our walking tour includes a visit to the stunning Painted Hall, known as the "Sistine Chapel of Britain". During your free time, you may wish to visit the 17th century Royal Observatory – home to the Prime Meridian, the place from where the world bases its time. Note - your included Rover ticket is your travel pass allowing unlimited access to hop on and off the city's sightseeing riverboats for the next 3 days.

Day 5: Royal Mews / Buckingham Palace / Theatre. Our morning tour takes us first to the Royal Mews, which houses the horses and coaches of the Royal Transport (including the Gold State Coach which has been used at every coronation for the past 200 years). It is still one of the world's finest working stables. Then we walk over to Buckingham Palace – the official residence of the Queen, serving as her London home and offices. We will see many of the magnificent staterooms in this working palace, used extensively by the Queen and members of her family to receive and entertain guests on State and ceremonial occasions. There will be time at leisure in the

palace to enjoy the magnificence of the interior, perhaps enjoy a spot of tea and visit the Royal Shop rich with memorabilia. This evening is our 2nd theatre night.

Day 6: At Leisure. A day at leisure. There are countless attractions, museums and galleries in London to visit. Your Tour Manager will be on hand with suggestions.

Day 7: Cotswolds. Our full-day excursion takes us through the quintessential English countryside to The Cotswolds – home to rolling hills and quaint villages laden with unique honey coloured cottages and dry stone walls! We will stop for visits to two or three of the villages with time to enjoy gentle walking strolls before returning to London! A pub lunch is included.

Day 8: Windsor / Theatre. This morning we visit Windsor and the castle that has been "home" to English monarchs for almost 1,000 years. It is said to be the Queen's favourite residence. We also pass by Runnymede – site of the signing of the Magna Carta, and stop at the R.A.F. Memorial, overlooking scenic countryside. This evening is our final theatre night.

Day 9: Shakespeare's Globe Theatre / Covent Garden. Today we harken back to the days of the dramatic world of Elizabethan London with a visit to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in Bankside – an opportunity to immerse ourselves in the tales and history of the 16th theatre experience. After our visit, we continue to Covent Garden – an area that through the years has evolved into one of the liveliest districts in London. Originally a vegetable garden for the monks of Westminster Abbey, today Covent Garden houses stylish shops, market stalls, cafes, bars, restaurants, pubs as well as all kinds of buskers (street entertainers). A visit to the affectionately called "Actors' Church" depicts memorials dedicated to many famous theatrical personalities: Charlie Chaplin, Noel Coward, Gracie Fields, Vivien Leigh, and more. It was also here that George Bernard Shaw set "Pygmalion" – the basis for the movie "My Fair Lady" right under the Portico! Later this evening we will enjoy our Farewell to London dinner.

Day 10: Home. It's "Cheerio" as we fly home with Air Canada.



Ancient Touring Routes of England

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full English breakfast and 10 dinners (including 2 pub dinners)
- An afternoon tea
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal ... \$5397
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa, Halifax or Vancouver - add \$90
- Calgary or Winnipeg - add \$390
- Edmonton - add \$590

2-Centre Tour to Bristol and Oxford

Join us as we follow one of England's ancient touring routes, known as 'The Great West Way'. It was one of the first "Great Roads" commissioned by the Kings of England, and is considered one of the world's premier touring routes. We will wind our way through lush green landscapes to discover historic and culturally rich cities, as well as world-famous attractions. This tour is for the curious traveller who wants to explore the *real* England and enjoy an extraordinary variety of English experiences not found in any other parts of the country.

Our first 6 nights will be in Bristol, a lively yet laid-back city recently designated the UK's best place to live! Bristol has a rich centuries-old maritime heritage involving swashbuckling pirates and North American expeditions, and is noted for its famous harbour, historic landmarks and variety of English architecture from different periods.

Our last 6 nights will be in Oxfordshire, one of England's most glorious regions. Here we will find skylines pierced with spires and domes, dream-like palaces, world-class museums, spectacular scenery, picture-postcard villages, honey-coloured Cotswold stone architecture, and of course the world's oldest English-speaking university.

14 DAYS • JULY 24 - AUGUST 6

Tour Highlights:

- The UNESCO World Heritage City of Bath
- The magical, historic town of Bradford-upon-Avon,
- Bristol – *the SS Great Britain* and "Being Brunel"
- Berkeley Castle
- The unspoiled village of Lacock
- Castle Coombe – The "Prettiest Village in England"
- The Royal Borough of Windsor
- Bombay Gin Distillery
- Hobbs of Henley Cruise on the Thames
- Knebworth House
- Oxford – the City of Dreaming Spires

**Those participating in any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for London.

Day 2: Bristol. We arrive and transfer to our centrally located hotel in Bristol for a 6-night stay. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Bristol. Our city tour of Bristol begins at the historic waterfront with a visit of the SS *Great Britain*, where we'll see what life was like on the world's first great luxury liner (launched in 1843). Then we visit the newly-opened *Being Brunel*, where we learn about Victorian England's most ingenious engineer. Brunel changed the face of England with his construction of bridges, tunnels, dockyards and railways. Our final visit is Aerospace Bristol, where we travel through aviation history and step aboard the last Concorde to fly.

Day 4: Berkeley Castle / Tetbury. We first visit the magnificent Berkeley Castle. Founded in 1153 by the first Lord Berkeley, it is the UK's oldest medieval castle occupied by the same family from its inception to this very day. Then we visit Tetbury, known for its many antique shops and its proximity to Prince Charles's residence at Highgrove. The town has a wonderful variety of individually owned specialty shops, where you may experience a level of service long since vanished from most high streets.

Day 5: Bath / Bradford-on-Avon. We begin in the UNESCO City of Bath, where our guide will show us the stunning honey-coloured Georgian architecture, the iconic Royal Crescent, the majestic Circus and Pulteney Bridge. Later we visit Bradford-on-Avon. Surrounded by glorious countryside, the ancient bridge in the centre of the town still retains its original 13th-century arches. There will be free time to explore the historic streets of the town centre. This evening we enjoy a pub dinner.

Day 6: Bristol. A day at leisure in this city bursting with activity, stunning architecture, award-winning attractions, great restaurants, stunning cityscapes and elaborate street art.

Day 7: Lacock Abbey / Castle Coombe. Lacock Abbey is considered the birthplace of photography, as it was here in the early 1830s that William Fox-Talbot took his first "photograph" of an oriel window. The window looks much the same now as it did 200 years ago. Lacock village has been preserved from the ravages of modern civilization, with no television aerials or other signs of the modern world. Next, we visit Castle Combe, known as 'The Prettiest Village in England' and with good reason. Step back several centuries as you stroll through this relaxed village of honey-toned Cotswold-stone cottages.

Day 8: Cotswolds / Blenheim. We leave Bristol and meander through the gentle hillsides and sleepy, honey-coloured villages of the Cotswolds - a designated area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We arrive at Blenheim Palace - birthplace of Winston Churchill. This National Treasure houses some of Europe's

finest antique collections. We'll tour the State Rooms and discover over 300 years of history. There will be time to explore this World Heritage Site and the 2000 acres of landscaped parkland, featuring some of the finest views in England. We arrive at our hotel on the edge of Oxford, for a 6-night stay.

Day 9: Windsor. Windsor is steeped in the pageantry and history of the royal family. We'll enjoy both a walking tour and a river cruise which will offer the perfect view of Windsor Castle - one of the Queen's official residences and the largest and oldest occupied castle in the world.

Day 10: Oxford / Bombay Distillery. On our guided walking tour of Oxford - 'The City of Dreaming Spires', we'll see the key university buildings (and hidden alleyways connecting them), visit Radcliffe Square and Bodleian Libraries, and see some of the oldest colleges. We'll learn about the city's past and some of the famous characters that studied here, and be enchanted by its fabulous architecture and gardens. Next, we proceed to Hampshire to visit the Bombay Sapphire Distillery, where we'll experience the skill and artistry that goes into the production of this famous and unique spirit enjoyed the world over.

Day 11: Henley. Henley-on-Thames is one of England's most beautiful towns, and has an international reputation (earned over 175 years), for having the world's greatest rowing regatta. We begin with a cruise along the regatta route, then visit the River and Rowing Museum - designated one of the world's 50 best museums, located in an architecturally stunning award-winning building. The town has appeared in many episodes of *Midsomer Murders*. This evening we enjoy dinner in the local pub in Bucklebury (where Kate Middleton's family resides).

Day 12: Oxford at Leisure. Our hotel is set on 17 landscaped acres, just 10 minutes from the centre of Oxford. You may want to spend the day walking the grounds, enjoying the pool and spa facilities, or play a round of tennis! You may also want to go into Oxford or take a short taxi ride to Bicester Village - one of the world's leading luxury shopping destinations.

Day 13: Aylesbury / Knebworth. Our first stop is Aylesbury, known for its vibrant market displaying unique wares in the heart of the historic town. Then we visit Knebworth House, owned by the Lytton family for 500 years. Stories and heirlooms reflect the family's contribution to literature, politics and Foreign Service. Visitors to the house have included diverse characters such as Charles Dickens, Winston Churchill and Noel Gallagher. Tonight, we enjoy our Farewell Dinner and lift a glass to cheer this incredible tour!

Day 14: Home. We fly home from London.



Stately Homes and Gardens of Southern England

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full English breakfast daily & 10 dinners (4 dinners at country inns and pubs)
- A “proper” cream tea and 2 lunches
- An evening of local entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto ... \$6597
-
- Single Supplement - \$1390
- Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg or Vancouver - add \$190
- Calgary - add \$390. Edmonton - add \$590

2-Centre Tour to Kent and London

Along with the football match, the pub and a ‘nice cuppa’, few British institutions are as important as the garden, and now more than ever gardening has become one of Britain’s beloved pastimes. On this tour we will visit various styles of gardens, including those created by Britain’s most famous landscape architects, such as Vita Sackville-West, Christopher Lloyd and Capability Brown. We will also discover some of Britain’s grandiose estates and learn of their turbulent and romantic past.

We begin with a 7-night stay in the seaside town of Folkestone, in the county of Kent, known as the ‘Garden of England’. One of Britain’s oldest counties, Kent is not only known for its enchanting gardens, but it is also home to more castles and historic houses than any other region of England. It has been the playground to royals and aristocrats for centuries.

We spend the next 6 nights in London - “Everybody’s Favourite City”. Our centrally located hotel is the perfect base for both touring and exploring on our own.

**Those participating in any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

15 DAYS • APRIL 30 - MAY 14

Tour Highlights:

- Sissinghurst Castle, Vita Sackville-West and Sir Harold Nicholson’s world famous garden
- Canterbury - historic English cathedral city and UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Leeds Castle, “the Loveliest Castle in the world”
- Penshurst Place and Gardens
- Chatham’s Historic Dockyard
- Hever Castle & Gardens - childhood home of Anne Boleyn
- Hampton Court Palace - the country retreat of King Henry VIII, and Capability Brown Gardens
- Award-winning tour of Wimbledon
- Royal Botanical Gardens (Kew)
- Savill Gardens with Thames River cruise
- Great Dixter House - once home to gardener Christopher Lloyd

Day 1: Departure. We depart for London.

Day 2: Kent. We arrive and transfer to our 4-star hotel located in the seaside town of Folkestone, for a 7-night stay.

Day 3: Canterbury. We visit the jewel of Kent - Canterbury, where we embark on a historic river "punt" - a unique vantage point to see Canterbury's stunning architecture. On our city tour we will visit England's oldest cathedral (seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury) and see the beautiful cloisters, side alleys and chapels which have evolved over the ages.

Day 4: Leeds / Sissinghurst. We begin with a visit to 'The World's Loveliest Castle'. Set in 500 acres of beautiful parkland, Leeds Castle was the private property of 6 medieval English monarchs and is now one of Britain's most visited historic buildings. Later we visit Sissinghurst Castle, created by Harold Nicholson and Vita Sackville-West in the 1930's and is one of the world's most celebrated 20th century gardens.

Day 5: Isle of Thanet / Coastal Towns. Once an island off the English coast, the Isle of Thanet was where the Romans landed when they invaded Britain. Today it is home to a string of lovely Victorian seaside towns. We enjoy a walking tour of picturesque St. Peter's, where the past is brought to life by costumed characters! Then we stop in Margate - an old English seaside town that now has a modern flavour. We will stop at the Spitfire Museum, home to famous WW2 fighter planes. Dinner will be at a lovely 15th century coaching inn.

Day 6: At Leisure. Folkestone's Creative Quarter features independent shops and galleries lining the cobbled streets. You may also enjoy lovely coastal walks, and our hotel is near the train station if you want to venture further afield.

Day 7: Great Dixter / Battle. Great Dixter was the home of the famous gardener Christopher Lloyd, and since this historic house and garden was the focus of his work for over 40 years, it became a centre of education and a place of pilgrimage for horticulturists from all over the world. After our visit, we proceed to Battle - one of England's most important historic sites. It was here that the army of William the Conqueror won the Battle of Hastings, seized the kingdom and changed British history forever. The town has beautiful old buildings, interesting shops and tea rooms. Dinner will be at a charming country pub.

Day 8: Hever Castle / Penshurst Place. Today we visit two historic estates brought together by Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. We start with Penshurst Place, once the hunting lodge of Henry VIII. It is now considered 'the grandest and most perfectly preserved example of a fortified manor house in all England'. The Head Gardener will show us around one of the

finest examples of Elizabethan design gardens. Then we visit Hever Castle, childhood home of Anne Boleyn. This castle was the unlikely backdrop to a series of tumultuous events that changed the course of Britain's history, monarchy and religion. Included today is a delicious 'proper' cream tea.

Day 9: Chatham Dockyards / London. En route to London we visit Chatham's Historic Dockyard. For 400 years the Royal Dockyard at Chatham made ships for the Royal Navy, including the nation's most loved - *HMS Victory*. We enjoy a tour and lunch, then proceed to London for a 6-night stay.

Day 10: London. On our city tour we will see sites such as Big Ben, Trafalgar Square, the Tower of London and much more. Just a short walk from our hotel we visit the Royal Albert Hall - one of London's most iconic buildings. Experience the excitement inside one of the world's most famous venues as it prepares for the next performance. The afternoon is at leisure.

Day 11: Savill Gardens. In the heart of historic Windsor Great Park lies Savill Gardens. With plants collected from around the world this is one of England's finest woodland gardens. Today we also enjoy a narrated cruise along the River Thames which will provide some of the best distant views of Windsor Castle.

Day 12: Royal Botanical Gardens (Kew). A leisurely morning before we spend the afternoon at the famous UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kew Gardens - a beautiful botanical gardens as well as the most biodiverse place on Earth, with over 50,000 living plants. From Victorian glasshouses to an Alpine rock garden, there is something to see in every corner. For dinner we will dine in a modern pub, overlooking the gardens.

Day 13: London. A day at leisure for you to explore on your own.

Day 14: Hampton Court Palace / Wimbledon. This morning we visit the magnificent Hampton Court Palace, grown from humble beginnings in the 11th century to one of the finest palaces in the world. You can explore the Tudor kitchen, see the Queen and King's apartments and admire the sumptuous tapestries in England's greatest Great Hall. Outside, try not to get lost in the world's most famous maze and the Privy Garden, restored to its 1702 glory. Our next stop is Wimbledon, where we can experience the history of 'The Fortnight' in the museum, get up close to the Championship Trophies and, feel the fabrics of tennis fashions from the Victorian era with clothing and equipment donated by tennis' top stars. Dinner tonight is in a 19th-century cottage on the edge of Wimbledon Common. Our Farewell Dinner will be in an elegant English pub!

Day 15: Home. Air Canada takes us home.



Devon and Cornwall

The West Country has always been one of Britain's most popular vacation destinations.

This unique area has colourful historic towns and villages, wonderful vistas of constantly changing landscapes, magnificent seascapes and much more to offer.

In Devon ("The English Riviera"), you'll find that there is more to this spectacular and diverse county than beautiful beaches and stunning scenery. There are National Parks, historic monuments and architecture, rustic villages and strange rock outcrops known as "tors".

Cornwall was one of the last great bastions of Celtic culture. Its south coast has wild and beautiful landscapes, where a green and gold tapestry of wooded hills drop down to secluded coves and inlets that hide enchanting fishing villages and exotic gardens.

A special feature of this tour will be our 3 dinners at a special collection of pubs. Since the earliest days of British history the pub has been at the very heart of every English community. These evenings out will ensure that you too can experience the warmth and ambiance of this timeless tradition.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 2 dinners). 3 of the dinners will be at a special selection of pubs
- 1 pub lunch. 1 traditional afternoon tea.
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5997
-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, Calgary or Vancouver - add \$190
- Winnipeg - add \$290
- Edmonton - add \$490

15 DAYS • MAY 1 - 15

Tour Highlights:

- Wells Cathedral - "the most poetic English Cathedral"
- Bath - UNESCO World Heritage site
- Cheddar Gorge - one of England's most iconic and spectacular landscapes
- Clovelly - the timeless village
- Port Isaac — of Doc Martin fame!
- The Eden Project
- Plymouth - the historic maritime city
- Dartmoor National Park
- St. Michael's Mount and St. Ives
- Exeter - one of England's oldest cities

** Those joining our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for London.

Day 2: Bath. We arrive and transfer to our first class hotel, centrally located in the UNESCO World Heritage city of Bath, for a 3-night stay. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Bath. We enjoy a morning walking tour of Bath. Famous for its Roman Spa, gothic Abbey and elegant Georgian architecture, it is considered one of Britain's most beautiful cities. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 4: Lacock / Wells. We first visit Lacock village - a favourite location for film producers due to its picturesque and historic streets and cottages. Then we proceed to Wells, also remarkably unspoiled with many historic buildings including the famous 13th century Cathedral, the moated Bishop's Palace and Vicars' Close. We will visit the Cathedral and have time to explore on our own. Tonight's dinner is at a "quirky" local inn.

Day 5: Cheddar / Devon. Today we explore one of Britain's most spectacular natural landmarks - Cheddar Gorge and Caves, which features awe-inspiring cliffs and extraordinary subterranean stalactite show caves. After our visit we proceed to our luxury hotel in North Devon for a 2-night stay.

Day 6: Clovelly. World-famous Clovelly is one of Devon's gems, offering staggering views across Bideford Bay and a relaxed lifestyle. The historic houses wind their way down the wooded hillside, to the traditional 14th century fishing harbour. No vehicles are allowed down the cobbled streets; goods are transported by sledge, often pulled by donkeys.

Day 7: Port Isaac / South Cornwall. Today we explore Cornwall, beginning in Port Isaac - a fishing village on the Cornish coast that is so charming that all visitors fall in love with the place. It is also the home of the famed British series, Doc Martin. Our included lunch will be at one of the pubs used in the filming of the series. We arrive at our Cornwall hotel for a 4-night stay.

Day 8: St. Ives / St. Michael's Mount / South Cornwall. Our excursion to the southwestern tip of the British mainland begins in St. Ives - the famous harbour that has attracted artists and visitors for decades. We also explore the amazing island world of St. Michael's Mount - site of legend, myth and over a thousand years of incredible history. Tonight we dine in a traditional pub before returning to our hotel.

Day 9: South Cornwall. At leisure. You may want to relax and take advantage of the hotel's superb facilities, indoor heated pool, and sauna. Or, stroll along the beach or in the town centre with its wide range of shops, cafes and galleries.

Day 10: Eden Project / Charlestown. Today we visit the Eden Project - the world's largest greenhouses. Tropical and desert environments have been recreated inside the giant biomes, so a single visit can carry you from steaming rainforests to dry deserts. Our afternoon is spent in Charlestown - an unspoiled, original harbour, home to a famous collection of old ships employed in film projects all over the world. Included is a scrumptuous afternoon tea.

Day 11: Plymouth / Exeter. Plymouth, unrivalled in maritime history, has been a naval base for hundreds of years. The cliffs along the harbour are armed with forts and batteries from the 17th century to WW2. We will stand at the top of the limestone cliffs to watch the comings and goings on the Sound, and stroll around the cobblestone streets of the Barbican where the Mayflower set sail for America in 1620. Britain's oldest gin distillery is here, and we will enjoy a tour and tasting! Later we arrive at our hotel in central Exeter - Devon's premier county town, for a 3-night stay.

Day 12: Dartmoor National Park. We journey through the dramatic Dartmoor National Park, where ponies roam the craggy landscape of forests, rivers, wetlands and strange rock formations. Our tour ends with a delicious dinner at a cozy 140-year-old pub that has long been a local favourite.

Day 13: Exeter. Exeter is one of the most vibrant and historical cities in England. Our walking tour will bring to life the stories behind the magnificent Cathedral, imposing Roman Wall and beautiful Quayside. Afternoon at leisure. Exeter was voted one of Britain's best gastronomic towns by the Good Food Guide, with countless varieties of cuisine available, so tonight's dinner is on our own.

Day 14: Winchester. We proceed to Winchester, England's ancient capital. There will be time to explore the Great Hall, which for over 700 years has housed the mysterious King Arthur's Round Table and 11th century Winchester Cathedral, both just a short walk from our hotel. There will be time to explore Winchester on our own. Tonight we enjoy our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We transfer to London for our flight home.



HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with British Airways
- First Class hotel
- Full English breakfast daily, 10 dinners, a pub lunch and an afternoon tea
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$5997
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport to the Montreal airport)
- Vancouver - add \$590
- * *Passengers from the gateways below - for \$99 p.p. double occupancy (\$189 single) you may choose to overnight in Toronto before or after the tour.*
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$890

Channel Islands

With a blend of cultures and an enviably mild climate, the Channel Islands have long been a favourite destination for both the British and the French.

Although they lie just 14 miles off the French coast, the islands are British, having been connected to the British Crown for over a thousand years. These self-governing islands maintain their own individual culture. The food and wine are French, but habits and manners are English.

We will stay on the island of Jersey, the largest of the islands. It is known for its glorious woodland walks, lovely rolling countryside, unspoiled coastline with imposing cliffs, historic castles, Victorian markets and interesting sightseeing. The capital, St. Helier, is built around a harbour, and the town itself is a maze of narrow streets, many of which are banned to traffic, and is situated on one of Jersey's best beaches.

We will stay at the First Class *Merton Hotel*. Located just a 10-minute walk from St. Helier, the hotel is known for its high level of hospitality. Facilities include 6 restaurants, a heated outdoor pool, an *Aquadome*, fitness room and evening entertainment. The modern guestrooms have satellite TV, tea and coffee makers and free WiFi.

14 DAYS • MAY 1 - 14

Tour Highlights:

- Walking tour of Saint Helier
- Jersey War Tunnels
- Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust
- Eric Young Orchid Foundation
- La Mare Vineyard
- Excursion to the island of Sark
- Excursion to the island of Guernsey
- Excursion to St. Malo, France

* *Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Jersey, via London.

Day 2: Jersey. We arrive on the island of Jersey and transfer to our hotel. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Walking Tour of St. Helier. We enjoy a guided walk through town, visiting Royal Square, wonderful Victorian Markets and Liberation Square. We end at the Jersey Museum and Art Gallery with a viewing of the 'Story of Jersey' film. The afternoon is free to perhaps explore the town or stroll in the lovely park near our hotel.

Day 4: St Malo, France (weather permitting). We board a ferry to St. Malo (90 minute crossing). As we walk through the cobbled streets of St. Malo's spectacular old town we'll feel as though we've stepped back in time. The quaint cobbled and bustling streets are lined with cafes, buskers and shops selling various traditional Malouin and Breton fare and goods.

Day 5: Jersey War Tunnels. We tour this underground complex, Jersey's most evocative museum of the five years of enemy occupation during World War II. The video presentation and collection of memorabilia bring the island's wartime experience to life; a poignant and unforgettable experience. After our visit we will enjoy a traditional pub lunch.

Day 6: Sark. (weather permitting). Sark, the smallest of the Channel Islands, is known for its "olde worlde" charm and tranquil atmosphere. As there are no motor vehicles on the island except for tractors, we will explore by horse and carriage. There are quaint shops and cafes in the island's main village, and the beautiful scenery includes an abundance of wildflowers and sea birds, picturesque inlets, stunning coastlines, dramatic cliffs, and secluded bays.

Day 7: At Leisure. Due to its' size (9 miles by 5), it's easy to fit plenty into a day at leisure on Jersey. Delve into the island's colourful past, recharge and relax with the hotel's extensive facilities, or go shopping in quaint St. Helier.

Day 8: Mont Orgueil / La Hougue Bie. Mont Orgueil has cast its imposing shadow over the beautiful fishing port of Gorey for over 800 years, and is one of the world's most well-preserved medieval fortresses. Then we visit La Hougue Bie Museum - one of Europe's finest prehistoric monuments. The site features a medieval church, under which lies a 6,000-year-old Neolithic passage grave. We

will visit a command bunker built during the German Occupation of Jersey, and a memorial dedicated to the slave-workers brought here by invading Nazi forces. This afternoon we visit Hamptonne Country Life Museum, for a unique insight into Jersey's rural history, as well as cider making. Later we will enjoy Afternoon Tea at Chateau La Chaire - a country house set on cliffs overlooking the sea.

Day 9: Liberation Day / At Leisure. The Channel Islands were the only UK territories to be occupied by the German Forces in WW2, and May 9th is Liberation Day, marking the end of the war for Jersey and its inhabitants. This is considered Jersey's national day and is celebrated with bands, parades, services and colourful re-enactments.

Day 10: Eric Young Orchid Foundation / Samarès Manor. The Channel Islands are known for their beautiful orchids, so this morning we'll visit the world famous Eric Young Orchid Foundation. Later we'll visit the wonderful home and extensive botanical gardens at Samarès Manor.

Day 11: Guernsey (weather permitting). Today we ferry to Guernsey, the 2nd largest of the Channel Islands. Our island tour will follow the coastline, taking in the picturesque beaches and serene landscape. We will have time in St. Peter Port, where we can wander on the cobbled streets and narrow lanes lined by old shops and impressive houses.

Day 12: La Mare Wine Estates and Oyster Tasting. Our winery tour will take in the production area for wine, and also for chocolate (with products such as traditional Jersey Black Butter, fudges and biscuits). We'll also enjoy a tasting, while overlooking the award-winning gardens. Later we'll visit Faulkner Fisheries - an old German bunker transformed into a working fisheries and restaurant, where we'll sample their award-winning oysters.

Day 13: Durrell Wildlife. We visit the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust. Founded by the celebrity naturalist Gerald Durrell, this wildlife zoo is dedicated to saving threatened wildlife species from extinction. We will have an orientation of the zoo, and free time to explore on our own. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 14: Home. We fly home via London.

Please note ... Excursions that involve a ferry trip are subject to weather conditions. If a sailing is cancelled by the ferry company, a suitable alternative will be provided.



Bonnie Scotland

Featuring Islands, Highlands and the Edinburgh Military Tattoo

On this delightful tour we will feast on the history and beauty of Scotland's monuments, cathedrals, abbeys, castles and artistic treasures - all set in the awesome rugged landscape that this land is known for.

We begin in the capital city - Edinburgh, where we will stroll on Princes Street and attend the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Then we journey through the untamed Scottish Highlands and Islands. En route we visit tragic battlefields, picturesque harbour towns and fairytale castles, view the wild and rugged landscape of Caithness and the west coast, travel along the Great Glen, sail to the Orkney Islands to admire its picture book landscape and visit 2 of the largest Hebrides Islands - Skye and Mull. Along the way we learn about turbulent battles, the complex history of the Scottish Monarchy and the fascinating world of Scotland's famous poets and writers. We will also enjoy some wonderful cultural events unique to Scotland. By the end of this tour you will have discovered why the Scots are so proud of their heritage, leaving you with cherished memories of the country and its people!

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Transat (direct between Toronto and Glasgow)
- First Class hotels (or best available)
- Full Scottish breakfast & dinner daily (except for 2 dinners) and a pub lunch
- Cultural events - Highland Dancing, Traditional Scottish Music, Story Telling, Edinburgh Military Tattoo
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$7497
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- Single Supplement - \$1790
- Montreal or Ottawa - add \$590
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
- Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary - add \$890

16 DAYS • 2 DATES IN 2023

AUGUST 3 - 18

AUGUST 17 - SEPTEMBER 1

Tour Highlights:

- Royal Yacht Britannia
- The mysterious and infamous Loch Ness
- Islands of Orkney, Skye, Mull and Iona
- Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo
- St. Andrew's - Scotland's world famous Home of Golf
- Culloden Battlefield
- Dunrobin Castle
- Inverewe Gardens
- Stirling Castle
- The Trossachs

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Glasgow (non-stop from Toronto).

Day 2: Edinburgh. We arrive and transfer to our hotel in central Edinburgh for time to relax before our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Edinburgh. Our welcoming city guide takes us through the 'Old' and 'New' towns (combined they now have UNESCO World Heritage status). We will visit the Royal Yacht Britannia - home to the Queen and the Royal Family for over 40 years, (they sailed over 1,000,000 miles around the world on this yacht). This evening we attend the Edinburgh Tattoo.

Day 4: Inverness. Our first stop is St Andrews, home to the famous golf course and University. During our walking tour we see the ruins of St. Andrews cathedral, the castle and a glimpse into the campus grounds. You will have free time to enjoy the ancient town. This afternoon we travel into the hills of the highlands as we make our way to the city of Inverness.

Day 5: Wick. A day of breathtaking scenery as we make our way to the remote north. We stop at Culloden, where Bonnie Prince Charlie was defeated in 1745. We also visit Dunrobin Castle - perched on a high terrace above walled gardens, with fairytale spires and turrets, this castle rises above the North Sea like a picture from a storybook. We overnight near Wick.

Day 6: Orkney Islands / Wick. We drive to the northernmost tip of Scotland and board a ferry for the short crossing to South Ronaldsay, one of the Orkney Islands. Our local guide will show us the the Italian Chapel, the Ring of Brodgar (Orkney's Stonehenge) and Kirkwall - the island capital with a Viking flavour and red sandstone cathedral. We ferry back to the mainland. Tonight is an evening of Scottish entertainment.

Day 7: Ullapool. Few places in the world match the mountains, moors and beaches of Scotland's northwest coast. We first visit Smoo Caves, Britain's largest limestone cave, then continue to the picturesque fishing village of Ullapool.

Day 8: Inverewe / Skye. We continue along the coast, taking in the spectacular vistas of the Summer Isles, and arrive at Inverewe Gardens. This world-famous historic garden is a lush, tropical oasis perched on a peninsula on Loch Ewe amid rugged landscape. After our visit we cross over the Skye Bridge, to the wee village of Kyleakin for our overnight stay.

Day 9: Skye / Drumnadrochit. Today we explore the magical Isle of Skye - the largest of the Inner Hebrides islands, and home to some of Scotland's most iconic landscapes. We travel to the Trotternish Peninsula to view the magnificent Kilt Rock - a 90 metre basalt column that looks like a pleated kilt. Then we enjoy some free time to explore the picture-postcard

harbour town of Portree. We cross back to the mainland and the Highland village of Drumnadrochit, for a 2-night stay!

Day 10: Loch Ness. Our exploration of Loch Ness begins at Fort Augustus, where we see the ladder locks of the Caledonian Canal. After a visit of the Clansman Centre we take in the spectacular views as we circumnavigate the Loch. A highlight will be our narrated Jacobite Cruise that will take us to the 1000-year-old Urquhart Castle, considered the greatest castle in the Highlands. Before returning to the hotel, we enjoy a delicious meal at the local Inn.

Day 11: Isle of Mull. We take the very scenic route along Loch Ness, Loch Oich and Loch Lochy and make a stop at the Commando Memorial Monument - dedicate to the men of the original British Commando Forces raised during World War 2. Then we cross the Andnamurchan Peninsula where we board our ferry to the Isle of Mull, where we spend the next 2 nights.

Day 12: Iona / Isle of Mull. We enjoy the scenic drive past rugged mountains, dramatic sea lochs and small villages until we board a ferry to the sacred island of Iona. Known as the "cradle of Christianity", this wee island attracts thousands of pilgrims each year, not only for religion, but also for the unspoiled nature and tranquil atmosphere.

Day 13: Stirling / Glasgow. We sail back to the mainland and make our way through Glen Coe - Scotland's most famous and scenic glen. We'll visit Stirling Castle - once a residence of the Stewart Kings and Queens and one of Scotland's most historically important sites. After our visit we proceed to our centrally located hotel in Glasgow for our final 3 nights.

Day 14: Glasgow. Glasgow is renowned for its culture, prize-winning Victorian architecture and the friendliness of its people. Our city tour will show us the City Chambers, Central Station, University of Glasgow, and Glasgow Cathedral. We end at the River Clyde, most notably known for shipbuilding, and visit the Clyde Distillery, where we'll taste their famous Lowland-style Single Malt Whisky and learn about Glasgow's history and its bonds with the whisky industry.

Day 15: Glasgow. A day at leisure. Glasgow is home to some of Scotland's best cultural attractions, with many museums, galleries and unique shops (next to London's West End Glasgow is considered the second largest retail centre in the UK). This evening, we enjoy our Farewell Dinner and raise a glass to cheer 'Slainte' to this brilliant tour of Scotland.

Day 16: Home. We fly non-stop to Toronto.



Scottish Highlands Rail and Sail

This exciting new tour will take in some of the Scottish Highlands best rail journeys and Loch cruises.

More than just a matter of getting from point A to point B, a train journey around Scotland can be one of the best (and most comfortable) ways of admiring the stunning landscapes around the country - hundreds of miles of misty mountains, glittering lochs, quaint villages and even elegant mansions - all to be enjoyed with a cup of tea in hand and no chance of getting caught in the rain!

Sailing, whether on one of Scotland's many Lochs or getting from the mainland to one of the islands, is another true Scottish experience. These cruises provide great opportunities to relax and take in the magnificent and historical scenery, and perhaps even a chance of seeing the elusive Loch Ness monster!

Tour Highlights:

- The Jacobite Steam Train - one of the world's greatest train journeys
- The West Highland Line

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Transat
- First Class *Country House* hotels, and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 1 dinner)
- 9 picnic lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$7197
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Montreal or Ottawa - add \$590
- Winnipeg or Halifax - add \$690
- Vancouver, Edmonton or Calgary - add \$890

16 DAYS • 2 DATES IN SPRING 2023

MAY 11 - 26

JUNE 15 - 30

- The Kyle Train Line, linking Inverness to the Isle of Skye
- Strathspey Railway - 40 years of Steam Rail Travel in the Highlands
- Loch Sheil Cruise
- Tobermory, on the Isle of Mull
- Blair Athol Castle and Distillery
- Jacobite Cruise on Loch Ness, and Urquhart Castle
- Stirling Castle
- Loch Lomond Cruise
- City Tour of Glasgow

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Glasgow.

Day 2: Pitlochry. Upon arrival we transfer to Pitlochry. Our hotel is located right in the centre of this beautiful Victorian town. The hotel's claim to fame, and one of the biggest surprises, is the award-winning gardens.

Day 3: Blair Atholl / Alltshellach. The spectacular Blair Castle has acted as gatekeeper to the Scottish Highlands for over 700 years. We will discover the turbulent history of the castle, which was home to the Duke of Atholl and Britain's only private army - the Atholl Highlanders. Our next stop is Athol Distillery, situated at the gateway to the Highlands, where we learn about their distilling process and enjoy a dram of their famous single malt. Then we proceed to *Alltshellach House* for a 10-night stay. This fine highland residence sits on the dramatic shores of Loch Leven, with magnificent mountain views, excellent accommodation and superb home-cooked meals.

Day 4: Strathspey Railway. We board the Strathspey Railway for a round-trip journey from Aviemore to Broomhill. It is the longest heritage railway in Scotland and has some beautifully restored stations and beautiful views.

