

2024

# Summer / Fall Tours & Cruises

CANADA • U.S.A. • BRITISH ISLES • EUROPE • MIDDLE EAST • SOUTH AMERICA



AFRICA • ASIA • WALKING TOURS • CRUISES



Senior  
**Discovery**  
Tours





# Fully planned

# and carefree travel

You've planned countless vacations for yourself and others. Isn't it time you let someone else handle the hassle?

Senior Discovery Tours plans every detail of your itinerary, picks you up, drops you off, books convenient flights and carefully selected hotels, plans unforgettable excursions and authentic dining experiences, provides expert local guides, and leaves you plenty of room to experience the world in new and remarkable ways.

Choose from over 100 extraordinary tours among the world's most iconic destinations.

With us, your only challenge is choosing where to go next.

*“ Having been do-it-yourself travellers for over 50 years, it was wonderful to have someone else manage the details so that we could totally immerse ourselves in the trip.*

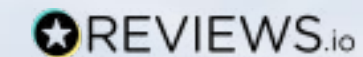
*- Brooke*



Canada's largest and most trusted tour operator for travellers over 55 since 1975.



4.64 avg. rating



“ I have travelled the last 2 years with Senior Discovery Tours. Both tours were to Italy. **I have nothing but praise for absolutely everything ...** both Senior tour guides and local guides. Hotels did not disappoint. - Judith

“ Had a great time and food and lodging were top notch. **I'm sure we had the best the country had to offer.** I highly recommended Senior Discovery Tours to all my travelling friends. - Rose

“  
*Door to door and everything in between, **great experience.***

- Lynn-Marie

### How to book your next adventure

- Call 1-800-268-3492 with your 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 or train, is due upon booking.
- \$75 of your deposit is a non-refundable administration fee.
- For those paying by cheque—please send your deposit 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.

“ **Once I went on my first tour with Senior Discovery Tours I vowed never to travel with anyone else.** I appreciate the all-inclusive package and I love the door-to-door pick-up! The small size of the groups allows me to get to know everyone and share interesting conversations. The trips are well organized from beginning to end ... I am looking forward to touring again and again! - Carolyn Suzanne







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Call us to book your next  
travel adventure!

**1.800.268.3492**

SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca



A camel caravan is shown in a vast desert landscape with rolling sand dunes. The camels are carrying riders, and a guide is visible in the distance. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The caravan is moving away from the viewer into the distance, leaving tracks in the sand.

**Read between the lines**

**| No | Hidden | Costs |**

Other tour operators surprise you with hidden taxes, gratuities, surcharges, currency exchange fees and more. At Senior Discovery Tours, prices are 100% transparent and guaranteed in Canadian funds.

**Included in every tour:**

All airfare, including airport taxes and surcharges (*excluding airline baggage fees*)

Roundtrip transportation between your home and the airport (*from most Canadian cities*)

Expert-approved hotels, including hotel taxes, and luggage handling (*where available*)

Most meals, highlighting local flavour

All gratuities for guides, coach drivers, and hotel, restaurant, and cruise staff

A dedicated and professional Tour Manager

Most sightseeing and excursions with expert local guides, including most entrance fees

Health insurance coverage while outside of Canada

Insurance for cancellation and trip interruption (*an all-in offering that's truly unique in Canada*)

Prices include all taxes and are guaranteed in Canadian funds





# 10 wonderful ways we make your journey better

At Senior Discovery Tours, we know how to make great travel experiences happen. After nearly 50 years in business, we have become Canada's largest and most trusted operator of guided tours for travellers over 55. Our worldwide adventures are designed to provide peace of mind for the mature traveller. We take care of all the details, big and small, so you can simply enjoy the destination.

## 1 No surprise costs

... all flights, hotels, and most excursions are included: plus, all transfers, taxes, and gratuities!

Our travellers love all the built-in "value-added extras" we offer, including home pick-up & drop-off, health and cancellation insurance, and our enriching excursions. All prices are guaranteed in Canadian dollars, and there are never any hidden surcharges.



## Carefully selected hotels 2

... we personally inspect each property for quality, service, and value, prioritizing convenient location wherever possible for easy access to local amenities.

Due to our longstanding relationships with most of our partner hotels, those who travel with Senior Discovery Tours are afforded exceptionally gracious service.

## 3 Most meals are covered ... and they are delicious ones too!

Enjoy the best of local cuisine, while enjoying the camaraderie of your like-minded travelling companions. On most of our European tours, wine is included with every dinner!



## Exceptional Tour Managers 4

... who go above and beyond to make sure that everyone has a fabulous experience.

Our Tour Managers are the best in the business. They go that extra mile to ensure your trip runs smoothly and that everything is delivered at a superior level of service.

## 5 Roundtrip transport

... right from your doorstep to the airport and home again.

We want to make travel easy for you. That's why we include roundtrip transportation right from your doorstep to the airport and safely back home (from most Canadian cities).

Just sit back, relax, and focus on the adventures that await you!



## Health, cancellation & trip interruption protection 6

... yes, we take care of that too!

Our mission is to provide you with a carefree travel experience. For this reason, we include a comprehensive insurance plan with health coverage (while outside of Canada), and insurance for cancellation & trip interruption—an all-in offering that's truly unique in Canada!



## 7 Over 100 destinations worldwide

... endless choices for your next journey!

Our carefully crafted itineraries take you to the most exciting and beautiful countries in the world. Explore the charming cities and rural villages of Europe, immerse yourself in the culture of Asia, or soak up the sun in the Caribbean!



## 8 A tour to suit everyone

... leisure traveller? Adventure-seeker? Whatever your style, we have a tour just for you!

We offer 8 tour styles to choose from, including stay-put vacations, 2 & 3-centre holidays, rail journeys, walking & hiking tours, and cruises. You can take your time to explore and relax ... or experience the thrill of multiple destinations.

# 8

## 9 Get rewards for travelling

... **Discovery Rewards** is our way of saying thank you for travelling with us!

Our Discovery Rewards loyalty program offers you exclusive gifts and great savings on future tours. Signing up for the program is free and easy!



## 10 Share the joy of travel

... and get more rewards through our **BlueSky Referrals** program.

We want to show our gratitude for your loyalty and glowing reviews over the years. Now, there is a better reason to refer us than ever before ... with our BlueSky Referrals program you receive even more tour savings!

# 10



## Your Health & Safety First

The world of travel has changed, but what hasn't changed is our commitment to the health and safety of our guests. 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.

### Special Cancellation Terms ... for Your Peace of Mind

Rest assured 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 than other tour operators.

You may cancel your trip up to 60 days prior to departure (90 days prior for cruises or rail journeys) for any reason, and receive a full refund of your deposit / payment (less the \$75 administration fee).

### Cancellation & trip interruption insurance included!

Included in the cost of your tour is our Cancellation Insurance Policy, which provides coverage in case of emergency injury or illness (including Covid), right up to your date of departure (terms and conditions apply).

Our Manulife Out-of-Country Health Insurance Plan covers expenses related to Trip Interruption in case of emergency injury or illness. For tours within Canada, Senior Discovery Tours will cover such expenses (terms and conditions apply to all policies).

*For a full list of terms and conditions please see page 106.*



Senior Discovery Tours is proudly recognized by the World Travel & Tourism Council for excellence in safety and hygienic standards.



# Your feedback means the world to us!

For nearly 50 years, Senior Discovery Tours has sent more satisfied senior travellers on more tours than any other Canadian tour operator. We appreciate your feedback and are always eager to hear about your past travels and memories with Senior Discovery Tours—it's an integral part of how we plan superior travel experiences.

Have you recently returned from a tour with us?  
We'd love to hear about it!

Visit [SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca/feedback](https://SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca/feedback)  
or leave us a Google review to share your feedback.



## Let's connect!

Follow us on social media and share your travel photos using  
[#SeniorDiscoveryTours](https://twitter.com/SeniorDiscoveryTours)

Be the first to know about our exciting new tours and cruises!  
Visit our website to subscribe to our monthly eNewsletter.

# More Rewarding Travel



## A welcome gift the moment you join

Enjoying unforgettable travel experiences with us is now even more exciting with 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 referral program, BlueSky Referrals. If you're a member of our Discovery Rewards and opt in to BlueSky Referrals, you may refer family and friends right away. If your referrals complete a trip with us, you will both be rewarded!



## 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 are interested, please email: [marketing@stc.ca](mailto:marketing@stc.ca)

For full program details and easy enrollment visit  
[SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca](https://SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca)



# North America

Discover the spirited cities and breathtaking natural beauty of our own continent. Encounter Canada's mountainous landscapes and hidden gems, groove to the soulful tunes of Music City and New Orleans, and discover the awesome canyon landscapes of the American Southwest. On every North American tour, expert-led adventure awaits.





# Canadian Rockies & Beautiful B.C.

Snow-capped peaks, unspoiled wilderness and incredible wildlife. Western Canada is truly one of the most beautiful places on earth—and an experience you won't soon forget.

Our tour takes us to Lake Louise, Banff and Jasper National Parks, where we will see nature's grandeur at its very best: towering peaks and ancient glaciers, alpine meadows and sparkling lakes of otherworldly blues and greens.

Our tour includes some wonderful 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.

Then it's off to Vancouver, the vibrant coastal city known for its natural beauty and cosmopolitan charm. Enjoy its picturesque parks, bustling waterfront, and relaxed, outdoorsy vibe. From there, we will take a scenic ferry ride to charming Victoria, BC's capital city located on lovely Vancouver Island.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Banff: Sulphur Mountain Gondola & Bow River float trip
- Lake Louise
- Victoria Glacier
- "Snocoach" to Columbia Icefield
- Maligne Canyon
- Wells Gray Provincial Park
- Hat Creek Ranch heritage site
- Fraser River: Hell's Gate Airtram
- Vancouver
- Victoria

10 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Jul 25 - Aug 3 / Sep 19 - 28

COST

**\$5,797**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Winnipeg*

- Single supplement: add \$1,490
- Triples: deduct \$150 per person
- Montreal or Ottawa: add \$90
- Halifax: add \$190
- Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: deduct \$300

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge ▪ First Class and moderate hotels  
▪ Full Breakfast daily ▪ 7 dinners ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE / CALGARY / BANFF.** We depart for Calgary with Air Canada. 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. In the afternoon we will enjoy a leisurely float trip along the Bow River, admiring the views of the snow-capped Rockies all along the way.

**DAY 3: LAKE LOUISE / COLUMBIA ICEFIELDS / JASPER.** We begin the day with a visit to 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 view 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 flow through every minute—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 stroll, shop, and 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 famed 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 Rouge flight home.







# Rocky Mountaineer

## Vancouver to Jasper by Rail

Experience the majestic Rocky Mountains in luxurious comfort on Canada's most iconic train journey.

Join us on the Rocky Mountaineer as we travel over picturesque trestle bridges, along raging rivers, and past stunning waterfalls, with the magnificent backdrop of glacier-clad mountains. Onboard, our dedicated attendant will entertain us with interesting commentary, serve our meals, and ensure our utmost comfort.

After boarding in Vancouver, we journey through the Fraser Valley and the towering Coastal Mountains. We'll stay overnight in Kamloops (our nights are spent in hotels), then get back on board to travel along the Thompson River to the Monashee Mountains to Jasper.

Choose from two levels of service aboard the Mountaineer: Silver Leaf Service includes breakfast and lunch served at your seat while you enjoy the scenery through oversized panoramic windows. Gold Leaf Service includes gourmet breakfast and lunch served in the exclusive Gold Leaf Dining Room, with unparalleled panoramic views through the dome windows. Both include alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks throughout the rail trip. (Note: Gold Leaf passengers travel separately from the main group during the rail journey.)

This tour also includes 3 nights in Vancouver and 3 nights in Jasper National Park, with extensive touring and adventures throughout.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First-class & moderate hotels ▪ Rocky Mountaineer Rail tour. Complimentary wine, beer, spirits, and soft drinks served throughout the rail journey ▪ Breakfast daily, 3 dinners & 2 lunches ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 9 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Jul 13 - 21 / Jul 27 - Aug 4  
 Aug 10 - 18 / Sep 21 - 29 (Fall Colours)

### COST

**\$6,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Winnipeg, in Silver Leaf Service*

- Upgrade to Gold Leaf Service: \$790
- Single supplement: \$1,290
- Triples: deduct \$150 per person
- Montreal, Ottawa, or Halifax: add \$290
- Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: deduct \$400

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Vancouver city tour
- Capilano Suspension Bridge
- 3-day Rocky Mountaineer train experience
- Peak-to-Peak Gondola from Whistler Mountain to Blackcomb (July & August only)
- Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (Sept. only)
- Narrated cruise on Maligne Lake
- Athabasca River raft trip
- Jasper Tramway ride

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: VANCOUVER.** We fly to Vancouver and transfer to our first-class downtown hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure until our Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 2: VANCOUVER.** Our city tour includes Stanley Park, Gastown, Chinatown and a visit to the popular Capilano Suspension Bridge, where we'll have the chance to walk along the 230-foot-high bridge over the Capilano Canyon. The evening is at leisure to explore Vancouver.

**DAY 3: WHISTLER / VANCOUVER.** A spectacular drive on the Sea to Sky Highway takes us to beautiful Shannon Falls, where we stop for photos. Then it's on to Whistler, North America's most popular mountain resort, where we will have free time to stroll and take in the fresh mountain air. Then we will ride the Peak-to-Peak Gondola from Whistler Mountain to Blackcomb Mountain for some truly spectacular views.

**September tours:** Because the gondola does not operate at this time, we will visit the award-winning Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre instead, and learn about the art and history of local First Nations People.

**DAY 4: ROCKY MOUNTAINEER / KAMLOOPS.** Today we begin "The Most Spectacular Train Trip in the World," with breakfast and lunch served onboard. We will pass through the fertile Fraser Valley, enjoy the

natural beauty of the scenic Fraser Canyon, and see Hell's Gate, where millions of gallons of water rush through the narrowest point of the canyon every minute. Finally, we arrive in Kamloops and transfer to our hotel.

**DAY 5: ROCKY MOUNTAINEER / JASPER.** All aboard for Jasper! The train follows the Thompson River towards the snowy peaks of the Monashee and Cariboo Mountains. We will have great views of Pyramid Falls, the incredible Albrecht Icefields, and Mt. Robson, the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies. Breakfast and lunch are served onboard. We arrive in Jasper in the early evening and transfer to our hotel.

**DAY 6: JASPER.** Today begins with an interpretive nature walk with a local expert, then our coach will take us along a beautiful road teeming with wildlife to Maligne Lake, one of the most beautiful lakes in the Rockies. We will enjoy a narrated cruise on crystal blue waters, surrounded by soaring mountains, in an area known as the "Hall of the Gods." The cruise gives us a fantastic view of Spirit Island, one of the most photographed sites in the Canadian Rockies.

**DAY 7: JASPER.** We'll start the day with a ride on the Jasper Tramway, the longest and highest guided aerial tramway in Canada, with amazing views of six mountain ranges, glacier-fed lakes, the Athabasca River and the scenic mountain town of Jasper. Then we're off for a leisurely raft trip down the Athabasca River. Our guide will point out points of interest as we take in the spectacular Rocky Mountain views on either side. Dinner is included this evening.

**DAY 8: EDMONTON.** We transfer to Edmonton, where we will enjoy a visit to the West Edmonton Mall before our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 9: HOME.** Air Canada takes us home.







# The Maritimes

With spectacular coastlines, picturesque villages, warm hospitality, and a rich, distinct culture, the Maritimes are a perennial hit with visitors from around the world.

Our tour starts in Nova Scotia, where we visit the famous lighthouse at Peggy's Cove, the Fisheries Museum in Lunenburg and the historic Fortress of Louisburg. In Halifax, we'll cruise the harbour in a tall ship, see the immigration museum at Pier 21, and sample local beer at Alexander Keith's.

In Saint John, New Brunswick we explore the historic Loyalist Trail, see the fascinating, dramatic Reversing Falls, and enjoy the scenic Bay of Fundy, which has some of the world's highest tides.

Then it's off to Prince Edward Island, Canada's smallest province and home of Anne of Green Gables, which is renowned for its sand dunes and pristine beaches. In Charlottetown, the Confederation Capital, we learn the important role this province played in our country's early history. And finally, no trip to the Maritimes would be complete without a drive along Cape Breton's awe-inspiring Cabot Trail, with its charming communities and breathtaking scenery.

Join us for unforgettable East Coast experiences—and memories you'll treasure!

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Tall ship cruise in Halifax Harbour
- Peggy's Cove, Lunenburg & Annapolis Valley
- Grand-Pré National Historic Site
- Cabot Trail
- Hopewell Rocks, Loyalist Trail & Reversing Falls
- Anne of Green Gables experience
- Pier 21 immigration museum
- Traditional lobster dinner

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Aug 2 - 15  
 Aug 23 - Sept 5  
 Sept 6 - 19

### COST

**\$5,997**  
*per person, double occupancy,  
 from Toronto, Ottawa, or Montreal*

- Single supplement: add \$1,490
- Triples: deduct \$150 per person
- Halifax: deduct \$500 (*land only*)
- Calgary or Vancouver: add \$290
- Winnipeg or Edmonton: add \$490

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First-class hotels ▪ Full Breakfast daily ▪ 8 dinners, including a lobster dinner, and 2 dinners with entertainment ▪ Performance at the Confederation Theatre  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: HALIFAX.** We fly to Halifax and transfer to our downtown hotel. The balance of the day is at leisure, with our Welcome Dinner in the evening.

**DAY 2: HALIFAX.** On our city tour of Halifax, our kilted guide will take us through the Victorian Public Gardens and stop at the top of Citadel Hill to take in the incredible harbour view. Then we'll embark on the historic tall ship *Silva* for a scenic cruise that takes us past Georges Island, the Historic Properties, and the vibrant waterfront. If conditions are favourable, you can join the crew in raising the sails!

**DAY 3: PEGGY'S COVE / LUNENBERG / ANNAPOLIS VALLEY.** We start at picturesque Peggy's Cove, famous for its neat houses, barren rocks, weathered wharves and the lighthouse point with a sweeping view of the ocean. Then we proceed to Lunenburg, home of the Bluenose (which you may know from the Canadian dime). We will visit the Fisheries Museum, then continue on to the Annapolis Valley.

**DAY 4: ANNAPOLIS VALLEY / SAINT JOHN.** As we travel along the historic Evangeline Trail, our first stop is Grand-Pré National Historic Site, which was made famous by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem, *Evangeline*. Then we board the *Fundy Rose* ferry for a delightful cruise across the Bay of Fundy to Saint John.

**DAY 5: ST. ANDREW / SAINT JOHN.** Our tour of Saint John includes the famous Loyalist Trail and the Reversing Falls, where ocean waters rushing upstream form a whirling, foaming torrent. We spend the afternoon in picturesque St. Andrew, with free time for lunch and shopping.

**DAY 6: HOPEWELL ROCKS / MONCTON.** Today we explore the quiet coves of Hopewell Rocks, with large flowerpot-shaped rock formations including "Mother-in-Law," "ET" and "Lover's Arch." Then we continue on to Moncton, where we will spend the night.

**DAY 7: PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.** On our way to PEI, we stop at Shediac, known as the Lobster Capital of the World, then drive across the Confederation Bridge to PEI and our hotel in Charlottetown. The afternoon is at leisure, and in the evening, we will enjoy a musical performance at the Confederation Theatre.

**DAY 8: PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.** Our guided tour of the island starts in Charlottetown's historic Confederation Centre, where the Fathers of Confederation met during the Charlottetown Conference. Then it's off to the home of *Anne of Green Gables* at Cavendish, and the famous wharf in North Rustico. Tonight, we'll feast on a lobster dinner at a local restaurant (alternatives available).

**DAY 9: BADDECK.** We return to Nova Scotia by ferry and proceed to the Bell Museum, where Alexander Graham Bell perfected his many inventions. Then we're off to another stunning spot: Baddeck in the heart of Cape Breton, where we will spend the night.

**DAY 10: CABOT TRAIL / SYDNEY.** A full-day tour of the scenic Cabot Trail. Nature lovers and photographers will love the quiet glens, rugged coastlines and pounding surf.

**DAY 11: LOUISBOURG / SYDNEY.** Today we take a guided tour of the Fortress of Louisbourg, the largest historic reconstruction in Canada, with dinner at a local restaurant, followed by a performance by local musicians.

**DAY 12: HALIFAX.** On our drive from Sydney back to Halifax, we travel through Scottish and English settlement towns like New Glasgow and Truro.

**DAY 13: HALIFAX.** This morning we visit Pier 21, an exhibit recreating the immigration experience, with innovative displays bringing moving stories to life. Then it's off to Alexander Keith's, the oldest working brewery in North America. After we learn about beer, the brewery and life in Halifax in 1863, we visit Stag's Head Tavern for toe-tapping live music and Keith's finest ale. The afternoon will be at leisure to explore Halifax, with our Farewell Dinner in the evening.

**DAY 14: HOME.** We fly home with Air Canada.





# Newfoundland & Labrador

With Newfoundland's old-world heritage, rugged fjords, charming fishing villages—and the famous warmth and hospitality of its people—you'll love every moment you spend on "The Rock."

On this tour, we will explore all four regions of the province. We will see the beautiful Northern Peninsula where the Vikings landed ten centuries ago and the wild forests and seaside villages of the Central and Eastern regions. We will spend time in the Avalon Region, with time to discover the historic capital of St. John's, and overnight in Labrador, one of the world's last great wildernesses.

Scenic drives and whale sightings, Viking history and tranquil lunches by the sea. You'll even get "screeched in" as an honorary Newfoundlander! It's an incredible getaway that will have you returning to Canada's friendliest province again and again.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Corner Brook city tour
- Gros Morne National Park with fjord cruise
- Whale watching cruise
- L'Anse aux Meadows Viking settlement
- Gros Morne Theatre Festival
- Beothuk Interpretation Centre
- Cruise on Western Brook Pond
- Evening with Gander's former mayor
- St. John's city tour

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

**Jul 26 – Aug 8**  
**Aug 2 – 15**  
**Aug 12 – 25**  
**Aug 19 – Sep 1**  
**Aug 26 – Sep 8**  
**Sep 6 – 19**  
**Sep 13 – 26**

### COST

**\$5,997**

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto or Montreal*

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Triples: deduct \$150
- Halifax: deduct \$200
- Ottawa, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$190

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ Moderate accommodation (best available in most cases)  
 Full breakfast daily ▪ 8 dinners & 1 lunch ▪ Whale Watching Cruise & Gros Morne Cruise  
 ▪ Theatre show & local entertainment ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: CORNER BROOK.

We fly to Deer Lake, Newfoundland and transfer to our hotel in Corner Brook.

### DAY 2: CORNER BROOK.

Our city tour includes Captain Cook's Lookout and a scenic drive along the Captain Cook Trail to charming Lark Harbour. We will visit the Corner Brook Museum, which has an incredible collection of maps and memorabilia from the area's logging and fishing past.

### DAY 3: GROS MORNE NATIONAL PARK / NORTHERN PENINSULA.

Today we get our first glimpse of the Park's dramatic, beautiful scenery, cross to lovely Bonne Bay by boat, stop for the spectacular view at Lobster Cove lighthouse, and see the famous ocean-carved Arches. Then it's on to our hotel on the Northern Peninsula.

### DAY 4: L'ANSE AUX MEADOWS / ST. ANTHONY.

Our day begins with a visit to L'Anse aux Meadows, North America's first Viking settlement. We stop at Grenfell Centre, which commemorates the life of medical missionary Sir Wilfred Grenfell, then proceed to our hotel in St. Anthony.

**DAY 5: LABRADOR.** We take the ferry to Labrador (1.5 hours) to see the tallest lighthouse in Atlantic Canada and visit the 16th-century Red Bay Whaling Station, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### DAY 6: GROS MORNE NATIONAL PARK.

We ferry back to Newfoundland and return to beautiful Gros Morne (also a UNESCO World Heritage Site) for a two-night stay.

### DAY 7: GROS MORNE NATIONAL PARK.

We spend the day in the park: the highlight is a cruise inside an ancient fjord on Western Brook Pond (weather permitting).

Tonight it's off to the Gros Morne Theatre Festival for some fine local entertainment.

**DAY 8: GANDER.** We visit King's Point Whale Pavilion to see the 52-foot humpback whale skeleton, stop in the popular Pottery Museum and Shop, enjoy a delicious lunch overlooking Green Bay, and check out the Salmonid Interpretation Centre in Grand Falls, one of North America's largest fishing projects. This evening we meet the former mayor of Gander to hear the story of how people opened their homes to thousands of stranded travellers on 9/11, as depicted in the play *Come from Away*.

### DAY 9: TWILLINGATE / GANDER.

Our first stop is the Beothuk Interpretation Centre, where we will learn about the island's Indigenous people, then travel the Road to the Isles to the fishing villages on rugged Notre Dame Bay. From there, we continue to Twillingate, one of the oldest seaports in Newfoundland, to visit their museum and the oldest wooden church in the province. This evening we enjoy a traditional jiggs (corned beef and vegetable) dinner at a local restaurant.

### DAY 10: CLARENVILLE.

We travel through Terra Nova Provincial Park to Trinity, a 16th-century fishing port known for its beautiful heritage buildings. Our overnight is in nearby Clarenville.

### DAY 11: ST. JOHN'S.

We drive along the rugged coastline, past scenic Conception Bay. After a stop in Heart's Content to visit the Cable Station, we continue 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 fascinating history and include a visit to Signal Hill, with its striking view of the city and historic port. We will have some free time in the afternoon – you may want to head to 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 some of the best whale watching in the world. We will stop at Cape Spear, the most easterly point in North America, which was a strategic defense position against Nazi submarines in WWII. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner, featuring a traditional "screech in."

### DAY 14: HOME.

We fly home from St. John's.





COACH TOUR

# Quebec's Gaspé Peninsula & Splendours of the St. Lawrence

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

Explorers and scientists alike have always been dazzled by the beauty, bio-diversity and colossal size of the St. Lawrence. The river consists of over 1,200 km of waterways dotted with charming villages, rolling hills, farmland, 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 back home including Ireland's Great Famine. Small communities of colourful farm buildings and

11 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Aug 24 - Sep 3 / Sep 11 - 21

COST

**\$4,297**

*per person, double occupancy*

**Departs from Toronto, Burlington, Whitby, and Kingston**

- .....
- Single supplement: add \$1,290
- Triples: deduct \$70 per person

silver-spired churches contribute to the striking landscape, not to mention the famous "pierced rock" at Percé, glacier-patterned cliffs, endless beaches, mountainous, forested hinterlands and the breathtaking Parc Forillon.

Hotels for this tour have been carefully selected based on location, and, as they are family-owned, we're sure to experience the hospitality and "joie de vivre" the local inhabitants are so well known for. Our meals will feature regional local specialties.

**TOUR 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)  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**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 Sainte-Catherine Street, Notre-Dame Cathedral and picturesque 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: CARLETON-SUR-MER.** 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 Carleton-Sur-Mer, in the heart of the Baie-Des-Chaleurs.

**DAY 5: PERCÉ.** Today we enjoy the views of picturesque centuries-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. Enroute 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 charming Percé village, with the famous nearby Percé Rock rising out of the sea. We will visit Percé's new attraction, Geopark. Supported by UNESCO, the park features a suspended glass walkway offering spectacular views over Percé Rock, and walking trails to 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 Gannets in North America. The afternoon is at leisure to either enjoy a nature walk on Bonaventure Island or Percé Rock, or to take in the spectacular views from the promenade along the seafront, lively with boutiques 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. Enroute 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 with boreal forest, unique geological formations and abundant wildlife. Later we travel to Matane, famous

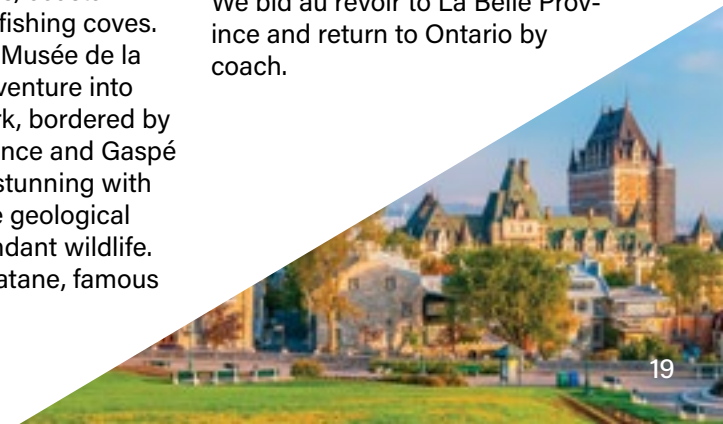
for its Nordic shrimps, windmills and the Matane River—the only place in Quebec where you can fish in the town square!

**DAY 8: REFORD GARDENS / KAMOURASKA / QUEBEC CITY.** Our first stop is Reford Gardens, a labour of love and internationally renowned as an exceptional horticultural achievement with its 3,000 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 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 happy to provide suggestions. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 11: ONTARIO.** We bid au revoir to La Belle Province and return to Ontario by coach.





# 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.

Stay four nights in Nashville, also known as Music City or the Country Music Capital of the World.

Next, visit Graceland, former home of Elvis Presley, before heading to Memphis—birthplace of blues and rock ‘n roll.

In Mississippi, stay in the beautiful antebellum town of Natchez and visit a memorable plantation home.

Stay four nights in a central French Quarter hotel in New Orleans, the city that gave the world Jazz, Bourbon Street, Creole culture and Oysters Rockefeller.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Gaylord Opryland Resort
- Grand Ole Opry performance
- County Music Hall of Fame
- General Jackson Showboat Lunch Cruise
- Wildhorse Saloon line dancing
- “Soul of Nashville” show
- Tour of Ryman Auditorium
- Graceland tour
- Mojo Memphis singing tour
- Plantation carriage tour & Southern dinner
- New Orleans Jazz brunch
- Cajun swamp tour
- New Orleans Cooking School dinner
- French Quarter & cemetery tour
- Legendary Preservation Hall with Jazz music

12 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 2 - 13

COST

**\$7,797**

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,990
- Montreal or Ottawa: add \$190 *(includes an overnight in Toronto enroute to Nashville)*
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, or Halifax: add \$690 *(includes Toronto overnights in each direction)*

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class and moderate hotels ▪ Full Breakfast daily (except for the day of the Jazz Brunch) ▪ 10 dinners, 2 lunches, Jazz Brunch  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: NASHVILLE.** Arrive in Nashville and transfer to Gaylord Opryland Resort. Experience famous Southern hospitality!

**DAY 2: NASHVILLE.** Visit the Country Music Hall of Fame and historic RCA Studio B, where Elvis recorded many songs. Stroll down the Music City Walk of Fame and along Honky Tonk Highway. Later, enjoy a boot-stomping dinner at a historic Nashville Honky Tonk renowned for contagious music.

**DAY 3: NASHVILLE.** Visit Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage, a beautiful farm, and learn about the humble beginnings of one of America’s most visionary presidents. Next, board the General Jackson Showboat—a paddlewheel riverboat—for an afternoon of great food, entertainment and views. Enjoy dinner and a show at the famed Grand Ole Opry before an exclusive backstage tour.

**DAY 4: NASHVILLE.** Begin with the new Soul of Nashville experience at historic Ryman Auditorium, known as the Mother Church of Country Music.

**DAY 5: GRACELAND / MEMPHIS.** En route to Memphis, stop at Graceland—Elvis Presley’s former home. Tour his house, cars and jets before continuing to your hotel in central Memphis.

**DAY 6: MEMPHIS.** Play and sing along as your guided Memphis Mojo bus tour takes you to Sun Studio, the Rock ‘n Roll Museum and Civil Rights Museum. Next, explore the historic downtown and discover Beale Street’s storied history of musical legends, gangsters and Civil War heroes. Watch the famous Peabody Duck March, then return to Beale Street for dinner, music and lively street entertainment.

**DAY 7: NATCHEZ.** Proceed to photogenic Natchez, Mississippi—an antebellum town on the Mississippi River—for a horse-drawn carriage tour of the city. Visit historic Glenfield Plantation home, where the property’s 5th-generation owner provides a guided tour and serves authentic Southern dinner.

**DAY 8: NATCHEZ / NEW ORLEANS.** Following a Southern breakfast, tour of Frogmore Plantation and Gin—a working cotton plantation with history stretching back to the 1850s. Enjoy stories and music, pick a bowl of cotton, visit the slave cabins and learn about plantation life. At the Delta Music Museum, learn about the unforgettable lives of Jerry Lee Lewis, Aaron Neville, Conway Twitty, Fats Domino and other musical legends. Proceed to New Orleans and check in to your hotel in the heart of the French Quarter.

**DAY 9: NEW ORLEANS.** Begin with a lively Jazz brunch at the landmark Court of Two Sisters. Experience the historic architectural beauty of the French District’s alleys and courtyards, including world-famous Bourbon Street. Bourbon Street abounds with colourful characters—musicians, magicians, voodoo practitioners and artists. Stop at the French Market, ride the trolley along Canal Street, then enjoy a tour and tasting of the famous Sazerac cocktail at the Sazerac House. Hop aboard a pedi-cab to Preservation Hall for a lovely acoustic Jazz concert.

Later, you may wish to stop at Pat O’Brian’s for a famed Hurricane cocktail.

**DAY 10: NEW ORLEANS.** Experience the city’s melting pot of French, Spanish, African and Cajun architecture, cuisine and culture. Drive through the beautiful Garden District, visit a unique above-ground cemetery and learn about some locals’ supernatural beliefs. Hear stories about Marie Leveau, the Voodoo Queen, and famous New Orleans novelist Anne Rice. Finish the day with a visit to Mardi Gras World and learn the history of the city’s claim to fame. Later, learn about the local cuisine and savour dinner at the famous New Orleans Cooking School.

**DAY 11: SWAMP TOUR.** Take an adventurous swamp tour—a fantastic way to get up close and personal with the region’s flora and fauna. Included lunch features local specialties. In the evening, enjoy a delectable Farewell Dinner at the legendary Tujague’s Restaurant.

**DAY 12: RETURN.** Fly home via Air Canada.





# South America

South America beckons with its wild beauty and vivid cultures. Explore the Andean landscapes, world famous ancient sites, and exotic culture in Peru. Encounter giant tortoises and iguanas on the Galapagos Islands. Set foot on a continent where every step leads to discovery, from pristine glaciers and bustling city streets to delectable cuisine and friendly locals.



NEW

# Ecuador & the Galapagos Islands

Experience the biodiversity of the Amazon jungle, the magnificent landscape of the Andes Mountains, and the unique ecosystems of the Galapagos Islands.

We begin in Quito, Ecuador's capital, which has South America's largest concentration of Spanish colonial architecture. Located high in the Andes, Quito has one of the most beautiful natural settings of any world capital.

We then venture into the jungle of the Ecuadorian Amazon, home to one of the world's richest ecosystems. Nestled in the heart of the rainforest, our comfortable jungle lodge offers an immersive experience surrounded by abundant bird species, flora, and fauna.

After spending a few days marvelling at the scenery of the Andes Mountains, we proceed to the captivating colonial city of Cuenca—a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and birthplace of the renowned Panama Hat.

Finally, we'll stay 4 nights in the Galapagos Islands, where we may encounter unique wildlife such as giant tortoises and blue-footed boobies. These islands promise an unforgettable glimpse into the wonders of nature.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Quito's colonial centre: UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Cotopaxi National Park
- Galapagos Islands of Santa Cruz and Isla Isabela
- Pululahua Volcanic Reserve: largest inhabited volcano crater
- Pailon del Diablo: Devil's Cauldron Waterfall
- Charles Darwin Station
- Andes Mountains
- Nizag indigenous community
- Sierra Negra Volcano on Isla Isabela
- Mindo Cloudforest
- Cuenca: UNESCO Site
- El Cajas National Park

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Copa Airlines ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full breakfast daily, 13 dinners & 4 lunches  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

16 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Nov 5 - 20

### COST

**\$9,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

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 ▪ Single supplement: add \$1,590

All add-ons below include an overnight in Toronto in each direction:

- Montreal, Ottawa, or Halifax: add \$890
- Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton, or Calgary: add \$1,190

### ACTIVITY NOTE

This tour is suitable only for the fit and adventurous traveller who enjoys walking.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART FOR QUITO.** We fly to Quito via Panama City. Welcome drinks & dinner at our hotel.

**DAY 2: QUITO.** Our city tour includes the colonial centre, the Campana Church (one of the richest in the Americas), Independence Square, and the main Cathedral. We'll also visit the Equatorial Museum to learn about the culture of indigenous groups around the world who live on the Equator. Here, you can stand with one foot in each hemisphere.

**DAY 3: MINDO CLOUDFOREST.** We pass through small villages on the Pan-American Highway to the Mindo Rainforest, stopping enroute to view the Pululahua Volcano reserve. After arriving at the Sachatamia Rainforest Lodge, we'll enjoy our first guided rainforest walk. With some luck, we might see howler monkeys!

**DAY 4: MINDO CLOUDFOREST.** A tour highlight! Our local guide will walk us through the rainforest and show us the jungle's incredible variety of flora, fauna, and medicinal plants.

**DAY 5: MINDO CLOUDFOREST.** Another guided walk to explore this diverse ecosystem. Included is a visit to a butterfly conservatory, home to more than 35 species of butterflies and humming birds.

**DAY 6: COTOPAXI NATIONAL PARK / BANOS.** We first stop at the beautiful Cotopaxi National Park to admire the world's highest active volcano. We'll stroll around Limpiopungo Lake to discover the variety of plants and animals of the Ecuadorian mountains, totally different from those in the rainforest. We continue to Banos, located near the mighty Tungurahua Volcano.

**DAY 7: RIOBAMBA.** We visit one of the most beautiful waterfalls

in South America, the "Pailon del Diablo" ("Devil's Cauldron"), where an easy walk in the cloud forest will take us to the viewpoint of this hidden jewel. Then, we'll take a cable car ride across the Zamora River Canyon for beautiful views. We continue on to Riobamba, perched up in the Andes, and surrounded by volcanoes.

**DAY 8: INGAPIRCA / CUENCA.** We travel to Cuenca, stopping enroute at the Nizag indigenous community, who are known for keeping their ancestral traditions alive. We will learn all about the community's history and culture. Later, we'll visit Ingapirca, Ecuador's most important Inca site, before proceeding to Cuenca.

**DAY 9: CUENCA.** Our city tour begins with a stroll through the cobbled streets of this beautiful UNESCO World Cultural city. This colonial jewel has many picturesque squares, balconies, and churches, including the incredible pink marble cathedral. We'll see people wearing traditional colourful costumes—a visual feast for photographers! The day includes a museum visit, panoramic views from Turi Hill, and a visit to a factory that makes the traditional Panama hats.

**DAY 10: EL CAJAS / GUAYAQUIL.** We drive to El Cajas National Park, world renowned for its 300 lakes. We'll stop at the highest point for breathtaking views before descending to sea level—an amazingly rapid change in landscape and climate as we pass from the high moorlands, through the cloud forest, and then through tropical cacao and banana plantations. We end the day in Guayaquil, Ecuador's main port city. There will be free time to explore the city before dinner.

## DAY 11: SANTA CRUZ (GALAPAGOS ISLANDS).

We fly to the enchanting Galapagos islands, and proceed to Santa Cruz Island. We'll have a guided tour of the Charles Darwin Research Station, to learn about the scientific research and conservation efforts dedicated to preserving the environment and biodiversity of the Galapagos archipelago.

**DAY 12: SANTA CRUZ.** We set out on yacht with a Naturalist Guide to visit a nearby island. Enjoy a relaxing day on the water with wildlife viewing, and snorkeling opportunities. A hot lunch and drinks will be served on board. We return to Santa Cruz in the afternoon for some leisure time.

**DAY 13: ISABELA ISLAND.** We depart for the island of Isabela, where we'll visit Sierra Negra Volcano—one of the most important and active volcanoes in the islands. We'll take a hike to experience the breathtaking views and the Galapagos flora and fauna. After lunch, we'll visit the Turtle Centre and the Flamingo Pool.

**DAY 14: LAS TINTORERAS ISLET.** Today we visit the iconic Las Tintoreras Islet, renowned for its Galapagos sharks, penguins and other animals unique to these islands. We can explore the islet on foot, or enjoy some great snorkeling.

**DAY 15: GUAYAQUIL.** We ferry through the Itabaca Canal to the airport for our flight back to the mainland. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner in Guayaquil.

## DAY 16: RETURN.

We fly back to Canada, via Panama City.





# Wonders of Peru

Peru captivates the visitor with breathtaking Andean landscapes, world famous ancient sites, and exotic culture.

We start and finish in the capital, Lima, which features Inca ruins, art galleries, museums, and 16th century churches and cathedrals.

Next is the mystical Sacred Valley, with its ancient wonders and rich Peruvian culture, nestled amidst the towering Andes Mountains. Of course we'll visit the spectacular site of Machu Picchu, one of the most well preserved and beautiful ancient cities on the planet, in the shadows of the Andes mountains.

Next is Cusco, once the capital of the Inca Empire, where we'll marvel at the many well preserved ancient sites.

Then, in Puno, we'll explore Lake Titicaca, and the floating islands, and discover an ancient way of life unchanged for centuries.

