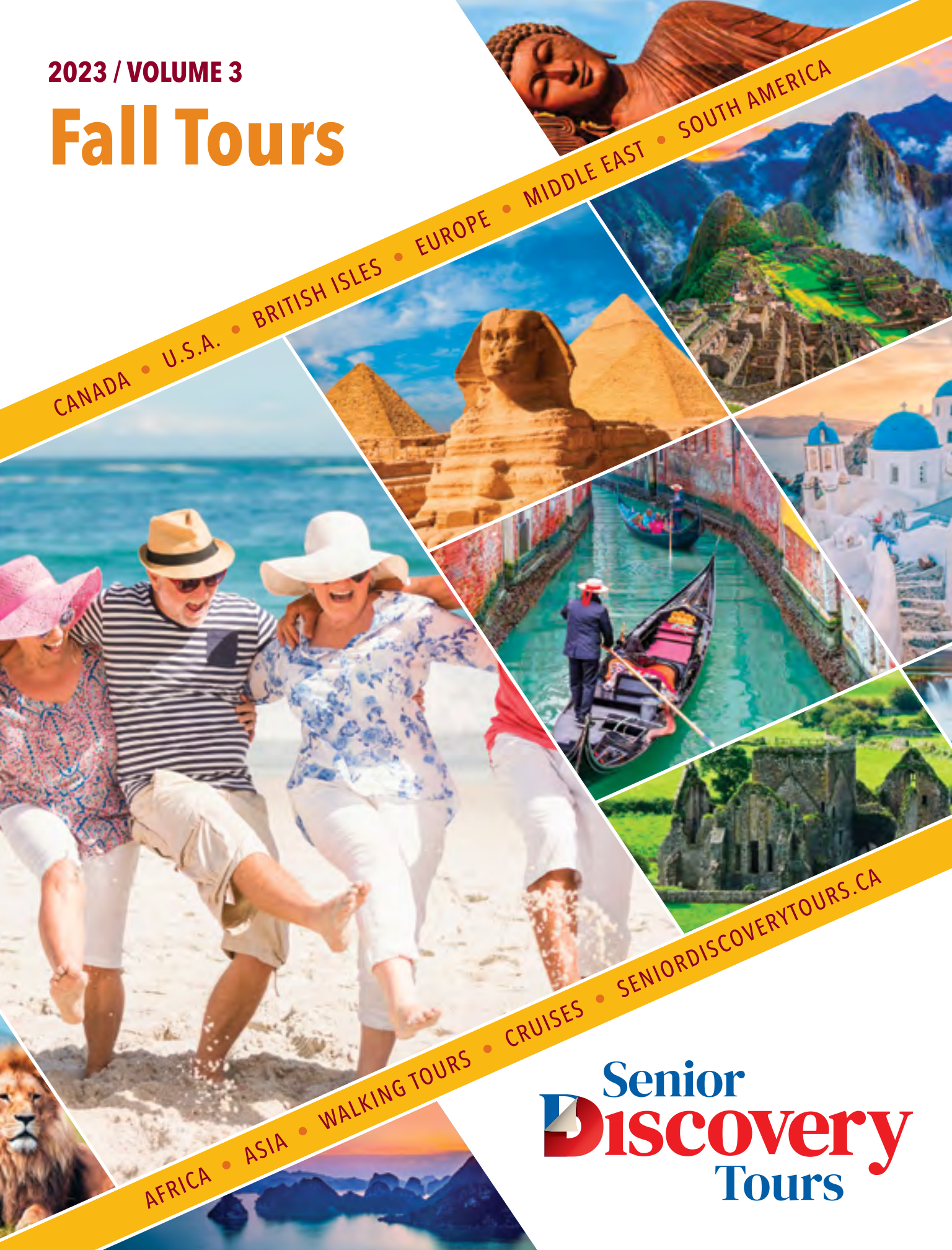


2023 / VOLUME 3

Fall Tours

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



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Senior
Discovery
Tours

ABOUT US



PEACE OF MIND

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



EXCEEDING YOUR EXPECTATIONS

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



TRAVEL MADE EASY

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

TOUR MANAGERS GO ABOVE AND BEYOND

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

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND PEACE OF MIND

TRAVEL SAFETY IS OUR FIRST PRIORITY

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

Enhanced Health & Safety Highlights:

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

SPECIAL CANCELLATION TERMS THROUGH THE END OF 2023

Please rest assured that you can book your Senior Discovery Tours holiday with complete peace of mind. We will continue to be the travel industry leader by offering a refund policy far more flexible and generous than other tour operators.

Special Cancellation Highlights:

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

#SAFETRAVELS



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

MORE REWARDING TRAVEL



A WELCOME GIFT THE MOMENT YOU JOIN

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

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



SHARING THE JOY OF TRAVEL

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



THE CLUB THAT TAKES YOU FURTHER

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

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

YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!

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

For Full Program Details and Easy Enrollment
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CPBC Licence #3292

ALWAYS INCLUDED IN OUR EXPERTLY PLANNED TOURS

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

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

TO BOOK

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

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Vancouver Island

Featuring Black Bears, Grizzlies and Whales

Ranked as one of the world's best islands to visit by most travel publications, the natural beauty of Vancouver Island must be seen to be believed!

From Victoria - BC's historic capital, to the rugged wilderness around Tofino on the west coast, "The Island" as it's known locally has one of the world's most diverse ecosystems: rainforests, marshes, meadows, beaches, mountains, oceans, rivers and lakes. This diversity provides habitats for a huge variety of wildlife species, and so visitors to the island are assured of a wide range of opportunities to experience spectacular natural beauty and wildlife viewing. The beauty and tranquility of the island has also long been a draw for artists and artisans - there are countless art galleries, studios and shops selling unique, locally produced arts and crafts throughout the island.

A highlight of this tour will be our Grizzly Bear Expedition in a region known as the "Great Bear Rainforest". Viewing these amazing animals up close in their natural habitat is an experience that you will never forget. There will be an additional cruise along the west coast of the island to

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Moderate hotels
- Full breakfast daily, 7 dinners and 3 lunches
- Whale Watching Cruise, Grizzly Bear Expedition, and much more
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5997
.....
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa or Montreal - add \$90
- Halifax - add \$190
- Winnipeg - deduct \$100
- Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - deduct \$300

10 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 9 - 18

SEPTEMBER 16 - 25

view black bears and other wildlife like heron, eagles, harbour seals and porpoises in their natural habitat.

This region is one of the world's premier locations for whale watching, as we will discover on our marine wildlife viewing adventure. There will be many other opportunities to enjoy a wide variety of wildlife viewing.

Vancouver Island is also home to many resilient First Nations communities. We will learn about the natural and cultural traditions that have been passed down through the generations.

A Naturalist will travel with us throughout the tour, and local guides will join us as well in order to provide more detailed insight.

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

Day 1: Victoria. We fly to Victoria, and upon arrival transfer to our hotel. There will be an afternoon Program Orientation discussion, before our Welcome Dinner.

Day 2: Marine Wildlife Cruise / Victoria. This morning we enjoy an informative talk about the wildlife and ecosystems found along BC's southern coast, before embarking on a nature walk to Beacon Hill Park with a naturalist guide. After our included lunch we board a vessel for an exciting marine wildlife viewing adventure along the southern coast of Vancouver Island and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Keep your eyes peeled for possible sightings of seals, sea lions, eagles and other marine birds, porpoises and even orcas!

Day 3: Chemainus / Courtenay. We begin the day with a scenic drive up the coast to the quaint fishing village of Cowichan Bay, where we learn about the lifecycle of salmon and marine habitat preservation. We then stop in the charming town of Chemainus, once home to the largest enclosed sawmill in North America. The town is now known for its beautiful murals, which you may explore during our free time. We continue to Courtenay for a 3-night stay. Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant.

Day 4: Deep Bay / Courtenay. We visit the Deep Bay Marine Field Station where we learn more about marine biology and ecosystems. After an included lunch we'll proceed to the Courtenay Museum for a talk and visit.

Day 5: Grizzly Bear Expedition / Courtenay. Today we set off in a comfortable marine vessel to see Grizzly Bears along the Orford River – home to one of BC's largest concentration of Grizzlies. Our journey will take us through the exciting Seymour Narrows and the Hole in the Wall, past many scenic islands, with icefield capped mountains in the background. Wildlife viewings en route could include Orca, dolphins, seals, sea lions, bald eagles, otter and mink. Once we reach the Orford River we are welcomed by our hosts, the Homalco First Nations, for whom these are historical lands. They will shuttle us by minibus to a series of viewing areas strategically placed throughout the salmon spawning grounds, where the Grizzlies are fishing and feeding. The bears can come within 10 feet of our platforms, providing once-in-a-lifetime photo opportunities.

Day 6: Tofino. We continue to Errington and visit the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre. This non-profit, volunteer facility provides care and medical attention to injured wildlife from all over Vancouver Island. After our visit we proceed to Coombs – a farmers market where goats live on the roof of the moss covered store. Then it's on to the fabled town of Tofino on the wild west coast of the island. With its ancient rainforest, vast stretches of white sand and massive waves pounding in from the Pacific Ocean, Tofino boasts one of Canada's most breathtaking locations.

Day 7: Wild Pacific Trail / Tofino. We travel to Ucluelet for a guided walk along the Wild Pacific Trail, where we'll learn about the region's unique flora and fauna. Whales are often spotted from this location as well. Later we'll visit Chesterman Beach with free time to enjoy the breathtaking scenery there.

Day 8: West Coast Black Bears / Nanaimo. Abundant to the West Coast of Vancouver Island, the Black Bear makes its presence known when the tides are low. They roam the shores in search of their favourite delicacy, the Rock Crab. Cruising through these scenic passageways allows for many opportunities to view other wildlife like herons, eagles, harbour seals and porpoises in their natural habitat. All the while the crew will entertain you with interesting facts about wildlife and the surrounding area. After our cruise we'll enjoy free time in Tofino before continuing to Cathedral Grove – an old growth forest of Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar, Western Hemlock, Broadleaf Maple and Balsam Fir. Some trees are estimated to be 800 years old. We then travel to the east coast of Vancouver Island and the city of Nanaimo for our overnight stay.

Day 9: Victoria. We head south and stop in Duncan, famous for its Totems. Then we arrive back in Victoria, and enjoy a city tour before checking into our hotel. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 10: Home. We fly home from Victoria.



California Here We Come

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, Calgary, or Edmonton - \$6797
- Single Supplement - \$1790
- Triples - deduct \$200 per person
- Ottawa or Halifax - add \$190
- Vancouver - deduct \$100

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

Tour Highlights:

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

12 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 3 - 14

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Spectacular Southwest

- Colorado • Canyonlands
- Arizona • Las Vegas

Of all America's natural wonders, none are more awe-inspiring than the National Parks. The spectacular landscapes of the Southwest offer some of the world's most breathtaking scenery.

The Fall is a special time to visit this region. The ever-changing autumn light captures nature's wonders in warm golden hues. While we spend days visiting vast red canyons and sunlit mountain ranges, the evenings offer us the best of western cuisine and delightful entertainment.

Tour Highlights:

- Denver - "Gateway to the Rockies" & "Mile High City"
- Red Rocks Amphitheatre
- Historic Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad ride
- Navajo Tribal Park jeep tour in Monument Valley
- The Grand Canyon

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full American Breakfast daily
- 10 dinners and 1 lunch
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver - \$6997
.....
- Single Supplement - \$1790
- Triples - deduct \$200 per person
- Ottawa, Montreal or Winnipeg - add \$90
- Halifax - add \$290

16 DAYS • OCTOBER 5 - 20

- Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon
- Antelope Canyon
- Lake Powell (Glen Canyon) scenic boat ride
- Arches National Park
- Spectacular Canyonlands by Night Dinner Cruise
- Dead Horse Point
- Mesa Verde National Park
- Bryce National Park
- Zion National Park
- Illuminated tour of Glitter Gulch, Las Vegas

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

Day 1: Denver. We depart for Denver - 'Gateway to the Rockies'. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel, with the balance of the day at leisure.

Day 2: Denver. Our tour of the 'Mile High City' features both Victorian and modern architecture with the Rocky Mountains providing a spectacular backdrop. We'll visit the impressive Colorado History Museum. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Grand Junction. A full day of sightseeing includes the Red Rocks Amphitheatre Park with its spectacular views of the Rockies. We also visit Buffalo Bill's grave and the chic ski resort of Vail. We end up in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Day 4: Grand Junction. Our touring in this area includes the Colorado National Monument, as well as a tasting of the local honey wine.

Day 5: Moab. We follow the Grand Valley towards Utah. The spectacular southwest comes alive as we enter Arches National Park near Moab which contains the largest concentration of natural stone arches in the world. After taking the scenic route around the park for all the major sights there will be a short guided walking tour.

Day 6: Dead Horse / Canyonlands. Our first visit is Dead Horse State Park, an unglamorous name for one of Utah's most awesome parks. Towering high above the Colorado River, Dead Horse Point provides a breathtaking view of this other-worldly landscape. We continue on to Canyonlands National Park - a mystical region of sculptured mesas and buttes. You may recognize the scenery from western movies. This evening we enjoy the spectacular *Canyonlands by Night* dinner-cruise, and overnight again in Moab.

Day 7: Durango. A day of wonderful scenery as we cross back into Colorado. On the way to Durango we travel through scenic mountain passes and visit sights known for Indian rock art. We also visit the Mesa Verde National Park, where we see the abandoned cliff dwellings of the Anasazi Indians.

Day 8: Silverstone Railroad / Durango. A tour highlight will be the ride on the Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, which winds its way through the San Juan Mountains and offers fantastic views - an exhilarating experience!

Day 9: Kayenta. We enter Arizona, and our first stop is Four Corners Monument, the point where four states meet. We continue to the Navajo Tribal Park of Monument Valley - a wonderland of natural monuments in sculptured sandstone. We'll enjoy a fascinating jeep ride to view the amazing

natural attractions and learn about Navajo culture. Enjoy a South Western dinner tonight.

Day 10: Grand Canyon / Flagstaff. We continue on to the greatest of all canyons, the Grand Canyon. One of the great natural wonders in the world, it is 15 miles wide, a mile deep and formed over millions of years by the erosion of the Colorado River. We have plenty of time to wander along the brink of the chasm and take in the views from various look-out points. We overnight in nearby Flagstaff.

Day 11: Sedona / Flagstaff. We enjoy a half day visit to scenic Sedona - a lovely artist colony town known for its magnificent red rock formations and nearby Oak Creek Canyon. We will marvel at the views of the colourful strands of red rocks, draped along the beautiful streams and valleys. The afternoon will be at leisure.

Day 12: Antelope Canyon / Bryce Canyon. We begin in the spectacular Antelope Canyon, where our Navajo guide will take us on a jeep tour through the Canyon's petrified sand dunes. These stunning red and orange rock formations are natural wonders created by wind, water and sand! Then we enjoy a scenic boat ride on Lake Powell, affording us beautiful views of Glen Canyon. We finish at magnificent Bryce Canyon National Park.

Day 13: Bryce and Zion National Parks. We visit Bryce Canyon National Park, where millions of years of water and wind erosion have formed thousands of delicately carved spires rising in brilliant colours from the valley floor. We will stop at the best vantage points. Those who wish to walk one of the trails will find them clearly marked. Later we proceed to Zion National Park - one of America's most impressive.

Day 14: Zion National Park / Las Vegas. This morning we view the multi-coloured steep rock cliffs of Zion from various vantage points. There will be time to enjoy the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive that cuts through its main section, leading to forest trails along the Virgin River. This river flows to the Emerald Pools, which have waterfalls and a hanging garden. After our sightseeing in Zion, we proceed Las Vegas and our hotel right on "The Strip".

Day 15: Las Vegas. A day at leisure to explore "Sin City" on our own. This evening we will enjoy our special Farewell Dinner, followed by an illuminated night tour of the Strip and to Glitter Gulch where it all began.

Day 16: Home. We fly home with Air Canada.



Music City to the Big Easy

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

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

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

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

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

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6997
-
- Single Supplement - \$1590
- Montreal, Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$490
- Ottawa or Halifax - add \$590
- Edmonton - add \$690
- Vancouver - add \$790

12 DAYS • OCTOBER 9 - 20

Tour Highlights:

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

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

Day 2: Nashville / Grand Ole Opry. Our city tour includes visits to the Country Music Hall of Fame, (which showcases Nashville's contribution to the songwriting and recording industry) and the Historic RCA Studio (Elvis recorded many songs here). We will also stroll down the Music City Walk of Fame and along Honky Tonk Highway! Tonight is our Grand Ole Opry show!

Day 3: Nashville. We begin with a visit of Andrew Jackson's Hermitage – a beautiful historic farm, and learn about the humble beginnings of the man who became one of America's most visionary Presidents. Later we experience the "Soul of Nashville" at the historic Ryman Auditorium (Mother Church of Country Music) followed by a boot - stomping dinner at one of Nashville's historic Honky Tonks!

Day 4: Nashville. Today, we step aboard The General Jackson Showboat – a paddlewheel riverboat (the largest showboat in the country) for an afternoon of great food, entertainment and wonderful views. Then we'll enjoy a behind-the-scenes Backstage Tour of the other side of the magnificent Opry!

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

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

Day 7: Natchez, Mississippi. It's off to beautiful and historic Natchez today – an antebellum town on the Mississippi River. Upon arrival, a horse drawn carriage takes us through the city, before our visit to the historic Glenfield Plantation home - a true "local experience". We'll be welcomed by the 5th generation owner who will guide us through this fine Southern home and serve up a true Southern dinner!

Day 8: Natchez. We begin with a unique tour of Frogmore Plantation and Gin - designated one of the top "Must See"

places in the south! It has been a working cotton plantation since the 1850's (when the plantation was worked by slaves), and is now a modern-day computerized gin. Enjoy the stories and join in with the music, pick a bowl of cotton, visit the slave cabins and learn about plantation life. Then we'll visit the Delta Music Museum, which has preserved and celebrates the musical genres along the Mississippi - bluegrass, gospel, rockabilly, blues, etc., and pays tribute to musical greats such as Jerry Lee Lewis, Jimmy Swaggart, Fats Domino, Conway Twitty and more. After our visit, we proceed to the jazz capital - New Orleans!

Day 9: New Orleans. Today we'll experience how this melting pot of French, Spanish, African and Cajun peoples are reflected in the architecture, cuisine and culture of the city. We begin the day with a lively Jazz Brunch at the landmark Court of Two Sisters, followed by a drive through the beautiful Garden District, with a visit to one of the unique above-ground cemeteries to learn about the supernatural beliefs of many of the city's inhabitants. There will be stories about Marie Laveau (known as the Voodoo Queen) and Anne Rice (the famous storyteller of New Orleans culture), and we will visit Mardi Gras World and learn about the history of what the city is most famous for – the Carnival and Mardi Gras! This evening you may wish to enjoy one of the many local eateries or stop in at Pat O'Brian's for a "Hurricane"! Later, pedi-cabs whisk us to Preservation Hall where an acoustic Jazz concert awaits us. This venue was founded in 1961 to preserve Traditional New Orleans Jazz!

Day 10: Swamp Tour / New Orleans. On our adventurous Swamp Tour we'll see the flora and fauna of this unique area with its dense moss-covered trees that add to its atmosphere of mystique. An included lunch along Lake Pontchartrain with its famous Louisiana Po'Boys is sure to delight! This evening we'll watch and learn about the local cuisine and enjoy dinner at the famous New Orleans Cooking School.

Day 11: New Orleans Walking Tour. A casual walking tour takes us through the historic streets and alleys of the French District, (including a stroll along the world-famous Bourbon Street with its remarkable architecture and hidden courtyards. There are many colourful characters to be found here including musicians, magicians, voodoo practitioners and artists. We will stop at the French Market, take a trolley ride along the River/Canal Street and enjoy a Tour & Tasting of the famous traditional Sazerac cocktail at the Sazerac House. This evening is our Farewell Dinner at the legendary Tujagues Restaurant!

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



Patagonia plus Santiago (Chile) and Buenos Aires

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - \$9997
- Single Supplement - \$1390

Patagonia - the southern tip of South America at what is very nearly the end of the world, has for centuries lured adventurers with its age-old glaciers, snow-capped peaks, cobalt fjords and spellbinding vistas.

We begin our adventure in Chile's lively capital city of Santiago, with its stunning backdrop of the majestic Andes. In addition to touring the city we will also visit Vina del Mar, known as the 'Garden City' and one of Chile's premier beach resorts, as well as Valparaiso - a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of Chile's most historic ports, with its colourful hillside houses.

Then we travel to Patagonia, a region shared by Argentina and Chile, with the Andes Mountains as its dividing line. We will tour the highlights of this mystic region including the amazing Perito Moreno Glacier.

We finish in Argentina's capital, Buenos Aires - birthplace of the tango. This cosmopolitan city has wide boulevards, French colonial architecture, colourful traffic-free shopping areas and a legendary lively atmosphere.

16 DAYS • NOVEMBER 5 - 20

Tour Highlights

- Santiago - Chile's colonial capital
- Valparaiso - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Punta Arenas
- Torres Del Paine National Park
- Bariloche - glacial lake below the Andes Mountains
- Glacier National Park
- Perito Moreno Glacier - Highlight of Patagonia!
- Upsala Glacier
- Argentino Lake
- Visit of Estancia Chali Aike
- Buenos Aires, including a Tango Cabaret

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

Day 1: Depart. Tonight we board our flight to Santiago, Chile.

Day 2: Santiago. We arrive in Santiago, and enjoy a city tour before heading to our hotel. The rest of the day is free until this evening's Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Viña Del Mar and Valparaíso. Valparaíso is Chile's undisputed cultural capital, with fine 19th-century architecture that has earned it a designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will see the historic city centre, then proceed to Viña del Mar, whose manicured boulevards lined with palm trees, stately palaces, sprawling public beaches and beautiful expansive parks are a sharp contrast to the charming jumble of neighbouring Valparaíso.