Day 5: The Jacobite. One of the tour highlights - a ride on the steam-hauled 'Jacobite' train from Fort William to Mallaig. The journey is incredibly scenic - taking in the spectacular viaduct at Glenfinnan and outstanding coastal scenery around Arisaig. Widely regarded as one of the world's greatest train journeys, this journey is known as the railway that took Harry Potter all the way to Hogwarts. There will be time to explore the bustling fishing port of Mallaig.

Day 6: At Leisure. There are plenty of local walking routes, so you may want to explore the countryside, or use the public transport and head into Fort William for some shopping. Your Tour Manager will suggest and assist.

Day 7: The West Highland Lines. We take a West Highland train over the remote and wild Rannoch Moor to Crianlarich, where we change lines for the picturesque route to the harbour town of Oban - 'Gateway to the Isles', with free time to explore. Those who wish may climb to McCaig's Folly - a 19th century tower reminiscent of the Roman Colosseum.

Day 8: Boats, Lochs and Views. We take a cruise on Loch Shiel to see 'The Jacobite' crossing Glenfinnan Viaduct. We'll be surrounded by magnificent Highland scenery and hopefully spot some of the local wildlife.

Day 9: The Kyle Line. Our coach takes us through spectacular Highland scenery to Kyle of Lochalsh - gateway to the Isle of Skye. We'll then take the train along the gorgeous Kyle line to Inverness. On our return coach journey we'll travel alongside Loch Ness and see more of the Caledonian Canal.

Day 10: Isle of Mull / Tobermory. We drive through one of the most remote in the Western Highlands - Ardnamurchan. We follow the single tracked road to Kilchoan where we ferry across the Sound of Mull to Tobermory - the picture-postcard main town on Mull. The town features brightly painted buildings along the main street to the pier, with the high woodland-fringed hills surrounding the bay as a backdrop. There will be free time before we sail back to the mainland.

Day 11: At Leisure. Explore the many nearby places to visit.

Day 12: Loch Ness. We travel along the Great Glen to Drumnadrochit - one of the Highland's most beloved villages. Here we board our cruise on the infamous Loch Ness. Sit back, enjoy the commentary and breathtaking scenery, and try to spot the loch's most infamous resident! We disembark at the foot of Scotland's most iconic ruin, Urquhart Castle, with its beautiful natural setting and 1000 years of history.

Day 13: Stirling / Glasgow. We bid farewell to *Alltshellach House* and drive south through central Scotland. We'll visit Stirling Castle - one of Scotland's most historically important sites. It was once a favoured residence of the Stewart kings and queens who held grand celebrations at the castle, from christenings to coronations, and it was also the childhood home of Mary Queen of Scots. Afterwards we proceed to Glasgow where we spend our final 3 nights.

Day 14: Glasgow / Loch Lomond. On our city tour we'll see Glasgow's famous architecture, including Glasgow Cathedral, Glasgow University and Kelvingrove Museum, as well as the River Clyde which has always played an important role in Glasgow's history. This afternoon we'll enjoy a leisurely cruise on Loch Lomond, taking in the legendary beauty of the "Bonnie banks" and views of Ben Lomond.

Day 15: Glasgow. A day at leisure in Glasgow. Rich with striking architecture, top attractions and the best shopping in the UK outside of London, there are many amazing things to see and do here. Tonight at our Farewell dinner we raise a glass 'Slainte' to our memorable Scottish holiday.

Day 16: Home. We fly home from Glasgow.



All Around Ireland

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full Irish breakfast daily
- 10 dinners (including 2 special dinners with entertainment) and 1 pub lunch
- Siamsa performance (Ireland's National Folk Theatre)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5397
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, or Calgary - add \$190
- Winnipeg or Vancouver - add \$290
- Edmonton - add \$490

On this tour of Southern and Northern Ireland we begin in Dublin with its fine Georgian squares and lively pubs.

Dublin has been home to many of Ireland's greatest authors who immortalized their country in poetry and prose: Wilde, Shaw, Swift, O'Casey, Behan, Joyce, Yeats, Samuel Beckett and more. For such a small island the literary traditions and legacies are astounding.

Venturing south we explore regal cities, Gothic cathedrals, medieval castles and picturesque villages. We then move to the northern coastline and highlands of Donegal's National Park, with visits to Derry and the wondrous Giant's Causeway. Continuing through the idyllic glens of Antrim, we end our tour at the foot of the Mountains of Mourne and a visit to Northern Ireland's capital, Belfast - a delightful city with magnificent Victorian architecture.

As we tour the Emerald Isle we will enjoy the variety of spectacular scenery for which it is known: heather-cloaked moors, soaring cliffs, deep blue lochs and rolling green hills - about fifty shades of green!

15 DAYS • 3 DATES IN SPRING 2023

MAY 11 - 25

MAY 18 - JUNE 1

MAY 25 - JUNE 8

We will also experience the magic and mystery of this historic land which celebrates its past in poems, traditional dancing and beautiful music. We will kiss the Blarney Stone (an option!), sing at a traditional Ceilidh and listen to the myths and legends. We stop at local inns and pubs to join the friendly Irish in a pint or two of Guinness or a tot or two of Irish whiskey. All of this, combined with the genuine warmth of Ireland's people, will have you singing the praises of the Emerald Isle.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart with Air Canada for Dublin (a direct flight from Toronto).

Day 2: Dublin. We arrive and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Dublin. On our full-day city tour we see the beautiful 18th century Georgian squares and houses, the 12th century St. Patrick Cathedral and Leinster House (the Irish parliament). We continue to Trinity College, home to the Book of Kells. Tonight enjoy a rousing evening of Irish food and entertainment at an Irish cabaret.

Day 4: Waterford. We proceed to Waterford and visit the factory where they once made the famous crystal. Later we visit a small historic pub for local Irish music and drinks.

Day 5: Blarney. We travel to County Cork, site of Blarney Castle. En route we tour Cork City and visit Cobh Heritage Centre, a portside display depicting the exodus of potato famine victims to America in the 19th century. We continue to Blarney for an opportunity to kiss the Blarney Stone, an act that bestows the "gift of the gab".

Day 6: Killarney. We head west for the quaint town of Killarney. This afternoon we take a jaunting car ride to the lakes, and visit Muckross House, an old Irish estate. This evening we enjoy a performance of SIAMSA, the National Folk Theatre of Ireland.

Day 7: Ring of Kerry / Killarney. A day of splendid scenery as we tour the famous Ring of Kerry. We pass Daniel O'Connell's Cahirsiveen, the fishing village of Waterville and Molls Gap in the heart of the Black Mountains. We will also stop at a sheep farm to watch a sheep dog demonstration and learn about the different types of sheep and herding techniques, before returning to Killarney.

Day 8: Galway. Following the coast, we drive through many pretty villages until we reach the Cliffs of Moher, which rise 700 feet above sea level and display a magnificent, lush landscape. We continue through the beautiful countryside to Galway, a quaint old town of narrow streets and stone houses. Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant.

Day 9: Westport. We pass through beautiful Connemara National Park and the rugged mountain ranges of Twelve Pins. We stop at Kylemore Abbey, with its dramatic setting overlooking Kylemore Lough (now a convent for Benedictine

nuns). We overnight in Westport, a charming Georgian town with a delightful tree-lined mall and quaint shopping area.

Day 10: Letterkenny. We head north to the town of Drumcliff and visit the grave of the poet W.B. Yeats, who set many of his poems in and around Sligo. We then enter Northern Ireland and visit the Belleek pottery factory, known for its exquisite cream-coloured china. Our next two nights are in Letterkenny, Donegal County.

Day 11: Derry / Letterkenny. Our guided tour of Derry shows us this fascinating city's controversial history, depicted on many houses in the form of striking murals. We visit the old city walls for panoramic views of the city and countryside. Then we proceed to Glenveagh National Park, in the Derryveah Mountains, for a guided tour of Glenveagh Castle and its beautiful Victorian Gardens.

Day 12: Giant's Causeway and Glens / Belfast. We drive to Antrim's north coast and the Giant's Causeway. These vast outcroppings were formed by volcanic action millions of years ago. We view this wonder from a cliff top and allow time for those who wish to climb them. Then it's on to the small town of Bushmills, home to Bushmills Irish whiskey since 1608, to view the distilling process. We drive through Antrim's lovely glens and coastal villages to Belfast (Northern Ireland's capital), for a 2-night stay.

Day 13: Belfast. Belfast is a beautiful city of imposing Victorian architecture set within picturesque hills. On our guided tour we see the City Hall with its copper-domed roof, the Grand Opera House and the Parliament Buildings set amid beautiful parklands. This afternoon we visit the newly-opened Titanic Museum, which features special effects, original drawings, full-scale constructions and interactive elements to explore the Titanic story. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Day 14: Trim. We see the picturesque mountain scenery of the Mourne Mountains as we drive to the charming medieval coastal town of Carlingford. We will explore the town before continuing on to Trim - a designated heritage town. This afternoon we will explore Trim Castle - a stunning Norman castle on the bank of the River Boyne. It is the largest Anglo-Norman castle in Ireland. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We return to Dublin for our flight to Canada.



The Celtic Connection Scotland and Ireland

On this tour of two Celtic Countries we will experience constantly changing landscapes, magnificent seascapes, historic castles and monuments and the carefree Celtic spirit of the people here that remains strong to this day.

Scotland is one of the wildest and most beautiful places in the world. Just the name conjures the sound of haunting bagpipes, treasured family tartans and the strong traditions of Clans. Along our travels we uncover stories of the fallen monarchs and bloody battles as we marvel at the breathtaking scenery, magnificent castles and unique architecture.

Ireland – it is said, once visited, is never forgotten. ‘Céad míle fáilte’ - ‘a hundred thousand welcomes to you’! The Irish landscape is legendary (there really are fifty shades of green!) and the history is fascinating. Ireland’s greatest asset is its people - known for their hospitality and friendliness (and a keen sense of humour).

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 3 dinners)
- 1 lunch
- Scottish and Irish entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Vancouver or Halifax - \$6997
- Single Supplement - \$1390
- Calgary or Winnipeg - add \$190
- Edmonton - add \$390

16 DAYS • JUNE 12 - 27

Tour Highlights:

- Edinburgh (the world’s first UNESCO City of Literature), including the Royal Yacht Britannia
- Scone Palace
- Blair Athol Distillery
- Stirling Castle
- Loch Ness
- Belfast, including the RMS Titanic Experience
- Dublin
- Ring of Kerry
- Irish Dinner Banquet
- Sheep Dog demonstration
- Powerscourt Gardens

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Edinburgh, direct from Toronto.

Day 2: Edinburgh. We arrive in Scotland and transfer to our hotel in Edinburgh - Scotland's capital. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Edinburgh. On our city tour we see The Royal Mile, Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh Castle and we visit the Royal Yacht Britannia - noted as the UK's no.1 attraction by Trip Advisor. The yacht was home to The Queen and Royal Family for over 40 years. Tonight we will enjoy a rip roaring evening of traditional Scottish song and dance, and a 4-course Taste of Scotland dinner.

Day 4: Newtonmore. We visit Scone Palace, one of Scotland's most important stately homes. For centuries it was the seat of parliament and the crowning place of Scottish Kings (including Macbeth and Robert The Bruce). The Palace houses a fine collection of antiques, paintings and rare artifacts, and the grounds are world renowned. Our afternoon visit is Blair Athol Distillery - standing at the gateway to the Highlands, it is one of the oldest working distilleries in Scotland. We'll see how they make their single-malt whiskey, and naturally we'll try a wee dram! We end in Newtonmore for a 2-night stay.

Day 5: Loch Ness / Newtonmore Our first stop is the pretty village of Fort Augustus, which lies on the shore of Loch Ness straddling the Caledonian Canal - the 19th century engineering marvel that connects the east and west coasts of Scotland. At the Clansman Centre we'll enjoy a special Highlander Performance in the heart of this Highland community. We then board our Jacobite Cruise along Loch Ness to the foot of Urquhart Castle, where we'll have time to visit this magnificent 13th century ruin. Later we'll drive into the village of Drumnadrochit where we enjoy a lovely dinner at the local inn.

Day 6: Stirling / Glasgow. We travel through the Trossachs National Park, which boasts some of the world's most stunning scenery, as we make our way to Stirling Castle - an essential part of any visit to central Scotland. We will learn about the castle's historical importance and marvel at its magnificence as it sits on its high volcanic rock, visible for many miles in every direction. Then we proceed to Glasgow, and enjoy a panoramic tour of this exciting city, rich in culture and history.

Day 7: Glasgow. A day at leisure in Glasgow. There is so much to do and see in Scotland's largest city. You may want to visit the magnificent 12th century Cathedral, or the renowned Piping Centre where you can explore 300 years of Highland Bagpipe heritage, and have an opportunity to try the bagpipes yourself!

Day 8: Belfast. We ferry over to Belfast (Northern Ireland), and plunge into Irish culture with a Traditional Music Trail tour. With two professional musicians as your guides, we walk through cobbled alleyways, past famous landmarks and on to private

bars in some of the city's oldest buildings. At each stop we will be treated to a performance of traditional songs and stories.

Day 9: Belfast. On our city tour we'll see St. George's Market, the Belfast Peace Walls, Crumlin Road Gaol, Parliament Buildings and much more. We end at the Titanic Belfast (named the World's Leading Tourist Attraction at the 2016 World Travel Awards) which tells the story of the doomed ship through interactive galleries, from her construction in Belfast, to her maiden voyage. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Belfast's endless attractions, shopping, pubs and cafes.

Day 10: Dublin. We head south to Ireland's capital - Dublin. Our city tour will take in the statue-lined streets, elegant Georgian Squares and the townhouses boasting the famous coloured doors. There will be free time in Dublin for shopping, sightseeing or to enjoy a pint in one of the many pubs! At the end of the day we proceed to our hotel in Dublin for a 2-night stay.

Day 11: Wicklow / Dublin. We drive through the rugged and romantic scenery that Ireland is famous for, to Glendalough, known for its spectacular scenery, rich history, archaeology and abundant wildlife. Then we visit Powerscourt Estate, listed #3 in National Geographic's finest gardens of the world. This evening we go out for a rousing evening of Irish food and entertainment!

Day 12: Kilkenny. We begin with a sheepdog demonstration - in which the the instructor will explain each command in the dog training technique - a perfect opportunity to experience the true essence of Irish country living. Later we arrive in Kilkenny - a city rich in heritage and craft. We will have free time to explore.

Day 13: Cashel / Killarney. Our first stop is the Rock of Cashel, where medieval Irish kings were crowned. See the 12th century Cormac's Chapel with its Romanesque decorations. Then we proceed to Killarney, a vibrant town brimming with Irish heritage, shops and cafes, with time to explore on our own.

Day 14: Ring of Kerry / Killarney. We embark on Ireland's most popular scenic drive, the Ring of Kerry. The winding route reveals breathtaking sights of coastal views, beaches and cliffs. We also visit the Skellig Experience to learn about the nearby islands where early Christian Monks lived in austere conditions.

Day 15: Foynes / Kildare. We first visit the Flying Boat Museum, to learn about transatlantic passenger flights and taste Irish Coffee which was invented there. Then we proceed to our 4-star country hotel in County Kildare. Enroute we will stop in Kildare Town - one of the oldest towns in Ireland with 1500 years of history. Today this vibrant town offers a wide selection of shops and cafes. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Home. We fly home, direct from Dublin to Toronto.



Grand Tour of Italy

Including Sicily

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Enriched breakfast and dinner daily (wine and water with all dinners)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$5797
.....
- Single Supplement - \$990 (Single accommodation is not available on the overnight ferry to Sicily. Those in single accommodation *may* have to share for that one night).
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax or Vancouver - add \$190
- Calgary or Winnipeg - add \$390
- Edmonton - add \$690

Italy - one of the most visited countries in the world, is the ultimate destination to experience beauty, history, art, culture, food and wines, and so much more!

On this exciting and well-planned tour we travel from the breathtaking alpine region of northern Italy all the way south to the dramatic Mediterranean island of Sicily.

Tour Highlights:

- Elegant City of Milan
- Scenic Lake Garda
- The cypress hills of Verona
- Venice - the city of canals
- The Leaning Tower of Pisa
- Florence - Cradle of the Renaissance
- Medieval Siena in Tuscany
- Pink stone city of Assisi

• 16 DAYS • 2 DATES IN SPRING 2023

APRIL 9 - 24

APRIL 23 - MAY 8

- Eternal Rome
- Sorrento, on the amazing Sorrentine Peninsula
- Pompeii at the foot of Vesuvius
- Overnight ferry Naples to Palermo, Sicily
- The Valley of the Temples, Agrigento
- Cliffside resort village of Taormina

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Milan, via London.

Day 2: Milan. We arrive in Milan and transfer to our hotel. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Milan / Lake Garda. We have a brief tour of Milan before departing for Lake Garda, where we will take in the magnificent scenery with views of the Alps and picture-book villages along the shore. We will enjoy a lovely boat trip on the lake and visit medieval Sirmione - known as the "Jewel of the Lake". A spa town since Roman times, we will stroll the narrow, cobbled lanes and see the 13th century castle and well-preserved Roman ruins.

Day 4: Verona / Venice. We proceed through the cypress clad hills to Verona, where we see the Roman Arena and Juliet's famous balcony. A short drive brings us to the university town of Padua, home of many great Italians (Dante, Galileo, etc.) and numerous art treasures. We visit the famous Basilica of St. Anthony and then continue to the Venice area.

Day 5: Venice. We cross the Venetian lagoon by boat and spend a full day in the magical city of Venice. We see St. Mark's Square, the Bridge of Sighs and the Doge's Palace.

Day 6: Pisa / San Giuliano. We leave Venice and drive through the picturesque hills to Pisa and the famous Leaning Tower. We will also see the Duomo and the Baptistery. We continue on to the charming village of San Giuliano Terme, famous for its Spa Centre.

Day 7: Florence / Siena. We depart for Florence, Cradle of the Renaissance. Our walking tour will take in the multi-coloured marble cathedral, Signoria Square, Santa Croce Basilica and more. We then head south for our overnight near Siena.

Day 8: Siena / Assisi / Rome. After a walking tour of medieval Siena, site of the famous horse race, we continue on to the pink stone city of Assisi, which is under the protection of St. Francis. The city is still enclosed by medieval ramparts. Our tour includes St. Francis Basilica, well known for its Fresco paintings. After our visit we continue on to Rome.

Day 9: Rome. Our touring in Rome begins in Vatican City - official residence of the Pope. We'll visit St. Peter's Basilica - one of the holiest Catholic sites, and the Vatican

Museum where we find the Sistine Chapel. The afternoon is free to explore Rome's many museums, shops and cafes.

Day 10: Rome / Sorrento. Our touring of Rome continues with the Roman Forum; the Arch of Constantine; Circus Maximus; Spanish Steps and an opportunity to visit the Coliseum. We then proceed to Sorrento on the beautiful Sorrentine Peninsula, which is characterized by majestic cliffs, terraced vineyards, orange groves and a striking rocky shoreline. We stay in Sorrento for 2 nights.

Day 11: Sorrento at leisure. A day at leisure to explore this beautiful coastal city. Your Tour Manager will be on hand with suggestions.

Day 12: Pompeii / Naples / Overnight Ferry. Today we visit fascinating Pompeii, the imperial city engulfed by the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD. We then proceed to Naples for a panoramic tour of the old city with its Gothic and Baroque churches. Later we board our ferry bound for Sicily. As we depart the Bay of Naples be on deck for the breathtaking views of Naples and Mount Vesuvius.

Day 13: Palermo / Agrigento. We arrive in Palermo, a fascinating city with a mix of Latin, Byzantine and Islamic buildings. We may have an opportunity to visit one of the huge and colourful markets with its riveting display of fruits, vegetables and other goods. We then drive through the scenic hills to Agrigento with its magnificent works of Doric architecture dating from the 6th century BC. In the evening the site is beautifully illuminated.

Day 14: Agrigento / Taormina. This morning we visit the famed Valley of the Temples (formerly a Greek stronghold) and visit the temples of Juno, Concord and Hercules - very well-preserved Greek ruins. Then it's on to the Taormina area with stunning views of the sea and Mt. Etna - Europe's tallest volcano.

Day 15: Taormina. This charming town has long been a favourite international resort and has wonderful parks, gardens and an ancient Greek theatre. We enjoy a morning orientation tour, and an afternoon at leisure. From Piazza Garibaldi one can enjoy the best views of Mt. Etna and the beautiful Ionian coastline. Our Farewell Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant featuring Sicilian foods and wine.

Day 16: Home. We fly home via London.



Hilltop Towns of Italy Plus Rome and Venice

Springtime is the perfect time of year to enjoy this unique tour of Italy's beautiful hilltop towns.

We begin in the great Renaissance town of Perugia - an historic artistic centre, and visit the nearby rose-coloured medieval town of Assisi. Next is Rimini - a premier resort on the Adriatic, and from here we explore the world's oldest independent republic - San Marino, and Ravenna, which has some of the world's finest Byzantine mosaics. We then stay in Preganziol, from where we visit Venice, and explore the canal city's many treasures.

In Tuscany (a favourite region of Italy for visitors) we discover Pisa with its leaning tower, and Florence - the "Cradle of the Renaissance". We continue to the elegant spa town of Chianciano Terme - famous for its healing waters that have been curing the ailments of visitors for centuries. During our stay here our excursions will include medieval Cortona - built on the dramatic slopes once enclosed by vast Etruscan walls, and Montepulciano - one of the region's loveliest villages. We end our tour in Rome - the "Eternal City" of endless art, romance and monuments that testify to its ancient and imperial past.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Mainly First Class hotels
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily (wine, water and coffee with dinners) plus 1 lunch
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5997
.....
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa or Montreal - add \$190
- Halifax, Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$290
- Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$490

17 DAYS • APRIL 24 - MAY 10

Tour Highlights:

- Umbrian capital of Perugia
- St. Francis Basilica in Assisi
- Cliffside town of Gubbio
- The independent republic of San Marino
- Adriatic coastal route to Ravenna
- St. Mark's square and the Bridge of Sighs in Venice
- The university city of Padua
- Charming medieval Lucca
- Pisa's famous tower, Duomo and Baptistery
- The elegant city of Florence
- Siena and Montecatini
- The Spa town of Chianciano and Cortona "Under the Tuscan Sun"
- Montepulciano with its baroque, medieval and Renaissance architecture
- Rome - *The Eternal City*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Rome.

Day 2: Rome / Perugia. We arrive in Rome and proceed to Perugia, the Umbrian capital. After some time to rest we enjoy an afternoon city tour that takes us along the bustling Corso Vannucci.

Day 3: Assisi / Perugia. Our excursion to Assisi will include a visit to the Basilica of St. Francis. A short walk away is the 13th century church of Santa Chiara. There will be some free time for shopping (ceramics are a good buy!) before returning to our hotel in Perugia.

Day 4: Gubbio / Rimini. We travel to the atmospheric town of Gubbio, one of Italy's hidden gems. Gubbio clings to the side of Monte Ingino and its buildings just fit on the narrow terraces that step up the mountain side. We will visit the Ducal Palace to see the interesting architecture, then continue to the resort town of Rimini.

Day 5: San Marino / Rimini. We tour the tiny, independent republic of San Marino. This hilltop town is the oldest and smallest republic in Europe. After our visit we return to Rimini for an afternoon at leisure.

Day 6: Ravenna / Venice (Preganziol). Following the Adriatic coast we travel to Ravenna and tour this unique city. Dante (father of the Italian language) is buried here. We will visit the tomb of Galla Placidia with its fine Byzantine mosaics. Later we arrive at Preganziol.

Day 7: Venice (Preganziol). We cross the Venetian Lagoon by private boat for a full day in this magical city. We see St. Mark's Square, the Bridge of Sighs, Doge's Palace and more, followed by time at leisure.

Day 8: Padua / Venice (Preganziol). We visit the university city of Padua where Dante and Galileo attended school. The city centre has tiny walled streets, many piazzas and arcaded walkways. We see the Palazzo della Ragione, Prato della Valle and the incredibly elaborate Basilica of Saint Anthony of Padua. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 9: Lucca / Montecatini. We enter Tuscany and stop at Lucca, a charming town which looks like a movie set for a medieval epic. Most of Lucca is traffic free and therefore a pleasant place to stroll through the streets and see magnificent churches, squares and statues. Our guide

will point out major sites of interest. We continue to the charming spa town of Montecatini for a 4-night stay.

Day 10: Pisa / Montecatini. We take an excursion to Pisa, and yes ... the famous Tower is still leaning. We will spend our time here at the Campo dei Miracoli, which includes the Tower, the Duomo and the Baptistry. This evening we dine at an atmospheric farm where we will tour the vineyards before enjoying a typical Tuscan dinner, featuring the local wines and farm-grown foods.

Day 11: Florence / Montecatini. Today we visit Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance". Our walking tour includes the Duomo, the 13th century Palazzo Vecchio, Church of the Holy Cross and finally Michelangelo's David.

Day 12: Siena / Montecatini. This morning we enjoy a tour of medieval Siena, where we will see the fan-shaped medieval Piazza del Campo - site of the legendary annual *Palio* horse race and the Palazzo Pubblico - the gothic town hall. Those who wish may climb the 14th century Torre del Mangia - a 14th-century tower with sweeping views from its distinctive white crown.

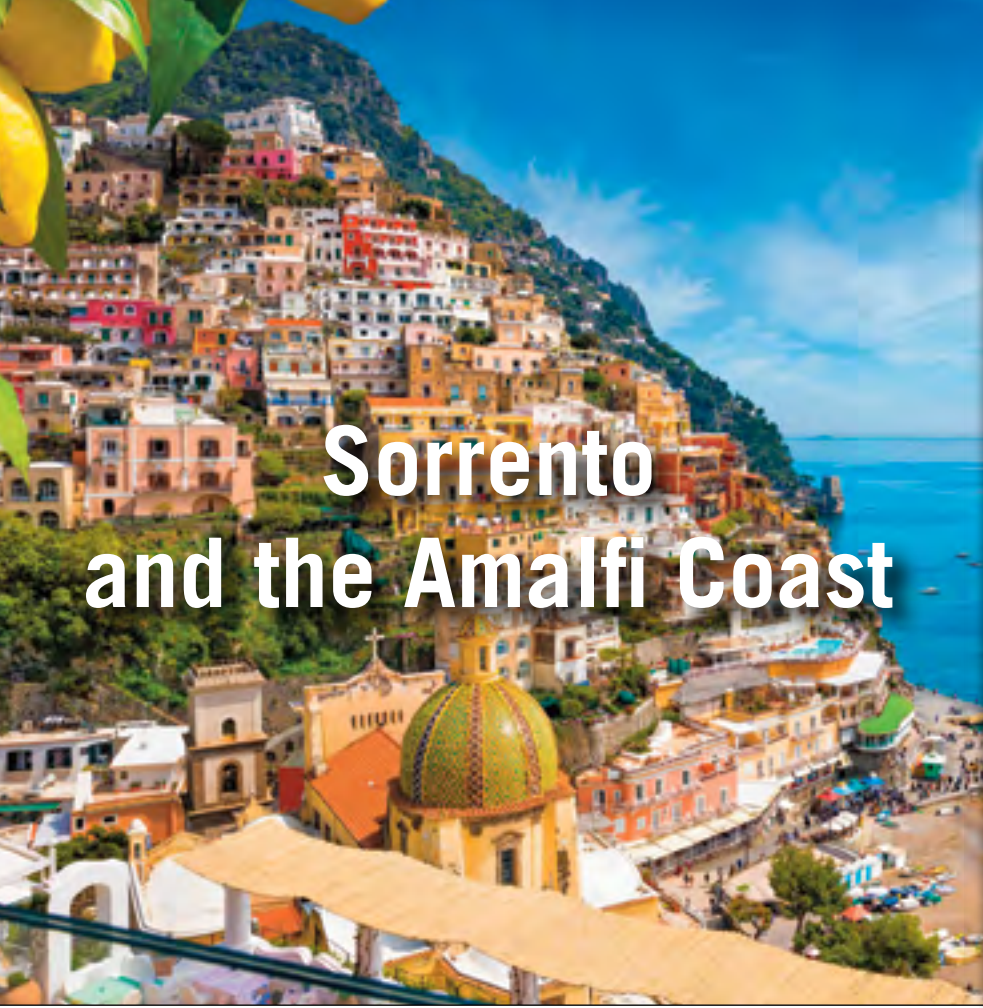
Day 13: Cortona / Chianciano. We proceed to the Tuscan spa town of Chianciano, and en route visit medieval Cortona, made popular by the book and movie "Under the Tuscan Sun". Cortona has an unforgettable position sitting on the slopes once enclosed by vast Etruscan walls.

Day 14: Montepulciano / Chianciano. With a blend of renaissance, medieval and baroque architecture, Montepulciano is one of the loveliest hill towns and best preserved historic centres in the area. There are churches, palaces and great views of the valley below. Lunch today is at a farm and we will sample the "vino nobile" first mentioned in the 8th century.

Day 15: Rome. We travel to Rome, and our panoramic touring this afternoon will take in the Roman Forum, Circus Maximus, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps and more. After our tour we transfer to our hotel.

Day 16: Rome. This morning we visit the impressive St. Peter's Basilica and Vatican City. Afternoon at leisure to explore Rome on your own. Our Farewell Dinner is tonight.

Day 17: Home. We fly home with Air Canada.



Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast

The Amalfi Coast is a series of small bays, beaches, villages and towns, all with a backdrop of rugged cliffs.

The road that hugs the cliffs affords one of the most spectacular drives in Europe. Everywhere are orange, lemon and olive groves, vineyards, lush greenery and flowering shrubs - all near to the sparkling Tyrrhenian Sea. On this tour we will take in all the wonderful sights in the region and tantalize our taste buds by sampling the local specialties; extra-virgin olive oil, mozzarella cheese and Limoncello (the local liqueur). We will even have the opportunity to make our own "Neapolitan" pizza!

Our tour begins with 5-nights in the resort town of Maiori, which has its own beach and tree-lined promenade. The hills and cliffs form a wonderful backdrop, but the town itself is not hilly and it's easy to stroll through the narrow streets and lanes with their interesting shops, cafes and churches. For the more energetic there are superb walking trails to explore.

We then transfer to Sorrento for a 7-night stay. This is the most picturesque town on the Bay of Naples, perched high on the cliffs with stunning views over the Bay of Naples to the distant Mount Vesuvius. Sorrento offers many restaurants,

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily, 5 light lunches while touring. Wine, water and coffee/tea with dinners.
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6797
.....
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Montreal - add \$90
- Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$390
- Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$790

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN SPRING 2023

APRIL 3 - 17

APRIL 17 - MAY 1

cafes, shops and a local market. Other small towns and villages along the coast are also accessible by local transport.

All hotels on this tour have a restaurant, bar and lounge, and the guestrooms are simply furnished and equipped with twin beds, telephone, TV and private bathroom.

Our Maiori hotel is the *Reginna Palace* (or similar), located in the town centre across from the beach and promenade. The local bus stops nearby and there are many restaurants and cafes all around.

Our hotel in Sorrento will be one of the popular Acampora properties, all of which are located seaside on the cliff, with impressive views of the Bay of Naples and within walking distance of the town centre.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Rome - a direct non-stop flight from Toronto.

Day 2: Rome / Maiori. Upon arrival in Rome we transfer to our hotel in Maiori, stopping en route for an included lunch.

Day 3: Maiori. We meet with our local guide for an orientation walking tour of Maiori. We'll see the beautiful Italian style gardens, the interesting local church and winding narrow streets and shops.

Day 4: Ravello and Amalfi / Maiori. This morning we visit Ravello and the Villa Rufolo, the inspiration for some of musician Richard Wagner's famous works. We then continue to the beautiful town of Amalfi for a walking tour and some free time to explore.

Day 5: Positano / Maiori. Today we enjoy a boat trip to Positano, one of the coast's most picturesque towns, with steeply-stacked houses tumbling down to the sea in a cascade of sun-bleached peach, pink and terracotta colours. Its steep streets and narrow lanes are lined with wisteria-draped cafes, restaurants and boutiques.

Day 6: Vietri Sul Mare / Maiori. We visit the artisan town of Vietri Sul Mare, where the local people produce and sell beautiful Italian ceramics - a great place to buy that special souvenir.

Day 7: Sorrento. Today we travel over the mountains, taking in the scenic views as we proceed to the resort town of Sorrento.

Day 8: Sorrento / Galatea Farm. We begin our day with an orientation walking tour of the cliff-top town of Sorrento. We see the main square, Piazza Tasso - always a hive of activity, and we also visit the Wood Inlay Museum. We then proceed to Galatea Farm in the Sorrento hills where we are welcomed by the staff and given an

explanation of the workings of this small farm. We enjoy a tasting of local wines and participate in a cooking lesson and pizza making demonstration during which we make our own personal "Neapolitan" pizzas.

Day 9: Pompeii / Sorrento. We enjoy a morning tour to Pompeii, the ruins of a once thriving community destroyed by the eruption of Vesuvius in 79AD.

Day 10: Sorrento. A day at leisure. Of course there is so much to do and see in the city and in this region. Your Tour Manager will be on hand to offer suggestions and optional tours.

Day 11: Capri / Sorrento. We catch the ferry from Sorrento to the lovely island of Capri and its famous Blue Grotto. Capri was once a summer resort for Roman Emperors. During our tour we visit the famous Piazzetta and the Garden of Augustus with its view of the Faraglioni Rocks. There will be some free time for shopping before returning to Sorrento.

Days 12 & 13: Sorrento. At leisure to enjoy Sorrento's fine shopping and cafes, as well as the beautiful views and surroundings. Optional excursions will be offered. On one of the evenings we will attend a performance of local tradition, dance and songs at the Tasso Theatre.

Day 14: Naples / Rome. We depart for Rome. En route we will stop in the lively city of Naples for a panoramic tour, a visit of the Royal Palace and lunch at a local restaurant. Later we arrive in Rome for our Farewell Dinner and overnight.

Day 15: Home. We fly home to Canada.



Spring in Tuscany Stay-Put Holiday

The beloved region of Tuscany encompasses the best of Italy: stunning historic cities; artistic masterpieces; extraordinary views and landscapes; sea and mountains; sunny climate; not to mention the wonderful local food products, fine wines and artisan shops with age-old traditions.

With its carefully tended hills covered with grape vines, cypress trees, olive groves, stone farmhouses and mild weather year-round, it is a delightful area for an interesting and relaxing stay-put holiday.

We will stay in Viareggio, a small resort town with a long, lovely Mediterranean coastline of wide sandy beaches, parks and pine forests. Parallel to the beach is a wide promenade and lively shopping area. The town has easy access to the great Renaissance cities of Florence, Siena, Pisa and Lucca, all of which are included in our tour. We will also visit Cinque Terre - the amazing cluster of villages clinging to the dramatic cliffs along the coast, the medieval town of Bolgheri - a beautiful historic hamlet with a famous avenue of cypress trees, and Livorno - with

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class hotel
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (water and wine with dinners)
- Farm lunch
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$4997
-
- Single Supplement - \$790
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
- Vancouver, Edmonton or Calgary - add \$890

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN SPRING 2023

APRIL 20 - MAY 4

MAY 6 - 20

its dramatic rocky coastline. On the day we explore Chianti we will sample many famous regional wines.

In Viareggio our hotel is located on the Tuscan coast in a region called the "Riviera Versilia", which features the backdrop of the magnificent Apuan Mountains. We'll stay at the *Hotel President*, a four-star hotel that overlooks the seafront promenade. The beach is across the road and shopping is just a short walk away. Hotel facilities include a pleasant lounge, bar and restaurant. The guestrooms are comfortably furnished with two beds, telephone, satellite TV, mini-bar, safe and individual climate control.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Tuscany with a change of planes in Paris.

Day 2: Florence / Viareggio. We arrive in Florence and transfer by coach to Viareggio on the Riviera Versilia.