At the Colca Canyon, we'll marvel at the scenery and the flight of the Andean condors, before heading to Arequipa—a city surrounded by snow-capped volcanoes, thermal hot springs, and the world's deepest canyons.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- The capital city, Lima
- Machu Picchu (World Heritage Site)
- Cusco (World Heritage Site)
- Incan archaeological sites of Andahuaylillas and Ollantaytambo
- Lake Titicaca & man-made floating islands
- Majestic Colca Canyon
- The "White City" of Arequipa

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Avianca Airlines ▪ First Class and moderate hotels ▪ Full breakfast daily, 10 dinners and 10 lunches ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Nov 7 - 20

### COST

**\$8,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,590
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** Late departure on our overnight flight to Lima, via Bogota (Colombia).

**DAY 2: LIMA.** Upon arrival in Lima we transfer to our centrally located hotel (early check-in included). After some time to relax we'll embark on our city tour, which will show us the Old Town, Plaza Mayor, the Government Palace, the Cathedral, and the House of El Oidor. We also enjoy a guided tour of the Rafael Larco Herrera Museum, built on the site of pre-Columbian pyramid houses. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: SACRED VALLEY.** We fly to Cusco and transfer to the Sacred Valley, enroute visiting Manos de la Comunidad—a handicraft market dedicated to the conservation of the South American Camelids and the use of their wool.

**DAY 4: SACRED VALLEY.** This morning we visit the small town of Chinchero where we'll enjoy an Andean weaving demonstration. Next, we'll explore historic Moray to see the magnificent terraced circles built for planting experiments. Later we visit the Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo where steep stone staircases and terraces lead to an inner temple.

**DAY 5: MACHU PICCHU.** We take a train to the incredible mountain-top ruins of Machu Picchu. Our guided walking tour will illustrate what the city looked like centuries ago. It was once a flourishing ceremonial and agricultural site, and today it remains a beautiful jewel in a remarkable setting between two peaks of the Andes. Afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 6: MACHU PICCHU / CUSCO.** After further touring of mysterious Machu Picchu, we take the Vistadome train to Ollantaytambo. Overhead windows on the

train enhance the views of the journey as we wind our way along the Urubamba Valley. Upon arrival we transfer back to Cusco.

**DAY 7: CUSCO.** We first visit the Cathedral of Cusco and the Temple of the Sun—the most important temple in the Inca Empire. Later we proceed to the ancient fortress of Saqsayhuaman, and then the picturesque San Blas—known as the "neighbourhood of the artisans".

**DAY 8: PUNO.** We enjoy the scenic drive to Puno through the La Raya Mountain range, enroute visiting the Inca archaeological sites of Andahuaylillas, with its beautiful baroque St. Peter Church, Raqchi and Pukara—a National Cultural Heritage Site.

**DAY 9: LAKE TITICACA / PUNO.** We embark on a cultural journey as we head out across Lake Titicaca to explore the islands of Uros and Taquile, and learn about the indigenous people and traditions. These man-made floating islands were constructed entirely out of reeds. The friendly locals are happy to welcome you to their islands, and share their history and culture. The islands are untouched by the mainland's modernity. The local inhabitants wear traditional clothing and are known for their high-quality handicrafts. While the women make yarn and weave, knitting is actually done exclusively by men! Afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 10: COLCA CANYON.** We proceed to the town of Chivay, located at the midpoint of the Colca Valley. Along the way, see the surrounding volcanoes, a variety of flora, and possibly some of the local wildlife.

**DAY 11: COLCA CANYON / PUNO.** We enter the Colca Canyon—twice as deep as the Grand Canyon! We proceed to the Cruz de Condors, a famed viewpoint to watch the condors gliding on the air currents which rise from the canyon—a spectacular scene with the river 1200 metres below! We then continue our scenic drive to Arequipa.

**DAY 12: AREQUIPA.** We tour the "White City" of Arequipa, high in the Andes. We'll see the extraordinary architecture of the Convent of Santa Catalina, the Main Square, the cathedral, and Mundo Alpaca—a cultural experience in which we meet Alpacas and Llamas. Later we fly back to Lima.

**DAY 13: BARRANCO / LIMA.** Today we explore Barranco—considered to be Lima's most romantic and bohemian district, being the home and working place of many of Peru's leading artists, musicians, and designers. There are many colonial era houses, flower-filled parks and streets, and lovely beaches. Included will be a visit to the Museo de Arte Colonial Pedro de Osma—a private museum housed in a historic mansion. This evening we enjoy our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** We transfer to the airport for our flight back to Canada, via Bogota.





# British Isles

Step into a blend of rolling hills, ancient legends, and regal cities in the British Isles. From the haunting beauty of Scotland's highlands to the brilliant green hills of Ireland, each turn uncovers a story imbued with history and charm. England's stately landmarks and cultural treasures offer a journey through time, where modern life and historical grandeur exist side by side. Tour the British Isles for the perfect mix of scenic views, bygone days, and remarkable encounters.





## FIRST-CLASS

# London Show Tour

Join us in the Theatre Capital of the World to see top shows, iconic attractions and London's fabled, historic streets.

And we'll make it all as easy as possible: 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. *The Time Traveller's Wife*. Whether it is tomorrow, today, or yesterday, it is time to see this new musical—an enduring love story based on Audrey Niffenegger's bestselling 2003 novel. Henry has a genetic disorder that propels him into spontaneous time travel, in order to join his soulmate, Clare, through the ages. This unique story illustrates the immense challenges in relationships and showcases how true love can stand the test of time!

2. *Mrs. Doubtfire*. This masterpiece of comedy and drama is about a man who has lost almost everything following a divorce. However, he does not give up and his love for his kids leads him to become a Scottish nanny. This heartwarming musical is both hysterically funny and deeply emotional.

3. Your choice: pick one of 3 of the hottest West End / National Theatre shows to see as your third show!

We will stay at the centrally located Park Plaza Waterloo (or similar), situated on the south side of the Thames with dramatic river and skyline views—and an easy walk to the House of Parliament, Big Ben, the London Eye, and train and tube stations.

The hotel features stylish, modern furnishings and first-class facilities including fitness centre, indoor pool, sauna and steam room. All superior guest rooms are air-conditioned with flat screen TV, safe, coffee/tea facilities and free WiFi.

## 10 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Aug 14 – 23

### COST

**\$6,397**

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

- Single supplement: add \$1,390
- Halifax or Calgary: add \$290
- Edmonton or Vancouver: add \$590

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Excellent seats to 3 pre-booked hit shows
- Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Windsor Castle, Tower of London, Royal Mews, Thames Cruise, Theatre tours and much more

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First-class hotel ▪ Full English breakfast daily  
▪ 4 dinners, a pub lunch, and an afternoon tea ▪ Theatre and tours as described  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**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 / AFTERNOON TEA.** 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", as well as a buffet-style Afternoon Tea. During your free time, you may wish to visit the 17<sup>th</sup> 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 2 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 King, serving as his London home and offices. We will see many of the magnificent staterooms in this working palace, used extensively by the King and members of his 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 / WEST END BACKSTAGE TOUR / 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 16<sup>th</sup> century theatre experience. Afterwards, it's on 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, and all kinds of buskers (street entertainers). We will enjoy a "Behind the Scenes" tour of the nearby Royal Theatre, and the affectionately called "Actors' Church"—depicting memorials dedicated to many famous theatrical personalities: Charlie Chaplin, Noel Coward, Gracie Fields, Vivien Leigh, and many 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.





2-CENTRE TOUR

# Ancient Touring Routes of England

## Bristol & Oxford

Join us as we follow “The Great West Way,” one of the first Great Roads commissioned by the Kings of England.

Winding through lush green landscapes to historic cities and world-famous attractions, this tour is for travellers who want to explore the “real” England – and enjoy 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 as the UK’s best place to live. Bristol has a rich maritime heritage with a famous harbour, historic landmarks and stunning architecture from a variety of historic periods.

The second half of our tour will be spent in glorious Oxfordshire, a landscape rich with fairy-tale palaces, picture-postcard villages, and of course, the world’s oldest English-speaking university. Our hotel is set on 17 beautiful landscaped acres, just 10 minutes from the centre of Oxford.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Bath: UNESCO Heritage City
- Bristol: the SS Great Britain & “Being Brunel”
- Waddesdon Manor
- Bradford-upon-Avon
- The unspoiled village of Lacock
- Cruise on the Thames
- Blenheim Palace: birthplace of Winston Churchill
- Chiltern Hills tour
- Oxford: City of Dreaming Spires
- Berkeley Castle
- The Royal Borough of Windsor

14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Jul 21 – Aug 3

### COST

**\$6,497**

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

- Single Supplement: \$990
- Winnipeg or Edmonton: add \$290
- Calgary or Halifax: add \$390
- Vancouver: add \$590

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First-class hotels ▪ Full breakfast daily, 10 dinners (including 2 pub dinners) ▪ An Afternoon Tea ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: DEPART.

We fly direct to London.

**DAY 2: BRISTOL.** We arrive and transfer to our centrally-located hotel for a 6-night stay. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: BRISTOL.** Our city tour begins at the historic waterfront, where we’ll visit the SS Great Britain and see what life was like on the world’s first great luxury liner. Then we’ll experience Being Brunel, where we will learn about the ingenious engineer who changed the face of England with his bridges, tunnels, dockyards, and railways. We finish the day with a leisurely walking tour of Bristol’s historic centre.

### DAY 4: COTSWOLDS / BERKELEY CASTLE.

Today we meander through the sleepy, honey-coloured villages of the Cotswolds, a designated area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We make a stop to visit magnificent Berkeley Castle, the UK’s oldest medieval castle to be occupied by the same family from its inception (1153!) to today.

### DAY 5: BRISTOL.

A day at leisure to explore stunning architecture, award-winning attractions, great restaurants, and stunning cityscapes.

### DAY 6: BATH / BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

We begin in the UNESCO City of Bath, home to stunning Georgian architecture, the iconic Royal Crescent, the majestic Circus, and Pulteney Bridge. Then it’s off to Bradford-on-Avon, where the town’s ancient, picturesque bridge still retains its original 13th-century arches. You will have some free time to explore before we head back to Bristol and dinner at a charming local pub.

### DAY 7: LACOCK ABBEY / TETBURY.

Lacock Abbey is considered the birthplace of photography: it was here that William Fox-Talbot took his first photograph in the early 1830s. Lacock village is wonderfully preserved, with no television aerials and few signs of the modern world. After our visit to the Abbey, we’ll explore Tetbury, known for its antique shops and proximity to King Charles’s residence at Highgrove, where we will enjoy a traditional Cream Tea.

### DAY 8: BLENHEIM / OXFORD.

Today we visit Blenheim Palace, birthplace of Winston Churchill and home to one of Europe’s finest antique collections. We’ll tour the State Rooms, explore 2000 acres of landscaped parkland, and see some of the finest views in England. From here, we will drive to our hotel in the Oxford countryside for a 6-night stay.

### DAY 9: HENLEY / CHILTERN HILLS.

Henley-on-Thames is one of England’s most beautiful towns—and is also famous for its internationally-renowned rowing regatta. We begin with a cruise along the regatta route, then tour the Chiltern Hills, dotted with quaint villages with typical brick and flint architecture. This evening we enjoy dinner in a local pub.

### DAY 10: OXFORD.

On our guided walking tour of Oxford, we’ll see ancient university buildings and hidden alleyways, 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 who studied here. There will be free time to explore on our own.

### DAY 11: OXFORD AT LEISURE.

Wander the lovely grounds of our hotel, enjoy the pool and spa facilities, or even play a few sets on the tennis courts. You can also head into Oxford or take a walk through the nearby market town of Thame.

### DAY 12: AYLESBURY / WADDESDON MANOR.

Our first stop is Aylesbury, known for its vibrant (and wonderfully browsable) antique market. Then it’s off to Waddesdon Manor, a French Renaissance manor house inspired by the chateaux in the Loire Valley. Built by the Rothschild family in the 19th century, it boasts exceptional architecture, an extensive art collection and stunning gardens.

### DAY 13: WINDSOR.

We’ll enjoy a walking tour and a visit to Windsor Castle, one of the King’s official residences and the largest and oldest occupied castle in the world. Tonight, it’s our Farewell Dinner—and cheers to an incredible tour!

### DAY 14: HOME.

We fly home from London to Toronto.







# Northern & Central England

## Off the Beaten Path

On this unique tour of Northern and Central England, explore some of the region's isolated and unspoiled treasures.

Yorkshire is famous for its stone-built farms, countryside villages, lush valleys, dramatic moorlands and magnificent mountains. For our first seven nights we'll stay in a lovely country house hotel in York, known for its huge 13th century cathedral, the Shambles—Europe's most well-preserved medieval shopping street, and buildings dating back to the Viking, Roman, Georgian and Victorian eras.

The next five nights are in Gloucester, known as a Cathedral City and featured in the Harry Potter films. The city is surrounded by stunning countryside, and combines English charm with fascinating history and modern conveniences. Explore Herefordshire, Shropshire and the quintessentially English Cotswolds.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Saltaire, UNESCO site
- Skipton Market
- Fountains Abbey, Britain's most complete Cistercian abbey
- Newby Hall, Robert Adam house
- Thirsk, setting of All Creatures Great and Small
- Chatsworth House
- Ludlow, charming market town
- Westons Cider, family-owned since 1880
- Stratford-Upon-Avon

15 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 8 - 22 / Sep 15 - 29

COST

**\$7,397**

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

- Single supplement: \$1190
- Winnipeg, Halifax, Vancouver, Edmonton, or Calgary: add \$390

ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class and moderate hotels ▪ Full breakfast daily, 10 dinners (including 2 pub dinners) ▪ 2 lunches and 1 traditional Cream Tea  
▪ An evening of entertainment ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Fly directly from Toronto to Manchester.

**DAY 2: YORK.** Arrive and transfer to your centrally located hotel in York before a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: FOUNTAINS ABBEY.** Enjoy a guided tour of Fountains Abbey, one of England's largest and best preserved Cistercian monasteries. Stroll through Studley Royal Water Garden and enjoy the idyllic villages and peaceful atmosphere of the Yorkshire Dales.

**DAY 4: YORKSHIRE MOORS.** The picturesque beauty of North York Moors includes acres of rolling hills and shimmering coastline. Visit the town of Whitby, take a ride on the North York Moors Railway and stop in Goathland (setting of the TV series Heartbeat). Enjoy dinner at an 18th-century freehouse at the highest point of North York Moors National Park.

**DAY 5: THIRSK / NEWBY HALL.** Thirsk, a gem of medieval Yorkshire, is home to best-selling author and veterinarian Alf Wright. Visit the museum dedicated to his life and TV series, All Creatures Great & Small. Next, experience a guided tour of Newby Hall—one of Britain's finest Adam Houses filled with 18th-century decoration. Enjoy dinner at a local pub!

**DAY 6: SKIPTON / SALTAIRE.** Hear enthralling tales of Victorian Britain as you stroll through the 19th-century industrial village of Saltaire. Proceed to historic Skipton and discover the 900-year-old castle and cobbled High Street as you take in the city's natural beauty. Enjoy free time to explore Skipton's award-winning historic market.

**DAY 7: HARROGATE.** Harrogate's historic buildings, gardens and eclectic shops make it one of Yorkshire's most elegant cities. Art lovers and antique hunters will love the cobbled streets in the Montpelier Quarter. Visit the Royal Pump Room before a guided walking tour and time to explore on your own.

**DAY 8: YORK.** York's famous medieval streets are beautifully preserved within its ancient walls. In the morning, enjoy a guided walking tour among the medieval architecture, Georgian houses, and the world-famous Shambles. The afternoon is at leisure, and you may want to visit the York Chocolate Factory for a tasty treat!

**DAY 9: CHATSWORTH / GLOUCESTER.** Travel through the Peak District's beloved Provincial Parks dotted with historic sites and pretty villages. Visit Chatsworth House, the lavish home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. Indulge in a delicious traditional Cream Tea and proceed to Gloucester for a five-night stay.

**DAY 10: LUDLOW.** Ludlow, a thriving medieval market town, is an architectural gem. There are almost 500 listed buildings here, including The Buttercross, St. Lawrence's Church, Ludlow Castle, The Readers House and The Feathers Hotel. Walk through the Ludlow Castle grounds and see the ancient homes of royalty!

**DAY 11: WESTONS CIDER / WORCESTER.** Begin with a walking tour in historic Worcester, a university city with a beautiful cathedral.

Next, visit Westons Cider, operated by generations of the Weston family. Enjoy a tour followed by a delicious lunch and tasting of the famous cider at a nearby pub!

**DAY 12: STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.** Take a guided walking tour of Shakespeare's delightful hometown lined with timber houses. Visit Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall, and Shakespeare's daughter's home—now known as Judith's Tasting House, where you'll learn the fascinating history of gin and enjoy a tasting.

**DAY 13: GLOUCESTER.** The city is known for its magnificent Cathedral, as well as its role in the Beatrix Potter novels and Harry Potter films. Enjoy free time to explore the 11th century cathedral, and enjoy viewing the Romanesque and Gothic architecture, before a leisurely lunch and shopping at the Quays.

**DAY 14: COTSWOLDS / SURREY.** Meander through the honey-coloured villages of the Cotswolds, designated as an Area of Outstanding Beauty. Visit Bourton-on-the-Water and enjoy a delicious lunch in a Cotswolds pub oozing local character. Settle in at your hotel in the heart of Surrey before a delectable Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** Fly home from London.





# Devon & Cornwall

## 15 DAYS

England's West Country has always been one of Britain's most popular vacation destinations—with the British as well as international visitors.

The area is loved for its colourful historic towns and villages, vistas of constantly changing landscapes, magnificent seascapes and genuine West Country hospitality.

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 hand-picked pubs. For centuries, the pub has been at the very heart of every English community. These evenings will ensure memorable experiences of the warmth of this timeless tradition.

### 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: historic maritime city
- Dartmoor National Park
- St. Michael's Mount and St. Ives
- Exeter: one of England's oldest cities

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 8 - 22 / Sep 19 - Oct 3

### COST

September 8: \$7,597

September 19: \$7,497

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal*

- Single supplement: add \$1,190
- Ottawa: add \$290
- Halifax, Winnipeg, or Calgary: add \$590
- Vancouver or Edmonton: add \$690

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

### TOUR 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 ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for London.

**DAY 2: BATH.** We arrive and transfer to our 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 as featured on *Bridgerton* and in *Jane Austen*, 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 thanks 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 hotel in North Devon for a 2-night stay.

**DAY 6: CLOVELLY.** World-famous Clovelly is one of Devon's gems, offering breathtaking views across Bideford Bay. 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 and 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 that is so charming it was chosen as the "home" of TV's famous *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 fascinating island world of St. Michael's Mount—site of legend, myth and over a thousand years of history. Tonight we dine in a traditional pub before returning to our hotel.

**DAY 9: SOUTH CORNWALL.** At leisure. You may want to relax, explore the famous harbours that Cornwall is known for, stroll on the beach, or explore the town centre with its tempting array of shops, cafes, and galleries.

**DAY 10: EDEN PROJECT / CHARLESTOWN.** 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 featured in film projects all over the world. Included is a scrumptious traditional 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 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 the famous ponies roam the craggy landscape of forests, rivers 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 there will be no shortage of choice for tonight's dinner on your own.

**DAY 14: WINCHESTER.** We proceed to Winchester, England's ancient capital, and site of the Great Hall, which for over 700 years housed the mysterious King Arthur's Round Table and 11th century Winchester Cathedral. There will be time to explore Winchester on our own. Tonight we bid goodbye to the West Country at our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** We transfer to London for our flight home.



# Channel Islands

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

Although they lie just 22 kilometres off the French coast, the islands are British, and have been connected to the British Crown for over a thousand years. These self-governing islands maintain their own individual culture.

The food and wine may be French, but the customs and manners are definitely English. We will stay on Jersey, the largest of the islands. It is known for its glorious woodland walks, lovely rolling countryside, unspoiled coastline with imposing cliffs, historic castles and Victorian markets. The capital, St. Helier, is built around a harbour, and the town itself is a maze of narrow streets, many of which are closed to traffic. As a bonus, St. Helier 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.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with British Airways ▪ First Class hotel ▪ Full English breakfast daily, 10 dinners, a pub lunch, and an Afternoon Tea ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 2 - 15 / Sep 30 - Oct 13

### COST

September 2: \$6,597

September 30: \$6,397

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$690

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.

- Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, or Vancouver: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

## ITINERARY

**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 explore the town or stroll in the lovely park near our hotel.

**DAY 4: AT LEISURE.** Due to Jersey's compact size (just 14 km by 8 km), it's easy to fit plenty into a day at leisure. Delve into the island's colourful past, recharge and relax with the hotel's extensive facilities, or poke through the shops in quaint St. Helier.

**DAY 5: DAY TRIP TO GUERNSEY.** 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 with old shops and impressive houses. Weather permitting.

**DAY 6: JERSEY WAR TUNNELS.** We tour this underground complex, Jersey's most evocative museum of the five years of enemy occupation during World War 2. The video presentation and collection of memorabilia bring the island's wartime experience to life: a poignant and unforgettable presentation. After our visit we will enjoy a traditional pub lunch.

**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.

**DAY 7: DAY TRIP TO SARK.** Sark, the smallest of the Channel Islands, is known for its "olde worlde" ambiance, tranquil atmosphere and endearing quirkiness. 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 memorable scenery includes an abundance of wildflowers and sea birds, picturesque inlets, stunning coastlines, dramatic cliffs, and secluded bays. Weather permitting.

**DAY 8: MONT ORGUEIL / LA HOUGUE BIE.** We begin at Mont Orgueil, which 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. Later we will enjoy Afternoon Tea at Chateau La Chaire, a country house set on cliffs overlooking the sea.

**DAY 9: AT LEISURE.**

**DAY 10: ERIC YOUNG ORCHID FOUNDATION / SAMARÈS MANOR.** The Channel Islands are known for their beautiful orchids, and 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: DAY TRIP TO ST MALO, FRANCE.** We board a ferry to St. Malo for the 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. Weather permitting.

**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 fishery 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 (author of *My Family and Other Animals*), 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 we bid adieu to this unique corner of the world at our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** We fly back to Canada, via London.





# Bonnie Scotland

Feast on the history and beauty of Scotland's monuments, abbeys, castles and artistic treasures, all set in the stunning rugged landscape this land is known for.

We begin our tour in Edinburgh, where we will stroll Princes Street and attend the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, a spectacle of live music and performance.

Then it's on to the untamed Scottish Highlands and Islands to see tragic battlefields, fairytale castles and picturesque harbour towns. We will explore the wild landscapes of Caithness and the west coast and travel along the picturesque Great Glen. We will sail to the beautiful Orkney Islands and visit the Isles of Skye and Mull.

Along the way we'll learn about battles, history, and the fascinating world of Scotland's poets and writers, and enjoy cultural events unique to Scotland. By the end of this tour you'll know exactly why the Scots are so proud of their heritage—and leave with cherished memories of an incredible country and its people!

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Royal Yacht Britannia
- 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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Transat ▪ First-class hotels (or best available) ▪ Full Scottish breakfast & dinner daily (except for 2 dinners) & a pub lunch ▪ Highland Dancing, Traditional Scottish Music, Story Telling, Edinburgh Military Tattoo ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 16 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Aug 8 - 23 / Aug 22 - Sep 6

### COST

**\$8,297**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,790
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton, or Calgary: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** We fly direct to Glasgow from Toronto.

**DAY 2: EDINBURGH.** We arrive and transfer to our hotel in central Edinburgh, with time to relax before our Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: EDINBURGH.** We explore the city's Old and New towns and visit the Royal Yacht Britannia, used by the Royal Family to sail over a million miles! This evening we're off to the unforgettable Edinburgh Tattoo.

**DAY 4: INVERNESS.** On our way, we'll stop at St. Andrews, home to the famous golf course and the university where William met Kate. Our walking tour takes us to the castle, the ruins of St. Andrews cathedral, and the university grounds. After free time to explore, we travel through the highlands to Inverness.

**DAY 5: WICK.** We stop at Culloden, where Bonnie Prince Charlie was defeated in 1745, and visit Dunrobin Castle, perched like a fairy-tale above the North Sea. Overnight near Wick.

**DAY 6: ORKNEY ISLANDS / WICK.** At the northernmost tip of Scotland, we board a ferry for South Ronaldsay, one of the Orkney Islands, to see the Italian Chapel and the Ring of Brodgar ("Orkney's Stonehenge"). After visiting Kirkwall, the island's Viking capital, it's back to the mainland for an evening of Scottish entertainment.

**DAY 7: ULLAPOOL.** Few places offer the drama and beauty of Scotland's northwest coast: we'll visit Smoo Caves, Britain's largest limestone caves, then the picturesque fishing village of Ullapool.

**DAY 8: INVEREWE.** We continue along the coast, taking in the spectacular vistas of the Summer Isles, and arrive at Inverewe Gardens, a lush oasis perched on a rugged peninsula.

**DAY 9: SKYE / DRUMNADROCHIT.** Today we explore the magical Isle of Skye, home to some of Scotland's most iconic landscapes, and see magnificent Kilt Rock, a 90m basalt column that looks like a pleated kilt. After some free time in picture-postcard Portree, we head back to the mainland and the Highland village of Drumnadrochit for a 2-night stay.

**DAY 10: LOCH NESS.** Our Loch Ness experience starts in Fort Augustus, where we see the ladder locks of the Caledonian Canal. We visit the Clansman Centre, circumnavigate the Loch to take in its spectacular views, enjoy a narrated Jacobite Cruise to the 1,000-year-old Urquhart Castle, followed by a delicious meal at a local inn.

**DAY 11: ISLE OF MULL.** We take the scenic route along Loch Ness, Loch Oich and Loch Lochy with a stop at the Commando Memorial Monument, dedicated to the British Commando Forces who fought in WW2. Then we board our ferry to the Isle of Mull for a 2-night stay.

**DAY 12: IONA / ISLE OF MULL.** Today we hop another ferry to the sacred island of Iona. Known as the cradle of Christianity, this wee isle attracts thousands each year for its religious significance and unspoiled beauty.

**DAY 13: STIRLING / GLASGOW.** Today it's back to the mainland for a scenic drive through Glen Coe and a visit to Stirling Castle, once a residence of the Stewart kings and queens. Then we proceed to Glasgow for our last 3 nights.

**DAY 14: GLASGOW.** Culture, incredible Victorian architecture, friendly people—there's nothing you won't love about this charming city. Our tour takes us to the City Chambers, Central Station, Glasgow Cathedral and more. We visit the Clyde Distillery to taste some famous Lowland-style single malt and learn about Glasgow's whisky history.

**DAY 15: GLASGOW.** A day at leisure, with time to explore Glasgow's museums, galleries and tempting shops. This evening at our Farewell Dinner, it's time to raise a glass to say "slainte" (cheers) to a brilliant tour!

**DAY 16: HOME.** We fly non-stop to Toronto.





# Scotland's East Coast

## History & Heritage

Home to 263 castles, dramatic coastlines and stunning scenic contrasts, the East Coast of Scotland offers a true taste of the country. Immerse yourself in the local culture and enjoy authentic Scottish experiences and traditions.

This tour features everything for which Scotland is famous—mighty strongholds and ruins, majestic castles and mansions, picture-postcard villages, world-famous whisky distilleries, museums and so much more.

We will spend 3 nights in Edinburgh, 3 nights in Dundee (considered Scotland's cultural centre), 4 nights in Aberdeen (the "Granite City"), and 3 nights in Stirling.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Edinburgh, Scotland's capital
- Royal Yacht Britannia
- Royal Burgh of Culross
- Scone Palace, crowning place of Scottish kings
- East Neuk of Fife
- Dundee, UNESCO City of Design
- Royal Deeside
- Aberdeen Distillery
- Braemar Highland Games Centre
- The Trossachs
- Stirling

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 2 dinners), including a Scottish Banquet with entertainment ▪ A traditional Afternoon Tea and 1 lunch ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 15 - 29

### COST

**\$6,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,190
- Ottawa or Halifax: add \$290
- Montreal, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$590

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Fly directly from Toronto to Edinburgh.

**DAY 2: EDINBURGH.** Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel for a three-night stay. Enjoy meeting your fellow travellers over a drink and Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: EDINBURGH.** Explore Edinburgh's medieval Old Town, the elegant Georgian New Town, and visit the Royal Yacht Britannia. Later, enjoy a rousing banquet featuring traditional entertainment and a great selection of Scottish food.

**DAY 4: EDINBURGH.** Visit Holyrood Distillery—a modern distillery in the city's historic heart—where you'll enjoy a guided tour and tasting. In the afternoon, explore the lovely city as you wish.

**DAY 5: CULROSS / SCONE PALACE / DUNDEE.** Stop in Culross and stroll along the cobbled streets of Scotland's most complete 17th-century burgh. Culross has appeared many times in the *Outlander* series. Next, visit Scone Palace, one of Scotland's most important stately homes. It has been the seat of Scottish parliaments and the coronation site of the Kings of Scots (including Macbeth and Robert the Bruce). Later, arrive at your boutique hotel in Dundee for a three-night stay.

**DAY 6: EAST NEUK OF FIFE.** Explore the charming East Neuk villages along the Kingdom of Fife's coast, reflecting its sea-fishing heritage. Visit St. Andrew's, the home of golf, and picturesque fishing villages. Discover Scotland's Secret Bunker and its intriguing underground history.

**DAY 7: DUNDEE.** Designated as a UNESCO City of Design, Dundee is home to historic ships and renowned museums. Visit the RRS Discovery and experience life in

the Antarctic with Captain Scott and his crew. Explore the incredible V&A museum dedicated to design, then continue to the 200-year-old HMS Unicorn—the last surviving wooden warship in Scotland.

**DAY 8: GLAMIS / DUNNOTTAR / ABERDEEN.** Travel through Angus and stop at Glamis Castle—the inspiration for Shakespeare's Macbeth and birthplace of Princess Margaret. Enjoy Afternoon Tea on the grounds, then continue to the romantic and haunting ruins of Dunnottar Castle—a photographer's paradise! Later, arrive at your hotel in Aberdeen for a four-night stay.

**DAY 9: NORTH EAST COAST.** Travel along the North East 250—Scotland's ultimate road trip! First, visit Peterhead Prison Museum highlighting the brave personnel who served Scotland's toughest jail. Continue to the Museum of Scottish Lighthouses at Kinnaird Head Lighthouse. After a light lunch, visit Scotland's first mainland lighthouse built in 1787, and then the Aberdeen Distillery.

**DAY 10: ROYAL DEESIDE.** Royal Deeside's moody mountains, lofty crags, rivers and moors captivated Queen Victoria. Stop in the picturesque Victorian village of Ballater, then visit a working farm to see and learn about the beautiful Highland Cattle. End the day at the Braemar Highland Games Centre, where you'll explore the living tradition of the Highland Games, featuring the world-famous Braemar Gathering and its long-standing royal connections.

**DAY 11: ABERDEEN.** At leisure in Aberdeen. Stroll the beach and look for dolphins, take in the stunning granite buildings and monuments, or ask your Tour Manager for suggestions.

**DAY 12: TROSSACHS / STIRLING.** Travel to the Trossachs, a romantic area of sparkling lochs, hills, sleepy forests and welcoming villages. Stop to take a photo of the famous Balmoral Castle, and stop in one of the quaint villages before arriving in Stirling for a three-night stay.

**DAY 13: CRANNOG CENTRE / STIRLING.** Visit the Scottish Crannog Centre on Loch Tay, a museum showcasing the 2,500-year-old Crannog dwellers' lifestyle. Enjoy a guided tour with artifact displays and demonstrations of ancient skills and technology.

**DAY 14: STIRLING.** Spend the day as you wish! Stirling hosts many historic attractions, restaurants and pubs, and exciting events. Visit Stirling Castle or shop among the Old Town and Victorian Arcade boutiques. In the evening, indulge in a delicious Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** Fly directly from Edinburgh to Toronto.



# All Around Ireland

A “just right” exploration of Ireland, both the Republic and Northern Ireland, showcasing stunning beauty, legendary hospitality—and great fun.

We begin in Dublin with its fine Georgian squares and lively pubs. Dublin has been home to many of Ireland’s greatest authors and poets: 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’ll explore regal cities, Gothic cathedrals, medieval castles and postcard-perfect 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 with a visit to Northern Ireland’s capital, Belfast—a delightful city with magnificent Victorian architecture. Throughout the Emerald Isle we will enjoy the chance to mingle with the locals, and the spectacular scenery: heather-cloaked moors, soaring cliffs, deep blue lochs and rolling green hills—and, it’s said, fifty shades of green!

We will also experience the magic and mystery of this historic land which celebrates its past in poems, traditional dancing and beautiful music. You’ll have your chance to kiss the Blarney Stone, sing at a traditional Ceilidh (“kay-lee”) and listen to those myths and legends. We stop at inns and pubs to join the locals 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.

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Aug 29 – Sep 12

Sep 1 – Sep 15

Sep 5 – Sep 19

### COST

**\$6,597**

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,590
- Ottawa: add \$390
- Montreal, Halifax, Winnipeg,  
or Calgary: add \$590
- Edmonton or Vancouver: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

#### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class and moderate hotels ▪ Full Irish breakfast daily  
▪ 10 dinners (including 3 special dinners with entertainment) and 1 lunch  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** We depart with Air Canada for Dublin (a non-stop flight from Toronto).

**DAY 2: DUBLIN.** We arrive and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight, get to know your fellow travellers at our Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: DUBLIN.** On our morning city tour we see the 18th century Georgian squares and houses, the 12th century St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Leinster House (the Irish parliament), as well as Trinity College. Tonight enjoy a rousing evening of Irish food and entertainment at an Irish cabaret.

**DAY 4: WATERFORD.** Our first stop is at the Rock of Cashel, set in a cluster of medieval buildings on top of a limestone hill, overlooking the Golden Vale. Then we proceed to Waterford and visit the factory where they once made the world-famous crystal. This evening we’ll enjoy Irish food, drinks, and lively music at a small historical pub.

**DAY 5: BLARNEY.** We travel to County Cork, stopping enroute for a tour of Cork City and a visit to Cobh Heritage Centre, a portside display depicting the exodus of the potato famine victims to America in the 19th century. We continue to Blarney, site of Blarney Castle and your chance to kiss the Blarney Stone, said to give you 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, a 19th century Irish estate. This evening we enjoy dinner and traditional music and dance in a quaint local pub.

**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 Cahersiveen, the fishing village of Waterville, Molls Gap in the heart of the Black Mountains and many more sites that make the Ring of Kerry one of Ireland’s most beloved attractions. This evening we enjoy “Celtic Steps”—a grand performance of Irish culture.

**DAY 8: GALWAY.** Following the coast, we drive through many villages, each prettier than the last, until we reach the ferry port to cross from County Kerry to County Clare. We continue the drive up the coast to the Cliffs of Moher, rising 700 feet above the sea and displaying a magnificent, lush landscape. We continue through the beautiful countryside, stopping enroute at a working farm for a farm-fresh lunch, and a sheepdog demonstration, before continuing our journey to Galway, a charming old town of narrow streets and stone houses.

**DAY 9: WESTPORT.** We pass through the beauty of 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 picturesque Georgian town with a delightful tree-lined public walkway and tempting shopping area.

**DAY 10: DONEGAL COUNTY.** We head to the town of Drumcliff, but first we stop for a cruise on Lough Gill and visit the Parke’s Castle. We then enter Northern Ireland and visit the Belleek Pottery Factory, known for its exquisite cream-coloured china. Our next two nights are in Donegal County.

**DAY 11: GLENVEAGH NATIONAL PARK.** Today we spend a full day enjoying the breathtaking views, scenic walks and fresh Irish air on our tour of Glenveagh National Park, in the Derryveagh Mountains.

Also included is a guided tour of Glenveagh Castle and its beautiful Victorian Gardens. In the afternoon we’ll stop at The Crolla Distillery for a taste of their famous Irish Whiskey.

**DAY 12: DERRY AND GIANT’S CAUSEWAY / BELFAST.** On our guided tour of Derry we’ll learn about this fascinating city’s controversial history, depicted on many houses in the form of striking murals. We’ll visit the old city walls for panoramic views of the city and countryside, and then drive to Antrim’s north coast and the amazing Giant’s Causeway. These vast outcroppings were formed by volcanic activity millions of years ago. We’ll view this wonder from a cliff top and allow time for those who wish to climb them. We then drive through Antrim’s lovely glens and coastal villages to Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland.

**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 Titanic Museum, which features special effects, original drawings, full-scale constructions, and interactive elements to explore the moving Titanic story. The rest of the day is at leisure.

**DAY 14: ROYAL HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE AND GARDENS / NORTH DUBLIN.** We journey through the outstanding natural beauty of the Ring of Gullion, first stopping for a visit at the Royal Hillsborough Castle. In the afternoon we’ll travel down the coast to North Dublin, for our Farewell Dinner and overnight.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** We fly back to Canada from Dublin.





THE CELTIC CONNECTION

# Scotland & Ireland

Enjoy the wild beauty of two Celtic countries! Magnificent seascapes, historic castles, stellar monuments and warm Celtic spirit await.

In Scotland, experience the allure of bagpipes, strong clan traditions and stories of historic battles amid stunning scenery and unique architecture.

Ireland, with its legendary green landscapes and rich history, offers warm hospitality, friendliness and a distinct sense of humour.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Edinburgh, UNESCO City of Literature
- Scone Palace
- Blair Athol Distillery
- Stirling Castle
- Loch Ness
- Belfast, including the RMS Titanic Experience
- Dublin
- Ring of Kerry
- Irish Dinner Banquet
- Sheepdog herding demonstration
- Powerscourt Gardens

16 DAYS

#### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Aug 26 - Sep 10  
Sep 16 - Oct 1

#### COST

**\$8,497**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,590
- Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, or Winnipeg: add \$190
- Edmonton or Calgary: add \$290
- Vancouver: add \$390

#### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining this tour must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

#### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class & moderate hotels  
▪ Full breakfast daily, 10 dinners, & 1 lunch ▪ Scottish & Irish entertainment  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Fly non-stop from Toronto to Edinburgh.

**DAY 2: EDINBURGH.** Arrive in Scotland's capital and transfer to your hotel before a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: EDINBURGH.** On your city tour, see the Royal Mile, Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh Castle and visit the Royal Yacht Britannia. The yacht was beloved by the queen and royal family for over 40 years. Later, enjoy a fun evening of traditional Scottish song and dance as well as a 4-course Taste of Scotland dinner.

**DAY 4: AVIEMORE.** Explore Scone Palace, a key Scottish stately home and former parliamentary seat and crowning site of Scottish Kings like Macbeth and Robert the Bruce. Discover its collection of fine antiques, paintings, and rare artifacts set in famous grounds. After, visit Blair Athol Distillery, one of Scotland's oldest, standing at the gateway to the Highlands. Learn about single-malt whisky production and enjoy a tasting! End in Aviemore for a two-night stay.

**DAY 5: LOCH NESS / AVIEMORE.** Visit the picturesque village of Fort Augustus on the shore of Loch Ness, situated by the Caledonian Canal, a 19th-century engineering feat that connects the east and west coasts of Scotland. At the Clansman Centre, experience a special Highlander performance. Embark on a Jacobite Cruise along Loch Ness to the foot of Urquhart Castle, exploring the 13th-century ruins. Later, enjoy a memorable dinner at a village inn in Drumnadrochit.

**DAY 6: STIRLING / GLASGOW.** Travel through Trossachs National Park's stunning scenery enroute to Stirling Castle, visible for miles in every direction. Learn the castle's historical significance and admire

its magnificence. Then, proceed to Glasgow for a panoramic tour of this exciting city rich in culture and history.

**DAY 7: GLASGOW.** Enjoy a day at leisure in Glasgow. Consider visiting the magnificent 12th-century cathedral or the renowned Piping Centre where you can explore 300 years of Highland Bagpipe heritage, or shop your way around.

**DAY 8: BELFAST.** Ferry to Belfast and delve into Irish culture with a Traditional Music Trail tour. Led by two professional musicians, wander through cobbled streets, past famous landmarks and into private bars in the city's oldest buildings. At each stop, enjoy performances of traditional songs and stories.

**DAY 9: BELFAST.** Explore Belfast on a city tour, visiting St. George's Market, the Peace Walls, Crumlin Road Gaol, and Parliament Buildings. End at the Titanic Belfast, named the World's Leading Tourist Attraction in 2016, offering interactive galleries on the doomed ship's history. Spend the afternoon at leisure exploring Belfast's endless attractions, shopping, pubs, and cafes.

**DAY 10: DUBLIN.** Travel south to Dublin, Ireland's capital, for a two-night stay. Enjoy a lively city tour featuring statue-lined streets, elegant Georgian Squares, and townhouses with famously colourful doors. Spend free time in Dublin for shopping, sightseeing, or relaxing with a pint in one of the local pubs.

**DAY 11: WICKLOW / DUBLIN.** Drive through rugged and romantic scenery to Glendalough, celebrated for its stunning landscapes, rich history, archaeology and abundant wildlife. Proceed to Powerscourt Estate, ranked third in National Geographic's finest gardens globally. Cap off the evening with a

rousing experience of Irish food and entertainment!