Day 4: Punta Arenas, Chile. This morning we fly to Punta Arenas, and this afternoon enjoy a city tour. We begin with a drive to the viewpoint of the Cerro La Cruz for a beautiful view of the city and the Magellan Strait. We'll also visit the Salesian Museum Marggiorino Borgatello, where we will learn about Patagonia's original inhabitants. We continue to Punta Arenas cemetery, widely known for its unique and impressive tombs. We end in the main square - the Plaza de Armas, lined by the 19th century mansions of wealthy sheep-farming families.

Day 5: Puerto Natales, Chile. We drive to Puerto Natales, where the rest of the day is at leisure to explore the town.

Day 6: Torres Del Paine National Park. Today we enjoy a full-day excursion to Torres del Paine ("Blue Towers") National Park. There will be wonderful views onto the Torres Massif and its jagged peaks. Several short hikes enable visitors to reach the most beautiful viewing points and to become acquainted with the wealth of flora and fauna.

Day 7: El Calafate. We transfer to El Calafate, situated by Argentino Lake - a glacier lake of the Patagonian Andes, the biggest lake in Argentina and the 3rd biggest in South America. En route we'll visit a typical "estancia" for a demonstration of sheep shearing. Included is a delicious traditional lamb BBQ.

Day 8: Perito Moreno Glacier / El Calafate. The most important highlight of Argentinian Patagonia is the spectacular Perito Moreno Glacier in Los Glaciers National Park. Here we will see the massive glacier and turquoise blue lake with a backdrop of snow-capped Andean mountain peaks. The glacier has 80-metre-high walls, and the deep blue colours of the ice and the columns within the glacier are unbelievable! From a series of walkways and vantage points we will be able to see, hear, and photograph the glacier safely while enormous chunks of ice erode off the glacier and crash into the water.

Day 9: Glacier Boat Tour / El Calafate. We board a boat and navigate through the North Arm of Argentino Lake until we reach the Upsala Channel, where we will find a spectacular ice barrier from where we will have a panoramic view of the Upsala Glacier. Then we sail the Spegazzini Canal, where we can observe the Seco Glacier - the highest glacier in the park.

Day 10: Bariloche. We fly to Bariloche. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 11: Bariloche. Our tour of the area begins with a drive along Nahuel Huapi Lake - a glacial lake with crystal clear blue water. We will see Bonita Beach and we'll have a view of Huemul Island. At Campanario Hill we'll take a chair lift up to the summit for spectacular views of the region. Then we proceed to San Pedro Peninsula where we'll see the unique San Eduardo Chapel, the famous Llao Llao Hotel and more spectacular views. After passing by Escondido Lake we wind across the Angostura Bridge and finish at a viewpoint where we can admire the natural majesty of Moreno Lake and the Llao Llao Peninsula.

Day 12: Victoria Island and Arrayanes Wood. Today we travel by catamaran on Nahuel Huapi Lake. Our first stop is Arrayanes Wood - a unique tree formation (declared a National Monument) with brightly coloured twisted trees. Nearby is a famous tea house named "Bambi". According to local folklore, the forest inspired Walt Disney to model forests in his film "Bambi" on the Arrayanes Wood. We continue to Victoria Island, where we will find giant sequoias, thujas, eucalyptus, pines, oaks, and cypress trees, which serve as the habitat for various rare species such as the pudú (the smallest deer in the world), wild boar, red deer, pheasants and countless species of birds.

Day 13: Buenos Aires. We fly to Buenos Aires. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure until our dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 14: Buenos Aires. On our city tour we see some of the unique neighbourhoods this city is known for. We will also see the Presidential Palace (former headquarters of Eva Peron - still a popular cult figure here), Plaza de Mayo, Colon Opera House, Metropolitan Cathedral, and we will visit the monumental cemetery where Eva Peron and other historical personalities are buried. We will stop in historic San Telmo, the oldest neighbourhood in Buenos Aires, and stroll the narrow streets with unique shops. This evening we enjoy a fabulous Tango Cabaret.

Day 15: Depart. Morning at leisure. In the late afternoon we board our direct flight for Toronto.

Day 16: Arrival Home. Arrival in Canada.



Wonders of Peru

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Halifax, or Winnipeg - \$9797
- Single Supplement - \$1790

With the rare combination of breathtaking Andean landscapes, abundant wildlife, rich history and exotic culture, Peru captivates visitors perhaps more than any other South American country.

On this tour we will explore 5 very diverse areas of Peru. We start and finish in the capital city of Lima, which features ruins from the Inca period, art galleries and museums, churches and cathedrals that date from the 16th century and other major historical sites.

Our next stop is the Paracas Nature Reserve (a UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site), dedicated to the conservation of local wildlife and to the history of pre-Inca culture. From here we board a small aircraft to see the famous Nazca Lines - huge line drawings on the coastal plain that pre-date flight by many centuries, yet they can only be seen from the air - a mystery that remains unsolved!

Then we head to Arequipa, surrounded by snow-capped volcanoes, thermal hot springs and the world's deepest canyons. From Arequipa we visit the Colca Canyon to marvel at the scenery and the flight of the Andean Condors.

Then we continue to Lake Titicaca and visit the man-made floating islands, where we discover an ancient way of life that has remained unchanged for centuries.

16 DAYS • NOVEMBER 2 - 17

Our last stop is the lovely colonial city of Cusco, with an excursion to the fabled Machu Picchu. This magical and spectacular site, discovered less than 100 years ago, is located 13,000' above sea level in a deep valley of the towering Andes Mountains. It is considered one of the most well preserved and beautiful ancient cities on the planet.

Tour Highlights:

- The capital city, Lima
- World Renowned Nazca Lines
- Arequipa, known as the "White City"
- Colca Canyon - twice as deep as the Grand Canyon!
- Lake Titicaca and the man-made floating islands
- Machu Picchu - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Cusco - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Inca ruins of Pachacamac, Andahuaylillas, Ollantaytambo and many more!

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Lima.

Day 2: Lima. We arrive in Lima and transfer to our hotel. Our afternoon city tour shows us the Old Town, Plaza Mayor (the main square), 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. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Paracas. We drive along the ocean to Paracas, stopping en route at Pachacamac to visit the country's second largest Inca ruins - a sacred city dating to 900 B.C. featuring temples and other ancient structures.

Day 4: Nazca Lines / Paracas. Today is one of the tour's highlights. We board a small aircraft for a flight over the world renowned Nazca Lines, which can only be seen from the air. We'll learn about the many theories regarding the mysterious Lines' origin and meaning. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 5: Paracas / Lima. This morning we enjoy a boat tour to Ballestas Island. During our short sea crossing we can see the famous El Candelabro, a huge etching in the sandy hill - considered the beginning of the Nazca Lines. The island is home to huge colonies of birds, as well as sea lions, penguins and seals. Then we head back to Lima.

Day 6: Arequipa. We fly to the "White City" of Arequipa, high in the Andes. On our city tour we see the extraordinary architecture of the Convent of Santa Catalina, the Main Square, the cathedral and the exhibit of the Sarita "Juanita" - a Virgin of the Sun who was sacrificed to the mountain spirits - recently discovered in a glacier in the Andes.

Day 7: 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 8: 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 1,200 meters below! We'll enjoy a boxed lunch, then continue our scenic drive to Puno.

Day 9: 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 local people are happy to welcome you to their islands, and share their history, culture and traditions. 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!

Day 10: Cusco. We transfer to Cusco and our hotel in the Sacred Valley, former home of the Inca's wealthy families. En route we view the magnificent La Raya mountain range and visit Pukara - a ruin of the fortifications built by the natives of the Andes, and the Inca archeological site of Andahuaylillas with its beautiful baroque St. Peter Church.

Day 11: Cusco. We first visit the Cathedral of Cusco and 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 "neighborhood of the artisans".

Day 12: Cusco / Sacred Valley. We visit 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 13: Machu Picchu. We take a train to the incredible mountaintop 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 14: Machu Picchu / Cusco. After further touring of mysterious Machu Picchu we take the Vista Dome 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 15: Lima. We fly to Lima, and the afternoon is at leisure. This evening we enjoy our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Canada. We transfer to the airport for our flight back to Canada.



Northern and Central England

Off the Beaten Path

On this unique, off-the-beaten-path tour of England we will experience the Northern and Central areas - a wonderful region unspoiled by mass tourism.

Yorkshire is famous for its landscape of grazing sheep on stone-built farms, villages dotting the countryside, lush green valleys, dramatic moorlands and magnificent mountains. This region has been the setting for many of the UK's favourite TV shows and films. Our first 7 nights will be in the remarkable town of Harrogate, described by the famous landscape architect, Lancelot Brown, as the "finest, fairest town in all of England". This former spa town has gracious esplanades delightful for strolling.

The next 5 nights are in Worcester, known for its Cathedral, University and Worcestershire Sauce! Surrounded by stunning countryside, the city combines English charm and fascinating history with all the modern conveniences. We will spend our days exploring Herefordshire, Shropshire and the quintessentially English Cotswolds.

Our final night will be in Surrey.

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full breakfast daily
- 10 dinners (including 2 pub dinners)
- 2 lunches and 1 cream tea
- An evening of entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5997
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- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa, Montreal, Winnipeg, Halifax, or Calgary - add \$90
- Edmonton - add \$390
- Vancouver - add \$490

15 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 10 - 24

Tour Highlights:

- UNESCO World Heritage Site of Saltaire
- Skipton Market
- Fountains Abbey - Britain's most complete Cistercian abbey and World Heritage Site
- Newby Hall - one of Britain's finest Robert Adam houses
- Thirsk - home to "All Creatures Great and Small"
- York Chocolate
- Golden-hued Cotswolds towns and villages
- Chatsworth House
- Ludlow - one of England's most lovely towns
- Weston's Cider - family owned since 1880
- Stratford-Upon-Avon

Day 1: Departure. We fly to Manchester, direct from Toronto.

Day 2: Harrogate. We arrive and transfer to our centrally located hotel in Harrogate. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Fountains Abbey. Fountains Abbey is one of England's largest and best preserved Cistercian monasteries. Our guided tour will give us a picture of the lifestyle of the monks who first came here in the 12th century. We will also stroll through Studley Royal Water Garden – one of England's finest Georgian water gardens, and enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Yorkshire Dales, with its idyllic villages and peaceful atmosphere.

Day 4: Yorkshire Moors. The picturesque North York Moors consist of acres of natural beauty, including heather moorland, rolling hills and shimmering coastline. We will visit the coastal town of Whitby, enjoy a ride on the North York Moors Railway and stop in Goathland (home to the TV series *Heartbeat*) before we reach our dinner venue – a 16th Century freehouse located at the highest point of the North York Moors National Park.

Day 5: Thirsk / Newby Hall. Thirsk is a gem of a medieval Yorkshire town and home of best-selling author / veterinarian, Alf Wright. We will visit the museum dedicated to his life and TV series – *All Creatures Great & Small*. Then we enjoy a guided tour of Newby Hall – one of Britain's finest Adam Houses and an exceptional example of 18th century interior decoration, with many fine pieces of Chippendale furniture, porcelain and paintings. This evening's dinner is at a local pub.

Day 6: Skipton / Saltaire. We begin at the World Heritage Site of Saltaire, where our local guide will enthrall us with tales of Victorian Britain as we walk through this unique, 19th century model industrial village. Then we proceed to historic Skipton – gateway to the magnificent Yorkshire Dales. People travel from all over Britain to visit this charming market town. With its 900 year old castle and historic cobbled High Street, Skipton is rich in both history and outstanding natural beauty. There will be free time to enjoy Skipton's award-winning historic market.

Day 7: Harrogate at Leisure. With its historic buildings, gardens and eclectic shops, Harrogate is one of Yorkshire's most elegant cities. Art lovers and antique hunters will love the cobbled streets in the Montpellier Quarter. You may want to visit the Royal Pump Room or one of the wonderful tea rooms.

Day 8: York. York's famous medieval streets are beautifully preserved within its ancient walls, and since the historic heart of the city is traffic-free, our guided walking tour will be most pleasant. We will see the medieval architecture, Georgian houses, and of course stroll the world-famous Shambles. After our walking tour we'll visit York Chocolate, followed by free time to explore York on your own.

Day 9: Chatsworth / Worcester. We travel through the Peak District – one of England's best loved Provincial Parks, dotted with historic sites, pretty villages and some of England's most beautiful scenery. We'll visit Chatsworth House – home to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, passed down through 16 generations of the Cavendish family. The house is renowned for the quality of its art and landscape that has evolved over the centuries. We'll indulge in a delicious traditional Afternoon Tea, and then proceed to Worcester for a 5-night stay.

Day 10: Ludlow. Ludlow – a thriving 'black & white' medieval market town, is an architectural gem and one of England's most attractive towns! There are almost 500 listed buildings in the town; including The Buttercross, St. Laurence's Church, Ludlow Castle, The Readers House and The Feathers Hotel. Included is a 'Welcome to Ludlow Castle' – one of England's finest medieval ruins. Walking through the Castle grounds we'll see the ancient homes of kings, queens, princes, judges and nobility – a true glimpse into the lifestyle of medieval society.

Day 11: Weston's Cider. We begin with a walking introduction to Worcester – a beautiful Cathedral and University City with a fascinating history. Then we visit Weston's Cider, operated by many generations of the Weston family who have nurtured their orchards to thrive in the local environment. We enjoy a tour followed by a delicious lunch and a taste of the famous cider!

Day 12: Stratford-upon-Avon. We begin with a guided walking tour of Shakespeare's delightful home town of timbered houses (many unchanged from Tudor times). We'll visit Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall, where we'll immerse ourselves in 16th century Stratford, as well as Shakespeare's Distillery, where we'll learn the fascinating history of gin and how it is made (ending with a tasting of course!)

Day 13: Worcester at Leisure. The city is best known for its magnificent Cathedral, but is also famous for the world renowned Worcester Porcelain and the piquant Worcestershire Sauce. You may want to visit the City Art Gallery, admire the half-timbered buildings in Friar Street or marvel at the skill of local craftsmen at the local crafts centre.

Day 14: Cotswolds / Surrey. We meander through the gentle hillsides and sleepy, honey-coloured villages of the Cotswolds – a region designated as an Area of Outstanding Beauty. We will visit Bourton-on-the-Water, and enjoy a delicious lunch in a Cotswolds pub oozing local character. We finish at our hotel in Dorking – a charming and historic town in the heart of Surrey. This evening we enjoy our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We fly home from London.



Devon and Cornwall

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

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

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

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

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, or Calgary - \$6297
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- Single Supplement - \$990
- Winnipeg - add \$90
- Vancouver - add \$190
- Edmonton - add \$590

15 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 5

Tour Highlights:

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

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for London.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Channel Islands

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

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

We will stay on the island of Jersey, the largest of the islands, known for its glorious woodland walks, lovely rolling countryside, unspoiled coastline with imposing cliffs, historic castles, Victorian markets and interesting sightseeing. The capital, St. Helier, is built around a harbour, and consists of a maze of narrow streets - many traffic free. It 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.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal

Depart September 11 - \$6197

Depart September 29 - \$5997

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- Single Supplement - \$990
 - Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport to the Montreal airport)
 - Vancouver - add \$490

* *Passengers from the gateways below* - for \$99 p.p. double occupancy (\$189 single) you may choose to overnight in Toronto before or after the tour.

- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$990

14 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 11 - 24

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 12

Tour Highlights:

- Walking tour of Saint Helier
- Jersey War Tunnels
- Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust
- Eric Young Orchid Foundation
- La Mare Vineyard
- Excursion to the island of Sark (September 11 only)
- Excursion to the island of Guernsey
- Excursion to St. Malo, France

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

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

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

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

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

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

Day 6 (September 11 tour): Sark. (weather permitting). Sark, the smallest of the Channel Islands, is known for its "olde worlde" charm and tranquil atmosphere. As there are no motor vehicles on the island except for tractors, we will explore by horse and carriage. There are quaint shops and cafes in the island's main village, and the beautiful scenery includes wildflowers and sea birds, picturesque inlets, stunning coastlines, dramatic cliffs, and secluded bays.

Day 6 (September 29 tour): Island Coastal Tour. We enjoy Jersey from a different perspective on a narrated cruise along the island's southwest coast. We'll get up close to the spectacular 16th century Elizabeth Castle, and admire the fortifications, marine wildlife, beautiful beaches and bays, ending up at the famous Corbiere Lighthouse

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

Day 8: Mont Orgueil / La Hougue Bie. Mont Orgueil has cast its imposing shadow over the beautiful fishing port of

Gorey for over 800 years, and is one of the world's most well-preserved medieval fortresses. We visit La Hougue Bie Museum - one of Europe's finest prehistoric monuments, featuring a medieval church, under which lies a 6,000-year-old Neolithic 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 the Nazi forces. This afternoon we visit Hamptonne Country Museum, for a unique insight into Jersey's rural history, as well as cider making. Later we'll enjoy Afternoon Tea at Chateau La Chaire - a country house set on cliffs overlooking the sea.

Day 9: Guernsey (weather permitting). Today we ferry to Guernsey, the 2nd largest of the Channel Islands. Our island tour will follow the coastline, taking in the picturesque beaches and serene landscape. We will have time in St. Peter Port, where we can wander on the cobbled streets and narrow lanes lined by old shops and impressive houses.

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

Day 11: At Leisure.

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

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

Day 14: Home. We fly home via London.

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



Scottish Highlands Rail and Sail

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

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

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

Tour Highlights:

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Ottawa - \$7997
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Montreal, Halifax or Calgary - add \$90
- Winnipeg or Vancouver - add \$190
- Edmonton - add \$390

16 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 14 - 29

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

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

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Edinburgh.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Day 16: Home. We transfer to the Edinburgh airport for our flight home.



Scotland's East Coast History & Heritage

Home to 263 castles, dramatic coastlines and stunning scening contrasts, the East Coast of Scotland offers a true taste of Scotland, where you can immerse yourself in the local culture and enjoy authentic Scottish experiences and traditions.

We will be following much of the North East 250 route, considered Scotland's premiere road trip. This region is the traditional Scotland you've always imagined, and features everything for which Scotland is famous - mighty strongholds and ruins with spectacular views; majestic castles and mansions that have formed the backdrops of Hollywood movies; picture-postcard towns and villages; world-famous whisky distilleries; museums and heritage attractions; and so much more.

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada (direct flights between Toronto and Edinburgh)
- First Class hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 2 dinners), including a Scottish Banquet with entertainment
- A traditional afternoon tea.
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal - \$6197
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- Single Supplement - \$990
- Halifax - add \$490
- Winnipeg/Calgary/Edmonton - add \$590
- Vancouver - add \$890

15 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 10 - 24

Tour Highlights:

- Edinburgh - Scotland's Capital
- Royal Burgh of Culross
- Scone Palace - the Crowning place of Scottish Kings
- The East Neuk of Fife, including St. Andrew's
- Dundee - a UNESCO City of Design
- Royal Deeside
- Braemar Highland Games Centre
- World famous whisky distilleries
- The Trossachs
- Stirling

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

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

Day 2: Edinburgh. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel in Portobello - a coastal suburb of Edinburgh, for 3 nights.

Day 3: Edinburgh. Edinburgh is an historic city with beautiful architecture. On our tour we'll see the Medieval Old Town and the elegant Georgian New Town, which sit side-by-side. We'll visit the Royal Yacht Britannia, and enjoy a tour of Holyrood Distillery - a modern distillery in the city's historic heart.

Day 4: Edinburgh. A day at leisure to discover Edinburgh. Our hotel is a short drive from the city centre, where there is so much to see and do, and a short walk to Portobello Promenade. You may want to relax at the leisure facilities and spa by our hotel. This evening in Edinburgh we'll enjoy a rousing Scottish Banquet, featuring traditional Scottish song and dance, and a great selection of quality Scottish food.

Day 5: Culross / Scone Palace / Dundee. Our first stop is Culross, where we'll stroll along cobbled streets in Scotland's most complete example of a 17th century burgh. Culross has appeared many times in the Outlander series. Next we visit Scone Palace - one of Scotland's most important stately homes. It has been the seat of Scottish parliaments and the crowning place of the Kings of Scots (including Macbeth and Robert The Bruce). Later we arrive at our boutique hotel, located in the centre of Dundee, for a 3-night stay.

Day 6: East Neuk of Fife. The delightful East Neuk villages, nestled in the coastline's natural harbours, are testimony to the sea-fishing heritage of the Kingdom of Fife. We will visit St. Andrew's, Home of Golf, and a few of the charming and picturesque fishing villages. Fife is famous for seafood, so it's a perfect day for a delicious fish & chips lunch!

Day 7: Dundee. Dundee is a dynamic city designated as a UNESCO City of Design, and is also home to historic ships and many museums. We will first visit the *RRS Discovery*, where we can experience life in the Antarctic with Captain Scott and his crew. Next is the 200-year-old *HMS Unicorn* - the last surviving wooden warship left in Scotland. There will be free time to explore the V&A - the only dedicated design museum in the world outside of London.

Day 8: Glamis / Dunnottar / Aberdeen. We travel through Angus and stop at Glamis Castle - the inspiration for Shakespeare's Macbeth and birthplace/childhood home of Princess Margaret. During our visit here we'll enjoy a scrumptious Afternoon Tea! Next, we continue to Dunnottar Castle - an evocative ruin of an old fortress perched

dramatically on a cliff top. Steeped in history, this romantic and haunting ruin is a photographer's paradise and an iconic tourist destination. Later we arrive at our hotel in the centre of Aberdeen, for a 4-night stay.

Day 9: North East Coast. Today we travel along the North East 250 - Scotland's ultimate road trip! We first visit Peterhead Prison Museum, which highlights the work of the brave personnel who served in Scotland's toughest jail from 1888 -2013. Continuing north we visit the Museum of Scottish Lighthouses at Kinnaird Head Lighthouse - the very first lighthouse on mainland Scotland (1787), showcasing the brilliant engineers who built the lighthouse and the dedicated keepers who tended them. Before returning to the hotel, we will visit one of the Speyside Distilleries!