Day 3: Viareggio. Today we have a walking tour of the town, with its delightful seafront promenade, market and shopping area.

Day 4: Farm Visit. We visit a family-run farm that produces some of the finest olive oil found in Tuscany, as well as other fine produce specific to this region.

Day 5: Viareggio. At leisure to explore this lovely Italian town. The bus and train stations are close to the hotel, and public transport is very good, so it is easy to visit the many surrounding towns and villages.

Day 6: Florence. A full day in the city called the "Cradle of the Renaissance" and former stronghold of the Medici family. Today we visit the Academia Gallery to see the magnificent statue of David by Michelangelo. We then have a walking tour of the city and see the multi-coloured marble cathedral, the Baptistery, Signoria Square and Piazzale Michelangelo from where we have the best view of the city.

Day 7: Viareggio. At leisure to perhaps join an optional excursion to see more of the region. Your Tour Manager will assist and offer suggestions.

Day 8: Bolgheri / Castagneto Carducci / Livorno. Today we travel "off the beaten path" as we visit some of the unspoiled medieval villages in the region. In Bolgheri we drive the impressive avenue of cypress trees stretching 5 km. long! The town has maintained its original historic buildings, old roads and small shops. The atmosphere is enhanced by the amazing views of the hills covered in olive trees and the sea in the distance. There will be time to shop for local products before we continue along the wine route to visit one of the traditional wine cellars (this region produces some of the best wines in Italy). Lunch will be at a restaurant in Castagneto Carducci, featuring

a selection of typical dishes including homemade pasta with wild boar sauce. We return to Viareggio via the beautiful rocky coastline of Livorno.

Day 9: Cinque Terre / Ligure. We travel by train to the five villages known as Cinque Terre, which cling dramatically to the cliffs along the rocky coastline. Upon arrival at the village of Manarola we explore the village and then take the local train to Vernazza for some free time. Then there will be a boat ride to Monterosso - one of the most attractive of the five villages. At the end of our visit we return to Viareggio by train.

Day 10: Viareggio. At leisure, perhaps to visit the street market or other nearby towns.

Day 11: Siena and Chianti. This full day tour begins in the medieval town of Siena - famous for its annual Palio horse race but also a lovely city in many other respects. We will see the wonderful cathedral and the Piazza del Campo - considered one of the most beautiful squares in the world. After a morning of history and art we unwind in Chianti with a tasting of their well-known wines.

Day 12: Viareggio. At leisure.

Day 13: Pisa / Lucca. This morning we visit Pisa, and yes, the tower is still leaning. The beauty in the area of Campo Dei Miracoli will amaze you. It includes the tower, the duomo, the baptistry and the cemetery. A visit to the cathedral is included. There will be time to stroll around after the tour. We then proceed through the countryside to Lucca, a charming town which looks like a movie set for a medieval epic film. Most of Lucca is traffic-free and it is a pleasant place to stroll through the narrow streets and see the magnificent churches, squares and statuary. We will have a little free time to visit the small shops and perhaps enjoy a coffee and people watch.

Day 14: Viareggio. At leisure. This evening we enjoy a Tuscan evening with a typical meal of local specialties.

Day 15: Home. We say arrivederci to Tuscany and head home via Paris.



Italian Riviera and Tuscany 2-Centre Holiday

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class hotels
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily (wine, water and coffee with all dinners)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$6297
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport to Montreal airport)
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
- Vancouver, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$890

There are many reasons why the Italian Riviera and Tuscany are two of Italy's most popular regions to visit.

We begin this leisurely tour in Milan, where we will see both the modern and historic sites. From Milan we travel to the Riviera di Levante (known as "The Italian Riviera") - a rugged coastline with many small bays and inlets. This area is incredibly picturesque, with hills sloping dramatically down to the sea. We will stay 4 nights in this region touring the major highlights. Nearby are the Cinque Terre villages that date from the 12th century - each village is different and all have dramatic coastal scenery.

The Tuscany region is home to some of the world's most famous Renaissance art and architecture, breathtaking scenery of medieval hilltop villages, olive groves, hillside vineyards and dramatic mountain ranges. We will stay 8 nights in Montecatini, located in the heart of Tuscany. This elegant and historic spa town is set amid green

15 DAYS • APRIL 18 - MAY 2

Tuscan hills and olive groves. It features "Liberty" style buildings (an Italian equivalent to Art Deco), welcoming parks and beautiful gardens. Its many spas provide a range of treatments that take advantage of the healing properties of the therapeutic mineral waters, while the town offers many shops, restaurants and a weekly market to enjoy at your leisure. Local trains and buses operate a regular service to the surrounding towns and villages. Sightseeing in this region will include Florence, the famous Tuscan hilltop towns, elegant villas, farms and medieval towns like Lucca.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Milan, via Paris.

Day 2: Milan. We arrive in Milan and transfer to our hotel. The balance of the day is at leisure until our Welcome Dinner tonight.

Day 3: Milan / Liguria. On our morning tour of Milan we see the Milan Cathedral (the Duomo di Milano), the castle, the Galleria and the famous opera house La Scala. After our tour we depart for the Ligurian coast.

Day 4: Portofino / Camogli / Liguria. We take a boat ride along one of Italy's most beautiful coasts, stopping in Portofino - a stunning port town that has long been a favourite destination for the rich and famous. We then continue to the picturesque fishing village of Camogli, known as the "City of the Thousand White Sailing Ships" for its maritime tradition.

Day 5: Cinque Terre / Liguria. We board the local train to Cinque Terre. This UNESCO World Heritage Site consists of 5 picturesque villages clinging dramatically to the cliffs along the rocky coastline of the Italian Riviera. Upon arrival at the village of Monterosso we will have time to explore before taking a scenic boat trip to Vernazza - one of the most beautiful villages. We continue by train to Manarola and after some free time there return again by train to our hotel.

Day 6: Liguria. A day at leisure to explore the Italian Riviera, popular for its beautiful beaches, cliffside views and charming towns

Day 7: Portovenere / Montecatini. We depart for the village of Portovenere, situated on a rocky coastline. The village was dear to Lord Byron for its tranquility. The 12th century village centre still preserves the original coloured houses overlooking the harbour and the Tinetto Islands. We will see 13th century St. Peter's Church built on rocks before we continue to Montecatini.

Day 8: Siena and Chianti / Montecatini. This morning we enjoy a tour of Siena. Distinguished by its medieval brick buildings, the fan-shaped Piazza del Campo (where the famous annual horse race is held) is dominated by the Palazzo Pubblico - the gothic town hall. We will also visit

a castle in the Chianti District followed by a wine tasting. This evening there will be a talk on the history, art, local traditions and present-day rivalries in Tuscany.

Day 9: Local Farm / Montecatini. The morning is at leisure to explore this charming spa town with its many shops and cafes. This afternoon we visit a local farm to learn of the agricultural products Tuscany is well known for. The visit will be followed by dinner with a selection of local wine and produce.

Day 10: Lucca / Villa Reale / Montecatini. After a free morning, we enjoy the lovely Tuscan scenery as we travel to medieval Lucca to visit the 17th century Villa Reale - an elegant villa with magnificent gardens surrounded by olive groves and vineyards. The villa has its original furnishings, boasts a picturesque lake, and still houses a green theatre in the garden. We then have some time to discover the historic centre of Lucca, followed by dinner at a local restaurant, before we return to Montecatini.

Day 11: Florence / Montecatini. A full day touring in Florence - the "Cradle of the Renaissance". We visit the Academia Gallery to see the magnificent statue of David by Michelangelo. We then have a walking tour and see the multi-coloured marble cathedral, Signoria Square, the Baptistry and Piazzale Michelangelo from where we have the best view over the city.

Day 12: Montecatini. At leisure to explore the town and stroll the lovely promenade.

Day 13: San Gimignano / Volterra / Montecatini. A full day to explore the unique hilltop towns set among the Tuscan vineyards and cypress trees. These small towns, with their medieval buildings and monuments, have existed since 1155.

Day 14: Montecatini. At leisure. You may like to take the cog train up the hill to the ancient upper town.

This evening's Farewell Dinner at a local farm will feature some specially prepared regional dishes.

Day 15: Home. We fly home via Paris.



Lake Garda (Italy)

The beautiful surroundings of the Italian Lakes region have inspired artists and writers for centuries.

This area enjoys a unique and glorious microclimate more similar to temperatures in Southern Italy. Lake Garda is Italy's largest lake, cradled in a deep basin beneath the Dolomite Mountains. The shores of the lake are dotted with picturesque promenades, pebble beaches, marinas, open-air cafés and shops, all in the midst of cypress, olive and citrus trees, as well as vineyards. A number of fascinating historical sites surround the lake, including classical style churches and grand houses, and we will enjoy several excursions to surrounding villages and towns, including a number of opportunities for wine tasting.

We will stay in the town of Desenzano del Garda, a popular holiday destination owing to its beautiful view of the Alps, beaches and ideal climate. The town has a Mediterranean flavour and unhurried pace of life, perfect for a relaxing and rejuvenating stay. It is easy to explore the region from here, as the local ferries docked in the harbour are waiting to whisk us to any port on the lake. At the heart of the city are a series of interconnected piazza's with numerous open-air cafés, assorted shops, ice-cream parlours and an ancient

15 DAYS • APRIL 2 - 16

fortress in the historical centre. On leisure days, with so many delightful sites to experience and charming lakeside towns to discover, it's easy to fill every moment, or you may prefer to just relax in a café, enjoy the spectacular views and watch the passing parade of locals and visitors stroll by.

Our hotel in Desenzano del Garda will be the charming *Piccola Vela*, a 4-star property with the ideal combination of a relaxed atmosphere and attentive service. Perfectly situated, the hotel is less than a 10 minute walk to the town centre with its variety of shops and restaurants, as well as the harbour and ferries that go to all parts of the lake. Amenities of the hotel include an elegant lobby bar with grand piano, putting green, large tropical garden and outdoor swimming pool with plenty of seating. All guest rooms are comfortably furnished and there is complimentary WiFi throughout the hotel.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

- 1. Verona and Valpolicella - Full Day.** We first visit Verona - a city of Roman ruins, medieval buildings, Italian culture and the setting for Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Our guided tour will show us Juliet's balcony and Verona's great Roman Arena - still used as an open-air opera house. There will be free time to explore on your own. From Verona we continue to the nearby Valpolicella wine producing region for a wine tasting and talk about the region's wine production.
- 2. Venice - Full Day.** We take the train, and then a boat transfer, to the fabulous city of Venice. Our tour begins at St. Mark's Square - widely considered one of the most beautiful city squares in the world. Our walking tour of the city will take us around the narrow winding streets and small squares to visit some of Venice's main sights. There will be time at leisure in the afternoon to explore Venice on your own.
- 3. Trento and Winery - Full Day.** Roman treasures and Renaissance splendour live side by side in the streets and squares of the Alpine capital of Trento. Our guided tour will show us many architectural wonders, including the frescoed facades of the 16th century palazzi, the noble palaces and the castle that dominates the city. During our free time we will discover that Trento is a regional handicraft centre. Later we proceed to Mezzocorona to visit a local winery to taste the excellent Trentino wines.
- 4. Lake Iseo and Franciacorta Wine Region - Full Day.** Today we explore nearby Lake Iseo, where we will cruise the islands and enjoy some free time in one of the towns. From here we proceed to the Franciacorta wine region, a charming area of vineyards on picturesque hills. A visit of a local winery is included.
- 5. Sirmione - Half Day.** A short ferry ride takes us across the lake to picturesque Sirmione. The town is situated on a thin peninsula jutting into the lake, and has narrow winding lanes and lovely pedestrian-only piazzas. Our walking tour will show us the castle surrounded by a large water-filled moat that dominates the Old Quarter of town and offers beautiful views over the lake from the ramparts.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS

- Flights with Lufthansa, with a change of planes in Frankfurt or Munich in each direction
- First Class hotel
- **Buffet breakfast and table-service dinner daily (wine, water and coffee included with dinners)**
- 5 excursions, as described above
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5597

Single Supplement - \$790

Montreal or Ottawa - add \$590

Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690

Calgary, Vancouver or Edmonton - add \$890



Puglia, Italy

“The Heel of the Boot”

Puglia (also known as Apulia) is known for its sun-bleached landscapes, silver olive groves, picturesque seascapes, memorable hilltop villages and coastal towns.

This unique region is skirted by an endless coastline dotted with castles and watchtowers, reflective of its history of conquering invaders: Normans, Spanish, Turks and Greeks. Despite its diverse influences over the centuries, Puglia has its own distinct identity with ancient customs and local traditions. In the many small villages and large cities alike, architectural wonders from different periods and faiths are everywhere, many displaying the intricate works of a variety of artists.

As for cuisine, Puglia's cucina povera (peasant cooking) is legendary. We will visit a winery, cheese producer, olive mill and bakery to learn about and taste the local products.

We will stay 3 nights in Lecce in the south, 3 nights in the town of Ostuni, 3 nights in Puglia's capital Bari, 2 nights in the mountain village of Monte Sant'Angelo and 2 nights in the coastal town of Barletta.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily.
Wine, water and coffee with dinners
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5797
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Montreal - add \$290
- Calgary - add \$390
- Ottawa or Halifax - add \$490
- Winnipeg, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$690

16 DAYS • APRIL 10 - 25

Tour Highlights :

- Beautiful Baroque Lecce ("Florence of the South")
- The stunning white-washed town of Ostuni
- Grotte di Castellana's beautiful limestone caves with spectacular stalagmites and stalactites
- The port town of Monopoli
- The elegant city of Martina Franca
- The energetic modern city of Bari
- Trani - the "Pearl of Puglia"
- Matera (UNESCO) - ancient cave town built into stone
- The ancient fishing town of Polignano a Mare sitting atop limestone cliffs
- The unique 13th century Castel Del Monte (UNESCO)
- The breath-taking Gargano Peninsula (the "spur" on the heel of Italy's "boot")
- The enchanting town of Alberobello (UNESCO), unique for the Trulli houses - fairytale limestone dwellings with distinctive conical roofs

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Puglia (Brindisi) with a change of planes in Rome.

Day 2: Lecce. Upon arrival in Brindisi we transfer to our hotel in Lecce for a 4-night stay. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Lecce. Today we enjoy a walking tour of historic Lecce. We will see Santa Croce, Palazzo Celestine, Church of the Rosary, Palazzo Adorno, the Cathedral Santa Maria Assunta and the Roman Amphitheatre.

Day 4: Galatina / Gallipoli / Lecce. We visit a farm in Galatina to sample some of the region's finest local wine and enjoy a light lunch. Then we proceed to Gallipoli - the "Pearl of the Ionian Sea", and explore its delightful historic centre.

Day 5: Otranto / Santa Maria Lueca / Lecce. This wonderfully scenic day begins at the port town of Otranto, known for its historic center and beautiful sea views. We visit the Cathedral with its Chapel of 800 Martyrs, the crypt and one of the largest mosaics in the world. We finish at Santa Maria di Leuca at the southern tip of Puglia for views of where the Ionian and Adriatic seas meet.

Day 6: Cisternino / Ostuni. We visit Cisternino to see an old olive mill, then proceed to the "White City" of Ostuni perched on a hill overlooking acres of olive groves that roll out toward the sea. We will see the old center with its Gothic Roman Cathedral before checking in to our hotel in this region for a 3-night stay.

Day 7: Alberobello / Ostuni. We first visit the Castellana Grotto (cave) with its unique stalactites and stalagmites. We then continue to the town of Alberobello to see the famous UNESCO Trulli Village - a symbol of Puglia. There will be a tour of one these unique dwellings followed by some free time to wander in the village.

Day 8: Martina Franca / Regional Lunch / Ostuni. Today we discover Martina Franca - a lovely baroque town with palaces and beautifully decorated churches. Our visit will be followed by a special lunch featuring regional products and local hospitality.

Day 9: Monopoli / Polignano a Mare / Bari. This morning we visit the archeological area of Egnazia - once an important Roman town along the Appian Way, then proceed to medieval Monopoli, stretching along a jagged coastline and

steeped in history and tradition. The town has fortifications of walls and castles, churches and a magnificent baroque Cathedral. Next is the seaside city of Polignano a Mare, known for its picturesque balconies and also the birthplace of singer Domenico Modugno, who sang the universally known song "Volare". We continue to Bari for a 3-night stay.

Day 10: Bari. Today we discover the city of Bari. Although modern in many aspects it maintains its historic center with the Basilica of Saint Nicholas, the Cathedral and the Norman-Swabian Castle. After a walking tour there will be a free afternoon to explore the waterfront, historic buildings, many shops and cafes.

Day 11: Matera / Altamura / Bari. Today we visit the magnificent UNESCO city of Matera, starting with the upper part of the Civita dominated by the spectacular Romanesque Cathedral, and then visit the lower section and the Barisan Sasso. Later we'll stop in Altamura - a charming town with a well-known 13th century cathedral, to visit a traditional bakery before returning to Bari.

Day 12: Trani / Gargano Peninsula. We travel along the coast to the sophisticated seaside town of Trani, known as the "Pearl of Puglia".

Day 13: Gargano Peninsula. We explore the Gargano promontory that sticks out into the Adriatic Sea (the "spur" on the Italian "boot"), passing picture-book seaside villages and breathtaking scenery of blue waters and unique cliffs. Later we'll enjoy a boat cruise for even more spectacular views (weather permitting).

Day 14: Monte Sant' Angelo / Barletta. We first visit one of the oldest churches in Christianity in Monte Sant'Angelo, and then proceed to the coastal town of Barletta where we will see the 11th century fortress, the Cathedral and Cellar of the Challenge. Barletta will be our home for the final two nights of the tour.

Day 15: Castel Del Monte / Andria / Barletta. Today we visit the UNESCO site of Castel del Monte - a 13th-century citadel and castle of unique octagonal construction. We then learn of cheese production in the Andria region, famous for the soft mozzarella, ricotta and burrata cheeses. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Home. It's *arrivederci* to Puglia as we transfer to Bari for our flight home via Rome.



La Dolce Vita Gastronomy and Wine of Italy

On this exciting tour we will discover the rich culinary traditions and famous wines of Italy.

Italian food varies significantly from region to region and derives most of its magic from the abundance, quality and freshness of its locally sourced ingredients. The seas surrounding Italy host a wide variety of fish and seafood; the coastal plains and river valleys are filled with orchards, groves and fields of vegetables; the mountains and hillsides are covered in vines and forests; and large flocks and herds are pastured throughout the country. There is a healthy rivalry between the regions to out-do each other and make claim to the best dishes (and most often “my mother’s”)!

Italy also produces a fantastic array of wines for every occasion, from delicate whites through robust reds to wonderful dry or sweet sparkling wines, and from simple table wines to some of the best in the world. We will learn about the incredible history and culture of winemaking and of course sample many as we travel through the country.

We begin with 3 nights in the Umbria region, visiting the clifftop town of Orvieto and the Wine Museum in Torgiano, truffle hunting in Pietralunga, strolling in Etruscan Perugia and enjoying spectacular views in idyllic Assisi.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily (wine, water & coffee with all dinners). Including a farm dinner, an Executive Chef dinner and many gourmet dinners
- 4 ‘typical’ lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - \$6797
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Calgary - add \$190. Winnipeg - add \$290.
- Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$490

14 DAYS • MAY 15 - 28

From here we head to the spa town of Montecatini Terme for 5 nights, our home base for visiting Cortona (set of “Under the Tuscan Sun”!), an agricultural farm with cooking lessons, the beautiful hamlet of Bolgheri with its “Avenue of Cypresses”, Lucca where we enjoy a “walking brunch” sampling local cheeses and breads, an olive oil mill, an estate on the famous Tuscan Wine Route, Castagneto Carducci for homemade pasta with wild boar, and the lively San Lorenzo market in Florence. In Montecatini Terme we will have ample opportunity to visit the town’s thermal spa.

We then head north to the Lake Garda region for 4 nights, stopping en route in Bologna for the delicious ‘tortellini’ pasta and a visit of the Ferrari Museum to get the heart pounding! We also visit romantic Verona, a renowned Valpolicella winery, Vicenza to marvel at the architecture of Palladio, and Bassano del Grappa where they have been making the popular Italian spirit since 1779.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Rome.

Day 2: Rome / Perugia. We land in Rome and transfer to Perugia for a 3-night stay. Perugia is an ideal base to discover the local culinary traditions, famous art and medieval hamlets of the region. Tonight our Welcome Dinner will feature seasonal dishes, local products and traditional Umbrian recipes.

Day 3: Orvieto / Torgiano. We visit Orvieto, a typical Umbrian hilltop town with breathtaking views of the countryside. After a tour and some free time we continue to the Wine Museum in Torgiano - a veritable trip through time, with artwork and historic items all pertaining to grapes and wine. After our visit we enjoy a tasting of Umbrian wines and delicacies.

Day 4: Truffle Hunting / Perugia. We head into the forest surrounding Pietralunga, one of the truffle hunting capitals of Umbria. We will go searching for these precious and expensive tubers (escorted by locals who will show us the way), followed by a special lunch (made with our findings) at a local farm. We then return to Perugia for a guided tour of this important medieval city and capital of Umbria.

Day 5: Assisi / Cortona / Montecatini Terme. We visit Assisi, the idyllic hilltop town of the venerated patron Saint Francis. We then head for Tuscany and the charming commune of Cortona, the set of the best selling novel "Under the Tuscan Sun". We enjoy lunch in a typical restaurant and a tour of this wonderful hamlet, then proceed to the spa town of Montecatini Terme for a 5-night stay at a centrally located hotel.

Day 6: Agricultural Farm / Cooking Class. A morning at leisure to explore the town, or visit the nearby thermal spa. Later we visit a local farm to walk the orchards and pick fresh ingredients to prepare some local dishes. We will learn to make pasta, typical Tuscan soup and the famous Tiramisù dessert. Dinner at the farm will include the dishes we have prepared, with a prize awarded for the best result!

Day 7: Lucca. We visit Lucca, a city of culinary traditions and cultural heritage. We'll visit the Palazzo Mansi - home to one of Europe's biggest tapestry collections. On our walking tour we'll stop at some of the town's delicatessens and specialty shops to sample the best local products (cheese, "schiacciata" bread and wine) followed by lunch in a local restaurant. In the afternoon we visit an olive oil mill before returning to Montecatini Terme.

Day 8: Bolgheri / Wine Route / Castagneto Carducci. We begin with a visit of the beautiful town of Bolgheri, known for its "Viale dei Cipressi" (Avenue of Cypresses). The village has kept its original historic buildings, roads and little shops, complimented by the astonishing views of the hills, sea and islands. We continue along the wine route where famous wines such as

Sassicaia and Ornellaia are produced, and we visit a local estate. We will have lunch in Castagneto Carducci with a selection of typical dishes including homemade pasta and the famous wildboar sauce. There will be time to enjoy Castagneto with its historic centre dominated by a castle still inhabited today by the Della Gherardesca.

Day 9: Florence. Today we discover the Renaissance capital of Florence, also rich in gastronomic traditions. On our walking tour we see the multi-coloured marble cathedral, Signoria Square, the Baptistery and Piazzale Michelangelo for the best view over the city. We'll also visit San Lorenzo market for some great shopping, and our local guide will point out the many "trattorias" and "enoteche" (wine shops) where you can browse during your free afternoon, or perhaps visit one of the world famous museums.

Day 10: Bologna \ Ferrari Museum \ Lake Garda. We travel to Bologna for a walking tour of the narrow streets lined with arched porticos and arcaded walkways, surrounded by the remains of medieval walls. Home to Europe's oldest university, Bologna is famous for its red-tiled roofs and for its love of fine food. Lunch is at a restaurant that specializes in the famous homemade "tortellini" pasta and a selection of products from the Emilia Romagna region. Later we visit the Ferrari Museum where we learn about Enzo Ferrari's incredible life story and the history of the famous sports car. We continue to our hotel in the Lake Garda area, for a 4-night stay.

Day 11: Verona / Valpolicella. We visit Verona - a city of Roman ruins, medieval buildings and the legend of Romeo and Juliet. Our walking tour will take us through Verona's historic heart, to Juliet's balcony and the great Roman Arena. After some free time we visit a local winery in Valpolicella for a wine tasting.

Day 12: Vicenza / Bassano del Grappa. We visit the fascinating city of Vicenza, famous for the buildings of Andrea Palladio - considered to be history's most influential architect. We will see Piazza dei Signori, the Duomo and the famous Teatro Olimpico - the world's first indoor masonry theater. We then continue to Bassano del Grappa, where the popular Italian spirit Grappa was invented. Here we visit Nardini Distillery which has been producing the spirit since 1779. We also see the historic city centre and stop on the "Ponte Vecchio" - a covered wooden bridge designed by Palladio with views of the city and mountains.

Day 13: Veneto / Farmhouse Farewell Dinner. A day at leisure. Our Farewell Dinner will be at a local farmhouse where we learn to prepare regional specialties. We will dine on our creations accompanied by a wine pairing for each course, as we say "arrivederci" to Italy.

Day 14: Home. We fly home from Milan.



The Poppy Trail

Historic Battlefield Tour

England, France and Belgium

This journey of remembrance and discovery will explore poignant sites and unforgettable moments from both WWI and WWII.

We begin in London and finish in Paris, and en route we will visit the D-Day Landing beaches of Normandy, the Somme, Vimy Ridge and the Flanders Fields, revisiting some remarkable tales of bravery and courage. In London we will ride in a beautifully restored pre-war double decker learning about life and survival in London during the Blitz (along with some time at leisure). After discovering Portsmouth Harbour, we cross the English Channel to Normandy, and follow in the footsteps of our bravest soldiers on the most famous battlefields, as well as enjoying the serene towns of Arras and Ypres. We conclude our journey in the City of Lights, enjoying some of Paris' most iconic sites before flying home to Canada.

Tour Highlights:

- Thames River Cruise
- London-at-War Coach Tour
- Portsmouth D-Day Museum and Historic Dockyard including the *HMS Victory* and *Mary Rose*

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels (except for one night in a moderate hotel in Portsmouth)
- Breakfast daily and 8 dinners
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$7397
-
- Single Supplement - \$1390
- Ottawa, Halifax or Vancouver - add \$90
- Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$190
- Edmonton - add \$290

16 DAYS • MAY 5 - 20

- Pegasus Bridge
- Normandy's Landing Beaches including Dieppe
- Juno Beach Centre
- Disembarkation Museum of Arromanches
- The Somme Battlefields
- Beaumont Hamel Memorial Park
- Wellington Tunnel in Arras
- Vimy Ridge Tour of the Tunnels and Trenches Memorial
- In Flanders Fields Museum in Ypres
- Passchendaele
- Illumination Cruise on the Seine River
- Paris City Tour

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for London.

Day 2: Windsor / London. After arrival we will unwind with a relaxing cruise from Runnymede, and enjoy classic views of Windsor Castle as well as a traditional cream tea. Then we proceed to our central London hotel. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: London. As bombs fell during WWII thousands of Londoners volunteered to fight fires and save lives. Our 'London at War' tour (aboard a vintage double decker bus) provides a unique insight into life in London during the two World Wars. Afterwards there will be some time at leisure to explore London on your own.

Day 4: Portsmouth (D-Day Museum). We travel to Portsmouth and visit the D-Day Museum, which tells the story of the D-Day Landings in WWII and features the magnificent Overlord Embroidery - a tribute to the heroism of those who took part in the operation. We will also explore Historic Portsmouth Harbour, home to the *HMS Victory* - the Royal Navy's most famous warship, and *The Mary Rose* - flagship of the English Tudor navy of King Henry VIII.

Day 5: Channel Crossing / Port en Bessin. We take the ferry to the port of Caen, Normandy, to visit the Pegasus Bridge where the 6th British Airborne landed, captured and liberated the first house in Europe, the Café Gondree. After our visit of the museum here we will proceed to our hotel for our first dinner in France.

Day 6: Courseulles-Sur-Mer / Juno Beach / Port en Bessin. We begin at the Canadian Memorial Garden in the Abbaye d'Ardenne, and la Verrieres Ridge to view the area where the "Black Watch" suffered many casualties during "Operation Spring". Then we visit the Juno Beach Center, dedicated to the 3rd Division landings as well as Canada's full involvement during World War II. Afterward, we will visit Queens Own Rifles House on the beach of Bernières-sur-Mer and the Canadian Military Cemetery at Beny-sur-Mer.

Day 7: Arromanches / Pointe du Hoc / Omaha Beach / Port en Bessin. We continue our focus on the Normandy Invasion with a visit to Pointe du Hoc, where the cratered landscape caused by the German battery can be observed. Then we see Omaha Beach and the American Military Cemetery to discover the harsh difficulties in landing on the beach. This will be followed by a visit of the German battery at Longues-sur-Mer, which is still relatively intact. Later we visit the Disembarkation Museum and Mulberry Harbour in Arromanches before returning to our hotel.

Day 8: Dieppe / Arras. We travel to the coastal town of Dieppe to visit the Dieppe Canadian Cemetery, before travelling to Green Beach at Pourville to view the Red and White landing beaches on the Dieppe seafront, as well as the Canadian Memorial Museum. Later at the Blue Beach in Puys we view the gun emplacements on the cliff tops which were responsible for the terrible Canadian casualties. Then we travel to Arras for a 3-night stay.

Day 9: Albert / Beaumont Hamel / Arras. Our focus switches to WWI as we explore the Somme, starting in Albert and the Musee

des Arbris. Then we visit the Somme Battlefields, the Memorial to the Missing at Thiepval, and one of the only intact First World War monuments - the memorial park at Beaumont Hamel. The park (maintained by Canada) remains as it was during the Battle of the Somme, and is dedicated to the Royal Newfoundland and Labrador Regiment which lost many men on that first day of battle.

Day 10: Vimy Ridge / Arras. We travel the short distance to Vimy Ridge. It was on Hill 145, in April 1917, that Canada truly became a nation in the eyes of the world. Canadian troops stormed the ridge after all other allied forces failed to do so. We will tour the tunnels, trenches and memorial, as well as the interpretation center. This afternoon we tour the Wellington Tunnels, used by the Allies to support the Western Front close to the town. There will be free time to explore Arras, Place des Heroes as well as the Belfroi.

Day 11: Lens / Ypres. We travel to Lens and the new Hill 70 Memorial, dedicated to commemorate one of Canada's major victories on the Western Front after the victory at Vimy. We then proceed to Ypres, where we visit the "In Flanders Fields" Museum.

Day 12: Flanders Fields / Ypres. This morning we'll orient ourselves with the Ypres Salient Battlefields with a visit to Essex Farm, where John McCrae wrote the famous poem "In Flanders Fields". Then we visit the German cemetery of Langemark - resting place of over 44,000 young Germans (many 'student volunteers'). We continue on to Vancouver's Corner to see the haunting memorial of the Brooding Soldier at Saint Juliaan. This afternoon an optional tour to Dunkirk will be offered. This evening you can witness the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, which records over 54,384 names of missing troops during the leper salient battles.

Day 13: Passchendaele / Ypres. We begin with a visit to the Canadian Memorial at Crest Farm, the objective of the 1st Canadian Corps on Passchendaele Ridge. Next we visit the largest Commonwealth Cemetery at Tyne Cot, where the Canadians first began the Third Battle of Ypres to take Passchendaele. The Passchendaele Museum features an actual battle ground with trenches and German defenses. We continue to Hill 62 to view a well preserved area which was part of the original Canadian Front Line (also known as Sanctuary Wood). We finish with some free time in Ypres to relax or to buy excellent Belgian chocolate.

Day 14: Paris. We travel to Paris, and we'll have some free time to stroll in the quaint quarter of our centrally located hotel before checking in. Tonight's dinner will be at a charming restaurant followed by a cruise along the Seine River.

Day 15: Paris. On our city tour of Paris we will see the Eiffel Tower, Place de la Concorde, the Louvre, l'Arc de Triomphe, Les Champs Elysées, Notre-Dame Cathedral, St-Germain des Prés and more! The afternoon is free in Paris, and this evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Home. A warm farewell to our new friends as we fly home.



Tale of Two Cities London & Paris

London and Paris - two iconic cities, both rich with eye-opening antiquity, architectural grandeur, arts, culture and world class cuisine!

In London, we tour through many of the city's historic quarters and see many of its famous structures: the Tower of London; the London Eye; Big Ben; Piccadilly Circus; Buckingham Palace to name a few. There will be included visits to Westminster Abbey, the National Gallery and Covent Garden. Highlights will include a West End theatre performance and a drive to the lovely countryside of the Cotswold's - adorned with rolling hills, thatched medieval villages and stately homes built of local yellow limestone.

Then we board the Eurostar high-speed train which will whisk us through the Chunnel and on to Paris. In Paris we tour through many of its historic districts such as Montmartre and Marais, and see famous landmark such as the Arc de Triomphe, the Opera, Grand Palais and the Champs-Élysées. Highlights will include the Louvre, Notre Dame Cathedral, the view from the Eiffel Tower and an evening cruise on the River Seine. Our tour through the countryside to Giverny takes us to the home and gardens of Claude Monet – a leading light in Impressionist Art

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Air Canada flights
- First Class hotels
- Breakfast daily (full English breakfast in London, enriched continental buffet breakfast in Paris)
- 6 dinners and 2 lunches
- Theatre Show in London's West End
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - \$5197
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Winnipeg, Calgary or Vancouver - add \$190
- Edmonton - add \$290

10 DAYS • MAY 6 - 15

We will be staying in First Class, centrally located hotels in both cities. In London we will stay at the centrally located *Park Plaza Waterloo* (or similar). This First-Class hotel is situated on the south side of the River Thames, and boasts dramatic views of the river and the London skyline, and is within walking distance of some of the city's most impressive landmarks. The hotel features stylishly modern furnishings with First Class facilities.

In Paris we will stay at the *Holiday Inn Bastille* (or similar). This elegant "belle époque" building has modern facilities and is within walking distance of the Gare de Lyon (a major metro and train hub), the Opera Bastille, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Left Bank of the Seine and many other attractions.

Both hotels have comfortable fully air-conditioned guestrooms, satellite TV, tea and coffee making facilities, and Wi-Fi. Each hotel also has a fitness room

**** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart with Air Canada for London.

Day 2: London. Upon arrival in London we transfer to our centrally located hotel. The balance of the day is at leisure until this evening's Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: London City Tour. We begin with first a visit to Westminster Abbey for a guided tour of this impressive Gothic church, which was the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English monarchs. After our visit we continue to take in some of London's other major highlights – Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, Piccadilly Circus, Trafalgar Square, Buckingham Palace, St. Paul's Cathedral, Canadian War Memorial and more!

Day 4: Oxford and the Cotswolds. We travel first into the green countryside and visit "The Cotswolds" - an area of many small old towns and villages with honey coloured cottages and dry stone walls nestling in the valleys and wooded hillsides. We will stop at one or two of the villages to explore. Then we will visit the university town of Oxford which for over 900 years has been home to royalty and scholars. A walking tour takes us past several of the 30 colleges and their picture-perfect courtyards. If possible we will tour one of them. This evening we enjoy a typical pub dinner!

Day 5: Covent Garden / Theatre. We walk through the West End Theatre District to Covent Garden - one of the liveliest districts in London. Originally a flower market, Covent Garden has evolved into an area of stylish shops, market stalls, cafes, bars, restaurants and pubs, not to mention the many entertaining street performers. After some free time, we will walk to a matinee to enjoy a lively performance - your choice from 2 top performances!

Day 6: Paris via Eurostar! Cheerio to London and Bonjour Paris, as we whiz through the Channel tunnel at 320 km/h on the high speed Eurostar train! In just over two hours we will be in central Paris. We will have some time to relax before our dinner at a charming bistro.