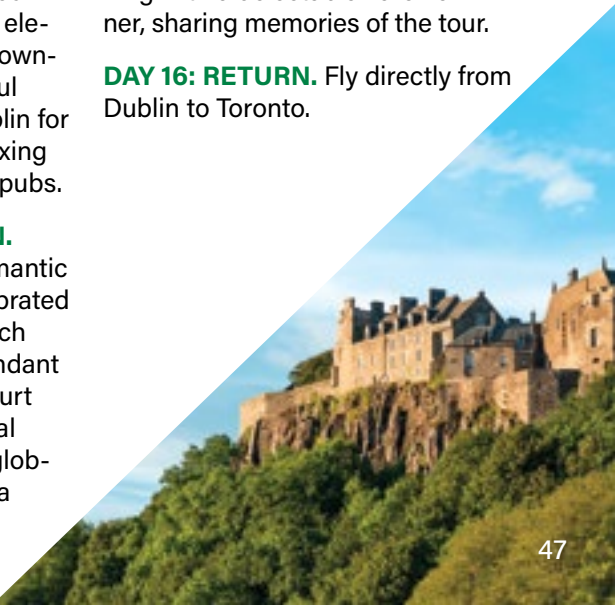
**DAY 12: KILKENNY.** Begin with a sheepdog's herding demonstration—a perfect way to experience the essence of Irish country living. Later, arrive in Kilkenny, a city rich in heritage and craft. Enjoy free time for exploration.

**DAY 13: CASHEL / KILLARNEY.** Stop at the Rock of Cashel, coronation site for medieval Irish kings. Next, see the Romanesque decorations of 12th-century Cormac's Chapel. Proceed to Killarney, a vibrant town brimming with Irish heritage, shops and cafes.

**DAY 14: RING OF KERRY / KILLARNEY.** Embark on Ireland's renowned scenic route, the Ring of Kerry, for breathtaking coastal, beach, and cliff views. Visit the Skellig Experience to learn about the nearby islands and the austere lives of early Christian Monks there.

**DAY 15: FOYNES / KILDARE.** Visit the Flying Boat Museum to explore the history of early transatlantic flights and taste the original Irish Coffee. Proceed to a four-star country hotel in County Kildare, stopping enroute in the 1500-year-old town of Kildare, known for its shops and cafes. Conclude the evening with a delectable Farewell Dinner, sharing memories of the tour.

**DAY 16: RETURN.** Fly directly from Dublin to Toronto.







# Europe

Experience Europe's vibrant culture, exquisite cuisine, and magnificent architecture, with expert guides and delightful companions. Stroll the cobbled streets of ancient cities where every corner reveals a story etched in marble. Bask in the artistic aura of some of the world's most beautiful destinations, where the air itself is tinged with inspiration. Discover lush vineyards, howling fjords, and stunning landscapes plucked from the pages of storybooks as you immerse in Europe's splendour.





# Grand Tour of Italy

## Including Sicily

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

This well-planned tour, from the breathtaking alpine region of the north all the way south to the Mediterranean island of Sicily, is perfect for the active traveller who wants to fit in as much Italy as possible into one vacation!

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Milan: city of fashion and design
- Scenic Lake Garda
- The cypress hills of Verona
- Venice: the city of scenic bridges
- The Leaning Tower of Pisa
- Florence: “Cradle of the Renaissance”
- Medieval Siena in Tuscany
- Pink stone city of Assisi
- Eternal Rome
- Sorrento, on the historic, scenic Sorrentine Peninsula
- Legendary Pompeii at the foot of Vesuvius
- Overnight ferry from Naples to Sicily
- The Valley of the Temples, Agrigento
- Cliffside resort town of Taormina

## 16 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 10 - 25

Sep 16 - Oct 1

Oct 2 - 17

### COST

**\$7,597**

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, or Edmonton: add \$190
- Vancouver: add \$390

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class and moderate hotels  
▪ Enriched breakfast and dinner daily (wine/beer & mineral water with dinners)  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** We depart for Milan, via Montreal.

**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 picturebook villages along the shore. We will enjoy a boat trip on the lake and visit medieval Sirmione—known as the “Jewel of the Lake” and one of the prettiest villages in Italy. A spa town since Roman times, Sirmione features narrow, cobbled lanes, a medieval 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 including Dante and Galileo as well as 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 classic Venetian sites including St. Mark’s Square, the Bridge of Sighs and the Doge’s Palace.

**DAY 6: PISA.** We leave the Venice area and drive through the picturesque hills to Pisa and the famous Leaning Tower. Our guided tour of Pisa will also show us the Duomo and the Baptistry. After some free time in Pisa we’ll proceed to our hotel in the Pisa / Lucca area.

**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 historic 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, site of the Sistine Chapel. The afternoon is free to explore Rome’s many museums, shops and cafes.

**DAY 10: ROME / SORRENTO.** Our visit to Rome continues with the Roman Forum; the Arch of Constantine; Circus Maximus; the Spanish Steps and an opportunity to visit the Colosseum. 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 buried 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—beautifully-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 thanks to its pretty parks, gardens and ancient Greek theatre. From Piazza Garibaldi one can enjoy the best views of Mt. Etna and the beautiful Ionian coastline. We enjoy a morning orientation tour, and an afternoon at leisure. Our Farewell Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant featuring Sicilian foods and wine, of course!

**DAY 16: RETURN.** We fly back to Canada, via Rome.





# Hilltop Towns of Italy

## Plus Rome & Venice

Enjoy Italy's breathtaking hilltop towns at the perfect time of year, stopping by beautiful Rome and Venice along the way.

Begin in the historic Renaissance town of Perugia, then visit the rose-coloured medieval town of Assisi. Stay over in Rimini, an idyllic resort town, and explore San Marino, the world's oldest republic, and Ravenna, famed for its Byzantine mosaics.

Next, witness the timeless beauty of Tuscany. From Pisa's leaning tower to aesthetic Florence and the ancient spa town of Chianciano Terme, famous for healing waters that have cured visitors' ailments for centuries. Take in medieval Cortona's dramatic slopes and the lovely village of Montepulciano.

End the tour in Rome, the Eternal City of art, romance and monuments standing as testament to its ancient and imperial past.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Umbrian capital of Perugia
- St. Francis Basilica in Assisi
- Cliffside town of Gubbio
- St. Mark's Square and the Bridge of Sighs in Venice
- University city of Padua
- Charming Lucca
- Pisa's leaning tower, cathedral and Baptistery
- Walking Tour of Florence
- Siena and Montecatini
- Cortona, setting of "Under the Tuscan Sun"
- Rome—the Eternal City

17 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 3 - 19

COST

**\$7,397**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax*

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Edmonton or Vancouver: add \$190
- Calgary or Winnipeg: add \$290

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ Mainly First Class hotels ▪ Generous continental breakfast & dinner daily (mineral water, wine & coffee with dinners) plus 1 lunch  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Rome.

**DAY 2: ROME / PERUGIA.** Land in Rome and proceed to Perugia, the Umbrian capital. Take a city tour along the bustling Corso Vannucci.

**DAY 3: ASSISI / PERUGIA.** In Assisi, visit the majestic Basilica of St. Francis and 13th-century church of Santa Chiara. Enjoy afternoon free time to shop for locally made ceramics before returning to our hotel in Perugia.

**DAY 4: GUBBIO / RIMINI.** Travel to atmospheric Gubbio, whose buildings seem to barely fit on Monte Ingino's steep mountainside. Visit the Ducal Palace's amazing architecture, then continue to the resort town of Rimini.

**DAY 5: SAN MARINO / RIMINI.** Tour hilltop San Marino, Europe's oldest and smallest republic. Return to Rimini for an afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 6: RAVENNA / VENICE (PREGANZIOL).** Traverse the Adriatic coast to Ravenna, burial place of Dante, father of the Italian language. Visit the Byzantine-style tomb of Galla Placida before arriving in Preganziol for the evening.

**DAY 7: DAY TRIP TO VENICE.** Cross the Venetian Lagoon by private boat for a full day among Venice's divine sights—St. Mark's Square, the Bridge of Sighs, Doge's Palace and more. Enjoy free time to shop, explore, and take pictures.

**DAY 8: PADUA / VENICE (PREGANZIOL).** Visit Padua, where Dante and Galileo studied, and walk among the walled streets, piazzas and arcaded pathways. See the Palazzo della Ragione, Prato della Valle and incredibly elaborate Basilica of Saint Anthony.

**DAY 9: LUCCA / MONTECATINI.** Enter Tuscany and stop in Lucca, a charming Renaissance town where every corner reveals a piece of history. Continue to the famed spa town of Montecatini for a four-night stay.

**DAY 10: PISA / MONTECATINI.** Take an excursion to Pisa! Spend time at the Campo dei Miracoli, which includes the leaning tower, Duomo and Baptistery. After, travel to a local farm where you'll tour the vineyards before enjoying a typical Tuscan dinner with local wines and farm-grown foods.

**DAY 11: FLORENCE / MONTECATINI.** In Florence, take a walking tour of the Duomo, 13th-century Palazzo Vecchio, Church of the Holy Cross, and statue of Michelangelo's David.

**DAY 12: SIENA / MONTECATINI.** Tour medieval Siena, where you'll see the Gothic town hall and fan-shaped Piazza del Campo—site of the legendary Palio horse race and Palazzo Pubblico. Optionally, climb the 14th-century Torre del Mangia tower with sweeping city views.

**DAY 13: CORTONA / CHIANCIANO.** Proceed to the Tuscan spa town of Chianciano, stopping enroute to visit Cortona, made famous by the hugely popular book and movie *Under the Tuscan Sun*.

**DAY 14: MONTEPULCIANO / CHIANCIANO.** Montepulciano's well-preserved blend of Renaissance, medieval and Baroque architecture makes it uniquely lovely. Discover the city's churches, palaces, and incredible views. Savour a fresh lunch with historic local wine at a nearby working farm.

**DAY 15: ROME.** Proceed to Rome for a panoramic tour of the absolute classics—Roman Forum, Circus Maximus, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps and more before checking into your hotel.

**DAY 16: ROME.** Visit magnificent St. Peter's Basilica and Vatican City. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure before our Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

**DAY 17: ARRIVEDERCI.** Fly home with Air Canada.





# Sorrento & the Amalfi Coast

Long considered one of the world's most beautiful coastlines, Amalfi is a series of bays, beaches, villages and towns, with a dramatic backdrop of rugged cliffs.

The road hugging 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 the sparkling Tyrrhenian Sea. On this tour we will take in all the most beloved sights in the region and reward our taste buds with samples of the local specialties including extra-virgin olive oil, mozzarella cheese and Limoncello, the local liqueur. We will even have the opportunity to make our own "Neapolitan" pizza!

We will stay 12 nights in Sorrento. Perched high on the cliffs with stunning views over the Bay of Naples to the distant Mount Vesuvius, Sorrento is considered the most picturesque town on the Bay of Naples and features a host of restaurants, cafes, shops, and a local market. Other small towns and villages along the coast are easily accessible by local transport.

We will stay at one of the popular Giglio hotels, which feature photogenic views of the Bay of Naples, and operate regular shuttles to the city centre every day. Our hotel has a restaurant, bar, and lounge, and guest rooms are simply furnished and equipped with twin beds, telephone, TV, and private bathroom.

After our stay in Sorrento we will proceed to Rome for our final overnight, with a tour of the lively city of Naples enroute.

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 29 - Nov 12

### COST

**\$7,297**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, or Vancouver*

- Single supplement: add \$1,190
- Edmonton: add \$290

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

#### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Generous continental breakfast and buffet dinner daily (wine/beer and mineral water with dinners), and 5 lunches while touring  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for Rome—a non-stop flight from Toronto.

**DAY 2: ROME / SORRENTO.** Upon arrival in Rome we transfer to our hotel in Sorrento, stopping enroute for an included lunch.

**DAY 3: SORRENTO / GALATEA FARM.** We begin our day with an orientation walking tour of the clifftop town of Sorrento, including the main square, Piazza Tasso—always a hive of activity—and a visit of the Wood Inlay Museum. We then proceed to Galatea Farm in the Sorrento hills where we are welcomed by the staff who explain 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 4: MAIORI AND VIETRI SUL MARE.** Today we first visit the beach resort town of Maiori, well known for its lovely tree-lined promenade. During our orientation walking tour we'll see the elaborate Italian-style gardens, the interesting local church, and winding narrow streets and shops, with the hills and cliffs forming a wonderful backdrop. The town is not hilly and so it's easy to stroll through the narrow streets and lanes with their colourful shops and cafes. We then proceed to visit the artisan town of Vietri Sul Mare, where the residents produce beautiful Italian ceramics—surely a special souvenir of your tour to the Amalfi coast!

**DAY 5: SORRENTO.** At leisure to enjoy Sorrento's fine shopping and cafes, as well as the stunning views and surroundings. Optional excursions will be available.

**DAY 6: DAY TRIP TO RAVELLO AND AMALFI.** 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 7: 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 8: DAY TRIP TO POSITANO.** Today we enjoy a boat trip to Positano, one of the coast's most picturesque towns, with steeply-stacked houses cascading down towards the sea in a riot of sun-bleached peach, pink and terracotta colours. Keep your camera ready for capturing the steep streets and narrow lanes lined with wisteria-draped cafes, restaurants and boutiques.

**DAY 9: SORRENTO.** At leisure to enjoy Sorrento in your own way. Sorrento is an excellent town for strolling, while enjoying the glorious views and surroundings.

**DAY 10: TRIP TO POMPEII.** We enjoy a morning tour to fascinating Pompeii, the ruins of a once-thriving and sophisticated community destroyed by the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. This vast archaeological site features excavated ruins of streets and houses that visitors can freely explore.

**DAY 11: SORRENTO.** At leisure.

**DAY 12: 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 and even today is a magnet for visitors with its famous Piazzetta and the Garden of Augustus overlooking the Faraglioni Rocks. There will be some free time for shopping before returning to Sorrento.

**DAY 13: SORRENTO.** A final day at leisure for that last-minute shopping. This evening we will attend a performance of local tradition, dance and songs at the Tasso Theatre.

**DAY 14: NAPLES / ROME.** We depart for Rome. Enroute 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: RETURN.** We fly home to Canada.





2-CENTRE HOLIDAY

# Italian Riviera & Tuscany

Discover two of Italy's perennial favourites!

Begin with a visit to modern and historic sites in Milan. Then spend four nights among Riviera di Levante's picturesque coastline with beautiful bays and inlets, only a short way from Cinque Terre's coastal beauty.

Tuscany is home to some of the world's most famous Renaissance art and architecture, breathtaking medieval villages, olive groves, vineyards, and mountain ranges. We'll spend eight nights in Montecatini, a historic spa town in the heart of the Tuscan hillside. Montecatini features intricate Liberty-style buildings, pristine parks and serene gardens. Visit one of the local spas renowned for therapeutic mineral waters, eat your way through local restaurants, shop around, or catch a bus to any of the surrounding towns and villages.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Milan highlights including La Scala Opera House
- Portofino and Cinque Terre villages
- St. Peter's Church
- Chianti tour and wine tasting
- Farm-to-table dinners
- Villa Reale's elegant gardens
- Florence, Cradle of the Renaissance
- Tuscan vineyards and farm tour

15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 19 - Oct 3 / Oct 4 - 18

### COST

**\$7,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal*

- Single supplement: add \$1,190
- Ottawa: add \$190 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)

Gateway fares below include an overnight in Toronto on the way home.

- Halifax: add \$790
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$1,090

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air France ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Generous continental breakfast & dinner daily (mineral water, wine, and coffee with all dinners)  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Milan via Paris.

**DAY 2: MILAN.** Explore Milan at your leisure before a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: MILAN / LIGURIA.** On our morning tour of Milan we see the Cathedral (the Duomo di Milano), the castle, the Galleria and the renowned La Scala Opera House. After our tour we depart for the Ligurian coast for a 4-night stay.

**DAY 4: DAY TRIP TO PORTOFINO & CAMOGLI.** Take a scenic coastal boat ride to Liguria, stopping in the fabled port town of Portofino. Continue on to Camogli, a charming fishing village with stunningly colourful hotels and homes.

**DAY 5: DAY TRIP TO CINQUE TERRE.** We travel by train to Cinque Terre, a UNESCO World Heritage Site comprising 5 picturesque villages clinging dramatically to the cliffs along the rocky coastline of the Italian Riviera. Explore Monterosso village before heading to Vernazza and Manarola, two of the most beautiful villages in the region.

**DAY 6: LIGURIA.** A day at leisure to explore the Italian Riviera, popular for its beautiful beaches, cliffside views and charming towns. A wonderful day for shoppers, café lovers and photographers!

**DAY 7: PORTOVENERE / MONTECATINI.** Depart for Montecatini, the perfect base for an 8-night stay as you tour the region. Stop at the enchanting village of Portovenere, home to original pastel houses and the island of Tinetto. We'll see the 13th-century St. Peter's Church, and enjoy a talk on the history, art, local traditions, and present-day rivalries in Tuscany.

**DAY 8: DAY TRIP TO SIENA & CHIANTI.** Enjoy a tour of Siena, distinguished by its medieval brick buildings, the fan-shaped Piazza del Campo, and Palazzo Pubblico. Visit a historic wine estate in the Chianti region, with wine tasting.

**DAY 9: TRIP TO A LOCAL FARM.** After a morning at leisure, visit a local farm to learn about Tuscan agriculture, followed by a dinner with local wines and fresh produce.

**DAY 10: TRIP TO LUCCA.** Travel through Tuscan countryside to medieval Lucca. Visit Villa Reale, an elegant villa with magnificent gardens, vineyards, lake and green theatre. Later, discover the historic centre of Lucca, followed by a delicious local dinner.

**DAY 11: DAY TRIP TO FLORENCE.** Explore Florence, Cradle of the Renaissance, including the Accademia Gallery's statue of David by Michelangelo. Take a walking tour of the city's colourful marble cathedral, Signoria Square, Baptistery and Piazzale Michelangelo.

**DAY 12: MONTECATINI.** Enjoy a day at leisure to explore all Montecatini has to offer.

**DAY 13: DAY TRIP TO SAN GIMIGNANO & VOLTERRA.** Take in San Gimignano and Volterra's unique hilltop towns with medieval buildings and monuments dating back to the 1100s.

**DAY 14: MONTECATINI AT LEISURE.** You may want to take the cog train up the hill to the ancient upper town. This evening's Farewell Dinner at a local farm will feature specially prepared regional dishes, a fitting arrivederci to our Italian holiday!

**DAY 15: RETURN.** Fly home via Paris.







THE HEEL OF THE BOOT

# Puglia, Italy

Plus Rome

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

This charming region sits in the “heel” of Italy’s boot, skirted by an endless coastline of castles and watchtowers—remnants of Norman, Spanish, Turkish and Greek conquerors. These diverse influences have given Puglia a truly unique set of traditions, arts and architectural wonders.

Puglia’s cucina povera (peasant cooking) is both legendary and sophisticated. Visit a local winery, cheese producer, olive mill and bakery to immerse yourself in local cuisine.

We stay 4 nights in Lecce, 3 nights each in Ostuni and Puglia’s capital Bari, 2 nights each in the Gargano area and coastal Barletta, and a day of touring in Rome at the end of the tour.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Beautiful Baroque Lecce (“Florence of the South”)
- Stunning white-washed town of Ostuni
- Grotte di Castellana’s beautiful limestone caves
- Port town of Monopoli
- Elegant city of Martina Franca
- Energetic modern city of Bari
- Trani: the “Pearl of Puglia”
- Matera (UNESCO): ancient cave town built into stone
- Polignano a Mare, age-old fishing town
- 13th century Castel Del Monte (UNESCO)
- Breathtaking Gargano Peninsula
- Alberobello’s enchanting trulli houses
- City tour of Rome

17 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 18 - Oct 4

COST

**\$7,297**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, or Vancouver*

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Winnipeg: add \$190
- Calgary: add \$290
- Edmonton: add \$490

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Generous continental breakfast & dinner daily (wine/beer and mineral water with dinners)  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Brindisi, Puglia.

**DAY 2: LECCE.** Arrive in Brindisi. Transfer to your hotel in Lecce for a four-night stay. Enjoy a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: LECCE.** Enjoy a walking tour of historic Lecce. See Santa Croce, Palazzo Celestine, Church of the Rosary, Palazzo Adorno, the Cathedral Santa Maria Assunta and the Roman Amphitheatre.

**DAY 4: GALLIPOLI / LECCE.** We first visit a winery to taste the local wines, with a light lunch in the Lecce area. Then we proceed to Gallipoli and explore its delightful historic centre.

**DAY 5: OTRANTO / SANTA MARIA DI LEUCA / LECCE.** Begin with the port town of Otranto’s historic centre and beautiful sea views. Visit the cathedral’s Chapel of 800 Martyrs, crypt, and one of the largest mosaics in the world. Finish at Santa Maria di Leuca at Puglia’s southern tip for views of where the Ionian and Adriatic seas meet.

**DAY 6: CISTERNINO / OSTUNI.** Visit an old olive mill in Cisternino before proceeding to Ostuni, the “White City” overlooking acres of seaside olive groves. Tour the old centre’s Gothic Roman cathedral before checking into your hotel for a three-night stay.

**DAY 7: CASTELLANA CAVES / ALBEROBELLO / OSTUNI.** Step foot in Castellana Grotto’s ancient caverns, then head to Alberobello’s famous trulli village for an exclusive tour of these unique homes. After, enjoy free time to wander the village.

**DAY 8: MARTINA FRANCA / OSTUNI.** Discover Martina Franca—a lovely Baroque town with palaces and decorated churches. Enjoy a fresh lunch of regional products.

**DAY 9: MONOPOLI / POLIGNANO A MARE / BARI.** Visit the famous archaeological ruins of Egnazia. Later, walk among Monopoli’s medieval fortifications, castles, and Baroque cathedral. Next, take in the fantastic views of Polignano a Mare, picturesque seaside city and birthplace of singer Domenico Modugno. Continue to Bari for a three-night stay.

**DAY 10: BARI.** Explore Bari’s modern yet timelessly historic centre, including the Basilica of Saint Nicholas and Norman-Swabian Castle. Experience the waterfront, historic buildings, shops and cafes at your leisure. Stop in “Orecchiette Street” where the local women will show how they make the typical pasta.

**DAY 11: MATERA / ALTAMURA / BARI.** Visit the magnificent city of Matera’s Romanesque cathedral and Barisan Sasso. Stop in the charming town of Altamura and visit its 13th-century cathedral and a cozy local bakery.

**DAY 12: TRANI / GARGANO PENINSULA.** Travel along the scenic coast to the sophisticated seaside town of Trani, known as the Pearl of Puglia. Continue to Gargano Peninsula for a two-night stay.

**DAY 13: GARGANO PENINSULA.** Explore the Gargano promontory overlooking the Adriatic Sea. Weather permitting, enjoy a boat cruise among the backdrop of storybook villages, crystal-blue waters and dramatic cliffs.

**DAY 14: MONTE SANT’ANGELO / BARLETTA.** Visit one of Christianity’s oldest churches in Monte Sant’Angelo. Proceed to Barletta for two nights and see the 11th-century fortress, cathedral and Cellar of the Challenge.

**DAY 15: CASTEL DEL MONTE / ANDRIA / BARLETTA.** Explore the octagonal Castel del Monte, a 13th-century citadel. After, learn about cheese production in the Andria region, famous for soft mozzarella, ricotta and burrata cheeses. Enjoy a Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 16: ROME.** Fly to Rome for a full-day tour of the Roman Forum, Arch of Constantine, Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, and Colosseum.

**DAY 17: ARRIVEDERCI.** Fly home to Canada.







LA DOLCE VITA

# Gastronomy & Wine of Italy

Dine on Italy's freshest dishes and finest wines on this fantastic tour spanning six Italian regions, each with their own renowned cuisine.

Enjoy heavenly Mediterranean produce from Italy's intimate groves, local meats, and farm-to-table ingredients.

Learn the incredible history of Italian winemaking while sampling delicate white wines and robust reds you've only ever dreamed about.

Go truffle hunting in Pietralunga, take a cooking lesson in Cortona, stroll the Etruscan Perugia and enjoy spectacular views of the Tuscan countryside.

We'll be staying in the perfect locations to experience the gastronomy and wine of Italy: three nights in historical Perugia; five nights in the spa town of Montecatini Terme, and four nights at fabled Lake Garda.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Perugian cuisine, art and architecture
- Torgiano Wine Museum
- Cortona, setting of Under the Tuscan Sun
- Palazzo Mansi tapestry collection
- Castagneto Carducci castle
- Florence, Cradle of the Renaissance
- Ferrari Museum
- Verona, setting of Romeo & Juliet
- Grappa distillery tour

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Lufthansa ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Generous continental breakfast & dinner daily (wine, mineral water and coffee with all dinners) ▪ Farm-to-table & executive chef dinners, 4 authentic lunches ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 29 - Oct 12

### COST

**\$7,797**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Montreal, Ottawa, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** Depart for Rome via Frankfurt.

**DAY 2: ROME / PERUGIA.** Transfer from Rome to Perugia—our base for three nights—centrally located from local culinary experiences, art and medieval hamlets. Enjoy a Welcome Dinner of seasonal favourites and traditional Umbrian recipes.

**DAY 3: ORVIETO / TORGIANO.** Tour the hilltop town of Orvieto before visiting Torgiano's renowned Wine Museum, followed by an Umbrian wine tasting.

**DAY 4: TRUFFLE HUNTING / PERUGIA.** Guided by local experts, head into the countryside to hunt for truffles—a Perugian delicacy. Learn how to prepare your findings and enjoy them as part of a delicious lunch at a nearby farm. Return to Perugia for a guided tour of the medieval city.

**DAY 5: ASSISI / CORTONA / MONTECATINI TERME.** Visit Assisi, the idyllic hilltop town of Saint Francis. Head for Tuscany and charming Cortona, setting of Under the Tuscan Sun. Savour lunch at a Tuscan restaurant before a tour of the town. Proceed to the spa town of Montecatini Terme for a five-night stay.

**DAY 6: AGRICULTURAL FARM / COOKING CLASS.** Enjoy a morning at leisure to explore the town or visit the nearby thermal spa. Later, walk among a local farm's orchards and pick fresh ingredients for your dinner. Learn to make pasta, Tuscan soup and Tiramisù. A prize is awarded to the best cook!

**DAY 7: LUCCA.** Visit Lucca, a city of deep-rooted culinary tradition, and see the Palazzo Mansi's enormous tapestry collection. Stop at the town's delicatessens and shops to sample specialty cheese, wine and schiacciata followed by brunch in a local restaurant.

**DAY 8: BOLGHERI / WINE ROUTE/ CASTAGNETO CARDUCCI.** Head to historic Bolgheri, with its original buildings, roads and shops. Witness the Avenue of Cypresses beset by astonishing views of the hillscape and seaside. Continue along the famous wine route and stop at a local estate. Have homemade pasta with wild boar sauce for lunch in Castagneto Carducci. We'll visit the town's historic centre, and then visit an olive oil mill.

**DAY 9: FLORENCE.** Take a walking tour of Florence, the Renaissance capital. See the multicoloured marble cathedral, Signoria Square, Baptistery and Piazzale Michelangelo. Shop at San Lorenzo Market and enjoy free time to stop at any of the trattorias, sidewalk cafes, wine shops, or captivating museums.

**DAY 10: BOLOGNA / FERRARI MUSEUM / LAKE GARDA.** Tour Bologna's narrow streets, arched porticos, arcaded walkways and medieval walls. At a local restaurant, enjoy homemade tortellini pasta and other tasty regional foods. Later, visit the Ferrari Museum and learn the

history of the famous sports car. Continue to Lake Garda for a four-night stay.

**DAY 11: VERONA / VALPOLICELLA.** In the legendary city of Verona, walk among Roman ruins, medieval buildings, and the setting of Romeo and Juliet. Your walking tour spans Verona's historic heart, Juliet's balcony and the great Roman Arena. Later, visit a local winery in Valpolicella for a tasting.

**DAY 12: VICENZA / BASSANO DEL GRAPPA.** Visit Vicenza, famous for its buildings of Andrea Palladio, considered history's most influential architect. See Piazza dei Signori, the Duomo and Teatro Olimpico. Continue to Bassano del Grappa and visit Nardini Distillery where the popular Grappa spirit has been produced since 1779. Stop on the Ponte Vecchio, a covered wooden bridge with sweeping views of the city and mountains.

**DAY 13: VENETO.** Enjoy a day at leisure. There is much to explore. This evening we'll visit a local trattoria where we'll prepare and feast on regional specialties with delicious wine pairings.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** Fly to Canada, connecting via Frankfurt.







# Bellissima Italia Rail Tour

Discover Italy in the most romantic way possible—on its marvellous network of railways.

Experience the very best of Italy—Renaissance culture, ancient ruins, artistic masterpieces, and world-renowned cuisine—while travelling the country’s scenic railways. Travel between popular destinations in the comfort of high-speed Le Freccie trains and local Trenitalia trains.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Milan, city of fashion and home to Leonardo da Vinci’s *The Last Supper*
- Enchanting canals of Venice
- Florence, Cradle of the Renaissance
- Scenic Lake Como
- Pisa, home of the Leaning Tower and Galileo
- Lucca, quaint Tuscan town
- Tour of ancient Rome
- Prestigious Vatican City
- High-speed Le Freccie trains reaching over 200 km/h

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class, centrally located hotels ▪ Enriched continental breakfast & dinner daily (except for 1 dinner) ▪ wine, water & coffee with dinners  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

13 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 23 - Oct 5

COST

**\$8,797**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1190
- Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, or Winnipeg: add \$90
- Vancouver, Calgary, or Edmonton: add \$290

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Fly non-stop from Toronto to Milan.

**DAY 2: BENVENUTO MILANO.** Check into your hotel and enjoy a short tour of the Navigli District’s galleries, cafes and restaurants. Enjoy a Welcome Reception and delicious dinner.

**DAY 3: MILAN.** On a walking and coach tour, see the city’s Castello Sforzesco, Gothic Milan Cathedral, Galleria, Teatro alla Scala, palaces and charming squares. Afternoon at leisure to visit the Duomo, Da Vinci’s Last Supper, or shop among the fashion capital.

**DAY 4: LAKE COMO.** Take a regional train to beautiful Lake Como where you’ll find centuries-old towns and gorgeous shoreline views. Enjoy a guided tour, and a short cruise to Cernobbio—an ancient village with villas and art.

**DAY 5: VENICE / LAGOON BOAT TOUR.** Board the high-speed Le Freccie train to Venice. Take a panoramic boat tour of the Venetian Lagoon, then check into your hotel for a two-night stay.

**DAY 6: VENICE.** Travel via boat to St. Mark’s Square for a guided tour of Venice’s rich heritage. Take in St. Mark’s Basilica’s opulent frescoes and Doge’s Palace. Afternoon at leisure for gondola rides, palace visits, or to explore the city’s hidden

gems. This evening, we enjoy a comedic and musical performance, “*Venetian Dream*” at the Teatro Goldoni—one of the world’s oldest operating theatres.”

**DAY 7: FLORENCE.** We take the high-speed train to Florence, one of the world’s most cultural and artistic cities, and check in to our hotel for some time at leisure. This evening we’ll enjoy a typical Florentine dinner, featuring a selection of traditional Tuscan dishes accompanied by red Chianti Wine.

**DAY 8: FLORENCE.** Our guided walking tour of this magnificent Renaissance city will include visits to Piazza della Signoria (with its statues and stunning palazzi), the historical Santa Croce Basilica, the Ponte Vecchio, and we’ll see the Duomo (Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore—a symbol of Florence with its red-tiled dome). Afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 9: PISA / LUCCA / TUSCAN HILLS.** Travel via local train across rural Tuscany to Pisa. Tour the Leaning Tower, white marble Duomo and Baptistery. After, continue by rail to Lucca for a walking tour of the walled city’s Palazzo Mansi and tapestry collection. Visit

the Piazza dell’Anfiteatro, a spectacular square with ochre-painted stucco and sun-splashed al-fresco spaces.

**DAY 10: ROME.** Take a high-speed train to Rome, the Eternal City, for a three-night stay. Upon arrival, enjoy a guided orientation tour.

**DAY 11: ROME.** Take a guided tour of Rome’s timeless beauty by coach and foot. Pass the Colosseum where gladiators competed, the Roman Forum, Pantheon, Spanish Steps, and magical Trevi Fountain. Dinner is at a traditional Italian restaurant.

**DAY 12: VATICAN CITY / ROME.** Visit the historic Vatican City, including St. Peter’s Basilica, considered the holiest Catholic site. Stop into the Vatican Museum’s vast artistic collection, then the Sistine Chapel, where you’ll see Michelangelo’s remarkable frescoes adorning the walls and ceilings. Afternoon at leisure before a delicious Farewell Dinner with live music!

**DAY 13: ARRIVEDERCI.** Fly directly home to Canada.







# Swiss Alps & Italian Lakes

Experience the snow-capped mountains, glassy lakes and stunning countryside views of Switzerland.

We begin with 2 nights in lakeside Lucerne, a beautiful city beneath the breathtaking Alps.

We then proceed to the welcoming mountain resort town of Villars-sur-Ollon, perfectly situated for sweeping views of the Vaudoise Alps and Rhone Valley. The town is known for the juxtaposition of its busy centre and quiet, cozy lifestyle. From Villars, visit Montreux, Gruyeres, Vevey, L'Etivaz and Zermatt—home of the mighty Matterhorn.

Next, we traverse the Simplon Pass into Italy for a seven-night stay at the resort town of Stresa in Lake Maggiore. Bursting with flowers and timeless villas, Stresa has been a holiday resort since the 19th century. Enjoy the lovely town square, and take a cable car to Monte Mottarone for otherworldly views of the Alps and Italian lakes.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Cruise on Lake Lucerne
- Lake Lucerne city tour & Lion Monument
- Resort town of Montreux with Chillon Castle on Lake Geneva
- Zermatt, foot of the Matterhorn
- Borromeo Palace & Gardens on Isola Bella
- Scenic Centovalli Railway
- Lovely Lake Como & Milan

## 16 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 12 – Sep 27  
 Sep 19 – Oct 4  
 Sep 26 – Oct 11

### COST

Depart Sep 12: \$8,797  
 Depart Sep 19: \$8,697  
 Depart Sep 26: \$8,597

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1790
- Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Calgary, or Edmonton: add \$290

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Breakfast & dinner daily (wine and coffee with all dinners) ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Fly directly from Toronto to Zurich.

**DAY 2: ZURICH / LAKE LUCERNE.** Arrive in Zurich and proceed to Vitznau. Travel by boat beneath the breathtaking Swiss Alps to our hotel on Lake Lucerne.

**DAY 3: LUCERNE.** Stroll along Old Town Lake Lucerne and see the Hofkirche Church, Old Town Hall, Chapel Bridge and the world famous Lion Monument. Afternoon at leisure to explore Lucerne or shop for Swiss watches and chocolate. This evening is our Welcome Dinner, with folklore music.

**DAY 4: INTERLAKEN / BERN / VILLARS.** Start in Interlaken, nestled between two lakes amid the towering Alps. Take in the Swiss architecture, 16th-century churches and palatial hotels. Later, travel to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bern. Tour the Zeitglockentrum clock tower, Munster Cathedral, Bear Pits and historical fountains. Continue to Villars for a five-night stay.

**DAY 5: MONTREUX / CHATEAU CHILLON / VEVEY / GRUYERE.** Tour Montreux, one of Lake Geneva's most popular and naturally beautiful resorts, gilded by Chillon Castle's powerful presence. Visit the castle grounds and take in magnificent views from its outer walls. Proceed to the fortified hill-top town of Gruyere for lunch, visit a cheese factory, and enjoy a tasting at a local wine cellar.

**DAY 6: GLACIER 3000.** We take a short cable car ride up to the world's first suspension footbridge spanning two summits, offering a stunning view of the Alps,

including Matterhorn, Mont Blanc, Eiger, Monch, and Jungfrau. Spectacular! Afternoon at leisure.

**DAYS 7 & 8: VILLARS.** At leisure to explore, hike along walking trails or take a train ride through the Alps.

**DAY 9: ZERMATT / STRESA.** We board a train for the short ride to Zermatt—a village that lies at the foot of the Matterhorn—one of the most photographed mountains in the world. 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 mountain. After our visit we traverse the Simplon pass into Italy, and on to Stresa on the shore of Lake Maggiore for a 7-night stay.

**DAY 10: STRESA.** Take a boat trip to Isola Bella's magnificent 16th-century palace and gardens filled with statues, fountains and terraces where peacocks roam among scented shrubs.

**DAY 11: LOCARNO.** Experience one of Europe's most scenic railways—the Centovalli—threading its way through valleys, villages and ravines. Arrive in Locarno for a town tour and enjoy free time. Explore Old Town and the exotic subtropical gardens, stroll the lakeside promenades and enjoy excellent shopping at Piazza Grande. Later, cruise back to Stresa.

**DAY 12: STRESA.** At leisure. Relax with a cappuccino at one of Stresa's lakeside cafes or take an excursion to Lake Orta, the secluded lake with a medieval village.

**DAY 13: LAKE COMO.** Travel to Lake Como for a dose of true beauty. Take walking tours along the cobblestone lanes of Bellagio and Como, lined with elegant buildings and magnificent gardens reminiscent of the old world.

**DAY 14: MILAN.** Visit the modern city of Milan, boasting the third largest Gothic cathedral in the world. See the Galleria, Europe's first indoor shopping mall, enjoy a coffee, people-watch or shop.

**DAY 15: STRESA.** At leisure in Stresa. Rest, walk the lakeside trails, or shop before tonight's Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 16: RETURN.** Transfer to Milan airport and fly back to Canada.







## MEDITERRANEAN MAGIC

# French Riviera, Italian Riviera & Tuscany

Experience the magic of the Mediterranean. Visit villages constructed of ancient golden stone, with cobblestone streets and colourful local markets. Take in the aroma of citrus trees and lavender, while viewing grand castles, elegant chateaux and hillside vineyards.

**The French Riviera**—beautiful sunsets, sidewalk cafes, and vineyards. Stay at a boutique hotel within a five-minute walk of the beach, flower market, and old town.

**Highlights:**

- Nice: seaside opulence and vibrant street life
- St. Tropez: a jet-setter's dream
- Port Grimaud: the little Venice of Provence
- Grasse: perfumery of Provence
- Tourrettes-sur Loup: medieval city of artists
- Saint-Paul: favourite haunt of Picasso
- Eze: jewel of the Riviera
- Monaco & Monte Carlo: playground of the rich and famous

**The Italian Riviera**—historic towns and spectacular coastline views. Stay two nights in a quaint seaside village on the Ligurian Coast.

**Highlights:**

- Portofino: beautiful coastal village
- Santa Margherita: picture-perfect seaside promenade
- Cinque Terre: villages with remarkable coastal beauty

## 14 DAYS

## TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 9 - 22

## COST

**\$7,497**

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto or Montreal*

- Single supplement: add \$1,190
- Ottawa: add \$190 (*with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport*)
- \* Add-ons below include a Toronto overnight on the way home
- Halifax: add \$790
- Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, or Winnipeg: add \$1,090

## ACTIVITY NOTE

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

**Tuscany**—picturesque hills laden with vineyards, olive groves, stone farmhouses and Renaissance cities. Stay at the seafront President Hotel in Viareggio, located on the seafront esplanade across from the sandy beach.

**Highlights:**

- Siena: medieval home to Palio horse races
- Chianti: famed wine region
- Florence: Cradle of the Renaissance
- Pisa: site of the world-famous Leaning Tower

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air France ■ First Class hotels ■ Generous continental breakfast & dinner daily (wine, mineral water, and coffee included with dinners)

**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Nice via Amsterdam.

**DAY 2: NICE.** Arrive and transfer to your hotel before our Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: NICE.** Enjoy a guided tour of Nice's port and Promenade des Anglais. Enjoy a walking tour of the old town's colourful flower market and lively streets lined with shops and cafes, and a tasting of local wines.

**DAY 4: ST. TROPEZ / GRIMAUD / COTE DE L'ESTEREL.** Explore St. Tropez's narrow streets, Provencal squares and charming port. Take a ferry to Port Grimaud and cruise through its colourful canals. Later, drive along the coast and through Esterel Mountains' scenic red rocks.

**DAY 5: GRASSE / SAINT-PAUL.** Begin in Grasse, the legendary perfume capital, and visit a perfumery museum and factory. Continue to the medieval village of Tourrettes-sur-Loup with splendid seaside vistas. Travel through the Gorges of the Loup River enroute to Saint-Paul, a 13th-century fortified village brimming with galleries, boutiques, and sidewalk cafes. Take a walking tour of Saint-Paul's winding streets, carved fountains, statues and architectural treasures.

**DAY 6: EZE / VILLEFRANCHE-SUR-MER.** From the medieval town of Eze, travel along the scenic coast to Cap Ferrat's luxurious estates and pine groves. Visit the elegant Ephrussi de Rothschild villa and gardens. Finish the day in the lovely resort town of Villefranche-sur-mer.

**DAY 7: NICE.** At leisure to explore, shop or enjoy a local cafe.

**DAY 8: MONACO / MONTE CARLO / LIGURIAN COAST.**

Travel to Monaco for a guided tour of the city and Monte Carlo harbour. Proceed to a delightful seaside resort town on Italy's Ligurian Coast for a two-night stay.