Day 10: Royal Deeside. Royal Deeside captivated Queen Victoria with its Scottish blend of moody mountains, lofty crags, rivers and moors. We'll first stop in the picturesque Victorian village of Ballater, and then on to the Braemar Highland Games Centre, where we 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. Enjoy a beach stroll where you may see the harbour's resident pod of dolphins playing in the water. Aberdeen is famous for its stunning granite buildings and monuments that shimmer in the sunlight, and the warm tones of 'Doric' - the local Scots' dialect. Aberdeen has plenty of attractions to keep you busy.

Day 12: Trossachs / Stirling. We travel to the Trossachs (nicknamed the "Highlands in Miniature") - a romantic area of sparkling lochs, hills, sleepy forests and welcoming villages. We'll stop in one of the quaint villages before arriving in Stirling for a 3-night stay.

Day 13: Crannog Centre / Stirling. The Scottish Crannog Centre, situated on Loch Tay, is a museum depicting the lives of Crannog dwellers who lived on the banks of the loch 2,500 years ago. We will have a guided tour, and view the artefacts and demonstrations of the skills and technology of long ago.

Day 14: Stirling. A day at leisure. In Stirling there are many historic attractions, various restaurants and pubs, and regular exciting events. You may want to visit Stirling Castle, or go shopping amidst the independent boutiques in the Old Town and Victorian Arcade. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We fly home from Edinburgh, direct to Toronto.



All Around Ireland

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

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

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

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$5497
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- Single Supplement - \$990
- Montreal or Vancouver - add \$190
- Ottawa, Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$290
- Calgary - add \$490
- Edmonton - add \$690

15 DAYS • 3 DATES IN FALL 2023

AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 14

SEPTEMBER 7 - 21

SEPTEMBER 14 - 28

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Day 7: Ring of Kerry / Killarney. A day of splendid scenery as we tour the famous Ring of Kerry. We pass Daniel O'Connell's Cahirsiveen, the fishing village of Waterville, 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.

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

Day 9: Westport. We pass through beautiful Connemara National Park and the rugged mountain ranges of Twelve Pins. We stop at Kylemore Abbey, with its dramatic setting overlooking Kylemore Lough (now a convent for Benedictine nuns). We overnight in Westport, a charming Georgian town with a delightful tree-lined mall and quaint shopping area.

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

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

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

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

Day 14: Trim. We see the picturesque scenery of the Mourne Mountains as we drive to the charming medieval coastal town of Carlingford. We will explore the town before continuing on to Trim - a designated heritage town, and winner of the "Tidy Towns" award for being one of the most attractive (and tidy) towns in Ireland. This afternoon we explore Trim Castle - a stunning Norman castle on the bank of the River Boyne. It is the largest Anglo-Norman castle in Ireland. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

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



The Celtic Connection Scotland and Ireland

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, Vancouver or Calgary - \$7297
- Single Supplement - \$1390
- Edmonton or Winnipeg - add \$90

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

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

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

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

16 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 3

Tour Highlights:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Day 12: Kilkenny. Today we learn the history and rules of Hurling - the ancient Gaelic Irish outdoor team game. We end the visit with a sampling of Irish food and traditional Irish music in a small Irish country pub. Later we arrive in Kilkenny - a city rich in heritage and craft. We will have free time to explore.

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

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

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

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



Grand Tour of Italy

Including Sicily

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

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

Tour Highlights:

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal

Depart September 10 - \$6597

Depart September 17 - \$6497

Depart October 1 - \$6397

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- Single Supplement - \$990 (Single accommodation is not available on the overnight ferry to Sicily. Those in single accommodation *may* have to share for that one night).
 - Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
 - Halifax or Vancouver - add \$90
 - Calgary or Winnipeg - add \$490
 - Edmonton - add \$590

• 16 DAYS • 3 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 10 - 25

SEPTEMBER 17 - OCTOBER 2

OCTOBER 1 - 16

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

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

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Milan, via 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 picture-book villages along the shore. We will enjoy a lovely boat trip on the lake and visit medieval Sirmione - known as the "Jewel of the Lake". A spa town since Roman times, we will stroll the narrow, cobbled lanes and see the 13th century castle and well-preserved Roman ruins.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Day 16: Home. We fly home via Rome.



Hilltop Towns of Italy

Plus Rome and Venice

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

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

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

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6597
.....
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax - add \$190
- Calgary - add \$290
- Winnipeg - add \$390
- Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$790

17 DAYS • OCTOBER 4 - 20

Tour Highlights:

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

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Rome.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast

Long considered one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world, 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 citrus and olive groves, vineyards, lush greenery and flowering shrubs - all overlooking the sparkling Tyrrhenian Sea. On this tour we will take in all the most beloved sights in the region and enjoy a sampling 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!

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

We then transfer to Sorrento for a 7-night stay. 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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

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

Depart October 9 - \$7397

Depart October 15 - \$7297

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- Single Supplement - \$990
 - Vancouver or Calgary - add \$190
 - Edmonton - add \$390

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

OCTOBER 9 - 23

OCTOBER 15 - 29

Naples and features a host of restaurants, cafes, shops and a local market. Other small towns and villages along the coast are accessible by local transport.

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

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

In Sorrento we will stay at one of the popular Acampora hotels, all of which are located seaside on the cliff, with photogenic views of the Bay of Naples and within walking distance of the town centre.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Day 15: Home. We fly home to Canada.



Italian Riviera and Tuscany 2-Centre Holiday

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver - \$6997
.....
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport to Montreal airport)
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$690
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$990

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

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

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

15 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 13 - 27

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Day 15: Home. We fly home via Paris.



Bellissima Italia Rail Tour

Endlessly captivating and inspiring, Italy does it all with flair. On this tour we discover Italy in the most romantic way possible - on its marvellous network of railways.

Italy has Europe's richest of cultures; after all, it is the true cradle of European civilization. It is the land of the Romans, the Renaissance, artistic masters like da Vinci, Michelangelo and Botticelli, and of course its renowned food and wine traditions enjoyed throughout the world.

We will travel between some of Italy's most popular cities on board the Freccie high-speed trains (for a fast and comfortable journey), and the Trenitalia (local regional trains) will whisk us off to authentic towns and villages in the countryside.

Tour Highlights:

- Milan - City of Fashion, class and elegance and home to Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper"
- Venice - An artistic labyrinth of enchanting canals and iconic gondolas
- Florence - Home of The Renaissance, a wealth of museums and Michelangelo's "David"

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class, centrally located hotels
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily (except for 1 dinner). Wine, water & coffee with dinners.
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$7197
.....
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Montreal, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$290
- Ottawa - add \$450 (with round-trip transport. to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$490
- Vancouver - add \$590

13 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 5

- Lake Como - One of Italy's most scenic lakeside haunts for the rich and famous
- Pisa - Famous for the leaning tower and the birthplace of Galileo
- Lucca - A quaint Tuscan jewel with Renaissance walls and cobblestone streets
- Rome - The Eternal City is rich with imposing architectural highlights (Colosseum, Forum, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, and more)
- Vatican City - A treasure trove of iconic art, as well as St. Peter's and the Sistine Chapel
- Trains: 3 First Class "Le Freccie" trains (modern high-speed trains) between Milan, Venice, Florence and Rome
1 Standard class regional rail from Florence to Pisa / Lucca and return

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

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

Day 2: Milan. Benvenuto” to Milan. We check in to our hotel, then enjoy a short orientation tour of the trendy Navigli District full of galleries, cafes and restaurants. This evening is our Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3: Milan. Our morning guided (walking and coach) tour shows us the Castello Sforzesco, the gothic Milan Cathedral with its intricate stained glass windows, the Galleria, Teatro alla Scala, various palaces and many charming corners and squares. With the afternoon at leisure, you may visit the Duomo, Leonardo Da Vinci’s “Last Supper” or enjoy some of Europe’s finest shopping here in Italy’s fashion capital.

Day 4: Lake Como. We take the regional train to the picturesque Lake Como - an area filled with centuries-old towns, and gorgeous views that dot the shoreline. We will enjoy a guided tour, followed by ample time to enjoy the ambiance of this enchanting town laden with stunning villas and colourful gardens.

Day 5: High-Speed Train to Venice / Lagoon Boat Tour. We board our first high speed “Le Freccie” train for Venice. These ultra-modern trains travel at a speed of 200 km/h to 300 km/h. Upon arrival in Venice, we are met by our boat for a panoramic tour of the Venetian Lagoon. We then transfer to our hotel for a 2-night stay.

Day 6: Venice. We take a boat to St. Marks’ Square to commence our guided tour. With its unique cityscape and rich heritage, Venice has enchanted visitors for centuries. Our tour will feature landmarks such as St. Mark’s Basilica (known as the “Church of Gold” due to its opulent frescoes), St. Mark’s Square and the amazing Doge’s Palace. The afternoon is free to perhaps take a gondola ride along the Grand Canal and admire views of grand Renaissance palaces and intricate arch bridges, or just explore some of the lesser known, off-the-beaten-track quarters.

Day 7: High-Speed Train to Florence / Walking Tour. We board the high speed train for Florence - one of the world’s most cultural and artistic cities. 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). Enjoy some free time before this evening’s typical Florentine

dinner, featuring a selection of traditional Tuscan dishes accompanied by red Chianti Wine.

Day 8: At Leisure in Florence. A day at leisure. You may enjoy an in-depth visit of one or more of the famous museums such as the Uffizi, the Pitti, or Galleria dell’Accademia (with Michelangelo’s Statue of David - one of the most recognized sculptures in the world!). You may also visit the amazing Boboli Gardens or go shopping for leather goods. Dinner is on your own this evening, as there are so many great restaurants to choose from!

Day 9: Pisa and Lucca via the Tuscan Hills. We board the local regional train which takes us across rural Tuscany to Pisa. On our guided walking tour we’ll see the Leaning Tower, the white marble Duomo and the Baptistery. After our tour, we continue by rail to Lucca, where our walking tour takes us through this ancient walled city to the Palazzo Mansi (an historic palace which hosts one of Europe’s most important tapestry collections) as well as a visit to the Piazza dell’Anfiteatro- a spectacular square with ochre-painted stucco and sun-splashed al-fresco spaces.

Day 10: High-Speed Train to Rome. Our high-speed train takes us to the “Eternal City” of Rome, for a 3-night stay. Upon arrival there will be a guided orientation city tour.

Day 11: Rome. Today we enjoy a full-day guided tour by coach and on foot, past the landmarks that have shaped this mesmerizing city over thousands of years. We’ll pass the Colosseum where Roman citizens would watch the battling gladiators; the Roman Forum which played a vital role in Roman public life; the Pantheon; the Spanish Steps; and the magnificent Trevi Fountain - a spectacular detailed sculpture set in a tiny square. Our dinner tonight is in a local typical restaurant.

Day 12: Vatican City / Rome. We visit the Vatican City - a unique collection of artistic and architectural masterpieces. The centre, St. Peter’s Basilica, is one of the world’s largest Renaissance religious building and the holiest Catholic site. The amazing Vatican Museum houses one of the greatest collections of art in the world, and at the Sistine Chapel we’ll see Michelangelo’s remarkable frescoes that adorn the walls and ceilings. Enjoy our last afternoon at leisure before our Farewell Dinner with music!

Day 13: Arrivederci / Home. We transfer to the airport for our direct flight back to Canada.



Swiss Alps and Italian Lakes

This unique tour begins in Switzerland, whose very name conjures up images of snow-capped mountains, majestic peaks reflected in glassy lakes and a countryside filled with picture-book villages and crystal clear air.

The moment we arrive in Zurich, the breathtaking Alps emerge as we travel through the picturesque countryside to the beautiful lakeside town of Lucerne for a 2-night stay.

After our stay in Lucerne we proceed, via touring in Bern and Interlaken, to the welcoming mountain resort town of Villars-sur-Ollon (also known as Villars) for a 5-night stay. We will experience the utmost in Alpine splendour at this traditional resort which is beautifully situated in the heart of the Vaudoise Alps, in view of the peaks of the Dents du Midi and the chain of Mont Blanc, with a sweeping view of the Rhone Valley. While the town has a busy little downtown area, it still retains a sense of coziness and tradition in the true Swiss sense. Villars will be our base for visiting the surrounding region with visits to Montreux, Gruyeres, Vevey, L'Etivaz and Zermatt - home of the mighty Matterhorn!

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$7597
-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, Calgary, or Vancouver - add \$190
- Winnipeg - add \$290
- Edmonton - add \$390

16 DAYS • 3 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 14 - 29

SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 6

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 13

Next, we traverse the Simplon Pass into Italy for a 7-night stay at Lake Maggiore's most beautiful resort town - Stresa. Bursting with flowers, sprinkled with fine old villas and famous for its lush gardens and mild climate, Stresa has been a holiday resort since the 19th century. On our non-touring days you can enjoy people-watching in the lovely town square, or take the cable car to the top of Monte Mottarone for famous views of distant snowy peaks and all 7 of the major Italian lakes. This idyllic spot is an ideal base for touring the beautiful Italian Lakes area, including the lively city of Milan. This will be a perfect opportunity to experience la vera Italia (the real Italy).

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

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Zurich, direct non-stop from Toronto.

Day 2: Zurich / Lake Lucerne. We arrive in Zurich, then proceed to Vitznau where we board a boat and enjoy our first views of the breathtaking Swiss Alps while cruising on Lake Lucerne to our hotel. Tonight we enjoy our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Lucerne. On this morning's walking tour we'll stroll along Lake Lucerne and through the city's Old Town, seeing the Hofkirche Church, the Old Town Hall, Chapel Bridge (the symbol of Lucerne) and the world famous Lion Monument - carved in relief into a sandstone cliff. Afternoon at leisure to explore this beautiful city on your own, or to shop for a Swiss watch or chocolate.

Day 4: Interlaken / Bern / Villars. This full-day tour begins in Interlaken, the main tourist centre of the Bernese Oberland. The town lies between two lakes amid the towering Alps, and so views from the town are spectacular. We will see typical Swiss architecture, several 16th century churches and palatial hotels. We then travel to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bern. We'll stroll in the old town and see the Zeitglockentrum clock tower, Munster Cathedral, the Bear Pits and the historical fountains for which the town is known. We continue on to Villars for a 5-night stay.

Day 5: Montreux / Chateau Chillon / Vevey / Gruyere. We take a tour to Montreux - naturally beautiful and one of Lake Geneva's most popular resorts. The nearby Chillon Castle is built on a rocky islet and has towers that reflect on the lake - very picturesque! The turrets offer fantastic views of Montreux, the lake and the Alps. The castle and its dungeons have been used as a prison over the years (Lord Byron wrote *The Prisoner of Chillon* here, and carved his name in one of the cells). After our castle visit we proceed to the fortified hilltop town of Gruyere in time for lunch and some time to stroll. We visit a cheese factory to learn about the traditional method for making cheese. A cellar visit with wine tasting is included.

Day 6: Zermatt. We board a train for the short ride to Zermatt - a village that lies at the foot of the Matterhorn. This is one of the most photographed mountains in the world, and has been visited by mountaineers from all around the world for centuries! We will tour the historic part of the village and enjoy some leisure time to stroll or to enjoy an optional ride on the cog wheel tram for a better view of the famous mountain.

Days 7 & 8: Villars. At leisure. Your Tour Manager will offer suggestions. There are many walking trails in and around the town, or opt for a train ride through the Alps.

Day 9: Stresa. We traverse the Simplon pass into Italy - a wonderful scenic day. We proceed to Stresa on the shore of Lake Maggiore for a 7-night stay.

Day 10: Stresa. We take a boat trip to Isola Bella to see the magnificent 16th century palace and gardens, built as a wedding gift. The garden features statues, fountains and terraces where peacocks roam among the scented shrubs.

Day 11: Locarno. Today's full day excursion takes us on one of Europe's most scenic railways - the narrow gauge *Centovalli Railway* - which threads its way across "a hundred valleys", past sleepy villages and over deep ravines. The train ends in Locarno, where we will enjoy an orientation tour of the town and then enjoy some free time. Explore the picturesque Old Town, see the beautiful subtropical gardens filled with palm trees and exotic flowers, stroll the lakeside promenades and enjoy the excellent shopping under the arcades of the Piazza Grande. Later we cruise back down the lake to Stresa.

Day 12: Stresa. A day to explore this town and enjoy the beautiful setting here. Relax with a cappuccino at one of the lakeside cafes, or take an excursion to Lake Orta - a quaint, secluded lake with a medieval village on one of its islands.

Day 13: Lake Como Area. A very scenic day as we travel to Lake Como and the area around it - adorned with ancient villages, exquisite villas and beautiful gardens. Our first visit will be to the "the Pearl of Lake Como" - the town of Bellagio, and then the town of Como. Our walking tour of these beguiling towns will take us along cobbled lanes lined with elegant buildings exuding Old World elegance, and through the gardens of one of the many local Villas.

Day 14: Milan. We visit this very modern city, which also boasts the third largest Gothic Cathedral in the world. We see the Galleria, which was the first indoor shopping mall in Europe - a beautiful, elegant area built in the 19th century. This is the place to have a coffee, people watch and shop.

Day 15: Stresa. At leisure in Stresa, an ideal town for strolling. The walking trails around the lake are lovely, as is the shopping! Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Home. We transfer to the Milan airport for our direct, non-stop flight back to Canada.



Mediterranean Magic

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6397
-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Montreal - add \$590
- Ottawa or Halifax - add \$690
- Vancouver - add \$790
- Calgary, Edmonton or Winnipeg - add \$990

Tuscany, the Italian Riviera, and the French Riviera

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

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

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

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

14 DAYS • OCTOBER 9 - 22

On the Italian Riviera we'll visit:

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

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

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

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Florence via London.

Day 2: Viareggio. Upon arrival in Florence we transfer to the beautiful seaside Tuscan town of Viareggio for a 4-night stay. An orientation walking tour of the area will be followed by our Welcome Reception and dinner this evening.

Day 3: Florence. We take the local train to Florence for a full day in the "Cradle of the Renaissance". Our first stop will be the Piazzale Michelangelo for the best view over the city. We will continue with a half day guided walking tour of the historic centre to see the multi-coloured marble Cathedral, Signoria Square, the Baptistery and a visit to the Basilica of Santa Croce. Enjoy some free time for lunch and time to explore before returning to Viareggio.

Day 4: Siena and Chianti. A full day tour to the wine country. The medieval city of Siena is famous for its annual Palio horse race but it also happens to be a beautiful city brimming with history. We will visit the Cathedral and see the Piazza del Campo, considered one of the most beautiful squares in the world. After a morning of history it's time to unwind, so we proceed to Chianti for a tasting of the well-known wines of this region.

Day 5: Pisa / Afternoon at Leisure. This morning we visit Pisa by train, and yes, the tower is still leaning. The beauty of the Campo Di Miracoli will amaze you. It includes the Leaning Tower, the Duomo and the Baptistry. After some free time in Pisa we return to Viareggio for a free afternoon.

Day 6: Cinque Terre / Ligurian Coast. We travel by coach and train to Cinque Terre - five villages that cling dramatically to the cliffs along the rocky coastline. We first stop in Monterosso - one of the most impressive of the villages. Then we take a short cruise to Vernazza - the truest "fishing village" on the Italian Riviera. After some free time we head for Manarola - a romantic village built on a rock 70 metres above sea level. Later we continue to the delightful seaside town of Sestri Levante for a 2-night stay. The town is stunningly situated on a narrow peninsula flanked by beaches.

Day 7: Portofino / Santa Margherita / Ligurian Coast. This morning we visit Portofino - a small but perfectly coiffured coastal village adorned with pastel-coloured houses, high-end boutiques and seafood restaurants that fringe its Piazzetta (the small cobbled square overlooking the harbour, lined with super-yachts). A path leads from the

Piazzetta to Castello Brown - a 16th-century fortress and museum with art exhibitions and panoramic views of the town and the Ligurian Sea. This afternoon we enjoy a boat ride to Santa Margherita, known for its breezy beach promenade adorned with old aristocratic architecture.

Day 8: Monaco / Monte Carlo / Nice. We travel to the French Riviera and stop in the "Billionaire's Playground" of Monaco. Our guided walking tour will take in the city highlights as well as the beautiful harbour of Monte Carlo. Then we continue to Nice for a 6-night stay.

Day 9: Nice. Our guided tour of Nice includes the Promenade des Anglais, the Port, and a walking tour in Nice's old town with its flower market and lively pedestrian streets lined with shops and cafes.

Day 10: St. Tropez / Grimaud / Cote De L'estrelle. We travel to St. Tropez to explore the village's narrow streets, Provencal squares and charming old port, and also to taste the local wine. We continue with a boat ride in Port Grimaud, known as "Venice Provencal", followed by a drive along the coast on "la Corniche d'Or" cut into the red rocks of the Esterel Mountains. The rocky inlets form a beautiful rugged landscape.

Day 11: Grasse / Saint-Paul. Today's excursion begins in Grasse, France's perfume capital, where we will visit a perfumery museum and factory. Then we continue to the medieval village of Tourrettes-sur-Loup, which offers splendid vistas over the hills and sea. We travel through the Gorges of the Loup River for more spectacular views en route to Saint-Paul, a quaint 13th century fortified village full of galleries, boutiques and sidewalk cafes. Our walking tour through the winding streets will show us carved fountains, statues and architectural treasures.

Day 12: Eze / Ville Franche-Sur-Mer. Our tour begins in the medieval town of Eze, which offers a beautiful panorama of the French Riviera. Then we travel along the Mediterranean coast to Cap Ferrat, with its luxurious estates and pine groves. Here we visit the sumptuous Ephrussi-de-Rothschild Villa and Gardens. We finish the day in the lovely resort town of Ville Franche-sur-mer.

Day 13: At Leisure in Nice. Your Tour Manager will be on hand with suggestions. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 14: Home. We fly home via London.



Southern France and Paris

3-Centre Tour to

• Paris • Provence • French Riviera

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

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

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

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal

Depart August 30 - \$6797

Depart September 27 - \$6497

Depart November 1 - \$6297

-
- Single supplement - \$1390
 - Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport. to the Montreal Airport)
 - Vancouver, Halifax, or Winnipeg - add \$690
 - Calgary or Edmonton - add \$990

15 DAYS • 3 DATES IN FALL 2023

AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 13

SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 11

NOVEMBER 1 - 15

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

Tour Highlights:

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

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Paris.