Day 7: Paris. Today's panoramic tour will include the major highlights of Paris, beginning with a visit of the Eiffel Tower. We will ascend the tower by elevator and take in the panoramic view of the city. We then continue our tour and see Arc de Triomphe, the Champs Elysees, Place de la Concorde, the Opera and Notre Dame Cathedral. From here we continue to the beautiful and historic Montmartre area and a visit to the Sacre Coeur for wonderful views of Paris. We will have some free time to explore Place du Tertre and watch the artists at work. Tonight's dinner is at a typical Montmartre restaurant.

Day 8: Countryside Tour to Giverny and Monet's Garden. Today we leave the city to visit Giverny, where the Impressionist artist Monet lived and created a stunning garden of diverse symmetry and colour. Monet mixed the simplest flowers (daisies and poppies) with the rarest varieties. This is where he painted the 'Japanese Bridge', and the delicate 'Water Lilies' which have been forever immortalized in his incredible works! After our visit to his home and gardens, we stop at the Musée des Impressionismes for a light lunch, before returning to the city.

Day 9: Louvre / Seine Cruise. Morning at leisure to enjoy this magnificent city (your Tour Manager will be on hand to advise and assist). This afternoon we visit the most famous art museum in the world - The Louvre. Our guided tour of the museum will cover the most important works on display. In the evening we take a cruise on the Seine to view Paris from another perspective, a chance to appreciate the illuminated brilliance of The City of Light.

Day 10: Home. We transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Springtime in Paris

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Air Canada flights
- First Class hotel
- Full buffet breakfast daily
- 6 dinners (includes a cabaret dinner-show at the Moulin Rouge)
- 2 lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal - \$5397
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Winnipeg, Halifax or Vancouver - add \$190
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$290

Paris, better known as La Ville Lumière (The City of Light), is considered Europe's most romantic city.

From Montmartre to the Champs-Élysées, and beyond, this city has provided inspiration to countless artists, writers and musicians through the ages. Today Paris is equally renowned for its cuisine, museums and spectacular art galleries. It is a city like no other, and all who visit experience a true *joie de vivre*!

On this in-depth tour we will visit all of the sights that you have heard about, some that you haven't, and a few days of exploring outside the city. The most recognizable landmark in Paris is the Eiffel Tower, built for the 1889 World's Fair - considered one of the most beautiful structures in the world. Other famous landmarks include the Arc de Triomphe (a magnificent monument built for Napoleon in 1809), the imposing Chartres Cathedral, the Louvre (the world's largest museum which houses the "Mona Lisa" and the "Venus de Milo") and the Champs-Élysées - perhaps the world's most famous street!

A highlight of our tour will be our evening cruise on the River Seine - a chance to enjoy a unique view of the city -

10 DAYS • MAY 18 - 27

a wonderful experience especially at night when the city is dramatically lit and the Eiffel Tower sparkles!

Another highlight will be our dinner-show at the original Moulin Rouge - home to the world's most legendary cabaret show and birthplace of the "can-can" dance. Outside the capital we will visit Versailles - the lavishly decorated Royal Chateau built by Louis XIV - the Sun King, as well as a visit to Giverny - the country home and gardens of the famous Impressionist painter Monet. And the tour wouldn't be complete without a visit to the exclusive Champagne region of France to discover the history and secrets (and of course a tasting) of the "King of Wines"!

We will stay at the centrally located First Class *Holiday Inn Bastille* (or similar) - a quaint and intimate yet modernized hotel located within walking distance of Notre Dame, the Seine River, the Left Bank and more.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Paris.

Day 2: Paris. Upon arrival we will enjoy a short tour of Luxembourg Gardens and then proceed to our centrally located hotel. The balance of the day is at leisure until this evening's Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: City Tour. On today's city tour we will cross between the left and right banks across the ornate bridges, and see the major highlights of Paris: the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, Place de la Concorde, Champs-Élysées, the gothic masterpiece Notre Dame, and so much more. Included will be visits to the Eiffel Tower, the magnificent Opera Garnier, and the grand parfumeur – The House of Fragonard, known for their passionate dedication to the making of fine perfume!

Day 4: Versailles Palace and Chartres Cathedral. We leave the city and step back in time to visit two magnificent architectural masterpieces! Our first visit is Versailles and the magnificent grandeur of Louis XIV's (Sun King) Palace, which became the envy of all European rulers of the time. We enjoy a guided tour of the palace, followed by a stroll through the impressive statue-lined gardens. Then we continue to the Chartres Cathedral – a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of history's greatest architectural achievements. This exquisite Gothic building has housed the tunic of the Blessed Virgin Mary since the 9th century, making it a leading pilgrimage center.

Day 5: Giverny / Moulin Rouge. We leave the city again to visit Giverny, where Monet lived and created a stunning garden of diverse symmetry and colour. Monet mixed the simplest flowers (daisies and poppies) with the rarest varieties and let them grow freely. This is where he painted the 'Japanese Bridge', and the delicate 'Water Lilies' which have been forever immortalized in his incredible works! In addition, included will be a visit and lunch at the local Musée des Impressionnistes – an art museum focused on the Impressionist period.

This evening we enjoy a Champagne Dinner-Show at the venue made famous in Toulouse-Lautrec's paintings – the world renowned Moulin Rouge, birthplace of the Can-Can!

Day 6: Morning at leisure / Marais and Montmartre. Our morning is at leisure to explore Paris on our own. This afternoon we ride the local metro to see a different side of

Paris – with an afternoon walking tour of the historic Marais district – the closest you will get to the feel of medieval Paris. A glance at some of the beautiful buildings and houses indicates the wealthy status of the former residents. This is where Victor Hugo lived and wrote *Les Misérables*. Today this area houses many art galleries, design shops and is one of Europe's most well-known Jewish quarters. From here we continue to another historic area: Montmartre and the Sacre Coeur. At the Place du Tertre we can watch the artists at work while they try to capture the magic of Paris on canvas!

Day 7: At Leisure. There is so much to do and see in Paris, and your Tour Manager will be on hand to advise and assist. You may want to join an optional day-trip to Vimy Ridge Memorial, which honours the Canadians who died here during the First World War.

Day 8: Reims / Champagne Region. We venture to the heart of Champagne country today to discover the history and secrets of "The King of Wines". We visit the historic city of Reims – not only the capital of the Champagne region but also home to the legendary monk, Dom Perignon, who accidentally invented this prestigious sparkling wine. Our included lunch in Epernay features the delicious cuisine of the region. After lunch we will tour one of the world famous champagne house cellars, enjoy a tasting session of the local champagne and view the magnificent vineyards from its tower!

Day 9: Morning at Leisure, The Louvre, Seine Cruise. Morning at leisure to explore on your own. This afternoon we visit the world's most famous art museum – The Louvre, which features a mind-boggling number of famous paintings and sculptures! Our guided tour will cover The Louvre's most important works, such as Da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" and the "Venus de Milo". There will be free time to view some of the masterpieces by Brueghel, Goya, Michelangelo, Matisse, Picasso, Rubens, Rembrandt and many more. This evening is our Farewell Dinner followed by a romantic cruise on the Seine – a chance to marvel at "The City of Light" while it is dramatically lit.

Day 10: Home. We bid adieu to Paris, until next time!



Southern France and Paris

3-Centre Tour to

• Paris • Provence • French Riviera

Any visit to France is a feast for the senses, as each region offers a diversity of scenery, architecture, culture, attractions and cuisine. This tour will take in the 3 most popular destinations in France, with plenty of sightseeing as well as time at leisure to explore on your own.

Paris - We begin with a 4-night stay in France's capital, with its rich history and endless incredible attractions and cultural events. In addition to our touring program there will be free time to visit one of Paris' famous museums or to enjoy a stroll in one of its quaint quarters.

Avignon - We then spend 5 nights in this picturesque Provencal walled city - the perfect base from which to explore Provence with its Roman and medieval heritage, sculpted buildings and sumptuous food markets. The legendary countryside here is dotted with vineyards and lavender fields, all beautifully bathed in a golden hue.

Nice - Our final 4 nights will be in the heart of the French Riviera, with its turquoise waters, sidewalk cafes and pastel colour buildings. The beachfront of Nice is skirted by the Promenade des Anglais, a delightful place to stroll.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast daily
- 10 dinners with wine and coffee
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy,
from Toronto or Montreal - \$5597
.....
- Single supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip
transport. to the Montreal Airport)
- Vancouver - add \$190
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary
or Edmonton - add \$690

15 DAYS • APRIL 19 - MAY 3

We will stay in First Class hotels, all of which are centrally located in the towns and cities we stay.

Tour Highlights:

- Paris - full-day city tour, evening cruise on the Seine River and visit of Versailles
- Walking tour of Avignon and visit of the Popes Palace
- Luberon most beautiful villages and lavender museum
- Walking tours of Arles (visit the Roman Colosseum), St-Remy, and Les-Baux multimedia show
- Visit of Pont Du Gard Roman aqueduct historic site and wine tasting at Châteauneuf-du-Pape vineyard
- Walking tours of Nice and St-Tropez
- Visit of Eze, Monaco and Monte Carlo

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Paris.

Day 2: Paris. We arrive in Paris, and enjoy a short tour of the quaint quarter near our hotel, and free time for lunch. The rest of the day is free until this evening's Welcome Dinner at a charming Parisian Brasserie.

Day 3: Paris. Our full-day panoramic tour will show us the Arc de Triomphe, the Eiffel Tower, the Opera, the "Left Bank", Notre Dame Cathedral, Champs Elysees, Montmartre and much more.

Day 4: Versailles. We leave the city for the splendour of Versailles. Created by the Sun King, Louis XIV, the palace was the envy of all European rulers. We will have a guided tour and a chance to stroll through the meticulous, statue-lined gardens, before returning to Paris. Afternoon at leisure to explore Paris on our own.

Day 5: Paris / Cruise On Seine. A day at leisure. Your Tour Manager will be on hand to advise and assist you with the infinite choice of attractions and museums. Tonight's dinner will be followed by a cruise along the Seine River, a wonderful way to see Paris illumination.

Day 6: TGV Train / Avignon. We travel aboard the high-speed TGV train, the fastest scheduled rail journey in the world! Upon arrival in Avignon we enjoy a walking tour and visit the Pont (bridge) d'Avignon and the Palace of the Popes - an imposing Gothic structure and city landmark.

Day 7: St-Remy / Les Baux / Arles. This full-day tour in the heart of Provence begins in the pretty village of St-Remy-de-Provence, with its Roman vestiges and weekly Provencal market. Next is Les Baux-de-Provence, magnificently situated amidst incredible rock formations. Here we will enjoy an outstanding audio-visual show which will totally immerse us in the images. Finally we proceed to Arles - a city of art and culture. On our walking tour of Arles we see the charming old town, Van Gogh's famous "café de la nuit" and visit the Roman coliseum and theatre. There will be free time before returning to Avignon.

Day 8: Avignon. At leisure to enjoy Avignon's pleasant streets and interesting museums, or perhaps visit nearby Aix-en-Provence.

Day 9: Luberon Villages. We travel to the Luberon and discover, scattered across the countryside, the wonderful villages classified as "the most beautiful villages of France". See Gordes - a hill top village with narrow alleys and passageways that wind between medieval buildings, Bonnieux - a typical Provencal market town, Rousillon - with its ochre landscape and Coustellet for a most interesting visit of the lavender museum.

Day 10: Pont Du Gard / Rhone Valley. This morning we discover the famous Pont Du Gard. Built by the Romans, it was a technical and artistic masterpiece ahead of its time. Then we travel through the countryside and vineyards to Châteauneuf-du-Pape for a vineyard visit and tasting. We return to Avignon for an afternoon at leisure.

Day 11: St-Tropez / Cote D'Azur / Nice. Today we travel to the French Riviera with a stop in quaint St-Tropez enroute. This one time fishing village has become a fashionable resort frequented by writers, artists and celebrities. After some time on our own to stroll the charming old town and lively harbour we continue our journey along the Cote d'Azur to the elegant city of Nice.

Day 12: Nice. Our city tour takes in the Promenade des Anglais, Cimiez Quarter and Convent Gardens. We will also see Nice's old town with its flower market, City Hall and pedestrian streets lined with shops and cafes. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 13: Eze / Monaco / Monte Carlo. We drive along the rugged and scenic Mediterranean coast to the medieval town of Eze, which offers one of the most beautiful panoramas of the French Riviera. Then we continue on to Monaco where we visit the historic core (known as The Rock), see the Changing of the Guards and the Prince's Palace. After some free time here we visit Monte Carlo with its lush gardens and famous casino.

Day 14: Nice. At leisure to enjoy Nice's pedestrian streets or lively waterfront, or perhaps visit nearby Cannes or another resort town on the Riviera. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We say "au revoir" to France and fly home from Nice, via Paris or Amsterdam.



Springtime in Provence plus Marseille

Renowned for its wonderful climate, charming towns and villages, world-renowned gastronomic traditions, unique landscapes and a rich history, it is no wonder that Provence is one of France's top destinations, especially in the spring when the abundance of wildflowers that Provence is known for are in full bloom.

Our home base (10 nights) will be Avignon, located in the heart of Provence. This beautiful city has magnificent 18th century architecture, shaded squares, narrow streets named after ancient trades (bonnetterie, teinturier, infirmière etc.), gardens along the Rhône River, weekly and daily food markets, boutiques and museums. The city is also a lively art and cultural center, and boasts a fine transport system with regular routes to surrounding towns.

We will stay at the 4-star *Mercure Pont d'Avignon*, located within the old city walls in a quiet area - an easy walk to restaurants, shopping streets and main attractions. Hotel facilities include a bar, lounge, garden and free WiFi.

We conclude our tour with 2 nights in the multicultural city of Marseille with its rich maritime history, vibrant old port, quaint neighbourhoods, impressive esplanade and breathtaking views over the Mediterranean Sea.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class hotels
- Full breakfast daily
- 10 dinners with wine and coffee
- 2 special lunches (including a special savoury truffle lunch)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$5197
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- Single supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport to the Montreal airport)
- Vancouver - add \$490
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$890

14 DAYS • 2 DATES IN SPRING 2023

APRIL 2 - 15

APRIL 15 - 28

Tour Highlights:

- Visit of the Popes Palace and Pont d'Avignon.
- Chef demonstration and tasting of local specialties.
- Visit Arles and Camargue, and typical Manade lunch.
- Provence Roman heritage - Maison Carrée, Nîmes Amphitheater, Pont du Gard and Orange Theater.
- Luberon villages, and a visit of the Lavender Museum.
- Mont Ventoux, Provencal's largest market, wine tasting.
- Truffle hunt including a savoury lunch.
- Walking tour of Aix-en-Provence and village of Cassis.
- 2-night stay in Marseille and tour of the highlights.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Marseille via Paris.

Day 2: Avignon. We arrive in Marseille and transfer to Avignon. The rest of the day is free until our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Avignon Walking Tour. We begin our tour at Les Galles - Avignon's quaint food market, where a local chef will offer a cooking demonstration and tasting of Provencal specialities. Then our walking tour will show us the highlights of Avignon; the Pont D'Avignon, the lively "Place de L'Horloge" and the pedestrian streets. We conclude with a visit of the Palace of the Popes - an imposing Gothic structure where several popes resided in the middle ages.

Day 4: At Leisure in Avignon. A free day to explore the town, its quaint streets, museums and vibrant markets.

Day 5: Arles / Camargue. We begin with a visit of Arles, once Julius Caesar's capital of Gaul. Here we follow in the footsteps of Van Gogh to the sites immortalized in his many paintings. We will see the remarkable Roman and typical Provencal architecture. We then travel to Camargue - a national wildlife reserve of exceptional beauty. See the immense plain of marshes and lagoons - refuge to over 300 species of birds (including pink flamingos). We will enjoy a special lunch at a typical "Manade" specializing in the breeding of bulls, with "cowboys" working with the famous Camargue Horses. We end the day with a visit of Carmargue's capital, Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, a city of traditions superbly situated at the mouth of the Rhone River and Mediterranean Sea.

Day 6: Uzès / Pont Du Gard / Nîmes. This full-day excursion begins with a walking tour of Uzès - the premier duchy of France. This dazzlingly beautiful commune has shaded boulevards, medieval streets and handsome houses. Then we discover the Pont du Gard, built in the 1st century AD - a technical and artistic masterpiece. We finish the day in Nîmes, which boasts some of the world's best preserved Roman monuments. We will visit the impressive amphitheater and Maison Carrée (square house) followed by some free time in the historic centre.

Day 7: At Leisure in Avignon.

Day 8: Luberon Villages. Scattered across the countryside are the wonderful villages of the Luberon - known as "the most beautiful villages of France". We see Rousillon, with its ochre landscape, Gordes - a hill top village with narrow alleys and passageways that wind between medieval

buildings, Bonnieux with its amazing view across the valley with its patchwork of orchards and vineyards, and Coustellet for a most interesting visit of the lavender museum.

Day 9: Vaison-La-Romaine / Mont Ventoux / Winery. First we visit Vaison-La-Romaine, a small Provencal town nestled in a valley. Once a prosperous Roman city, it is known today for its fabulous Provencal market - the largest in Provence! Next is the summit of Mont Ventoux for a breathtaking view of the Toulourenc Valley. We finish this amazing day with a visit of a local winery, enjoying a stroll through the grounds and a taste of the wonderful wines produced in this region.

Day 10: At Leisure in Avignon.

Day 11: Orange / Truffle Hunting / Savoury Lunch. We first visit Orange - the "Gateway to Southern France". Founded in 30 BC, Orange remains marked by the dynastic seal of William III of Orange, who became King of England in 1689. We will see the famous Triumphal Arch and visit the Roman theatre. Then we proceed through the countryside to meet a warm-hearted family and discover the mysteries of one of the world's most coveted culinary treasures - the truffle. These "Black Diamonds" are known for their subtle aroma and earthy flavour. A delicious lunch of finely prepared truffle dishes awaits following our "cavage" demonstration with the family dogs.

Day 12: Aix / Cassis / Marseille. We travel to Aix en Provence (fondly known as "X"). This is one of France's most popular cities, with its majestic public squares, shaded avenues, graceful fountains and elegant Baroque style buildings built with the distinctive Provencal yellow stone. On our walking tour we see the Cours Mirabeau and the market where locals shop for fresh produce and flowers. We then proceed to visit Cassis - a former fishing village and today a resort town picturesquely located in a niche on the Mediterranean Sea at the foot of steep cliffs. We end up in Marseille for a 2-night stay by the quaint old port.

Day 13: Marseille. Highlights of our Marseille city tour include the Esplanade J4, Promenade Laffond, Notre Dame de la Garde and a walking tour through the ancient Le Panier neighbourhood. The afternoon is free to visit one of the famous museums or go shopping in the stylish boutiques of the Republic Quarter. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 14: Home. Air France takes us home via Paris.



Mediterranean Magic

Tuscany and the Italian Riviera, and the French Riviera

It is with good reason that Tuscany, the Italian Riviera and French Riviera are so popular: mild weather; historic sites and romantic scenic beauty. Attractions include villages made from ancient golden stone, grand castles, chateaux and hillside vineyards and farms. The aroma of citrus trees and lavender fill the air. The museums, galleries, cobblestone streets and colourful local markets add their appeal.

Tuscany - Picture-postcard hills covered by vineyards, olive groves and stone farmhouses, and the great renaissance cities of Florence and Pisa. We stay in the resort town of Viareggio graced with a lovely coastline of sandy beaches and parks. The *Hotel President* is located right on the seafront esplanade across from the beach. We will visit:

- Siena - medieval home to the famous Palio horse race
- Chianti - vineyards, olive groves, stone farmhouses
- Florence – Cradle of the Renaissance
- Pisa – world famous leaning tower

The Italian Riviera is known for its many picturesque and historic towns and villages, dramatic scenery of spectacular cliffs, rugged coastline and small bays. We will stay 2 nights in one of the quaint seaside villages on the Ligurian Coast.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with KLM
- First Class hotels
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily (wine & coffee included with dinners)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6197
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- Single Supplement - \$990
- Montreal or Vancouver - add \$190
- Ottawa - add \$350 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Calgary - add \$390. Edmonton - add \$790
- Winnipeg or Halifax - add \$690

14 DAYS • MAY 7 - 20

On the Italian Riviera we'll visit:

- Portofino - beautiful coastal village on its own peninsula
- Santa Margherita - picture-perfect seaside promenade
- Cinque Terre - 5 villages with dramatic coastal scenery

The French Riviera - Beautiful sunsets, sidewalk cafes, flower markets and vineyards. Our 6-night stay in Nice (on a dreamy stretch of the French Riviera known as the Cote d'Azur) is at the boutique styled *Best Western Plus Brice Garden* - located within a five-minute walk of the beach, old town and flower market. Highlights of our visit here include:

- Nice - seaside old-world opulence and vibrant street life
- St. Tropez - sizzling jet-set favourite
- Port Grimaud - little Venice of Provence
- Grasse - perfumery of Provence
- Tourrettes-sur Loup - medieval city of artists
- Saint-Paul - favourite haunt of Picasso and Roger Moore
- Eze - a jewel in the Riviera's crown
- Monaco / Monte Carlo - playground of the rich & famous

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Nice via Amsterdam.

Day 2: Nice. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Nice. Our guided tour of Nice includes the Promenade des Anglais, the Port, and a walking tour in Nice's old town with its flower market and lively pedestrian streets lined with shops and cafes.

Day 4: St. Tropez / Grimaud / Cote De L'estrelle. We travel to St. Tropez to explore the village's narrow streets, Provencal squares and charming old port. Then the local ferry takes us to Port Grimaud (known as "Venice Provencal"), to enjoy a boat ride through its colourful canals. This will be followed by a drive along the coast on "la Corniche d'Or" cut into the red rocks of the Esterel Mountains. The rocky inlets form a beautiful rugged landscape.

Day 5: Grasse / Saint-Paul. Today's excursion begins in Grasse, France's perfume capital, where we will visit a perfumery museum and factory. Then we continue to the medieval village of Tournettes-sur-Loup, which offers splendid vistas over the hills and sea. We travel through the Gorges of the Loup River for more spectacular views en route to Saint-Paul, a quaint 13th century fortified village full of galleries, boutiques and sidewalk cafes. Our walking tour through the winding streets will show us carved fountains, statues and architectural treasures.

Day 6: Eze / Ville Franche-Sur-Mer. Our tour begins in the medieval town of Eze, which offers a beautiful panorama of the French Riviera. Then we travel along the Mediterranean coast to Cap Ferrat, with its luxurious estates and pine groves. Here we visit the sumptuous Ephrussi-de-Rothschild Villa and Gardens. We finish the day in the lovely resort town of Ville Franche-sur-mer.

Day 7: At Leisure in Nice. At leisure to explore. Your Tour Manager will offer suggestions.

Day 8: Monaco / Monte Carlo / Sestri Levante. We travel to Monaco for a guided tour of the city and the beautiful harbour of Monte Carlo. Then we enter Italy and proceed to the delightful little seaside town of Sestri Levante for a 2-night stay. The town is stunningly situated on a narrow peninsula flanked by beaches. One of the bays - Baia delle Favole - is named in honour of Hans Christian Andersen, who visited in the mid-1800s (favole means "fairy tale").

Day 9: Portofino / Santa Margherita. We board the local train for a half day tour to Portofino - a small but perfectly coiffured coastal village adorned with pastel-coloured houses, high-end boutiques and seafood restaurants that fringe its Piazzetta (the small cobbled square overlooking the harbour, lined with super-yachts). A path leads from the Piazzetta to Castello Brown - a 16th-century fortress and museum with art exhibitions and panoramic views of the town and the Ligurian Sea. This afternoon we enjoy a boat ride to Santa Margherita, known for its breezy beach promenade adorned with old aristocratic architecture.

Day 10: Cinque Terre / Viareggio. We travel by coach and train to Cinque Terre - five villages that cling dramatically to the cliffs along the rocky coastline. We first stop in Monterosso - one of the most impressive of the villages. Then we take a short cruise to Vernazza - the truest "fishing village" on the Italian Riviera. After some free time we head for Manarola - a charming and romantic village built on a high rock 70-metres above sea level. Later we continue to the beautiful seaside Tuscan town of Viareggio for our final 4 nights.

Day 11: Florence. We take the local train to Florence for a full day in the "Cradle of the Renaissance". Our first stop will be the Piazzale Michelangelo for the best view over the city. We will continue with a half day guided walking tour of the historic centre to see the multi-coloured marble Cathedral, Signoria Square, the Baptistery and a visit to the Basilica of Santa Croce. Enjoy some free time for lunch and time to explore before returning to Viareggio.

Day 12: Siena and Chianti. A full day tour to the wine country. The medieval city of Siena is famous for its annual Palio horse race but it also happens to be a beautiful city brimming with history. We will visit the Cathedral and see the Piazza del Camp, considered one of the most beautiful squares in the world. After a morning of history it's time to unwind, so we proceed to Chianti for a tasting of the well-known wines of this region.

Day 13: Pisa / Afternoon at Leisure. This morning we visit Pisa by train, and yes, the tower is still leaning. The beauty of the Campo Di Miracoli will amaze you. It includes the Leaning Tower, the Duomo and the Baptistry. After some free time we return to Viareggio for a free afternoon. This evening is our festive Farewell Dinner with entertainment.

Day 14: Home. We fly home via Amsterdam.



Holland and Belgium

2-Centre Holiday in Amsterdam and Antwerp, plus a night in Luxembourg

Holland and Belgium are two of the most popular tourist destinations in Europe, and spring is a wonderful time for strolling through the ancient cities and for seeing the tulip fields and flowers that bloom early.

Holland evokes images of windmills, clogs, canals, diamonds and cheese markets. The capital, Amsterdam, is known as the "Venice of the North" with its miles of canals spanned by hundreds of bridges. It is picturesque, easy to get around and most of the inhabitants speak excellent English. Amsterdam is also an excellent base from which to explore the rest of this compact country. In April, the tulips burst into a blaze of colour that carpets the countryside, so we will visit the spectacular flower displays at the famous Kuekenhof Bulb Gardens. Our other included excursions will show you many other facets of this charming country.

Moving from Holland to Belgium we enjoy the vistas of pastoral landscapes that inspired the great artists of these two countries: Reubens, Van Gogh, Jan Van Eyck

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5997
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa - add \$90
- Halifax - add \$190
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$290
- Montreal or Vancouver - add \$390
- Winnipeg - add \$490

13 DAYS • APRIL 19 - MAY 1

and Rembrandt. We overnight and tour in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg before proceeding to Antwerp, Belgium for a 5-night stay. Antwerp is an ancient city that has stood on the River Schelde for 1,500 years. The old quarter is a wonderful place in which to stroll with its great shopping, a magnificent cathedral and many wonderful cafes and restaurants, once the haunts of famous artists. The city generously displays its heritage in 15 art museums. In addition to our excursions to the historic cities of Brussels and Brugge we will also have time to try the country's famous beer, waffles and chocolate.

We will stay in excellent First Class hotels that are centrally located, so that the exploration of Amsterdam and Antwerp on your free time will be easy and delightful.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Amsterdam.

Day 2: Amsterdam. Upon arrival we transfer to our centrally located hotel. After some leisure time we enjoy an orientation walk, followed by our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Amsterdam and Dutch Countryside. Our sightseeing begins in Dam Square where the Amstel River was dammed in the 13th century giving the city its name. In the shadow of Westerkerk church stands a statue of Anne Frank, the young Jewish diarist. Then in the old city centre we see 17th century townhouses and the Jewish quarter. We then leave the city for the Dutch countryside, and a visit to “Archaic Holland” - the towns of Volendam, Zaanse and Marken. We will see windmills, a fishing village, a traditional cheese farm and a wooden shoe shop.

Day 4: Delft and The Hague. Our first stop will be Delft – the picturesque home of the famous blue and white Delftware pottery. After visiting the Royal Delft Factory we proceed to The Hague – home of the Royal family and seat of government. The UN's International Court of Justice sits in the neo-gothic Peace Palace. Our tour takes us to the city's historic centre with many homes preserved in their 17th century styles. A highlight here will be our guided visit of the masterpieces of the Mauritshuis collection. This world-famous collection includes paintings by Vermeer, Rembrandt, Jan Steen, Rubens, Van Dyck and many other masters.

Day 5: Aalsmeer and Keukenhof. This morning we drive to Aalsmeer to see the spectacular Bloemenveiling Aalsmeer flower auction, where more than 20 million flower and plants are sold every day! Our visit will include the auction and the historical gardens. We then proceed to the gardens of Keukenhof, the world's largest gardens. They are unique in the way nature combines with artificial cultivation to create a garden where millions of bulbs bloom exactly on time each year. During our visit we will enjoy a “whisper” boat tour through portions of the 32 hectares displaying the beautiful bulb fields that surround the park. After a day of awesome blooms we return to Amsterdam.

Day 6: Amsterdam. A day at leisure. It is delightful strolling through the interesting streets, squares and street markets of this compact city. You may wish to visit the Van Gogh Museum which houses a wonderful collection of his work. Optional excursions will be offered. This evening, as a farewell to Amsterdam, we will enjoy the views of the bridges and historic buildings on our Canal Dinner Cruise.

Day 7: Luxembourg. We travel through pastoral scenery, and stop in Maastricht for a short walking tour. Then we proceed to Luxembourg - the world's last remaining *Grand Duchies* and one of the world's most economically prosperous countries.

Day 8: Luxembourg / Antwerp (Belgium). We enjoy a walking tour of Luxembourg - a picturesque city set on several levels with straddling hills and gorges. We will walk through the historic quarters and see the Bock Pomontory, the red sandstone Castle Bridge, the Grand Ducal Palace and more. After some free time we enter Belgium and proceed to Antwerp.

Day 9: Antwerp. Our tour begins in the old quarter with its gabled Flemish architecture and impressive castle. We visit the house in which Rubens was born. The historic heart of the city is Groenplaats Square, dominated by Our Lady's Cathedral and ringed with cafes and restaurants. The afternoon is free to visit one of the many museums or Middleheim Park with its statuary.

Day 10: Brugge. Brugge is a favourite for European tourists - one of the best-preserved medieval cities with a richly ornate medieval town centre that has changed little in the last 5 centuries. On our morning walking tour we see the belfry with its 47-bell carillon, the lace shops in narrow alleys, Belgium's oldest town hall and the Basilica. We will also enjoy a canal cruise so that we may appreciate the city views from a different perspective. With some free time after lunch you can visit the lace parlours, chocolate makers or antique shops.

Day 11: Brussels. We visit Belgium's capital - headquarters to both the European Common Market and NATO. There are graceful avenues, cobbled streets and at the centre is the stunning Grand Place, perhaps the most beautiful square in Europe, with its 15th century Town Hall. The rich guildhouses that line the square are topped with gold figures. The Manikin Pis is a famous statue and the Galleries St. Hubert is Europe's oldest glass-covered shopping arcade. We stroll in Hot Sacre, a picturesque area of narrow streets, and see the Petite Sablon, a square ringed with Gothic columns that support 48 bronze statues commemorating the medieval guilds (trades) of Belgium. We see the Royal Palace, maybe a waffle-making demonstration and perhaps a sample or two.

Day 12: Antwerp. A day at leisure. Getting around is easy so you may want to visit the cultural centre of Ghent, or take an optional tour to visit Waterloo - site of Napoleon's defeat, and Flanders Field where many battles were immortalized. Your Tour Manager will offer advice. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 13: Home. We return to Amsterdam for our flight home.



Scandinavia

Norway, Denmark and Sweden

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with British Airways
- First Class hotels
- Full breakfast daily and 10 dinners
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$7797
- Single Supplement - \$1490
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport to the Montreal airport)
- Vancouver, Winnipeg or Halifax - add \$690
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$890

Scandinavia is one of the most spectacular regions of the world, with a wonderful variety of sights and experiences to discover.

There are beautiful, vibrant cities with cultural and historic interest, majestic fjords, stunning coastlines and scenic countryside. These features, which happen to be in countries with the highest standards of living in the world, make Scandinavia a truly wonderful travel destination.

Our tour begins in Sweden and the welcoming capital city of Stockholm, spread out on 14 islands with Lake Malar on one side and the Baltic Sea on the other. Of course we will tour the city, and also enjoy an excursion to Sigtuna, the old capital of Sweden and now a picturesque town on the shores of Lake Malar.

From Sweden we travel to Norway where our sightseeing will include charming Bergen, a rail journey on the historic Flam Line, a spectacular fjord cruise, and inland to experience Norway's breath-taking mountains, deep valleys, spring waterfalls and clear lakes. In Norway's

14 DAYS • MAY 30 - JUNE 12

capital, Oslo, we will see the important sights and also learn the history of the Vikings and brave Norwegian explorers during our visit of the local museums.

From Oslo we take an overnight ferry to Denmark, the smallest and most continental of the Scandinavian countries, with its cosmopolitan capital city of Copenhagen. Our journey here will take us along the scenic coastline to the North Sealand region - a place of natural beauty as well as the home of Frederiksborg Castle, built by King Christian IV in the 17th century and now housing the National History Museum with its treasure of paintings, tapestries and porcelain. Our city tour of Copenhagen will include the famous Little Mermaid and the picturesque Nyhavn Canal.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Stockholm with a change of planes in London.

Day 2: Stockholm. We arrive in Stockholm and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is free until this evening's Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Stockholm. Stockholm is built on 14 islands connected by 53 bridges, and so this beautiful city is known as the "Venice of the North". On our tour we see the Old Town with its fascinating narrow cobble-stoned alleys, the Royal Palace and the Cathedral. We also visit the impressive City Hall where the annual Nobel Prize festivities take place.

Day 4: Sigtuna / Karlstad. We depart for Sigtuna, once the capital of Sweden and today a picturesque small town situated on the shores of Lake Mälaren. We will have some free time to enjoy the town before continuing to Karlstad for our overnight.

Day 5: Lillehammer / Fagernes. We cross into Norway and visit Lillehammer, home of the 1994 Olympics, to see the impressive ski jump and enjoy a stroll in this charming town. Then we continue to the small town of Fagernes for our overnight.

Day 6: Sognefjord / Flam / Bergen. Today will be a highlight of the tour as we take an incredibly scenic fjord cruise to fairy-tale Flam, situated in the innermost section of Aurlandsfjord - a tributary of the long and deep Sognefjord. After some time to explore the village we will board the historic Flam Railway - one of the steepest standard-gauge railway lines in the world, which will take us up to the high mountain station of Myrdal. Then we continue to Bergen for a 2-night stay.

Day 7: Bergen. Norway's second largest city and capital of fjord country, Bergen sits ideally between the mountains and the sea. Our city tour shows us the Hanseatic timbered houses with pointed gables facing the harbour (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), and Troidhaugen - home of the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg. The afternoon is free to explore the bustling Fish and Flower Market or the famous Bryggen area. You may want to take the funicular to the top of Floyen Mountain for amazing views of Bergen Harbour, North Peninsula and Askoy Island.

Day 8: Hardangervidda / Geilo. We cross the Hardanger Bridge - one of the largest suspension bridges in the world.

Then we drive along the spectacular Hardangervidda - home to one of Norway's largest glaciers, which offers spectacular views of stunning glacial lakes that mirror the blue skies and soaring mountains. Later we arrive at the beautiful mountain region of Geilo.

Day 9: Stave Church / Oslo. We head for Oslo, enjoying en route the alpine region with its spring waterfalls and crystal clear lakes. We will visit the amazing Heddal Stave Church, built in the 13th century and the largest in Norway, before arriving in Oslo.

Day 10: Oslo. Our city tour of the Norwegian capital shows us the Royal Palace, the National Theater, the new Opera House, the Parliament and medieval Akershus Fortress. We will enjoy a pleasant stroll through Frogner Park with its controversial sculptures by Gustav Vigeland and visit the City Hall with its unique murals. The afternoon is free to explore this charming city at your own pace.