**DAY 9: PORTOFINO / SANTA MARGHERITA.** Take a local train to Portofino, a picturesque coastal village with pastel-coloured houses, high-end boutiques and delicious seafood restaurants. Travel the path from the town's cobbled square to Castello Brown, a 16th-century fortress and museum with panoramic views of the Ligurian Sea. Later, enjoy a boat ride to Santa Margherita, known for its breezy beach promenade and aristocratic architecture.

**DAY 10: CINQUE TERRE.**

Travel to Cinque Terre's cliffside villages adorning a scenic rocky coastline. Stop by Monterosso and Vernazza, two impressive and historic villages. Next, travel to Manarola, a romantic village built high atop the rocks. Continue to the beautiful seaside Tuscan town of Viareggio for your final four nights.

**DAY 11: FLORENCE.** Travel to Florence for a full-day visit, starting with Piazzale Michelangelo's incredible cityscape views. Enjoy a walking tour of the historic marble

cathedral, Signoria Square, Baptistery and Basilica of Santa Croce. You'll have free time for lunch and exploration.

**DAY 12: SIENA / CHIANTI.** Indulge in a full-day tour of the wine country. Siena is famous for its annual horse race, but it's also brimming with history. Visit the cathedral and Piazza del Campo, one of the most beautiful squares in the world. Later, unwind in Chianti for a tasting of the region's well-known wines.

**DAY 13: PISA.** Travel to Pisa by train. See the stunning Campo dei Miracoli, Leaning Tower, Duomo and Baptistery. After some free time, return to Viareggio for an afternoon at leisure. Enjoy a festive Farewell Dinner with live entertainment.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** Fly home via Paris.





## 3-CENTRE TOUR

# Southern France & Paris

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 the centre of this picturesque medieval 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, lavender fields, and quaint Provencal villages, 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 coloured buildings. The beachfront of Nice is skirted by the Promenade des Anglais, a delightful place to stroll.

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

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Paris: city tour, evening cruise on the Seine River
- Walking tour of Avignon and the Popes Palace
- Luberon & Lavender Museum
- Walking tours of Arles (visit the Roman Colosseum), St-Remy, and Les-Baux multimedia show
- Pont Du Gard Roman aqueduct and wine tasting at vineyard
- Walking tours of Nice & St-Tropez
- Eze, Monaco and Monte Carlo

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 22 - Oct 6

### COST

**\$7,497**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,490
- Montreal: add \$90
- Ottawa: add \$290 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, or Edmonton: add \$990
- Vancouver: add \$490

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY\*

**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 the illumination of Paris.

**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.

*\*NOTE: The itinerary above applies to the September tour. The itinerary for the October tour will be identical, and in reverse.*

**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. 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—which offers spectacular views of the countryside, Roussillon—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: RETURN.** We say "au revoir" to France and fly home from Nice, via Paris.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air France ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full buffet breakfast daily ▪ 10 dinners with wine and coffee ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**





# Wine Routes of France and Paris

Indulge your senses in three of the world's most famous wine regions amidst fall scenery, charming villages and local folklore.

Begin in Reims, nestled in the Champagne region, where wine has been associated with celebration and luxury for centuries.

Next is the Alsace region, where our home bases will be Strasbourg—the vibrant regional capital, and Colmar, with its stunning architecture.

Move on to Burgundy, one of the world's most influential wine growing regions, known for its network of canals, grand chateaux, and architectural wonders.

End with a three-night stay in Paris, where you'll browse museums, stroll quaint quarters, and enjoy Parisian city life.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Wine tasting at renowned wineries
- Metz and St-Etienne Cathedral
- Strasbourg canal cruise
- Haut-Koenigsbourg castle
- Germany's Black Forest and Titisee Lake
- Hotel Dieu in Beaune
- Les Halles—Dijon's covered market
- Paris tour and evening Seine River cruise

14 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 1 - 14

COST

**\$6,797**

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

- Single supplement: add \$1,390
- Halifax, Winnipeg, or Calgary: add \$190
- Vancouver or Edmonton: add \$390

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full breakfast daily  
▪ 10 dinners and 1 lunch (wine and coffee included with dinners)  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Paris.

**DAY 2: REIMS.** Travel from Paris to the elegant town of Reims, where you'll tour Reims Cathedral, former coronation site of French kings. Later, enjoy a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: CHAMPAGNE REGION.** Discover Champagne's picturesque countryside and manicured vineyards on the Montagne de Reims. See Hautvillers—village of Dom Pérignon—and Epernay, where more than 200 million bottles of champagne are waiting for a celebratory occasion. Conclude the day with a cellar tour and tasting at a Grande Maison de Champagne.

**DAY 4: METZ / STRASBOURG.** Travel to Metz, whose art and history date back to the fourth century. Discover the beautifully preserved Cathedral St-Etienne, housing Europe's largest collection of stained glass windows and nicknamed "The Lantern of God". Continue on to Strasbourg for a two-night stay.

**DAY 5: STRASBOURG.** Drive along the river and through Strasbourg's German and European quarters where you'll see the Republic Square, European Parliament, Human Rights building and Palais de l'Europe. Stroll through the petite France quarter's covered bridges, Tanners' House, Gothic cathedral and astronomical clock. Later, enjoy a canal cruise and free time.

**DAY 6: HAUT-KOENIGSBOURG / WINE ROUTE / COLMAR.** Traverse the famous Route de Vins, winding through beautiful Alsace villages. Visit medieval Haut-Koenigsbourg castle before continuing on to Ribeauvillé. Board the 'Little Train' to explore the vineyards, then proceed to the romantic town of Riquewihr. Stroll the walled city's cobblestone alleys lined with

medieval houses and fountains, and end at a famous cave for a local wine tasting. Settle in Colmar for a three-night stay.

**DAY 7: BLACK FOREST / COLMAR.** Cross the Rhine River to Germany's Black Forest. Explore old Freiburg's charming Cathedral Square and lively market. Travel through the mountains to Titisee Lake, dine on a typical Bavarian lunch, and enjoy free time by the scenic lake.

**DAY 8: COLMAR.** Take a delightful walking tour of Colmar, passing medieval homes and shops with ornate wooden facades. Visit the Bartholdi Museum, featuring original models of the Statue of Liberty and Lion of Belfort, as well as the artist's living quarters. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore the town.

**DAY 9: BEAUNE.** Proceed to Beaune, wine capital of the Cote d'Or region, for two nights. Discover the city's historic centre with its cobbled streets, wine boutiques, fabulous restaurants and magnificent Hotel Dieu—France's stunning medieval charity hospital.

**DAY 10: DIJON / COTE D'OR / BEAUNE.** Explore Dijon with a walking tour among the alluring town's distinguished architecture, Ducal Palace and covered market, where fresh foods and global goods are sold. Travel through vineyards and villages along the Côte d'Or to a fine winery for a tasting.

**DAY 11: VEZELAY / PARIS.**

Stop at the uniquely beautiful village of Vezelay. Notice the shells that have been set in the streets by pilgrims making their way along the Camino de Santiago. Visit the Abbey of St. Mary Magdalene—an awe-inspiring building listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After time at leisure, we continue to Paris for a scenic river cruise on the Seine River.

**DAY 12: PARIS.** On our city tour we'll see the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, the Opera, Notre Dame Cathedral, Champs Elysées, and historic Montmartre quarter's Sacré Coeur. Enjoy free time to explore the area and watch artists work.

**DAY 13: PARIS.** Free day to explore all Paris has to offer. Farewell Dinner to follow in a charming brasserie.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** Fly home with Air Canada.





# Bordeaux to Bilbao & the Pyrenees

Embark on a journey from Bordeaux's wine region to Bilbao (Spain) and its contemporary art scene, taking in the stunning scenery of the Atlantic coastline, and the majestic Pyrenees.

Discover Bordeaux's architecture and cuisine, delightful Saint-Émilion and Pomerol vineyards, and Arcachon Bay's stunning lagoon and sand dunes.

In the Pyrenees, visit Lourdes sanctuary and the national park's towering peaks and lush valleys. Experience Basque heritage in Bayonne, Biarritz and Saint-Jean-de-Luz, and explore lovely Basque villages and farms.

In Bilbao, visit the iconic Guggenheim Museum, the Mercado de la Ribera—Europe's largest covered market, and enjoy the city's riverside walks and vibrant streets. Discover chic San Sebastian, the Rioja Alavesa wine region, and beautiful LaGuardia town. Sample local wines and culinary specialties throughout each region!

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- World Heritage Sites of Bordeaux and Cité du Vin
- Vineyards & wineries of Saint-Émilion & Pomerol
- Arcachon resort town and Pilat Dune
- Guggenheim Museum and Nervion River cruise
- Lourdes—the iconic pilgrimage site
- Pyrenees National Park

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 9 - 23

### COST

**\$7,797**

*Per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal*

- Single supplement: add \$1,390
- Ottawa: add \$190 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air France ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full buffet breakfast daily & 10 dinners (with wine & coffee), and 1 lunch ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Bordeaux via Paris.

**DAY 2: BORDEAUX.** Arrive in Bordeaux, enjoy a small driving tour, and settle in our centrally located hotel before free time and a Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: BORDEAUX.** Spend the day exploring Bordeaux's neoclassical architecture, tree-lined avenues and timeless quarters along the Garonne River. You'll have free time to explore the lively streets or charming quaysides. Later, visit the incredible Cité du Vin, an interactive wine museum, for a truly unique cultural experience.

**DAY 4: SAINT-ÉMILION / POMEROL / BORDEAUX.**

Journey to the picturesque, medieval Saint-Émilion. Explore its historic centre, and enjoy a wine tasting, followed by some time at leisure. Later, we'll explore the Pomerol region, known for its prestigious wines, for another taste and vineyard visit.

**DAY 5: ARCACHON BAY / BORDEAUX.**

Travel to beautiful Arcachon Bay, a pristine lagoon with oyster farms and a bird reserve. We'll ascend the remarkable Dune of Pilat - Europe's tallest sand dune, for panoramic views, then enjoy a cruise on the bay and a stroll in the seaside resort town of Arcachon. We finish at the quaint port of Larros in Gujan-Mestras, for a scenic oyster tasting experience.

**DAY 6: LOURDES.** Travel into the Pyrenees towards Lourdes, a global pilgrimage site for millions annually. Tour the serene Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes, where thousands of pilgrims take part in a moving torchlight procession each evening.

**DAY 7: PYRENEES NATIONAL PARK / CAUTERETS / LOURDES.**

Travel to the majestic Pyrenees National Park, France's oldest national park full of biodiversity and breathtaking views. Enjoy a trail walk and take in the rushing streams, waterfalls and ancient pine forest. Later, visit the charming village of Cauterets, famous for its thermal baths, ski resorts and delicious sweets.

**DAY 8: BAYONNE / BIARRITZ.**

Discover the 2000-year-old heritage of Bayonne, including the Gothic cathedral, ramparts, cloister, Château-Vieux, bustling streets and fresh food market. Continue to Biarritz for a three-night stay.

**DAY 9: BIARRITZ.**

We visit the 19th century aristocratic capital of Biarritz. We'll see the lighthouse, the Chambre d'Amour, the fisherman's wharf, the rock of the Virgin and lively city centre. Later, enjoy the ocean vistas or relax at a world-renowned Thalassotherapy centre.

**DAY 10: BASQUE VILLAGES / SAINT-JEAN-DE-LUZ / BIARRITZ.**

Traverse the Basque Mountains' timeless countryside, with whitewashed walls and timbered houses, on the way to the villages of Ainhoa and Espelette. There, enjoy a tasting of chef-renowned paprika. Continue to the maritime town of Saint-Jean-de-Luz, whose active port is filled with historical architecture. Walk along the bay as your tour takes you to the house of Louis XIV, the Maison de L'Infante, and Church of St. John the Baptist.

**DAY 11: SAN SEBASTIÁN / ALBAOLA / BILBAO.** Visit the Maritime Heritage Museum in

Albaola to learn about Basque whalers and fishermen. Proceed to chic San Sebastian, former meeting place of royals and aristocrats. Take the funicular up the cliff for panoramic views. After a walking tour of the old town, enjoy free time before travelling to Bilbao for four nights.

**DAY 12: GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM / BILBAO.**

Tour the Old Quarter and Church of San Nicolas, Santiago Cathedral, Teatro Arriaga, Mercado de la Ribera and neoclassical Plaza Nueva. Next, visit the famous Guggenheim Museum before an afternoon to explore this splendid city at leisure.

**DAY 13: RIOJA ALAVESA / LAGUARDIA / BILBAO.**

We head to the idyllic countryside of La Rioja, with its eclectic wineries designed by world-famous architects, and savour some superb wines. Later, stroll through fortified LaGuardia's historic town surrounded by lush vineyards and soaring mountains. Enjoy a traditional lunch with Rioja wine!

**DAY 14: NERVION RIVER / GETXO / BILBAO.**

Visit the Maritime Museum in Bilbao, followed by a scenic cruise on the Nervion River and a visit to the charming coastal town of Getxo, famous for its "hanging bridge", beaches and historic architecture. Lastly, stroll through the fishing village of Algorta before returning to Bilbao for local drinks and "pintxos".

**DAY 15: RETURN.** Fly home via Paris.





# Highlights of Spain & Portugal

This unforgettable journey traverses Spain and Portugal, where you'll visit iconic cities and enjoy resort-style seaside relaxation.

Begin by uncovering the magic of Spain, from Madrid's lush parks and gardens to the Gothic grandeur of Cordoba's cathedral. Marvel at Granada's Alhambra Palace and unwind in Torremolinos, a popular Mediterranean retreat.

In Portugal, discover a land that beckons visitors back time and again. You'll be captivated by the Algarve's stunning coastal scenery, the tranquil Monchique mountains, and picturesque villages amidst olive groves and vineyards. Explore Evora, a historic gem, and conclude your adventure in Lisbon, a city rich with history.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Madrid's old quarter and Royal Palace
- Walled city of Toledo
- Cordoba's Mosque-Cathedral & Jewish Quarter
- Alhambra Palace
- "The Rock" of Gibraltar
- Mountaintop Ronda's incredible bridges
- Romantic city of Seville
- Charming villages of Alte, Lagos and Sagres
- Preserved medieval town of Evora
- Lisbon, coastal capital of Portugal

## 17 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 27 - Nov 12

### COST

**\$7,297**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1390
- Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver: add \$390

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Madrid, a direct flight from Toronto.

**DAY 2: MADRID.** Settle into your hotel in Madrid before a delicious Paella Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: MADRID.** Discover Madrid's heart among Puerto del Sol's winding streets, bustling city centre and colourful architecture. Visit the Royal Palace and Cervantes Monument before an afternoon at leisure. Enjoy a lovely dinner of tapas, the Spanish staple.

**DAY 4: TOLEDO.** Explore the walled city of Toledo's medieval architecture, including a visit to its Gothic cathedral, ancient synagogue, and the Church of Saint Tome's El Greco paintings.

**DAY 5: CORDOBA.** Journey to Cordoba via the picturesque "Windmill City" of Consuegra, made famous in the novel "Don Quixote". Spend your afternoon at leisure in Cordoba.

**DAY 6: CORDOBA / GRANADA.** Tour Cordoba's stunning 8th-century mosque, with marble and onyx columns illuminated by 4,000 bronze and copper lamps. The mosque is surrounded by the Jewish quarter's tiny shops and historic buildings. Next, drive to Granada while taking in the scenic beauty of the Sierra Nevada.

**DAY 7: GRANADA.** Today we visit the famous Alhambra Palace, Spain's most beautiful Moorish building and former residence of Moorish Kings. It has imposing towers and halls, rooms decorated with lace-like carvings, coloured tiles and gold mosaics. The exterior has courtyards with fountains and lush gardens. It is unparalleled in Europe.

**DAY 8: TORREMOLINOS (COSTA DEL SOL).** We proceed to the lively resort town of Torremolinos for a 3-night stay.

**DAY 9: TORREMOLINOS.** At leisure to enjoy the sun, beach and the lively boardwalk along the Mediterranean Sea.

**DAY 10: GIBRALTAR / TORREMOLINOS.** We take an excursion to Gibraltar. "The Rock", as it is commonly called, remains very British. We will see St. Michael's Cave, the Ape's Cave and more. During our free time you may want to enjoy a pint in a typical English pub before returning to Torremolinos.

**DAY 11: RONDA / SEVILLE.** Visit Ronda, famed for the incredible views created by its dramatic landscape. Explore the oldest bullring in Spain, nearby gardens and historic church before continuing to Seville. This evening we enjoy an Andalusian Tapas Dinner at a local restaurant that specializes in Tapas.

**DAY 12: SEVILLE / ALGARVE.** Our tour of the monumental city of Seville includes a visit to the Gothic Cathedral—a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Barrio de Santa Cruz (the Jewish Quarter), and the Alcazar. Later we enter Portugal and head for the Algarve, which features sandy beaches that stretch for miles, and impressive cliffs. We will stay 3 nights in the lively resort of Albufeira. Proceed to Algarve, Portugal's beautiful coastal resort

with vast beaches and impressive rock formations, for 3 nights.

**DAY 13: LAGOS / SAGRES.** Explore Lagos' rich history through its church and castle walls. Next, visit Sagres, where Portuguese explorers learned their legendary navigational skills. Finish off in Cape St. Vincent, the westernmost point in Europe.

**DAY 14: MOORISH VILLAGES.** Discover the charming village of Alte, wander its flower-decked streets, visit the 16th-century church, and immerse yourself in the tranquility of its natural hot springs. Later, stop at other quiet regional hill towns.

**DAY 15: EVORA / LISBON.** Travel to Evora, a UNESCO World Heritage City where Portugal's Golden Age lives on, for a guided panoramic walking tour. See the Roman temple, Gothic cathedral, aqueduct and more. Proceed to Lisbon.

**DAY 16: LISBON.** On our morning city tour we see the old quarter, Jeronimos Monastery, Belem Tower and the monument to Henry the Navigator. Afternoon at leisure, followed by our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 17: RETURN.** Fly directly home to Toronto.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full buffet breakfast daily ▪ Dinner daily with local wine & coffee ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**







# Barcelona & Catalonia

The Spanish province of Catalonia boasts a unique history, a distinct culture and its very own language (Catalan), all of which has shaped the personality of the region and the people over the centuries (to the extent that many Catalonians see themselves as belonging to a completely different country).

Stretching from the Pyrenees in the north to the Mediterranean in the east, Catalonia offers a diverse array of scenery and attractions including rocky coasts, sandy beaches, lush plains, historic cities, tiny fishing villages and mountain hamlets.

We begin with 4 nights in the vibrant city of Barcelona. From Roman town to medieval trade hub, its old centre constitutes one of the greatest concentrations of Gothic architecture in Europe and is home to some of the world's most bizarre buildings. We will tour the city and enjoy an excursion to the impressive jagged mountains of Montserrat before travelling to the historic city of Girona for a 4-night stay. Girona has a rich architectural heritage and is steeped in character, with the old Jewish Quarter among its major sights. A city tour of Girona, a visit to Figueres to see Dali's museum, and an excursion to the resort town of Cadaques shows us the best the area has to offer.

From Girona we travel to the charming seaside town and old fishing village of Lloret de Mar in popular Costa Brava for 2 nights, enroute visiting a number of impressive medieval villages and enjoying the magnificent scenery which includes spectacular cliff views, azure-blue water, whitewashed houses and rich green coast.

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full buffet breakfast daily ▪ Dinner daily with mineral water, wine & beer ▪ Flamenco show at Cordobés (or similar venue)  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 18 - Oct 1

### COST

**\$6,297**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,190
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$90
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$290

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

Our tour finishes with 2 nights in Tarragona, an important seaside city of the Roman Empire located on the enchanting Costa Dorada, with its well-preserved monuments: the aqueducts, an amphitheatre and the Tomb of the Scipios.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for Barcelona, a direct non-stop flight from Toronto.

**DAY 2: BARCELONA.** We arrive in Barcelona and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is free until our Welcome Dinner this evening.

**DAY 3: BARCELONA.** Barcelona is known as the capital of Catalan Art Nouveau, and is where the famous architect Antonio Gaudi lived and worked. Our city tour will show us Gaudi's most famous works, such as Casa Mila and Casa Batllo along the Paseo de Gracia. We will then visit the Parque Guell, which was declared an artistic monument and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Next, we see the Basilica and Expiatory Church of the Holy Family (Sagrada Familia), finishing our tour near the Picasso Museum which displays works from his blue and pink periods. Tonight we enjoy a typical Catalan dinner at a local restaurant.

**DAY 4: MONSERRAT / BARCELONA.** We drive through picturesque villages to the impressive mountain of Montserrat, rising majestically to 1235 metres. We visit the Royal Basilica of Montserrat, holding the famous 12th century Romanesque carving of Virgen Moreneta (The Black Virgin). The Basilica has been one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Spain for centuries. Our dinner this evening will include a special Flamenco show at Cordobés, considered one of the best Flamenco shows in Spain, or at a similar venue.

**DAY 5: BARCELONA AT LEISURE.** At leisure in this exciting city. Enjoy strolling on Les Ramblas—a lively and colourful tree-lined pedestrian street of unique boutiques, cafes and street entertainers.

**DAY 6: GIRONA.** We proceed to Girona and enjoy an afternoon tour of this medieval city. We will see the Cathedral—an excellent example of Spanish Gothic architecture, and the Old Fortifications (the city wall of the old town) erected in the 1st century BC. Our tour will also highlight Girona's Jewish history including the Bonastruc ca Porta Centre—several restored 13th century buildings that house the Catalan Museum of Jewish Culture. We finish our tour with a visit to the 12th century Arab Baths.

**DAY 7: BESALU / CADAQUES / GIRONA.** We first visit Besalu—a medieval town with cobbled streets and unique facades. Most of the buildings date from the Middle Ages, so the town is designated a National Historical Site. We then continue to Cadaques, a symbolic place on the Gironese coast. Its rocky coast, fringed by beautiful beaches and quiet coves is the main attraction, as well as the incredible landscape of the Cap de Creus Natural Park. We tour the old town and other attractions.

**DAY 8: FIGUERES / WINERY / GIRONA.** Our first stop is Figueres, birthplace of artist Salvador Dali, where we visit the Theatre Museum—a large museum designed by Dali himself which attracts thousands of visitors monthly. Later we visit a winery for a tour and to see the historic Gran Claustro Cellar where wine has been produced since the Middle Ages.

**DAY 9: GIRONA.** A day at leisure to explore the city.

**DAY 10: COSTA BRAVA.** We depart Girona for the beach resort of Lloret de Mar in the popular coastal region of Costa Brava. Enroute we will visit the medieval villages of Pals, Pubol and Begur with their spectacular cliff views.

**DAY 11: COSTA BRAVA.**

A day at leisure to explore, shop, swim and enjoy the beach.

**DAY 12: SITGES / TARRAGONA.**

We depart for Tarragona with a stop enroute in Sitges, renowned for its film festival and Carnival. We will arrive in Tarragona in time for an afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 13: TARRAGONA.**

Today's tour highlights the Roman ruins of Tarraco, a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. We visit the Scale Model of Roman Tarraco which shows the main monuments of this city that thrived in the 2nd century AD. We will have time to stroll along the Wall of Tarragona, (the most ancient Roman monument in the Iberian Peninsula) and visit the Provincial Forum, where the political, legal and religious life of the province developed. We finish our tour with a visit to the Praetorium Circus where chariot races took place, and the Amphitheatre that was used for the fights of gladiators and wild beasts. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** We transfer to the Barcelona airport for our flight home, direct, non-stop to Toronto.







# Grand Tour of Portugal

Once a powerful seafaring kingdom that dominated merchant routes worldwide, Portugal today is a relaxed country bountiful in natural beauty, historic monuments, and a distinct culture.

Combine to this the nation's love of gastronomy and wine, and the legendary Portuguese hospitality, and you will see its appeal as a wonderful holiday destination.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Lisbon, Portugal's lively capital
- The Algarve, Portugal's finest beaches
- Moorish fishing village of Olhao
- Romantic Oporto
- Historic seaside port of Lagos
- Golden-stone university town of Évora
- Alentejo's expansive wine region
- Guimarães, birthplace of Portugal
- White hilltop town of Monsaraz
- Serra da Estrela Mountains
- Douro River Valley, origin of Port wine
- Aveiro, the "Portuguese Venice"
- Sintra's scenic hilltop palaces and estates

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 26 - Oct 10  
Oct 2 - Oct 16

### COST

**\$6,397**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,190
- Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, Winnipeg or Edmonton: add \$390
- Calgary or Vancouver: add \$790

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class and moderate hotels ▪ Breakfast daily, 11 dinners & 2 lunches (including a special farm lunch) ▪ Wine/beer and coffee served with all dinners & lunches ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Fly non-stop from Toronto to Lisbon.

**DAY 2: LISBON.** We arrive in Lisbon and enjoy a tour of this lively city, before transferring to our hotel. Afternoon at leisure before a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: SINTRA / CABO DA ROCA / CASCAIS / LISBON.** Begin with a visit to the National Palace of Queluz, with its wonderful Rococo architecture, then wander through the charming village of Sintra. Take a scenic drive along Cabo da Roca, passing Guincho Beach and the seaside chasm of Boca do Inferno ("Hell's Mouth").

**DAY 4: OBIDOS / COIMBRA.** Discover the whitewashed city of Obidos via walking tour. Head to Coimbra, the medieval former capital of Portugal, and see its 500-year-old university, famous library, cathedral and age-old Arch of Almedina.

**DAY 5: AVEIRO / OPORTO.** Start at the Underground Museum, located in traditional wine cellars and featuring private artifact collections. After a winery lunch, visit colourful Aveiro, known as the "Portuguese Venice" due to its gondola-shaped boats, natural lagoons, 19th-century architecture and cobblestone streets. Next, visit the Maritime Museum of Ilhavo and taste Ovos Moles, the heavenly local delicacy. End the day in Oporto for a three-night stay.

**DAY 6: OPORTO.** Experience a panoramic tour of Oporto, rich in medieval relics, soaring bell towers, baroque churches and beaux-arts buildings. Tour São Francisco Church, the Stock Exchange Palace and the historic Ribeira neighbourhood. Finish with a romantic river cruise.

**DAY 7: GUIMARÃES / PENAFIEL.** Discover the old town of Guimarães and visit a vineyard famous for Vinho Verde in Penafiel where you'll see the production process and enjoy a tasting.

**DAY 8: DOURO VALLEY / VISEU.** Traverse the beautiful Douro Valley's quiet towns, lush vineyards and cliff-top castles on your way to a regional farm to learn about local port wine production. After lunch on the farm, we'll visit the magnificent gardens of Palacio de Mateus, then continue to historic Viseu for an overnight.

**DAY 9: SERRA DA ESTRELA MOUNTAINS / CASTELO DE VIDE / ÉVORA.** Cross the Tagus River valley and enjoy spectacular views of the Serra da Estrela Mountains. Stop at the Castelo de Vide and wander the town's narrow alleys and Jewish quarter before continuing to Évora, heart of the Alentejo region, for a two-night stay.

**DAY 10: ÉVORA / MONSARAZ / ARRAIOLOS.** Enjoy a walking tour of Évora's 14th-century architecture, elaborate cathedral, Roman temple, and Ossuary Chapel. Then we proceed to visit the historic, fairytale village of Monsaraz, before visiting a traditional winery for a tasting. We overnight in Arraiolos.

**DAY 11: BEJA / LAGOS / PONTA DA PIEDADE / ALBUFEIRA.** Discover historic Beja on the way to Ponta da Piedade, where you'll find unique sandstone cliffs and rock pinnacles. Visit the resort town of Lagos before

proceeding to Albufeira, another resort town, for two nights.

**DAY 12: OLHAO / FARO.** We first visit the Moorish fishing village of Olhão, where we'll see the lively fruit and vegetable market. We'll then travel to the age-old city of Faro, Algarve's walled capital, where we'll explore the old town, and the Cathedral, before returning to Albufeira.

**DAY 13: SETÚBAL / ARRÁBIDA / LISBON.** After a stop at the fisherman's port of Setubal, proceed through picturesque Arrabida Mountains to Lisbon for a two-night stay.

**DAY 14: LISBON.** Take a city tour of Alfama, Jeronimos Monastery, Monument of the Discoveries, and Belém Tower. After, enjoy a tasting of the famous Belém custard tart before a delicious Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** Fly non-stop to Toronto.







# Northern Portugal & Madeira

## Lisbon • Fatima • Oporto • Deluxe All-Inclusive resort in Madeira

Experience Portugal's charming cobblestone villages, captivating cities, rich culture and stunning scenery.

Your journey begins in Lisbon, Portugal's vibrant capital, followed by visits to the medieval city of Obidos, the picturesque seaside village of Nazare, Aveiro—the "Venice of Portugal", and Fatima, known for its Marian apparitions.

Explore Oporto, a city recognized for its blend of architectural styles and historic charm, nestled by the Duoro River.

In Coimbra, marvel at the ancient university overlooking the Mondego River, and visit the Gothic masterpiece of Batalha Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

After our touring in northern Portugal, we'll fly to Madeira for a 6-night stay at a deluxe oceanfront resort. We conclude our tour by discovering Lisbon's lively culture and history.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Walled city of Obidos
- Colourful fishing village of Nazare
- Tour of Oporto
- Scenic Rio Douro boat ride
- Batalha Monastery
- Fatima, a centre of Christian pilgrimage
- Lush Botanical Quinto Gardens do Lago
- 2 full-day tours of the enchanting island of Madeira
- The historic and lively city of Lisbon

### 14 DAYS

#### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 27 - Oct 10

#### COST

**\$6,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, or Winnipeg*

- Single supplement: add \$1,590
- Calgary or Edmonton: add \$390
- Vancouver: add \$490

#### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

#### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada • Deluxe & First Class hotels • Full buffet breakfast & dinner daily (wine & beer with all dinners), 5 lunches while in Madeira • All alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages all day while in Madeira • **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for Lisbon—a direct, non-stop flight from Toronto.

**DAY 2: LISBON.** Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel. Our Welcome Dinner is this evening.

**DAY 3: LISBON.** Our tour of the Portuguese capital will take in the Old Quarter, where we'll visit Jeronimos Monastery, and see the Belem Tower, and the monument of Henry the Navigator. The afternoon is free to explore on your own. Perhaps visit one of the many museums and galleries, or relax in a café.

**DAY 4: OBIDOS / NAZARE / BATALHA / FATIMA.** We drive along the scenic landscapes of windmills and fruit trees to the enchanting walled city of Obidos, which has some of the most well-preserved medieval architecture in Portugal. We will see the castle and main square, and then continue to the colourful fishing village of Nazare, and to Batalha to visit the Monastery of Santa Maria de Victoria—one of the best examples of original Gothic architecture in Portugal. We continue to Fatima—a centre of Christian pilgrimage, famous for the shrine called the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary.

**DAY 5: COIMBRA / AVEIRO / OPORTO.** We depart for Coimbra, where we visit one of the world's oldest universities, including its grand baroque library (subject to availability), as well as the historic and architecturally magnificent Santa Clara Monastery, which offers an amazing view over Coimbra and its surroundings. Then we continue to Aveiro, known as the "Portuguese Venice", where we see the graceful "moliceiros" boats with their distinctively decorated prows, and have a chance to taste the local sweets "ovos moles". Then

we proceed to Oporto—one of the oldest European cities, for a 2-night stay.

**DAY 6: OPORTO.** On our city tour of Oporto, we will visit the San Francisco Church and see the Palacio da Bolsa with its splendid Arabian Hall. We will also enjoy a scenic boat trip on the beautiful Rio Douro. Afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 7: MADEIRA.** We transfer to the airport for our flight to the magical garden island of Madeira, for a 6-night stay at our Deluxe oceanfront resort. After arrival, we will have a welcome orientation of Funchal, including the Cathedral, a visit of the beautiful botanical gardens with their unique island species, and a tasting of the famous Madeira Wine.

**DAY 8: EASTERN ISLAND TOUR.** Today's full day tour takes us first to the Point of Sao Lourenco, where you can see both sides of the island at once. We continue to Porto de la Cruz and Guindaste to enjoy the magnificent scenic views. Then we proceed to visit the village of Santana, famous for its small houses with thatched roofs set amongst the Cathedral flowers, vines and apple orchards. Later we will visit a trout farm before continuing to Mount Poiso and the village of Santo da Serra, 1400 m above sea level.

**DAYS 9 & 10: MADEIRA.** At leisure to enjoy the facilities of the hotel and explore the charming town of Funchal. On the 2nd evening we will enjoy a folklore dinner with local specialties and wine.

**DAY 11: WESTERN ISLAND TOUR.** Today's tour takes us first to Estreito de Camara de Lobos to see its wonderful vineyards. We stop at the cliffs of Cabo Girao, the third highest in the world, for an unbeatable view of Funchal, and then continue to Ribeira Brava to see the church, and Madalena do Mar to visit a banana plantation. We descend the plateau of the island to Paul da Serra—a UNESCO protected nature park, before visiting Porto Moniz and its famous natural pools hollowed out of lava. On our return to Funchal we pass the beautiful Serra de Agua Valley and Laurissilva Forest.

**DAY 12: MADEIRA.** At leisure for last minute souvenir shopping, strolling along the sea or on the streets of Funchal, or enjoying the facilities of our resort hotel. Your Tour Manager will be on hand for suggestions and possible optional tours.

**DAY 13: LISBON.** We enjoy a final free morning in Madeira before we fly back to Lisbon and transfer to our hotel. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** We fly direct from Lisbon to Toronto.





# Iceland— Land of Fire & Ice

Since being discovered by the British and Scandinavians more than a thousand years ago, Iceland has evolved into a very modern society with a high standard of living and education—and a uniquely Icelandic culture.

While most Icelanders speak English, the country has preserved much of its Norse and Celtic heritage, adding distinctive Icelandic characteristics.

The very name “Iceland” evokes an image of vast ice and snow fields, but in fact it has a remarkably moderate climate with an astonishing array of fjords, glaciers, active volcanoes, black lava fields, red sulphur, hot 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. Above all is the warmth and hospitality of the welcoming Icelanders, so proud of their island nation.

On this tour we explore the wild beauty of the island. Our sightseeing will include a lagoon boat cruise, 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 the chance to soak in the photogenic turquoise thermal waters. There are few countries in the world that can compare to Iceland’s dramatic landscapes, flora and fauna. This photographer’s and naturalist’s paradise must be experienced first hand!

## 11 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 14 - 24

### COST

**\$9,997**

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,790
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

#### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Icelandair (direct between Toronto and Reykjavik) ▪ First Class & moderate hotels  
▪ Breakfast buffet & dinner daily ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart on our overnight flight to Reykjavik.

**DAY 2: REYKJAVIK.** 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. Afterwards, we enjoy a city tour of the capital where we will see the old town centre, the Parliament, the Cathedral, the harbour and the National Museum. The rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight is our welcome dinner.

**DAY 3: BORGARNES.** Today we head north to our hotel in Borgarnes, stopping enroute to visit the spectacular Hraunfossar Waterfall—hundreds of metres wide, this is one of Iceland’s most beautiful sights. We will also stop and visit the largest hot spring in Iceland, Deildartunguhver.

**DAY 4: AKUREYRI.** We begin our “ring tour” with a stop at the 3,000-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 small and sturdy breed of horse that has remained unchanged since its introduction by the Vikings over 1100 years ago. Tonight we stay in Akureyri, the “Capital of the North”.

**DAY 5: 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 Grenjadarstadur Turf house to see the best preserved turf houses and discover the way of life of Icelanders before the 1900s. We will then proceed to our hotel in Lake Myvatn for a 2-night stay.

**DAY 6: LAKE MYVATN / NATURE BATHS.** Today we explore the remarkable natural attractions of this area including Dimmuborgir (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. This afternoon we have time to soak in the soothing mineral waters at the Myvatn Nature Baths.

**DAY 7. EGILSSTADIR.**

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”. Before arriving at our hotel we will visit the Wilderness Centre in Egilsstadir for insights into how truly harsh life was in Iceland in previous centuries.

**DAY 8: 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. This unusual assortment of thousands of stones is located in a private home and spread out over a large garden. After our visit we drive to the heights of Almanaskard 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 Breidamerkurjokull Glacier. We overnight in Skaftafell.

**DAY 9: SKAFTAFELL NATIONAL PARK / VIK.** At Skaftafell National Park we take a walk to get up close to the glacier itself. After traveling through Eldhraun—the largest mass of lava ever to flow on earth—we cross the volcanic sand desert of Myrdalssandur until we reach Vik for our overnight.

**DAY 10: SOUTH SHORE & 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 spectacularly (and very entertainingly) every 7 minutes. Our last visit is Pingvellir National Park, where the ancient parliament of the country was established in 930 AD, before we arrive in Reykjavik. Tonight we enjoy our farewell dinner.

**DAY 11: BLUE LAGOON / RETURN.**

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 back to Canada.





# Grand Rail Tour of Switzerland

Let the Swiss railways whisk you through storybook views most people only dream of seeing. Ascend to dizzying heights as you discover the legendary Alps, crystal clear lakes, pristine wilderness, lakeside towns, and quaint villages. Experience it all from the comfort of a modern train on this once-in-a-lifetime journey!

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- View 73 mountain peaks at once atop **Mount Pilatus**
- **Jungfrau Railway** connecting to Europe's highest railway station
- **Bernina Express**, passing over 196 bridges enroute to Lugano
- Chocolate tasting aboard the timeless **Belle Époque fin de siècle coaches**
- **Panoramic Express** from Lucerne to Montreux, packed with quintessential Swiss views
- **Glacier Express** passing the famous Matterhorn, 91 tunnels, 291 bridges & the Oberalp Pass—6,600 feet above sea level

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 4 - 17 / Sep 18 - Oct 1

### COST

Depart Sep 4: \$11,397

Depart Sep 18: \$11,197

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto or Montreal*

- Single supplement: add \$1,790
- Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$190

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class & moderate hotels  
▪ Breakfast & dinner daily, and 2 lunches ▪ Wine/beer, water & coffee with dinners  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Fly directly to Zurich.

**DAY 2: ZURICH / LUCERNE.** We arrive in Zurich and transfer to Lucerne for a 3-night stay, enjoying breathtaking views of the lake and surrounding mountains enroute.

**DAY 3: LUCERNE.** Take a guided walking tour through old town Lucerne, visiting landmarks like the Hofkirche Church, wooden covered Chapel Bridge, and the famous Lion Monument carved into a sandstone cliff. Next, visit the Swiss Museum of Transport and enjoy a wonderful Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 4: MOUNT PILATUS / LUCERNE.** Travel to Mount Pilatus via panoramic aerial gondola known as the "Dragon Ride". Each gondola has windows extending to the floor for breathtaking views in every direction. A leisurely lake cruise allows us to enjoy the wonderful views of the lake and mountains as we return to Lucerne.

**DAY 5: GOLDEN PASS TRAIN / BRIENZ / PANORAMIC EXPRESS / OBERLAND BERNESE.** Embark on the Golden Pass Line and Panoramic Express through the heart of the Swiss Alps. Stop in Brienz—nestled among towering mountains—for free time. Cruise along turquoise-coloured Lake Brienz to Interlaken. There, enjoy a funicular ride up 5,000 feet for stunning views of deep blue lakes and snow-capped mountains.

**DAY 6: JUNGFRAU RAILWAY / OBERLAND BERNESE.** Ride the renowned Jungfrau Railway to Kleine Scheidegg, home of Jungfrauoch, Europe's highest mountain. We begin with the Bernese Oberland Railway to Grindelwald and ascend via the new Eiger Express towards the north face of the Eiger—1,800 metres high! There

will be an option to go the top of Jungfrauoch—"The Top of Europe". After indescribably beautiful views, descend via the Wengeralp and Bernese Oberland Railway.

**DAY 7: GOLDEN PASS / MONTREUX.** Take the elegant Panoramic Golden Pass Train through scenic valleys to Montreux, on the shores of Lake Geneva (the Swiss Riviera) for a two-night stay.

**DAY 8: CHOCOLATE TRAIN / LA GRUYÈRES / BROC / MONTREUX.** Board the stunning Belle Époque Coaches and experience the Chocolate Train enroute to La Gruyères. There, enjoy free time and a fondue lunch. Continue to Broc's famous Cailler chocolate factory to learn about and taste fine chocolates.

**DAY 9: CHILLON CASTLE / ZERMATT.** Explore historic Chateau Chillon, a water-castle located on the banks of Lake Geneva. This historic castle was home to the Counts of Savoy for 400 years, and is where Lord Byron wrote "The Prisoner of Chillon". Proceed to the pretty town of Zermatt for two nights.

**DAY 10: ZERMATT.** Discover the charming village of Zermatt where gas-powered cars are not allowed. Take an optional excursion to Gornergrat via Europe's highest open-air cogwheel train for exceptional views of the Matterhorn.

**DAY 11: GLACIER EXPRESS / CHUR.** Board the Glacier Express—widely considered the most famous railway in the world—to Chur. Wind through pristine mountain landscapes, deep gorges, breathtaking valleys, through 91 tunnels and across 291 impressive bridges.

**DAY 12: BERNINA EXPRESS / LUGANO.** Hop aboard the Bernina Express—a 100-year-old World Heritage line renowned for its ingenuity and the striking beauty of its surroundings. Pass craggy mountain peaks, cascading waterfalls, and the Morteratsch Glacier. Descend via the famous Brusio spiral viaduct and admire the unforgettable landscapes. Next, our coach takes us along Lake Como and the Valtellina Valley to Lugano.