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

Day 3: 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 4: 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 5: Paris / Cruise On Seine. A day at leisure. Your Tour Manager will be on hand to advise and assist you with the infinite choice of attractions and museums. Tonight's dinner will be followed by a cruise along the Seine River, a wonderful way to see Paris illumination.

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

Day 7: 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 8: St-Remy / Les Baux / Arles. This full-day tour in the heart of Provence begins in the pretty village of St-Remy-de-Provence, with its Roman vestiges and weekly Provencal market. Next is Les Baux-de-Provence, magnificently situated amidst incredible rock formations. Here we will enjoy an outstanding audio-visual show which will totally immerse us in the images. Finally we proceed to Arles - a city of art and culture. On our walking

tour of Arles we see the charming old town, Van Gogh's famous "café de la nuit" and visit the Roman coliseum and theatre. There will be free time before returning to Avignon.

Day 9: Avignon. At leisure to enjoy Avignon's pleasant streets and interesting museums, or perhaps visit nearby Aix-en-Provence.

Day 10: Luberon Villages. We travel to the Luberon and discover, scattered across the countryside, the wonderful villages classified as "the most beautiful villages of France". See Gordes - a hill top village with narrow alleys and passageways that wind between medieval buildings, Bonnieux - a typical Provencal market town, Rousillon - with its ochre landscape and Coustellet for a most interesting visit of the lavender museum.

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

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

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

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

Day 15: Home. We say "au revoir" to France and fly home



The Wine Routes of France (and Paris)

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full breakfast daily
- 10 dinners and 1 lunch (wine and coffee included with dinners)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - \$6297
-
- Single supplement - \$1290
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$190

On this wonderful tour we will explore 3 of the world's most famous wine producing regions, to experience the wonderful fall scenery, charming towns and villages and local folklore. We will also taste the wines and savour the cuisine from each region!

We begin in Reims in the Champagne region, where the wine has been associated with celebration and luxury for hundreds of years.

Next is the Alsace region - a mix of rich pastoral farmland, manicured vineyards and charming villages with timber-framed houses. Our home bases will be Strasbourg - the vibrant capital of Alsace, and atmospheric Colmar with its stunningly beautiful architecture.

Then we explore Burgundy - one of the most fascinating areas in France as well as one of the world's most influential wine growing regions.

We finish with 3-nights in Paris. Whether you are browsing in one of the famous museums or enjoying a stroll in one of the quaint quarters, a visit to Paris is always memorable.

14 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 19 - OCTOBER 2

Tour Highlights:

- Wine tasting at a renowned winery in each region
- Visit of both Champagne's major centers of production
- Visit the beautiful town of Metz and the St-Etienne Cathedral with Chagall stained-glass
- Canal Cruise in Strasbourg
- Visit of Haut-Koenigsbourg Castle
- The 'Little Train' ride from Ribeauvillé to Hunawihr
- Excursion to Germany's Black Forest and Titisee Lake including a traditional Bavarian lunch
- Visit of Beaune's Hotel Dieu
- Visit of Dijon's covered Market "Les Halles"
- Visit of the Abbey of St. Mary Magdalene
- Tour of Paris with an evening cruise on the Seine River

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Paris.

Day 2: Reims. We arrive in Paris and proceed to the elegant town of Reims. Upon arrival we have an orientation tour and visit Reims Cathedral, where French kings were traditionally crowned. After some time to relax enjoy your Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Champagne Region. This morning we discover Champagne's countryside and the manicured vineyards on the "Montagne de Reims". See Hautvillers - the village of Dom Pérignon, and Epernay where within 110km of subterranean cellars more than 200 million bottles of Champagne are just waiting to be popped open on some sparkling occasion. In Epernay we will enjoy a cellar visit and tasting at one of the "Grande Maison de Champagne".

Day 4: Metz / Strasbourg. Leaving behind the vine-covered landscape of Champagne we travel to Metz, which has art and history dating back to the 4th century. We will see the beautifully preserved architecture in the old town, featuring the Cathedral St-Etienne which houses Europe's largest collection of stained glasses windows (including works by Marc Chagall). Then we continue to Strasbourg for a 2-night stay.

Day 5: Strasbourg. We begin with a lovely drive along the river and through Strasbourg's German and European quarter where we see the Republic Square, the European Parliament, the Human Rights Building and the Palais de l'Europe. Next we stroll through the 'petite France' quarter with its covered bridges, typical tanner's houses, astonishing gothic cathedral and astronomical clock. Later we enjoy a canal cruise and some time at leisure.

Day 6: Haut Koenigsbourg / Wine Route / Colmar. We travel on the famous 'Route des Vins' which winds its way through some of the most beautiful villages in Alsace. We will visit Haut-Koenigsbourg Castle – a fortress built in the middle ages. Next is the village of Ribeauvillé where we board the 'Little Train' to explore the winding streets and vineyards, and then we proceed to Riquewihr - the most romantic town in Alsace, which is still protected by the old city walls. We'll stroll the walled city's cobblestone alleys lined with medieval houses and fountains, ending at a famous cave for a visit and taste of the local wines. We end at Colmar for a 3-night stay.

Day 7: Black Forest / Colmar. We cross the Rhine River to Germany and the mysterious Black Forest. In Freiburg's old city we see the charming lanes and the Cathedral Square with its lively market. Then we travel through the mountains to Titisee Lake, where a typical Bavarian lunch awaits us. After some free time to enjoy the lake views we continue to Colmar.

Day 8: Colmar. On our walking tour we enjoy Colmar's delightful streets; passing medieval homes and shops with ornate wooden facades. We will visit the Bartholdi Museum, featuring original models of the artist's masterpieces - the Statue of Liberty and the Lion of Belfort, as well as his living quarters and personal memorabilia. Afternoon at leisure to explore the town.

Day 9: Beaune. We proceed to Beaune – the wine Capital of the Cote d'Or region, and our home for the next two nights. On our walking tour of the ancient walled city we will visit the historic centre with its many wine caves, fabulous restaurants and magnificent Hotel Dieu - France's most opulent medieval charity hospital.


Day 10: Dijon / Cote D'or / Beaune. Today we first explore the town of Dijon - once the capital of Burgundy it is one of France's most beautiful cities. Our walking tour takes in the old town centre with its distinguished architecture, pedestrian streets, Ducal Palace and the fabulous covered market built by Gustav Eiffel where stalls of gourmet food and products sold around the world are on display. This afternoon we travel along the Côte d'Or - Burgundy's Fine Wine Road, through vineyards and villages whose names evoke some of world finest wines. We conclude this memorable day with a visit of a winery for a taste of some fine wines.

Day 11: Vezelay / Paris. We first stop in the lovely village of Vezelay, listed as one of the most beautiful villages in France. As a starting point on the way to Santiago de Compostela, notice the shells that have been set in the streets by the pilgrims, and enjoy a visit of the Abbey of St. Mary Magdalene - an awe-inspiring building listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After some time at leisure we continue to Paris where this evening we enjoy a cruise along the Seine River - a wonderful way to see the City of Lights!

Day 12: Paris. Our city tour will show us the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, the Opera, Notre Dame Cathedral, Champs Elysees and the historic Montmartre quarter where we visit the Sacré Coeur which offers wonderful views over the city. We enjoy free time here to explore this lovely area and watch the artists at work.

Day 13: Paris. A day at leisure to explore Paris's infinite choice of attractions. Your Tour Manager will offer suggestions. Our Farewell Dinner will be in a charming brasserie.

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



Bordeaux (France) to Bilbao (Spain) and into the Pyrenees

Travel along the stunning Atlantic coastline and through the majestic Pyrenees Mountains from the wine region of Bordeaux to the contemporary art city of Bilbao.

In Bordeaux we will discover incredible architecture, fine cuisine and vibrant culture. We will also explore the delightful vineyards of St. Emilion and Pomerol, and the stunning lagoon and sand dunes of Arcachon Bay. In the picturesque Pyrenees Mountains we'll visit the famous sanctuary of Lourdes, and the Pyrenees National Park with its majestic peaks, lush valleys and charming mountain villages. Then we discover the Basque cultural and architectural heritage including Bayonne - one of France's prettiest towns, and Biarritz with its spectacular coastline. From here we'll explore lively fishing villages and traditional Basque farms. Our final base is Bilbao, home of the iconic Guggenheim Museum - the symbol of the city. Bilbao has lovely riverside walking paths and pedestrian-friendly streets with endless shops, bars and restaurants. In this region we'll discover chic San Sebastian, the famous "hanging bridge" spanning the Nervion River, the Rioja Alavesa wine region and beautiful town of LaGuardia. All along the way we will sample many of the local wines and culinary specialties of the regions we visit.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast daily
- 10 dinners (with wine and coffee) and 1 lunch
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver - \$6397
-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$490
- Halifax - add \$690. Winnipeg - add \$990

15 DAYS • OCTOBER 4 - 18

Tour Highlights:

- The World Heritage Sites of Bordeaux and Cité du Vin
- Vineyards & wineries of St. Emilion & Pomerol regions
- The resort town of Arcachon and the Pilat Dunes
- Oyster tasting in the port of Larros in Gujan-Mestras
- Lourdes - one of the most important pilgrimage sites
- Spectacular Pyrenees National Park
- Bayonne - Capital of the French Basque Country
- Biarritz and the picturesque Basque villages
- Coastal San Sebastian's old town and Albaola
- Art and architecture of Bilbao & Guggenheim Museum
- Rioja wine region and LaGuardia medieval town
- Cruise on Nervion River to Getxo

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Bordeaux, via Paris.

Day 2: Bordeaux. We arrive in Bordeaux and enjoy a small drive to familiarize ourselves with the city. We then proceed to our centrally located hotel. The rest of the day is free until our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Bordeaux. We explore Bordeaux with its gorgeous neo-classical architecture, tree-lined avenues, charming old quarters with their sculpted mascarons (faces) and the revitalized quarters along the Garonne River. There will be free time to further explore the narrow streets of the old town or stroll along the lively quaysides. This afternoon we visit “Cité du vin” – an architectural landmark and interactive journey into the history of wine and its universal heritage.

Day 4: St. Emilion / Pomerol / Bordeaux. We first explore the gorgeous streets and monuments of the medieval village of St-Emilion. Then we visit a renowned winery and taste some delicious Saint Emilion wines, with some free time to explore. Afterwards we will explore the charming wine region of Pomerol, which produces some of the most expensive and sought-after wines in the world. Of course we will enjoy a taste of the marvellous wines produced here.

Day 5: Arcachon Bay / Bordeaux. We head to beautiful Arcachon Bay, site of the Dunes of “Pilat” – the biggest sand dunes in Europe, and we’ll enjoy a leisurely cruise on the bay. Since the bay is also the home of the traditional culture of oysters, we’ll stop in the quaint port of Larros in Gujan-Mestras at a local producer to taste some oysters with a glass of local white wine while overlooking the bay!

Day 6: Lourdes. We travel into the Pyrenees and the town of Lourdes, famous for its sanctuary visited by millions of people from around the world each year. This afternoon we’ll visit the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes, a place of beauty and serenity. Every evening here thousands of pilgrims join an impressive torchlight procession.

Day 7: Pyrenees National Park / Cauterets / Lourdes. We enter the picturesque Haute-Pyrenees region and proceed to the Pont d’Espagne – gateway to Pyrenees National Park (France’s oldest National Park). The park contains 6 high valleys that border Spain and boasts exceptional biodiversity. We’ll enjoy a trail walk to take in the beauty of the rushing streams, waterfalls and ancient pine forest. Then we visit Cauterets – a charming and lively mountain village famous for its thermal baths, ski resorts and delicious “Berlingots” sweet.

Day 8: Bayonne / Biarritz. We head for the Basque Coast and stop in the fortified town of Bayonne – an official “Town of History and Art” for its 2000-year-old heritage. The town also boasts many gourmet traditions that reflect both its Basque and Gascon influences. On our walking tour we’ll see the Gothic cathedral, the old town restoration, the ramparts, the cloister, Château-Vieux, the lively pedestrian streets and food market. We continue to Biarritz for a 3-night stay.

Day 9: Biarritz. 19th century Biarritz was an aristocratic capital, thanks to Napoleon III who built for his wife a magnificent palace by the ocean. On our tour we’ll see the lighthouse which offers breathtaking views, the “Chambre d’Amour” (Love Chamber), the fisherman’s wharf, the “Rocher de la Vierge (Virgin Rock) and the city

center with its market square, cafes and boutiques. The afternoon is free to enjoy the wonderful ocean vistas or to relax in one of the world-renowned Thalassotherapy centres in town.

Day 10: Basque Villages / St. Jean de Luz / Biarritz. Today we explore the Basque Mountains with their green hills strewn with typical farms and villages with whitewashed walls and timbered houses. See the villages of Ainhoa and Espelette, known for the paprika that hangs on the house facades, so we’ll enjoy a tasting of this paprika acclaimed by chefs worldwide. We continue to St Jean de Luz – a town of sailors and famous travellers. The fishing port here is still active, and the old town is full of “labourdine” architecture steeped in history. On our walking tour we’ll see the house of Louis XIV, the Maison de l’Infante, the Church of St. John the Baptist and walk along the Bay.

Day 11: San Sebastian / Alabaola / Bilbao. En route to Bilbao we visit the Maritimes Heritage Museum in Alabaola to learn about the Basque whalers and fishermen. Then we proceed to the chic town of San Sebastian – once the meeting place of kings and aristocracy, and a popular place in which to stroll along the wonderful seaside promenade with its elegant buildings. We will take the funicular up the cliff for spectacular panoramic views of the bay, ocean and surrounding islands. After a walking tour of the old town there will be free time to stroll in the maze of the old streets. We continue to Bilbao where we’ll stay for the remaining 4 nights of our tour.

Day 12: Guggenheim Museum / Bilbao. On our Old Quarter tour we’ll see the Church of San Nicolas (patron saint of sailors), Santiago Cathedral, the Teatro Arriaga, the Mercado de la Ribera (the largest covered market in Europe) and the Plaza Nueva, built in neoclassical style. We then visit the famous Guggenheim Museum, to marvel at the building itself and enjoy the masterpieces of modern and contemporary art housed within. The afternoon is free to spend more time at the museum and further explore the city.

Day 13: Rioja Alavesa / LaGuardia / Bilbao. We head to Spain’s Basque region of Rioja Alavesa, which produces the famous Rioja wines. Alongside the medieval wineries, discover the avant-garde facilities designed by world famous architects while tasting this superb wine. We then visit one of the most beautiful town of the region – LaGuardia. We will stroll in the historic quarter with its medieval walls, winding cobblestone streets surrounded by vineyards and mountains. Finally, enjoy a traditional lunch with Rioja wine!

Day 14: Nervion River / Gexto / Bilbao. We begin with a visit of the Maritime Museum in Bilbao, followed by a boat trip along the Nervion River to the marina of Getxo. See the famous iron “hanging bridge” – an architectural wonder and the world’s first bridge to carry people and traffic on a high suspended gondola. Then we’ll enjoy a walk in the fishing village of Algorta before returning to Bilbao where we’ll have a taste of some local drinks and “pintxos” in a typical Gastrobar – a wonderful way to bid farewell to our fellow travellers and Bilbao!

Day 15: Home. We fly home, via Paris.



Highlights of Spain & Portugal

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast daily
- Dinner daily with local wine & coffee
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6397
-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - add \$190
- Winnipeg - add \$290
- Calgary - add \$490
- Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$790

On this holiday we visit many of the great cities and sightseeing highlights of Spain and Portugal, with time to enjoy the seaside, sunshine and relaxation offered by each country's prime resort areas.

First, we discover the magic of Spain including the parks and gardens of Madrid, the Gothic Cathedral of Cordoba, the amazing Alhambra Palace in Granada, the British colony of Gibraltar, the lovely mountain town of Ronda and the lively atmosphere of Spain's old capital, Seville. We also enjoy some relaxation in Torremolinos, Spain's most popular Mediterranean resort.

In Portugal we discover why visitors return again and again. We see the magnificent coastal scenery of the Algarve, the gentle Monchique mountains, old churches, castles and cathedrals, picturesque fishing villages, olive groves and vineyards. We spend some time in Evora, one of Portugal's most beautiful and historic cities, before finishing with the historic old capital, Lisbon.

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

16 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 9 - 24

SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 8

Tour Highlights:

- Madrid's old quarter and Royal Palace
- The walled city of Toledo
- Cordoba's unique Mosque-Cathedral / Jewish Quarter
- The famous Alhambra Palace in Granada
- Gibraltar, commonly known as the "The Rock"
- Mountain-top Ronda with its incredible bridges
- The romantic city of Seville
- Algarve's charming villages of Alte, Lagos and Sagres
- Monchique Mountains panoramic views
- The beautifully preserved medieval town of Evora
- Lisbon, the hilly coastal capital of Portugal

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Madrid, a direct non-stop flight from Toronto.

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

Day 3: Madrid. On our morning city sightseeing tour we start at the Puerto Del Sol old quarter, with its narrow winding streets, numerous bars and cafes, colourful squares, churches and historic monuments. We will also see the Royal Palace and the Cervantes Monument. Afternoon at leisure to further explore this lively capital. Tonight we enjoy a Tapas dinner - a specialty of Spain.

Day 4: Toledo. Today we travel to the walled city of Toledo. Here we see the Gothic cathedral, centuries old synagogue and the Church of Saint Tome with its El Greco paintings. This small charming city is delightful for strolling.

Day 5: Cordoba. We proceed to Cordoba. After arrival, the balance of the day is at leisure.

Day 6: Cordoba / Granada. On our tour of Cordoba we see the magnificent 8th century mosque supported by hundreds of columns of marble and onyx, and illuminated by 4,000 bronze and copper lamps. Around the mosque are the tiny shops and historic buildings of the old Jewish quarter. After our tour we drive through the Andalusian countryside, enjoying the spectacular views of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, to Granada.

Day 7: Granada / Torremolinos (Costa Del Sol). In Granada this morning 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. After our tour we continue on to the lively resort town of Torremolinos.

Day 8: Torremolinos. At leisure to enjoy the sun, beach and the lively boardwalk along the Mediterranean Sea.

Day 9: 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 10: Ronda / Seville. This morning we visit Ronda, which has an unforgettable setting - perched over a rocky 300' deep ravine spanned by three bridges. We see the oldest bullring in Spain, the gardens and the church, which was once a mosque. We continue to the beautiful and lively city of Seville.

Day 11: Seville / Algarve (Portugal). The romantic city of Seville was influenced by the Moors who occupied the area for 700 years. A fine example of their heritage is the Giralda Tower. We also see the Alcazar, Gothic Cathedral and the fountains of Maria Lusia Park. Later we enter Portugal and head for the country's famed coastal area, the Algarve, which features sandy beaches that stretch for miles, impressive cliffs and rock formations. We will stay 4 nights in the lively resort of Albufeira. During our stay here we will enjoy 3 half-day excursions.

Day 12: Lagos and Sagres. We begin in Lagos where we see the beautiful church and castle walls. Then we proceed to Sagres, where Portuguese explorers learned their navigational skills. We finish off in Cape St. Vincent - the westernmost point in Europe.

Day 13: Typical Moorish Villages. Our first stop today is Alte - considered the Algarve's most picturesque village. We will stroll the narrow flowery streets and see the 16th-century church. There are several natural hot springs here. Later we will stop at some other quiet hill towns and villages in the region.

Day 14: Evora / Lisbon. We proceed to Evora (a UNESCO World Heritage City) - a beautiful city where Portugal's Golden Age lives on. Our walking tour takes in the Roman Temple and wall, the Gothic Cathedral, the Aqueduct and its fountains and more. After our tour we continue to Lisbon.

Day 15: 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 16: Home. We fly home, via Montreal.



Barcelona and 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 Monserrat 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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast daily
- Dinner daily with wine and local beer
- Flamenco show at Cordobés (or similar venue)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal - \$6797
-
- Single Supplement - \$1590
- Halifax - add \$190
- Vancouver - add \$290
- Winnipeg - add \$390
- Calgary - add \$490
- Edmonton - add \$590

14 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 1

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 Tossa De Mar in popular Costa Brava for 2 nights, en route 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.

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 amphitheater and the Tomb of the Scipios.

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for 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 Monserrat, rising majestically to 1235 metres. We visit the Royal Basilica of Monserrat, 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. You will 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 Tossa de Mar in the popular coastal region of Costa Brava. En route 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 en route 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: Home. 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 the merchant routes to Africa, South America and the Orient, Portugal today is a relaxed country bountiful in natural beauty, historic monuments and fascinating culture.

Add to this the nation's love of gastronomy and wine, and the legendary Portuguese hospitality, and you will see why it is the ideal holiday destination.

Tour Highlights:

- The lively historic capital city of Lisbon.
- The Algarve - Portugal's finest beaches and coastline, including the capital city of Faro.
- Moorish fishing village of Olhão and the lively market.
- The historic seaside port of Lagos.
- The golden-stoned university town of Evora, with its Roman temple, Moorish alleys and medieval walls.
- Alentejo's expansive rural landscape and wine region.
- Guimaraes - said to be where "Portugal was born" with a beautiful historic centre, castle and palace.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast daily, 11 dinners and 2 lunches (including a special farm lunch). Wine and coffee served with all dinners and lunches.
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - \$5797

-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
 - Vancouver or Calgary - add \$290
 - Winnipeg or Edmonton - add \$390

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 19 - OCTOBER 3

SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 10

- The picturesque "white" hilltop town of Monsaraz.
- Serra da Estrela Mountains - Portugal's highest range, dotted with remote villages.
- Romantic Oporto - Portugal's 2nd largest city.
- The stunning Douro River Valley with steeply terraced vineyards for producing Portugal's famous Port wine.
- Aveiro - the "Portugese Venice" with its charming canals and colourful boats.
- Coimbra - one of Portugal's oldest cities.
- Sintra - a picturesque hilltop retreat surrounded by opulent palaces and country estates.