Day 11: Oslo / Cruise to Copenhagen. Morning at leisure in Oslo. This afternoon we drive to Bygdoy Peninsula to visit the Viking Ship Museum, and the Fram Museum which tells the incredible stories of Norwegian polar exploration. Our tour ends at the port where we board our overnight ferry to Copenhagen (dinner and breakfast on board, outside cabins). Be up on deck when we depart as we sail past hundreds of small islands.

Day 12: North Sealand / Copenhagen. We arrive in Copenhagen and embark on an excursion through the Danish countryside to visit Frederiksborg Castle. This 17th century castle now houses the National History Museum with its many treasures of art. We continue with a drive around Fredensborg Castle - the Queen's summer residence with its lovely gardens, and then to the coast for a view of the magnificent Kronborg Castle, known as the castle of Shakespeare's Hamlet. Then we return to Copenhagen for our 2-night stay.

Day 13: Copenhagen. On our city tour of lively Copenhagen we see the ancient streets with their countless historic buildings, including Amalienborg Palace, Christiansborg Castle, the Danish Parliament, the Royal Opera House, the Little Mermaid, Gefion Fountain and the Nyhavn Canal with its charming outdoor restaurants. Afternoon at leisure. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 14: Home. We fly home via London.



Swiss Alps and Italian Lakes

This unique tour begins in Switzerland, whose very name conjures up images of snow-capped mountains, majestic peaks reflected in glassy lakes and a countryside filled with picture-book villages and crystal clear air.

The moment we arrive in Zurich, the breathtaking Alps emerge as we travel through the picturesque countryside to the beautiful lakeside town of Lucerne for a 2-night stay.

After our stay in Lucerne we proceed, via touring in Bern and Interlaken, to the welcoming mountain resort town of Villars-sur-Ollon (also known as Villars) for a 5-night stay. We will experience the utmost in Alpine splendour at this traditional resort which is beautifully situated in the heart of the Vaudoise Alps, in view of the peaks of the Dents du Midi and the chain of Mont Blanc, with a sweeping view of the Rhone Valley. While the town has a busy little downtown area, it still retains a sense of coziness and tradition in the true Swiss sense. Villars will be our base for visiting the surrounding region with visits to Montreux, Gruyeres, Vevey, L'Etivaz and Zermatt - home of the mighty Matterhorn!

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Breakfast and dinner daily (wine and coffee with all dinners)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal

Depart May 11 - \$7397

Depart May 20 - \$7497

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- Single Supplement - \$1190
 - Ottawa or Halifax - add \$90
 - Winnipeg, Calgary or Vancouver - add \$190
 - Edmonton - add \$290

16 DAYS • 2 DATES IN SPRING 2023

MAY 11 - 26

MAY 20 - JUNE 4

Next, we traverse the Simplon Pass into Italy for a 7-night stay at Lake Maggiore's most beautiful resort town - Stresa. Bursting with flowers, sprinkled with fine old villas and famous for its lush gardens and mild climate, Stresa has been a holiday resort since the 19th century. On our non-touring days you can enjoy people-watching in the lovely town square, or take the cable car to the top of Monte Mottarone for famous views of distant snowy peaks and all 7 of the major Italian lakes. This idyllic spot is an ideal base for touring the beautiful Italian Lakes area, including the lively city of Milan. This will be a perfect opportunity to experience la vera Italia (the real Italy).

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Zurich, non-stop from Toronto.

Day 2: Zurich / Lake Lucerne. We arrive in Zurich, then proceed to Vitznau where we board a boat and enjoy our first views of the breathtaking Swiss Alps while cruising on Lake Lucerne to our hotel. Tonight we enjoy our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Lucerne. On this morning's walking tour we'll stroll along Lake Lucerne and through the city's Old Town, seeing the Hofkirche Church, the Old Town Hall, Chapel Bridge (the symbol of Lucerne) and the world famous Lion Monument - carved in relief into a sandstone cliff. Afternoon at leisure to explore this beautiful city on your own, or to shop for a Swiss watch or chocolate.

Day 4: Interlaken / Bern / Villars. This full-day tour begins in Interlaken, the main tourist centre of the Bernese Oberland. The town lies between two lakes amid the towering Alps, and so views from the town are spectacular. We will see typical Swiss architecture, several 16th century churches and palatial hotels. We then travel to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bern. We'll stroll in the old town and see the Zeitglockentrum clock tower, Munster Cathedral, the Bear Pits and the historical fountains for which the town is known. We continue on to Villars for a 5-night stay.

Day 5: Montreux / Chateau Chillon / Vevey / Gruyere. We take a tour to Montreux - naturally beautiful and one of Lake Geneva's most popular resorts. The nearby Chillon Castle is built on a rocky islet and has towers that reflect on the lake - very picturesque! The turrets offer fantastic views of Montreux, the lake and the Alps. The castle and its dungeons have been used as a prison over the years (Lord Byron wrote *The Prisoner of Chillon* here, and carved his name in one of the cells). After our castle visit we proceed to the fortified hilltop town of Gruyere in time for lunch and some time to stroll. We visit a cheese factory to learn about the traditional method for making cheese. A cellar visit with wine tasting is included.

Day 6: Zermatt. We board a train for the short ride to Zermatt - a village that lies at the foot of the Matterhorn. This is one of the most photographed mountains in the world, and has been visited by mountaineers from all around the world for centuries! We will tour the historic part of the village and enjoy some leisure time to stroll or to enjoy an optional ride on the cog wheel tram for a better view of the famous mountain.

Days 7 & 8: Villars. At leisure. Your Tour Manager will offer suggestions. There are many walking trails in and around the town, or opt for a train ride through the Alps.

Day 9: Stresa. We traverse the Simplon pass into Italy - a wonderful scenic day. We proceed to Stresa on the shore of Lake Maggiore for a 7-night stay.

Day 10: Stresa. We take a boat trip to Isola Bella to see the magnificent 16th century palace and gardens, built as a wedding gift. The garden features statues, fountains and terraces where peacocks roam among the scented shrubs.

Day 11: Locarno. Today's full day excursion takes us on one of Europe's most scenic railways - the narrow gauge *Centovalli Railway* - which threads its way across "a hundred valleys", past sleepy villages and over deep ravines. The train ends in Locarno, where we will enjoy an orientation tour of the town and then enjoy some free time. Explore the picturesque Old Town, see the beautiful subtropical gardens filled with palm trees and exotic flowers, stroll the lakeside promenades and enjoy the excellent shopping under the arcades of the Piazza Grande. Later we cruise back down the lake to Stresa.

Day 12: Stresa. A day to explore this town and enjoy the beautiful setting here. Relax with a cappuccino at one of the lakeside cafes, or take an excursion to Lake Orta - a quaint, secluded lake with a medieval village on one of its islands.

Day 13: Lake Como Area. A very scenic day as we travel to Lake Como and the area around it - adorned with ancient villages, exquisite villas and beautiful gardens. Our first visit will be to the "the Pearl of Lake Como" - the town of Bellagio, and then the town of Como. Our walking tour of these beguiling towns will take us along cobbled lanes lined with elegant buildings exuding Old World elegance, and through the gardens of one of the many local Villas.

Day 14: Milan. We visit this very modern city, which also boasts the third largest Gothic Cathedral in the world. We see the Galleria, which was the first indoor shopping mall in Europe - a beautiful, elegant area built in the 19th century. This is the place to have a coffee, people watch and shop.

Day 15: Stresa. At leisure in Stresa, an ideal town for strolling. The walking trails around the lake are lovely, as is the shopping! Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Home. We transfer to the Milan airport for our flight back to Canada.



Grand Rail Tour of Switzerland

This unique rail tour transports us through some of the most stunning panoramic routes in the world!

There is no better way to experience Switzerland than by rail. Relax onboard and gaze through the large picture windows as our train climbs and winds its way through the Alps. Sometimes we will ascend to dizzying heights which offer some of the most spectacular views on earth, consisting of crystal clear mountain lakes nestled in pristine wilderness set against towering mountain ranges, and lakeside towns and picture-perfect villages dotting the landscape. To experience this from the comfort of a modern train is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Legendary trains during our tour:

- **Mount Pilatus** - Panoramic gondolas take us to the summit to view 73 mountain peaks of Central Switzerland.
- **Jungfrau Railway** to Kleine Scheidegg - connects to Europe's highest railway station - "Top of the World".
- A chocolate experience aboard the **Belle Epoque's fin de siecle coaches**.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Breakfast and dinner daily, 2 lunches. Wine/beer, water & coffee with dinners.
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$9797
-
- Single Supplement - \$1390
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$190

14 DAYS • MAY 25 - JUNE 7

- **Bernina Express** - This UNESCO Heritage line from St. Moritz to Tirano passes over an incredible 196 bridges, with its journey finishing in Lugano.
- **Panoramic Express** (part of the *Golden Pass Line*) - From Lucerne we travel through Interlaken to Montreux, passing lakes, pastures, waterfalls and quaint chalets trimmed with flowerboxes, all nestled in picturesque valleys surrounded by jagged, snow-topped peaks. This is the quintessential Swiss experience.
- **Glacier Express** - Perhaps the most popular route. Beginning in Zermatt and ending in St. Moritz, it takes us through mountain landscapes (including the mighty Matterhorn), deep gorges, 91 tunnels and across 291 bridges. The highest point of the trip is crossing the Oberalp Pass - over 6600 feet above sea level!

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We board our direct flight for Zurich.

Day 2: Zurich / Lucerne. We arrive in Zurich and transfer to the town of Vitznau, situated on Lake Lucerne. From here we enjoy breathtaking views of the lake and surrounding mountains as we cruise to our hotel in Lucerne - our home for the next 3 nights. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Lucerne. A guided walking tour takes us through the city's Old Town. We'll see the Hofkirche Church, wooden covered Chapel Bridge (the symbol of Lucerne) and the famous Lion Monument (carved into a sandstone cliff), followed by a visit of the interactive Swiss Museum of Transport. After some free time to explore, we'll enjoy a wonderful Swiss dinner.

Day 4: Mount Pilatus / Lucerne. We board an aerial cableway and panoramic gondola, to reach the summit of Mount Pilatus. Known as the "Dragon Ride", the cockpit-like cabin of the gondola has windows extending to the floor and provides breathtaking views in every direction.

Day 5: Golden Pass Train / Brienz / Panoramic Express / Interlaken. Our scenic train ride on the *Golden Pass Line* and the *Panoramic Express* train takes us via the Bruenig Pass to Interlaken through the heart of the Swiss Alps. Our first stop is Brienz, set in the midst of towering mountains, for some free time. Then we cruise along the turquoise-coloured Lake Brienz to Interlaken, where we'll board a steam mountain railway that whisks us up 5000 feet for fabulous views of the deep blue lakes below and snow-capped mountains in the distance, including one of Europe's highest mountains – the Jungfrau!

Day 6: Jungfrau Railway / Interlaken. We board the *Jungfrau Railway* and cable car to Kleine Scheidegg - home to Europe's highest mountain, Jungfraujoch. We first take the *Bernese Oberland Railway* to Grindelwald, where we'll board the new *Eiger Express*, (a tri-cable aerial cableway) and ascend in 15 minutes. This state-of-the-art cabin takes us close to the north face of the Eiger at 1800 metres, so the views are breathtaking. To descend, we take a combination of the *Wengernalp* and *Bernese Oberland Railway* to return to Interlaken.

Day 7: Golden Pass / Montreux. The elegant *Golden Train* takes us from Interlaken to the shores of Lake Geneva. We'll travel along Lake Thun and through the scenic Simme Valley to Zweisimmen, where we board the *Golden Pass Panoramic* to Montreux. We arrive in Montreux for a 2-night stay on the chic, palm-studded Swiss Riviera.

Day 8: Chillon Castle / Montreux. Our walking tour will include a visit of Chateaux Chillon. Located on a rock on the banks of Lake Geneva, this water-castle is Switzerland's most visited historic building. For 400 years it was the residence of the

Counts of Savoy, as well as where Lord Byron was imprisoned when he wrote "The Prisoner of Chillon" (his name is carved into his cell wall!) Afternoon at leisure. You may want to visit the museum dedicated to the rock group Queen!

Day 9: Chocolate Train / La Gruyere / Broc / Visp (Zermatt). We board the stunning *Belle Époque* Coaches to experience the *Chocolate Train* en route to La Gruyere, where we will have some free time and enjoy a typical fondue lunch at a local chalet! Then we continue to Broc, home to the famous chocolate factory - Cailler, where we'll learn about chocolate production and taste some of the finest offerings. Later we'll proceed by train to the pretty town of Visp, in the Zermatt area (known as the 'Sun Terrace of Switzerland'), for a 2-night stay.

Day 10: Zermatt / Visp. A short train ride takes us to Zermatt for a casual walking tour of this quaint village, with the rest of the day at leisure. The air here is clear and clean because only electric cars are allowed to operate in the village. You may wish to climb to Gornergrat on Europe's highest open air cogwheel train. The train crosses impressive bridges and goes through tunnels with views of the majestic Matterhorn - the most photographed mountain in the world.

Day 11: Glacier Express Train / Chur. We travel aboard *The Glacier Express* (perhaps the most famous railway in the world) to Chur. The train meanders through untouched pristine mountain landscapes, deep gorges, breathtaking valleys, through 91 tunnels and across 291 impressive bridges!

Day 12: Bernina Express / St. Moritz / Lugano. We board the *Bernina Express* for a truly spectacular rail journey. This 100-year-old heritage line has earned UNESCO World Heritage status for its ingenious engineering and the striking beauty of the scenery it winds through. We travel past craggy mountain peaks, high-alpine landscape, cascading waterfalls and the Morteratsch Glacier. From the highest point, the train begins its dramatic descent via the famous Brusio spiral viaduct to the valley floor at Tirano. The rest of the journey continues on the *Bernina Express* bus to Lugano, capturing the southern scenery of the Valtellina valley, and along Lake Como and Lake Lugano.

Day 13: Lugano. Lugano is a little taste of Italy in Switzerland, with an incredibly mild climate and a beautiful lake front. On our guided walking tour we'll see magnificent architecture as we walk the lovely narrow streets of the old city and along the lake shore. We'll visit the restored Romanesque St. Lawrence Cathedral that overlooks the town and take a short cruise to the town of Morcote - considered to be Switzerland's most beautiful village. Our Farewell Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant.

Day 14: Home. We fly home, direct from Milan to Canada.



HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Icelandair (direct between Toronto and Reykjavik)
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Breakfast buffet and dinner daily
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$8497
.....
- Single Supplement - \$1290
- Ottawa or Montreal - add \$490
- Winnipeg or Halifax - add \$690
- Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$890
- * Western passengers - for an additional \$99 p.p. double occupancy (\$189 single) you may choose to overnight in Toronto before or after the tour.

Iceland

Land of Fire and Ice

Iceland was the last European country to be settled when it was discovered by the British and Scandinavians more than 1,000 years ago.

Today it is a very modern society with a high standard of living and education. The Icelanders have preserved much of their Norse and Celtic heritage and most of them speak English. They are very friendly and helpful to visitors.

The very name "Iceland" evokes an image of vast ice and snow fields but in fact it has a remarkably moderate climate with fjords, glaciers, active volcanoes, black lava fields, red sulphur, hot blue geysers, white rivers, waterfalls and deep green valleys, all with a backdrop of mountains, ice-capped ranges and towering cliffs. The inland features areas of volcanic formations, geysers, hot springs and lakes while the coastline is richly indented with bays.

11 DAYS • MAY 19 - 29

On this unique tour we explore the wild beauty of the island. Our sightseeing will include a boat cruise on Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon, the spectacular Eastern Fjords, the charming "capital of the north" - Akureyri, Lake Myvatn National Park - surrounded by lava fields and renowned for its bird life, and the world famous Blue Lagoon where you will have an opportunity to soak in the thermal waters.

There are few countries in the world that can compare to Iceland's dramatic landscapes, flora and fauna. This photographer and naturalist paradise must be experienced first hand.

** This tour is suitable only for the fit and active traveller.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart on our overnight flight to Reykjavik.

Day 2: Borgarnes. We arrive in Reykjavik, which means "Smoky Bay" due to the wisps of steam rising from its geothermal springs. After arrival we transfer to the Viking World Museum for a buffet breakfast and time to visit the exhibition. We then head north to our hotel in Borgarnes, en route stopping to visit incredible Hraunfossar Waterfall - hundreds of meters wide, this is one of Iceland's most beautiful attractions. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3: Akureyri. We begin our ring tour and our first stop will be the 3000-year-old Grábrók Volcano. Grábrók is the biggest crater of three along this volcanic crack. Next we visit an Icelandic Horse farm to learn about this breed of horse that has remained unchanged since its introduction by the Viking's over 1100 years ago. Tonight we stay in Akureyri, the "capital of the north".

Day 4: Godafoss / Lake Myvatn. This morning we will have time to explore the town of Akureyri before we head to Godafoss - "Waterfalls of the Gods" - one of the most spectacular in Iceland. We then visit Grenjastadur Turf House to see the best preserved turf houses and discover the way of life of Icelanders before the 1900s. Then we continue to Laxardals Hydro Power Station for a brief talk and view stop where we will learn the importance of renewable energy, before proceeding to our hotel in Lake Myvatn for a 2-night stay.

Day 5: Lake Myvatn / Nature Baths. Today we explore the amazing natural attractions of this unique area including Dimmugorgir (Dark Castles - towering lava formations), and the bubbling sulfur mudpots of Viti Crater and Krafla which mark the continental divide between the North American and Eurasian Tectonic Plates. After our touring this afternoon we have time to soak in the soothing mineral waters at the Myvatn Nature Baths.

Day 6: Egilsstaðir. We continue east on the ring road to Dettifoss - the largest waterfall in Europe. Next is Modrudalur - the most isolated farm in Iceland, from where we will enjoy a spectacular view of Herdubreid,

fondly referred to as the "Queen of all Mountains in Iceland". We then visit the Wilderness Centre in Egilsstaðir for a true feel of how harsh the lifestyle was in Iceland in previous centuries, before arriving at our hotel.

Day 7: Glacial Lagoon / Skaftafell. We travel along the east coast, with its towering mountains and sheer rock faces plunging into the sea to form Iceland's spectacular East Fjords. We will stop at Petra's Stone Collection, perhaps the world's greatest stone collection. This unusual assortment of thousands of stones is located in Petra's home and spread out over her large garden. After our visit we drive to the heights of Almannaskard Pass past Lonsoraefi, a mountainous wilderness ringed by extinct volcanoes. At Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon we embark on a boat cruise to see up close where huge icebergs have broken off the ever-shifting mass of Breidamerkurjökull Glacier and float in the lagoon. We overnight in Skaftafell.

Day 8: Vik. At Skaftafell National Park we take a walk to get up close to the glacier itself. After travelling through Eldhraun - the largest mass of lava ever to flow on earth - we cross the volcanic sand desert of Myrdalssand until we reach Vik for our overnight.

Day 9: Reykjavik. This morning we visit the Lava Centre - Iceland's newest attraction and one of the world's best exhibitions of seismic and volcanic activity. We will make a stop at Gullfoss ("Golden Waterfall") before continuing to the geothermal region of Haukadalur to see the Strokkur Geyser which erupts every 7 minutes. Our last visit is Pingvellir National Park, where the ancient parliament of the country was established in 930AD, before we arrive in Reykjavik for our last 2 nights.

Day 10: Reykjavik. During our city tour of the capital we will see the old town centre, the Parliament, the Cathedral, the harbour and the National Museum. The afternoon is at leisure. Tonight we enjoy our Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 11: Blue Lagoon / Home. We visit the famous Blue Lagoon for an opportunity to bathe in the mineral-rich geothermal pools, before proceeding to the airport for our flight home.



Magic of Eastern Europe

• Budapest • Vienna • Prague

On this outstanding tour we will visit historic cities, fairytale medieval villages, Gothic castles and famous monuments in three of Europe's oldest countries.

We begin in the Golden City of Prague - the ancient capital of Bohemia and the best-preserved Baroque city in Central Europe. Built on seven hills and spanning the Vltava River, the city is small enough for a good walker to see most of the major sights, including its beautifully preserved Old Town, massive castle, statue-lined bridge, famous city squares and evocative Jewish Quarter, while enjoying the city's love of music and perhaps the best beer in Europe. In the Czech Republic we'll also visit the UNESCO World Heritage City of Cesky Krumlov - a fairytale town with Renaissance and Baroque architecture.

Next is Vienna - one of Europe's most elegant and historic cities. Vienna boasts opulent buildings, impressive museums and the musical traditions of its famous Opera, Choirs and Orchestras. Vienna's cultural legacy was shaped by its residents like Mozart, Beethoven, Gustave Klimt and Sigmund Freud. Of course the elegant shops that line the great avenues add to its captivating charm.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with KLM and Air France
- First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast daily, 10 dinners (with wine) and 3 lunches.
- Concert at the Schonbrunn Palace
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$6197
.....
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Calgary - add \$590. Halifax - add \$690
Add-ons below include an overnight in Toronto on the way home.
- Winnipeg - add \$790. Edmonton - add \$990

14 DAYS • 2 DATES IN SPRING 2023

MAY 14 - 27

MAY 21 - JUNE 3

We finish off in Hungary's architecturally stunning capital - Budapest. With over 1000 years of history, Budapest today is perhaps the most exciting commercial, cultural and entertainment centre in Eastern Europe. Majestic bridges span across the Danube River joining "Buda's" medieval grandeur with "Pest's" magnificent 19th century buildings, grand boulevards, beautiful Opera house as well as Europe's oldest and 2nd largest Parliament building. The city is abundant with lively pedestrian streets, squares and cafes and boasts numerous museums, art galleries and Spas - earning its moniker of "Spa City". While in Budapest, we will stay in a lovely Spa hotel!

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Prague, via Amsterdam.

Day 2: Prague. We arrive in Prague and transfer to our centrally located hotel. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Prague. Our coach and walking tour will show us the stunning sights of the Hradcany Castle district, with a visit to the majestic St. Vitus Cathedral, the Loretto Chapel and “The Golden Lane” - named after the goldsmiths who lived here in the 17th century. Some of the alchemists attempted to turn metal into gold here!

Day 4: Prague. We continue our guided walking tour with a stroll across the Charles Bridge to Lesser Town’s winding narrow streets, where we see the artisan houses, small 17th century palaces, the Jewish Ghetto and the famous astronomical clock. We will enjoy a 1-hour river cruise through the historic district, then an afternoon at leisure.

Day 5: Prague. At leisure in the Golden City. Prague is a very pleasant and lively city in which to stroll, so you may want to revisit Little Town and some of the quaint shops (best buys are crystal and garnet jewelry). Enjoy a coffee (and people watching) in Old Town Square. After dinner, why not visit one of the local pubs to enjoy the famous dark ales brewed here.

Day 6: Cesky Krumlov / Vienna. We depart Prague and drive to the UNESCO World Heritage city of Cesky Krumlov. This picture postcard, beautiful fortified medieval town is surrounded by unspoiled countryside. Our walking tour will take us through the historic centre of narrow cobblestone streets winding along romantic nooks abundant with lively shops, cafes, and museums. Lunch is included. After our tour we will proceed to Vienna for a 4-night stay.

Day 7: Vienna. Our city tour of Vienna captures the true elegance and magnificence of the “Ringstrasse” lined with palatial and extravagant buildings like the Opera House, Hofburg and more, built when Vienna was the capital of the Austro-Hungarian empire. We visit the Schonbrunn Palace with its 440 rooms and lavish interiors. It is here in the Grand Gallery that Mozart gave his first royal concert. This evening we will dine at the Palace followed by a concert performance of the works of Mozart and Strauss in the Palace Orangery.

Day 8: Vienna. Our tour of the lovely Vienna Woods includes visits of the 12th century Cistercian Abbey and the former Imperial hunting lodge at Mayerling. Before returning to Vienna we enjoy a special dinner with musical entertainment and wine at one of Vienna's famous wine villages.

Day 9: Vienna. A day of leisure. The city planning of “The Ringstrasse” makes it easy for exploring. You may want to visit the Spanish Riding School to catch a Lipizzaner horses training session, or maybe venture to the countryside blanketed with vineyards and quaint villages including the opulent Melk Abbey. Vienna is known for its coffee culture, so stop to enjoy coffee and a taste of Sacher Torte!

Day 10: Bratislava / Gyor / Budapest. En route to Budapest we stop in two charming cities: Bratislava (capital of Slovakia), and the old Hungarian city of Gyor - the “City of Waters”. We will have walking tours of both cities, through their quaint pedestrian Old Town centres abundant with statues, old city squares and 18th century pastel-coloured buildings. Later we arrive at our spa hotel in Budapest.

Day 11: Budapest. Our city tour begins on the Pest side at the magnificent Heroes’ Square - an epic display of the history of the Magyars! A drive down the Grand Boulevard takes us past the magnificent Opera House, the House of Parliaments, the Jewish Quarter (with the world’s 2nd largest synagogue) and more. We’ll stroll through the lively pedestrian streets to the “Great Market Hall” and enjoy an included “food tasting” lunch! Later we cross over to Buda to the top of Gellert Hill with its bird’s eye view over the Danube River and city. We finish in the Castle District, home to the Royal Palace, where we visit the famous Mathias Church and Fisherman’s Bastion. Tonight we enjoy a typical Hungarian dinner and folklore show.

Day 12: Danube Tour / Budapest. We drive along the Danube into Hungary’s countryside and the Baroque, artisan village of Szentendre - an 18th century town with cobblestone streets, hidden alleys and colourful old houses. It is a perfect town in which to stroll and visit some of the many galleries and shops. A tour and tasting awaits us at the Marzipan Museum, featuring sculptures made of Marzipan! Lunch is included in Visegrad, a town with a 13th century fortified fortress that has housed many notorious visitors (and according to one legend, even “Dracula” was imprisoned in its tower!)

Day 13: Budapest. At leisure. At our thermal spa hotel you have free access to most of its facilities including the thermal baths, steam rooms and reasonably priced treatments. You may also want to attend one of the many musical events the city is famous for. This evening we enjoy our romantic Farewell Dinner Cruise along the majestic Danube illuminated by breathtaking architectural masterpieces!

Day 14: Home. We fly home, via Paris.



Croatia and Slovenia

From Dubrovnik to Venice

We begin this unique tour with 3 nights in the Jewel of the Adriatic - Dubrovnik - a UNESCO World Heritage Site and certainly one of the most beautiful cities in Europe.

Then we will discover the medieval architecture, tranquil lakes, quaint villages and local charm as we visit some of Croatia's other port towns such as Zadar, Trogir and Split. In the historic city of Mostar in Bosnia / Herzegovina we'll absorb the Turkish atmosphere and see the famous old bridge. We'll explore Plitvice National Park - a lush valley where waterfalls cascade down sheer cliffs connecting pristine lakes and then the vibrant capital city of Zagreb - the country's economic, intellectual and cultural centre.

We then travel into Slovenia - a country of stunning natural beauty with snow-capped peaks, turquoise-green rivers and a Venetian style coastline. Our touring here will include, Ljubljana - winner of the European Green Capital award, the impressive caves of Postojna, the emerald-green resort town of Lake Bled and many scenic drives.

We finish off in the romantic city of Venice. With its marvellous canals, beautiful architecture and Byzantine atmosphere, Venice never fails to enchant its visitors.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada & Austrian Airlines
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily, and 3 lunches (lunches and several dinners at local restaurants)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$5997
-
- Single supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax - add \$190
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$290

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN SPRING 2023

APRIL 23 - MAY 7

MAY 7 - 21

Tour Highlights:

- The beautiful old port city of Dubrovnik
- Region of Konavle and mountain village of Gruda
- The defensive walls of Ston
- Mostar's famous historic bridge
- Seaside town of Split
- Trogir - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Plitvice National Park
- Funicular ride to Zagreb's Upper Town
- Ljubljana, Slovenia's charming capital city
- Boat ride on Lake Bled
- Postojna's incredible Karst cave system
- The island city of Venice

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart with Air Canada for Dubrovnik, via Vienna.

Day 2: Dubrovnik (Croatia). We arrive in Dubrovnik and transfer to our hotel. The remainder of the day is free.

Day 3: Dubrovnik. Our city tour of Dubrovnik shows us the city walls and fortifications, the Rector's Palace, set-piece churches and public buildings that blend seamlessly with green-shuttered stone houses, and Europe's oldest apothecary in the Franciscan Monastery. Later we travel by coach to the region of Konavle with a stop at the little mountain village of Gruda to see the mills and enjoy a tasting of local ham, cheese and grappa. This evening is our welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 4: Dubrovnik. At leisure to return to the old city or take a boat ride along the coast. An optional tour will be offered to Montenegro.

Day 5: Ston / Mostar. We travel to Mostar, en route visiting the village of Ston with its impressive series of defensive walls which once surrounded and protected the city. Upon arrival in Mostar a guided tour of the city will show us the beautiful old town, the famous old bridge and the Turkish section, including a visit of a Turkish home and the Mosque.

Day 6: Split. We head back to the coast and enjoy a scenic drive to the energetic town of Split, the second-largest city in Croatia with the perfect balance of tradition and modernity.

Day 7: Split. Our tour of Split features the historic inner city - the biggest in Dalmatia, built around a Roman Palace. We see the remnants of Split's Roman heritage, its Gothic structures, Jupiter's Temple and the Peristyle. We'll also visit the caves of the Diocletian's Palace. The afternoon is at leisure to explore this popular seaside town's dozens of cafes, restaurants and shops.

Day 8: Trogir / Zadar. We visit the UNESCO Heritage Site of Trogir Island - a Croatian artistic centre. Scholars from all over the world gather to study and paint here, and you

will see why. We continue to Zadar where our tour shows us the harbour, the historical center, the Romanic marks and the pre-Romanic church of Saint Donat.

Day 9: Plitvice Lakes / Zagreb. We depart for Plitvice Lakes National Park, a lush valley with 16 terraced lakes strung together by countless cascading waterfalls and miles of pleasant paths and wooden bridges. Our visit here will include a boat ride on the still waters of Kozjak Lake and an electric train around the park. Lunch will be included at the park today. At the end of our park visit, we continue to Zagreb, Croatia's capital.

Day 10: Zagreb. Our city tour will include a funicular ride to the Upper Town where a complex of churches, palaces, museums, government buildings and galleries has retained much of its old-world charm.

Day 11: Ljubljana (Slovenia). We continue to Slovenia's medieval capital, Ljubljana. Our city tour will include a funicular ride to Ljubljana castle for a panoramic view of the old town and red-roofed houses. The afternoon is at leisure to stroll the old town with its small shops, outdoor cafes and charming restaurants.

Day 12: Lake Bled / Ljubljana. Today's tour at emerald-green Lake Bled includes a visit of Bled Castle, which stands on a cliff above the lake with spectacular views, and a "pletna" boat ride to the island where you can ring the bell at St. Mary's Church for good luck.

Day 13: Postojna Caves / Venice (Jesolo). We travel to Postojna to visit the incredible Karst cave system. A minitrain takes us through this fantastic underground world of beautiful stalactites and stalagmites. We continue toward Venice and our hotel in nearby Jesolo.

Day 14: Venice (Jesolo). A boat ride will take us to the island of Venice for a guided tour of this magical city. We will see St. Mark's Square, the Bridge of Sighs, the Doge's Palace and more. In the afternoon we will enjoy some time at leisure to explore before we return to the mainland. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We fly home to Canada.



Grand Tour of Portugal

Once a powerful seafaring kingdom that dominated the merchant routes to Africa, South America and the Orient, Portugal today is a relaxed country bountiful in natural beauty, historic monuments and fascinating culture.

Add to this the nation's love of gastronomy and wine, and the legendary Portuguese hospitality, and you will see why it is the ideal holiday destination.

Tour Highlights:

- The lively historic capital city of Lisbon.
- The Algarve - Portugal's finest beaches and coastline, including the capital city of Faro.
- Moorish fishing village of Olhão and the lively market.
- The historic seaside port of Lagos.
- The golden-stoned university town of Evora, with its Roman temple, Moorish alleys and medieval walls.
- Alentejo's expansive rural landscape and wine region.
- The picturesque "white" hilltop town of Monsaraz.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast daily, 11 dinners and 2 lunches (including a special farm lunch). Wine and coffee served with all dinners and lunches.
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal - \$5297
-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Halifax - add \$90
- Winnipeg - add \$190
- Vancouver, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$390

15 DAYS • MAY 2 - 16

- Guimaraes - said to be where "Portugal was born" with a beautiful historic centre, castle and palace.
- Serra da Estrela Mountains - Portugal's highest range, dotted with remote villages.
- Romantic Oporto - Portugal's 2nd largest city.
- The stunning Douro River Valley with steeply terraced vineyards for producing Portugal's famous Port wine.
- Aveiro - the "Portugese Venice" with its charming canals and colourful boats.
- Coimbra - one of Portugal's oldest cities.
- Sintra - a picturesque hilltop retreat surrounded by opulent palaces and country estates.

**Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Lisbon, direct from Toronto.

Day 2: Lisbon. We arrive in Lisbon and before transferring to our hotel we will have a short orientation tour of this lively capital city. The afternoon is free until this evening's Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Sintra / Cabo Da Roca / Cascais / Lisbon. We begin with a visit of the National Palace of Queluz - a wonderful example of Rococo architecture surrounded by beautiful gardens. We continue to Sintra for some leisure time to discover the village before continuing with a scenic drive along Cabo da Roca, passing popular Guincho Beach and Boca do Inferno ("Hell's Mouth") - a chasm in the seaside cliffs near the fishing port of Cascais.

Day 4: Obidos / Coimbra. We depart for the walled city of Obidos with its whitewashed houses and flower displays. After a walking tour there we continue to Coimbra - Portugal's medieval capital and site of the country's finest university for the past 500 years. We will see the old town, the main cathedral, the famous arch of Almedina and Santa Clara-A-Nova Monastery with its spectacular view over the city. We overnight in Coimbra.

Day 5: Sanglhos / Aveiro / Oporto. We travel to Sanglhos to visit the Underground Museum where wine and brandy age together with a unique art collection. We will enjoy a special lunch at the museum before we proceed to Aveiro - known as the "Portuguese Venice" due to its colourful gondola-shaped boats, natural lagoons, elegant 19th Century architecture and traditional cobblestone passageways. We will see the old fish market and enjoy a scenic cruise during which we will taste the heavenly "Ovos Moles" - the local sweet delicacy. We then continue to the Oporto region for a 3-night stay.

Day 6: Oporto. Oporto is the country's second-largest city, dramatically situated at the mouth of the Rio Douro, rich in medieval relics, soaring bell towers, extravagant baroque churches and stately beaux-arts buildings all piled on top of one another. Our city tour will include São Francisco Church, the Stock Exchange Palace and a stroll through the historic Ribeira quarter - a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We finish with a lovely cruise along the river to enjoy the city from a different vantage point.

Day 7: Guimarães / Wine Region / Oporto. Today we visit Guimarães to discover the old town and view the impressive castle. We continue to the Avela vineyards in Penafiel for an introduction to the famous regional "Vinho Verde" (green wine), to see the production process and of course enjoy a taste.

Day 8: Douro Valley / Viseu. A scenic day as we travel through the beautiful Douro Valley where Portugal's famous port wine is produced. We'll see quiet towns and villages, vineyards and clifftop castles, and learn about port wine production as we visit a regional farm. We will also visit the magnificent gardens at the Palacio de Mateus - depicted on the label of the famous Mateus wine bottles. Then we continue to the historic town of Viseu set high on a mountain plateau, for our overnight.

Day 9: Serra da Estrela Mountains / Castelo De Vide / Evora. As we cross the Tagus River valley we enjoy spectacular views of the Serra da Estrela Mountains, and stop at the Castelo de Vide to wander the narrow alleys and the town's Jewish quarter. We then continue to Evora in the heart of the Alentejo region for a 2-night stay.