**DAY 13: LUGANO.** A little bit of Italy in Switzerland. Our guided walking tour takes in Lugano's magnificent Italian-inspired architecture, St. Lawrence Cathedral and its serene waterfront. Cruise to Morcote, Switzerland's most beautiful village, before a Farewell Dinner at a local Grotto.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** Fly directly home from Milan to Canada.







MAGIC OF EASTERN EUROPE

# Budapest, Vienna & Prague

Journey through Eastern Europe's historic cities and fairytale villages, and see Gothic castles and famous monuments.

Begin in Prague, the "Golden City" built on seven hills spanning the Vltava River. See the beautifully preserved Old Town, massive castle, famous city squares and evocative Jewish Quarter. Prague is renowned for its delicious beer and love for music.

In Vienna, discover opulent buildings, impressive museums and traditional opera, choirs and orchestras. Vienna's cultural legacy was shaped by historical residents like Mozart, Beethoven and Sigmund Freud.

Finish off in Hungary's history-filled capital of Budapest. Wander through over 1,000 years of history: magnificent 19th-century architecture, grand boulevards, majestic bridges, a beautiful opera house, museums, art galleries, spas and more!

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Hradcany Castle district
- Prague astronomical clock
- Prague Vltava river cruise
- World Heritage city of Cesky Krumlov
- Vienna wine village
- Schonbrunn Palace, site of Mozart's first royal concert
- Bratislava, capital of Slovakia
- Budapest city tour
- Danube Marzipan Museum
- Thermal spa hotel

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 21 - Oct 4

### COST

Depart Sep 21: \$7,997

Depart Oct 1: \$7,797

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,490
- Montreal, Ottawa, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Vancouver, Calgary, or Edmonton: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Prague via Frankfurt.

**DAY 2: PRAGUE.** Arrive in Prague and transfer to our centrally located hotel before a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: PRAGUE.** Take a coach and walking tour of the stunning Hradcany Castle district. Visit the majestic St. Vitus Cathedral, Loretto Chapel, and Golden Lane, home of 17th-century goldsmiths and alchemists.

**DAY 4: PRAGUE.** Journey across the iconic Charles Bridge to Lesser Town's artisan houses, 17th-century palaces, Jewish Ghetto, and famous astronomical clock. Unwind with a scenic Vltava River cruise before an afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 5: PRAGUE.** Enjoy a free day to revisit your favourite Lesser Town sites, shop for local treasures like crystal and garnet jewelry, or try Prague's famous dark ale.

**DAY 6: CESKY KRUMLOV / VIENNA.** Travel through picturesque landscapes to Cesky Krumlov, a World Heritage city with beautiful fortified walls and unspoiled countryside surroundings. Tour among the city's narrow cobblestone streets, romantic nooks, lively shops, cafes and museums. Later, continue to Vienna for a four-night stay.

**DAY 7: VIENNA.** Explore Vienna's historic Ringstrasse Boulevard lined with timeless palatial buildings like the Hofburg, Opera House, and more. Next, visit the lavish Schonbrunn Palace, where Mozart held his first royal concert. Dine at the palace and enjoy a classical concert performance in the palace orangery.

**DAY 8: MELK ABBEY & WACHAU VALLEY.** Today we explore the countryside, with our first stop at the palatial Abbey of Melk, home to Benedictine monks for 900 years. We'll visit the restored UNESCO World Heritage Abbey that hovers over the Danube Valley, with its renowned treasures such as the art-lined Imperial Corridor, the Abbey Museum, the "Marble Hall", and the Baroque church. We'll then board our lunch cruise that takes us through the beautiful Wachau Valley, blanketed with vineyards and charming villages, like Durnstein (where legend has it that Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned). We finish with a vineyard tour and tasting at a family run winery.

**DAY 9: VIENNA.** A free day to explore Vienna's Ringstrasse as you wish. Attend a training session at the legendary Spanish Riding School, venture to countryside vineyards, visit the opulent Melk Abbey, or relax among Vienna's renowned cafe culture.

**DAY 10: BRATISLAVA / GYOR.** Enroute to Budapest, stop for walking tours in Bratislava, Slovakia's capital, and Gyor, the "City of Waters". Take in the towns' marvelous statues, city squares and 18th-century pastel buildings. Later, arrive at the spa hotel in Budapest for a four-night stay.

**DAY 11: BUDAPEST.** Embark on a grand tour of Budapest, including iconic Heroes' Square, the magnificent Opera House, House of Parliament, Jewish Quarter and more. We will enjoy a food tasting lunch at the Great Market Hall, then ascend Gellert Hill for a birds eye view of the city. We finish

in the Castle District, home of the Royal Palace, and visit the famous Matthias Church and Fisherman's Bastion. In the evening, savour a typical Hungarian dinner and folklore show.

**DAY 12: DANUBE TOUR.** Drive along the Danube to the 18th-century village of Szentendre, marked by cobblestone streets, Baroque architecture, hidden alleys and colourful old houses. Enjoy a tour and tasting at the Marzipan Museum, featuring sculptures made of Marzipan. Lunch is in Visegrad, where Dracula is rumored to have been imprisoned in the town's 13th-century fortress.

**DAY 13: BUDAPEST.** Spend the day as you wish. Rejuvenate in the thermal spa, venture to the city for a lovely musical performance, or rest. In the evening, enjoy a delectable Farewell Dinner cruise along the romantically illuminated Danube.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** Fly home via Frankfurt.



### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Lufthansa ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full buffet breakfast daily, 10 dinners (with wine), and 4 lunches ▪ Concert at the Schonbrunn Palace  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**



# Croatia & Slovenia

## From Dubrovnik to Venice

We begin this delightful tour with 3 nights in the Jewel of the Adriatic—Dubrovnik—a UNESCO World Heritage Site and certainly one of Europe's most beautiful cities.

Then come and discover the medieval architecture, tranquil lakes, quaint villages and local charm as we visit some of Croatia's other port towns including Zadar, Trogir and Split. Absorb the Turkish atmosphere in historic Mostar, Bosnia Herzegovina, 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.

Next we 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 with 2 nights in the romantic city of Venice. With its marvellous canals, beautiful architecture and Byzantine atmosphere, Venice never fails to enchant its visitors.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Beautiful old port city of Dubrovnik
- Region of Konavle & mountain village of Gruda
- Mostar's famous historic bridge
- Seaside town of Split
- Trogir: UNESCO Site
- Plitvice National Park
- Funicular to Zagreb's Upper Town
- Boat ride on Lake Bled
- Ljubljana: Slovenia's charming capital city
- Postojna's incredible Karst cave system
- The island city of Venice

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 8 - 22

### COST

**\$7,497**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,290
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax:  
September 16 (Air Canada) add \$390  
October 8 (Lufthansa) add \$690
- Winnipeg, Vancouver, Calgary, or Edmonton:  
September 16 (Air Canada): add \$690  
October 8 (Lufthansa): add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for Dubrovnik, with a change in Vienna or Frankfurt enroute.

**DAY 2: DUBROVNIK.** We arrive in Dubrovnik and transfer to our hotel for a 3-night stay. The rest of the day is free.

**DAY 3: DUBROVNIK AND KONAVLE.** On our city tour of Dubrovnik we'll see the city walls and fortifications, the Rector's Palace, famous unique churches, public buildings that blend seamlessly with green-shuttered stone houses, and, in the Franciscan Monastery, Europe's oldest apothecary. 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: MOSTAR.** We travel to Mostar, and upon arrival, 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. We overnight in Mostar.

**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. We will spend 2 nights here.

**DAY 7: DAY TRIP TO 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, and on our tour here we will see the harbour, the historical centre, and the pre-Romanic church of Saint Donat. We overnight in Zadar.

**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, for a 2-night stay.

**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, for a 2-night stay. 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 BLEED / 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 / JESOLO.** We travel to Postojna to visit the incredible Karst cave system. A mini-train takes us through this fantastic underground world of beautiful stalactites and stalagmites. We continue toward Venice and our hotel in the nearby resort town of Jesolo for a 2-night stay.

**DAY 14: DAY TRIP TO VENICE.** 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 shop, explore and of course take photos before we return to Jesolo on the mainland. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** We fly home to Canada, (September group—direct to Toronto, October group—via Frankfurt).

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada or Lufthansa ▪ First Class and moderate hotels  
▪ Full continental breakfast and dinner daily, and 3 lunches (lunches and several dinners at local restaurants) ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**



NEW

## BALTIC ADVENTURE

# Lithuania, Latvia & Estonia

Experience the allure of the Baltic states—beautifully preserved medieval towns, fascinating history, unrivalled natural beauty, and exceptionally friendly people.

Begin in the old town of Vilnius, Lithuania's capital, boasting over 1,500 historical buildings with diverse architectural influences. Vilnius regularly hosts colourful fairs, theatre performances and festivals. Visit breathtaking national parks, the 18th-century port city of Klaipeda, and the famous Hill of Crosses.

In Latvia, walk amongst Riga's unparalleled German Art Nouveau and Gothic architecture, Rundale's baroque palace, the ancient town of Cesis, and the steep red sandstone cliffs and caves of Sigulda.

End your tour in Estonia with visits to the lively resort town of Parnu, the uniquely beautiful island of Saaremaa, and the wonderful medieval capital of Tallinn, brimming with historic sites.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Church of St. Peter & St. Paul
- Island Castle at Trakai National Park
- Curonian Spit (World Heritage Site)
- Hill of 100,000 Crosses
- Rundale Palace, Latvia
- Massive Riga Cathedral
- Gauja National Park
- Ancient Gutmanis Cave paintings
- Saaremaa, home of Estonian pirates
- Kuressaare Episcopal Castle
- Historical Centre of Tallinn

15 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 3 - 17

COST

**\$7,297**

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Montreal, Ottawa, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$990

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Vilnius via Warsaw.

**DAY 2: VILNIUS.** Arrive in Vilnius. After a short orientation tour, settle in at the hotel before the evening's Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: VILNIUS.** Visit St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, where you'll find over 2,000 statues and Antakalnis Cemetery—the final resting place for thousands of Napoleon's soldiers. We then embark on a panoramic walking tour through the heart of Vilnius's historic centre. Stop to admire Vilnius Cathedral's marvelous frescoes, Presidential Palace, Palace of the Grand Dukes, and the oldest university in the Baltics.

**DAY 4: TRAKAI / KAUNAS.** Proceed to beautiful Trakai National Park, made of 200 lakes and dense birch forests. Visit the imposing 14th-century Island Castle, situated in the middle of an idyllic lake. Explore the castle's captivating exhibit, then proceed to Kaunas for a culture-filled city tour.

**DAY 5: SILUTE / KLAIPEDA.** Traverse ancient Memel villages to the historic little town of Silute. Next, visit Rusne, Lithuania's only fishing island lined with old wooden houses. End the day in the port city of Klaipeda.

**DAY 6: CURONIAN SPIT / KLAIPEDA.** Start at Palanga, an elegant former getaway for wealthy Prussians. Visit the baroque Tyszkiewicz Palace, then ferry to the Curonian Spit, a World Heritage Site of stunning beauty. After, return to Klaipeda. We'll then enjoy a captivating walk through the charming resort village of Nida, the principal hub of the Peninsula, before making our way back to Klaipeda.

**DAY 7: SIAULIAI / RIGA.** Take a city tour of Klaipeda and proceed to Siauliai to visit the mystical Hill of Crosses—a 14th-century pilgrimage site for pilgrims and popes alike. Despite frequent destruction by occupiers, over 100,000 crosses adorn the grounds. Next, cross into Latvia and visit Rundale Palace, a beautiful Baroque palace with lavish decorations and lush gardens. End the day in the European Cultural Capital of Riga.

**DAY 8: RIGA.** Tour Riga's historical centre, a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for its diverse architectural styles. Visit the 13th-century Riga Cathedral and its massive organ with 6,700 pipes. Next, stroll the enormous Riga Central Market and plentiful Art Nouveau buildings. Lastly, visit Jurmala, renowned for its white sandy beaches, therapeutic mud, mineral waters, and traditional wooden houses.

**DAY 9: RIGA.** A free day to explore Riga at your own pace.

**DAY 10: SIGULDA / PARNU.** Proceed to beautiful Gauja National Park enroute to Sigulda. Tour the 19th-century New Castle and 13th-century Old Castle ruins. Visit Gutmanis Cave, famous for its cave paintings. Continue to the charming village of Turaida, where we will visit the Turaida Castle and its spectacular grounds. After lunch at a local farm, proceed to Cesis, an old town with storybook streets and wooden buildings. Cross the border into Estonia and end the day at Parnu.

**DAY 11: SAAREMAA.** Ferry to Saaremaa, a picturesque island with thatched-roof houses, stone fences, windmills and gorgeous landscapes. Ascend to a lookout point for fantastic views and visit a local museum.

**DAY 12: KURESSAARE / TALLINN.** Visit Kuressaare Episcopal Castle, Estonia's best-preserved medieval castle, home to the Saaremaa Museum. After, ferry back to the mainland enroute to Tallinn, the splendid Estonian capital.

**DAY 13: TALLINN.** Tallinn's old houses, narrow cobblestone streets, sculpted bell towers, and soaring spires earned its status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Take in the coastal neighbourhood of Pirita, Kadriorg Park and Palace, Telliskivi artisan quarter and Balti Jaama Market. Enjoy a walking tour of the historical centre of Tallinn, Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral, Tallinn Belvedere, and a visit to the oldest church in Tallinn, St. Mary's Lutheran Cathedral.

**DAY 14: TALLINN.** A day at leisure to explore wonderful Tallinn on your own before a delicious Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** Fly to Canada via Warsaw.

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Lot Polish Airline ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full breakfast daily, 10 lunches, & 12 dinners ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**





NEW

2-CENTRE TOUR

# Fall in Austria

Get up close and personal with Austria's natural beauty—snow-capped mountains, clear blue lakes, brilliant green meadows and alpine villages.

Add to this magnificent architecture, medieval cities, lush vineyards, fascinating museums and modern art galleries, and you have a tantalizing destination with endless treasures to discover.

Begin in Bregenz, a charming lakeside town in the green foothills of the Alps, where you'll enjoy a variety of excursions. Experience unforgettable Vaduz in Liechtenstein, the panoramic resort town of Appenzell, Switzerland, and the scenic alpine village of Swarzenberg.

Journey by train to the lively Styrian city of Graz, famous for fabulous wines, classic castles, red rooftops and fast-flowing river travelling through the city centre. Graz is one of only ten cities in the world to be named a UNESCO City of Design. During your six-night stay, visit the charming Slovenian towns of Maribor and Ptuj, Riegersburg Castle and the world-renowned Zotter Chocolate Factory.

Cap off this perfect tour with a stay in Austria's grand capital, Vienna, and enjoy a riveting city tour and sumptuous Farewell Dinner.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Henri Dunant Museum in Heiden
- Styria wine region
- Walking tour of medieval Maribor
- Authentic cheesemaker visit
- Riegersburg Castle
- City tour of historic Vienna
- Schlossberg mountain fortress
- Zotter Chocolate Factory
- Habsburg Dynasty mausoleum
- 2000-year-old city of Ptuj

16 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 8 - 23

### COST

**\$7,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Calgary: add \$190
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$290

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** We depart for Zurich, direct from Toronto.

**DAY 2: BREGENZ.** We arrive in Zurich, enjoy the scenic drive to Bregenz, Austria, and check-in to our hotel for our 7-night stay. This afternoon, we'll gather for a welcome drink, and get a briefing on the area and local attractions.

**DAY 3: BREGENZ.** This morning we'll have a walking tour of the town, followed by some free time to explore, or to join an optional excursion, such as a journey into the nearby mountains, or a relaxing lake cruise.

**DAY 4: LAKE CONSTANCE, GERMANY.** Today we travel along the shores of Lake Constance to the medieval town of Meersburg, famed for its historic castle. A boat ride takes us to the flower island of Mainau, where we'll explore the Palm House and beautiful gardens. After a tour of the town of Konstanz, we'll follow the Swiss side of the lake back to Bregenz.

**DAY 5: BREGENZ.** Enjoy a day of leisure. Stroll along the lake, visit surrounding regions by local train, or take an optional tour.

**DAY 6: LIECHTENSTEIN / SWITZERLAND.** Today we traverse three countries. Our first stop is Vaduz, capital of the tiny principality of Liechtenstein. On our tour we'll see one of the world's smallest parliamentary monarchies. Crossing into Switzerland, we'll arrive at Appenzell, and enjoy a leisurely stroll through this charming and picturesque Swiss village. We continue to the town of Heiden, where we'll visit the Henri Dunant Museum, named after the man who founded the Red Cross.

**DAY 7: BREGENZ.** Another leisure day in Bregenz to unwind and relax, or join an optional tour.

**DAY 8: BREGENZ FOREST.** Today we explore the rolling hills and low mountains of the Bregenz Forest, renowned for its quaint villages, wellness spas, and fine dairy products. A ride on the modern cable car from Bezaau to Sonderdach (weather permitting) offers us spectacular views. Later, we'll visit an authentic cheese maker for a demonstration and sample of delicious local cheeses.

**DAY 9: GRAZ** (by train). We take a panoramic train ride across Austria, passing lush green pastures, and rugged snow-topped mountains, directly to Graz. Although Graz is Austria's 2nd largest city, it retains all the charm of a small town.

**DAY 10: GRAZ.** On our orientation walk of Graz we'll see Schlossberg—the tree-covered mountain fortress in the heart of the city. We also pass by the Landhaus with its elegant Italian Renaissance courtyard, the Hauptplatz (Main Square), the Dom (Cathedral), the Mausoleum of the Habsburg Dynasty, and the medieval Burg with its famous double spiral staircase.

**DAY 11: SOUTHERN STYRIA** (Wine Region). On today's excursion of beautiful southern Styria, we'll stroll through lush vineyards, see magnificent views across the border into Slovenia, and listen to the sound of Klapotetz (a traditional windmill used to keep the birds away from the grapes). We'll enjoy a glass of local wine and a hearty 'Brettljause' (lunch of cold cuts and cheeses) in a cozy tavern, served with a generous helping of Styrian hospitality.

**DAY 12: GRAZ.** Our last free day to relax or join an optional tour.

**DAY 13: EASTERN STYRIA.** The landscape of eastern Styria is shaped by ancient volcanoes, and features fortified castles like the dramatic Riegersburg, perched atop a high cliff. We will visit the castle and marvel at the view over the stunning countryside. Later, we'll stop at the world-renowned Zotter Chocolate Factory, for a private tour of the production process, and of course a sampling.

**DAY 14: SLOVENIA.** Our full-day tour to Slovenia begins in Maribor, the country's second-largest city, ideally situated on the scenic Drava River. We'll enjoy a walking tour of the medieval centre, and then visit Ptuj, Slovenia's oldest city with a 2000-year-old history. We return to Graz, passing through picturesque Slovenian vineyards and rolling green hills.

**DAY 15: VIENNA.** We travel to Vienna, where our city tour will take us along the grand Ringstrasse, with its imposing buildings that include the famous State Opera House, the Museum Quarter with historic and contemporary architecture, and St. Stephen's Cathedral. We'll walk through the old city centre and see many famous sites, including the world-famous Spanish Riding School—home to the majestic Lipizzaner Stallions. This evening, we'll enjoy a delicious Farewell Dinner, as we bid 'Auf Wiedersehen' to Austria.

**DAY 16: RETURN.** We proceed to the airport for our direct flight to Toronto.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels ▪ Full breakfast and dinner daily (wine and coffee with dinner), and 2 lunches ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**



# Glorious Greece

## with a Greek Island Cruise

Experience the enchantment of Greece, where myth and history blend with stunning scenery and vibrant culture.

In Athens, discover the rich history of the Acropolis and Parthenon. Enjoy time at leisure to explore museums, cafes, and shops in the colourful Plaka neighbourhood.

Embark on a four-day Classical Coach Tour, visiting major historical sites like Delphi, Kalambaka, Nafplion, Mycenae and Meteora. Then, unwind for three nights on the picturesque island of Mykonos, famous for its windmills, glittering white houses, cobblestone streets and lively atmosphere.

The highlight of your trip is a four-night Greek Island cruise aboard a Celestyal Cruise ship. These intimate and comfortable ships offer a range of amenities: welcoming public rooms, bars, lounges, a casino, movie theatre, library, boutiques and plenty of deck space. Enjoy nightly entertainment, including shows, special events, music and dancing. Savour gourmet meals prepared by expert chefs, with unlimited selected alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages throughout the day.

Your cruise accommodations include comfortable outward-facing cabins equipped with music, climate control, phone, and a bathroom (shower only). Enhance your experience with three included shore excursions to Greece's most captivating islands.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Hadrian's Arch, the Stadium, Temple of Zeus, Royal Palace, Acropolis & Parthenon
- Stunning views from Meteora
- Delphi Archaeological Site
- Temple of Zeus & Hera, Olympia
- Mycenae's Royal Tombs and Lion's Gate
- Mykonos resort hotel
- White marble ruins of Ephesus
- Historic Rhodes & Street of Knights
- Open-air Palace of Knossos
- Scenic views of Oia, Santorini

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class hotels (moderate hotels during the coach tour) ▪ First Class cruise with unlimited alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages ▪ Continental breakfast & dinner daily, 3 cruise lunches ▪ 3 shore excursions during the cruise ▪ **Full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 22 - Oct 6 / Oct 6 - 20

### COST

**\$8,797**

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

- Single supplement: add \$1,790
- Halifax or Winnipeg: add \$190
- Vancouver, Calgary, or Edmonton: add \$590

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Fly directly from Toronto to Athens.

**DAY 2: ATHENS.** Arrive in Athens and transfer to your hotel for a two-night stay. Afternoon at leisure until the evening's delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: ATHENS.** Tour Hadrian's Arch, the Stadium, Temple of Zeus and former Royal Palace. Best of all, tour the hilltop Acropolis, Acropolis Museum, and incredible Parthenon. The rest of the afternoon is free to spend as you see fit.

**DAY 4: METEORA / KALAMBAKA.** Begin with a Classical Coach Tour to Meteora's ageless monasteries perched atop massive rocks seemingly suspended in mid-air. See exquisite Byzantine art before continuing to Kalambaka at the foot of an amazing rock complex.

**DAY 5: DELPHI.** Proceed through the scenic mountains to the archaeological wonder of Delphi, once known as the "centre of the world". See the Treasure of Athenians, site of the mythological Oracle, the Theatre and the Stadium.

**DAY 6: OLYMPIA.** Enjoy the picturesque coastal drive along Corinth Bay, nestled beneath the Peloponnese Mountains. Stop for a photo at Rio-Antirio Bridge and continue to Olympia. Visit the Temple of Zeus and Hera, the Stadium, museum featuring Hermes of Praxiteles and the site of the first Olympic Games held in 776 BC.

**DAY 7: MYCENAE / NAFPLION / EPIDAUROS / ATHENS.** Travel to Mycenae and visit the Lion's Gate, Cyclopean Walls and Royal Tombs. Make a brief stop in the seaside town of Nafplion before heading to Epidaurus's ancient theatre, famous for its astonishing acoustics.

**DAY 8: MYKONOS.** Ferry to Mykonos for a three-night stay. Spend the afternoon at your own pace!

**DAYS 9 & 10: MYKONOS.** Two free days to enjoy our resort hotel, stroll along the beach, explore Mykonos's landmark windmills or pass time at the small harbour's quaint cafes and shops.

**DAY 11: MYKONOS.** Enjoy a delightful tour of Mykonos before embarking on a four-day cruise.

**DAY 12: KUSADASI / PATMOS.** Cruise to the resort town of Kusadasi on the Turkish Riviera. Take an excursion to the incredible white marble ruins at Ephesus, former capital of the Roman province of Asia. See the Temple of Diana and where St. Paul wrote his most profound epistles. The Arcadian Way stretches through the city next to ruins of once-great buildings like the Library of Celsius and Temple of Hadrian. Later, sail to the "Holy Island" of Patmos and join an optional excursion or explore on your own.

**DAY 13: RHODES.** In Rhodes, enjoy an excursion to the medieval walled city of Lindos. Walk among its winding alleys, towers, turrets, the impressive Grand Master's Palace, and former residences of the Knights of Rhodes.

**DAY 14: CRETE / SANTORINI.** Begin the day on Crete, Greece's largest island and home of the 4,000-year-old Minoan Empire. Discover Heraklion's Koules Fortress, 17th-century Venetian social centre and 10th-century Church of St. Titus. Next, visit Knossos, Europe's oldest city, and discover the legendary open-air museum at Knossos Palace. Cruise to Santorini, renowned for its volcanic landscapes, black cliffs and beautiful white houses adorning the cauldron-shaped bay. Explore the island on foot or take an optional excursion to picturesque Oia Village for sweeping views of the Aegean Sea.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** Disembark and transfer to Athens airport for your direct flight to Toronto.





# Africa

The profoundly beautiful fauna and flora of Africa call out to adventurous spirits everywhere. Morocco's colourful medinas and humming bazaars offer a sensory feast, while South Africa's wild heart pulses with nature. Journey through royal palaces, get closer than ever to majestic wildlife, and explore the deep roots of African cultures. Our tours to Africa are untamed and unforgettable.



# Wonders of Ancient Egypt

## Featuring a Deluxe Nile Cruise

On this tour we journey through ancient history and experience the fascinating culture of Egypt.

To visit some of the most enduring historical monuments on earth, we start our Egyptian adventure in Cairo—"City of a Thousand Minarets"—a fascinating blend of ancient and modern. Nearby is one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Pyramids. As you will see however, Cairo has a lot more to offer—grand mosques, bustling bazaars and plenty of ancient landmarks around every turn.

After Cairo we will glide back in time to the "Land of the Pharaohs" on our unforgettable Nile cruise, and see the vast collection of temples and tombs that serve as an eternal museum for the world's oldest civilization. The cruise takes us to Karnak, Kom Ombo, Edfu, Philae Temple, Luxor, and the Valley of the Kings & Queens, while we experience the renowned Egyptian hospitality. We will cruise in the comfort of our deluxe riverboat—the *MS Mayfair* (or similar), built specifically for Nile cruising.

We cap off our tour with a 4-night stay at a deluxe All-Inclusive resort in Hurghada—Egypt's foremost beach resort town. Our hotel, the Tropitel Sahl Hasheesh, is located in a prime location on a private beach on the Red Sea coast, near Hurghada's bustling old town, with magnificent views of the sea. The hotel features a diverse range of global cuisines and bars, modern stylish rooms, various water activities, and in-house entertainment.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Great Pyramids of Giza & the mighty Sphinx
- Cairo, including a guided tour of the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities, and Khan El Khalili Bazaar
- Sail in a felucca across the Nile
- The Valley of the Kings and tombs of Tut Ankh Amun and Ramses VI
- The Temples of Karnak, Luxor, Queen Hatshepsut, and the Colossi of Memnon in Luxor
- Desert Safari and Bedouin dinner
- The massive rock-cut temples of Abu Simbel
- The Ramses II statue and Alabaster Sphinx in Memphis
- Deluxe All-Inclusive beach resort

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 13 - 27 / Nov 24 - Dec 8

### COST

**\$8,497**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$2,190
- Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those joining our tours to the Middle East must be able to walk fairly long distances and climb stairs easily.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for Cairo, via Istanbul.

**DAY 2: CAIRO.** We arrive in Cairo and transfer to our centrally located hotel. The balance of the day is free until our Welcome Dinner this evening.

**DAY 3: THE PYRAMIDS / CAIRO / MEMPHIS / SAKKARA.** This morning we travel to Giza where, overlooking the Nile Valley and Cairo, we visit the 3 Great Pyramids—one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the Great Sphinx—a colossal lion with a Pharaoh's head. Then we drive past small villages to visit the towns of Memphis and Sakkara. The highlight will be the Step Pyramids of King Zoser—the oldest stone building in the world!

**DAY 4: CAIRO / ASWAN.** This morning we visit the world-famous Egyptian Museum, including the fabulous collection of Pharaonic antiquities, especially the golden treasures of the Tut Ankh Amun Exhibit. The museum houses over 50,000 artifacts that span 7000 years. After our museum visit we fly to Aswan.

**DAY 5: ABU SIMBEL.** We visit Abu Simbel—a site which consists of some of Egypt's most impressive and unique temples. These are two massive rock-cut temples built by Ramses II. One temple is dedicated to King Ramses II, and the other is dedicated to his beloved wife, Queen Nefertiti. The most notable feature of the temples are the four colossal statues of Ramses II on the exterior.

**DAY 6: ASWAN / NILE CRUISE.** In Aswan, the Nile parts into many arms divided by immense granite rocks and islands, particularly the island of Elephantine. There is only a small area of fertile land producing what are considered the

finest dates in all of Egypt. We visit the Temple of Philae, dedicated to Goddess Isis, and the High Dam. In the afternoon, we board our deluxe riverboat, and then we sail in a felucca to view Kitchener's Island, the Botanical Garden, and the Aga Khan Mausoleum.

**DAY 7: NILE CRUISE / TEMPLE OF HORUS / KOM OMBO / EDFU.** This morning we visit the ancient, yet remarkably intact, Temple of Horus. Horus (the Sun God) is always pictured as a man with a falcon's head, often with a solar disk. Then we sail past small desert villages where life goes on much as it has for thousands of years. See camels, water buffalo, and donkeys at work on the small farms. We arrive at Kom Ombo to visit the Sobek Temple, dedicated to two gods: Haroeris—a hawk-headed god, and Sobek—the crocodile god. In order not to offend either, a twin shrine was built on a hill overlooking the Nile. Then we sail to Edfu via the locks of Esna.

**DAY 8: NILE CRUISE / LUXOR (VALLEY OF THE KINGS) / KARNAK.** Luxor is home to some of the richest treasures in the world, including the tomb of Tut Ankh Amun, and other royal tombs including Ramses VI in the Valley of the Kings. At the Temple of Luxor we'll see the granite statue of Ramses II, and the many halls and pillars that make up this incredible temple. We'll also visit Hatshepsut's funerary temple at Dier El Bahari and the Colossi of Memnon. After lunch we'll visit the most impressive of all temples—Karnak, and see the Great Temple of Amon, the Hypostyle Hall, the Obelisk of Queen Hatshepsut, the Granite Scara of Amenophis II, Sacred Lake, and many shrines.

**DAY 9: HURGHADA.** We disembark and drive to Hurghada—a

beach resort town stretching some 40 km along Egypt's Red Sea coast. The old town, not far from our hotel, is home to traditional Egyptian coffee shops and souks. We will stay at a deluxe All-Inclusive beach resort.

**DAY 10: HURGHADA.** After all the sightseeing over the past several days, some time at leisure will be most welcome. Today is free to enjoy the facilities and entertainment of our beach resort, or optional activities.

**DAY 11: HURGHADA / DESERT SAFARI / BEDOUIN DINNER.** We venture into the desert to experience its natural beauty and Bedouin culture. Those who wish may ride a camel, and meet Bedouin villagers. We finish with a Bedouin dinner.

**DAY 12: HURGHADA.** Another day at leisure to enjoy the facilities of our beach resort, or optional activities.

**DAY 13: CAIRO.** We transfer to Cairo. Afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 14: CAIRO.** Our sightseeing of Old Cairo begins with a visit of the Alabaster Mosque and the Great Citadel. Built by Saladin, rising majestically over the city, the mosque offers a panoramic view of Cairo and the Nile. We visit the Church of Abu Serga, Moallaqa Church (Hanging Church) and the Ben Ezra Synagogue—the oldest Jewish synagogue in Egypt, and finish off at the Khan el-Khalili Bazaar—rich in silks and carpets, where craftsmen use age-old traditions in creating their wares. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** We fly home to Canada, via Istanbul.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Turkish Airlines ▪ Deluxe and First Class hotels and riverboat ▪ Full breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**



# Magnificent Morocco

The ancient kingdom of Morocco is known as the “Gateway to Africa”, offering a blend of cultural and scenic contrasts. Renowned for hospitality, its people are a mix of Arab and Berber, with a rich culture evident in their attire, cuisine, customs, and festivals. In local bazaars, you might find acrobats, snake charmers, water sellers, and camels all vying for your attention.

Tour medieval walled cities rich in culture and history, with palaces, mosques, and local markets. Enjoy diverse scenery from snow-capped mountains to deserts with sand dunes, deep gorges, and fertile valleys.

Join us and discover why Morocco has attracted so many visitors for centuries!

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Romantic Casablanca
- Imperial Marrakech and famous traditional market
- Hassan II Mosque
- Chefchaouen, the Blue City
- Roman Volubilis, UNESCO Site
- Sunrise jeep excursion at Merzouga sand dunes
- Ait Ben Haddou, 16th-century UNESCO Site
- Dades Gorge and Valley of One Thousand Kasbahs
- Breathtaking views at Tichka Pass
- Cultural Dinner-Show

16 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 8 - 23

COST

**\$5,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$990
  - Montreal or Ottawa: add \$690
- Add-ons below include an overnight in Toronto on the way home
- Halifax: add \$790
  - Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$1,090

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with TAP Air Portugal ▪ Deluxe and First Class hotels ▪ Full breakfast and dinner daily, and 3 lunches ▪ Mineral water, tea, and coffee with all dinners.  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Casablanca via Lisbon.

**DAY 2: CASABLANCA.** Arrive in Casablanca and settle at your hotel. Enjoy the day at leisure before dinner at Rick’s Cafe, a replica of the bar from Humphrey Bogart’s Casablanca.

**DAY 3: CASABLANCA / RABAT.** Tour Casablanca, Morocco’s largest city, starting in the medina, a maze of streets and local shops. Admire Mohammed V Square’s French-Moorish architecture, the Royal Palace, and the oceanfront Hassan II Mosque, one of the world’s largest. Then, visit Rabat, Morocco’s capital and the Royal Family’s seat, featuring palaces and mosques. See the Royal Palace’s exterior, King Mohamed VI’s residence, the Royal Mausoleum of Sultan Mohammed V, and the exquisite Hassan Tower.

**DAY 4: CHEFCHAOUEN.** Explore scenic Chefchaouen, renowned for its white houses with blue doors, wrought iron windows, and tile roofs. Discover its leather and weaving workshops along cobbled lanes, the red-walled Kasbah, and a 15th-century fortress. The local markets here are bustling with traditionally dressed locals and a colourful array of goods.

**DAY 5: MEKNES.** Like a mirage blooming from the countryside rocks, the former royal city of Meknes, is an unexpected delight. Explore the old city walls, royal stables, and the intricate Bab Al Mansour Gates. Visit the ancient Roman ruins of Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**DAY 6: FEZ.** Proceed to Fez, the spiritual centre of Morocco.

**DAY 7: FEZ.** Spend the day touring the amazing city of Fez. Wander the old town shadowed by mosque

minarets, where potters, charcoal burners, goldsmiths, and weavers practice their ancient trades. Visit the renowned Jewish Quarter, known for its exquisite ironwork. The full-day tour includes the UNESCO-listed Medina, the Najjarine Fountain, the Moulay Idriss Mausoleum, the Karaouine Mosque, and more.

**DAY 8: MIDELT / MERZOUGA.** Journey through the mountains past Azrou, an important handicraft centre, and reach Midelt, nestled between the High and Middle Atlas Mountains with stunning landscapes. After a lunch break, head to Merzouga to see its famous sand dunes reaching up to 160 m high.

**DAY 9: ERFOUD / MERZOUGA.** Traverse the Ziz Valley—the source for annual local date festivals—to Erfoud, a town built by the French and famed for colourful red sand buildings.

**DAY 10: MERZOUGA / DADES.** Embark on an early morning jeep excursion to witness the sunrise over Merzouga’s sand dunes. Continue to the holy city of Rissani, with lunch at a canyonside restaurant and a visit to a 17th-century kasbah. Journey through the spectacular 250-metre-high Todgha Canyons, ending with an overnight stay in Dades, home to the famous Dades Gorge.

**DAY 11: OUARZAZATE.** Visit the imposing Dades Gorge, then travel the Valley of One Thousand Kasbahs to Ouarzazate on the edge of the Sahara desert.

**DAY 12: TAOURIRT / OUARZAZATE.** Visit the kasbah of Taouirt, one of Morocco’s most stunning, and the 16th-century Ait Ben Haddou, the south’s most spectacular fortress and a UNESCO World Heritage Site known

for film settings like Lawrence of Arabia. Enjoy lunch with terrace views of the kasbah, then return to Ouarzazate.

**DAY 13: MARRAKECH.** Travel to Marrakech via the Tichka Pass, Morocco’s highest pass, enjoying breathtaking views of the High Atlas Mountains and traditional Berber villages.

**DAY 14: MARRAKECH.** Embark on a full-day tour of Marrakech, the 1,000-year-old “Red City” rich in culture and history. Tour Majorelle Gardens, the Saadian Tombs, El Bahia Palace, and the Medina. Experience Djemaa El Fnaa Square’s snake charmers, acrobats, and scribes for a true Moroccan sensory feast.

**DAY 15: ESSAOUIRA / MARRAKECH.** Enroute to Essaouira, stop at an Argan co-operative to witness local women producing Argan oil. In Essaouira, tour the UNESCO-listed medina and Orson Welles Square and Memorial, celebrating his filming of Othello. Keep an eye out for the unique tree-climbing goats in the Argan trees! The trip concludes with a delicious Farewell Dinner featuring the vibrant Fantasia folklore show.

**DAY 16: RETURN.** Fly home from Marrakech via Lisbon.



# Safari in Tanzania

## & the Island of Zanzibar

Tanzania, the largest country in East Africa, is considered by many to offer the best game viewing on the continent and the greatest variety of wildlife in the world.

On this tour we will enjoy several exciting game drives in the finest National Parks and game reserves, including Lake Manyara and the Serengeti Plains. Expect to see rhinos, hippos, cheetahs, leopards, elephants, buffalo and the common plains game such as zebra, giraffe, a variety of bird life and several species of antelope and monkeys.

We will travel safely and comfortably in specially designed 4 x 4 vehicles seating six people with large viewing windows (each person has a window seat to afford unobstructed viewing). Your driver / guide is an expert on the local customs, traditions and location of wildlife.

This part of the world also boasts an amazing natural environment, as we will see when we visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ngorongoro Crater with its striking scenery and close range viewing of wildlife.

The island of Zanzibar, just 40 km off the coast of Tanzania, is a tropical paradise with mile upon mile of pristine white sand beaches, fringed by coconut palms. During our stay we visit Stone Town (World Heritage Site), with its maze of narrow streets and alleys that have changed little over the last 200 years. You will see why Zanzibar is often referred to as "The Spice Island" as we visit a local Spice Farm and learn about the rich history of this intriguing destination.



### 15 DAYS

#### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 29 - Nov 12 / Nov 18 - Dec 2

#### COST

**\$14,397**

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,390
- Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver: add \$990

#### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for Kilimanjaro, with a change of planes in Amsterdam.

**DAY 2: KILIMANJARO.** We arrive in Kilimanjaro in the evening and transfer to our hotel.

**DAY 3: ARUSHA / LAKE MANYARA.** This morning our first stop is at Arusha Coffee Plantation for an educational tour and lunch. We then drive to Lake Manyara National Park where our lodge is situated on the edge of the Mto Wa Mbu escarpment, overlooking the Great Rift Valley and stunning Manyara soda lake. The wall of the Rift Valley forms a fantastic backdrop to the park and its forest, open grassland, swamp, and lake. Wildlife includes baboons, impala, giraffe, hippo, elephants, buffalo, the elusive leopard, and blue and vervet monkeys. The lions here have honed their tree-climbing skills. Manyara is also noted for its incredible bird life.

**DAY 4: LAKE MANYARA.** This morning we enjoy a game drive in Lake Manyara National Park, home to a variety of primates and other wildlife. The extraordinary birdlife has made this place world-renowned among ornithologists, who come to observe the masses of pink flamingos and great birds of prey. Afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 5: NGORONGORO CRATER.** This morning we depart for the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ngorongoro Crater. Our lodge is perched atop the uppermost rim of the crater and offers breathtaking views of the crater floor far below. The 260 square kilometres of this collapsed volcano is 26 kilometres across and 600 metres deep. This afternoon we visit a Masaai village.

**DAY 6: NGORONGORO CRATER.** We descend into the crater for a full-day game drive. This is the world's largest intact caldera, the floor of which is primarily grassland with freshwater ponds, a salt lake and small forests. It harbours 20,000 large animals—a virtual Noah's Ark! Buffalo, wildebeest, zebra, and gazelle graze the grassland, while elephants roam the wooded areas and hippos gather in the marshes and ponds. Lions, spotted hyenas, and jackals are easy to spot. Resident ostriches, crowned cranes, and kori bustards are joined seasonally by other migrating birds.

**DAY 7: NGORONGORO CRATER.** This morning we enjoy a special Bush Breakfast in the crater, followed by some more game viewing. We return to the lodge for a late lunch and the remainder of the day at leisure.

**DAY 8: SERENGETI.** After breakfast we drive into the seemingly endless plains of Serengeti National Park. The National Park here, considered the finest in Africa, has spectacular concentrations of migrating game.

**DAYS 9 & 10: SERENGETI.** We enjoy two days of safari in the Serengeti. Travelling through this unique conservation area provides a spectacular game-viewing experience. We take our game drives in the early morning to catch the animals as they start their day and again in the evening to spot the nocturnal beasts that are beginning their prowls.