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

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

Day 2: Lisbon. We arrive in Lisbon and before transferring to our hotel we will have a short orientation tour of this lively capital city. The afternoon is free until our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Sintra / Cabo Da Roca / Cascais / Lisbon. We begin with a visit of the National Palace of Queluz - a wonderful example of Rococo architecture surrounded by beautiful gardens. We continue to Sintra for some leisure time to discover the village before continuing with a scenic drive along Cabo da Roca, passing popular Guincho Beach and Boca do Inferno ("Hell's Mouth") - a chasm in the seaside cliffs near the fishing port of Cascais.

Day 4: Obidos / Coimbra. We depart for the walled city of Obidos with its whitewashed houses and flower displays. After a walking tour there, we continue to Coimbra - Portugal's medieval capital and site of the country's greatest university for the past 500 years. We visit the university and possibly the famous library, then enjoy a walking tour of the old town where we see the cathedral and the famous Arch of Almedina. We overnight in Coimbra.

Day 5: Sangalhos / Aveiro / Oporto. We travel to Sangalhos to visit the Underground Museum (subject to availability) where wine and brandy age together with a unique art collection. We will enjoy a special lunch at a winery before proceeding to Aveiro - known as the "Portuguese Venice" due to its colourful gondola-shaped boats, natural lagoons, elegant 19th Century architecture and traditional cobblestone passageways. We will see the old fish market and the Maritime Museum of Ilhavo with the famous cod fish aquarium. After a taste of the heavenly "Ovos Moles" - the local sweet delicacy, we continue to Oporto for a 3-night stay.

Day 6: Oporto. Oporto is the country's second-largest city, dramatically situated at the mouth of the Rio Douro, rich in medieval relics, soaring bell towers, extravagant baroque churches and stately beaux-arts buildings all piled on top of one another. Our city tour will include São Francisco Church, the Stock Exchange Palace and a stroll through the historic Ribeira quarter - a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We finish with a lovely cruise along the river to enjoy the city from a different vantage point.

Day 7: Guimarães / Wine Region / Oporto. Today we visit Guimarães to discover the old town and view the impressive castle. We then visit a vineyard in the wine region, where we'll see the production and enjoy a taste of the famous "Vinho Verde" (green wine).

Day 8: Douro Valley / Viseu. A scenic day as we travel through the beautiful Douro Valley where Portugal's famous port wine is produced. Starting with the magnificent Palacio de Mateus (depicted on the label of the distinctive Mateus wine bottles), we will explore the towns, villages, and vineyards hugging the winding roads with clifftop castles above us. Our lunch will be served on a farm ("quinta" in Portuguese). We then continue to the historic town of Viseu set high on a mountain plateau, for our overnight.

Day 9: Serra da Estrela Mountains / Castelo De Vide / Evora. As we cross the Tagus River valley we enjoy spectacular views of the Serra da Estrela Mountains, and stop at the Castelo de Vide to wander the narrow alleys and the town's Jewish quarter. We then continue to Evora in the heart of the Alentejo region for a 2-night stay.

Day 10: Monsaraz / Evora. Evora is one of Portugal's most beautifully preserved medieval towns. Our walking tour will show us the 14th century walls, winding lanes, charming squares, the elaborate Cathedral, Roman temple and the Ossuary Chapel. After a wine tasting at a traditional wine cellar we continue to the fairy-tale walled village of Monsaraz which has preserved its distinctive centuries-old characteristics. After a walk back in time through the narrow streets we return to Evora.

Day 11: Beja / Lagos / Ponta Da Piedade / Albufeira. We depart for Beja in the Alentejo region for some time to discover the town before continuing to Ponta da Piedade, known for its rugged sandstone cliffs and rock pinnacles. We will also visit the resort town of Lagos before we proceed to the resort town of Albufeira for a 2-night stay.

Day 12: Olhão / Faro / Albufeira. Today we visit the typical Moorish fishing village of Olhão where we will see the lively fruit and vegetable market, then on to Faro - Algarve's capital, where we will visit the old walled town and the Cathedral.

Day 13: Setubal / Arrabida / Lisbon. We first stop at the important fisherman's port of Setubal, before proceeding through the picturesque Arrabida Mountains to Lisbon, for a 2-night stay.

Day 14: Lisbon. Our tour of Lisbon will show us the historic district of Alfama, the Belem district with its magnificent monuments, Jeronimos Monastery, the Monument of the Discoveries and the Belem Tower. After a visit of the Monastery we will enjoy a tasting of the famous Belém custard tart. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We fly home, direct to Toronto.



Northern Portugal and Madeira

• Lisbon • Fatima • Oporto

• **Deluxe All-Inclusive resort in Madeira**

Portugal - cobblestone villages, captivating cities, a rich and unique culture, fascinating history, idyllic scenery and great food are just the beginning. On this tour we will see the lively capital city of Lisbon, explore the authentic cities in the north and enjoy a week at a Deluxe oceanfront resort on the magical island of Madeira - a lush oasis with a mild climate, dramatic seascapes and magnificent flowers that flourish only here.

We begin with an overnight in the bustling city of Lisbon, then venture north to the ancient medieval walled city of Obidos, and Nazare - a picturesque seaside village on the Atlantic coast. Next is a visit to Aveiro, dubbed the Venice of Portugal with its picturesque canals lined with moliceiros originally used to harvest seaweed, now used for canal cruising.

Then we proceed to what many consider the highlight of northern Portugal - the picturesque city of Oporto, built into granite cliffs overlooking the beautiful river Douro. The city is a charming blend of architectural gems from several historic periods, including Roman, Gothic, Baroque, Neo-classic and Renaissance eras. There are narrow medieval alleyways and squares, extravagant baroque churches and wide boulevards lined with stately edifices.

In Coimbra we will see the ancient university perched high above the Mondego River before continuing to Batalha where

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Deluxe and First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast and dinner daily (wine and beer with all dinners), 5 lunches while in Madeira
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages all day while in Madeira
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa or Halifax - \$6197
-
- Single Supplement - \$1790
- Winnipeg - add \$190
- Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$290

14 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 10

we will visit the Batalha Monastery - one of Europe's greatest Gothic masterpieces and a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will also overnight in Fatima - famous for the 1917 reported apparitions of the Virgin Mary.

From Northern Portugal we will fly to the breathtaking island of Madeira for a delightful 6-night stay at a Deluxe oceanfront resort with touring included. We end our tour in Lisbon with a city tour and an afternoon at leisure to explore this lively and historic capital city.

Tour Highlights:

- Walled city of Obidos / colourful fishing village of Nazare
- Tour of Oporto and a scenic boat ride on the Rio Douro
- Batalha Monastery - UNESCO World Heritage Site
- 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

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Lisbon – 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 will see Jeronimos Monastery, Belem Tower and the monument to Henry the Navigator. The afternoon is free to explore on your own or visit one of the many museums and galleries.

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, 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 see the San Francisco Church, Palacio da Bolsa (the Chamber of Commerce) with its splendid Arabian Hall, and we'll visit a port wine cellar for a demonstration and taste of the famous and revered port. 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.

Day 8: Madeira. Today we will have a welcome orientation of Funchal including the Cathedral, and a visit of the beautiful botanical gardens with their unique island species.

Day 9: 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'll a trout farm before continuing to Mount Poiso and the village of Santo da Serra, 1400m above sea level.

Day 10: Madeira. A day at leisure to enjoy the facilities of the hotel or explore the charming town of Funchal. This 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: Home. We fly direct from Lisbon to Toronto.



Magnificent Morocco

Because this ancient kingdom is where Africa meets Europe, Morocco has long been known as “the Gateway to Africa”. It is a land of cultural and scenic contrasts with exotic old-world charm that delights every visitor.

The Moroccan people, famous for their hospitality, are a mix of Arab and Berber, and their rich culture lives on in their dress, food, customs and festivities. The best place for people watching is the markets, where the shopping is colourful in both the wares available and also the crowds in the local bazaars with acrobats, snake charmers, water sellers and the occasional camel vying for your attention.

On our tour we will see medieval walled cities rich in culture and history, with palaces, mosques and local markets. The wonderful scenery along the way includes snow-capped mountain peaks, deserts with sand dunes and beautiful fertile valleys.

So join us and discover why Morocco has been attracting so many visitors for so many centuries.

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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- DeLuxe and First Class hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily
- Water, tea and coffee with all dinners
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$5297
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa or Halifax - add \$90
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$290

16 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

OCTOBER 1 - 16

OCTOBER 8 - 23

Tour Highlights:

- Romantic Casablanca
- Imperial Marrakech and its famous traditional market
- Spiritual Fez - UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Hassan II Mosque - 3rd Largest Mosque in the world
- Chefchaouen, known as the “Blue City”
- Voulubilis - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Merzouga and its famous sand dunes
- Kasbah of Ait Ben Haddou, a 16th Century UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Tichka Pass – Morocco’s highest pass with breathtaking views of the High Atlas Mountains

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Casablanca, via Montreal.

Day 2: Casablanca. We arrive in Casablanca and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is free.

Day 3: Casablanca / Rabat. Our tour of Casablanca, Morocco's largest city, begins at the old Medina - a labyrinth of streets, barbers, butchers, ironmongers and grocers. Nearby is majestic Mohammed V Square with its combination of French and Moorish architecture. We also see the Royal Palace and the famous Hassan II Mosque situated directly on the ocean - the world's third largest mosque. Then we proceed to Morocco's capital - Rabat, the seat of the Royal Family and home to many palaces and mosques. Our city tour will show us the imposing exterior of the Royal Palace - official residence of King Mohamed VI, the Royal Mausoleum of Sultan Mohammed V - the man who led Morocco to independence, and the exquisite Hassan Tower.

Day 4: Tangier. We depart for Tangier, a cosmopolitan city combining all of its historical inhabitants - Phoenician, Romans, Vandals, Berbers, Arabs, Portuguese, Spanish, British and French. Our tour of the old city shows us the crowded Souks where traditional products are made and sold, then through the archway to the walled Medina - a medieval world of narrow lanes leading to the lively bazaars.

Day 5: Chefchaouen / Meknes. We proceed to the mountain city of Chefchaouen, known as the "Blue City". It is famous for the old Medina, houses with blue doors, wrought iron windows and tile roofs. The local markets are animated with traditionally dressed locals and colourful goods. After our tour we continue to Meknes.

Day 6: Meknes / Volubilis / Fez. Like a mirage looming up out of the rock in the countryside, the former royal city of Meknes is yet another unexpected delight of Morocco. This beautiful city has old city walls, monumental gates and palatial ruins. We visit the city walls, the Royal stables and the intricate Bab Al Mansour Gates. We then visit the remarkable ancient Roman ruin of Volubilis (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) before proceeding to Fez.

Day 7: Fez. A maze of stone and marble surrounded by orchards, Fez is the spiritual centre of Morocco. The old town's maze of alleys, houses and shops sit in the shadow of the mosque's minarets. From their workshops in the back alleys potters, charcoal burners, goldsmiths and weavers still practice their ancient trades. The Jewish Quarter here has long had a reputation for producing the finest ironwork in the country. On our full-day tour you will see the Medina

(a UNESCO World Heritage site), the Najjarine Fountain, the Moulay Idriss Mausoleum, the Karaouine Mosque and more.

Day 8: Erfoud. We travel to the town of Erfoud, built by the French and known for its red sand buildings that contrast with the surrounding desert. We stop in Midelt in the Atlas Mountains with wonderful landscape views.

Day 9: Merzouga / Boulmane. An optional tour to ride a camel over the sand dunes at sunrise will be offered. We proceed to Merzouga and see its famous sand dunes, some of which are 160 metres high. Then we continue to Boulmane, en-route visiting the magnificent Todgha Canyons and marvel at the carved out cliff-sided canyons with sheer rock walls.

Day 10: Ouarzazate. We travel to Ouarzazate on the edge of the Sahara - an ancient garrison town made famous when the film Lawrence of Arabia was filmed nearby, then through Dades Valley, or "Valley of One Thousand Kasbahs". We also visit Taourirt - one of Morocco's most beautiful Kasbahs.

Day 11: Marrakech. We first visit Ait Ben Haddou - a 16th century UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of Morocco's best preserved and spectacular Kasbahs. Then we proceed to Marrakech via the Tichka Pass - Morocco's highest pass. The views of the High Atlas Mountains interspersed with small Berber villages typical of the region are breathtaking.

Day 12: Marrakech. The 1,000-year-old "Red City" of Marrakech is drenched in culture and history. Our full-day tour includes the Mejdoules Gardens, the Saadian Tombs, El Bahia Palace and the Medina. At Djemaa El Fna Square we see snake charmers, acrobats and scribes writing letters for the illiterate.

Day 13: Ourika Valley / Marrakech. We travel to the Ourika Valley, enjoying views of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains and tiny villages clinging to the steep hillsides, with rocky landscapes merging with the desert.

Day 14: Essaouira. En route to the coastal town of Essaouira we will visit an Argan co-operative to see how local women produce Argan oil. In Essaouira our city tour includes the beautiful medina (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) and the Orson Welles Square and Memorial, dedicated to the famous director's filming of Othello. We may get lucky and spot the famous tree climbing goats in the Argan trees.

Day 15: Casablanca. We travel back to Casablanca. The afternoon is free to explore until tonight's Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Home. We fly home via Montreal.



HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Icelandair (direct between Toronto and Reykjavik)
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Breakfast buffet and dinner daily
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$8497
.....
- Single Supplement - \$1490
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver - add \$990
- * Western passengers - for an additional \$99 p.p. double occupancy (\$189 single) you may choose to overnight in Toronto before or after the tour.

Iceland

Land of Fire and Ice

Iceland was the last European country to be settled when it was discovered by the British and Scandinavians more than 1,000 years ago.

Today it is a very modern society with a high standard of living and education. The Icelanders have preserved much of their Norse and Celtic heritage and most of them speak English. They are very friendly and helpful to visitors.

The very name "Iceland" evokes an image of vast ice and snow fields but in fact it has a remarkably moderate climate with fjords, glaciers, active volcanoes, black lava fields, red sulphur, hot blue geysers, white rivers, waterfalls and deep green valleys, all with a backdrop of mountains, ice-capped ranges and towering cliffs. The inland features areas of volcanic formations, geysers, hot springs and lakes while the coastline is richly indented with bays.

11 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 1

On this unique tour we explore the wild beauty of the island. Our sightseeing will include a boat cruise on Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon, the spectacular Eastern Fjords, the charming "capital of the north" - Akureyri, Lake Myvatn National Park - surrounded by lava fields and renowned for its bird life, and the world famous Blue Lagoon where you will have an opportunity to soak in the thermal waters.

There are few countries in the world that can compare to Iceland's dramatic landscapes, flora and fauna. This photographer and naturalist paradise must be experienced first hand.

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart on our overnight flight to Reykjavik.

Day 2: Borgarnes. We arrive in Reykjavik, which means "Smoky Bay" due to the wisps of steam rising from its geothermal springs. After arrival we transfer to the Viking World Museum for a buffet breakfast and time to visit the exhibition. We then head north to our hotel in Borgarnes, en route stopping to visit incredible Hraunfossar Waterfall - hundreds of meters wide, this is one of Iceland's most beautiful attractions. Tonight is our Welcome Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3: Akureyri. We begin our ring tour and our first stop will be the 3000-year-old Grábrók Volcano. Grábrók is the biggest crater of three along this volcanic crack. Next we visit an Icelandic Horse farm to learn about this breed of horse that has remained unchanged since its introduction by the Viking's over 1100 years ago. Tonight we stay in Akureyri, the "capital of the north".

Day 4: Godafoss / Lake Myvatn. This morning we will have time to explore the town of Akureyri before we head to Godafoss - "Waterfalls of the Gods" - one of the most spectacular in Iceland. We then visit Grenjastadur Turf House to see the best preserved turf houses and discover the way of life of Icelanders before the 1900s. Then we continue to Laxardals Hydro Power Station for a brief talk and view stop where we will learn the importance of renewable energy, before proceeding to our hotel in Lake Myvatn for a 2-night stay.

Day 5: Lake Myvatn / Nature Baths. Today we explore the amazing natural attractions of this unique area including Dimmugorgir (Dark Castles - towering lava formations), and the bubbling sulfur mudpots of Viti Crater and Krafla which mark the continental divide between the North American and Eurasian Tectonic Plates. After our touring this afternoon we have time to soak in the soothing mineral waters at the Myvatn Nature Baths.

Day 6: Egilsstaðir. We continue east on the ring road to Dettifoss - the largest waterfall in Europe. Next is Modrudalur - the most isolated farm in Iceland, from where we will enjoy a spectacular view of Herdubreid,

fondly referred to as the "Queen of all Mountains in Iceland". We then visit the Wilderness Centre in Egilsstaðir for a true feel of how harsh the lifestyle was in Iceland in previous centuries, before arriving at our hotel.

Day 7: Glacial Lagoon / Skaftafell. We travel along the east coast, with its towering mountains and sheer rock faces plunging into the sea to form Iceland's spectacular East Fjords. We will stop at Petra's Stone Collection, perhaps the world's greatest stone collection. This unusual assortment of thousands of stones is located in Petra's home and spread out over her large garden. After our visit we drive to the heights of Almannaskard Pass past Lonsoraefi, a mountainous wilderness ringed by extinct volcanoes. At Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon we embark on a boat cruise to see up close where huge icebergs have broken off the ever-shifting mass of Breidamerkurjökull Glacier and float in the lagoon. We overnight in Skaftafell.

Day 8: Vik. At Skaftafell National Park we take a walk to get up close to the glacier itself. After travelling through Eldhraun - the largest mass of lava ever to flow on earth - we cross the volcanic sand desert of Myrdalssand until we reach Vik for our overnight.

Day 9: Reykjavik. This morning we visit the Lava Centre - Iceland's newest attraction and one of the world's best exhibitions of seismic and volcanic activity. We will make a stop at Gullfoss ("Golden Waterfall") before continuing to the geothermal region of Haukadalur to see the Strokkur Geyser which erupts every 7 minutes. Our last visit is Pingvellir National Park, where the ancient parliament of the country was established in 930AD, before we arrive in Reykjavik for our last 2 nights.

Day 10: Reykjavik. During our city tour of the capital we will see the old town centre, the Parliament, the Cathedral, the harbour and the National Museum. The afternoon is at leisure. Tonight we enjoy our Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 11: Blue Lagoon / Home. We visit the famous Blue Lagoon for an opportunity to bathe in the mineral-rich geothermal pools, before proceeding to the airport for our flight home.



Grand Rail Tour of Switzerland

This unique rail tour transports us through some of the most stunning panoramic routes in the world!

There is no better way to experience Switzerland than by rail. Relax onboard and gaze through the large picture windows as our train climbs and winds its way through the Alps. Sometimes we will ascend to dizzying heights which offer some of the most spectacular views on earth, consisting of crystal clear mountain lakes nestled in pristine wilderness set against towering mountain ranges, and lakeside towns and picture-perfect villages dotting the landscape. To experience this from the comfort of a modern train is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Legendary trains during our tour:

- **Mount Pilatus** - Panoramic gondolas take us to the summit to view 73 mountain peaks of Central Switzerland.
- **Jungfrau Railway** to Kleine Scheidegg - connects to Europe's highest railway station - "Top of the World".
- A chocolate experience aboard the **Belle Epoque's fin de siecle coaches**.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with British Airways
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Breakfast and dinner daily, 2 lunches. Wine/beer, water & coffee with dinners.
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$9997
-
- Single Supplement - \$1390
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Vancouver - add \$490
- Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$990

14 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 4 - 17

- **Bernina Express** - This UNESCO Heritage line from St. Moritz to Tirano passes over an incredible 196 bridges, with its journey finishing in Lugano.
- **Panoramic Express** (part of the *Golden Pass Line*) - From Lucerne we travel through Interlaken to Montreux, passing lakes, pastures, waterfalls and quaint chalets trimmed with flowerboxes, all nestled in picturesque valleys surrounded by jagged, snow-topped peaks. This is the quintessential Swiss experience.
- **Glacier Express** - Perhaps the most popular route. Beginning in Zermatt and ending in St. Moritz, it takes us through mountain landscapes (including the mighty Matterhorn), deep gorges, 91 tunnels and across 291 bridges. The highest point of the trip is crossing the Oberalp Pass - over 6600 feet above sea level!

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

Day 1: Departure. We board our flight for Zurich, via London.

Day 2: Zurich / Lucerne. We arrive in Zurich and transfer to the town of Vitznau, situated on Lake Lucerne. From here we enjoy breathtaking views of the lake and surrounding mountains as we cruise to our hotel in Lucerne - our home for the next 3 nights. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Lucerne. A guided walking tour takes us through the city's Old Town. We'll see the Hofkirche Church, wooden covered Chapel Bridge (the symbol of Lucerne) and the famous Lion Monument (carved into a sandstone cliff), followed by a visit of the interactive Swiss Museum of Transport. After some free time to explore, we'll enjoy a wonderful Swiss dinner.

Day 4: Mount Pilatus / Lucerne. We board an aerial cableway and panoramic gondola, to reach the summit of Mount Pilatus. Known as the "Dragon Ride", the cockpit-like cabin of the gondola has windows extending to the floor and provides breathtaking views in every direction.

Day 5: Golden Pass Train / Brienz / Panoramic Express / Interlaken. Our scenic train ride on the *Golden Pass Line* and the *Panoramic Express* train takes us via the Bruenig Pass to Interlaken through the heart of the Swiss Alps. Our first stop is Brienz, set in the midst of towering mountains, for some free time. Then we cruise along the turquoise-coloured Lake Brienz to Interlaken, where we'll board a steam mountain railway that whisks us up 5000 feet for fabulous views of the deep blue lakes below and snow-capped mountains in the distance, including one of Europe's highest mountains – the Jungfrau!