Day 10: Monsaraz / Evora. Evora is one of Portugal's most beautifully preserved medieval towns. Our walking tour will show us the 14th century walls, winding lanes, charming squares, the elaborate Cathedral, Roman temple and the Ossuary Chapel. After a wine tasting at a traditional wine cellar we continue to the fairy-tale walled village of Monsaraz which has preserved its distinctive centuries-old characteristics. After a walk back in time through the narrow streets we return to Evora.

Day 11: Beja / Lagos / Ponta Da Piedade / Albufeira. We depart for Beja in the Alentejo region for some time to discover the town before continuing to Ponta da Piedade, known for its rugged sandstone cliffs and rock pinnacles. We will also visit the resort town of Lagos before we proceed to the resort town of Albufeira for a 2-night stay.

Day 12: Olhão / Faro / Albufeira. Today we visit the typical Moorish fishing village of Olhão where we will see the lively fruit and vegetable market, then on to Faro - Algarve's capital, where we will visit the old walled town and the Cathedral.

Day 13: Setubal / Arrabida / Lisbon. We first stop at the important fisherman's port of Setubal, before proceeding through the picturesque Arrabida Mountains to Lisbon, for a 2-night stay.

Day 14: Lisbon. Our tour of Lisbon will show us the historic district of Alfama, the Belem district with its magnificent monuments, Jeronimos Monastery, the Monument of the Discoveries and the Belem Tower. After a visit of the Monastery we will enjoy a tasting of the famous Belém custard tart. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We fly home, direct to Toronto.



Magical Islands of Greece

• Athens • Mykonos • Crete • Santorini

The charm of the Greek Islands has fascinated visitors for many years. On this tour we start in Athens, with its historical treasures, vibrant culture and celebrated monuments (out of Athens we also enjoy a day cruise and an excursion to classical Delphi). Then we visit three of the most popular islands in Greece.

Mykonos is a delightful port with winding cobblestoned streets, white washed houses and picturesque churches. Its famous windmills look glorious against the backdrop of the blue Aegean Sea and sandy beaches. The shops and cafes are on the waterfront. Sit a while in a taverna, sip the local Ouzo and watch the sunset ... heaven!

Santorini is known for its high cliffs, black volcanic sand beaches and spectacular landscapes formed by centuries of volcanic activity. The main town of Fira sits atop a cliff edge which plunges almost 900 ft. to the sea. The island's cafes and shops line the streets of the town, and the white houses with distinctive blue doors spread down to the long, black beaches. From the west end of town there are stunning views of the harbour, coastline and the

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Deluxe and First Class hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily, 4 lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6797
- Single Supplement - \$1590
- Montreal - add \$190
- Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg, or Vancouver - add \$390
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$590

15 DAYS • APRIL 25 - MAY 9

neighboring islands. One of the great pleasures is to wander the cobblestone streets, browse through the craft shops and arrive at the western edge of town to watch the sun bathe the harbour and sea in a magenta glow. Mules are used as transport to and from the harbour.

Crete is the largest Greek island, and its attractions are many - mosques, monasteries, gorges, grottoes, beaches and wonderful mountain scenery. The walled capital city of Heraklion is just 3 miles from the restored ruins of the 5,000 year old Minoan Palace of Knossos, believed to be the site of the mythical labyrinth of King Minos. Heraklion also has one of the finest archaeological museums in Greece. There are coastal fishing communities and rustic farming settlements in the hills. This diversity makes for an interesting and lively stay.

** Those joining any of our European tours must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Athens.

Day 2: Athens. We arrive in Athens and transfer to our hotel, located in the heart of Athens within walking distance of The Plaka - the oldest section of Athens with churches, shops, cafes and ruins of ancient temples. It is a safe and delightful area to explore.

Day 3: Athens. On our full day tour of Athens we see wonders known around the world - Hadrian's Arch, the Temple of Zeus, the Stadium, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the former Royal Palace and the government buildings. The highlight will be the Acropolis and Parthenon. Lunch will be at a typical taverna.

Day 4: Delphi / Athens. Our full day tour to Delphi begins with a drive into the mountains for a visit to Arahova, known for its colourful rugs and carpets. We then proceed to Delphi, once known as the centre of the world. Here we visit the temple of the Greek God Apollo, a beautiful site which evokes the classical past of this area. Those who wish may climb to the top of the theatre for incredible views of the countryside.

Day 5: Cruise / Athens. We cruise to the Saronic Islands via Aegina, a busy port in antiquity and today a tranquil resort. We continue on to Paros where we will enjoy a stroll by its enchanting little harbour, and then the quaint, colourful harbour of Hydra. Lunch is included. We return to Athens for our overnight.

Day 6: Crete. We fly to Crete and transfer to our hotel. The remainder of the day is at your leisure.

Day 7: Crete. Today's excursion will include a visit to the Palace of Knossos - the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete that has been named Europe's oldest city at various points in history. We then visit the town of Heraklion and the Archaeological Museum, showcasing the most notable and complete collection of artifacts of the Minoan civilization of Crete.

Day 8: Crete. Today we will enjoy a full day tour of the countryside which will take us past vineyards and olive groves to Gortys - the old Greek and Roman town with ruins of Saint Titus Church. Then on to Phaestos for a visit of the Minoan Palace and for the beautiful view over the Messara Plain and Ida Mountain.

Day 9: Santorini. We ferry over to the dramatic island of Santorini and transfer to our hotel.

Day 10: Santorini. At leisure to explore the town at your own pace. See the Orthodox Cathedral, now a Byzantine museum, and marvel at the dazzling white houses topped with blue domes.

Day 11: Mykonos. We ferry to Mykonos for a 3-night stay. Enjoy the facilities of our resort hotel and beach, stroll into the quaint village or perhaps take the local bus to explore the small churches, chapels, glittering white houses, arcades and narrow streets.

Day 12: Mykonos. This morning we will have an orientation of Mykonos, including the beautiful esplanade lined with cafes and outdoor terraces overlooking the busy harbour.

Day 13: Mykonos. Our tour today takes us to the island of Delos - birthplace of the legendary Gods Apollo and Artemis. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Delos is one of the most important mythological, historical, and archaeological sites in Greece.

Day 14: Athens. We fly to Athens for some time at leisure to further explore the Plaka or revisit one or more of the many attractions. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Glorious Greece

with a Greek Island Cruise

- 4 night cruise including 3 shore excursions
- Athens • Classical Coach Tour • 3 nights Mykonos

Home of mythological gods and archaeological delights, Greece has delighted visitors for decades. It may be the history, mild climate and magnificent scenery that attracts you, but it's the friendly people who will make you want to return.

Our holiday begins and ends in the vibrant capital city of Athens, known for its fantastic museums and archaeological sites. Our touring will show us the Acropolis and Parthenon, as well as beautiful Cape Sounion. There will also be ample time at leisure to enjoy the many museums, cafes and shopping in "The Plaka".

After our initial stay in Athens we will embark on a 4-day "Classical Coach Tour" taking in the major historic sites of Delphi, Kalambaka, Nafplion, Mycenae and Meteora. Next, we enjoy three nights on the island of Mykonos, considered one of the most beautiful and popular islands in Greece, with its trademark windmills, glittering white houses, cobblestoned streets and lively atmosphere.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels (moderate hotels while on the coach tour)
- First Class cruise, including unlimited alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily, plus 3 lunches during the cruise
- 3 shore excursions during the cruise
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$7197
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- Single Supplement - \$1390
- Montreal or Halifax - add \$190
- Ottawa, Vancouver or Winnipeg - add \$390
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$690

15 DAYS • MAY 12 - 26

A highlight of our tour will be our 4-night Greek Island cruise aboard one of the ships in the *Celestyal Cruises* fleet. These are smaller and less formal ships, ideal for cruising around the islands yet more than well equipped for your comfort. *Celestyal* ships have welcoming public rooms, bars and lounges, casino, movie theatre, library, boutiques and plenty of deck space. The entertainment program includes shows, special events and music and dancing nightly. Dining on board is a treat, as the team of expert chefs are eager to please with their wide array of international specialties. Unlimited alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages are included and available all day. For this cruise we have all outside cabins that are bright and comfortable, with climate control, music channel, phone and bathroom (shower only). A special feature of our program is that we have included shore excursions on 3 of the most interesting and beautiful islands.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Athens, direct from Toronto.

Day 2: Athens. We arrive in Athens and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is free until our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Athens. On our city tour we will see Hadrian's Arch, the Stadium, Temple of Zeus and the former Royal Palace. The highlight will be the Acropolis and the incredible Parthenon. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure to explore the Plaka or revisit one of the many attractions.

Day 4: Meteora / Kalambaka. Our Classical Coach Tour begins with the striking scenery of Meteora - its ageless monasteries perched atop massive rocks that appear to be suspended in mid-air. We will see exquisite Byzantine art before continuing to Kalambaka, located at the foot of an amazing rock complex.

Day 5: Delphi. We proceed through the mountains to Delphi, once known as the "centre of the world" and home to The Oracle - an area rich in archaeological treasures and mythology. We will see the Treasure of Athenians, site of The Oracle, the Theatre and the Stadium.

Day 6: Olympia. Today we will enjoy the scenic drive along the picturesque coastline of Corinth Bay, with views of the Peloponnese Mountains in the distance. After a photo stop at Rio-Antirrio Bridge we continue to Olympia where we visit the Temple of Zeus and Hera, the Stadium, the museum featuring Hermes of Praxiteles and the site of the first Olympic Games held in 776 BC.

Day 7: Mycenae / Nafplion / Epidauros / Athens. We travel to Mycenae, and visit the Lion's Gate, the Cyclopean Walls and the Royal Tombs. Then we continue to the seaside town of Nafplion for a brief visit before proceeding to Epidauros to see the ancient theatre - famous for its astonishing acoustics. Later we return to Athens for our overnight.

Day 8: Mykonos. We take the ferry to Mykonos for our 3-night stay. Afternoon at leisure.

Days 9 and 10: Mykonos. Two free days to enjoy our resort hotel, stroll along the beach or explore the village's small churches and shops along the cobblestone streets. The island's landmark windmills are everywhere and the esplanade along the small harbour is lined with quaint cafes and outdoor patios.

Day 11: Mykonos / Cruising. This afternoon we will enjoy a tour of Mykonos, before embarking on our 4-day cruise.

Day 12: Cruising / Kusadasi / Patmos. We cruise to Kusadasi (Turkey), a resort town on the Turkish Riviera. Our included excursion will be to the incredible white-marble ruins at Ephesus, once the capital of the Roman province of Asia. Here the Temple of Diana was counted among the Seven Wonders of the World, and St. Paul wrote his most profound epistles here. A white marble avenue (the Arcadian Way) stretches through the city, with ruins of once great buildings such as the Library of Celsius and the Temple of Hadrian. The ancient public latrines provide some humour! We then sail to the "Holy Island" of Patmos - once an important Christian pilgrimage site. You may join an optional excursion or explore on your own.

Day 13: Cruising / Rhodes. Our included excursion begins with a walking tour of the old walled city of Rhodes with its medieval buildings, winding alleys, towers, turrets and the impressive Grand Master's Palace. A highlight is the Street of the Knights - residences of the Knights of Rhodes.

Day 14: Cruising / Crete / Santorini. We begin the day on Crete - the largest Greek island and home of the 4,000 year-old Minoan Empire. On our included excursion we discover the proud Venetian heritage of Heraklion - the Koules Fortress (overlooking the Heraklion harbour), the Venetian Loggia (the 17th century social center), the harmonious Morozini Fountain and the 10th century Church of St. Titus. We then visit the wonderful open-air museum of the Palace of Knossos, considered Europe's oldest city, and discover the incredible world of the legendary Minoan civilization.

We then cruise to Santorini, noted for its dramatic volcanic landscapes with sheer black cliffs surrounding a fantastic cauldron-shape bay. The island is easy to explore on foot, or you may take an optional excursion to picturesque Oia Village, en route taking in the breathtaking views of the Aegean Sea. There will be time to explore the village with its cobblestone streets and blue shuttered white washed houses.

Day 15: Depart for Home. We disembark our ship and transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Highlights of Turkey

With unique historical and archaeological sites, breathtaking natural beauty, religious and cultural diversity, and a welcoming tradition of hospitality, Turkey is one of world's most fascinating destinations.

This comprehensive tour begins in Istanbul where we will see the domed mosques, minarets and palaces, followed by the energetic, modern capital city of Ankara with its tree-lined avenues. Then we journey to the rock churches of Cappadocia and the incredible Goreme Valley.

We then proceed to experience the thermal springs and amazing white cliff waterfalls of Pamukkale. Next is perhaps the main highlight of the tour - Ephesus, the world's best-preserved ancient city. After some time at leisure at the picturesque seaside resort of Kusadasi, we visit the city of Bursa - famous for its Ottoman architecture and enticing silk markets.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with British Airways
- First Class hotels
- Continental buffet breakfast & dinner daily
- Visa arrangements and fees
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$5797

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- Single Supplement - \$1190
 - Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
 - Vancouver - add \$590
 - Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
 - Calgary or Edmonton - add \$890

16 DAYS • APRIL 25 - MAY 10

Tour Highlights:

- Exotic Istanbul and its Grand Bazaar
- Cruise along the impressive Bosphorus Straits
- Mystical Whirling Dervish performance
- Ankara - the capital city of Turkey
- The Cappadocia region
- Konya - home of the Whirling Dervishes
- Pamukkale with its cascades of white travertine
- The seaside resort of Kusadasi
- Ephesus - the world's grandest and best-preserved ancient city
- Historic Bursa - a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Istanbul, via London.

Day 2: Istanbul. We arrive in Istanbul and transfer to our hotel. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Istanbul. Our full day tour starts at the magnificent Byzantine church of St. Sophia, one of the first and largest architectural works of art in the world; then on to the famous Suleyman's Mosque and the beautiful Blue Mosque. We also see Topkapi Palace - a former imperial residence from where the great Ottoman sultans once ruled. We finish with a visit to the Grand Bazaar.

Day 4: Istanbul / Bosphorous Cruise / Whirling Dervish. This morning we cruise the unforgettable Bosphorus. We pass by palaces, churches, villages, old wooden houses, mansions and modern villas. In the afternoon we visit the Asian side of Istanbul via the two bridges that link the east to the west. This evening we enjoy a "Whirling Dervish" performance, which is both a form of entertainment and a spiritual journey.

Day 5: Ankara. Our morning drive will take us through the Bolu Mountains to Ankara - capital city of Turkey. Our tour of Ankara will include the Mausoleum of Ataturk (the founder of modern Turkey) and the Museum of Anatolian Civilization, considered the best in Turkey.

Day 6: Cappadocea. We depart this morning for the unique Cappadocea region. In the afternoon we visit the Goreme Valley, also known as the Petrified Valley, where the wind and rain have eroded the volcanic soil into a spectacular, bizarre landscape of rock cones, capped pinnacles and deep ravines. This area is also famous for its rock churches.

Day 7: Cappadocea. Our tour of this fascinating area features ancient excavated towns, troglodyte villages and breathtaking scenery. This area, a UNESCO world heritage site, has changed little over time - with locals travelling between villages in horse-drawn carts.

Day 8: Konya. Konya, scenically situated high on a plateau, has long been a centre of the Muslim faith. The Whirling Dervishes were actually founded here in the 11th century. We visit the mausoleum of Mevlana, founder of the sect.

Day 9: Pamukkale. Appearing at first as an enormous, chalky white cliff, as we approach Pamukkale it takes on

the appearance of a cotton castle. This thermal spring has attracted the weary and the curious for over 2000 years. We spend time at the mineral pools for those who wish to try the healthy warm waters. We also visit the holy city of Hierapolis - a spa and religious centre since Roman times.

Day 10: Kusadasi. We travel across a highland plateau rich in farms to Aphrodisas, one of the most important artistic sites. See the beautiful Temple of Aphrodite - goddess of love. Later we arrive at the picturesque seaside resort of Kusadasi, where we spend the next 4 nights.

Day 11: Kusadasi. A day of leisure to explore. The town centre has an interesting waterfront, modern shopping, colourful bazaars and several interesting teahouses.

Day 12: Ephesus. This morning we visit Ephesus, once the capital of the Roman's province of Asia. Here the Temple of Diana was counted among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. St. Paul wrote his most profound epistles here. A white marble avenue known as the Arcadian Way stretches through the city with ruins of great buildings such as the Library of Celsius, the Temple of Hadrian and the public latrines! Finally we see the house of the Virgin Mary where it is believed she spent her last years.

Day 13: Kusadasi. We take an excursion to Miletus and Didyma, where we see the beautiful Great Theatre - a remarkably intact 25,000 seat amphitheatre, the Roman baths and gymnasium. We continue to the Temple of Apollo - one of antiquity's most sacred places.

Day 14: Bursa. Today we drive to this famous town known for its spa and silk markets. It was here that Ottoman architecture bloomed. The minarets above the 125 mosques make for a grand skyline. One of Turkey's more prosperous cities, it is a pleasing mix of old stone buildings and wealthy suburbs with vintage wood-frame Ottoman villas. Bursa is called the Green City, both for the green tiles that decorate some of its most famous monuments and for its parks and gardens.

Day 15: Istanbul. We return to Istanbul. The afternoon is free to explore or revisit the Grand Bazaar for last minute purchases. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Home. We return to Canada, via London.



Walking in Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia is one of Canada's most popular walking destinations. This guided walking tour features the stunning Atlantic shoreline with its many picturesque lighthouses, the rugged Bay of Fundy, beautiful seaside towns, and the gentle beaches of the South Shore. We will also experience the legendary Nova Scotian hospitality while lodging in charming inns.

Expect a mix of easy but long walks, and coastal hikes with some tricky, rock-hopping footing. There are a few one or two hour van transfers between some inns and trailheads. The hiking is on a mix of easy wilderness trails, quiet paved roads, and more challenging footpaths, parts of which can get soft when wet.

Tour Highlights:

- Maritime culture!
- Stay in Lunenburg – a UNESCO World Heritage Site with a beautiful harbour and amazing architecture, shipbuilding and fishing heritage.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast daily, 6 lunches and 4 dinners
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal - \$5197
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- Single Supplement - \$790
- Winnipeg, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$690
- Vancouver - add \$790 (includes an overnight in Toronto en route to Halifax)

7 DAYS • JULY 17 - 23

- Fabulous coastal views at Peggy's Cove, Cape Split, Gaff Point, and Mahone Bay to Lunenburg.
- World's highest tides on the north coast, with approachable beaches on the south.
- Stay in Wolfville – a university town with bistros, breweries, and small town charm.
- Annapolis Valley wineries and orchards.
- Lighthouse Route – myriad empty white sand beaches, hidden coves, boat-builders, small villages, and art and antique shops.
- Great seafood.

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to walk up to 14 km in a day.*

Day 1: Departure / Halifax / Hubbards (walking 9km). We fly to Halifax, and upon arrival we transfer to Sambro. As we drive along the Halifax Harbour shore we'll appreciate the appeal of settling at the 2nd deepest natural harbour in the world. Sambro Island lighthouse is the oldest operating lighthouse in the Americas, built in 1758. The trail to Pennant Point begins with boardwalks along three white sand beaches. This trail along the point provides spectacular shorescapes with waves crashing against the white granite rocks of the Nova Scotia coastline. We finish with a short transfer to our charming inn, followed by a delicious Welcome Dinner.

Day 2: Peggy's Cove / Hubbards (walking up to 10km). We begin today's coastal walk at the Flight 111 memorial - an astoundingly beautiful setting. Our morning walk will be enhanced as we approach the iconic Peggy's Cove - whose picturesque lighthouse in its idyllic location has graced picture postcards of Nova Scotia for decades. After lunch in Peggy's Cove, we can enjoy a relaxing coastal walk with stops on grassy outcrops overlooking the rocks and reefs of the open Atlantic coast.

Day 3: Mahone Bay / Lunenburg (walking up to 14km). From Mahone Bay to Lunenburg, the coastal roads are so quiet that we will use them as our waterside walking route, with sheltered inlets, beaches, and idyllic rural scapes. We will enjoy all of them, enjoy a picnic on Second Peninsula, then proceed to Lunenburg in time to explore the wonders that make this tiny but bustling town a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day 4: Gaff Point / Wolfville (hike 7km, and walk 7km). We begin with a short transfer to a beach and headland hike on Gaff Point, which consists of of impressive shale cliffs, conifer forest and juniper heaths. We will see evidence of the recent ice age, in the form of glacial erratics and drumlins. Through collaborations with the Nature Conservancy and a community group, it has been made possible to conserve species, sites and habitats forever, and minimize damage caused by human disturbance, while still allowing the public to access this beautiful point hike. Afterwards, we transfer across the province on rural roads, to the site of the Acadian Expulsion in 1755. After we visit the site, we'll walk the Harvest Moon Trailway to our inn in the beautifully quaint university town of Wolfville.

Day 5: Cape Split / Wolfville (walk / hike 14km). Today's treat is a five-hour hike along the perimeter of Cape Split, where we can wander along the precipices hundreds of feet above the Bay of Fundy, seeing waters transformed by strong tides into a tapestry of eddies, whirlpools, and white-water currents. We'll enjoy a delicious picnic lunch overlooking the expansive views of sea and sky before savouring the hike back to civilization.

Day 6: Acadian Dykes / Halifax (walk 7km). From our inn, we hike along the Acadian-built dykes to Port Williams. The dykes were created by Acadian farmers in the 1700s, as they reclaimed fertile marshlands from the ravages of the Fundy tides. After the Acadian expulsion, the Planters recognized the value of the Acadians' work, and perpetuated their preservation through legislation. We will learn more about this amazing history during this hike. After lunch, there may be time for a swim before transferring back to Halifax. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 7: Home. We bid a warm farewell to our Nova Scotia friends, and fly home with Air Canada.



Walking in South Wales and the Cotswolds plus London

On this exciting tour we will walk through impressive countryside and picturesque villages led by experienced, expert hiking guides.

Each day there will be a choice of 3 different levels of walks, each designed for the avid walker. The gentle walks will range from 5 - 6 kms with ascents of up to 150m. More challenging walks will also be offered daily for those interested.

The first 7 nights will be in the Cotswolds town of Bourton-on-the-Water (voted one of England's prettiest towns), where gentle hills, picture-postcard villages and tempting tea shops combine to make this quintessentially English countryside perfect for walking. Here we will stay at the *Harrington House*, which retains many of its stunning original Georgian features - the most breathtaking is the sunny walled garden with a landscape of green rolling hills and timeless golden stone villages in the background.

We will spend the following 3 nights in Brecon (Wales) - a quaint market town at the foot of the Brecon Beacons - an area of sweeping high moorland and beautiful green valleys. Our hotel, the historic *Nythfa House*, is a charming country house on the edge of Brecon within easy

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class country house hotels, and a First Class hotel in London
- Full English breakfast and dinner daily (except for one dinner while in London), and 8 picnic lunches
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax or Vancouver - \$6597
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- Single Supplement - \$990
- Calgary - add \$190
- Edmonton - add \$590

14 DAYS • JUNE 8 - 21

reach of the Brecon Beacons National Park and many fine walking areas - a location is perfect for walkers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Our final 2 nights will be at a centrally located hotel in 'everyone's favorite city', London.

Tour Highlights:

- Walking the stunning Cotswolds countryside with green rolling hills criss-crossed by countless footpaths
- Bath - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Stratford-upon-Avon, including Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Distillery
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- London

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete a minimum of 6 km of walking.*

Walks described are the easier option. More challenging walks will also be offered each day.

Day 1: Depart. We depart for London

Day 2: Bourton-on-the Water. We arrive in London and transfer to our country house hotel in the centre of Bourton-on-the Water. On our guided walking over the next few days we'll discover glorious golden stone villages with thatched cottages, mansions, pastoral countryside and quiet country lanes. This evening is our Welcome Briefing and Dinner.

Day 3: Salmonsbury Camp and The Windrush Valley (Walk 7km with 40m ascent). We start our walk today leaving from Harrington House, we follow footpaths from Bourton exploring the area directly to the south and on the return we follow the Diamond Way. At the end of your walk there is plenty of time to explore Bourton-on-the-Water. Enjoy a pint in one of the pubs, visit the shops, or find a bench beside the River Windrush and soak up this charming rural village.

Day 4: Fish Hill to Broadway (Walk 5km with 40m ascent). Starting at Fish Hill we follow the Cotswold Way with time to visit Broadway Tower. Then we descend to spend time exploring Broadway. Broadway Tower was the brainchild of the great 18th Century landscape designer, Capability Brown. His vision was carried out for the Earl of Coventry and was completed in 1798.

Day 5: Stratford-upon-Avon. We spend the day in Shakespeare country! We start at Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall, where Shakespeare spent his schooldays, discovered theatre and was educated and inspired to become the world's greatest playwright! We will have a walking tour of the town, and end at *Judith's* (the home of Shakespeare's daughter) where we learn about the history and production of gin, ending with a tasting of course.

Day 6: Chedworth Roman Villa (Walk 7km with 180m ascent). We start this walk by exploring the beautiful 12th century church of Hampnett, with its astonishingly ornate patterns of mock-medieval stencilling. We then follow the Macmillan Way to the small rural parish of Yanworth. Finally we arrive at the Roman Villa at Chedworth.

Day 7: Hailes Abbey to Sudeley Castle (Walk 4.5km with 60m ascent). We explore Hailes Abbey before walking to

Winchcombe. We enjoy the views of the heritage steam railway before arriving at Sudeley Castle. Steeped in history, the castle was home (and now the burial place) of Queen Catherine Parr - one of Henry VIII's many wives.

Day 8: Lower Slaughter (Walk 5km with 60m ascent). We finish our time in the Cotswolds with a circular walk from Harrington House to the charming village of Lower Slaughter - one of England's most photographed villages. The twin villages of Upper and Lower Slaughter are just a couple of miles' walk from Bourton-on-the-Water.

Day 9: Brecon, Wales. We depart the Cotswolds and make our way to Brecon, arriving at our country house hotel, Nythfa House, for a 3-night stay. The hotel is surrounded by hidden coves, breathtaking scenery and some of the best walks in Wales.

Day 10: Black Mountains and Crickhowell. (Walk 6km with 60m ascent). We take a circular walk around the lovely town of Crickhowell. After crossing the picturesque Usk bridge, we follow the canal passing the village of Llangattock, then return to explore Crickhowell with its shops, cafes and art galleries featuring local artists.

Day 11: Western Beacons - Craig-y-Nos Country Park (Walk 7km with 160m ascent). We begin walking in the village of Penycae in the upper Swansea Valley and pass Craig-y-Nos - a 19th century castle once owned by opera diva Dame Adelina Patti. We walk around the Country Park with its lake and tea room before continuing up the valley to Dan-yr-Ogof, with an optional visit to some of the most spectacular show caves in Europe. Watch for the many impressive species of ornamental trees.

Day 12: Bath / London. Enroute to London we stop in Bath for some free time to explore this UNESCO World Heritage City, famous for its beautiful architecture, Roman Baths and fascinating history which has attracted visitors for centuries. Later we arrive at our central London hotel.

Day 13: London. A free day in London to visit or revisit some of the countless attractions. At our Farewell Dinner we will raise a glass to say 'Cheers' for this memorable walking tour.

Day 14: Home. Air Canada takes us home.



Walking the Southdown Way and the Isle of Wight

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class country house hotels, and a First Class hotel in Lyndhurst
- Full English breakfast and dinner daily, and 9 picnic lunches
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, Calgary or Vancouver - \$6797
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Edmonton or Winnipeg - add \$590

On this exciting new tour we will walk through impressive countryside and picturesque villages led by experienced, expert hiking guides.

Each day you may choose from 3 levels of walks. The easier walks will cover about 10km/day, with ascents of up to 240m.

Our first 7 nights will be in Abingworth, set out along the rolling hills and magnificent chalk cliffs of the South Downs. This wildlife-rich chalk downland is a colourful tapestry of historic villages, thatched cottages, pastoral landscapes of sweeping cornfields and market towns.

Our next 4 nights are on the Isle of Wight - a designated Area of Outstanding National Beauty. A world away from the hustle and bustle of the mainland, the island's glorious 85-mile coastline boasts unspoiled sandy beaches and dramatic white cliffs.

Our final 2 nights will be in Lyndhurst, known as the capital of the New Forest since William the Conqueror established it as a royal hunting ground in 1079. Lyndhurst has been a favourite holiday destination for kings and queens throughout the centuries.

15 DAYS • APRIL 27 - MAY 11

Tour Highlights:

- Breathtaking views of the iconic chalk cliffs / Beachy Head and the Seven Sisters
- 17th century Petworth Mansion
- Osborne House - former home of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert
- Isle of Wight's famous Needles
- The thatched village of Godshill
- Quintessential romantic castle, Carisbrooke
- Award winning National Motor Museum and Beaulieu House
- The enchanting New Forest

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete at least 6.5km of walking per day.*

Walks described are the easier option. More challenging walks will also be offered each day.

Day 1: Depart. We depart for London

Day 2: Abingworth. Upon arrival we transfer to Abingworth for our 7-night stay. Our hotel, *Abingworth Hall*, is situated near the village of Thakeham at the foot of the South Downs (there has been a house on this site since the 13th century). It is surrounded by 8 acres of gardens including a putting green, croquet lawn and a heated outdoor pool. The hotel is tailored for walkers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Day 3: Pulborough To Abingworth Hall / RSPB Visitor Centre And Wiggonholt (Walk 6.5km with 80m ascent). Enjoy the hamlets and woodland around Wiggonholt as we take a gentle walk back to *Abingworth Hall*. We will spend time around the RSPB Centre and see what kind of birds can be spotted before strolling through Wiggonholt Common, stopping to admire the tiny church built during the Saxo-Norman overlap.

Day 4: The Iconic Seven Sisters / Hope Gap (Walk 6.5km with 100m ascent). From the Seven Sister's Visitor Centre in the former medieval settlement of Exceat, we walk through the Seaford Head Nature Reserve to reach the chalk headland at Hope Gap. From here we walk to the coastguard cottages which provide the classic view of the Seven Sisters. We continue on along the 'Vanguard Way' back to Exceat.

Day 5: At Leisure. After the past few days of walking on the South Downs, we will welcome a day at leisure. Relax in the hotel's large gardens by the lovely pond, try your hand at croquet, practice on the putting green, swim some lengths of the heated outdoor pool, relax in the light-filled conservatory with its great garden views, or retire to the Drawing Room with its wood-panelled walls, log burner and library of books.

Day 6: The Glorious Goodwood Estate / Singleton To West Dean (Walk 6.5km with 170m ascent). We walk along the Monarch's Way to West Dean Gardens. This gentle walk offers stunning views, and an abundance of flora in the gardens at the end. The views from The Trundle are amazing - gaze down on Goodwood Racecourse and the cathedral city of Chichester.

Day 7: Through Cowdray Park To Petworth (walk 6.5km with 150m ascent). From Halfway Bridge we walk through fields and woodland to Petworth, enjoying this beautiful, historic corner of Sussex. We stop at The National Trust's Petworth House - a true English gem - with grounds landscaped by Capability Brown.

Day 8: Scenic South Downs (Walk 6.5km with 80m ascent). Starting from Washington, a town with Saxon origins, we marvel at the inspiring landscape of the South Downs as we descend to Steyning - well known as one of the most

picturesque towns in Sussex. Highlights are the Tudor style, half-timbered houses, fine Georgian town houses and Norman carvings in St Andrew's Church.

Day 9: Isle of Wight. We proceed to Portsmouth, and board the ferry to the Isle of Wight - England's largest island. We visit Osbourne House - Queen Victoria's palatial holiday home. We'll see Victoria and Albert's private apartments, their bathing beach and children's cottage for an intimate glimpse of royal family life. We'll stroll through the garden terraces, where the stunning views across the Solent reminded Prince Albert of the Bay of Naples. We'll spend 4 nights at Freshwater Bay House.

Day 10: Shorwell And Carisbrooke Castle (Walk 4.5km with 100m ascent). We follow the Shepherd's Trail around Carisbrooke, along an ancient trackway to Carisbrooke Castle. As we explore this well-preserved castle, don't forget to walk around the walls and see the donkey-powered well.

Day 11: Walks Through The Undercliff / Bonchurch to the Botanical Garden (Walk 5km with 80m ascent). Our walk begins with a visit of the old village of Bonchurch, known to be inhabited in prehistoric times. Many well-known literary figures have lived here, including Tennyson, Dickens and Thackeray. We then walk the promenade before reaching the classic Victorian seaside resort of Ventnor, where we take the coastal path past Steephill Cove on our way to the botanic gardens at Ventnor.

Day 12: The Yar Valley (Walk 5.5km with 60m ascent). We walk beside the tidal River Yar to the historic town of Yarmouth. The pier here is the UK's longest wooden pier, stretching 185 metres into the Solent. We'll explore the cobbled streets and quaint shops and cafes, before returning to our hotel.

Day 13: The New Forest. We sail from Yarmouth to Lymington, one of the towns in the New Forest, and visit Beaulieu Palace House - once the gatehouse of the medieval Beaulieu Abbey. This has been the Montagu family home since 1538. The grounds also house the National Motor Museum - one of the finest collections of historic cars, motorcycles, and motoring memorabilia on the world. Later we arrive in the village of Lyndhurst where we spend our final 2 nights.

Day 14: The New Forest at Leisure. The New Forest is England's smallest National Park. Visitors love the peaceful atmosphere, idyllic glades, ancient woodland and open moors, with ponies, cattle and sheep roaming free. Lyndhurst has many independent shops, tea rooms and pubs. Tonight is our Farewell dinner.

Day 15: Home. Air Canada takes us home.



Walking in Provence and the French Riviera

This walking tour in Southern France showcases the unspoiled parts of Provence and the French Riviera.

Discover picturesque hilltop villages, spectacular landscape of the Southern Alps and Mediterranean Sea and gorgeous architecture, complemented by delicious freshly prepared local cuisine and wines. Designed for the avid walker (and moderate hiker), each day we will enjoy walks ranging from 5 - 12 km with ascents of 100m – 400m, led by experienced hiking guides on good paths (which are sometimes rocky underfoot).

We begin in Provence with 5 nights in charming Gréoux-Bains - an ancient Roman town with thermal baths. Our hotel is the *Villa Borghese*, a member of the prestigious Château Demeures de Tradition group. The hotel has beautiful grounds, a spa, an outdoor heated swimming pool shaded by century old oak trees and a restaurant renowned for the quality of its regional cuisine.

We spend the next 5 nights in the Riviera's best kept secret - Menton, known throughout the country as "The Pearl of France". Menton's old town with its pastel-coloured buildings, fragrant lemon trees and pristine beachfront is a delight. Situated at the base of the Alps, the town is a hiker's paradise. We will stay at the lovingly

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 1 day - lunch instead of dinner). Wine and coffee with all dinners.
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver - \$7297
- Single supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$890

12 DAYS • APRIL 14 - 25

restored *Hotel Royal Westminster* - a 19th century Belle Epoque style palace located directly on the seafront promenade (all of our rooms are seaview!)

Tour Highlights:

- Explore dramatic clifftop villages described as the most beautiful in France
- Visits of Simiane-La-Rotonde Castle & Banon village
- Visits of Salagon's Abbey and Forcalquier Market
- Visit of Eze Exotic Garden
- Walking tour of Menton
- Explore the Murrès Plateau, the Provencal Colorado in Rustrel and Verdon Gorge - Europe's largest canyon
- Guided visit of Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild
- An excursion to Italy's beloved Liguria region, with a typical Italian lunch and guided visit of Dolceacqua

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete up to 11 km of walking on varied terrain.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Marseille via Paris.