**DAY 11: ZANZIBAR.** We board our plane to the island of Zanzibar. Upon arrival, we transfer to the beautiful oceanfront Serena Hotel in Stone Town.

**DAY 12: ZANZIBAR.** We have a morning city tour of historic Stone Town and later visit a spice farm for an educational tour.

**DAY 13: ZANZIBAR.** A day at leisure to enjoy the white sandy beach, or explore this amazing town. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 14: ZANZIBAR / DEPART FOR HOME.** At leisure at our resort hotel, with late check-out, until we fly back to mainland Tanzania to connect with our international flight home.

**DAY 15: HOME.** We fly home via Amsterdam.

#### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with KLM ▪ First Class safari and hotels ▪ Full breakfast & dinner daily while in Africa, plus 10 lunches ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**





# Asia

Asia, a land of enchanting contrasts, invites you on an extraordinary journey. From the spiritual heights of the Himalayas in Bhutan and Nepal to the ancient temples of Vietnam and Cambodia—on every path, discovery unfolds. India's vibrant tapestry of colours, flavours and sounds mesmerizes, Japan's shrines allure, and Thailand's serene beaches and lively markets captivate. These tours are your gateway to the mysteries and splendours of Asia!







## ANCIENT KINGDOMS OF SOUTH EAST ASIA

# Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia

Southeast Asia is an exciting region of great contrasts, from rural villages and French colonial cities to modern skylines. Spectacular scenery abounds with lush tropical vegetation, misty mountains, terraced rice paddies, magnificent temples, open-air markets and traditional villages.

Delightful Vietnam offers unspoiled nature, beautiful islands, bustling cities, fantastic cuisine and friendly people.

Laos, an isolated mountainous nation, retains ancient traditions in its timeless rural landscape of stilt houses, paddy fields, and saffron-robed monks.

Cambodia is known for its wondrous beauty. Home to Angkor Wat and other 12th-century temples unrivalled in grandeur in Southeast Asia.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Ho Chi Minh City, a buzz of commerce and culture
- Temples & pagodas of Hanoi
- Magical islands of Halong Bay
- Boat trip on Mekong Delta
- Vientiane, elegant French colonial capital of Laos
- Vang Vieng's fish market
- Nam Ngum Lake
- Luang Prabang, UNESCO Site
- Angkor Wat, Cambodia's national symbol
- Le Sap Lake floating villages
- Phnom Penh architectural wonders

## 18 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Nov 7 – 24

### COST

**\$11,797**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton, or Winnipeg*

Single supplement: add \$2,190

- Ottawa or Montreal: add \$290
- Halifax: add \$690
- Vancouver: deduct \$200

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Eva Air ▪ Deluxe and First Class hotels ▪ Breakfast, lunch & dinner daily (except for one lunch) ▪ Visa fees (arranged by our office)  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, via Taipei.

**DAY 2: HO CHI MINH CITY (SAIGON).** Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City and transfer to your hotel before a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: HO CHI MINH CITY.** Our city tour includes a walk in historic central Saigon, followed by a visit to the Reunification Palace, stormed by tanks in 1975 signifying the fall of South Vietnam. Continue to the War Remnants Museum showcasing Vietnam War history. In the afternoon, explore Chinatown and Ben Thanh Market.

**DAY 4: HANOI.** Visit the famous Cu Chi Tunnels—the incredible underground military base hand-dug by the Viet Cong. Later, fly to Hanoi.

**DAY 5: HANOI.** We explore the narrow lanes and traditional shops of Vietnam's charming capital. We'll see the Temple of Literature, One Pillar Pagoda, the Stilt House, Hoan Kiem Lake, Ngoc Son Temple, and the tiny Tortoise Pagoda. We'll also attend a traditional Water Puppet Show. Tonight, we'll enjoy an exciting Street Food Tour in the historic streets of Old Hanoi—including a visit to the renowned Bun Cha restaurant, where Barack Obama and Anthony Bourdain famously dined!

**DAY 6: HALONG BAY.** Travel by coach to Halong Bay. Board a traditional wooden junk and cruise through beautiful islands, granite towers and rock formations. Many islets have wonderful caves and grottos.

**DAY 7: VIENTIANE.** Return to Hanoi and visit the Ethnology Museum before flying to Vientiane, the capital of Laos.

**DAY 8: VIENTIANE.** Experience the relaxed charm of Vientiane's beautiful temples, tree-lined

boulevards and colourful markets. Tour That Luang—Laos' most important national monument—and the Royal Temple, a museum with fine Buddhist sculptures. Lastly, shop for expertly made Lao fabrics at the morning market.

**DAY 9: VANG VIENG.** Enjoy a scenic drive to Vang Vieng. Enroute, visit the fish market in Huay Mor, and enjoy a boat trip on serene Nam Ngum Lake.

**DAY 10: LUANG PRABANG.** Continue to Luang Prabang, stopping enroute at a local village and Elephant Cave with Buddha images and elephant-shaped stalactites.

**DAY 11: LUANG PRABANG.** Explore this UNESCO World Heritage town brimming with historic temples and colonial buildings. Visit key monasteries and temples, including the oldest from 1513, and the National Museum, once a Royal Residence. After, discover Wat Mai, a group of hilltop temples with stunning views.

**DAY 12: LUANG PRABANG.** Traverse the Mekong River by boat until you reach the steep limestone cliffs and Tham Pak Ou Caves. These extraordinary caves are filled with Buddha images of every style. On the return journey, stop at a local village for a glimpse of daily life.

**DAY 13: LUANG PRABANG.** Journey through Laos' vibrant countryside to Kuang Si Falls. Marvel at the cascading waterfalls flowing into turquoise pools, and enjoy lunch. On the return to Luang Prabang, visit a paper-making village to discover this ancient artistry.

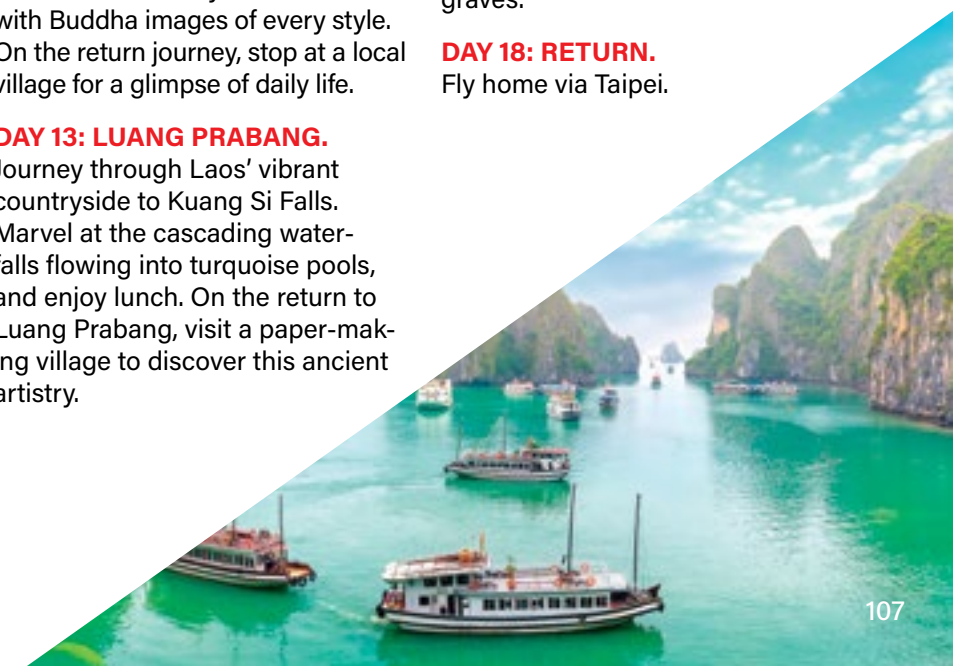
**DAY 14: SIEM REAP.** Fly to Siem Reap, Cambodia, and proceed to Ton Le Sap Lake for a cruise among the floating homes and small fish farms. In the evening, enjoy a cultural dance show.

**DAY 15: ANGKOR THOM / ANGKOR WAT / SIEM RIEP.** Discover Angkor Thom's fortified city, featuring famous landmarks like the Terraces of the Elephants and Leper Kings, and the mysterious Bayon Temple. Visit Ta Prohm, a jungle-entwined favourite, and conclude at magnificent Angkor Wat, Cambodia's sensational national symbol.

**DAY 16: PHNOM PENH.** Take a scenic drive across ancient laterite bridges to visit incredible pre-Angkorian monuments enroute to Phnom Penh.

**DAY 17: PHNOM PENH.** Explore Cambodia's fascinating capital. Visit the Royal Palace and the Silver Pagoda, then the National Museum. Optionally, visit the Museum of Genocide—an interrogation and torture facility for the Khmer Rouge—and the Killing Fields, a now-peaceful historical site where thousands of people were killed and buried in mass graves.

**DAY 18: RETURN.** Fly home via Taipei.







# Japan & South Korea

Japan and South Korea both combine fabled history and rich traditions with some of the world's most modern achievements.

Japan is a complex country with scenic beauty, ancient temples, colourful shrines, distinct cuisine, fascinating street markets and much more. We begin in Tokyo, where we will experience modern Japan. Then we travel through the beautiful mountainous region around sacred Mount Fuji to the cultural capital, Kyoto, which hosts Japan's largest concentration of temples, shrines and traditional arts. Next is Hiroshima—completely rebuilt after WWII, and the picturesque island of Miyajima, home of the Itsukushima Shrine (a UNESCO World Heritage Site). Our final stop in Japan is the lively harbour city of Fukuoka. Much of our travel within Japan will be aboard the high-speed Bullet Train.

South Korea is a mountainous country with scenic hills and valleys alongside stunning coastlines and beaches. We will take a jet ferry from Japan to the port city of Busan, and then proceed to Gyeongju (considered one of the world's most historic cities), where we discover a treasure trove of priceless artifacts and ancient sites, including the oldest astronomical observatory in the world. We finish in Seoul, the capital, where one can find traces of its 5,000 year history in the palaces and temples.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Tokyo's Imperial Garden & Asakusa Kannon Temple
- Cruise on Lake Ashi with panoramic views of Mt. Fuji
- Cultural capital of Kyoto
- Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park
- Okayama Castle & Koraku-en Garden
- Kintai Bridge and Iwakuni Castle
- Ferry to South Korea & Port of Busan
- Gyeongju, the ancient capital of the Silla dynasty
- Traditional village of Yangdong
- Gwanghwamun Plaza, temples and markets of Seoul

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Air Canada flights ▪ Deluxe and First Class hotels ▪ Full breakfast daily, 14 dinners, & 4 lunches ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 17 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 15 - 31

### COST

**\$12,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Calgary, Edmonton, or Winnipeg*

- Single supplement: add \$1,990
- Halifax: add \$590
- Vancouver: deduct \$100

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1:** Departure. We depart for Tokyo.

**DAY 2: TOKYO.** We arrive in Tokyo and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure until our Welcome Dinner this evening.

**DAY 3: TOKYO.** Our touring of Japan's capital begins at the Imperial Palace Eastern Garden. We will then enjoy a cooking class to learn how to make sushi. Following a lunch of our creations we'll take a stroll through the famous Ginza area and then visit the Asakusa Kannon Temple.

**DAY 4:** Tokyo at leisure. A day at leisure to explore this fascinating city at your own pace.

**DAY 5: MOUNT FUJI / HAKONE.** A very scenic day as we will skirt the Japanese Alps with constant panoramic views of Mount Fuji. We enjoy a cruise on Lake Ashi, then take the Hakone Ropeway to climb Mount Komagatake for views of the lake and surrounding countryside.

**DAY 6: KYOTO.** We take an express Bullet Train to the cultural capital, Kyoto—a treasure trove of art, architecture and landscaping. Our tour will include the Golden Pavilion Temple (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), the former residence of the Imperial family, Nijo Castle and Heian Jingu Shrine—built in 1895 to commemorate the 1100th anniversary as the capital.

**DAY 7: OKAYAMA / HIROSHIMA.** We travel by train to the unique city of Okayama to visit Okayama Castle and Koraku-en Garden, considered the most beautiful in Japan. We then continue by train to Hiroshima.

**DAY 8: MIYAJIMA / HIROSHIMA.** Our full day tour includes visits to the Peace Memorial Park, the Atomic Bomb Dome and the

Itsukushima Shrine—a UNESCO World Heritage Site located on the deer filled island of Miyajima.

**DAY 9: IWAKUNI / FUKUOKA.** We drive to Iwakuni to visit Kintai Bridge, a historic wooden arch bridge, and the impressive Iwakuni Castle, originally built in 1608 and rebuilt in 1962 conforming exactly to the original construction. We then continue to Fukuoka.

**DAY 10: FUKUOKA.** This morning we visit Fukuoka Tower, the tallest seaside tower in Japan and the Hakata Machiya Furusatokan, a folk museum with exhibits on local history, handicrafts, weaving and religious festivals. The rest of the day is at leisure.

**DAY 11: BUSAN (SOUTH KOREA).** We take a jet ferry to the port city of Busan, home to some of Korea's most beautiful beaches. We visit the largest fish market in Korea—the symbol of Busan.

**DAY 12: BUSAN.** Our full day tour of Busan includes visits to the Beomeosa Temple, Haeundae Beach and the UN Memorial Cemetery. We also visit the famous international market, Gukje Sijang.

**DAY 13: GYEONGJU.** We travel to Gyeongju, ancient capital of the Silla dynasty and recognized as one of the ten most historic cities in the world. Our touring of Gyeongju includes visits to two World Heritage temples, the Seokguram Grotto—home of the 8th century serene stone Buddha, and Bulguksa Temple. Later we visit the Gyeongju Museum with its thousands of priceless treasures. Other visits include Cheomseongdae—the world's oldest astronomical observatory, and Tumuli Park with its rare exhibits of ancient tombs.

**DAY 14: YANGDONG / SEOUL.** This morning we visit Yangdong Maeul, a traditional village from the 15th century and UNESCO World Heritage site. We will see the tile and thatched-roofed homes built throughout the dense forest, many of which have been preserved for more than 200 years, along with ancient folk customs. We then depart for Seoul, the capital and largest city in South Korea.

**DAY 15: SEOUL.** Our city tour of Seoul includes visits to Gwanghwamun Plaza (the landmark of Seoul), the National Folklore Museum, Jogyesa Temple and Insa-dong, known as the centre of traditional Korean art and antiques. We finish with some time to explore Cheonggyecheon, a lively district filled with huge markets and arcades.

**DAY 16: SEOUL.** Our touring of Seoul continues today with a visit to the Bukchon Hanok Village, a traditional village preserved to show a 600-year-old urban environment. We will also visit Namdaemun Market, widely acknowledged as one of Seoul's best attractions, and the Seoul Tower, South Korea's first radio tower, offering awe-inspiring cityscape views. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 17: HOME.** Morning at leisure. This afternoon we transfer to the airport for our flight home.







NEW

# Wonders of Thailand

A land of golden temples, tropical beaches, storied history and friendly people.

Start in Bangkok, Thailand's ancient capital known for its temples, canals, and palaces. Visit Ayutthaya, a UNESCO World Heritage site, showcasing the remains of a once wealthy city. Fly to Sukhothai, a monument to Thailand's golden age of art and architecture. Visit Lampang, a rural town known for horse carriages, elegant mansions, and timber-based temples.

Continue to Chiang Mai for a river cruise and visit an elephant camp. Journey through mountains and jungles to Chiang Rai, stopping at hot springs and the "White Temple". Explore the hill tribes and view the Mekong Valley and the "Golden Triangle".

Conclude your tour with a relaxing stay in Phuket, including a cruise in Phang-nga Bay and time to unwind in this tropical paradise.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Temple of Dawn, Bangkok
- Ayutthaya, former capital of Siam
- Sukhothai Historical Park, UNESCO site
- Rural Lampang
- Chiang Mai Elephant Rescue Park
- Rong Kun, the magnificent "White Temple"
- Golden Triangle, intersection of three countries
- Phuket bay cruise

16 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Nov 6 - 21

### COST

**\$10,597**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, or Edmonton*

- Single supplement: add \$1,790
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$290
- Vancouver: deduct \$100

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Bangkok via Taipei.

**DAY 2: BANGKOK.** Arrive in Bangkok and settle into your hotel before a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: BANGKOK.** Begin with a visit to the Grand Palace, a marvel of golden stupas and mosaic-encrusted pillars. See the Coronation Hall, Royal Guest House, and Wat Phra Kaew, Thailand's most sacred Buddhist temple. Later, cruise the Chao Phraya River and conclude with a visit to the Temple of Dawn, whose towering spire is the iconic symbol of Bangkok.

**DAY 4: AYUTTHAYA / BANGKOK.** Journey to Ayutthaya, to explore the UNESCO-listed temples and stupas, including Wat Lokaya-Sutharam, featuring showcasing its immense 500-year-old reclining Buddha statue. Return to Bangkok by boat, enjoying lunch while cruising the Chao Phraya River. Later, experience Bangkok's nightlife with a Tuk Tuk ride. Sample local street foods, explore the vibrant flower market, and visit a beautifully lit temple at night.

**DAY 5: SUKHOETHAI / LAMPANG.** Fly to Sukhothai and visit Sukhothai Historical Park to see the well-preserved ruins of Thailand's first capital. Then, travel to Si Satchanalai Historical Park to explore Wat Chang Lom and Wat Chedi Jet Thew.

**DAY 6: LAMPANG.** Explore rural Lampang by horse-drawn carriage. Later, visit the revered Wat Phra Dhat Lampang Luang temple, and Lampang Herb Centre, where toxin-free herb products are grown.

**DAY 7: CHIANG MAI.** Travel by coach to Chiang Mai where you'll find traditional handicrafts at the artisan's street. Enjoy a cruise on the Mai Ping River, and this evening explore Chiang Mai's Night Bazaar, where local hill tribes sell hand-made products.

**DAY 8: ELEPHANT CAMP / CHIANG MAI.** Visit an elephant rescue centre to learn about and interact with these animals.

**DAY 9: CHIANG MAI.** See the old city walls and gates, the Three Kings Monument, important temples and the Arts and Cultural Centre. Enjoy an authentic Northern Thai lunch, then proceed to the top of Mount Suthep for magnificent Chiang Mai Valley views.

**DAY 10: CHIANG RAI.** Travel through mountains and jungles to Chiang Rai, stopping at the popular Mae Kajan hot springs. Visit the stunning "White Temple" (Rong Kun) and its famous bridge. Explore Mae Fah Luang Art and Cultural Park, showcasing Thailand's finest religious and secular art and artifacts. End at the Oub Kham Museum, featuring a unique exhibition of Northern Thailand's tribal history.

**DAY 11: GOLDEN TRIANGLE / CHIANG RAI.** Head to Doi Mae Salong to visit hill tribe villages and a tea plantation. Continue to Chiang Saen, northern Thailand's oldest city, with wonderful temples. Conclude at the famous Golden Triangle, where the Mekong River divides Laos, Burma, and Thailand, historically the centre of the opium trade.

**DAY 12: PHUKET.** Fly to the tropical island of Phuket and transfer to your beach resort hotel. Take the day to enjoy the resort facilities and beautiful beaches.

**DAY 13: PHUKET.** Cruise enchanting Phang Nga Bay aboard a traditional Chinese junk boat, including a visit to James Bond Island. Transfer to a long-tailed speed boat to explore Koh Panyi, an 18th-century sea gypsy village built on stilts. See a mangrove delta and the Grotto Cave. Savour a sumptuous Thai buffet against a backdrop of stunning seascapes. Enjoy a swim before returning to the hotel.

**DAY 14: PHUKET.** Day at leisure to enjoy the resort.

**DAY 15: BANGKOK.** Return to Bangkok and see the "Arts of the Kingdom," an impressive museum and official Throne Hall of the King of Thailand. Enjoy a Farewell Dinner at the renowned Mandarin Oriental Hotel, established in 1879. Dine at low tables in the teak and marble hall while enjoying finely crafted Thai cuisine, classical music, and traditional dancing.

**DAY 16: RETURN.** Fly home via Taipei.



### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Eva Air ▪ Deluxe hotels ▪ Breakfast daily, 11 dinners & 11 lunches. **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**





# Incredible India

India, a feast for all your senses, is a kaleidoscope of historic sites, royal cities, medieval forts and palaces, scenic lakes, misty mountains, rich culture, diverse people, and lively festivals.

This classic tour spans from bustling Mumbai to the open spaces of Rajasthan and the renowned Golden Triangle (Delhi, Jaipur, Agra). Enjoy unforgettable authentic experiences like cultural dances, dinner with a local family, jeep drives, boat trips, and rickshaw rides. Upon arrival, be welcomed with the graceful namaste, a gesture of warmth and respect.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Mumbai, India's largest city and port
- Udaipur's glittering lake and palaces
- Stay at medieval Deogarh Mahal
- Rajasthan temples and countryside
- Jaipur, the enchanting "Pink City"
- Stay at 300-year-old fortified Chomu Palace
- Ranthambore National Park game drive—home of the Indian Tiger
- Amber Fort
- Romantic and awe-inspiring Taj Mahal
- Holy Varanasi and sacred River Ganges
- The bustling capital city Delhi

18 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 15 - Nov 1

COST

**\$8,797**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1790
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$1090 (includes a Toronto overnight enroute to India)

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Emirates Airline ▪ Deluxe & First Class hotels  
 ▪ Full breakfast & dinner daily, and 8 lunches ▪ Visa fees (arranged by our office)  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Mumbai via Dubai.

**DAY 2: MUMBAI.** Arrive in Mumbai and settle into your hotel.

**DAY 3: MUMBAI.** Begin your Mumbai city tour at the iconic Gateway of India. Drive along the coastal boulevard, visit marble Jain temples and ascend Malabar Hill for panoramic views. After lunch at a local restaurant, explore the Prince of Wales Museum, a Victorian Gothic building with priceless art and sculpture collections. Next, witness the Dhobi Ghat laundry area and stroll the lively Crawford Market. Tonight is our welcome dinner.

**DAY 4: MUMBAI / UDAIPUR.** Take a boat trip to the beautiful 1,200-year-old Elephanta Caves. Later, fly to the romantic city of Udaipur.

**DAY 5: UDAIPUR.** Tour the City Palace, now a museum with lovely lake views, Jagdish Temple known for its sculptures and interiors, and Sahelion-ki-Bari, a historic royal party garden. Later, take a boat ride on Lake Pichola surrounded by hills, palaces, temples, and bathing ghats, and visit the island palace of Jag Mandir.

**DAY 6: DEOGARH.** Visit the intricately carved Nagda and Sas-Bahu temples from the 10th century. Enjoy a jeep drive through rural landscapes, explore a cave temple, and visit a lake frequented by migratory birds. Stay the night at Rajasthan's stunning medieval Deogarh Mahal, a marvel of grand architecture.

**DAY 7: JAIPUR.** Travel to the Pink City of Jaipur, with a stop at beautiful Bijay Niwas Palace for lunch.

**DAY 8: JAIPUR.** In the morning, visit Amber Fort, renowned for its panoramic views, splendid

paintings, precious stones and mirrors. See the famous facade of Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds). Later, explore the Maharaja's Palace and Jantar Mantar, the world's largest stone and marble observatory. Enjoy dinner with a local family, learning secrets of Indian cuisine.

**DAY 9: CHOMU PALACE.** Depart for Chomu Palace, a 300-year-old fortified palace converted into a fabulous hotel. In the evening, enjoy a lively dance performance.

**DAY 10: RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK.** Travel to Ranthambore National Park, a renowned wildlife reserve, and keep an eye out for the famous diurnal tiger, leopards, hyenas, jackals, crocodiles, wild boar and various deer.

**DAY 11: RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK.** Spend the morning on a park safari, observing a variety of animals and birds such as gray-legged goose, Indian gray hornbill, kingfisher, sandpiper and more.

**DAY 12: AGRA.** Take a train to Bharatpur, then proceed by motorcoach to Agra. After lunch, visit the Agra Fort's mix of beautiful Mughal design and military features.

**DAY 13: TAJ MAHAL / DELHI / VARANASI.** Experience an unforgettable at the Taj Mahal, often regarded as the world's most beautiful man-made structure. Built in 1630 by Shah Jahan for his queen, this white marble marvel crafted by 20,000 artisans from around the world took 17 years to complete. After the visit, drive to Delhi airport for a flight to Varanasi.

**DAY 14: VARANASI.** Embark on an early morning boat ride along

the sacred River Ganges, where thousands of pilgrims perform cleansing rituals in the water. Stroll the narrow lanes of Varanasi, historically a path for millions seeking Nirvana at the river. Visit the Vishwanath Gali and the Thatheri Bazaar. This evening, we experience the spectacular Arti of Ganges, a collective nightly prayer to the river.

**DAY 15: VARANASI / DELHI.** Visit Sarnath, site of Lord Buddha's first sermon, and see Dharmarajika Stupa, Mulagandha Kuti Vihar Temples, and the Archaeological Museum's collection of Buddhist sculptures. Later, fly to Delhi.

**DAY 16: DELHI.** Take an unforgettable rickshaw ride through 300-year-old Chandni Chowk Market, a maze of lands crowded with various shops. See Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque, the Red Fort, Raj Ghat—a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi—and Humayun's Tomb. In the evening, enjoy a delicious Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 17: DELHI.** On your final tour, discover the 12th-century Qutub Minar monument, India Gate, Presidential Palace and Parliament House. Afternoon at leisure until evening airport transport for late night departure.

**DAYS 18: RETURN.** Fly to Canada via Dubai.







HIMALAYAN ADVENTURE

# Bhutan & Nepal

Embark on a journey through Nepal and Bhutan, exploring the world's highest mountain ranges, natural wonders, and rich cultures.

In Nepal, discover monumental landscapes among smiling, friendly people. Kathmandu boasts cultural wonders, Pokhara shines with natural beauty, and Chitwan National Park offers exotic activities like elephant safaris and canoeing.

In Bhutan, the "Happiest Country in the World", discover a society deeply influenced by Buddhism, maintaining age-old traditions and a pristine environment. Witness the untouched life in this last "Shangri-La" with a flight over the Himalayas to Paro, known for its sacred sites. Explore Thimphu's museums and arts, Dochula Pass's chortens, and the 17th-century Punakha Dzong fortress. Witness cliffside monasteries, ancient temples, and authentic handicraft markets.

**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Exotic Chitwan National Park
- Pokhara, "City of Lakes"
- Boudhanath Monument, Kathmandu
- Tashichho Dzong, monastery and fortress
- Black-necked Crane Festival
- Punakha Dzong, "Palace of Great Happiness" built in 1637
- Bhutan National Museum
- "Tiger's Nest" cliffside monastery
- Medieval city of Bhaktapur
- Patan, city of artisans
- Boudhanath Stupa, Tibetan exile community

**18 DAYS**

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Nov 2 - 19

COST

**\$15,397**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$2,390
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$1,090 (includes a Toronto overnight enroute)

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

**TOUR INCLUSIONS**

Flights with Emirates Airlines ▪ First Class & moderate (best available) hotels ▪ Full breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily while in Nepal & Bhutan ▪ All visa fees and arrangements  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

**ITINERARY**

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Dubai.

**DAY 2: KATHMANDU.** Change planes in Dubai and fly to Kathmandu.

**DAY 3: CHITWAN.** Fly to the subtropical Chitwan National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site home to Royal Bengal tigers, rhinos, elephants, and crocodiles. Enjoy a Tharu Stick Dance show in the evening.

**DAY 4: CHITWAN.** A full day at Chitwan with a naturalist guide offering various activities: an elephant safari, bird watching, jungle walk, canoeing and a village walk.

**DAY 5: POKHARA.** Fly to Pokhara, a natural beauty haven with a tropical feel and expansive Himalayan views. Enjoy a boat ride on the serene Phewa Lake, admiring its mountain reflections and island temple. Then, visit Davi's Waterfall and Gupteshwor Mahadev Cave.

**DAY 6: LUMLE.** Drive to Lumle with breathtaking views of the Annapurna mountains. Take a walking tour among scenic Gurang and Chandrakot villages enroute to your mountain lodge.

**DAY 7: KATHMANDU.** Return to Kathmandu and visit the ancient Pashupatinath Temple, set in a beautifully lush environment. Explore Boudhanath Monument, a unique 36-metre-high stupa with four pairs of eyes believed to be watching for righteous behaviour. Tonight, we witness the glorious Aarti, an elaborate Hindu lighting ritual performed by a Hindu priest.

**DAY 8: PARO.** Fly to Paro, enjoying breathtaking Himalayan views, including Mt. Everest, and an exhilarating descent into Bhutan. On arrival, drive to the capital, Thimphu, to visit Kuensel Phodrang, home to the country's largest

Buddha statue and stunning views of the Thimphu Valley. We drive to Panfri Zampa, a 16th-century monastery for studies in astrology and Buddhist Philosophy. We then visit the Tashichho Dzong "Fortress of the glorious religion" and government centre. Later, explore Thimphu's main street and market area.

**DAY 9: DOCHULA PASS / GANGTEY.** Drive into the mountains for stunning views of Dochula Pass, adorned with stupas and prayer flags. On clear days, see Bhutan's tallest peaks, including "table mountain," its highest. Journey to Gangtey, one of Bhutan's most beautiful and unspoiled areas. In the evening, enjoy a stroll in the idyllic Phobjikha Valley.

**DAY 10: GANGTEY.** Attend the Black-necked Crane Festival, celebrating the arrival of these endangered birds revered as deities' reincarnations. Enjoy folk songs, mask dances, and crane-themed performances alongside locals. Later, visit the Gangtey Goemba Monastery overlooking the valley.

**DAY 11: PUNAKHA.** First, visit Wangduephodrang Dzong, a monastery on a high ridge offering stunning valley views, once Bhutan's second capital. After, enjoy a scenic mountain drive to Punakha.

**DAY 12: PUNAKHA.** Visit Punakha Dzong, the "Palace of Great Happiness", featuring a gold-domed tower and religious statues. Experience Bhutanese rural life as you walk through farms and rice paddies to Chimi Lhakhang, the fertility temple.

**DAY 13: PARO.** Visit Simtokha Dzong, Bhutan's oldest fortress built in 1627, now a Buddhist Studies school. Proceed to Paro, a wonderfully scenic area with ancient

temples and monasteries. Explore Ta Dzong (National Museum) for its antique paintings, weapons, and artifacts, then visit the "Fortress of the Heap of Jewels"

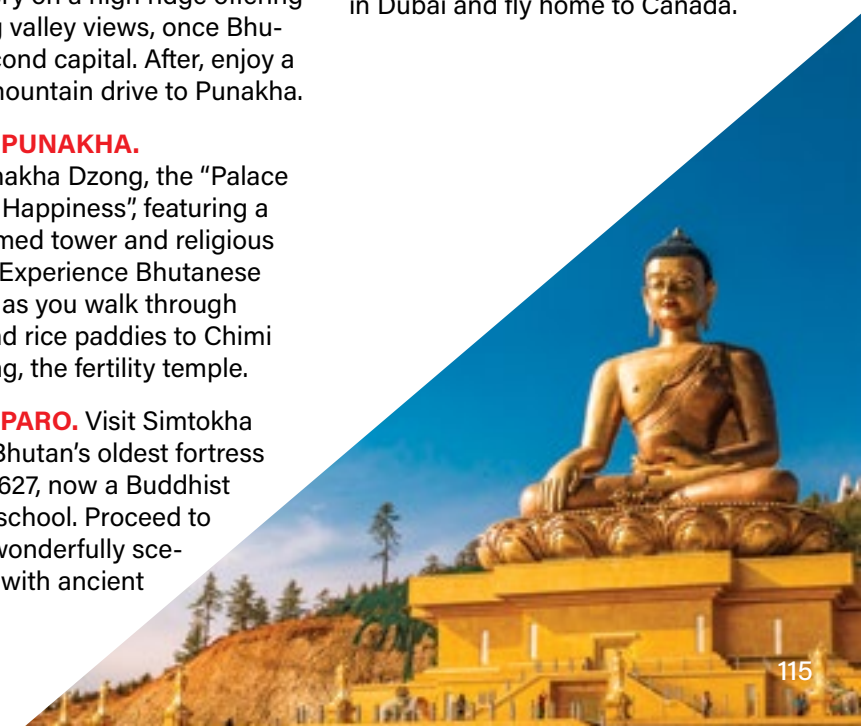
**DAY 14: PARO.** Visit Paro Taktsang, "Tiger's Nest", a cliffside monastery and true architectural wonder.

**DAY 15: KATHMANDU.** Fly to Kathmandu and drive to the medieval city of Bhaktapur for exploration. Visit Patan, featuring a magnificent square with graceful pagoda temples, metal statues and many ancient temples.

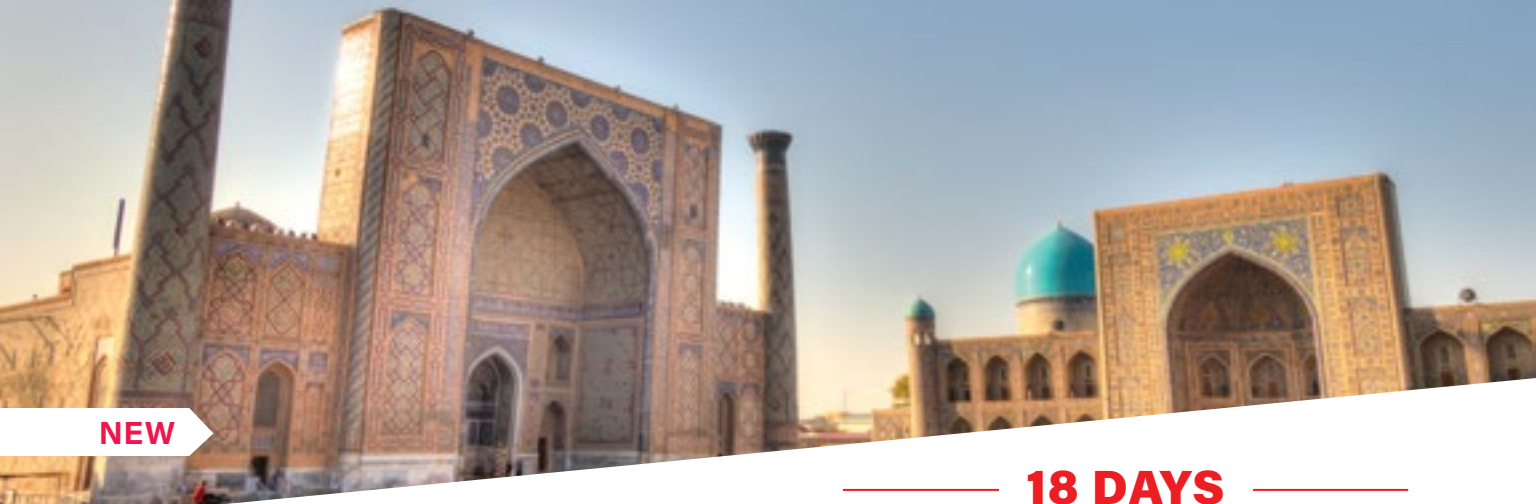
**DAY 16: KATHMANDU.** Tour Durbar Square's many temples and ancient palaces of the Nepali Royals. We then proceed to Swoyambhunath Stupa, a spectacular stupa that overlooks the magnificent Kathmandu Valley. End at Boudhanath Stupa, a World Heritage Site and home for Nepal's Tibetan exiles.

**DAY 17: KATHMANDU.** A day at leisure to explore this fascinating city before transferring to the airport for departure.

**DAY 18: RETURN.** Change planes in Dubai and fly home to Canada.







NEW

HEART OF THE SILK ROAD

# Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, & Uzbekistan

More than 2000 years ago the great trade routes that linked Europe and China opened Central Asia to foreign cultures.

Surprisingly well-preserved evidence of these original explorers remain today in the ancient cities, towns and villages of the region.

On this epic journey we'll visit 3 of Central Asia's most fascinating countries. We'll admire masterpieces of Islamic architecture, interact with locals in vibrant bazaars, visit awe-inspiring UNESCO World Heritage sites, and view incredibly diverse landscapes from red sand deserts to dramatic mountain ranges. Although the people of these countries have at times faced challenging circumstances, hospitality remains an essential element of daily life and you'll be made to feel genuinely welcome.

**We begin in Kyrgyzstan**, defined by its landscape of unspoiled mountainscapes and deep valleys, all brought to life by semi-nomadic, yurt-dwelling shepherd cultures. Our tour includes the changing of the guard ceremony at the Presidential House, the open air "Museum of Painters", and beautiful Ala Archa National Park.

**Next is Kazakhstan**, with a history that dates back to the Bronze Age with tribes roaming the steppes and mountains. The capital city, Almaty, is the major cultural centre.

**TOUR INCLUSIONS**

Flights with Turkish Airlines ▪ First Class or best available hotels ▪ Full breakfast, lunch & dinner daily ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 18 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 15 - Nov 1

COST

**\$11,197**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Single supplement: add \$1,990
- Ottawa or Montreal: add \$690

Add-ons below include an overnight in Toronto on the way home

- Halifax: add \$790
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$1090

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

**Lastly we visit Uzbekistan**—Central Asia's biggest draw. Known as the region's "cradle of culture", Uzbekistan is home to a treasure trove of ancient cities. Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva, once key stopovers for traders, impress every visitor with their amazing mosques, madrassas, and mausoleums. The capital, Tashkent, is a charming combination of restored 12th century mosques and classic Russian architecture.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** We depart for Bishkek, via Istanbul.

**DAY 2: BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN.** Late night arrival in Bishkek, and transfer to our hotel.

**DAY 3: BISHKEK.** Our city tour begins in Ala-Too Square—the city's main square and a favourite place for local festivals. We also see the Changing of the Guard Ceremony at the Presidential Palace, and visit the Tsum Market, the oldest in Bishkek. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 4: BISHKEK.** We take an excursion to Ala Archa National Park in the Tian Shan Mountains. The park is known for hiking and beautiful snowy peaks. We will enjoy guided walks in the park before returning to Bishkek. Later we'll visit the open air "Museum of the Painters" and explore a local bazaar. Tonight's dinner features traditional Kyrgyz music.

**DAY 5: ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN.** We travel to Almaty—capital of Kazakhstan. After a city tour, we'll enjoy a spectacular photo opportunity at the top of Kok-Tube Mountain, overlooking Almaty. Tonight's dinner will be at a restaurant on the mountain offering stunning views.

**DAY 6: ALMATY.** Today we'll visit the intricately beautiful Zhenkov Cathedral—an extraordinary Russian Orthodox Church built entirely of wood. We'll then stroll through Panfilov Park and visit the Museum of Musical Instruments. Later we'll visit the Central State Museum of Kazakhstan, which houses the largest collection of Kazakh historical and cultural artifacts.

**DAY 7: TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN.** We fly to Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan. This evening we'll enjoy a performance at the Navoi Theatre, followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

**DAY 8: NUKUS.** We fly to Nukus, capital of the Karakalpakstan region, where we'll visit the Karakalpakstan Region Museum, renowned for its Savitsky Gallery—an astounding collection of Soviet Avant-Garde Art. Then we'll visit the Mizhda Khan necropolis and spend some time in a local bazaar.

**DAY 9: KHIVA.** Enroute to Khiva we stop at Toprak Kala—a mud built fortress from the 1st century BC, which was once a royal residence in the desert. We proceed to Khiva, where our hotel is a short walk from Ichan Kala—the walled inner town of the city.

**DAY 10: KHIVA.** On our tour of this fascinating walled city (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) we'll see the Kalta Minor, Madrassah Rakhimkhon and the Hunarmand workshops. Afternoon at leisure. This evening we have a cocktail party, and dinner with a special folklore show.

**DAY 11: BUKHARA.** We make our way across the Kyzylkum Desert to Bukhara, enjoying scenic views of desert landscapes and village life along the way. Lunch is at a local restaurant.

**DAY 12: BUKHARA.** Our walking tour will take in the Poi Kalon minaret and mosque, a variety of madrassahs, and the Jewish quarter. We'll enjoy a traditional Uzbek "plov" lunch prepared by a local artist in his studio. Then we visit the Ark Fortress—home of former rulers of the Bukhara Khanate, followed by a visit of the notorious Zindan Prison (now a museum) and the Ismail Samanid Mausoleum—one of Bukhara's oldest monuments.

**DAY 13: BUKHARA.** We take an excursion to Sitorai-Mokhi-Khosa, or "Palace of Moon-like Stars"—summer residence of the last emir

of Bukhara. The palace now houses the Museum of Arts and Crafts. Then we proceed to Gijduvan and visit a local master potter and enjoy lunch at his workshop. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Bukhara's covered markets.