Day 6: Jungfrau Railway / Interlaken. We board the *Jungfrau Railway* and cable car to Kleine Scheidegg - home to Europe's highest mountain, Jungfraujoch. We first take the *Bernese Oberland Railway* to Grindelwald, where we'll board the new *Eiger Express*, (a tri-cable aerial cableway) and ascend in 15 minutes. This state-of-the-art cabin takes us close to the north face of the Eiger at 1800 metres, so the views are breathtaking. To descend, we take a combination of the *Wengernalp* and *Bernese Oberland Railway* to return to Interlaken.

Day 7: Golden Pass / Montreux. The elegant *Golden Train* takes us from Interlaken to the shores of Lake Geneva. We'll travel along Lake Thun and through the scenic Simme Valley to Zweisimmen, where we board the *Golden Pass Panoramic* to Montreux. We arrive in Montreux for a 2-night stay on the chic, palm-studded Swiss Riviera.

Day 8: Chillon Castle / Montreux. Our walking tour will include a visit of Chateaux Chillon. Located on a rock on the banks of Lake Geneva, this water-castle is Switzerland's most visited historic building. For 400 years it was the residence of the

Counts of Savoy, as well as where Lord Byron was imprisoned when he wrote "The Prisoner of Chillon" (his name is carved into his cell wall!) Afternoon at leisure. You may want to visit the museum dedicated to the rock group Queen!

Day 9: Chocolate Train / La Gruyere / Broc / Visp (Zermatt). We board the stunning *Belle Époque* Coaches to experience the *Chocolate Train* en route to La Gruyere, where we will have some free time and enjoy a typical fondue lunch at a local chalet! Then we continue to Broc, home to the famous chocolate factory - Cailler, where we'll learn about chocolate production and taste some of the finest offerings. Later we'll proceed by train to the pretty town of Visp, in the Zermatt area (known as the 'Sun Terrace of Switzerland'), for a 2-night stay.

Day 10: Zermatt / Visp. A short train ride takes us to Zermatt for a casual walking tour of this quaint village, with the rest of the day at leisure. The air here is clear and clean because only electric cars are allowed to operate in the village. You may wish to climb to Gornergrat on Europe's highest open air cogwheel train. The train crosses impressive bridges and goes through tunnels with views of the majestic Matterhorn - the most photographed mountain in the world.

Day 11: Glacier Express Train / Chur. We travel aboard *The Glacier Express* (perhaps the most famous railway in the world) to Chur. The train meanders through untouched pristine mountain landscapes, deep gorges, breathtaking valleys, through 91 tunnels and across 291 impressive bridges!

Day 12: Bernina Express / St. Moritz / Lugano. We board the *Bernina Express* for a truly spectacular rail journey. This 100-year-old heritage line has earned UNESCO World Heritage status for its ingenious engineering and the striking beauty of the scenery it winds through. We travel past craggy mountain peaks, high-alpine landscape, cascading waterfalls and the Morteratsch Glacier. From the highest point, the train begins its dramatic descent via the famous Brusio spiral viaduct to the valley floor at Tirano. The rest of the journey continues on the *Bernina Express* bus to Lugano, capturing the southern scenery of the Valtelline valley, and along Lake Como and Lake Lugano.

Day 13: Lugano. Lugano is a little taste of Italy in Switzerland, with an incredibly mild climate and a beautiful lake front. On our guided walking tour we'll see magnificent architecture as we walk the lovely narrow streets of the old city and along the lake shore. We'll visit the restored Romanesque St. Lawrence Cathedral that overlooks the town and take a short cruise to the town of Morcote - considered to be Switzerland's most beautiful village. Our Farewell Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant.

Day 14: Home. We fly home via London.



Magic of Eastern Europe

• Budapest • Vienna • Prague

On this outstanding tour we will visit historic cities, fairytale medieval villages, Gothic castles and famous monuments in three of Europe's oldest countries.

We begin in the “Golden City of 100 Spires” - Prague, the ancient capital of Bohemia and the best-preserved Baroque city in Central Europe. Built on seven hills and spanning the Vltava River, Prague is small enough for a good walker to see most of the major sights: its massive castle, statue-lined bridge, beautifully preserved Old Town, and evocative Jewish Quarter, while enjoying the city's love of music and perhaps the best beer in Europe.

Next is Vienna, but en route, we visit the UNESCO World Heritage town of Cesky Krumlov - a charming fairy-tale town with a mix of Renaissance and Baroque architecture.

Vienna is one of Europe's most elegant and historical capital cities, with opulent buildings, museums laden with treasures and an extensive musical tradition shaped by its residents like Mozart and Beethoven. Of course, the elegant shops that line the great avenues add to Vienna's captivating charm.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with British Airways
- First Class hotels
- Full buffet breakfast daily, 10 dinners (with wine) and 3 lunches.
- Concert at the Schonbrunn Palace
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$6197
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Vancouver - add \$490. Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary or Edmonton -add \$990

14 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 10 - 23

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 7

We finish off in the architecturally stunning capital of Hungary - Budapest. With over 1000 years of history, Budapest today is perhaps the most exciting commercial, cultural and entertainment centre in Eastern Europe. Majestic bridges span across the Danube River lining “Buda's” medieval grandeur with “Pest's” magnificent 19th century buildings, grandly designed boulevards, beautiful Opera house as well as the oldest and 2nd largest Parliament building in Europe. The city is abundant with lively pedestrian streets, squares and cafes and boasts numerous museums, art galleries and spas – earning its moniker of “Spa City”. While in Budapest, we will stay in a lovely Spa hotel!

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

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

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

Day 3: Prague. Our coach and walking tour will show us the stunning sights of the Hradcany Castle district, with a visit to the majestic St. Vitus Cathedral, the Loretto Chapel and “The Golden Lane” - named after the goldsmiths who lived here in the 17th century. Some of the alchemists attempted to turn metal into gold here!

Day 4: Prague. We continue our guided walking tour with a stroll across the Charles Bridge to Lesser Town’s winding narrow streets, where we see the artisan houses, small 17th century palaces, the Jewish Ghetto and the famous astronomical clock. We will enjoy a 1-hour river cruise through the historic district, then an afternoon at leisure.

Day 5: Prague. At leisure in the Golden City. Prague is a very pleasant and lively city in which to stroll, so you may want to revisit Little Town and some of the quaint shops (best buys are crystal and garnet jewelry). Enjoy a coffee (and people watching) in Old Town Square. After dinner, why not visit one of the local pubs to enjoy the famous dark ales brewed here.

Day 6: Cesky Krumlov / Vienna. We depart Prague and drive to the UNESCO World Heritage city of Cesky Krumlov. This picture postcard, beautiful fortified medieval town is surrounded by unspoiled countryside. Our walking tour will take us through the historic centre of narrow cobblestone streets winding along romantic nooks abundant with lively shops, cafes, and museums. Lunch is included. After our tour we will proceed to Vienna for a 4-night stay.

Day 7: Vienna. Our city tour of Vienna captures the true elegance and magnificence of the “Ringstrasse” lined with palatial and extravagant buildings like the Opera House, Hofburg and more, built when Vienna was the capital of the Austro-Hungarian empire. We visit the Schonbrunn Palace with its 440 rooms and lavish interiors. It is here in the Grand Gallery that Mozart gave his first royal concert. This evening we will dine at the Palace followed by a concert performance of the works of Mozart and Strauss in the Palace Orangery.

Day 8: Vienna. Our tour of the lovely Vienna Woods includes visits of the 12th century Cistercian Abbey and the former Imperial hunting lodge at Mayerling. Before returning to Vienna we enjoy a special dinner with musical entertainment and wine at one of Vienna's famous wine villages.

Day 9: Vienna. A day of leisure. The city planning of “The Ringstrasse” makes it easy for exploring. You may want to visit the Spanish Riding School to catch a Lipizzaner horses training session, or maybe venture to the countryside blanketed with vineyards and quaint villages including the opulent Melk Abbey. Vienna is known for its coffee culture, so stop to enjoy coffee and a taste of Sacher Torte!

Day 10: Bratislava / Gyor / Budapest. En route to Budapest we stop in two charming cities: Bratislava (capital of Slovakia), and the old Hungarian city of Gyor - the “City of Waters”. We will have walking tours of both cities, through their quaint pedestrian Old Town centres abundant with statues, old city squares and 18th century pastel-coloured buildings. Later we arrive at our spa hotel in Budapest.

Day 11: Budapest. Our city tour begins on the Pest side at the magnificent Heroes’ Square - an epic display of the history of the Magyars! A drive down the Grand Boulevard takes us past the magnificent Opera House, the House of Parliaments, the Jewish Quarter (with the world’s 2nd largest synagogue) and more. We’ll stroll through the lively pedestrian streets to the “Great Market Hall” and enjoy an included “food tasting” lunch! Later we cross over to Buda to the top of Gellert Hill with its bird’s eye view over the Danube River and city. We finish in the Castle District, home to the Royal Palace, where we visit the famous Mathias Church and Fisherman’s Bastion. Tonight we enjoy a typical Hungarian dinner and folklore show.

Day 12: Danube Tour / Budapest. We drive along the Danube into Hungary’s countryside and the Baroque, artisan village of Szentendre - an 18th century town with cobblestone streets, hidden alleys and colourful old houses. It is a perfect town in which to stroll and visit some of the many galleries and shops. A tour and tasting awaits us at the Marzipan Museum, featuring sculptures made of Marzipan! Lunch is included in Visegrad, a town with a 13th century fortified fortress that has housed many notorious visitors (and according to one legend, even “Dracula” was imprisoned in its tower!)

Day 13: Budapest. At leisure. At our thermal spa hotel you have free access to most of its facilities including the thermal baths, steam rooms and reasonably priced treatments. You may also want to attend one of the many musical events the city is famous for. This evening we enjoy our romantic Farewell Dinner Cruise along the majestic Danube illuminated by breathtaking architectural masterpieces!

Day 14: Home. We fly home, via London.



Croatia and Slovenia

From Dubrovnik to Venice

We begin this unique tour with 3 nights in the Jewel of the Adriatic - Dubrovnik - a UNESCO World Heritage Site and certainly one of the most beautiful cities in Europe.

Then we will discover the medieval architecture, tranquil lakes, quaint villages and local charm as we visit some of Croatia's other port towns such as Zadar, Trogir and Split. In the historic city of Mostar in Bosnia / Herzegovina we'll absorb the Turkish atmosphere and see the famous old bridge. We'll explore Plitvice National Park - a lush valley where waterfalls cascade down sheer cliffs connecting pristine lakes and then the vibrant capital city of Zagreb - the country's economic, intellectual and cultural centre.

We then travel into Slovenia - a country of stunning natural beauty with snow-capped peaks, turquoise-green rivers and a Venetian style coastline. Our touring here will include, Ljubljana - winner of the European Green Capital award, the impressive caves of Postojna, the emerald-green resort town of Lake Bled and many scenic drives.

We finish off in the romantic city of Venice. With its marvellous canals, beautiful architecture and Byzantine atmosphere, Venice never fails to enchant its visitors.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada & Austrian Airlines
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily, and 3 lunches (lunches and several dinners at local restaurants)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal or Halifax
Depart September 15 - \$6797
Depart October 8 - \$6497
-
- Single supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Vancouver, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$90
- Winnipeg - add \$290

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 15 - 29

OCTOBER 8 - 22

Tour Highlights:

- The beautiful old port city of Dubrovnik
- Region of Konavle and mountain village of Gruda
- The defensive walls of Ston
- Mostar's famous historic bridge
- Seaside town of Split
- Trogir - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Plitvice National Park
- Funicular ride to Zagreb's Upper Town
- Ljubljana, Slovenia's charming capital city
- Boat ride on Lake Bled
- Postojna's incredible Karst cave system
- The island city of Venice

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart with Air Canada for Dubrovnik, via Vienna.

Day 2: Dubrovnik (Croatia). We arrive in Dubrovnik and transfer to our hotel. The remainder of the day is free.

Day 3: Dubrovnik. Our city tour of Dubrovnik shows us the city walls and fortifications, the Rector's Palace, set-piece churches and public buildings that blend seamlessly with green-shuttered stone houses, and Europe's oldest apothecary in the Franciscan Monastery. Later we travel by coach to the region of Konavle with a stop at the little mountain village of Gruda to see the mills and enjoy a tasting of local ham, cheese and grappa. This evening is our welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 4: Dubrovnik. At leisure to return to the old city or take a boat ride along the coast. An optional tour will be offered to Montenegro.

Day 5: Ston / Mostar. We travel to Mostar, en route visiting the village of Ston with its impressive series of defensive walls which once surrounded and protected the city. Upon arrival in Mostar a guided tour of the city will show us the beautiful old town, the famous old bridge and the Turkish section, including a visit of a Turkish home and the Mosque.

Day 6: Split. We head back to the coast and enjoy a scenic drive to the energetic town of Split, the second-largest city in Croatia with the perfect balance of tradition and modernity.

Day 7: Split. Our tour of Split features the historic inner city - the biggest in Dalmatia, built around a Roman Palace. We see the remnants of Split's Roman heritage, its Gothic structures, Jupiter's Temple and the Peristyle. We'll also visit the caves of the Diocletian's Palace. The afternoon is at leisure to explore this popular seaside town's dozens of cafes, restaurants and shops.

Day 8: Trogir / Zadar. We visit the UNESCO Heritage Site of Trogir Island - a Croatian artistic centre. Scholars from all over the world gather to study and paint here, and you

will see why. We continue to Zadar where our tour shows us the harbour, the historical center, the Romanic marks and the pre-Romanic church of Saint Donat.

Day 9: Plitvice Lakes / Zagreb. We depart for Plitvice Lakes National Park, a lush valley with 16 terraced lakes strung together by countless cascading waterfalls and miles of pleasant paths and wooden bridges. Our visit here will include a boat ride on the still waters of Kozjak Lake and an electric train around the park. Lunch will be included at the park today. At the end of our park visit, we continue to Zagreb, Croatia's capital.

Day 10: Zagreb. Our city tour will include a funicular ride to the Upper Town where a complex of churches, palaces, museums, government buildings and galleries has retained much of its old-world charm.

Day 11: Ljubljana (Slovenia). We continue to Slovenia's medieval capital, Ljubljana. Our city tour will include a funicular ride to Ljubljana castle for a panoramic view of the old town and red-roofed houses. The afternoon is at leisure to stroll the old town with its small shops, outdoor cafes and charming restaurants.

Day 12: Lake Bled / Ljubljana. Today's tour at emerald-green Lake Bled includes a visit of Bled Castle, which stands on a cliff above the lake with spectacular views, and a "pletna" boat ride to the island where you can ring the bell at St. Mary's Church for good luck.

Day 13: Postojna Caves / Venice (Jesolo). We travel to Postojna to visit the incredible Karst cave system. A minitrain takes us through this fantastic underground world of beautiful stalactites and stalagmites. We continue toward Venice and our hotel in nearby Jesolo.

Day 14: Venice (Jesolo). A boat ride will take us to the island of Venice for a guided tour of this magical city. We will see St. Mark's Square, the Bridge of Sighs, the Doge's Palace and more. In the afternoon we will enjoy some time at leisure to explore before we return to the mainland. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 15: Home. We fly home. direct to Canada.



Magical Islands of Greece

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Deluxe and First Class hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily, 4 lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax
Depart September 13 - \$6997
Depart September 27 - \$6797
-
- Single Supplement - \$1590
- Calgary or Vancouver - add \$90
- Winnipeg or Edmonton - add \$190

• Athens • Mykonos • Crete • Santorini

The charm of the Greek Islands has fascinated visitors for many years. On this tour we start in Athens, with its historical treasures, vibrant culture and celebrated monuments (out of Athens we also enjoy a day cruise and an excursion to classical Delphi). Then we visit three of the most popular islands in Greece.

Mykonos is a delightful port with winding cobblestoned streets, white washed houses and picturesque churches. Its famous windmills look glorious against the backdrop of the blue Aegean Sea and sandy beaches. The shops and cafes are on the waterfront. Sit a while in a taverna, sip the local Ouzo and watch the sunset ... heaven!

Santorini is known for its high cliffs, black volcanic sand beaches and spectacular landscapes formed by centuries of volcanic activity. The main town of Fira sits atop a cliff edge which plunges almost 900 ft. to the sea. The island's cafes and shops line the streets of the town, and the white houses with distinctive blue doors spread down to the long, black beaches. From the west end of town there are stunning views of the harbour, coastline and the neighboring islands. One of the great pleasures is to

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN 2023

SEPTEMBER 13 - 27

SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 11

wander the cobblestone streets, browse through the craft shops and arrive at the western edge of town to watch the sun bathe the harbour and sea in a magenta glow. Mules are used as transport to and from the harbour.

Crete is the largest Greek island, and its attractions are many - mosques, monasteries, gorges, grottoes, beaches and wonderful mountain scenery. The walled capital city of Heraklion is just 3 miles from the restored ruins of the 5,000 year old Minoan Palace of Knossos, believed to be the site of the mythical labyrinth of King Minos. Heraklion also has one of the finest archaeological museums in Greece. There are coastal fishing communities and rustic farming settlements in the hills. This diversity makes for an interesting and lively stay.

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Athens.

Day 2: Athens. We arrive in Athens and transfer to our hotel, located in the heart of Athens within walking distance of The Plaka - the oldest section of Athens with churches, shops, cafes and ruins of ancient temples. It is a safe and delightful area to explore.

Day 3: Athens. On our full day tour of Athens we see wonders known around the world - Hadrian's Arch, the Temple of Zeus, the Stadium, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the former Royal Palace and the government buildings. The highlight will be the Acropolis and Parthenon. Lunch will be at a typical taverna.

Day 4: Delphi / Athens. Our full day tour to Delphi begins with a drive into the mountains for a visit to Arahova, known for its colourful rugs and carpets. We then proceed to Delphi, once known as the centre of the world. Here we visit the temple of the Greek God Apollo, a beautiful site which evokes the classical past of this area. Those who wish may climb to the top of the theatre for incredible views of the countryside.

Day 5: Cruise / Athens. We cruise to the Saronic Islands via Aegina, a busy port in antiquity and today a tranquil resort. We continue on to Paros where we will enjoy a stroll by its enchanting little harbour, and then the quaint, colourful harbour of Hydra. Lunch is included. We return to Athens for our overnight.

Day 6: Crete. We fly to Crete and transfer to our hotel. The remainder of the day is at your leisure.

Day 7: Crete. Today's excursion will include a visit to the Palace of Knossos - the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete that has been named Europe's oldest city at various points in history. We then visit the town of Heraklion and the Archaeological Museum, showcasing the most notable and complete collection of artifacts of the Minoan civilization of Crete.

Day 8: Crete. Today we will enjoy a full day tour of the countryside which will take us past vineyards and olive groves to Gortys - the old Greek and Roman town with ruins of Saint Titus Church. Then on to Phaestos for a visit of the Minoan Palace and for the beautiful view over the Messara Plain and Ida Mountain.

Day 9: Santorini. We ferry over to the dramatic island of Santorini and transfer to our hotel.

Day 10: Santorini. At leisure to explore the town at your own pace. See the Orthodox Cathedral, now a Byzantine museum, and marvel at the dazzling white houses topped with blue domes.

Day 11: Mykonos. We ferry to Mykonos for a 3-night stay. Enjoy the facilities of our resort hotel and beach, stroll into the quaint village or perhaps take the local bus to explore the small churches, chapels, glittering white houses, arcades and narrow streets.

Day 12: Mykonos. This morning we will have an orientation of Mykonos, including the beautiful esplanade lined with cafes and outdoor terraces overlooking the busy harbour.

Day 13: Mykonos. Our tour today takes us to the island of Delos - birthplace of the legendary Gods Apollo and Artemis. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Delos is one of the most important mythological, historical, and archaeological sites in Greece.

Day 14: Athens. We fly to Athens for some time at leisure to further explore the Plaka or revisit one or more of the many attractions. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

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



Glorious Greece

with a Greek Island Cruise

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class hotels (moderate hotels while on the coach tour)
- First Class cruise, including unlimited alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Enriched continental breakfast and dinner daily, plus 3 lunches during the cruise
- 3 shore excursions during the cruise
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$7197
.....
- Single Supplement - \$1490
- Montreal, Ottawa or Halifax - add \$90
- Vancouver or Calgary - add \$490
- Winnipeg - add \$290. Edmonton - add \$990

- 4 night cruise including 3 shore excursions
- Athens • Classical Coach Tour • 3 nights Mykonos

Home of mythological gods and archaeological delights, Greece has delighted visitors for decades. It may be the history, mild climate and magnificent scenery that attracts you, but it's the friendly people who will make you want to return.

Our holiday begins and ends in the vibrant capital city of Athens, known for its fantastic museums and archaeological sites. Our touring will show us the Acropolis and Parthenon, as well as beautiful Cape Sounion. There will also be ample time at leisure to enjoy the many museums, cafes and shopping in "The Plaka".

After our initial stay in Athens we will embark on a 4-day "Classical Coach Tour" taking in the major historic sites of Delphi, Kalambaka, Nafplion, Mycenae and Meteora. Next, we enjoy three nights on the island of Mykonos, considered one of the most beautiful and popular islands in Greece, with its trademark windmills, glittering white houses, cobblestoned streets and lively atmosphere.

A highlight of our tour will be our 4-night Greek Island cruise aboard one of the ships in the *Celestyal Cruises*

15 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 22 - OCTOBER 6

OCTOBER 6 - 20

fleet. These are smaller and less formal ships, ideal for cruising around the islands yet more than well equipped for your comfort. *Celestyal* ships have welcoming public rooms, bars and lounges, casino, movie theatre, library, boutiques and plenty of deck space. The entertainment program includes shows, special events and music and dancing nightly. Dining on board is a treat, as the team of expert chefs are eager to please with their wide array of international specialties. Unlimited alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages are included and available all day. For this cruise we have all outside cabins that are bright and comfortable, with climate control, music channel, phone and bathroom (shower only). A special feature of our program is that we have included shore excursions on 3 of the most interesting and beautiful islands.

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

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

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

Day 3: Athens. On our city tour we will see Hadrian's Arch, the Stadium, Temple of Zeus and the former Royal Palace. The highlight will be the Acropolis and the incredible Parthenon. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure to explore the Plaka or revisit one of the many attractions.