Day 2: Gréoux-Les-Bains. We arrive in Marseille and transfer to Gréoux-les-Bains for a 5-night stay. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner in France.

Day 3: Rustrel / Simiane-la-Rotonde / Banon (Walk 5km with 150m ascent). We travel to Rustrel, known for its amazing ochre cliffs and small canyons which gave the village the nickname the “Provencal Colorado”. On our walk we will see an incredible succession of rust-coloured rocks, golden cliffs and red earthen chimneys which rise majestically out of the vegetation. Then we visit Simiane-la-Rotonde, listed as one of the most beautiful villages of Provence. Simiane is a place where Mediterranean and Alpine influences meet. We will enjoy a visit of the medieval castle and free time to wander the charming streets of the village. Our last stop will be in the quaint village of Banon, renowned for its goat cheeses. We will sample some specialties at a goat cheese factory.

Day 4: Moustiers Sainte Marie (Walk 6km with 110m ascent OR 10km with 350m ascent). We walk along the ridge above the Moustiers-Ste-Marie, listed as one of the Most Beautiful Villages of France. The town has ancient gates, medieval architecture, pottery shops and a gorgeous location at the base of rocky cliffs. Enjoy the breathtaking views of the Provencal Alps and Lake Sainte Croix as we walk on the old Roman path down towards the village.

Day 5: Forcalquier / Mourres Plateau / Abbey of Salagon (Walk 7km with 200m ascent OR 11km with 400m ascent). We begin at the picturesque hilltop town of Forcalquier - home to one of the largest and liveliest Provencal markets. We will explore the market, then visit a typical olive mill and take in the gorgeous views over the Luberon landscape. Then we proceed with our walk on the Mourres Plateau. where mushroom shaped formations resemble human faces - a true geological wonder! We finish the day with a visit of the Abbey of Salagon - a peaceful 13th century priory with lovely theme gardens.

Day 6: Verdon Gorge (Walk 8km with 150m ascent OR 12km with 250m ascent). We head to the village of Quinson for a scenic walk along the lower Verdon Gorges. The walkway follows an old canal previously used to carry drinking water to Aix-en-Provence. The views of the turquoise waters of the Canal are wonderful. We return to Gréoux where the rest of the day will be at leisure.

Day 7: Menton. We proceed to sunny Menton for a 5-night stay. On our walking tour of this delightful seaside resort we see the lovely pastel-coloured architecture, the old town, the cemetery where many prominent 19th century English and Russian figures are buried and the wonderful views of the surrounding countryside.

Day 8: Menton. At leisure in Menton to explore this exquisite town, enjoy a swim in the Mediterranean Sea, visit the museum dedicated to the artist Jean Cocteau, or nearby towns like Monaco or Nice.

Day 9: La Turbie / Eze (Walk 5km with 100m ascent OR 10km with 300m ascent). Our walk begins in La Turbie. Overlooking the Principality of Monaco, this small town resembles a balcony hanging over the Mediterranean and seems to float in the sky. The tall Trophee d'Auguste built 2,000 years ago for the glory of Emperor Augustus is impressive while the rest of the town, with its medieval vaulted passageways, bell tower and baroque fountains is enchanting. Then walk on the trail towards Eze - a fine 14th century village built on a hill. We'll enjoy a visit of the exotic garden and magnificent views over the coast.

Day 10: Italy / Dolceacqua / Aprical. We cross into Italy for a beautiful day of sightseeing. We first discover the beautifully preserved medieval town of Dolceacqua located in the Lugarian Hills. The town enchant visitors with its scenic bridges and small houses that circle the Castello dei Doria. French painter Claude Monet immortalized the town in one of his famous paintings. We will enjoy a typical Italian lunch at a local restaurant featuring fresh locally grown food. Later we visit the perched village of Aprical - surrounded by forested hills it is on the list of the 'Most Beautiful Villages in Italy'. Dinner is on our own this evening.

Day 11: Cap Ferrat / Villa Ephrussi (Walk 11km with 150m ascent). Our last walk is on the picturesque hiking path along the rocky seaside from Beaulieu and around the main peninsula of Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat. We pass magnificent villas and see how unspoiled Cap Ferrat has remained. We conclude our walk with a visit of the Villa Ephrussi - home of the Rothschild family. The villa's opulent furnishings, garden with musical dancing fountains and views of the Mediterranean are breathtaking — a wonderful way to end our walking journey! Tonight enjoy a farewell cocktail followed by dinner.

Day 12: Home. We fly back to Canada via Paris.



Walking and Sightseeing in Sardinia

Italy's Mediterranean jewel, Sardinia, is known for its pristine waters, the variety of its coastlines, hidden coves and breathtaking landscapes and seascapes.

However there is much more to this island that has made it one of Europe's most popular holiday destinations.

Aside from the bluest of blue seas, and the whitest of sandy beaches, the island has impressive mountain ranges, with views stretching as far as the horizon, and wide plains covered in wild flowers in the springtime.

Sardinia is also known for its hospitality, and despite the recent growth of tourism in recent years, it has retained its wild, unspoiled beauty. Visitors know they will enjoy a completely authentic experience when they visit.

On this 3-Centre walking holiday we will enjoy a stay in the picturesque seaside resort towns of Palau, Alghero and Cagliari, from which we will discover the island's intriguing history and archaeological sites, its hilltop villages, wonderful natural reserves and unique wildlife, while walking along picturesque coastal paths and forested trails. There will be options on most days to choose between longer and shorter walks.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class hotels
- Full breakfast daily, 8 dinners (with wine & coffee) and 1 lunch
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$7397
-
- Single supplement - \$990
- Montreal - add \$190
- Ottawa - add \$350 (with round-trip transport. to the Montreal airport)
- Vancouver - add \$590
- Winnipeg or Halifax - add \$690
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$890

13 DAYS • APRIL 14 - 26

Tour Highlights

- The village of San Pantaleo and the breathtaking landscapes of the Costa Esmeralda
- Giant's Tombs Coddu Ecchiu and Barumini Nuraghe
- Trek in the famous Moon Valley
- Punta Giglio promontory with lunch in Agriturismo
- Walking tour of the beautiful walled city of Alghero
- Cap of Capo Caccia and the Neptune Caves
- Argentiera Mines and visit a wine cellar with tasting
- Walking tour of Cagliari and its medieval quarter
- Giara Plateau - home to Sardinia's little wild horses
- Sette Fratelli Park and WWF Park Monte Arcosu

* *Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete up to 10 km of walking on varied terrain.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Sardinia via Paris.

Day 2: Olbia / Palau. We arrive and transfer to our hotel in Palau for a 3-night stay. The rest of the day is free until our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: San Pantaleo / Palau (Walk 3km with 175m ascent). For our first walk, we take in the idyllic town and surroundings of San Pantaleo, nestled between imposing granite mountains, set above the famous Costa Smeralda. This rustic town was on the Roman road that led from Olbia to Santa Teresa di Gallura, and to the ports of the Gulf of Asinara. There will be time to explore the town with its bohemian vibe, artsy shops and cafes. This afternoon we'll discover the fascinating Giant's Tombs Coddu Ecchiu - a Sardinian megalithic gallery grave built during the Bronze Age.

Day 4: Moon Valley / Palau (Walk 7km or 13km with 180m ascent). We head towards Aggius for a trek in the famous Moon Valley, a quiet place located inland, far from the main roads. The landscape includes mountains and plateaus of various shapes, colossal granite boulders and jagged granite peaks. In the afternoon we'll visit the town of Tempio Pausania before returning to the hotel.

Day 5: Costa Paradiso / Castelsardo / Alghero (Walk 8km with 220m ascent or 12 km with 400m ascent). We travel to Costa Paradiso, and walk on a trail rich in the colours and scents of Mediterranean maquis, with nearby pink granite walls. The path runs by enchanting hidden coves with crystal clear waters, beautiful white sand beaches and offers amazing panoramic views. We continue by coach to Castelsardo to visit this town perched on a plateau facing the sea, and then to one of Sardinia's most beautiful medieval cities - Alghero, our home for the next four nights.

Day 6: Punta Giglio / Agriturismo / Alghero (Walk 8km with 180m ascent). We visit the natural oasis of Punta Giglio - a limestone promontory which encloses the Bay of Porto Conte. This area, which boasts numerous lily plants in the springtime, is a Marine Protected Area. Because of its strategic position, it was an important anti-aircraft base during WWII, and structures like barracks, anti-aircraft platforms and arms storage still exist (built of local limestone and camouflaged from the view from the sea). After a tasty lunch at a local farm, we'll head back to Alghero for our walking tour. We'll discover its old centre with narrow cobblestoned lanes, impressive Gothic buildings and many coral shops. This evening we are free to discover the many restaurant options in this town.

Day 7: Capo Caccia / Neptune Caves / Alghero. (Walk 7km with 280m ascent or 13 km with 575m ascent). Today we discover the Limestone Cap of Capo Caccia facing the Gulf of Alghero. The trail follows the edge of the cliff overlooking the sea. Walking along this "limestone giant", we'll reach 200 meters above sea level, for unique panoramas of the Foradada Islands and the Bay of Porto Conte. At the Capo Caccia Lighthouse, we'll begin to descend

towards the sea. Following an ancient path, we'll reach one of the 16th century Spanish defensive towers. Later, we'll visit the Neptune Caves.

Day 8: Argentiera Mines / Wine Tasting / Alghero (Walk 6km with 290 m ascent or 13km with 530m ascent). We explore one of Sardinia's hidden treasures - Argentiera Mines, an abandoned mining village where miners once extracted lead, silver and zinc, set in a very scenic area overlooking 2 amazing beaches with transparent waters. Later we visit a wine cellar and enjoy a tasting of some of the great wines produced in this region. Afternoon at leisure in Alghero.

Day 9: Giara Plateau / Nuraghi of Barumini (Walk 6 km with 100m ascent). We depart for Cagliari with a stop en route at the basalt Plateau of the Giara to admire the scenery and the unique Sardinian wild horses. We'll enjoy an easy walk through the Giara Plateau and enjoy a typical Sardinian snack. Later we'll visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Su Nuraxi di Barumini - an ancient megalithic building found only in Sardinia. Today it has become the symbol of Sardinia and its distinctive ancient culture. More than 7,000 nuraghi have been found on the island. We continue to the Sardinian Capital of Cagliari, for a 4-night stay.

Day 10: Sette Fratelli Park / Cagliari (Walk 11km with 150m ascent). We travel to the Regional Park of Sette Fratelli - one of Sardinia's largest natural parks, with 7 mountain peaks. The stunning landscapes here include dense forests, steep cliffs, canyons, towers of pink granite rock, a lagoon coloured coastline, unique flora and rare wildlife. The park is home to many Sardinian deer, as well as wild boars, golden eagles and rare Sardinian goshawk. Later we'll explore the old part of Cagliari on foot. The medieval quarter has mighty walls that surround the Castle, imposing towers, the Bastion of Saint Remy, the old port, a Cathedral and narrow alleys. There is also a Royal Palace, the Museum of the Citadel, antique shops and artisans.

Day 11: Capo Spartivento (Walk 6km with 200m ascent or 11 km with 325m ascent). We visit the beautiful Capo Spartivento, whose granite promontory reaches 66 meters. From here there are amazing views of beaches, the rocks called "The Pavilions" and the Isola Ferraglione. A dirt road will lead us to an ancient lighthouse that illuminated the way for sailors for over 160 years. This evening is free to further explore the marvellous waterfront town of Cagliari.

Day 12: Oasis WWF Monte Acrosu (Walk 10km with 100m ascent). We discover the Oasis Monte Arcosu - the largest WWF reserve in Italy, with almost four thousand hectares of forest, where the Sardinian deer roams undisturbed. We enjoy an easy trek here, and tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 13: Home. We transfer to Cagliari Airport for our flight home via Paris.



Hiking Cinque Terre and the Amalfi Coast

Spectacular views, charming seaside towns, world-famous cuisine and a relaxing life style are just some of the features that make Italy's Cinque Terre and Amalfi Coast two of the world's most visited destinations.

The Cinque Terre is known for its spectacular hiking paths that link the 5 towns. The Amalfi Coast equally offers stunning views, and it also has one of Italy's largest concentration of gardens, villas and museums. This tour is designed for avid walkers and moderate hikers. Each day there will be a choice of two walks, ranging from 5 - 10 kms with ascents averaging 300m, led by experienced hiking guides.

Our home base for the first 5-nights is the family-run *Hotel Carla* situated near the Ligurian coast in the town of Levanto - known as the hidden gem of the Italian Riviera, and considered the gateway of the Cinque Terre.

On the Amalfi Coast we'll stay at the *Reginna Palace Hotel*, set in a truly spectacular location overlooking the bay, right by the Maiori waterfront and city centre - a perfect base from which to explore the region.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily, plus 1 lunch - wine and coffee included with all dinners
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver - \$7397
-
- Single supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport. to the Montreal airport)
- Winnipeg or Halifax - add \$690
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$890

13 DAYS • APRIL 21 - MAY 3

Tour Highlights:

- Exploring the 5 towns of the Cinque Terre by way of the famous spectacular walking paths
- Full-day guided tour to Camogli, including a boat trip to San Fruttuoso Abbey and Portofino
- Visit of Montepulciano with lunch
- Excursion to Mount Vesuvius
- Guided visits of Amalfi and Ravello, with a visit of Villa Rufolo
- The ancient Sentieri dei Limoni (Path of the Lemons)
- Positano and the "Pathway of the Gods"

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete up to 7 km of walking on varied terrain.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Florence, via Paris.

Day 2: Levanto. We arrive in Florence we transfer to Levanto - our base for the next 5 nights. This evening our guides will give an orientation briefing on the walks offered during the tour.

Day 3: San Giorgio to Bonassola (Walk 5km with 300m descent OR 9km with extension), For our first walk we take the local bus to San Giorgio, then walk to the charming village of Monterosso, continuing to Bonassola with wonderful vistas of the Mediterranean Sea and countryside. We return by train to Levanto, or extend by walking back to Levanto along the coastal track.

Day 4: Cinque Terre Coastal Path (Walk 6.5km with 215m ascent OR 9.5km with 300m ascent). We travel by train to some of the most picturesque towns of the Cinque Terre. We start with Corniglia, nestled in the middle of the five towns. Corniglia is perched on a promontory set away from the sea and is surrounded on three sides by vineyards and terraces. After exploring this charming town we follow the coastal path which offers spectacular views of Manarola and its harbour embedded under the cliffs. Then we continue on the Via dell'Amore (Lovers' Path) to Riomaggiore - so named due to its characteristic tower homes built along the river. Here we enjoy some free time to stroll the narrow streets lined with beautiful pastel coloured buildings and tempting cafés. We return by train to Levanto.

Day 5: Camogli / Portofino / Santa Margherita (Walk 7km with 217m ascent). Today's excursion takes us along the Italian Riviera and Paradise Gulf - one of the Italian coastline's most beautiful stretches. We travel by train to Camogli - a romantic seaside village which was once a seaport known as 'the city of a thousand sailing ships'. Then we take a boat trip to San Fruttuoso Bay with its secluded Abbey, and to the ancient and sophisticated town of Portofino. Enjoy some time here to visit the gardens of Castle Brown for the best views. We continue by foot to Santa Margherita and walk through the town with its basilica and palazzo gardens, before returning by train to Levanto.

Day 6: Cinque Terre - Vernazza to Monterosso (Walk 7km with 220m ascent OR 10km with 300m ascent). Vernazza is perhaps the prettiest of the five Cinque Terre villages, with colourful houses winding down to its harbour protected by a rocky headland. Choose between two walks to get to Monterosso; either along the famous lower coastal path or on quieter paths in the hills. Both walks complete the final section of the coastal path which links the five villages. In Monterosso there will be plenty of time to explore the town and shop for local specialties.

Day 7: Montepulciano / Castle Madama. We travel inland, stopping enroute in one of Tuscany's loveliest hilltop towns,

medieval Montepulciano. After our included lunch we will have some free time to discover the town's elegant Renaissance palaces, ancient churches and squares with stunning views over the countryside covered by vineyards producing the famous "Vino Nobile". We then continue to Attigliano in the heart of Umbria for an overnight.

Day 8: Mount Vesuvius / Maiori (Walk 4km with 180m ascent). On this scenic day we head to the Amalfi Coast. Enroute we will explore the slopes of famous Mount Vesuvius where, on a clear day, the views over the Bay of Naples are stunning. After our visit we will continue to our hotel in Maiori, for a 4-night stay.

Day 9: Amalfi. This morning we visit the famous town of Amalfi, set below the steep cliffs of Italy's southwest coast on the Tyrrhenian Sea. We will see the stunning Arab-Norman cathedral, the medieval shipyards (now an exhibition space) and enjoy some free time before returning to Maori for an afternoon at leisure.

Day 10: Valley delle Ferriere National Park / Ravello (Walk 7km with 300m ascent OR 8km with 510m ascent). A short transfer takes us to Amalfi where we begin our walk along the Valle delle Ferriere with its delightful views, lush vegetation and waterfalls. Then we continue by bus to the lovely town of Ravello, where we will enjoy a guided walking tour. The longer walk will start from Pogerola's countryside offering fantastic views and will finish as well with the visit of Ravello and the splendid Villa Rufolo famous for its "hanging gardens" overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.

Day 11: Pathway of the Gods / Positano (Walk 5km with 100m ascent OR 8km with 100m ascent). We travel by bus to Agerola where we'll begin the spectacular walk to Positano along the route known as the "Pathway of the Gods". The route offers breathtaking views over the Amalfi peninsula. Picturesque Positano is a nearly vertical town with houses built on terraces in Moorish style with balconies beneath arcades. The town was made popular by many artists and writers such as John Steinbeck.

Day 12: The Sentieri dei Limoni (Walk 4km with 180m ascent OR 7.5km with 300m ascent). Today's hike takes us along the "Sentiero dei Limoni" (Path of the Lemons) - one of the most popular walks on the Amalfi Coast since Roman times. This ancient route follows the coast, through terraced lemon groves and connects the two charming seaside towns of Maiori and Minori. There is spectacular scenery throughout the walk - truly a feast for the senses! This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 13: Home. We fly home from Naples, via Paris.



St. Lawrence River Cruise

plus 2 nights in Quebec City

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Deluxe coach transportation from Toronto to Kingston
- Air Canada flight home from Quebec City (add-ons below also include the flight to Toronto from various Canadian cities)
- Cruise, port taxes, all meals daily, all shore excursions
- 2-night stay at the *Chateau Laurier* in Quebec City (or similar), including breakfast daily, Farewell Dinner and a city tour
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

per person, double occupancy, from Toronto

- *Category St. Lawrence* (with portholes that open)..... \$6797
- *Category Ottawa* - (with windows that open)..... \$7297
- *Category Sterling* (larger cabin, screened windows)... \$7797
-
- Single Supplement (*Category St. Lawrence* only) - \$2990
- * *Add-ons below include the flight to Toronto, a Toronto overnight before the cruise, and your flight home from Quebec City*
- Montreal or Halifax - add \$290
- Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg or Vancouver - add \$390
- Ottawa - add \$190 (ground transportation to Kingston. No Toronto overnight)

On this unique voyage, we'll step back in time and experience Canada like the original voyageurs who travelled up and down the St. Lawrence River.

Our cruise weaves a connecting link from the magnificent 1000 Islands and St. Lawrence Seaway, to the rich French culture of Quebec, while navigating the incredible International St. Lawrence Seaway and it's locks.

En route we will discover the historical roots of "Loyalist Brockville", the unique living community of Upper Canada Village, and vibrant Montreal. Following our cruise we'll enjoy a two night stay in Quebec City - a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site with over 400 years of history. We will enjoy a city tour and time on our own to explore the walled city's shops, bistros, and art galleries.

Our riverboat, the moderate *MV Canadian Empress*, is a small intimate ship especially built for cruising the St. Lawrence River. This classic replica steamboat-style ship combines modern engineering with charming Victorian-

9 DAYS • 2 DATES IN 2023

JULY 6 - 14

AUGUST 7 - 15

era style decor. Aboard our fully air-conditioned ship you may relax on the Sun Deck, enjoy a game of shuffleboard, parlour games or kite flying. There are also observation areas to take in the beautiful scenery. Each evening there will be comedic, cultural or magical entertainment.

Dining onboard includes three meals daily with coffee and tea, and domestic wine and beer with all lunches and dinners. Afternoon tea and snacks are offered as well.

The cabins have twin beds, private bathroom with shower only, individual climate control, and sound system.

* *Client must be fit and active. The ship has no elevators, and shore excursions involve quite a bit of walking.*

Day 1: Departure / Embarkation. We depart Toronto for Kingston by coach, with a stop in picturesque Picton. Upon arrival in Kingston we transfer to the *MV Canadian Empress*. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner onboard.

Days 2: 1000 Islands / Gananoque / Brockville. This morning we sail around the beautiful 1000 Islands, Wanderer's Channel and the Admiralty Group of Islands. Nature lovers will be in awe of the wildlife spotted along the shores of the islands. In Gananoque, we will enjoy a tour of the Heritage Museum of the 1000 Islands, featuring vintage boats, dioramas, and interactive displays related to the history of the area. We will also visit the 1000 Island Boat Museum, and also Fulford Place - once home to Senator George T. Fulford. The mansion showcases the luxurious lifestyle of another era.

Day 3: Brockville / Fort Wellington / Morrisburg. To start the day, we enjoy a tour of Aquatarium featuring an interactive experience of history and nature along the St. Lawrence River. Then we visit Fort Wellington National Historic Site, one of the best preserved 19th century fortifications in Canada. It depicts life when the Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment was stationed here in the 1840's.

Day 4: Upper Canada Village / Coteau Landing. This morning horse-drawn wagons take us to Upper Canada Village. The village is a fascinating living museum community that recreates the life, work, and development of the early settlements along the upper St. Lawrence River valley. In the afternoon we will pass through the American Eisenhower and Snell locks on our way to Coteau Landing, Quebec.

Day 5: Montreal. We arrive in the port of Montreal in the late morning and upon arrival enjoy a harbour tour. Later, on our coach tour of Montreal, we will see Notre Dame Basilica - a masterpiece of Gothic Revival, Mount Royal with its sweeping views of the downtown area and St. Lawrence River, St. Joseph's Oratory - one of the world's most visited shrines, Old Montreal, the French Quarter, and McGill University.

Day 6: Trois Rivières. We arrive in Trois Rivières in the afternoon, and enjoy a city tour. Then you may choose to visit either the Shrine at Cap de la Madeleine, or the Borealis Industrial Museum. Cap de la Madeleine is an oasis of peace and greenery. The huge Basilica here has impressive stained glass windows, and the beautiful grounds feature a lake with an island in the middle, gardens, and walkways overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The Borealis Industrial Museum is located in the former filtration plant of the Canadian International Paper Company. The museum shows the human side of the paper industry, as it pays tribute to the lumberjacks, log drivers, and workers, who dedicated their lives to their job. Tonight we enjoy big band sounds, songs, and dancing on our last night onboard our ship.

Day 7: Disembarkation / Quebec City. We sail past magnificent Montmorency Falls (weather permitting) upon our approach to romantic Quebec City. In the afternoon we disembark our ship and proceed on our city tour, during which we'll see the provincial Parliament buildings, the Belvedere overlooking the St. Lawrence River, Plains of Abraham, Joan of Arc Garden, Laval University, Old Quebec City, Place Royale and Petit Champlain Street.

Day 8: Quebec City. A day at leisure to stroll the romantic European-style cobble-stone streets of Quebec City's famous Old Town. Those who wish may also visit Montmorency Falls or Ile d'Orleans. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 9: Home. After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Alaska Cruise

aboard the *Majestic Princess*

Plus an overnight in Vancouver

Come immerse yourself in the heart of the wilderness
and discover the very best of Alaska.

This cruise is the ideal way to see the rugged, snowy and incredibly beautiful landscape of The “Last Frontier”. Gaze upon the sea lions as they surround your ship, marvel at the whales breaching, try your luck panning for gold, go dog-sledding with a real musher or simply sit back in a deck chair and view the spectacular grandeur of the snow-capped mountains and the ever changing glaciers - a breathtaking image you’ll never forget.

We will cruise in luxury aboard the *Majestic Princess* - a floating resort with all the amenities of a 5-star resort hotel. Princess ships offer a perfect balance of tradition and innovation, and their award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs will bring the culture and colours of Alaska to life.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- 7-night cruise as described, all meals, port taxes, all tipping, activities & entertainment
- One night hotel in Vancouver, with dinner, breakfast and a city tour
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal or Winnipeg
 - Inside Cabin.....\$4997
 - Outside Cabin with private balcony ...\$6397
 - Deluxe balcony cabin\$6597
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
- Halifax - add \$190
- Edmonton - deduct \$200. Calgary - deduct \$300
- Vancouver deduct \$400

9 DAYS • JULY 15 - 23

Dining on board a Princess cruise ship is a celebration in the truest sense with every dish “designed for fresh”. From hand-tossed pizza to dazzling multi-course gourmet dinners, you will enjoy freshly prepared cuisine that celebrates Alaska’s history.

As for entertainment - dazzling stage sets, performers from around the world, modern hits and timeless classics all join together on board to create lavish productions that can only be seen in the state-of-the-art Princess theatres! There is evening entertainment to suit every mood.

Following our cruise, we will overnight in a downtown Vancouver hotel. Dinner and a city tour are included.

** All shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises’ website, or onboard the ship.*

Day 1: Departure / Anchorage. We depart for Anchorage, Alaska with a change of planes in Vancouver. Upon arrival we transfer to our ship. This evening we enjoy our first meal aboard, and the only challenge is deciding what to order while our amazing surroundings provide so much to see.

Day 2: Hubbard Glacier (Scenic Cruising). Hubbard Glacier is the longest tidewater glacier in Alaska, extending 76 miles from its source on Mt. Logan in the Yukon. You will hear the creaks and groans as this very active glacier advances. There will be exciting moments when the huge chunks of ice crash into the bay creating a wonderful sound the local natives call “white thunder”.

Day 3: Glacier Bay National Park (Scenic Cruising). Today is a highlight of our cruise. Under a blanket of silence we gaze upon the ice cliffs and their changing colours of blue, green, white and grey, as we look and listen for the massive slabs of ice to crash into the water. You’ll want to make sure you are out on the deck to watch for seals and whales.

Day 4: Icy Strait Point. Icy Strait Point is a privately owned destination located just outside the small village of Hoonah. You will be intrigued by the rich native heritage, the opportunities to see wildlife such as whales and brown bears, and the vast wilderness that surrounds this unique area. There is also a restored 1912 salmon cannery and museum to explore.

Day 5: Juneau. Step back in time to the spot where Joe Juneau and Dick Harris found gold nuggets “as large as beans”. See relics of the gold mines that brought wealth to the town even before the Klondike Gold Rush. Optional excursions will be offered to see the awesome Mendenhall Glacier.

Day 6: Ketchikan. Southeast Alaska’s “First City” is as picturesque as they come, as much of Ketchikan is built on pilings over the water. Stroll down historic Creek Street to Dolly’s House, or venture outside town to see a forest of hand-carved totem poles. This is also your gateway to Misty Fjords National Monument.

Day 7: At Sea. A day to relax or enjoy the world of exciting activities on board our ship, from cooking demonstrations to dance contests and wine tasting.

Day 8: Vancouver. This morning we disembark our ship in Vancouver and proceed on a tour of this beautiful city, including famed Stanley Park, Gastown, Chinatown and more. After our tour we will enjoy dinner and an overnight in a centrally located hotel.

Day 9: Home. After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Alaska Cruise and Tour with Princess Cruises

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Air Canada flights
- 7 night cruise, port taxes, all meals, activities and entertainment
- Land portion - 3 nights Deluxe and First Class hotels (no meals included)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 1*

The magnificence of Alaska includes breathtaking National Parks, stunning glaciers, mighty rivers, blue icebergs, amazing wildlife and fresh Alaska seafood.

This cruise and land tour is an ideal way to experience the rugged and incredibly beautiful landscape of “The Last Frontier”. Marvel at the ever-changing glaciers, gaze upon the sea lions as they surround our ship, watch the whales breaching, have a drink in a real saloon, go dog-sledding with a real musher or simply sit back in a deck chair and view the incredible grandeur of the snow-capped mountains and vast glaciers.

The 7-night cruise portion of our adventure will be aboard the *Majestic Princess* - a floating resort featuring all the amenities of a resort hotel. Princess Cruises are renowned for their dining experiences, with every dish “designed for fresh” and cuisine that celebrates Alaska’s history. As for entertainment, you will enjoy the lavish productions that can only be seen in the state-of-the-art Princess theatres!

In addition to our cruise this program also includes a luxury rail adventure, a night at Denali National Park where wildlife is abundant, a night at beautiful *Mt. McKinley Lodge* and a night in Anchorage. Princess’ award

11 DAYS • 3 DATES IN 2023

winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs will bring Alaska to life, so in addition to experiencing some of the world’s most spectacular scenery, we will also learn about the Native cultures of the region as well as fascinating Gold Rush history.

Tour Highlights:

- Mount McKinley
- Dazzling scenery of George Parks Highway
- Wildlife viewing in Denali National Park
- Scenic viewing on the luxury McKinley Express
- Scenic cruising at the Hubbard Glacier
- Scenic cruising in Glacier Bay
- The vast wilderness of Icy Strait Point
- Ketchikan - with homes built on pilings over the water

** All shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises’ website, or onboard the ship.*

DATES AND COSTS (per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Winnipeg)

	Inside cabin	Outside cabin with balcony	Deluxe balcony cabin
June 28	\$6397	\$7997	\$8197
August 9	\$6597	\$8197	\$8397
September 6	\$6197	\$7297	\$7497

• Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above

• Ottawa / Montreal add \$290 • Halifax add \$490 • Calgary / Edmonton deduct \$200 • Vancouver deduct \$400

CRUISES

Itinerary for Alaska Cruise and Tour

Day 1: Departure / Anchorage. We fly to Anchorage with a change in Vancouver. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel for an evening at leisure. This is Alaska's most cosmopolitan city, with great restaurants and places to explore.

Day 2: Mt. McKinley. Our motorcoach journey this morning takes us along the scenic George Parks Highway - one of the most dazzling roads in Alaska, featuring awesome views of Mt. McKinley. We overnight at the *Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge* - a true wilderness retreat with a host of recreational activities. Tonight you may want to enjoy a leisurely dinner at the *Alaskan Bar & Grill* - a perfect end to a great day in this inspiring wilderness setting.

Day 3: Denali National Park. Another spectacular motorcoach tour takes us deep into the pristine wilderness of Denali National Park for a National History Tour. Our guide will make stops at points of interest including a view to the Snowy Alaska Range. Look out for wildlife - there's plenty of it here! The evening is free to enjoy one of the many optional activities such as golf, helicopter "flightseeing", river rafting, hiking in the backcountry, or you may want to see the "Music of Denali" Dinner Theatre - a fun way to learn about local history.

Day 4: Luxury Rail / Whittier / Embarkation. We board the luxury rail cars of the McKinley Express for the scenic ride to Whittier. The train windows allow maximum viewing of the awesome landscape. In Whittier we embark our ship and enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

Day 5: Hubbard Glacier (Scenic Cruising). Hubbard Glacier is the longest tidewater glacier in Alaska extending 76 miles from Mt. Logan in the Yukon. You will hear the creaks and groans as this very active glacier advances. There will be exciting moments when huge chunks of ice crash into the bay

creating a wonderful sound called "white thunder" by the local natives.

Day 6: Glacier Bay National Park (Scenic Cruising). This is the highlight of our cruise. Under a blanket of silence we gaze upon the ice cliffs and their colours of blue, green and white. In order to protect the delicate environment only a limited number of permits are issued for ships who meet the strict criteria. Watch for whales, seals and bears on the shore.

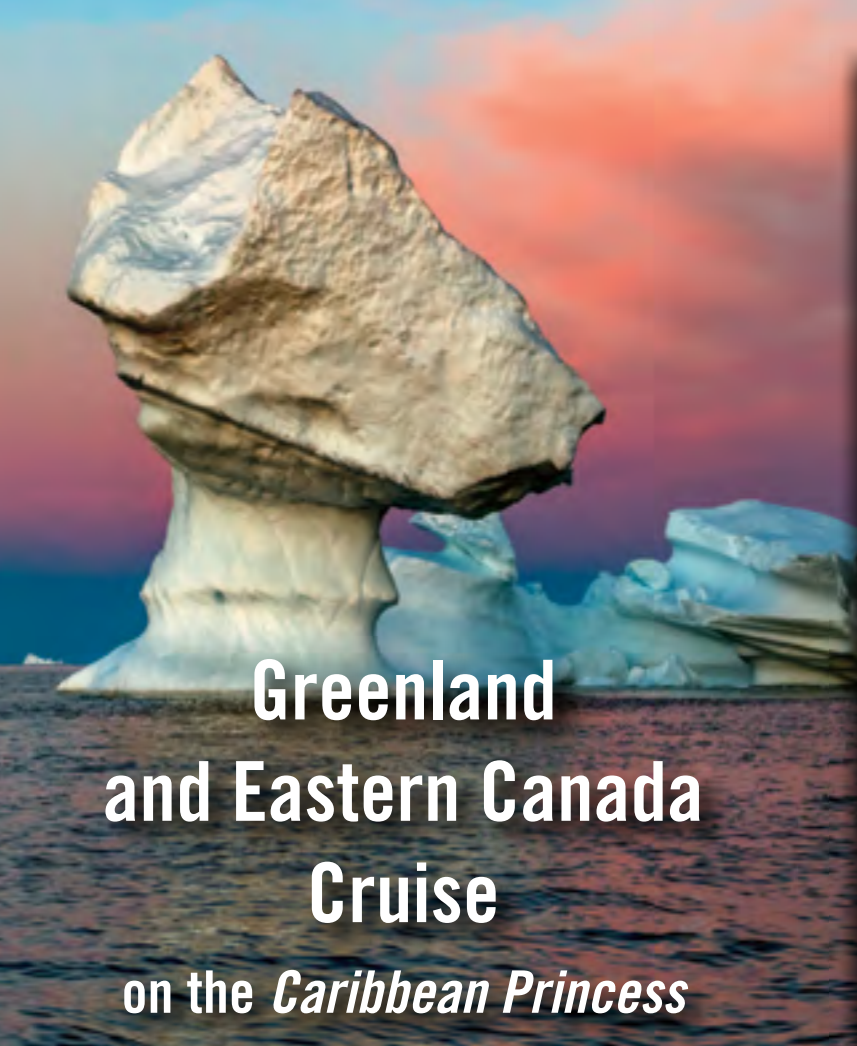
Day 7: Icy Strait Point. Icy Strait Point is a privately owned destination located just outside the village of Hoonah. You will be intrigued by the rich native heritage, the opportunities to see wildlife such as whales and brown bears, and the vast wilderness that surrounds this unique area. There is also a restored 1912 salmon cannery and museum to explore.

Day 8: Juneau. A day in Alaska's historic capital. Perhaps visit the Alaska State Museum which features rare Eskimo and Indian artifacts. See relics of the gold mines that brought wealth to the town in the early days.

Day 9: Ketchikan. Southeast Alaska's "first city" is as picturesque as they come. The town is built on pilings over the water and clings to the slopes of Deer Mountain. Native culture abounds at Totem Bight State Park.

Day 10: Cruising the Inside Passage. Following all the sightseeing of the past week, a leisure day at sea will be most welcome. Relax on deck and watch the beauty of the Inside Passage float by as we cruise along the spectacular coast of British Columbia.

Day 11: Vancouver / Home. We arrive in Vancouver, disembark and fly home.



Greenland and Eastern Canada Cruise on the *Caribbean Princess*

In a region of crystal clear skies and the world's cleanest air, Greenland is known for its magnificent vistas of mountains and valleys, stunning icebergs, wildlife on land and in the water, and colourful houses perched on its rocky slopes.