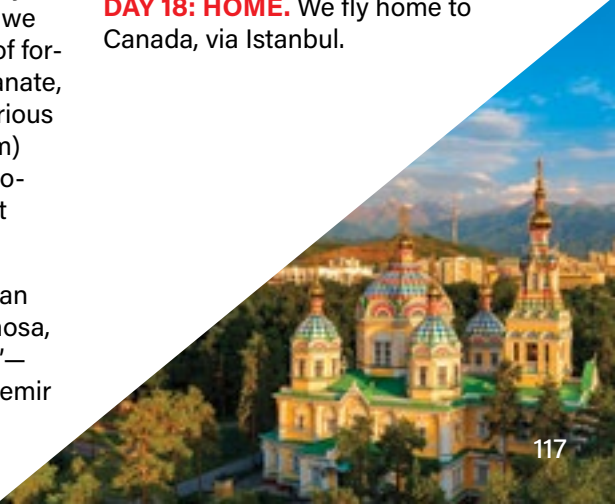
**DAY 14: BUKHARA / SAMARKAND.** Morning at leisure to further explore Bukhara. Later we board a train for Samarkand.

**DAY 15: SAMARKAND.** Sightseeing in Samarkand includes Registan Square and the three beautiful Madrassahs, Bibi Khanum Mosque, the bustling Siyob Silk Road Bazaar, Gur-e-Amir (mausoleum of the Asian conqueror Tamerlane) and Ulugbek's Observatory.

**DAY 16: SAMARKAND / TASHKENT.** We venture to the Konigil Meros village to visit a traditional paper-making factory. Later we'll take a train back to Tashkent.

**DAY 17: TASHKENT.** Our city tour will take in the Old City, the Khast Imam complex, Tilla Shaik archives, Chorsu Bazaar, Akbar's Pottery house, Independence Square, the Applied Arts Museum, and the magnificent Russian Orthodox church. Notice the contrast between the modern, and Soviet-era architecture, and experience the lively atmosphere of this city. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 18: HOME.** We fly home to Canada, via Istanbul.





# Walking Tours

Experience the world in a way most only dream of—up close and on foot. Hike along the sun-drenched French Riviera, where azure seas meet glamorous towns. Stroll the rugged paths of Cinque Terre, with its cliffside villages and breathtaking views. Discover the delightful countryside, picturesque villages, and endless historical attractions of Great Britain. These tours are an invitation to explore at your own pace, and savour every moment of these idyllic landscapes.





## WALKING

# South Wales & the Cotswolds

## Plus London

On this scenic tour led by experienced, expert hiking guides, we will walk through delightful countryside and picturesque villages.

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 km to 10 km with ascents of up to 280 m. More challenging walks will also be offered daily.

For the first 7-nights we will be based in the town of Bourton-on-the-Water (voted one of England's prettiest towns). Here in the Cotswolds, gentle hills, picture-postcard villages and tempting tea shops combine to make this quintessentially English countryside perfect for walking and a huge hit with the Brits themselves. Our base will be the Harrington House, which retains many of its stunning original Georgian features—the most delightful being the walled garden with a view of green rolling hills and timeless golden stone villages. We will spend the following 3 nights in Brecon (Wales)—a quaint market town at the foot of the Brecon Beacons mountains—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 reach of the Brecon Beacons National Park and many fine walking areas—a location perfect for walkers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Our final 2 nights will be at a centrally-located hotel in "Everyone's Favourite City", London.

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 12 - 25

### COST

**\$7,497**

per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Ottawa: add \$190
- Winnipeg or Montreal: add \$390
- Halifax, Calgary, Edmonton,  
or Vancouver: add \$590

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete a minimum of 6 km of walking.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Walking the stunning Cotswolds countryside with green rolling hills criss-crossed by countless footpaths
- Bath: UNESCO Site
- Stratford-upon-Avon, including Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Distillery
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- London

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class country house hotels & First Class hotel in London ▪ Full English breakfast & dinner daily (except for one dinner while in London), and 9 picnic lunches  
▪ Guided walking tour program ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

Walks described below are the easier option. Medium and harder walks will be offered daily as well.

**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 walks 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: 7 km with 40 m ascent.* We'll follow footpaths from Bourton exploring the area directly to the south, and on our return we follow the Diamond Way. At the end of your walk there'll be plenty of time to explore Bourton-on-the-Water. Enjoy a pint in one of the pubs, visit the shops, or simply find a bench beside the River Windrush and soak up this charming rural village.

**DAY 4: FISH HILL TO BROADWAY.** *Walk: 5 km with 40 m 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.** A day in Shakespeare country! We start at Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall, where Shakespeare spent his schooldays, discovered theatre and was 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: 7 km with 180 m 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, before arriving at the Roman Villa at Chedworth.

**DAY 7: HAILES ABBEY TO SUDELEY CASTLE.** *Walk: 4.5 km with 60 m ascent.* We visit Hailes Abbey (dating back to 1246) before our walk to Winchcombe which will include 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 six wives.

**DAY 8: LOWER SLAUGHTER.** *Walk: 5 km with 60 m 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 the Welsh market town of Brecon, arriving at our country house hotel, Nythfa House, for a 3-night stay. The hotel is surrounded by breathtaking scenery and some of the best walks in Wales.

**DAY 10: TRETOWER AND CRICKHOWELL.** *Walk: 10 km with 280 m ascent.* We walk from north of Cwndu to Tretower, famous for its renowned medieval court and castle. Then we follow a contoured path across farmland leading to the wooded Cwmbeth Brook Valley and the lovely town of Crickhowell. Soak up the history of the area and explore Crickhowell with its shops, cafes, and art galleries featuring local artists.

**DAY 11: CANAL, AQUEDUCT, AND RIVER USK.** *Walk: 10 km with 30 m ascent.* We follow the canal tow path east out of Brecon, then across the countryside to join the River Usk back into the town. We'll marvel at the sturdy stone aqueduct that traverses the river, and learn much about this region's canal history.

**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 classic architecture, Roman Baths and starring role in Bridgerton and Jane Austen. 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" to this memorable walking tour.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** Air Canada takes us home.





# WALKING Lakes District & Yorkshire Dales

## Plus Liverpool

The ideal walking tour for those seeking a more leisurely pace while immersing themselves in the beauty of the Lakes District and Yorkshire Dales.

This walking tour offers a choice of up to 3 daily walks of varying difficulty levels, including gentle walks of only 5 to 6 kms. We will discover magnificent trails and scenery, wildlife, and captivating historical attractions.

We begin with a 7-night stay in Derwentwater, near Keswick. Nestled amidst picturesque valleys and majestic crags, Derwentwater is often referred to as the “Queen of the Lakes”, with some of the most breathtaking scenery in the Lakes District. This idyllic location provides easy access to a variety of landmarks, including the fells (hills) of Cat Bells, Walla Craig and Latrigg. To the south, lies the entrance to the stunning Borrowdale Valley.

Our next 3 nights are in the beautiful Southern Yorkshire Dales, a region of captivating beauty, with rolling hills, green valleys, and charming villages. From the 17th century town of Airton to the Ingleborough Cave, this landscape is rich in beauty and immersed in history.

We end with 2 nights in the vibrant city of Liverpool, where our city tour will highlight the life of the Beatles.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore at a very gentle pace, allowing plenty of time to admire your surroundings
- Lakes District & Lakeland villages
- Experienced walking leader brings classic routes & offbeat areas alive
- See wildlife, find secret corners, and learn the history of the Lakes
- Marvel at some of the most impressive peaks in England
- Explore the varied landscapes of the Southern Yorkshire Dales
- Admire green valleys and waterfalls on riverside strolls
- City tour of Liverpool, highlighting Beatles landmarks

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Transat ▪ First Class country house hotels, and a First Class hotel in Liverpool  
 ▪ Full English breakfast & dinner daily, 9 picnic lunches ▪ Guided walking tour program  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 14 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 3 - 16

### COST

**\$6,497**

per person, double occupancy, from Toronto

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Montreal, Ottawa, or Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete a minimum of 6 km of walking.

## ITINERARY

Walks described below are the easier option. Medium and harder walks will be offered daily as well.

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Manchester.

**DAY 2: DERWENTWATER.** Upon arrival, we transfer to Derwentwater for our 7-night stay. Our hotel is situated near the charming town of Keswick. We'll be in awe of the views of the breathtaking countryside and the serene lake reflecting the surrounding landscape. Upon arrival, indulge in a delightful cream tea to set the tone for your stay.

**DAY 3: LATRIGG TO KESWICK.** *Walk: 5.5 km with ascent of 120 m.* We begin with a gentle ascent from a vantage point to Latrigg's summit, overlooking the town of Keswick and the scenic view down the valley of Borrowdale. Following this, we'll embark on a leisurely descent through the ancient trees of Brundholme Woods to Keswick. Enjoy the stunning vistas over Derwentwater and explore the walker-friendly pubs, tearooms, and shops in Keswick.

**DAY 4: DERWENTWATER SHORE.** *Walk: 6 km with ascent of 160 m.* We embark along the woodland track, and reach the shores of Derwent Bay, known as the “Queen of the Lakes” due to its surrounding fells. After a pause to admire the spectacular scenery we'll continue along the shoreline. On the return, you may wish to view the lovely walled garden on Lingholm estate before taking in the panoramic views of the majestic Skiddaw Mountain and surrounding islands.

**DAY 5: DERWENTWATER AT LEISURE.** Immerse yourself in the beauty of the region at your own pace. Explore nearby attractions, take a self-guided walk, or simply unwind and take in the surroundings.

**DAY 6: CASTLERIGG STONE CIRCLE.** *Walk: 6.5 km with ascent of 175 m.* A gentle ascent leads us to the historic Castlerigg Stone Circle, dating back to 3000 BC. Take some time to enjoy its dramatic setting. Then we'll wind through fields and woodlands enroute to Keswick, where we can discover this town's charm at the end of our walk.

**DAY 7: BRAITHWAITE VIA HODGSON'S HOW.** *Walk: 6 km with ascent of 80 m.* Today we enjoy a lovely valley walk surrounded by magnificent Lakeland fells. Starting from Derwent Bank, our route offers stunning mountain views. We walk around the raised ground of Hodgson's How, with the mighty Skiddaw lying ahead. We continue into the quaint village of Braithwaite, before following the attractive Newlands Beck and quiet minor roads, back to our hotel.

**DAY 8: AIRA FORCE TO GLENRIDDING.** *Walk: 5 km with ascent of 80 m.* Experience the spectacular Aira Force waterfall, before following the Ullswater Way footpath to Glenridding. Here, we board the steamer for an unforgettable lake cruise to Pooley Bridge, enjoying scenic lake and mountain views, and a relaxing drink by Pooley Bridge.

**DAY 9: SOUTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES.** We say farewell to Derwentwater and transfer to our hotel in the Southern Yorkshire Dales, for a 3-night stay. Surrounded by moors, valleys, hills, and villages, this setting is sure to captivate you. Upon arrival, enjoy a delicious cream tea.

**DAY 10: AIRTON AND THE PENNINE WAY.** *Walk: 6.5 km with ascent of 80 m.* Follow fields and lanes to Airton where we explore this 17th-century village, before walking the old mill leat. We return via the Pennine Way and immerse ourselves in the breathtaking scenery of the Yorkshire Dales. Today, we'll even have an opportunity to search for dipper birds along the river Aire.

**DAY 11: CLAPHAM BECK AND INGLEBOROUGH CAVE.** *Walk: 6 km with ascent of 200 m.* We walk from the traditional Dales village of Clapham, passing through the Ingleborough Estate, to Ingleborough Cave. After crossing the beck, we return to the village, for a chance to enjoy coffee and cake. We'll stop for an optional tour of Ingleborough Cave with its impressive stalactites and stalagmites, and enjoy the surrounding picturesque scenery.

**DAY 12: LIVERPOOL.** We transfer to Liverpool for our final 2-night stay. Explore this vibrant city, known for its Beatles heritage, including the Cavern Club and iconic sites like Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields. Admire the finest Victorian mercantile architecture along the UNESCO-designated waterfront during your free afternoon.

**DAY 13: LIVERPOOL TOUR.** (Beatles). We embark on a city tour highlighting the Beatles' life, and then spend the afternoon exploring this marvellous city at our own pace.

**DAY 14: RETURN.** We transfer to the Manchester airport for our flight home.



## WALKING

# England's South Downs

## and Exmoor National Park

Join us and discover magnificent trails, a stunning coastline, and renowned historical attractions, on this 'easy to explore' walking tour.

There will be a selection of up to 3 daily walks of varying difficulty levels, including gentle walks of 5 – 6 km. We begin in South Downs National Park, which features distinctive chalk cliffs plunging into the sea, rolling hills, glorious valleys, and more ancient woodlands than any other National Park in Britain. There are spectacular views at every turn, as well as picturesque villages, market towns, and so much more.

Then, we'll discover Exmoor National Park, with its astonishing range of landscapes and moods. Purple heather and yellow gorse paint the scenery with vibrant colour, while the wooded combes and coastline offer spectacular vistas. Keep an eye out for the Exmoor ponies and wild red deer, particularly the regal stags. We'll meander through the charming towns and picture-postcard villages. Exmoor has the distinction of being named Europe's first 'Dark Sky Reserve.' On a clear night, make sure to admire the spectacular starry sky.

We end our tour in Brighton, a seaside resort with a vibrant culture, and a renowned music and arts scene.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

#### South Downs

- South Downs National Park
- Stunning views of the iconic chalk cliffs and coastline
- Arundel Park & village of Arundel
- National Trust's Petworth House

#### Exmoor National Park

- Selworthy & its thatched cottages
- Ancient twin towns of Lynmouth and Lynton
- Nether Stowey: home of the poet, Samuel Coleridge
- The beautiful harbour of Watchet

#### Brighton

- The arts & music scene in this beautiful seaside resort
- The iconic Palace Pier
- The Seven Sisters Chalk Sea Cliffs

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 8 – 22

### COST

**\$7,497**

per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto or Ottawa

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Montreal: add \$190
- Winnipeg or Edmonton: add \$490
- Halifax or Calgary: add \$590
- Vancouver: add \$690

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete a minimum of 6 km of walking.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for London.

**DAY 2: SOUTH DOWNS.** Upon arrival in London, we transfer to our hotel, which is nestled in a beautiful setting at the foot of the South Downs. A delightful cream tea awaits us as we settle in for our 4-night stay in the serene English countryside. This evening is our welcome briefing and dinner.

**DAY 3: PERRETT'S COPSE & WANTLEY.** Walk: 6.5 km with ascent of 60 m. We start today's walk by following the nearby ridge, admiring the stunning views. We then head towards Wantley to complete the circular route back to the House.

**DAY 4: ARUNDEL PARK.** Walk: 4.5 km with ascent of 90 m. This circular walk takes us through the landscaped grounds of Arundel Park to the pretty hamlet of South Stoke, returning alongside the River Arun. At the end of the walk, there's time to explore Arundel, which boasts 1,000 years of history, an impressive cathedral, and medieval Norman castle—the seat of the Duke of Norfolk.

**DAY 5: HALFWAY BRIDGE TO PETWORTH.** Walk: 7 km with ascent of 180 m. We begin from Halfway Bridge and walk through fields and woodland to Petworth, soaking up this beautiful, historic corner of Sussex. The National Trust's Petworth House is a true English gem, with grounds designed by 'Capability' Brown, renowned for his garden and landscape architecture.

**DAY 6: EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK.** We transfer to Exmoor National Park, and our country house in Somerset, for a 7-night stay. A lovely cream tea welcomes us upon arrival.

**DAY 7: HOLNICOTE TO SELWORTHY.** Walk: 5 km with ascent of 240 m. Today we take a circular route from Holnicote House to Selworthy. We'll explore the 15th century church, thatched cottages around the green, and maybe visit a tea room before returning to the House.

**DAY 8: DUNSTER TRAIL.** Walk: 2.5 km with ascent of 30 m. We follow a trail around the medieval village of Dunster—nestled in a valley and crowned with an impressive red sandstone castle. Our guide will lead us through cobbled streets and cottage-lined lanes as we discover the rich history of this charming village perched on the River Avill. After the walk, there will be plenty of time to explore the town.

**DAY 9: AT LEISURE.** A free day to enjoy the beauty of this National Park. Visit nearby attractions, take a self-guided walk, or just relax and unwind in the tranquil countryside.

**DAY 10: LYNMOUTH.** Walk: 7 km with ascent of 140 m, descent of 280 m. We begin with a descent to Watersmeet House, a Victorian fishing lodge now owned by the National Trust, where two fast flowing rivers meet in a spectacular wooded valley. Walking downstream past deep rock pools, we'll reach Lynmouth and enjoy time to explore the town. Options include a walk out to the Valley of Rocks, visiting exhibitions on the great flood of 1952, riding the funicular cliff railway up to Lynton, or indulging in an ice cream and enjoying the scenery.

**DAY 11: HILLTOP TO NETHER STOWEY.** Walk: 8 km with ascent of 160 m, descent of 420 m. From high on the Quantock Hills, we're treated to breathtaking views as we traverse moorland paths once

walked by Iron Age peoples and Roman soldiers. Descending past Walford's Gibbet through mystical woodlands, we arrive at Nether Stowey village, home of the poet Coleridge, with the chance to visit Coleridge Cottage. Enjoy the wonderful moorland scenery that inspired Coleridge, as well as poet William Wordsworth.

**DAY 12: THE MINERAL LINE TO WATCHET.** Walk: 6 km with ascent of 100 m. We start our walk in Bilbrook, and follow one of the longest river fords in the region, to reach the quintessential village of Old Cleeve, with its 17th-century church of St. Andrews. We then follow the Monk's Path to Washford, and continue along the Mineral Line track to reach Watchet. There will be time to explore its harbour, originally built at the time of Alfred the Great, and take in the views across the Bristol Channel. Or, perhaps visit the Market House Museum to learn about the fascinating history of this once important town.

**DAY 13: BRIGHTON.** We transfer to the lovely seaside resort city of Brighton for our final 2-nights. Upon arrival, we'll have a walking tour, followed by free time to explore the area.

**DAY 14: SEVEN SISTERS CHALK SEA CLIFFS.** This morning's exciting tour takes us to see the magnificent dips and peaks of the Seven Sisters Chalk Sea Cliffs. One of Southern England's most striking landscapes, this series of white chalky cliffs in the English Channel creates an illusion that they're rising out of the water. The afternoon is free to explore Brighton at your leisure, and this evening is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** We fly back to Canada from London.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class Country House hotels ▪ Full English breakfast & dinner daily, and 10 picnic lunches ▪ Guided walking tour program  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**



## HIKING

# Cinque Terre & the Amalfi Coast

Designed for avid walkers and moderate hikers, this active-paced vacation lets you get up close and personal with two of Italy's most beloved areas.

Each day, choose between two expert-guided walks ranging from 5 to 10 kilometres with ascents averaging 300 m.

Cinque Terre is known for its spectacular hiking paths linking its five towns, each prettier than the last. The Amalfi Coast offers equally stunning views, and has one of Italy's largest concentrations of gardens, villas and museums.

Our home base for the first five nights is the family-run Hotel Carla, situated in Levanto, a hidden gem of the Italian Riviera.

On the Amalfi Coast, stay at the Reginna Palace Hotel overlooking the bay near the Maiori waterfront and city centre.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Cinque Terre's famous walking paths
- Full-day guided tour to Santa Margherita, including Castello Brown, Portofino, and boat trip
- Montepulciano
- Excursion to Mt. Vesuvius
- Amalfi & Ravello
- Villa Rufolo's hanging gardens
- Ancient Sentiero dei Limoni
- Positano & Pathway of the Gods

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with KLM and Air France ■ First Class and moderate hotels ■ Full breakfast & dinner daily, plus 1 lunch ■ Wine, mineral water, & coffee with all dinners ■ Guided walking tour program ■ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 13 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 30 - Oct 12 / Oct 13 - 25

### COST

**\$8,997**

per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto or Montreal

- Single supplement: add \$1,190
- Ottawa: add \$190 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)

Add-ons below include a Toronto overnight on the way home

- Halifax: add \$790
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$1,090

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete up to 7 km of walking on varied terrain.

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Florence via Amsterdam.

**DAY 2: LEVANTO.** Arrive in Florence and transfer to Levanto. This evening, guides welcome you and give a briefing of the walks offered during the tour.

**DAY 3: LEVANTO TO BONASSOLA.** Walk: 4 km with 300 m descent OR 8 km with extension. On our first walk, travel by train to Levanto and take a scenic walk to the enchanting village of Bonassola, with breathtaking Mediterranean Sea views. Meander through this picturesque coastal town's absolute serenity before catching a train to Riomaggiore. There, we'll unwind or enjoy another invigorating hike to the village's summit for panoramic views.

**DAY 4: CINQUE TERRE COASTAL PATH.** Walk: 1 km with 100 m ascent OR 4 km with 300 m ascent with extension. Travel by train to Cinque Terre's picturesque towns, starting with Corniglia, uniquely perched on a promontory and surrounded by vineyards. After exploring Corniglia, head to Vernazza with colourful houses leading to a sheltered harbour. Optionally, walk to the spectacular Vernazza viewpoint.

**DAY 5: SANTA MARGHERITA / PORTOFINO.** Take a train to Santa Margherita, a Ligurian fishing village transformed into a coastal resort on the Italian Riviera. Explore the town, its basilica, and palazzo gardens, then walk along the coast to Portofino. In Portofino, enjoy a guided tour and the breathtaking views and gardens at Castello Brown.

**DAY 6: CORNIGLIA / MANAROLA.** Walk: 2 km with 100 m ascent OR 5 km with 400 m ascent. Travel by train to Corniglia to walk the ancient Azzurro Path that once served as the sole means

of communication between the five fishing villages. After, take a train to Monterosso, a coastal gem for exploration. Enjoy ample time to discover the town, indulge in local specialties, and soak in the charm of this enchanting area.

**DAY 7: MONTEPULCIANO / ATTIGLIANO.** Travel inland, stopping at the medieval hilltop town of Montepulciano in Tuscany. After lunch, enjoy free time to explore its Renaissance palaces, ancient churches, and elegant squares offering countryside views of vineyards known for "Vino Nobile". Then, proceed to Attigliano in Umbria for an overnight stay.

**DAY 8: MOUNT VESUVIUS / MAIORI.** Walk: 4 m with 180 m ascent. Head to the Amalfi Coast for a scenic day! Enroute, explore the slopes of Mount Vesuvius. On a clear day, you can see stunning views over the Bay of Naples. After, continue to your hotel in Maiori for a four-night stay.

**DAY 9: AMALFI.** Visit the famous town of Amalfi, set below the steep cliffs of the Tyrrhenian Sea's coast. See the brilliant Arab-Norman cathedral, medieval shipyards and enjoy free time before returning to Maori for an afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 10: VALLE DELLE FERRIERE NATIONAL PARK.** Walk: 5 km with 300 m ascent OR 8 km with 120 m ascent. Transfer to the enchanting town of Ravello for a guided walking tour, including a visit to Villa Rufolo, known for its enchanting hanging gardens and Mediterranean views. Next, enjoy a scenic hike along the Valle Delle Ferriere, featuring beautiful vistas and lush greenery. Descend

with awe-inspiring panoramas of the Amalfi Coast.

**DAY 11: PATHWAY OF THE GODS / POSITANO.** Walk: 5 km with 100 m ascent OR 8 km with 100 m ascent. Take a bus to Agerola, starting your walk to Positano along the "Pathway of the Gods", with stunning Amalfi peninsula views. Explore Positano, a nearly vertical town with terraced Moorish-style houses, balconies, and arcades popularized by artists and writers.

**DAY 12: SENTIERO DEI LIMONI.** Walk: 4 km with 180 m ascent OR 7.5 km with 300 m ascent. Today's hike is along the Sentiero dei Limoni (Path of the Lemons), a renowned Amalfi Coast trail since Roman times. This ancient path winds through terraced lemon groves between the seaside towns of Maiori and Minori, offering spectacular scenery throughout! At last, enjoy a delicious Farewell Dinner in the evening.

**DAY 13: RETURN.** Fly home from Naples, via Paris.



## WALKING

# Provence & French Riviera

Perfect for the avid walker and moderate hiker, this tour to Southern France showcases many delightful and unspoiled parts of Provence and the French Riviera.

Discover picturesque hilltop villages, spectacular views of the Southern Alps and Mediterranean Sea and gorgeous architecture, working up an appetite for the delicious freshly-prepared local cuisine and wines. Each day we will enjoy walks ranging from 5 km – 12 km with ascents of 100 m – 400 m, led by experienced hiking guides on good paths (which are sometimes rocky underfoot).

We begin in Provence with 5 nights in charming Gréoux-les-Bains, an ancient Roman town with thermal baths. Our hotel is the Villa Borghèse, a member of the prestigious Château et 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 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 restored Hotel Royal Westminster—a 19th century Belle Epoque style palace located directly on the seafront promenade (and all of our rooms are seaview!)

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Dramatic clifftop villages: the most beautiful in France
- Simiane-La-Rotonde & its castle
- Provencal market of Forcalquier
- Eze Exotic Garden
- Walking tour of Menton
- Mourres Plateau, Provencal Colorado in Rustrel, & Verdon Gorge
- Guided visit of Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild
- Italy's beloved Liguria region, with a typical Italian lunch and guided visit of Dolceacqua

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air France ■ First Class and moderate hotels ■ Full breakfast daily, 9 dinners and 1 lunch ■ Wine & coffee with all dinners ■ Guided walking tour program  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## 12 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 27 – Oct 8 / Oct 11 – 22

### COST

Depart Sep 27: \$7,997

Depart Oct 11: \$7,797

per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto or Montreal

- Single supplement: add \$990
- Ottawa: add \$190 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax: add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver, or Edmonton: add \$990

### ACTIVITY NOTE

Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete up to 8 km of walking on varied terrain.

## ITINERARY

**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 dinner in France. Bon appetit!

**DAY 3: DAY TRIP TO MOUSTIERS-SAINTE-MARIE.** Walk: 6 km with 160 m ascent OR 10 km with 350 m ascent. We walk along the ridge above the Moustiers-Ste-Marie, considered 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 the old Roman path down towards the village.

**DAY 4: DAY TRIP TO FORCALQUIER / MOURRES PLATEAU.** Walk: 7 km with 200 m ascent OR 11 km with 400 m ascent. We begin at the picturesque hilltop town of Forcalquier—home to one of the largest and liveliest Provencal markets. The guide will lead us on a captivating tour of the town, allowing ample time to explore the wonderful market at our leisure. Then we proceed with our walk on the Mourres Plateau where mushroom-shaped formations resemble human faces—a true geological wonder!

**DAY 5: DAY TRIP TO RUSTREL / SIMIANE-LA-ROTONDE.** Walk: 5 km with 150 m 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, 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.

**DAY 6: TRIP TO VERDON GORGE.** Walk: 8 km with 150 m ascent OR 12 km with 250 m 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 quite wonderful. We return to Gréoux where the rest of the day will be at leisure.

**DAY 7: MENTON.** We proceed to Menton for a 5-night stay. On our walking tour of this delightful seaside resort we'll take in the lovely pastel-coloured architecture, the old town, the cemetery where many prominent 19th century English and Russian figures are buried, and the enchanting views of the surrounding countryside.

**DAY 8: MENTON.** At leisure in Menton to explore this exquisite town, enjoy a swim in the Mediterranean Sea, tour the museum dedicated to the artist Jean Cocteau, or visit nearby towns such as Monaco or Nice.

**DAY 9: DAY TRIP TO LA TURBIE / EZE.** Walk: 5 km with 100 m ascent OR 10 km with 300 m 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 Trophée d'Auguste built 2,000 years ago for the glory of Emperor Augustus is still 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: DAY TRIP TO ITALY.** 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 enchants visitors with its scenic bridges and small houses that circle the Castello dei Doria, immortalized in French impressionist painter Claude Monet's painting The Castle of Dolceacqua. We will enjoy a typical Italian lunch at a local restaurant featuring fresh locally-grown food. Later we visit the perched village of Apricale—surrounded by forested hills, it is on the list of the "Most Beautiful Villages in Italy".

**DAY 11: DAY TRIP TO CAP FERRAT / VILLA EPHRUSSI.** Walk: 10 km with 150 m ascent OR walk 5 km with 70 m 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 dancing fountains and views of the Mediterranean are breathtaking—a wonderful way to end our tour! Tonight enjoy a farewell cocktail followed by dinner.

**DAY 12: HOME.** We fly back to Canada via Paris.



NEW

## WALKING

# Italian & French Alps

On this exhilarating walking tour we take in the spectacular fall scenery in the Italian Alps' Valle d'Aosta region and the Haute Savoie region of the French Alps.

Each day there will be a choice of two walks ranging from 8 – 12 km with ascents of 125 m – 650 m which should pose no difficulties for experienced walkers.

We begin with 5 nights in the Italian high-mountain retreat of Cogne, nestled within the soaring peaks of the Alps overlooking the wide green valley meadow of Sant' Orso. This sheltered, sunny position is an ideal base for exploring the region's unspoiled natural beauty, including rivers, forests, waterfalls, and the wonderful Gran Paradiso National Park. We will stay at the 4-star Hotel Sant' Orso—a typical Alpine-style hotel with cozy rooms, a restaurant serving fresh local produce, and a spa with a heated pool overlooking the breathtaking Massif of Gran Paradiso.

We spend the next 5 nights in the stunningly beautiful French town of Annecy on the northern tip of Lake Annecy. The town is dubbed the "Venice of the Alps", due to the many canals that weave along its cobbled streets past colourful medieval houses and bustling cafes—a marvellous sight! Annecy's location in the heart of the mountains makes this a coveted area for walkers, who will also enjoy the peaceful serenity of its pristine lake and canals. Our home base here is the perfectly situated Hotel Catalpa, a lovely 3-star hotel located in the heart of town, steps away from Lake Annecy, and a short walk to the Old Town and shopping district.

12 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 18 – 29

COST

**\$9,397**

per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver

.....  
▪ Single supplement: add \$1,390

ACTIVITY NOTE

There will be 2 levels of walks. For the easier walk, you must be able to complete 8 km of walking on varied terrain.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Gran Paradiso National Park
- Lillaz Waterfall and Valleile Valley
- The 12th-century Tamié Abbey in the foothills of the Bauges Mountains
- Cable car ride to the summit of l'Aiguille du Midi
- Annecy tour
- Boat ride on Lake Annecy
- Hiking the Bauges & Aravis Mountain Ranges

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ First Class and moderate hotels ▪ Full breakfast daily, 9 dinners and 1 lunch ▪ Wine & coffee with all dinners ▪ Guided walking tour program  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We depart for Geneva.

**DAY 2: COGNE, ITALY.** We arrive in Geneva and enjoy a scenic drive with lunch included enroute to our hotel in Cogne, Italy (about a 2½ hour drive).

**DAY 3: GRAN PARADISO NATIONAL PARK AND VALNONTÉY VALLEY.**

*Walk: 7 km with 125 m ascent OR 11 km with 350 m ascent.* Today we'll enjoy a loop walk at the foot of the Gran Paradiso Giant Glaciers. We walk from the hotel and enter the Gran Paradiso National Park—created in 1856 as a conservation area to protect the Alpine Ibex (mountain goat) that was on the verge of extinction. First we'll walk through the village of Valnontey, then Pra Su Pia and on to Vermianaz. The local architecture is charming, and with some luck we can observe local wildlife like the Ibex or the majestic Golden Eagle.

**DAY 4: VALLEILE VALLEY / LILLAZ WATERFALLS.**

*Walk: 8 km with 250 m ascent OR 12 km with 470 m ascent.* We enter the wide Valley of Valleile which is dominated by glaciers. The views of the mountain known as Torre del Gran San Pietro (Tower of the Great Saint Peter) are spectacular as we walk towards Lillaz Waterfalls through a lush forest. The rushing waters of the waterfall and dense foliage offer a magical oasis that attracts colourful songbirds and plenty of wildlife. See the white water crashing through deep gorges and plummeting into mirror-like streams far below.

**DAY 5: COGNE.** A day at leisure to enjoy charming Cogne at your own pace. Discover the Gran Paradiso National Park house, the Iron Museum, or the stunning botanical garden.

**DAY 6: GRAUSON VALLEY AND GIMILLIAN VILLAGE.** *Walk: 8 km with 250 m ascent OR 12 km with 650 m ascent.* We take a short transfer and then walk to the Grauson Valley, for a breathtaking view of the whole Gran Paradiso and its towering summits. Then we continue through a forest of beautiful Larch pines, that turn a magnificent gold in autumn. Today we will also discover some of the quaint villages this region is known for.

**DAY 7: CHAMONIX / ANNECY.**

A spectacular day as we transfer to Annecy via Chamonix—capital of the French Alps. In Chamonix we'll take a cable car to reach the Plan de l'Aiguille at 7600 feet. From here we admire the Bossons Glacier, the Aiguille Verte and du Drus. We then take a 2nd cable-car which whisks us high above the glaciers to an altitude of 2400 feet in just 10 minutes! After this adventure, we proceed to Annecy for a 5-night stay.

**DAY 8: ANNECY.** *Walk: 6 km, flat.* On our walking tour of Annecy we'll learn about the fascinating history of this beautiful town. We'll stroll along the picturesque canals where you will be able to see the magnificent Annecy Castle, perched dramatically above the old town. This restored 13th century castle is now home to several exhibits. Later we take a scenic boat trip on Annecy Lake and disembark in the village of Sevrier where we take a leisurely walk along the picturesque lake.

**DAY 9: TAIMÉ ABBEY AREA.**

*Walk: 8 km with 330 m ascent OR 12 km with 650 m ascent.* From the southern edge of Lake Annecy, we venture along the foothills of the majestic Bauges Mountains. Our first stop is the venerable Tamié Abbey, built in the 12th century, and reconstructed in the 17th century. Nestled within its walls resides a community of devoted Cistercian

monks, renowned for crafting Tamié cheese—a local delicacy. We continue along the Col de Tamié, enjoying the awe-inspiring landscapes of this spectacular region.

**DAY 10: GLIÈRES PLATEAU.**

*Walk: 5 km with 300 m ascent OR 12 km with 450 m ascent.* We travel to the nearby Plateau Glières, which means a 'rocky and sandy plateau without rivers.' The plateau was an important site of the French Resistance during WWII and of the Battle of Glières. Now the plateau is dotted with farms and stables, and is renowned for its lovely trails. On the higher areas overlooking the plateau, wildlife like the Ibex are easy to spot.

**DAY 11: SEMNOZ MOUNT.**

*Walk: 8 km with 330 m ascent OR 11 km with 600 m ascent.* For our last hike, we head to Semnoz Mount, a stunning viewpoint offering panoramic vistas of Lake Annecy's West Bank and the surrounding Jura Mountains. The 360-degree views include Mont Blanc in the distance. We then follow the Cret de Chatillon Loop, known for its lush green landscapes, awe-inspiring views, and charming countryside scenery. A wonderful way to end our walking journey! Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 12: RETURN.** We bid farewell to the Alps and transfer to the nearby Geneva airport for our direct flight to Canada.



# Cruises

Set sail on a journey of discovery with our exclusive luxury cruises and cruise-tours. Glide through the fjords of Norway, where nature's majesty unfolds in panoramic brilliance. Explore the tropical paradise of the Caribbean, where each island is a unique jewel. Discover the wonders of the Panama Canal, the aloha spirit of Hawaii, and the majestic rivers of central Europe, all from the comfort of world-class ships. These cruises promise a voyage of luxury, adventure, and unforgettable memories.







# Fall Foliage Cruise

## On the *Enchanted Princess* plus New York City

This cruise, which begins and ends in New York City, sails along the New England coastline, and back through Canada's Maritime Provinces, showing us the spectacular array of fall colours, with plenty of opportunities for sightseeing in some of North America's most historic cities.

We will sail aboard the *Enchanted Princess*—a floating resort with all the amenities of a resort hotel, and a perfect balance of tradition and innovation. Princess' award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs bring the local culture to life.

Dining aboard a Princess ship is a joyful celebration in the truest sense with every dish "designed for fresh" and crafted to exceed any kind of appetite. From hand-tossed pizza to dazzling multi-course gourmet dinners, you will enjoy freshly prepared cuisine.

As for entertainment, brilliant stage sets, international performers, modern hits, timeless classics and lavish productions are all the order of the day in the state-of-the-art Princess theatres!

Following our cruise we will enjoy an overnight at a hotel in the heart of Manhattan (the New York Marriott Marquis), including a guided city tour, and our Farewell Dinner.

\* All beverage packages and shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or on board the ship.

### 9 DAYS

#### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 5 - 13

#### COST

##### Starting at \$4,797

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal*

- Inside cabin: \$4,797
  - Outside cabin/private balcony: \$5,497
  - Deluxe Balcony cabin: \$5,797
  - .....
  - Single supplement: add 50% to costs above
  - Ottawa or Halifax: add \$190
- Costs below include a Toronto overnight enroute:
- Edmonton, Winnipeg, or Calgary: add \$490
  - Vancouver: add \$690

#### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment ▪ First Class hotel in New York (in central Manhattan) including breakfast, dinner, and a city tour ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE / EMBARKATION.** We depart for New York and upon arrival we transfer to our floating resort, the *Enchanted Princess*. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

**DAY 2: NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND.** The lovely New England town of Newport is best known for its opulent mansions (many of which are now museums) built by America's rich and famous in the 1890's. This is a delightful town in which to stroll.

**DAY 3: BOSTON.** America's most historic city offers such legendary attractions as Paul Revere's home, Beacon Hill and the Bunker Hill Monument.

**DAY 4: BAR HARBOR, MAINE.** Bar Harbor is Maine's best known ocean resort. Follow the scenic loop road through Acadia National Park or visit Victorian Bar Harbor, a charming town that was once home to the rich and famous.

**DAY 5: SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.** We cruise up the Bay of Fundy to the loyalist city of Saint John. Here you will delight in the historic waterfront, high cliffs overlooking the sea, solitary lighthouses and rugged scenery. Enjoy a stroll along the Loyalist Trail.

**DAY 6: HALIFAX, NS.** The capital of Nova Scotia is a charming mix of old and new. You may wish to visit the Citadel—the fortress guarding the city and harbour, or perhaps an excursion to Peggy's Cove—home to the most photographed lighthouse in the world.

**DAY 7: AT SEA.** Relax and enjoy all of the activities and entertainment on board our ship.

**DAY 8: NEW YORK CITY.** We disembark the ship in New York and embark on our city sightseeing tour, during which we will see Times Square, Central Park, the Empire State Building and many other well known sights. After our tour we proceed to our hotel, the New York Marriott Marquis, located in the heart of mid-town Manhattan. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 9: RETURN.** After breakfast we transfer to the airport where Air Canada takes us home.





11-DAY

# Eastern Caribbean Cruise

## Aboard the *Sapphire Princess*

Join our group of friendly Canadians as we cruise to exotic landscapes brimming with natural, unspoiled beauty, world-renowned beaches, and vibrant cultures.

On this cruise we will venture deeper into the Caribbean to smaller, less visited islands teeming with lush rainforests, waterfalls, rare birds and species unique to the region. We will also discover aquamarine seas ablaze with brightly coloured coral reefs brimming with technicolour fish, breathtaking national parks, and world-renowned beaches.

We will cruise in style and luxury aboard the *Sapphire Princess*. The ships of Princess Cruises are among the most beautiful and hospitable, and have more of everything you would expect in a 5-star floating resort. Princess' award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs bring the culture and colours of this region to life. Talented chefs will take you on a culinary journey, with freshly prepared and carefully crafted dishes that celebrate the Caribbean.

Take in some of the finest cruise ship entertainment as the theatre lights up the top deck day or night with feature films, or watch a lavish Broadway production complete with dazzling stage sets and international performers in the state-of-the-art Princess theatre!

\* All beverage packages and shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or on board the ship.

11 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Nov 26 - Dec 6

COST

### Starting at \$4,397

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal*

- Inside cabin: \$4,397
- Outside cabin with balcony: \$4,797
- Deluxe Balcony cabin: \$4,997
- Mini Suite: \$5,597

.....  
▪ Single supplement: add 50% to costs above

▪ Ottawa: add \$190  
(with round-trip ground transportation to the Montreal airport)

All add-ons below include an overnight in Toronto enroute to Fort Lauderdale

▪ Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$590

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We fly to Fort Lauderdale and upon arrival we transfer to our cruise ship, the *Sapphire Princess*. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

**DAY 2: PRINCESS CAYS, BAHAMAS.** Relax on the sandy beach and take in the island's natural beauty while lazing on your own comfortable beach chair. Or, you may go snorkeling and explore the underwater paradise hidden within the unspoiled waters of the Bahamas.

**DAY 3: AT SEA.** Time to relax, get acquainted with the ship and enjoy the endless array of facilities, activities, and entertainment. Visit the health club for a workout or beauty treatment, join an exercise class, line dancing or perhaps a wine tasting.

**DAY 4: ST. THOMAS.** A small island surrounded by a series of jagged bays, inlets, and coves with miles of sandy beaches and green mountains. Enjoy exploring the colourful waterfront and cobbled streets with outstanding duty-free shopping in the lovely capital of Charlotte Amalie.

**DAY 5: DOMINICA.** This island boasts a wealth of lush rainforests, dense jungles, and rugged mountains. You can explore the natural beauty at places like Champagne Reef, Emerald Pool, and Ti Tou Gorge. You can also sit back and watch the brilliantly plumbed Sisserou and Jacquot parrots that inhabit this island flit from tree to tree.

**DAY 6: ST. LUCIA.** St. Lucia is famous for its twin peaks, formed by the upheaval of a now extinct volcano. It is one of the truly unspoiled islands of the Caribbean. Here you will find a variety of landscapes and ecosystems not found anywhere else in the region, including unique rain forests, mountains and beaches that are pristine in every sense of the word.