Day 4: Meteora / Kalambaka. Our Classical Coach Tour begins with the striking scenery of Meteora - its ageless monasteries perched atop massive rocks that appear to be suspended in mid-air. We will see exquisite Byzantine art before continuing to Kalambaka, located at the foot of an amazing rock complex.

Day 5: Delphi. We proceed through the mountains to Delphi, once known as the "centre of the world" and home to The Oracle - an area rich in archaeological treasures and mythology. We will see the Treasure of Athenians, site of The Oracle, the Theatre and the Stadium.

Day 6: Olympia. Today we will enjoy the scenic drive along the picturesque coastline of Corinth Bay, with views of the Peloponnese Mountains in the distance. After a photo stop at Rio-Antirrio Bridge we continue to Olympia where we visit the Temple of Zeus and Hera, the Stadium, the museum featuring Hermes of Praxiteles and the site of the first Olympic Games held in 776 BC.

Day 7: Mycenae / Nafplion / Epidauros / Athens. We travel to Mycenae, and visit the Lion's Gate, the Cyclopean Walls and the Royal Tombs. Then we continue to the seaside town of Nafplion for a brief visit before proceeding to Epidauros to see the ancient theatre - famous for its astonishing acoustics. Later we return to Athens for our overnight.

Day 8: Mykonos. We take the ferry to Mykonos for our 3-night stay. Afternoon at leisure.

Days 9 and 10: Mykonos. Two free days to enjoy our resort hotel, stroll along the beach or explore the village's small churches and shops along the cobblestone streets. The island's landmark windmills are everywhere and the esplanade along the small harbour is lined with quaint cafes and outdoor patios.

Day 11: Mykonos / Cruising. This afternoon we will enjoy a tour of Mykonos, before embarking on our 4-day cruise.

Day 12: Cruising / Kusadasi / Patmos. We cruise to Kusadasi (Turkey), a resort town on the Turkish Riviera. Our included excursion will be to the incredible white-marble ruins at Ephesus, once the capital of the Roman province of Asia. Here the Temple of Diana was counted among the Seven Wonders of the World, and St. Paul wrote his most profound epistles here. A white marble avenue (the Arcadian Way) stretches through the city, with ruins of once great buildings such as the Library of Celsius and the Temple of Hadrian. The ancient public latrines provide some humour! We then sail to the "Holy Island" of Patmos - once an important Christian pilgrimage site. You may join an optional excursion or explore on your own.

Day 13: Cruising / Rhodes. Our included excursion begins with a walking tour of the old walled city of Rhodes with its medieval buildings, winding alleys, towers, turrets and the impressive Grand Master's Palace. A highlight is the Street of the Knights - residences of the Knights of Rhodes.

Day 14: Cruising / Crete / Santorini. We begin the day on Crete - the largest Greek island and home of the 4,000 year-old Minoan Empire. On our included excursion we discover the proud Venetian heritage of Heraklion - the Koules Fortress (overlooking the Heraklion harbour), the Venetian Loggia (the 17th century social center), the harmonious Morozini Fountain and the 10th century Church of St. Titus. We then visit the wonderful open-air museum of the Palace of Knossos, considered Europe's oldest city, and discover the incredible world of the legendary Minoan civilization.

We then cruise to Santorini, noted for its dramatic volcanic landscapes with sheer black cliffs surrounding a fantastic cauldron-shape bay. The island is easy to explore on foot, or you may take an optional excursion to picturesque Oia Village, en route taking in the breathtaking views of the Aegean Sea. There will be time to explore the village with its cobblestone streets and blue shuttered white washed houses.

Day 15: Depart for Home. We disembark our ship and transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Israel The Holy Land

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

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

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$8497
.....
- Single Supplement - \$2390
- Montreal, Ottawa or Halifax - add \$90
- Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton or Winnipeg - add \$290

Israel is a small country, with the sea on one side and the desert on the other, but never has such a small place meant so much to so many.

To millions of Jews, Christians and Muslims this is the Holy Land where King David ruled, Jesus died and Muhammad visited. As we visit places we've heard about all our lives, and see the ruins scattered throughout the country by the Greeks, Romans, Crusaders and Turks, we will be thrilled by the depth of history we encounter.

Israel today is a modern, progressive country where English is spoken everywhere. The warm, friendly people have come to Israel from over 100 countries, producing a potpourri of custom and dress that is reflected in the panorama of everyday life.

These diverse cultures and beliefs co-exist in a land full of scenic contrasts. There are mountains, subtropical valleys, lovely beaches, fertile farmland and arid deserts. Furthermore, everywhere you look there is the abundance of flowers that Israel is renowned for.

14 DAYS • NOVEMBER 3 - 16

A highlight of our visit here will be the Golden City of Jerusalem, sacred to Christians, Jews and Muslims alike. With all of the excavations of the past few years, the City of Peace has never looked more awe-inspiring.

We will also spend time in vibrant Tel Aviv, the beautiful Golan Heights and Sea of Galilee, mystic Safed, historic Nazareth and Bethlehem, dramatic cliff-top Masada and the buoyant Dead Sea. Also included in our tour will be some unique experiences to connect with the local people and various cultures as we enjoy a home-hosted family dinner in Jerusalem, take part in Bedouin hospitality and see a lively folklore show.

**Those participating in any of our tours to the Middle East must be able to walk fairly long distances.*

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Tel Aviv on our direct non-stop flight from Toronto.

Day 2: Tel Aviv. We arrive in Tel Aviv and proceed on a brief orientation of the city with a stop at Saron Market. The rest of the day is at leisure until this evening's Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Caesarea. Today we explore Caesarea, the Roman capital of Judea for 600 years and now an important archaeological site, where we see the remains of the Roman Amphitheatre, aqueduct, hippodrome and the Crusader's City. There will be time to stroll the promenade or relax in one of the many beachfront cafes.

Day 4: Haifa / Acre / Galilee. We depart for Haifa - Israel's largest port, where we stop for a view of the famous Bahai Gardens and Shrine, and the Carmelite Church of Stella Maris where the prophet Elisha is said to be buried. We continue on to the picturesque old city of Acre, before arriving in the Galilee for a 3-night stay.

Day 5: Golan Heights / Galilee. Today we ascend Mt. Bental for a panoramic view of the Golan Heights. We will visit the city of Qazrin, enjoy a wine tasting at the Golan Heights Winery, and visit a modern olive oil mill to learn about skin care products made of this Mediterranean culinary staple.

Day 6: Sea of Galilee / Capernaum / Galilee. We take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and see the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered three important speeches. We stop at Capernaum where Jesus stayed during his ministry, and Tabgha to visit the church, mosaics, and the site of the "bread and fishes" miracle. This evening at sunset, we enjoy a special bird watching tour at Hula Lake and observe the huge flocks of pelicans, herons, storks, and cranes arrive in the valley during the migration season.

Day 7: Nazareth / Jerusalem. Our first stop is Nazareth (where Jesus spent his boyhood) to visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and Joseph's workshop. We then proceed to Jerusalem for a 4-night stay. This evening will see (and participate in) a cultural dance demonstration.

Day 8: Jerusalem. Our tour of Jerusalem's Old City begins at the Mount of Olives for spectacular views over the city. We visit the Garden of Gethsemane, Church of All Nations, Mt. Zion to see the room of The Last Supper, and Tomb of

King David. We will walk through the winding streets to David's Tower, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the "Wailing Wall" and the Via Dolorosa (His path to the crucifixion). There will be free time to shop in the Old City bazaars or relax at one of the many coffee houses. This evening, we enjoy a home hosted dinner with a local Jewish family.

Day 9: Bethlehem / Jerusalem. We first visit Bethlehem and the Church of the Nativity where pilgrims have come for centuries. Then we visit the Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book that houses the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Day 10: Jerusalem. Further touring of Jerusalem brings us to the Hadassah complex to view the impressive Chagall Windows. We then continue to visit Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust memorial and museum, where we will walk along the Avenue of the Righteous and see the Children's Pavilion. On the way back to the hotel we will drive through the Mea Shearim for a glimpse of the ultra-orthodox area.

Day 11: Massada / Dead Sea. We drive through the Jordan valley to the Dead Sea, passing Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found, and follow the shores of the Dead Sea to Masada. It was here at the site of Herod the Great's Palace that the Jewish Zealots held off the Roman army for three years before committing mass suicide. We ascend by cable car to tour the ruins and take in the breathtaking views. After our visit we continue to our Dead Sea hotel for a relaxing dip and perhaps a regenerative mud bath!

Day 12: Ramon Crater / Bedouin Hospitality / Tel Aviv. We first stop at the huge and beautiful Ramon Crater - a unique geological formation. Then we enjoy Bedouin hospitality with a hosted lunch and a chance to learn more about this unique desert-dwelling Arab tribe. An optional camel ride is available, before we continue to Tel Aviv.

Day 13: Jaffa / Tel Aviv. This morning we visit old Jaffa for a walk through the ancient streets, the restored artist's quarter, the central plaza and the Franciscan Monastery of St. Peter. Our afternoon city tour shows us modern Tel Aviv and its lovely seafront promenade. Included is a visit of the Museum of Diaspora - a multi-media depiction of the history of the Jewish people. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 14: Home. We transfer to the airport for our direct, non-stop flight back to Canada.



Wonders of Ancient Egypt

Featuring a Deluxe Nile Cruise

On this tour we journey through ancient history and experience the fascinating culture of Egypt.

With 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 Aswan, Edfu, Kom Ombo, Luxor and the Valley of the Kings and Queens, while experiencing the renowned Egyptian hospitality.

We will cruise in the comfort of our riverboat - the *MS Blue Shadow* (or similar), a ship specifically built for Nile cruising. Cabins have a window, private bathroom with shower and air-conditioning. Amenities on board include entertainment, a lounge bar, gift shop, a swimming pool and pool bar. All shore excursions are included, and a trained Egyptologist will accompany us to each site.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with British Airways or Air Canada
- Deluxe and First Class hotels & riverboat
- Full breakfast and dinner daily, 11 lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$7197
- Single Supplement - \$1790
- Montreal - add \$390
- Ottawa - add \$550 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Halifax or Vancouver - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$990

16 DAYS • 3 DATES IN FALL 2023

OCTOBER 10 - 25

NOVEMBER 2 - 17

NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 7

Tour Highlights:

- Visit the Great Pyramids of Giza & the mighty Sphinx
- Touring in Cairo including a guided tour of the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities
- Visit the famous Khan El Khalili Bazaar
- Sail in a felucca across the Nile
- Visit the Valley of the Kings to see the tombs of Tut Ankh Amun and Ramses VI
- The Temple of Karnak, Luxor, Queen Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon in Luxor
- Visit the High Dam and Unfinished Obelisk in Aswan
- The Ramses II statue & Alabaster Sphinx in Memphis

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

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

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. 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. Enjoy free time in the afternoon.

Day 4: Cairo. Our tour of Cairo begins with the world-famous Egyptian Museum, including the fabulous collection of Pharaonic antiquities, especially the golden treasures of the Tut Ankh Amun Exhibit. Our sightseeing of Old Cairo continues 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.

Day 5: Memphis / Sakkara / Cairo. This morning 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! Lunch will be included at a local restaurant.

Day 6: Cairo. This morning we visit The National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, filled with majestic treasures and hidden secrets of the ancient Egyptians. Afterwards, we will stroll in the famous gardens of the "paradise within the heart of Cairo", also known as Al Azhar Park. Then we'll enjoy a leisurely sail on the Nile in a traditional Egyptian wooden boat (felucca). After lunch we'll stop in Khan El Khalili Bazaar - rich in silks and carpets, where craftsmen use age-old traditions in creating their wares.

Day 7: Nile Cruise / Luxor / Karnak. We fly to Luxor and board our riverboat for a 7-night cruise. 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. Then at the Temple of Luxor we see the granite statue of Ramses II and the many halls and pillars that make up this incredible temple.

Day 8: Luxor (Valley of the Kings) / Edfu. Our sightseeing of Luxor continues in the West Bank (Thebes) which 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. We continue to visit Hatshepsut's funerary temple at Dier El Bahari and the Colossi of Memnon. Then we sail to Edfu via the locks of Esna.

Day 9: Edfu / Kom Ombo / Aswan. 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 to 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. We continue on to Aswan.

Day 10: Aswan. 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 sail in a felucca to view Kitchener's Island, the Botanical Garden and the Aga Khan mausoleum.

Day 11: Aswan. Our boat stays docked in Aswan for a day at leisure. You may further explore Aswan on your own, join an optional tour to the majestic Abu Simbel or stay onboard and relax on the sundeck.

Day 12: Aswan / Kom Ombo / Edfu. We sail via Kom Ombo to Edfu again passing through the locks of Esna, cruising 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.

Day 13: Edfu / Luxor. A free morning in Edfu before we sail back to Luxor. After all the sightseeing over the past several days, some time at leisure will be most welcome.

Day 14: Cairo. We disembark our ship and fly back to Cairo. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Day 15: Cairo. At leisure in this amazing city. There is much to do and see, and your Tour Manager will be on hand with suggestions. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Home. We fly home to Canada, via London.



Middle East Explorer

United Arab Emirates, Jordan & Oman

This tour takes us on an intimate and immersive journey across the sands of the Middle East - home to some of the world's most hospitable people.

We begin in Jordan - a friendly Arab nation defined by ancient monuments, nature reserves and seaside resorts. Jordan is also home to the famed archaeological site of Petra - set in a narrow valley with tombs, temples and monuments carved into the surrounding pink sandstone cliffs. In Wadi Rum, we will experience the open desert, sheer mountains, red dunes and vast panoramas that Lawrence of Arabia fell in love with.

Next is the United Arab Emirates, and the modern city of Dubai - known for its iconic skyscrapers, palm-shaped islands, city-sized malls, indoor ski slopes and palatial beach resorts. We'll also visit the cosmopolital city of Abu Dhabi - the cultural hub of the UAE.

We end our adventure in the Sultanate of Oman, which features 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, vibrant souqs, majestic forts, palaces, and sprawling deserts which entice tourists from all around the world. Oman's low-rise towns retain their traditional charms, and their Bedouin values remain at the heart of the Omani welcome.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Emirates Airline
- First Class hotels and Deluxe Desert Camps
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 1 dinner) and 2 lunches
- Visa fees (arranged by our office)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$9997
.....
- Single Supplement ... \$1390
- Ottawa, Montreal, or Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, or Vancouver - add \$990

17 DAYS • NOVEMBER 10 - 26

Tour Highlights:

- Travel on Jordan's 5,000-year-old King's Highway
- Guided tour of Petra, its Treasury and Roman Theatre
- Jeep tour in Wadi Rum
- City tour of Dubai, the Palm Jumeirah and a visit to The Dubai Mall - the 2nd largest mall in the world
- Dinner cruise of Dubai Marina, with traditional Arabic music and belly dancing
- Abu Dhabi's beautiful Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque
- Authentic Bedouin house visit in Oman's Wahiba Sands
- Wadi Bani Khalid - Oman's most beautiful valley
- Muscat city tour, with a visit to the Grand Mosque

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

Day 1: Departure. We fly to Amman, Jordan with a change in Dubai.

Day 2: Amman. Upon arrival in Amman we transfer to our hotel with the balance of the day at leisure. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: King's Highway / Petra. We travel along the 5,000-year-old King's Highway - one of the most memorable journeys in the region. Our first visit on the route is Madaba - "the City of Mosaics", where we will see the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George. Next, we visit one of Jordan's most revered sites - Mount Nebo, the presumed site of the death and burial place of Moses. A small church was built on the site by early Byzantine Christians, and later expanded into a vast complex. Later we visit Shobak Castle, before proceeding to Petra.

Day 4: Petra. Today we explore Petra. We first pass through the Siq - a 1.2 km long cavernous crack in the sandstone, ending at Petra's most elaborate monument - the Khazneh (treasury). We also see the many niches that once held icons, as well as hundreds of temples, tombs and a Roman theatre.

Day 5: Little Petra / Wadi Rum. We first visit Siq Al-Barid, known as 'Little Petra', as it resembles the main site, with tombs, temples, cisterns carved out of the rock, and the remains of frescoes. We then travel to Wadi Rum, where we'll hear tales of "Lawrence of Arabia", and enjoy a cardamom-spiced coffee at the "Beau Geste" outpost. A Bedouin guide will give us a jeep tour of this moon-like desert landscape where huge sandstone pillars rise from the red desert floor.

Day 6: The Dead Sea. We proceed to our hotel on the Dead Sea, where the rest of the day will be at leisure.

Day 7: Dubai, United Arab Emirates. We fly to the bustling metropolis of Dubai. On our city tour we'll see the iconic landmarks, such as the Dubai Marina - an awe-inspiring "city-within-a-city", and drive across Palm Jumeirah - the world's largest artificially made island, with a stop at the iconic Atlantis Hotel. Later, we'll stroll through Souk Madinat Jumeirah with its meandering paths, bazaar-like atmosphere, street cafes, and boutique restaurants.

Day 8: Dubai. Although most of Dubai is now a modern and luxurious city with contemporary architecture, traces of the historic town can still be found. We will take a cultural journey back in time, into mazes of wind-towered buildings, narrow lanes, and lively souks. At the heritage area of Bastakiya we'll see the 225-year-old Fort Al Fahidi, which houses the Dubai Museum, and enjoy a ride on a traditional Abra boat across scenic Dubai Creek. We will see Jumeirah Mosque - an architectural landmark, and end with a trip to the observation deck of the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world! Tonight, we cruise the Dubai Marina while enjoying traditional Arabic music, a belly dancing performance and a sumptuous international buffet.

Day 9: Abu Dhabi. Today we visit Abu Dhabi - capital of the United Arab Emirates, which artfully blends the ancient past with the modern present. Highlights of our visit will be one of the world's largest and most beautiful mosques, and the mesmerizing waterfront Corniche.

Day 10: Al Ain. We visit Al Ain - known as the "Garden City" of the UAE, famous for its bustling Camel Souk, thousands of date palms and archeological ruins dating as far back as 5,000 years. We'll visit the Al Ain Palace Museum and the Al Ain National Museum and learn about the country's traditions and culture.

Day 11: Al Hamra, Oman. We cross the border into Oman, and our first stop will be the 17th century Jabreen Castle, which features decorated wooden balconies and windows, arches with engraved Arabic calligraphy, and spectacular artwork on its ceiling. After a visit to nearby Al Hamra village, we'll proceed to Misfat Al Abriyeen - a unique mountainous village located 1,000 meters above sea level on the foothills surrounding Al Hamra. The village derives its name from the Al Abri tribe, and boasts amazing agricultural terraces, beautiful alleys, and old houses built on top of solid rocks.

Day 12: Nizwa Fort / Jabal Akhdar. Nizwa Fort was built in the 1850s by Imam Sultan Bin Saif Al Ya'rubi, and took 12 years to be completed as it lies over an underground stream. It is one of the most visited attractions in Oman, as it has been the seat of authority for the Imams (rulers) during peace and war times. It's here that we will get familiar with local Omani culture. We overnight in Jabal Akhdar.

Day 13: Wahiba. We first stop at Birkat Al Mauz, and walk through its oasis and date plantations. The site is also home to the old Falaj irrigation system - a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Then we proceed to Wahiba, where we'll see the impressive Wahiba Sands. These beautiful dunes stretch as far as the eye can see - a spectacular sight! We'll drive over the dunes and visit a local Bedouin house in the wilderness, and tonight we "dine in the desert", with a delicious BBQ dinner amongst the dunes.

Day 14: Wadi Bani Khalid / Muscat. We drive through the Eastern Hajar Mountains, enjoying panoramic views, to Wadi Bani Khalid - one of the most beautiful wadis (valleys) in Oman. We'll take a short trek to one of the blue pools of the wadi, and those who wish can enjoy a swim. Then we drive along the coastal road to Muscat.

Day 15: Muscat. Our tour of Muscat begins at the Grand Mosque - the opulent centerpiece of Oman's capital city. The handmade carpets, chandeliers, and the ceiling of the great dome in the main prayer room, are all spectacular. We then visit The National Museum which showcases Oman's pre-Modern Islamic architecture and culture. We will also see Al Alam Palace, the Muttrah Souq and the Royal Opera House - a complex which consists of a theatre, auditorium, landscaped gardens, an art centre, and cultural markets. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 16: Dubai. We fly to Dubai, and enjoy some time at the Dubai Mall - the 2nd largest shopping mall in the world, featuring some 1200 stores. Then there will be time to relax at our resort style hotel before our final dinner and transfer to the airport for our flight home.

Day 17: Home. We fly home on our direct flight to Toronto.



Highlights of Turkey

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Turkish Airways (direct non-stop flights)
- First Class hotels
- Continental buffet breakfast & dinner daily
- Visa arrangements and fees
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$6997
-
- Single Supplement - \$1190
- Ottawa, Montreal, of Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Vancouver, Calgary, or Edmonton - add \$990

With unique historical and archaeological sites, breathtaking natural beauty, religious and cultural diversity, and a welcoming tradition of hospitality, Turkey is one of world's most fascinating destinations.

This comprehensive tour begins in Istanbul where we will see the domed mosques, minarets and palaces, followed by the energetic, modern capital city of Ankara with its tree-lined avenues. Then we journey to the rock churches of Cappadocia and the incredible Goreme Valley.

We then proceed to experience the thermal springs and amazing white cliff waterfalls of Pamukkale. Next is perhaps the main highlight of the tour - Ephesus, the world's best-preserved ancient city. After some time at leisure at the picturesque seaside resort of Kusadasi, we visit the city of Bursa - famous for its Ottoman architecture and enticing silk markets.

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

16 DAYS • OCTOBER 11 - 26

Tour Highlights:

- Exotic Istanbul and its Grand Bazaar
- Cruise along the impressive Bosphorus Straits
- Mystical Whirling Dervish performance
- Ankara - the capital city of Turkey
- The Cappadocia region
- Konya - home of the Whirling Dervishes
- Pamukkale with its cascades of white travertine
- The seaside resort of Kusadasi
- Ephesus - the world's grandest and best-preserved ancient city
- Historic Bursa – a UNESCO World Heritage Site

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

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

Day 3: Istanbul. Our full day tour starts at the magnificent Byzantine church of St. Sophia, one of the first and largest architectural works of art in the world; then on to the famous Suleyman's Mosque and the beautiful Blue Mosque. We also see Topkapi Palace - a former imperial residence from where the great Ottoman sultans once ruled. We finish with a visit to the Grand Bazaar.