Here on the world's largest island you will find volcanoes, geysers, hot springs, lava fields, green mountains with beautiful wildflowers, breathtaking fjords and photogenic villages of colourfully painted wooden cottages. Icebergs and glaciers are probably the most famous features of the island - colossal fantastic shapes of blue and white that float on a sea of deep azure. As for wildlife, Greenland is flush with seals, whales, polar bears and reindeer, to name but a few. The people who live here are a unique blend of Inuit and Danish blood, which has resulted in a Greenlandic society rich in culture.

This cruise, which begins and ends in New York, sails first to Nova Scotia, then to spectacular Greenland, and returns via St. John's Newfoundland, so we will also get to

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- 16-night cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto,
 - Inside Cabin (various decks)\$6397
 - Outside Cabin (obstructed view)
Emerald Deck.....\$7197
 - Outside Cabin (clear view) *Plaza Deck* ..\$7997
 - Outside Cabin with private balcony
(various decks)\$9397
-
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
 - Montreal, Ottawa or Halifax - add \$90
Add-ons below include a Toronto overnight en route to New York
 - Winnipeg, Calgary or Vancouver - add \$490
 - Edmonton - add \$890

17 DAYS • AUGUST 14 - 30

experience the beauty, historic areas and the hospitality of the Atlantic provinces.

Our ship for this cruise program is the *Caribbean Princess*, which features all the amenities of a 5-Star resort hotel. Award winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs will bring everything to life, and talented chefs will take you on a mouth-watering culinary journey featuring local fare.

Take in some of the finest cruise ship entertainment as the theatre lights up the top deck with feature films, lavish Broadway productions and international performers in the state-of-the art Princess theatres!

** All shore excursions are optional and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website or on board the ship.*

** Shore excursions at Greenland ports may be limited. Most of the ports there are easy for walking and exploring.*

Day 1: Departure / Embarkation. We depart for New York, and upon arrival we transfer to our ship. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner onboard.

Day 2: At Sea. A day to relax or enjoy the world of exciting activities on board our ship, from cooking demonstrations to dance contests and wine tasting.

Day 3: Halifax, Nova Scotia. The capital of Nova Scotia is a charming mix of old and new. You may wish to visit the Citadel - a fortress guarding the city and harbour. Or perhaps an excursion to Peggy's Cove, home to the most photographed lighthouse in the world.

Day 4: Sydney, Nova Scotia. Known for its beauty and unique Celtic music and culture, Sydney is the gateway to many attractions. Enjoy a spectacular drive along part of the Cabot Trail - considered one of Canada's most scenic destinations. You may want to tour the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site, with 3 exhibit halls containing the largest collection of Bell's inventions including replicas of the first telephone. Or, visit the Fortress of Louisburg - the largest reconstructed 18th-century French fortified town in North America and a National Historic Site of Canada.

Day 5 - 7: At Sea.

Day 8: Nuuk, Greenland. Nuuk is the island's capital and largest city, with about 16,000 people. Visit the Greenland National Museum, featuring kayaks, dog sleds and other treasures of Inuit and Viking culture, as well as preserved Inuit mummies more than 500 years old. You may also see the Katuaq Cultural Center - an iconic architectural structure with its golden screens of wood inspired by the Northern Lights. The center features musical concerts, film presentations, theatrical performances and rotating art installations featuring the works of artists from around the world.

Day 9: At Sea.

Day 10: Qaqortoq, Greenland. Qaqortoq means "White Palace" in Greenlandic. See the amazing Stone and Man Art Collection throughout the town - 40 intricately engraved figures of whales, faces and other traditional designs carved into granite. Visit Vor Frelser Kirkethe. Built in 1832, it is the official cathedral of Greenland.

Day 11: Nanortalik, Greenland. Known as the "place of bears" in Greenlandic, visitors to this extraordinary isolated port may spot polar bears on the ice flows offshore. The waters also teem with seals and Minke, humpback and fin whales. Visit the Nanortalik Open Air Museum, where you may wander through original colonial buildings and see items from the Inuit culture, Norse ruins and local artifacts.

Day 12 - 13: At Sea.

Day 14: St. John's, Newfoundland. This city is one of the oldest in North America. Visit Signal Hill - a Canadian National Historic Site where the first trans-Atlantic wireless transmission was received in 1901. You may also visit Cape Spear Lighthouse - built in 1836 it is the oldest lighthouse in Newfoundland and also the most easterly point in North America.

Days 15 - 16: At Sea.

Day 17: Home. We disembark the ship in New York and transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Queen Mary II Trans-Atlantic Cruise plus 2 nights London

From the early days of cruising, when ship owners sought to have the biggest, best and fastest floating palaces, the Trans-Atlantic crossing was the benchmark by which to compare.

We will sail in the elegant comfort of Cunard's fabled *Queen Mary 2*. This elaborate "City at Sea" retains the glamour of old world traditions combined with contemporary luxury and comfort. Cunard's flagship is the most magnificent ocean liner ever built, and features elegant British styling, a rich history and a wide variety of dining and entertainment options.

Facilities of the *QM2* include a state-of-the-art health spa, supervised fitness and exercise classes, indoor and outdoor pools, a library with a computer learning centre, shopping promenade with a Harrods branch, pub, several

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- 7-night cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment
- 2-nights First Class hotel in London with breakfast and dinner daily, a city tour and a pre-booked West End show
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto
 - Inside Cabin (Category IC)..... \$5997
 - Outside Cabin (Category EF).... \$6797
 - Balcony Cabin (Category BC)... \$7597
-
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
 - Montreal - add \$90
 - Ottawa or Halifax - add \$190
 - Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$390

11 DAYS • JUNE 20 - 30

bars, night club, 3D Cinema, casino, world-class entertainers and of course the Planetarium.

Dining on the *QM2* is simply wonderful. You may choose the formal splendor of the Britannia Restaurant or the relaxed atmosphere of the King's Court Buffet. Afternoon Tea is an old *QM2* tradition and room service is available on a 24-hour basis.

To begin our adventure we will fly to London, and stay 2 nights in a First Class, centrally located hotel in "Everybody's Favourite City". In London we'll enjoy a city sightseeing tour and a top-rated West End show. After our stay in London we'll embark our luxury cruise ship for the Trans-Atlantic crossing.

Day 1: Departure / London. We depart for London.

Day 2: London. We arrive in London and transfer to our centrally located hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure until our Welcome Dinner at the hotel this evening.

Day 3: London. Our panoramic city sightseeing tour will take in many of London's highlights: Buckingham Palace, Tower Bridge, Big Ben, Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Canadian War Memorial and much more. Tonight we have an early dinner and then off to London's West End to enjoy a top-rated theatre performance.

Day 4: Southampton / Embarkation. We depart for Southampton and transfer to our luxury cruise ship. This evening we enjoy our first dinner aboard, and the only challenge will be deciding what to order.

Days 5 - 10: At Sea. Time to relax and enjoy the endless array of facilities, activities and entertainment on board the *QM2*. In addition to attending the ongoing "London Theatre at Sea" events, you can attend a cooking class, wine tasting or kick back in the lounge with a good book.

Day 11: New York / Home. As we arrive in New York, be on deck as the incredible New York skyline and the Statue of Liberty come into view. We'll disembark, and transfer to the airport for our flight back to Canada.



British Isles and Ireland Cruise

aboard the *Regal Princess*
plus an overnight & tour in London

Signature storybook castles, historical treasures, sweeping landscapes, iconic cities and welcoming shores, the British Isles are steeped in lore.

In Scotland we will see the awesome rugged landscapes, lochs and small stone villages. In Ireland we will admire the grand cliffs, tiny villages and the hills of 50 shades of green. We will also dock in some of the most charming ports in France and the Channel Islands.

We will sail aboard the *Regal Princess*, which features all the amenities of a Deluxe resort hotel, award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs that will bring the culture and colours of the British Isles to life.

For dining, we will enjoy freshly prepared cuisine that celebrates the history of the British Isles. Entertainment is varied and endless, and includes Broadway style shows, first-run movies, dancing and the casino.

After our cruise we will overnight at a hotel in central London, with dinner, breakfast and a panoramic city tour included.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment
- 1-night First Class hotel in London including dinner, breakfast and a city tour
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

*Costs below are for the May Cruise
August Cruise - add \$500 in each category*

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal
- Inside Cabin \$6797
- Outside Cabin with private balcony \$8197
- Deluxe balcony cabin \$8797
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
- Ottawa, Halifax or Vancouver - add \$90
- Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$390
- Edmonton - add \$690

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN 2023

MAY 19 - JUNE 2

AUGUST 11 - 25

Cruise Highlights:

- Channel Islands
- Lively Georgian Squares of Dublin
- Victorian Belfast
- Inverary Castle, Glasgow
- Scottish Highlands - legends and castles
- Beaches of Normandy
- City tour of London

* *All shore excursions are optional and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website or on board the ship.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for London.

Day 2: Southampton / Embarkation. We arrive in London and transfer to Southampton where we board our ship. This evening is our first delicious dinner onboard.

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Day 3 (May Cruise): Portland, England. This island is a natural harbour that was used for over 500 years by the British Royal Navy. An optional excursion is offered to the Abbotsbury Swannery - the only place in the world where you can walk freely through colonies on nesting mute swans. Other options include a visit to the 13th century gothic Salisbury Cathedral, and mythical Stonehenge.

Day 3 (August Cruise): Guernsey, Channel Islands. The Channel Islands are very picturesque and also have a fascinating history. We disembark at the historic fortress of St. Peters Port - a lovely town in which to stroll. You may want to visit The Little Chapel of Guernsey - an old church decorated with seashells and broken china.

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Day 4 (May Cruise): Guernsey - see above

Day 4 (August Cruise): Cork, Ireland. Today we will have a chance to kiss the famous Blarney Stone, and stroll along Cork's lively pedestrian shopping street. Optional tours will be offered to see some of Ireland's other remarkable landmarks.

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Day 5 (May Cruise): Cork Ireland - see above

Day 5 (August Cruise): Dublin, Ireland. A full day to explore Dublin, Ireland's capital. Stroll around the beautiful 18th century Georgian Squares, the 12th century St. Patrick's Cathedral and Leinster House (the Irish parliament).

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Day 6 (May Cruise): Dublin - see above

Day 6 (August Cruise): Liverpool, England. Not only is this fascinating old English city famous for the Beatles venues such as the Cavern Club, Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields, but it also boasts the finest collection of Victorian mercantile architecture and monuments, such that the waterfront is a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. An optional tour will be offered to see the stunning countryside of North Wales.

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Day 7: Belfast, Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland's capital is a beautiful city of imposing Victorian architecture set within picturesque hills. See the grand City Hall, Opera House and the Stormont Parliament Buildings. You may also want to go visit the Giant's Causeway - a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day 8: Glasgow, Scotland. There are many attractions to see in and around this great city, including the gothic Glasgow Cathedral, Inverary Castle and the cottage of poet Robert Burns.

Day 9: At Sea. A welcome day of rest following many days of sightseeing.

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Day 10 (May Cruise): Invergordon, Scotland. Welcome to the capital of the Scottish Highlands - gateway to Loch Ness, where we will enjoy the history, beauty and the legends of the Highlands. You may choose to go and see the ruins of the Dunrobin and Urquhart Castles, or go shopping for tartans and tweeds. Perhaps an optional tour to Loch Ness and the opportunity to look for Nessie. Have your camera ready in case you have a sighting!

Day 10 (August Cruise): Orkney Islands, Scotland. These islands offer dramatic landscapes including sea cliffs rising 1000 ft. above the waves, and fine white sand beaches. The islands boast the greatest concentration of prehistoric sights in Europe, including the mysterious Ring of Brodgar and 5,000 year old Skara Brae.

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Day 11: Edinburgh, Scotland. There is much to see in Scotland's beautiful capital. Visit Edinburgh Castle which dominates the city, and climb to the top for wonderful views. History comes alive along Princes Street and the Royal Mile, and the parks and gardens are ideal for strolling.

Day 12: At Sea. A day to relax, watch the passing seascape and enjoy the endless array of activities onboard our ship.

Day 13: Normandy (Le Havre), France. The beaches of Normandy are home to many World War Two landmarks. You will have a chance to visit them, or join an optional tour to Paris.

Day 14: London. We disembark in the morning in Southampton and proceed to London for a panoramic sightseeing tour. Highlights include Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, the Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Canadian War Memorial and much more. Our tour finishes at our centrally located hotel where we will have some time at leisure before dinner.

Day 15: Home. We fly from London back to Canada.



Tulip Time River Cruise

Deluxe cruise on the waterways of Holland and Belgium.

Daily excursions included!

This delightful riverboat cruise program begins and ends in Amsterdam and takes us leisurely through the fairytale beauty of the Dutch and Belgian waterways.

We see fields of vibrant flowers, picture-postcard harbours and quaint historic towns with the local folk dressed in traditional costume. April is "Tulip Time" in Holland when the tulips, in a blaze of colour, carpet the countryside. The famous Kuekenhof Bulb Gardens has spectacular displays of tulips and other bulb plants.

An added-value feature of this cruise is that all excursions are included and expertly guided in English. Exclusive old world highlights on board include folklore entertainment, lectures, theme dinners, welcome and farewell cocktail receptions and a Captain's Gala dinner.

A big advantage to riverboat cruising is in the central docking facilities at each port of call that makes the disembarkation and exploration of each destination quite

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Deluxe cruise in outside cabins, all meals (wine included with dinners) and all tipping
- Daily excursions as described
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

per person, double occupancy, from Toronto

- *Haydn Deck*\$5997
- *Strauss Deck*.....\$6597
- *Mozart Deck*.....\$6997

-
- Single accommodation on request.
 - Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - add \$190
 - Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$290

9 DAYS • MARCH 30 - APRIL 7

effortless. Our riverboat is the *MS Amadeus Queen*. On this deluxe floating hotel you may relax in the lounge, Panorama Bar or outside on the deck. The ship has a shop, hair salon and offers exercise classes. All meals are included and graciously presented in a smoke-free dining room. Unlimited quality wines from Europe's most famous wine regions are included with every dinner.

Cabins have twin beds, private bathroom (shower only), hairdryer, phone, safe, TV with satellite, in-house video channels and climate control. Cabins on *Haydn Deck* have a panoramic window that cannot be opened. Cabins on the *Strauss* and *Mozart Decks* are larger, with panoramic windows that can be opened, as well as a French balcony.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Amsterdam with Air Canada.

Day 2: Amsterdam. We arrive in Amsterdam and transfer to our deluxe floating hotel, the *MS Amadeus Queen*. After some time to relax, enjoy a welcome cocktail party reception and our first dinner aboard. The ship is moored near many of Amsterdam's attractions and you may enjoy a stroll around this friendly city.

Day 3: Arnhem. This town was the setting for the WW2 book and film "A Bridge Too Far". Although it was almost destroyed during the war, it is now a large modern city. We will drive past various spots associated with the events as described in the book and film. Then we will visit the Airborne Museum, which was a hotel in 1944 and later became the headquarters of the British 1st Airborne Division. In the afternoon we will join the excursion to "Arnhem and the Open Air Museum" which is located in a beautiful wooded park on the outskirts of Arnhem. It contains more than 80 historic houses, farmhouses and windmills from all over the country.

Day 4: Middleburg / Belgium. We dock in Middelburg - one of the cities in which the Dutch East India Company flourished in the seventeenth century. This lovely city features historic merchant houses and storefronts lining its canals. This afternoon we see the Delta Works Project - an amazing example of how the Dutch have tamed their environment. Here we will see and learn about the storm surge barrier - an engineering marvel built after the 1953 flood which inundated the province of Zeeland. Later we stop in the town of Veere - once a prosperous port due to the wool trade with Scotland. Today Veere is one of the most picturesque towns in the area.

This evening, the cruise continues and the ship takes us into Belgium.

Day 5: Ghent and Bruges, Belgium. Our included city tour of Ghent includes fine sights such as St. Bavo Cathedral with its world famous painting by Jan van Eyck, and the "Belfried" with its bell tower. In the afternoon we proceed to Bruges. Visiting here is like taking a journey back in time, and we will enjoy a city tour.

Day 6: Brussels and Antwerp, Belgium. On our excursion to the Belgian capital of Brussels, we will see Heysel Stadium, Notre Dame of Laken, the famous Atomium and the Royal Residence. Then on to the eastern part of the city to see Cinquantenaire Park with its impressive U-shaped buildings, Royal Palace, Palace of Justice, and a walk through Europe's oldest shopping mall.

In the afternoon we visit Antwerp, one of the world's most important ancient seaports. The city is best known for its diamond trade and as the home of the renowned painter, Peter Paul Rubens. Our included city tour will enable us to get to know this beautiful city in some detail.

Day 7: Kinderdijk and Keukenhof Gardens. This morning we discover Holland's largest concentration of working windmills. Then after lunch we will visit the famous and awesome Keukenhof Gardens, with their tulip and daffodil displays, lakes, sculpture gardens, greenhouses and terraces affording views over the 10 acres of gardens and multitude of tulips. Keukenhof offers you the opportunity to see millions of bulbs in flower, fantastic flower shows and the largest sculpture park in the Netherlands.

Tonight is the Captain's Gala Dinner, complete with orchestral music and dancing.

Day 8: Amsterdam / Volendam. Amsterdam is renowned for its museums, flowers and countless bicycles. The city is comprised of 90 islands, which are separated by nearly 50 miles of canals and connected by more than 1000 bridges. On our morning city tour through the Dutch metropolis we will see the Royal Palace, numerous canals and the Museum Quarter. We will also stop and stroll through the flower market and cruise the water on a canal cruise boat trip. In the afternoon we visit Volendam, one of Holland's most charming places - it looks like a picture postcard of a traditional Dutch town, with people dressed in traditional costumes. Then we drive into the countryside to visit a local cheese farm and learn how Dutch cheese is made. On our way back to the ship we will enjoy a short walk through the quaint village of Edam.

Day 9: Home. We transfer to the Amsterdam airport and fly home with Air Canada.



Fjords of Norway

and the Midnight Sun

aboard the *Sky Princess*

Plus an overnight and tour in London

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment
- First Class hotel in London including dinner, breakfast and a city tour
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal
 - Inside cabin\$7597
 - Outside cabin with Balcony\$9397
 - Deluxe Balcony Cabin\$9997
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
- Winnipeg or Halifax - add \$90
- Calgary or Vancouver - add \$190
- Edmonton - add \$590

A voyage along Norway's pristine coastline offers some of the most dramatic landscapes and stunning vistas in the world. It is considered by many to be the "World's Most Beautiful Sea Voyage".

From the fjord-indented south to the rocky Arctic coastline of Finnmark in the north, this land abounds with natural treasures: thundering waterfalls cascading down steep mountains; ice-blue glaciers hemmed in by towering mountains, fast flowing rivers teeming with salmon, and emerald green fjords everywhere you look. You will experience the sights, sounds and flavours of Norway's "Midsommar" (Summer Solstice), a natural phenomenon that occurs during the summer that can be likened to a prolonged sunset and sunrise occurring simultaneously.

We will sail aboard the *Sky Princess*, which features all the amenities of a resort hotel. The award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs offered will bring the culture and colours of Norway to life. *Princess*

17 DAYS • JUNE 16 - JULY 2

can introduce you to the next port on the horizon like no one else.

Dining aboard a Princess ship is a joyful celebration in the truest sense with every dish "designed for fresh" and crafted to exceed even the most discerning appetite. From hand-tossed pizza to dazzling multi-course gourmet dinners, you will enjoy freshly prepared cuisine that celebrates the history of Norway. In addition, the ship has evening entertainment to suit every mood.

Following our wonderful cruise we will overnight in a centrally located London hotel, with dinner, breakfast and a panoramic city tour included.

** All shore excursions are optional and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website or on board the ship.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for London.

Day 2: London (Southampton). We arrive in London and transfer by coach to Southampton where we board our ship, the *Sky Princess*. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

Day 3: At Sea. A wonderful day at sea to relax and get acquainted with the ship and your fellow passengers.

Day 4: Bergen. Beyond Bergen's red-tiled roofs and picturesque waterfront are some of Norway's most stunning fjords. Top attractions include the Bryggen, the Mt. Floyen Funicular, the Fish Market, the Edvard Grieg Museum at Troidhaugen and Fantoft Stave Church.

Day 5: Molde. This city is known as the "City of Roses", as the city centre features rose gardens, parks, statues, and murals. Due to its position, surrounded by beautiful fjords, mountains, small inlets, and archipelagos, Molde has been attracting visitors for centuries.

Day 6: Trondheim. Two of Norway's greatest landmarks, the Nidaros Cathedral and the Archbishop's Palace, are here in Norway's first capital. Despite being Norway's third largest city, wild animals can be seen. Otters and beavers thrive, and foxes, moose and deer are not uncommon sights.

Day 7: At Sea. A day to enjoy the endless array of facilities and activities aboard our ship.

Day 8: Honningsvåg (North Cape). This is the last town before Norway's mysterious North Cape, beyond which lies only icy waters before one reaches the North Pole. This expanse of wilderness is marred by nothing save an occasional herd of reindeer. The North Cape experiences a Midnight Sun, which creates round the clock daylight from May to the beginning of August.

Day 9: Tromsø. The Arctic Cathedral of Tromsø, the Tromsø Museum and the world-renowned Polaria Arctic Center are a few of the main attractions here. Nicknamed "The Paris of the North", Tromsø is a lively city located spectacularly on an island surrounded by mountains, fjords and other islands in all directions.

Day 10: Gravdal (Lofoten Islands). The Lofoten Islands lie entirely above the Arctic Circle, and are known for their small villages off the beaten path. You can visit the Viking Museum in Borg - a property believed to have belonged to an important Viking chieftain 1,500 years ago. Today the museum displays a reconstruction of his house.

Day 11: At Sea.

Day 12: Ålesund. This beautiful port town was destroyed by a massive fire in 1904 and then rebuilt in Art Nouveau style. Enjoy a walk in the city center, where buildings with elegant turrets and spires line the streets.

Day 13: Olden. We cruise the waters of the Nordfjord and visit the village of Olden. Here you may take a stunning boat trip on the blue-green waters of Lake Lovatnet, where you may view the mountain waterfalls and gaze in awe, or hike, at the Jostedalsglacier - a remnant of the last Ice Age. Or, visit the Jostedalsglacier National Park Center, which features educational exhibits and 3D models of the park's glacial flows.

Days 14 & 15: At Sea.

Day 16: London. We disembark in Southampton and proceed to London where we enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour. Highlights include Buckingham Palace, Tower Bridge, Big Ben, the Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Canadian War Memorial and much more. Our tour finishes at our centrally located hotel where we will have some time at leisure before our Farewell Dinner.

Day 17: Home. We fly home with Air Canada.



Seven Country Danube Cruise

- **First Class Riverboat Cruise**
- **1 night and tour in Bucharest**
- **Many shore excursions included!**

On this delightful cruise we will sail from Vienna (Austria) through seven Old World countries, ending in Bucharest (Romania). The itinerary will immerse us in the thousand-year-old history and culture of this fascinating region, home to the once mighty Hapsburg Empire. Featured stops include Bratislava (Slovakia), Budapest (Hungary), Vukovar (Croatia), Novi Sad and Belgrade (Serbia) and Vidin (Bulgaria). In addition to all of our included excursions with English-speaking guides at these ports-of-call, we will also enjoy lectures on Balkan history and the Modern Balkans, including the Communist period when most of these countries were behind the “Iron Curtain”.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class cruise in outside cabins, including all meals (unlimited wine, beer and soft drinks with all dinners)
- 1-night First Class accommodation in Bucharest, with breakfast and dinner
- All excursions as described
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

per person, double occupancy, from Toronto

- Lower Deck - 2 small windows \$7997
- Middle Deck (Rear) - French Balcony \$8497
- Middle Deck (Midship) - French Balcony.. \$8997
- Upper Deck - French Balcony \$9197
-
- Single accommodation on request
- Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - add \$190
- Winnipeg, Vancouver, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$290

13 DAYS • MAY 13 - 25

Our riverboat, the First Class *MS River Sapphire* is an intimate ship specially built for cruising European rivers.

While aboard you may relax in the panorama lounge, exercise room or the Sun Deck.

Dinners will include coffee and tea, regional wines, beer and soft drinks. Afternoon tea and late night snacks are offered as well. The nightly entertainment features folkloric and musical performances.

All the cabins are “outside” with either 2 small windows, or French Balcony.

** Those joining any of our tours to Europe must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Vienna.

Day 2: Vienna, Austria / Embarkation. We arrive in Vienna and transfer to the *MS River Sapphire*. After a welcome cocktail we enjoy our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Vienna, Austria. On our city tour we will see the highlights of this “Imperial “ capital, including Hunderwasser, the Ringstrasse, the Parliament, the State Opera, Hofburg (Imperial Palace) and Belvedere Palace. Our last stop will be in the old center of Vienna to take a walk through the pedestrian zone from Graben and Kohlmarkt to Michaela Square, ending at the entrance of St. Stephan’s Cathedral. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Day 4: Bratislava, Slovakia. We will enjoy a tour of this lovely city, including the famous St. Martin’s Cathedral and the Primate’s Palace. Our tour will end with a walk through the Old Town where we will see Michael’s Gate and Tower, Main Square, Old Town Hall and the Slovak National Theatre.

Day 5: Budapest, Hungary. Our tour of this lovely city will take in The Parliament Building, St. Stefan Cathedral, the Opera, the Square of Heroes, Fisherman’s Bastion, Gellert Hill and the town park with Vajdahunyad Castle.

Day 6: Budapest, Hungary. A day at leisure to enjoy pedestrian friendly Budapest on your own, or partake in an optional excursion. Before dinner we will enjoy a concert performed by a local Gypsy duo.

Day 7: Vukovar, Croatia. View the passing vistas from the Sun Deck as we sail into Croatia. Upon arrival we’ll enjoy a walking tour of this riverside city - Croatia’s largest river port. We will also visit the Franciscan Monastery and Museum.

Day 8: Novi Sad, Serbia. Novi Sad, Serbia’s third largest city, is a delightful pedestrian friendly town. We will join a local guide for a walking tour through the town center. There will be free time to explore this lovely town on our own, or partake in an optional Monastery Wine & Honey Tasting tour.

Day 9: Belgrade, Serbia. Our city tour of this lively and vibrant capital will take in the major attractions, including Kalemegdan Fortress and St. Sava’s Orthodox Cathedral, followed by a guided stroll through Knez Mihajlova Pedestrian Street. We will enjoy lunch at an authentic Serbian ethno restaurant including wonderful Serbian home-made fare, local “shlivovitz” (plumb brandy), live music and unique Serbian hospitality! This evening we enjoy a private folklore show onboard.

Day 10: Cruising Through the “Iron Gates” Gorge. Today’s highlight will be the passage through the “The Iron Gates” - the highest gorge on the Danube. Over 100 km. long, this canyon was historically a gigantic obstacle to navigate because of its pointed rocks, cliffs and changing water levels. A dam built in the 1970’s enables safe passage for passenger and cargo ships all the way to the Black Sea. Tonight is the Captain’s Farewell Dinner.

Day 11: Vidin, Bulgaria. We embark on a tour of this delightful Bulgarian river port, highlighted by a visit to the 13th century fortress named “Baba Vida” (“Grandma Vida”) - Bulgaria’s best preserved medieval fortress. There will be free time in the afternoon.

Day 12: Disembarkation / Bucharest, Romania. We disembark our ship and transfer to the “Paris of the East” – Bucharest, Romania’s lovely capital. Highlights of our city tour will include Revolution Square, Arch de Triumph, the National Theatre, the Romanian Athenaeum and more. We will stop for photos at President Ceausescu’s huge “People’s House” (today’s Parliament) - the second largest building in the world after the Pentagon.

Day 13: Home. We transfer to the airport for our flight back to Canada (via Frankfurt).

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Please read this page carefully before booking your Senior Discovery Tours (SDT) holiday.

- SDT acts solely as agent between the passenger and supplier for providing services as described in the brochure. SDT will not assume **responsibility** for any claims, damages or expenses arising from situations beyond our control.
- **Passports** are required for travel outside of Canada, and must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the date of your expected return to Canada.
- **All itineraries are “tentative”.** While we make every effort to follow the original itinerary, we may make changes to improve the tour, or for reasons beyond our control. If any component of a tour cannot be honoured by the contracted supplier, SDT will make every effort to provide a **comparable alternative**, however no liability should be inferred from these efforts.
- Those who choose to decline our comprehensive insurance package will be issued a rebate on their tour cost, the amount to be informed by your Tour Consultant. The following schedule of cancellation fees applies to you (and your travelling companion) **only if you have declined our insurance package, or if you cancel a tour for a reason not covered in our insurance package** (applies to tours without a cruise portion. Cruise penalties may vary). This schedule of cancellation fees applies to all tours departing before the end of March 2023.
 - Cancel 61 days or more prior to departure: \$75 admin. fee
 - Cancel 60 days to 31 days prior: 25% of tour cost
 - Cancel 30 days to 8 days prior: 50% of tour cost
 - Cancel 7 days or less prior: 100% of tour cost
- Our tours are designed for those who are **physically fit**. All tour members must be able to walk fairly long distances at a reasonable pace and climb stairs easily. Our tours are not suitable for those requiring wheel chairs and/or walkers. If you have walking limitations, we recommend a cruise on which the excursions are optional. If you are concerned about your physical ability to join one of our tours, we urge you to discuss which of our programs is appropriate for your activity level with one of our travel experts. **If you join a tour beyond your physical ability SDT reserves the right to send you home**, at your own cost and with no refund for unused services. SDT reserves **the right to decline any passenger** as a member of our tours at any time for any reason at our sole discretion.
- Please read the details of your insurance coverage carefully. If you have a **pre-existing condition** please inquire about your insurance validity at time of booking.
- All **gratuities** are included for all services provided in our tour package. For extra services such as optional excursions, meals on your own, room service and any exceptional services, tipping is at your discretion. If you wish to show appreciation to your Tour Manager please do so on an individual basis - collections are not permitted!
- **Single travellers** must pay a supplement due to hotel charges. However this does not imply that they will necessarily be assigned a room as large as those assigned to two people sharing. We can often team up **those without a partner!**
- Please be advised that there may be **different standards** in utilities, services and accommodations outside Canada. Our classifications for accommodation are made in terms of local standards. Please note that outside North America coffee, tea and drinking water are generally not included with lunch or dinner. All rooms are non-smoking.
- **Flight schedule changes** are beyond our control. We are therefore occasionally forced to change airlines, and/or routings, and/or date of travel for your benefit. In such cases we provide as much notice as possible, and do everything possible to ensure your convenience and comfort. Should a schedule change result in an unplanned overnight enroute to or from your destination, the cost will be borne by the traveller.
- SDT will attempt to accommodate **special requests** by notifying the suppliers in writing, however we cannot guarantee that requests such as room locations or meal requirements for flights or hotels will be adhered to by our suppliers, and therefore we cannot be held responsible. Please note that advance seat selection for flights on our group tours is not permitted, as per the conditions of our contract with the airlines. Sea view or pool view rooms are not guaranteed unless specifically noted in our brochure.
- **On cruises - all shore excursions are optional**, and are paid for on board the ship, unless stated otherwise in our brochure. Our local tour operators may also offer optional excursions. While we do our best to monitor their quality, SDT is not responsible for the operation or costing of these excursions.
- Our cancellation insurance policy does not include **“upgrade to single accommodation”** in case your partner cancels. In this case you may either pay the single supplement and travel as a single (space permitting), or cancel the tour and receive a full refund, less the \$75 administration fee, (assuming the cancellation is for a reason covered by our cancellation insurance policy). Also, while our cancellation insurance policy covers the partner of a person cancelling, it does not cover their friends who are not sharing accommodation with the cancelling party. **If you must cancel your tour you must notify us within 48 hours** of learning that you are unable to travel, otherwise the cancellation insurance policy is null and void.
- Generally you will receive your **tour documents** 10 to 14 days prior to departure, unless we are held up by a supplier providing documentation, in which case you may not receive them until closer to departure.
- **Luggage handling** is included wherever possible, however in some situations it does not exist - especially when removing your luggage from the carousels at airports. You should be capable of handling your luggage in such situations. Luggage carts are generally available at all airports worldwide.
- You may purchase our tours on a “land only” basis and **arrange your own flights** independently, in which case an air rebate will be applied. If you book your own flights, home pick-up and drop-off is not included. If you book different flights from the rest of the group, arrival / departure airport transfers at the destination are not included. If you book your own flights, please protect yourself with cancellation insurance as we cannot be held responsible for schedule changes, or if a tour is cancelled for any reason.
- You may not make any **changes to your flight arrangements** after the final payment due date.
- There may be occasions in which the **flight portion** of your SDT holiday is **unescorted**.
- If a **tour is cancelled** for any reason our liability is limited to your full refund. No tours will be cancelled due to **international events**, unless the government specifically advises not to travel to your destination.
- We are unable to refund those who do not participate in any **included meals or excursions**, as they are prepaid.
- All of our tours are conducted in **English only**. Reg.#2160711

SEE WHAT OUR TRAVELLERS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT US!

“OUR TRIP WAS MORE THAN WE EVER EXPECTED!”

We have just returned from our first Senior Discovery Tour, to Southeast Asia. The trip was well organized from the pick up at our home to the driver waiting to return us to our door. The hotels were exceptional and the meals were a highlight. The excursions were fascinating and well planned, and the guides entertaining. Our Tour Manager, Suzanne, was fabulous. She was very efficient and made sure everyone was well taken care of. She had water and goodies on the bus for all trips and was always asking if there was anything she could do for us. The trip was more than we ever expected and we look forward to taking another.

~ Grant and Barb, ON



“AND THEY EVEN PICKED ME UP AT HOME!”

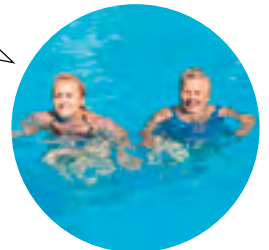
Of all the inclusive features that Senior Discovery Tours offers, the home pick-up is by far the best. I don't have to ask my husband or son to drive me to the airport or pick me up after the tour. SDT books a car for me, the driver comes to my door, carries my luggage out to the car and I sit back and enjoy the ride. When I returned from my wonderful tour in California I was directed to a car and driven home. It couldn't have been easier. Love it!

~ Celine, PQ

“I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR TOUR MANAGER”

The tour to Sicily was wonderful!! One might think “how could it be otherwise?” when the weather was so perfect, the scenery absolutely incredible, the meals beyond delicious, but I know that it took a great deal more than this. The planning and general arrangements were well thought out and suitable for Discovering Seniors! The Tour Manager's part in the success was paramount; David's unfailing unflappable good humour and patience with answering oft repeated questions, his flexibility in accommodating special needs and requests, and tireless checking and fine-tuning of details made it a very special holiday. Thank you David. I shall feel lucky to meet you again, on some future trip.

~ Ann, AB





Our prices include everything, even the tips!

In addition to flights, hotels, meals and pre-arranged sightseeing, our prices also include all taxes, health and cancellation insurance, all tipping and round-trip transportation between your home and the airport (from many Canadian cities). Prices are guaranteed in Canadian funds, and there will be no hidden or unexpected surcharges.

Call us at 1-800-268-3492 and one of our travel experts will be happy to answer your questions and help you choose a tour.

**Senior
Discovery
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M4R 1A9
(416) 322-1500

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392 Richmond Road
K2A 0E8
(613) 722-9400

London

649 Colborne St. Suite 201
N6A 3Z2
(519) 433-2300

Calgary

215-11012 Macleod Trail S.E.
T2J 6A5
(403) 225-2900

Vancouver (Burnaby)

6450 Roberts St. Suite 110
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