**DAY 7: MARTINIQUE.** Martinique is truly "a little bit of France in the Caribbean", as it exudes a distinctly French ambiance. The natural beauty is everywhere with powdery white sand beaches and spectacular mountainous scenery. Visit the Balata Botanical Garden and see hibiscus, anthuriums, orchids, and other exotic flora.

**DAY 8: ANTIGUA.** Dive into British naval history at Nelson's Dockyard where you can patrol the museum and Blockhouse Ruins for nautical lore. Indulge your sense of wonder snorkeling above rainbow reefs, or pick one of the 365 beaches and soak up the sun.

**DAYS 9 & 10: AT SEA.** Enjoy a culinary demonstration, afternoon tea, or catch a movie under the stars.

**DAY 11: FORT LAUDERDALE / RETURN.** We arrive back in Fort Lauderdale in the morning and transfer to the airport for our flight home.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada Rouge ▪ Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities & entertainment ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**





## 15-DAY Caribbean Adventure Cruise

### Aboard the *Sky Princess*

Join a group of like-minded Canadians as we cruise to some of the most exciting ports in the Caribbean, aboard the *Sky Princess*.

With a fusion of European and Latin American influences, the Caribbean islands are known for their quaint towns alive with culture, and also for their breathtaking backdrop of swaying palm trees, powder white beaches, turquoise waters, and blue-green mountains.

We will cruise in style and luxury aboard the *Sky Princess*. The ships of Princess Cruises are among the most beautiful and hospitable, and have more of everything you would expect in a 5-Star floating resort. Princess' award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs bring the culture and colours of this region to life. Talented chefs will take you on a culinary journey, with freshly prepared and carefully crafted dishes that celebrate the Caribbean.

Take in some of the finest cruise ship entertainment, as the theatre lights up the top deck day or night with feature films, or watch a lavish Broadway production complete with dazzling stage sets and international performers in the state-of-the-art Princess theatre!

15 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Nov 9 - 23

COST

#### Starting at \$5,497

*per person, double occupancy,  
from Toronto or Montreal*

- Inside cabin: \$5,497
- Deluxe cabin/private balcony: \$6,397
- .....
- Single supplement: add 50%  
to costs above
- Ottawa: add \$190  
*(with round-trip ground transportation  
to the Montreal airport)*
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton,  
or Vancouver: add \$590  
*(includes an overnight in Toronto  
enroute to Fort Lauderdale)*

\* All beverage packages and shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or on board the ship.

#### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily,  
all activities & entertainment ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE / FORT LAUDERDALE.** We fly to Fort Lauderdale and upon arrival transfer to our cruise ship, the *Sky Princess*. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

**DAY 2: AT SEA.** Time to relax, get acquainted with the ship and enjoy the endless array of facilities, activities, and entertainment. Visit the health club for a workout or beauty treatment, join an exercise class, line dancing, or perhaps wine tasting.

**DAY 3: ROATAN, HONDURAS.** Roatan is noted for its pristine coral reefs, beautiful beaches, lush tropical foliage and friendly people. One of the most famous attractions here is the Iguana farm—home to over 2700 iguanas. Perhaps visit Carambola Botanical Gardens—a 40-acre reserve with jungle trails and gentle pathways of beautiful flora and fauna.

**DAY 4: BELIZE CITY, BELIZE.** The dense rainforest in Belize is dotted with Mayan ruins and tropical wildlife. The world's second largest barrier reef is here and offers some of the finest snorkeling and diving in the world. Explore the historic sites, markets, and cultural heritage of Belize City.

**DAY 5: COZUMEL, MEXICO.** A day in Mexico. Shopping on this Mexican island is truly a delightful pastime. Quality crafts, fine jewelry and leather goods are all good buys and the cultural surroundings in this part of Mexico are fascinating.

**DAYS 6 & 7: AT SEA.**

**DAY 8: FORT LAUDERDALE.** The Florida Everglades are home to many endangered species, so an airboat ride through the "River of Grass" is the perfect way to view the wildlife. Go for a stroll on Las Olas Boulevard in the trendy Riverwalk district, with its fabulous art galleries, eclectic boutiques and busy sidewalk cafes.

**DAY 9: PRINCESS CAYS, BAHAMAS.** On Princess' own private island you may relax on the sandy beach and take in the island's natural beauty while lazing on a comfortable beach chair. You may also explore the underwater paradise hidden within the unspoiled waters of the Bahamas.

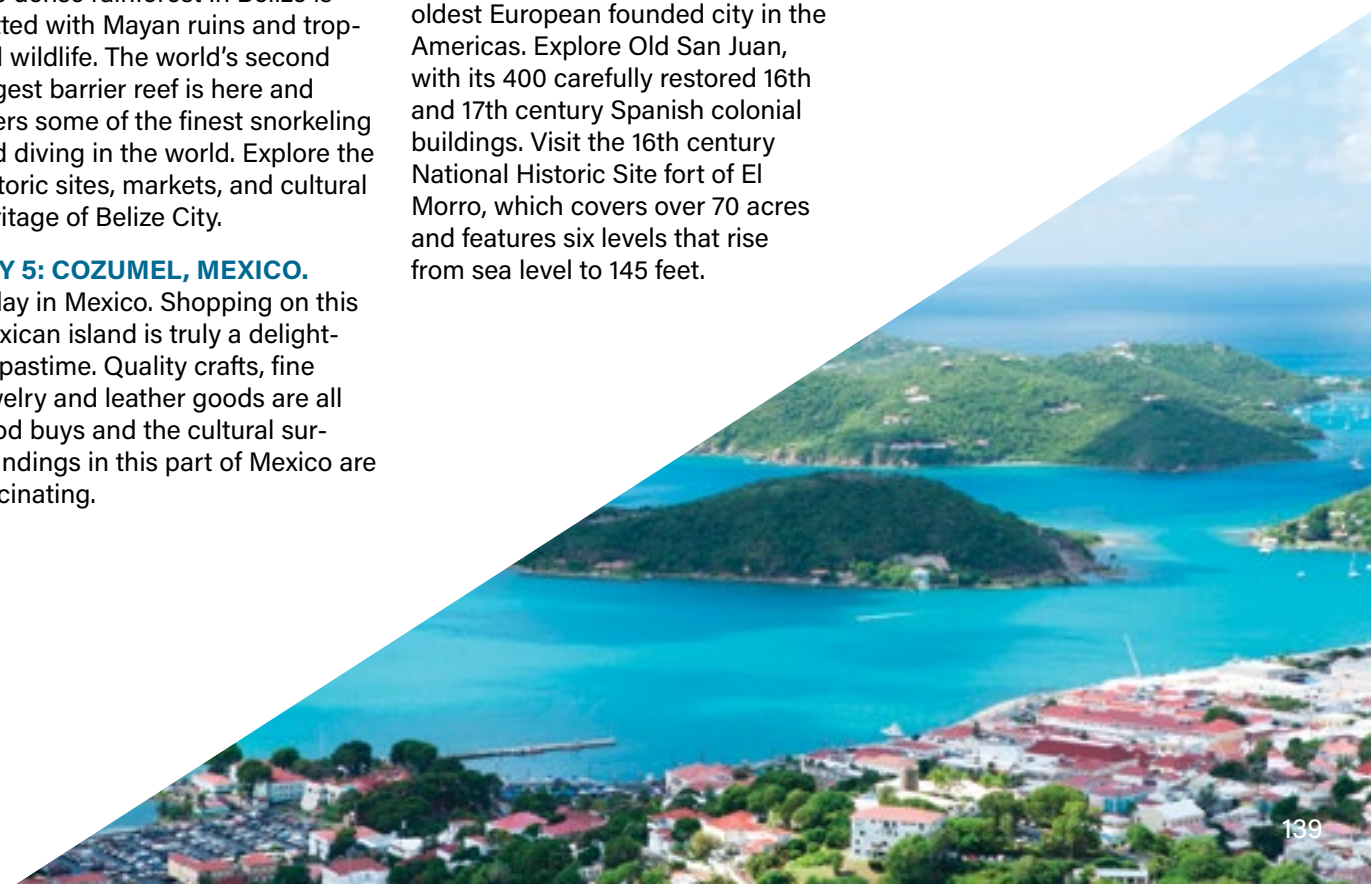
**DAY 10: AT SEA.**

**DAY 11: SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO.** San Juan is known as the walled city and is one of the biggest and best natural harbours in the Caribbean. It is also the second oldest European founded city in the Americas. Explore Old San Juan, with its 400 carefully restored 16th and 17th century Spanish colonial buildings. Visit the 16th century National Historic Site fort of El Morro, which covers over 70 acres and features six levels that rise from sea level to 145 feet.

**DAY 12: ST. THOMAS, VIRGIN ISLANDS.** This small island is surrounded by a series of jagged bays, inlets and coves with miles of sandy beaches and green mountains. Enjoy exploring the colourful waterfront and cobbled streets with outstanding duty-free shopping in the lovely capital of Charlotte Amalie.

**DAYS 13 & 14: AT SEA.** After all the exciting sightseeing of the past few weeks, a couple of days at sea to enjoy the activities and entertainment on board our ship will come most welcome. Attend a culinary demonstration, afternoon tea, watch a movie under the stars, catch up on your reading, and enjoy the company of new-found friends.

**DAY 15: RETURN.** We disembark the ship in Fort Lauderdale and transfer to the airport for our flight home.





# Christmas & New Year's Caribbean Cruise

## Aboard the *Enchanted Princess*

There's no better way to celebrate the Holiday Season than cruising in the Caribbean Sea.

Princess Cruises knows how to celebrate, with its seasonally decorated Atrium, a host of holiday events, festive onboard activities, a traditional Christmas dinner and a festive New Year's countdown party.

While we're enjoying the joyous holiday atmosphere on board our ship in the evenings, during the day we'll be soaking up the sun, digging our toes in the white sand beaches, and exploring some of the most interesting ports-of-call in the Caribbean. This region boasts quaint towns alive with diverse culture, with the breathtaking backdrop of swaying palm trees, powdery sand and turquoise waters.

We will sail aboard the beautiful *Enchanted Princess*—a floating resort with all the amenities of a resort hotel, and a perfect balance of tradition and innovation. Princess' award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs bring the culture and colours of this region to life, while talented chefs will take you on a mouth-watering culinary journey.

As for evening entertainment, take in some of the finest cruise ship productions anywhere at sea, with lavish Broadway shows complete with dazzling stage sets and international performers in the state-of-the-art theatres!

\* All beverage packages and shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or on board the ship.

## 15 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Dec 22 - Jan 5

### COST

#### Starting at \$6,197

per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal

- Inside cabin: \$6,197
- Outside cabin (obstructed view): \$6,397
- Outside cabin (clear view): \$6,997
- Outside cabin with balcony: \$8,297
- .....
- Single supplement: add 50% to costs above
- Ottawa: add \$190 (with round-trip ground transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$590 (includes an overnight in Toronto enroute to Fort Lauderdale)

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada Rouge ▪ Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities & entertainment ▪ Gala Christmas and New Year's celebrations  
**No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.** We fly to Fort Lauderdale and upon arrival we transfer to our cruise ship, the *Enchanted Princess*. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

**DAYS 2 & 3: AT SEA.** Time to relax, get acquainted with the ship and enjoy the endless array of facilities, activities, and entertainment. Visit the health club for a workout or beauty treatment, join an exercise class, line dancing or perhaps a wine tasting.

**DAY 4: ST. MAARTEN.** The capital of this Dutch island, Philipsburg, charms with colonial architecture, historic buildings, wonderful shopping, and sun swept beaches. Just a few blocks wide, delights can be found around every corner in the city. On the other side of the island, the hub of French St. Martin is filled with designer boutiques, sidewalk cafes, bistros and trendy art galleries. Wander through the charming streets and experience a taste of France.

This evening we enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner, with all the trimmings, prepared by Princess' own expert chefs.

**DAY 5: ST. KITTS.** With so much natural beauty, it's no wonder the English defended the "Gibraltar of the West Indies" from Brimstone Hill. Take it all in—from Piccadilly Circus and an island version of Big Ben to the pink salt pond, the lush gardens and rainforests.

**DAY 6: MARTINIQUE.** Be enchanted by Martinique's rhythmic beats of zouk music and the tantalizing aroma of freshly baked French pastries wafting through colourful markets. Explore the vibrant capital city of Fort-de-France, adorned with historical

landmarks like La Savane Park and the majestic Schoelcher Library. Immerse yourself in the island's rich culture by savouring exquisite Creole cuisine or indulging in a leisurely stroll along the sun-kissed beaches with crystal-clear waters.

**DAY 7: BARBADOS.** With its picturesque rolling hills and endless expanse of white sand beaches, Barbados is the quintessential island getaway and a long time favourite of Canadians. Investigate Harrison's Cave, with its bubbling streams, cascading waterfalls, stalactites and stalagmites. Or you may want to taste the island's famous rum at the Mount Gay Rum Factory.

**DAY 8: GRENADA.** Breathe in the scent of the wild nutmeg trees that this "Spice Island" is famous for as you stroll past the heliconia and ginger lilies to Grand Etang Lake. Be sure to bring along your swimsuit because the crystal-clear pool at the base of Seven Sisters Falls is hard to resist.

**DAY 9: TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.** Trinidad is the birthplace of steelpan and calypso music. There is plenty to see here. The Asa Wright Nature Centre is devoted to naturalists and bird watchers. The more traditional tourist attractions are the Queen's Park Savannah, the Royal Botanic Gardens and the Magnificent Seven—a strand of impressive colonial houses reflecting Trinidad's unique heritage.

**DAY 10: AT SEA.** (New Year's Eve). Enjoy a culinary demonstration, afternoon tea, or catch a movie under the stars.

This evening we enjoy a gala New Year's Eve Countdown Party.

**DAY 11: CURACAO** (New Year's Day). Colourful Willemstad is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most recognizable spots in the Caribbean. While the shops in town offer great bargains, there is also an array of pristine beaches as well as the fascinating Hato Caves.

**DAY 12: ARUBA.** Although this unique Dutch island has blossomed as a sophisticated Caribbean destination, the real attraction is under water. Aruba is surrounded by colourful coral. The abundant sea life around Arashi Reef or the wreck of the Antilla is simply breathtaking. If you would rather stay dry, view it all by taking an excursion from the air conditioned comfort of an Atlantis submarine or a glass bottom boat.

**DAYS 13 & 14: AT SEA.** Last days to enjoy our ship.

**DAY 15: FORT LAUDERDALE / HOME.** We arrive back in Fort Lauderdale in the morning and transfer to the airport for our flight home.





# Panama Canal Cruise (Full Transit)

## Aboard the Coral Princess

Join a group of friendly Canadians on this exciting journey through the Panama Canal.

By creating artificial lakes and immense lift locks, the Americans performed one of the greatest engineering feats in history, completing the canal in 1914. A canal crossing is memorable. The scenery around this 8th Wonder of the World is lush and tropical and the intricate workings of the locks and sheer immensity of the achievement are awe-inspiring.

We sail from Los Angeles to Fort Lauderdale aboard the *Coral Princess*. Princess Cruises, whose ships are considered among the most beautiful and hospitable, was one of the first cruise lines to traverse the canal. Their ships are luxurious, floating resorts with all the pleasures of a deluxe resort hotel.

Princess' award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs bring the culture and colours of this region to life. Talented chefs will take you on a culinary journey, with freshly prepared and carefully crafted dishes that celebrate this part of the world.

Take in some of the finest cruise ship entertainment as the theatre lights up the top deck day or night with feature films, or watch a lavish Broadway production complete with dazzling stage sets and international performers in the state-of-the-art Princess theatres!

\* All beverage packages and shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or on board the ship.

17 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Nov 17 - Dec 3

COST

Starting at \$5,797

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Calgary*

- Inside cabin: \$5,797
- Outside cabin (obstructed view): \$5,997
- Outside cabin (clear view): \$6,497
- Outside cabin/private balcony: \$7,497
- .....
- Single supplement:  
add 50% to costs above
- Montreal, Ottawa, Edmonton,  
or Vancouver: add \$190
- Halifax or Winnipeg: add \$390

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE / LOS ANGELES.** We depart for Los Angeles, and upon arrival we transfer to our cruise ship. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner on board, and a chance to get acquainted with our fellow travellers.

**DAYS 2 & 3: AT SEA.** Time to relax, and enjoy the endless array of facilities, activities, and entertainment on board. Visit the health club for a massage or beauty treatment, join an exercise class, line dancing, wine tasting, practice your short game on the putting green, or participate in a game of shuffleboard.

**DAY 4: MANZANILLO, MEXICO.** The picturesque beaches of Manzanillo are known for their golden sands and vibrant marine life. Immerse yourself in the local culture by strolling through the historic downtown, sampling fresh seafood at the bustling markets, and enjoying the lively atmosphere of the waterfront.

**DAY 5: AT SEA.**

**DAY 6: HUATULCO, MEXICO.** Made up of nine bays on the coast of Oaxaca, Huatulco is an unblemished tropical site for rest and relaxation. Tourists can engage in local customs and shop for beautiful native clothes in plazas such as La Nata, located on the main square.

**DAY 7: AT SEA.**

**DAY 8: SAN JUAN DEL SUR, NICARAGUA.** Once a sleepy fishing village, San Juan del Sur is now the most popular travel and vacation destination on Nicaragua's Pacific coast, offering a lively mix of local culture and wonderful natural attractions.

**DAY 9: PUNTARENAS, COSTA RICA.** Perched at the tip of a sandy peninsula (its name means "sandy point"), the entire city of Puntarenas is within easy walking distance from the port. The people of this city have a reputation for friendliness and have long welcomed tourists to the sunny beaches that encircle the city.

**DAY 10: AT SEA.**

**DAY 11: FUERTE AMADOR, PANAMA.** Located at the entrance to the Panama Canal, this port offers a delightful mix of natural beauty and cultural attractions. You may opt to join a tour to Gatun Lake, at the heart of the Panama Canal—a marvel of engineering and a natural wonder. On a boat tour you can see massive cargo ships navigating the narrow channels, surrounded by lush rainforest, and an incredible variety of wildlife, including monkeys, sloths, and exotic birds. Or you may want to explore the nearby Biomuseo, a fascinating museum designed by Frank Gehry, which showcases Panama's rich biodiversity and geological history.

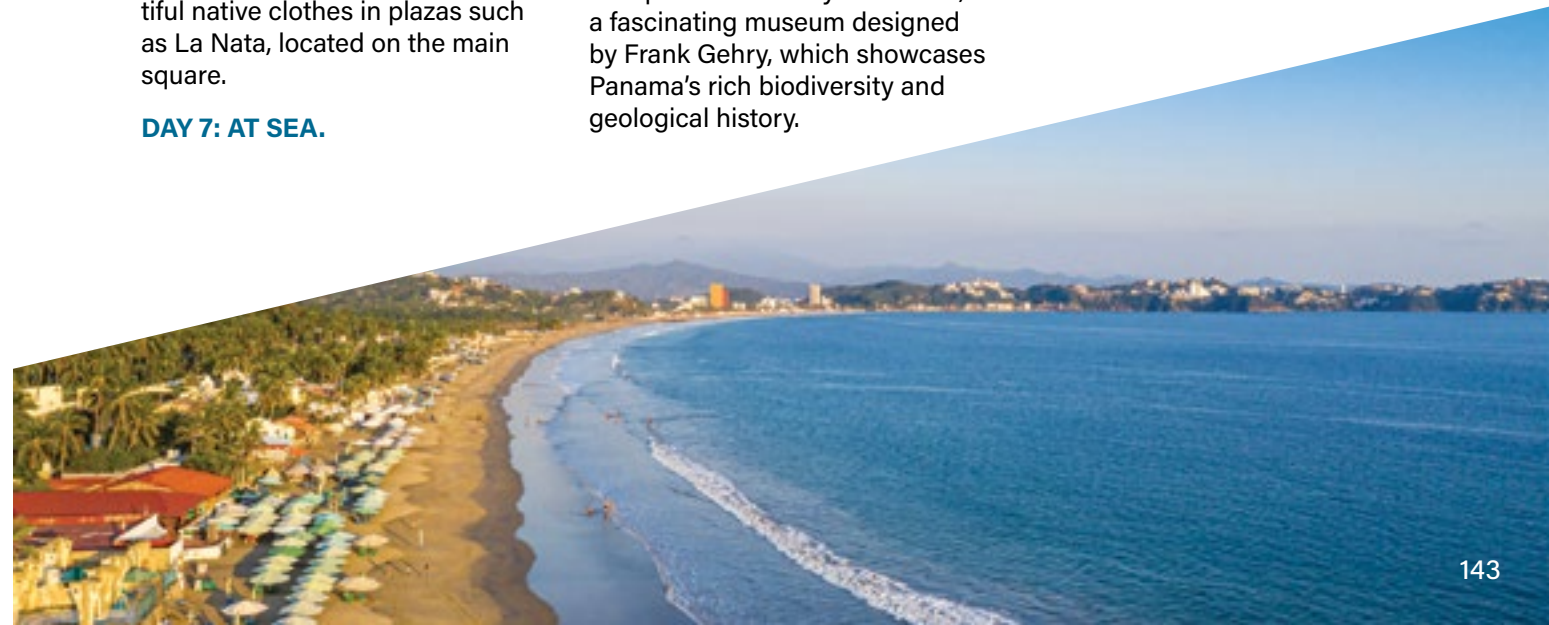
**DAY 12: PANAMA CANAL—FULL TRANSIT.** Today we experience the full transit of the Panama Canal. See the immense lift locks raise and lower the passing vessels and great volumes of water rushing by. Enjoy the scenery on either side of the canal with mangrove swamps, tropical plants, trees, and bird life. As we cruise through the canal there is a detailed narration of this colossal undertaking that cost \$367 million in 1914!

**DAY 13: AT SEA.**

**DAY 14: ARUBA.** Although this unique Dutch island has blossomed into a sophisticated Caribbean destination, the real attraction is under water. Aruba is surrounded by colourful coral, and the abundant sea life around Arashi Reef or the wreck of the Antilla is breathtaking. If you would rather stay dry, view it all by taking an excursion from the air conditioned comfort of an Atlantis submarine or a glass bottom boat.

**DAYS 15 & 16: AT SEA.**

**DAY 17: FORT LAUDERDALE / RETURN.** We disembark in Fort Lauderdale and transfer to the airport for our flight back to Canada.







# Hawaiian Island Cruise

## Aboard the *Grand Princess*

Cruising is an ideal way to explore the tropical paradise of Hawaii.

On this cruise we visit the Big Island of Hawaii—known for its orchids and volcanoes, Oahu for the excitement of Honolulu, Maui—with its green hills and gentle valleys, and Kauai (The Garden Isle).

We will cruise in style and luxury aboard the *Grand Princess*. The ships of Princess Cruises are among the most beautiful and hospitable, and have more of everything you would expect in a 5-star floating resort. Princess' award-winning shore excursions and fascinating onboard programs will bring the cultures and colours of Hawaii to life. Talented chefs will take you on a culinary journey, with freshly prepared and carefully crafted dishes that celebrate Hawaii.

Take in some of the finest cruise ship entertainment as the theatre lights up the top deck day or night with feature films, watch a lavish Broadway production complete with dazzling stage sets and international performers in the state-of-the-art Princess theatre!

\* All beverage packages and shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or on board the ship.

17 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 15 - 31

COST

**Starting at \$4,997**

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Vancouver*

- Inside cabin: \$4,997
- Outside cabin (obstructed view): \$5,297
- Outside cabin (clear view): \$5,997
- Outside cabin/private balcony: \$7,797
- .....
- Single supplement: add 50% to costs above
- Calgary or Edmonton: add \$290
- Winnipeg: add \$690

Add-ons below include a hotel overnight in Toronto on the way home

- Ottawa or Montreal: add \$290
- Halifax: add \$590

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE / LOS ANGELES.** We depart for Los Angeles. Upon arrival we transfer to our Princess cruise ship which sails later in the afternoon. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

**DAYS 2 - 6: AT SEA.** Time now to enjoy the many pleasures of our cruise ship. Pamper yourself in the spa, play a game of shuffleboard, perfect your golf swing or partake in afternoon tea. Browse the boutiques, take in a movie at the theatre or just curl up in your deck chair with a good book—a time honoured seafaring tradition.

**DAY 7: HILO (THE BIG ISLAND OF HAWAII).** On the lush rainforest side of Hawaii's Big Island, the "City of Rainbows" offers a look at the power and beauty of nature. You may enjoy the breathtaking views of the 420 foot thundering Akaka Falls or drive around Crater Rim at Volcanoes National Park.

**DAY 8: HONOLULU / OAHU.** Honolulu is Hawaii's largest city and the state capital. It is probably most famous as the home of Waikiki Beach. You may want to visit Iolani Palace, the only royal palace on U.S. soil, or see the USS Arizona Memorial and the "Mighty Missouri" at Pearl Harbor.

**DAY 9: MAUI.** Maui is the second largest of the Hawaiian Islands. Known as The Valley Isle, many consider it the most beautiful of the islands. The hills throughout the island are planted with sugar cane and pineapple, and the excellent beaches welcome sunbathers and swimmers. Well worth a visit is the Haleakala Crater, the highest point on the island.

**DAY 10: KAUAI.** The oldest inhabited island in Hawaii, the "Garden Isle" boasts Waimea Canyon, known as "The Grand Canyon of the Pacific". You may want to take a boat ride on the Wailua River or visit Fern Grotto and hear a performance of "The Hawaiian Wedding Song".

**DAYS 11 - 15: AT SEA.** We leave Hawaii and begin our cruise back to the mainland. Keep an eye out for whales and dolphins! As we head for the mainland you will be able to really take advantage of all the activities, relaxation, events and socializing available on board.

**DAY 16: ENSENADA, MEXICO.** This friendly port on the Baja Peninsula boasts more than just a warm Mediterranean climate. Optional excursions will be offered to Bodegas de Santo Tomas, Baja's oldest winery.

**DAY 17: LOS ANGELES / HOME.** Farewell to our friends on our Princess cruise ship as we disembark in Los Angeles and transfer to the airport for our flight home.



### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada Rouge ▪ Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**



# Six Country Danube Cruise

## Daily excursions included!

On this delightful cruise, sail from Vienna through six Old World countries, from the Danube Delta to Bucharest, Romania.

Experience the rich history and culture of regions once ruled by the Habsburg Empire, with stops in Bratislava, Budapest, Vukovar, and Belgrade. All excursions are included and expertly guided in English, with on-board highlights like folklore shows, lectures, themed dinners, and a Captain's Gala Dinner.

Enjoy the convenience of central docking at each port on the *MS Amadeus Cara*, a deluxe riverboat with a lounge, panoramic bar, rooftop deck, shop, hair salon, and exercise classes. All meals, including unlimited quality European wines at dinner, are provided in a smoke-free dining room. Cabins feature cozy twin beds, private bathrooms, satellite TV, and climate control. Cabins on Haydn Deck have a fixed panoramic window. Strauss and Mozart decks are larger, with panoramic windows that can be opened.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Vienna city tour
- Schloss Hof palace, Bratislava
- Awe-inspiring Esztergom basilica
- City tour of beautiful Budapest
- Kopački Rit Nature Park and Osijek military fortress
- Royal Mausoleum, Belgrade
- Medieval riverside town of Veliko Tarnovo
- The Danube Delta, UNESCO Site

## 13 DAYS

### TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Oct 6 - 18

### COST

#### Starting at \$9,997

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Haydn Deck with panoramic window: \$9,997
- Strauss Deck (larger cabin) with drop-down panoramic window: \$10,997
- Mozart Deck (larger cabin) with drop-down panoramic window: \$11,497
- Single accommodation on request
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax: add \$190
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver: add \$390

### ACTIVITY NOTE

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

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights: Lufthansa ▪ 8-night deluxe cruise in outside cabins, all meals (wine with dinners), and entertainment ▪ 3 nights First Class accommodations (2 nights Vienna & 1 night Bucharest), breakfast daily, 3 dinners & 2 lunches ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPART.** Depart for Vienna via Frankfurt.

**DAY 2: VIENNA.** Arrive in Vienna and transfer to your hotel before a delicious Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 3: VIENNA.** Tour beautiful Vienna's State Opera House, historic Museum Quarter, and St. Stephen's Cathedral. Visit Schönbrunn Palace, Empress Maria Theresa's summer residence, with its opulent gardens and the panoramic Gloriette pavilion. Enjoy afternoon free time for personal exploration. Lunch and dinner are at local restaurants.

**DAY 4: VIENNA / EMBARKATION.** Enjoy morning free time to explore Vienna before transferring to the pier for embarkation. Take in your luxury vessel's amenities, meet your Cruise Director at the Welcome Cocktail Party, and indulge in a special Welcome Dinner.

**DAY 5: BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA.** Tour Bratislava, Slovakia's capital. Marvel at its stunning Gothic-Baroque old town and Grassalkovich Palace. A guided walking tour of the restored old town includes Primatial Palace, St. Martin's Cathedral, Academia Istropolitana, Opera House, and Maximilian Fountain. After lunch, visit the Baroque Schloss Hof palace, once owned by Empress Maria Theresa, renowned for its splendid gardens.

**DAY 6: ESZTERGOM / BUDAPEST.** In the morning, visit Szentendre, an artists' village home to popular galleries and museums like the Margit Kovács Museum. Continue to Visegrad's ruined fortress for a panoramic view of Danube's "knee". Next, explore Esztergom, the former Hungarian kings' residence, seat of the Archbishop, and Hungary's largest cathedral, boasting an ornate red marble chapel. Later, arrive in Budapest,

the "Queen of the Danube," and tour the Great Market Hall, Hungarian State Opera, Parliament, and Heroes' Square. On Castle Hill, see St. Matthew's Church and Fisherman's Bastion, offering stunning city views, before returning to the ship.

**DAY 7: VUKOVAR, CROATIA.** Tour Vukovar, passing Baroque mansions and delving into Croatian daily life, enroute to Kopački Rit Nature Park. Enjoy a boat tour through the scenic wetlands, and visit Kopačevo village to see traditional fishing and taste Croatian delicacies. Lastly, explore Osijek's historic military fortress, 18th-century church, and the iconic Watergate.

**DAY 8: BELGRADE, SERBIA.** Begin your Belgrade city tour at Kalemegdan fortress for breathtaking Danube and Sava River views. Visit the National Museum, Terazije Square, and St. Sava Cathedral. After lunch, explore Topola, site of the 1804 national uprising, and Karadjordje's Fortress. In Oplenac, discover the Royal Mausoleum in St. George's Church, famous for its exquisite mosaics housing Serbian royalty tombs.

**DAY 9: IRON GATES.** Sail through the "Iron Gates," a stunning gorge on the Serbia-Romania border. Witness the majestic "Cazan" where the Danube narrows, offering captivating views of the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains. Marvel at sights like the Mraconia Abbey Church and the colossal 55-metre-high rock sculpture of King Decebalus, Europe's largest stone sculpture, towering over the Danube.

**DAY 10: VELIKO TARNOVO, BULGARIA.** Explore Veliko Tarnovo, the "City of Tsars," a medieval riverside town set against the Balkan Mountains, known for its terraced, steep slopes and picturesque views. Visit the historic fortress of Zarewez, the well-preserved 13th-century Church of St. Peter and Paul, and peruse local arts and crafts.

**DAY 11: DANUBE DELTA / SAINT GEORGE, ROMANIA.** Journey through the Danube Delta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Cruise along St. George's Canal, where the Danube meets the Black Sea, to the fishing village of St. George. Embark on a Delta boat safari to experience the area's natural beauty and diverse wildlife. Conclude the evening with the festive Gala Captain's Dinner.

**DAY 12: DISEMBARKATION / BUCHAREST, ROMANIA.** Disembark the ship and transfer to your hotel. Later, enjoy a city tour and lunch in a local restaurant. In the evening, partake in local specialties at your delicious Farewell Dinner.

**DAY 13: RETURN.** Transfer to the airport and fly home via Frankfurt.





# The Enchanting Rhine River

Deluxe Riverboat Cruise from Switzerland to Amsterdam • 2 nights Zurich & 2 nights Lucerne  
Many shore excursions included!

Begin your enchanting holiday in Switzerland, with two-night stays in Zurich and Lucerne. Revel in the country's stunning scenery, lake-side excursions and Alpine vistas.

Board a deluxe riverboat for a seven-night cruise through Switzerland, France, Germany and Holland. Visit the Alsatian capital of Strasbourg, the famed wine region of Rhine Valley, Cologne's majestic cathedral, historic Heidelberg, Amsterdam's legendary canals, and more. Our riverboat, the new *MS Amadeus Star* (launched in 2019) is a modern ship specially built for cruising European rivers, combining the luxuries of a 5-star hotel with innovative design and First Class service.

Throughout the cruise, enjoy exquisite dining with uniquely themed cuisine. Authentic wines from the world's top wine regions are included with every dinner. Nightly entertainment features folkloric and musical performances and fascinating lectures on our destinations.

All cabins boast a panoramic window, and the ship's sun deck offers immersive relaxation and breathtaking views of the passing landscape. Several shore excursions are included and expertly conducted by English-speaking guides.

13 DAYS

TRAVEL DATES IN 2024

Sep 23 - Oct 5

COST

Starting at \$10,997

*per person, double occupancy, from Toronto*

- Haydn Deck with panoramic window: \$10,997
- Strauss Deck (larger cabin) with drop-down panoramic window: \$11,997
- Mozart Deck (larger cabin) with drop-down panoramic window: \$12,397
- .....
- Single accommodation on request
- Ottawa or Montreal: add \$190
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Calgary, or Edmonton: add \$290

ACTIVITY NOTE

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

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Flights with Air Canada ▪ Deluxe cruise in outside cabins, including all meals (wine incl. with all dinners) ▪ 4 nights in First Class hotels in Zurich & Lucerne, with breakfast daily & 3 dinners ▪ All excursions as described ▪ **No hidden costs—full list of tour inclusions on page 1.**

## ITINERARY

**DAY 1: DEPARTURE.**  
We depart for Zurich.

**DAY 2: ZURICH.** In Zurich, embark on a city tour. See St. Peter's Church and the world's oldest clockface, Grossmunster Abbey, Old Town, and Fraumunster Abbey.

**DAY 3: RHINE FALLS / ZURICH.** Travel to Schaffhausen and take a boat ride to the foot of The Rhine Falls, Europe's largest waterfall, before an afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 4: LUCERNE.** Enjoy a scenic drive past three unique lakes enroute to Vitznau. There, take a cruise across tranquil Lake Lucerne, surrounded by mountain scenery.

**DAY 5: LUCERNE.** Partake in a walking tour of medieval Lucerne, taking in the city's lovely cobblestone streets, monuments, fountains, covered bridges and frescoed buildings before an afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 6: LUCERNE / BASEL / EMBARKATION.** Visit the Lion Monument before a walking tour of Basel's historical beauty. Later, embark on the luxurious *MS Amadeus Star* with a Welcome drink and dinner.

**DAY 7: STRASBOURG, FRANCE.** Stroll through historic Strasbourg, including a visit to the renowned Straßburger Münster cathedral. After, cruise via boat along the river, taking in iconic sights like the Petite France district's centuries-old half-timbered houses. Later, drive through the picturesque landscapes, charming wine villages, and visit a local winery for tasting. Finish the day with a leisurely stroll through the historic Alsatian town of Obernai.

**DAY 8: SPEYER / HEIDELBERG.** Tour historic Speyer's Romanesque Imperial Cathedral, Baroque Church of the Holy Spirit, the Old Gate of Speyer, and the medieval Judhof. Proceed to Heidelberg's famously beautiful Baroque old town, and visit the red sandstone castle's stunning ruins and gardens. Finish with a walk to see the Karl-Theodor bridge, the late-Gothic Church of the Holy Spirit, and the town hall.

**DAY 9: RUDESHEIM / KOBLENZ.** Arrive in the winemaking town of Rudesheim and embark on the Winzerexpress tram for a scenic Rhine Valley Tour. Visit a local winery and sample regional wines. Next, stroll along historic Drosselgasse's 15th-century cobblestone streets lined with wine houses, restaurants, and shops. In the afternoon, take a walking tour of the 2000-year-old town of Koblenz, stopping by the Basilica of St. Kastor and Church of Our Lady. Take a cable car up to the 100-year-old Ehrenbreitstein Fortress and museum.

**DAY 10: COCHEM.** Cochem, nestled in the picturesque Moselle wine valley, is known for its dazzling landscapes, ancient wine culture, and history. Explore its winding streets and ascend to Reichsburg Castle, boasting breathtaking views of the Moselle Valley's lush forests and vineyards. Inside the castle, discover the trove of Renaissance and Baroque treasures.

**DAY 11: COLOGNE, GERMANY.** Arrive in 2000-year-old Cologne for a walking tour of the city's narrow streets and bustling squares. After, experience the iconic twin-spired Cologne Cathedral, towering over the city since 1880. At last, savour a glass of Kölsch, the renowned local beer.

**DAY 12: AMSTERDAM & VOLENDAM.** Among Amsterdam's gorgeous flower displays, canals and bridges, take a tour of the Royal Palace and Museum Quarter before a peaceful canal cruise. Visit the old fishing village of Volendam, followed by a cheese farm visit. Finish the day with a stroll through the charming village of Edam, renowned for its cheese, and admire the Carillon Tower and 18th-century town hall. In the evening our boat's Captain invites you to a Gala Dinner.

**DAY 13: RETURN.** Disembark our ship and transfer to the airport for our flight home.





## TERMS & CONDITIONS

Please read this page carefully before booking your Senior Discovery Tours (SDT) holiday.

1. 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.
2. **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.
3. 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.
4. 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 or rail portion. Cruise or rail cancellation fees may vary).
  - 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
5. 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.
6. 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 specific destination.
7. We are unable to refund those who do not participate in any **included meals or excursions**, as they are all prepaid.
8. All **gratuities** are included for all services provided while on tour. For extra services such as optional excursions, meals on your own, room service, limousine drivers between your home & the airport (over which we have no control) 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!
9. There may be **different standards** in utilities, services and accommodations outside Canada. Our classifications for hotels 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.
10. **Single travellers** must pay a supplement due to hotel charges. 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!**
11. **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.

12. **Luggage handling** is included wherever possible, however in some situations it does not exist—especially when removing your luggage from airport carousels. You should be capable of handling your luggage in such situations.
13. **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 unplanned overnight travel to or from your destination, the cost will be borne by the traveller.
14. 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.
15. **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 (sometimes on a cash-only basis). While we do our best to monitor their quality, SDT is not responsible for the operation or costing of these optional excursions.
16. Our tours are designed for those who are **physically fit**. 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 wheelchairs 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 a tour, please discuss which of our tours is suitable for your activity level with one of our travel experts.
17. Senior Discovery Tours supports an **environment of respect** and dignity toward our staff and clients, and harassment and/or abuse of any kind will not be tolerated.
18. **If you join a tour beyond your physical or cognitive ability, or if you do not abide by our Code of Conduct, SDT reserves the right to send you home**, at your own cost and with no refund for unused services. We reserve **the right to decline anybody** as a tour member at any time for any reason at our sole discretion.
19. Generally you will receive your **tour documents** 7 to 10 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.
20. You may buy our tours on a “land only” basis and **arrange your own flights**—an air rebate will be applied. If you book your own flights, home pick-up and drop-off are 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.
21. You may not make any **changes to your flight arrangements** after the final payment due date.
22. There may be occasions in which the **flight portion** of your SDT holiday is **unescorted**.
23. **Our group sizes** vary between 10 and 45 travellers.
24. All of our tours are conducted in **English only**.

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Quebec Permit #701756; CPBC Licence #3292

# We do group travel differently — that’s why travellers love us

Wherever in the world you wish to explore, we look forward to welcoming you aboard soon on one of our exciting, value-added, and carefully planned group tours.

“ *When I returned home from my beautiful tour to California I was directed to a car and driven home. It couldn’t have been easier. Love it!* – Celine ”

“ *Our tour to Sicily was wonderful. The planning & general arrangements were well thought out—and David the tour manager’s unfailing unflappable good humour, patience and flexibility made it a very special holiday!* – Ann & Louis ”

“ *Have travelled with Seniors for 31 trips and enjoyed all of them. I believe this speaks for itself!* – Joyce E. ”

“ *We just returned from an incredible tour to Southeast Asia—better than we ever expected. The hotels were exceptional, the excursions fascinating—and the guides were entertaining and made sure everyone was well taken care of.* – Grant & Barb ”





## LOCATIONS

### TORONTO

225 Eglinton Ave. West  
M4R 1A9  
416.322.1500

### OTTAWA

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

6450 Roberts St. Suite 110  
Burnaby, V5G 4E1  
604.647.0100

### Call to Book

**1.800.268.3492**

 **PROUDLY CANADIAN**  
SINCE 1975

# Fulfill your travel dreams with us!

At Senior Discovery Tours, we know how to make great travel experiences happen. For nearly 50 years, we've been Canada's largest and most trusted operator of escorted tours for travellers over 55—offering trips to more than 100 destinations worldwide. Wherever you yearn to explore—and whatever your tour style (from walking adventures to stay put holidays)—we can take you there!

**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.



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# SPINE

 SENIOR DISCOVERY TOURS

2024 ~ SUMMER / FALL TOURS & CRUISES