Day 4: Istanbul / Bosphorous Cruise / Whirling Dervish. This morning we cruise the unforgettable Bosphorus. We pass by palaces, churches, villages, old wooden houses, mansions and modern villas. In the afternoon we visit the Asian side of Istanbul via the two bridges that link the east to the west. This evening we enjoy a "Whirling Dervish" performance, which is both a form of entertainment and a spiritual journey.

Day 5: Ankara. Our morning drive will take us through the Bolu Mountains to Ankara - capital city of Turkey. Our tour of Ankara will include the Mausoleum of Ataturk (the founder of modern Turkey) and the Museum of Anatolian Civilization, considered the best in Turkey.

Day 6: Cappadocea. We depart this morning for the unique Cappadocea region. In the afternoon we visit the Goreme Valley, also known as the Petrified Valley, where the wind and rain have eroded the volcanic soil into a spectacular, bizarre landscape of rock cones, capped pinnacles and deep ravines. This area is also famous for its rock churches.

Day 7: Cappadocea. Our tour of this fascinating area features ancient excavated towns, troglodyte villages and breathtaking scenery. This area, a UNESCO world heritage site, has changed little over time - with locals travelling between villages in horse-drawn carts.

Day 8: Konya. Konya, scenically situated high on a plateau, has long been a centre of the Muslim faith. The Whirling Dervishes were actually founded here in the 11th century. We visit the mausoleum of Mevlana, founder of the sect.

Day 9: Pamukkale. Appearing at first as an enormous, chalky white cliff, as we approach Pamukkale it takes on

the appearance of a cotton castle. This thermal spring has attracted the weary and the curious for over 2000 years. We spend time at the mineral pools for those who wish to try the healthy warm waters. We also visit the holy city of Hierapolis - a spa and religious centre since Roman times.

Day 10: Kusadasi. We travel across a highland plateau rich in farms to Aphrodisas, one of the most important artistic sites. See the beautiful Temple of Aphrodite - goddess of love. Later we arrive at the picturesque seaside resort of Kusadasi, where we spend the next 4 nights.

Day 11: Kusadasi. A day of leisure to explore. The town centre has an interesting waterfront, modern shopping, colourful bazaars and several interesting teahouses.

Day 12: Ephesus. This morning we visit Ephesus, once the capital of the Roman's province of Asia. Here the Temple of Diana was counted among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. St. Paul wrote his most profound epistles here. A white marble avenue known as the Arcadian Way stretches through the city with ruins of great buildings such as the Library of Celsius, the Temple of Hadrian and the public latrines! Finally we see the house of the Virgin Mary where it is believed she spent her last years.

Day 13: Kusadasi. We take an excursion to Miletus and Didyma, where we see the beautiful Great Theatre - a remarkably intact 25,000 seat amphitheatre, the Roman baths and gymnasium. We continue to the Temple of Apollo - one of antiquity's most sacred places.

Day 14: Bursa. Today we drive to this famous town known for its spa and silk markets. It was here that Ottoman architecture bloomed. The minarets above the 125 mosques make for a grand skyline. One of Turkey's more prosperous cities, it is a pleasing mix of old stone buildings and wealthy suburbs with vintage wood-frame Ottoman villas. Bursa is called the Green City, both for the green tiles that decorate some of its most famous monuments and for its parks and gardens.

Day 15: Istanbul. We return to Istanbul. The afternoon is free to explore or revisit the Grand Bazaar for last minute purchases. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

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



Ancient Kingdoms of South East Asia

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Cathay Pacific flights
- Deluxe and First Class hotels
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner daily (except for one lunch)
- Visa fees (arranged by our office)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Vancouver - \$9997
- Single Supplement - \$1990
- Ottawa or Montreal - add \$190
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$390

• 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. Much of the beauty of this region lies in the peacefulness and warmth of the people who have lived much the same way for hundreds of years.

Delightful Vietnam stretches from the Chinese border to the tropical Mekong Delta, offering unspoiled nature, beautiful islands, bustling cities, fantastic cuisine and friendly people. Cambodia is a country of wondrous beauty and, as successor to the Khmer Empire, home to Angkor Wat and the other incredible temples of 12th century Angkor - a collection of monuments unrivalled in grandeur in all of Southeast Asia. Laos is a mountainous country long isolated from the outside world, where many of the traditions that have disappeared elsewhere remain. Rural life here is timeless, with stilt houses, paddy fields and saffron-robed monks.

18 DAYS • NOVEMBER 7 - 24

Tour Highlights:

- Ho Chi Minh City, a buzz of commerce and culture
- Charming temples and pagodas of Hanoi
- The magical islands of Halong Bay
- Vientiane, the elegant French colonial capital of Laos
- Vang Vieng's fish market and Nam Ngum Lake
- Luang Prabang - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Boat trip on the Mekong Delta
- Incredible Angkor Wat - Cambodia's national symbol
- Le Sap Lake's floating villages (Siem Reap)
- The architectural wonders of Phnom Penh

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

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Vietnam via Hong Kong.

Day 2: Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). We arrive in Ho Chi Minh City and transfer to our hotel. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Ho Chi Minh City. Our city tour begins with a walk in the historic centre - the heart of old colonial Saigon, followed by a visit of the Reunification Palace - former residence of the South Vietnamese president which was stormed by tanks in 1975 signifying the fall of South Vietnam. We continue to the War Remnants Museum, which documents the long Vietnam War. In the afternoon we explore Chinatown and Ben Thanh market.

Day 4: Hanoi. This morning we visit the famous Cu Chi Tunnels - the incredible underground military base dug out by hand by the Viet Cong for the Vietnam War. Later we fly to Hanoi.

Day 5: Hanoi. Vietnam's capital still retains the mystery and charm of past centuries with narrow laneways and traditional shops. We will visit the Temple of Literature - a perfect example of traditional Vietnamese architecture, followed by the miniature One Pillar Pagoda and the Stilt House. Later we visit Hoan Kiem Lake, Ngoc Son Temple and the tiny Tortoise Pagoda. Tonight we attend a traditional Water Puppet Show and traditional dinner at a Vietnamese home.

Day 6: Halong Bay. We travel by coach to Halong Bay, and board a traditional wooden junk to spend the day cruising through beautiful islands, granite towers and rock formations with names such as Stone Dog, Incense Burner and Fighting Cock. Many islets have wonderful caves and grottos.

Day 7: Vientiane (Laos). We return to Hanoi and visit the Ethnology Museum before we fly to Vientiane - capital of Laos.

Day 8: Vientiane. Vientiane has a relaxed charm, with beautiful temples, tree-lined boulevards and colourful markets. Our city tour includes That Luang - a golden Stupa which is Laos' most important national monument, the formal Royal Temple - now a museum with fine Buddhist sculptures, and the "morning market" - the best place to buy traditional Lao fabrics.

Day 9: Vang Vieng. We enjoy a scenic drive to Van Vieng. En route we'll visit the Fish Market in Huay Mor, enjoy a boat trip on serene Nam Ngum Lake and visit a farm that teaches organic farming methods to the local community.

Day 10: Luang Prabang. We continue our drive to Luang Prabang, stopping en route at a local village and Elephant Cave with its Buddha images and elephant shaped stalactites.

Day 11: Luang Prabang. This enchanting town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site filled with historic temples and colonial style buildings. We'll visit the most important monasteries and

temples, including the oldest living temple dating back to 1513, and the National Museum (the former Royal Residence). Later we visit Wat Mai - a collection of small temples atop a hill offering beautiful views over the city, river and countryside.

Day 12: Luang Prabang. We travel by boat up the Mekong River to the steep limestone cliffs and Tham Pak Ou Caves. These extraordinary caves are filled with Buddha images of every style and material imaginable. On the return journey we stop at a local village for a glimpse of daily village life.

Day 13: Luang Prabang. We drive through the Laotian countryside, with its rice paddies and small villages, to Kuang Si Falls. These beautiful waterfalls cascade over calcified tiers down several hundred feet into cool, turquoise pools. After exploring the falls on the walkways and bridges we'll enjoy a picnic lunch. On our way back to Luang Prabang we'll stop at a paper making village to learn about this ancient artistry.

Day 14: Siem Reap (Cambodia). We fly to Siem Reap, and on arrival proceed to Tonle Sap Lake for a cruise among the floating homes and small fish farms to observe daily life on the lake. This evening we enjoy a cultural dance show.

Day 15: Angkor Thom / Angkor Wat / Siem Riep. We first explore the fortified city of Angkor Thom, which includes many of Angkor's most famous sights - the Terrace of the Elephants and Leper Kings, and the mysterious Bayon Temple with its giant smiling stone faces. Next is Ta Prohm - embedded in the jungle it is one of the most popular attractions of Angkor. We finish at the extraordinary Angkor Wat - Cambodia's national symbol and the highlight of any visit to this fascinating country. We will thoroughly explore this temple which impresses with its sheer scale, graceful proportions and artistic carvings.

Day 16: Phnom Penh. A scenic drive takes us across ancient laterite bridges, to visit an important grouping of pre-Angkorian monuments en route to Phnom Penh.

Day 17: Phnom Penh. Cambodia's capital is a fascinating city of graceful tree-lined boulevards and riverfront promenades. We begin at the Royal Palace with its Silver Pagoda, followed by the National Museum which contains an interesting collection of Khmer art. This afternoon, those interested can visit the Museum of Genocide - the interrogation and torture facility for the Khmer Rouge. Kept largely unchanged, this prison showcases photographs and exhibits about the thousands of victims. Those who wish may also visit the Killing Fields - a peaceful rural setting where thousands of people were killed in the 1970's and buried in mass graves.

Day 18: Home. We fly home via Hong Kong.



Borneo, Malaysia and Singapore

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Cathay Pacific Airways
- First Class hotels and Jungle Lodges
- Full breakfast daily, 12 lunches and 12 dinners
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Vancouver - \$9497
- Single Supplement - \$1490
- Ottawa or Montreal - add \$190
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$390

The island of Borneo is known for its ancient, biodiverse rainforest - home to unique wildlife such as orangutans and gibbons, as well as its wide array of cultures and age-old traditions.

We begin with a jungle adventure in Sabah - home to the world's oldest jungles and one of Southeast Asia's highest peaks - Mount Kinabalu. We will explore rainforests and jungle trails, float along rivers spotting wildlife, snorkel in colourful coral reefs and stroll serene white-sand beaches.

We will also visit local tribes who have lived in the jungle for generations and visit the lively local markets. At our jungle lodge on Mount Kinabalu we will experience the flora and fauna — home to thousands of species of orchids, hundreds of varieties of birds, monkeys and other jungle creatures. There will be exciting river safaris and night-time walks to spot nocturnal animals .

We will visit Sepilok Orangutan Reserve - a rehabilitation centre that prepares orphaned animals for a return to life

16 DAYS • NOVEMBER 6 - 21

in the rainforest, Sun Bear Rehabilitation Centre to meet the world's smallest bears and Proboscis Sanctuary to delight at the elusive and peculiar monkeys of this region. At Abai Jungle we enjoy spectacular scenery among the magnificent mangroves, and at scenic Pitax Oxbow Lake we may glimpse families of pygmy elephants bathing in the wild.

After our jungle adventure we fly to the vibrant metropolis of Kuala Lumpur, known for its fantastic shopping, great restaurants and surrounding natural wonders. From here we travel overland to Malacca - the historical state of Malaysia rich in heritage buildings and ancient landmarks. We complete our tour in the island city of Singapore.

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Borneo, via Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur.

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

Day 3: Sapi Island. We take a ferry to Sapi Island for a relaxing day of strolling the picturesque beach, swimming in the turquoise waters, snorkelling to see the abundant tropical fish and marine life, and enjoy a delicious BBQ lunch.

Day 4: Mari Mari Cultural Village. Today's journey takes us along scenic roads surrounded by a rich spectrum of greenery to the Mari Mari Cultural Village. Upon arrival at the village, we will be welcomed into the homes of the various ethnic groups of Sabah. Each home was built by descendants of the tribes they represent, and in their homes we'll acquaint ourselves with each tribe and have a glimpse into their simple yet intricate lives. We will also see demonstrations of the making of traditional blowpipes and how to start a fire from a bamboo tree (without the help of a lighter), as well as learn about tattoo-making and their symbolisms.

Day 5: Kinabalu Park / Sepilok. We travel the winding mountain road to Kinabalu Park – home to a wide range of exotic flora and fauna. First we stop at the Nabalu Market, where produce and handicrafts are sold, then enjoy the spectacular view of Mount Kinabalu. At the park's Exhibit Centre and Mountain Gardens we'll discover the beautiful local plant life, then proceed to our nature resort in Sepilok for a 2-night stay. After dinner those who wish can again venture into the "Jungle at night" on the nature boardwalk in search of birds, snakes and other wildlife with our nature guide.

Day 6: Sepilok. We visit the Orangutans at the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Center, where these majestic apes are rehabilitated before release into the wild. Then we continue to the Sun Bear Rehabilitation Centre for a close encounter with the world's smallest bear. Later we visit Labuk Bay where the mangrove forest is a sanctuary for the unique Proboscis Monkey - unique to Borneo and one of the world's most peculiar animals. We will also visit the Rainforest Discovery Centre before returning to our hotel where we may see the "flying squirrel" in action!

Day 7: Boat Safari / Abai Jungle Lodge. We begin with a one-hour cruise through the striking scenery of the Mangrove Forest to Abai Jungle Lodge. After lunch at the lodge we take another boat trip in search of wildlife, and after sunset we'll see the magic of the fireflies who light up the foliage like Christmas trees.

Day 8: Pitax Oxbow Lake / Sukau. We take a river trip to Pitas Oxbow Lake where we see elephants, monkeys, orangutans and even crocodiles in their natural habitat. We then enjoy the lunch prepared by the villagers. In the afternoon we cruise up river to Sukau village in search of the Proboscis Monkeys, birds and other wildlife and later take a boat ride on the Menanggul River before arriving at Kinabatangan Riverside Lodge in Sukau for a 3-night stay.

Day 9: Sukau. We take a cruise on the Kinabatangan River to search for wildlife, and also explore the Menanggul River.

Day 10: River Safari / Sukau. The calls of Gibbons and Hornbills rouse us this morning as we enjoy an early morning cruise on the Kinabatangan River. The afternoon is at leisure before an evening river cruise to spot nocturnal wildlife.

Day 11: Boat to Sandakan / Kuala Lumpur. We travel by boat back to Sandakan and transfer to the airport for our flight to Kuala Lumpur. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel.

Day 12: Kuala Lumpur. Our tour of the city's highlights takes in the Railway Station, the National Mosque, Merdeka Square, Sultan Abdul Samad Building and the National Monument. At the Central Market we see local handicrafts, and there will be a photo-stop at the iconic Petronas Twin Tower. This evening dinner is at a local restaurant featuring Malay specialties.

Day 13: Malacca. We travel to historical Malacca. Our fascinating walking tour includes the Baba and Nyonya Heritage Museum, bustling Jalan Hang Jebat Street, the river dock where wooden barges deliver charcoal and rice from Sumatra, the Town Square with its terracotta Dutch colonial buildings, the Malaccan Sultanate's Palace and a visit of the great 16th century Portuguese Fort A'Famosa.

Day 14: Singapore. We proceed overland to Singapore. This evening we tour Chinatown, which has a rich history and heritage. We'll visit a Chinese Medical Hall, enjoy dinner at a local Chinese restaurant and wander along the narrow lanes of the Night Market. The highlight is a trishaw ride through the alleyways of Chinatown, then a bumboat cruise along the river to see the city lights.

Day 15: Singapore. Our city tour takes in the Singapore Cricket Club, the "Padang", historic Parliament House and Marina Bay. We will visit Thian Hock Keng Temple - one of Singapore's oldest Buddhist-Taoist temples, the Singapore Botanical Gardens and Little India. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner at the Orchard Café.

Day 16: Home. We fly home to Canada via Hong Kong.



Incredible India

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Emirates Airline
- Deluxe & First Class hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily, and 8 lunches
- Visa fees (arranged by our office)
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$8997
.....
- Single Supplement ... \$1490
- Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$990

A feast for all the senses, India is a vivid kaleidoscope of magnificent historic sites and royal cities, medieval forts and palaces, scenic lakes and misty mountains, rich culture, colourful people and lively festivals.

On our classic tour of India we will discover the most incredible man-made and natural wonders this fascinating country has to offer. From bustling Mumbai on the Arabian Sea, to the open spaces of Rajasthan, and the famous “Golden Triangle” (Delhi, Jaipur and Agra), India boasts a veritable treasure trove of sites and attractions. Along the way we have included a variety of unique “Real India” experiences; a cultural dance performance, dinner with a local family, jeep drives, serene boat trips and exciting rickshaw rides.

The best part of all - when you arrive in India you will be greeted by a graceful *Namaste* – a warm and inviting gesture that denotes both welcome and respect.

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

19 DAYS • OCTOBER 16 - NOVEMBER 3

Tour Highlights:

- India’s largest city and port, Mumbai.
- Udaipur’s glittering lake and palaces
- A stay at medieval Deogarh Fort
- Temples and countryside of Rajasthan
- The enchanting “Pink City” of Jaipur
- A stay at the 300-year-old fortified Chomu Palace
- A game drive in Ranthambore National Park - home of the Indian Tiger
- Amber Fort
- The romantic and awe-inspiring Taj Mahal
- Holy Varanasi and the sacred River Ganges
- The bustling capital city of Delhi

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Mumbai, via Dubai.

Day 2: Mumbai. We arrive in Mumbai and transfer to our hotel.

Day 3: Mumbai. Our city tour begins with the Gateway of India – Mumbai's most famous landmark commemorating the 1911 visit to India of King George and Queen Mary. We will drive along the Sea Front Boulevard (known as the Queen's Necklace when lit up in the evening), visit the marble Jain temples and ascend Malabar Hill for amazing panoramic views. After lunch at a popular local restaurant we visit the Prince of Wales Museum – a Victorian Gothic style building surrounded by a beautiful garden that houses a priceless collection of art, sculpture and more. We finish with a stroll through the bustling Crawford Market.

Day 4: Mumbai / Udaipur. We take a boat trip to visit the 1,200-year-old Elephanta Caves, housing some of India's most beautiful rock-cuts. Later we fly to the romantic city of Udaipur.

Day 5: Udaipur. Our city tour includes the City Palace, now a museum overlooking the lake, Jagdish Temple with its sculpted figures and ornamental interiors, and Sahelion-ki-bari (Garden of the Maids of Honour) – the scene of royal parties for centuries. Afternoon at leisure. In the late afternoon we take a boat ride on Lake Pichola, surrounded by splendid hills, palaces, temples and bathing ghats, and visit the island palace of Jag Mandir.

Day 6: Deogarh. We first visit the exquisitely carved Sahastra Bahu Temples dating back to the early 10th century, followed by a unique jeep drive through the rural landscape to see locals tending their cattle, with a lakeside stop to spot migratory birds. Then we depart for one of the most magnificent medieval castles in Rajasthan, Deogarh Fort, built in grand architectural style with huge entrances and gateways, and imposing arches and domes. We will spend the night in this magnificent medieval fort, now converted into a Heritage hotel.

Day 7: Jaipur. We travel through the Rajasthan countryside to the "Pink City" of Jaipur, with a stop at beautiful Bijay Niwas Palace for lunch.

Day 8: Jaipur. This morning we visit the Amber Fort, which offers fantastic views over the hills of Rajasthan. The fort looks time-ravaged on the outside, but the interior is splendid with paintings, precious stones and mirrors. We also see the famous facade of Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds). This afternoon we see the Maharaja's Palace and Jantar Mantar, the world's largest stone and marble crafted observatory. This evening we enjoy dinner with a local family, who will teach us some of the secrets of Indian cuisine.

Day 9: Chomu Palace. We depart for Chomu Palace, a 300-year-old fortified palace now converted into a fabulous hotel. This evening we enjoy a lively dance performance.

Day 10: Ranthambore National Park. We travel to Ranthambore National Park (former hunting grounds of the Maharajas and now a renowned wildlife reserve) and enjoy a game drive to search for the famous diurnal tiger, as well as leopards, hyenas, jackals, crocodiles, wild boar and various species of deer.

Day 11: Ranthambore National Park. We spend the morning on safari in the park to observe the animals and the great variety of birds: Quail, Gray Legged Goose, Woodpecker, Indian Gray Hornbill, Kingfisher, Sandpiper, Owl, Flycatcher to name a few! Afternoon at leisure to enjoy the facilities of the hotel.

Day 12: Agra / Taj Mahal. We take a morning train to Bharatpur, then proceed by coach to Agra. After lunch we visit the Agra Fort – a fine example of Moghul architecture combining military features with beauty and design.

Day 13: Agra / Delhi / Varanasi. This morning we visit the Taj Mahal – arguably the most beautiful man-made structure in the world. It was built in 1630 by Shah Jahan (who brought 20,000 craftsmen in from all over the world) for his queen to enshrine her mortal remains. This white marble architectural masterpiece took 17 years to complete. After our visit we drive to Delhi airport for our flight to Varanasi, where we meet "Mother Ganges".

Day 14: Varanasi. We take an early morning boat ride on the sacred River Ganges. Here thousands of pilgrims descend the steps to the river and immerse themselves in the sacred waters, washing away their sins – rites that can be deeply moving to witness. We then walk the narrow lanes of Varanasi. Throughout history millions have passed these lanes seeking "Nirvana" at the river. This afternoon we visit the gold-plated Vishwanath Temple, and in the evening we witness the spectacular site of Arti of Ganges (collective nightly prayer to the river).

Day 15: Varanasi / Delhi. We visit Sarnath, where Lord Buddha preached his first sermon, and we also see Dharmarajika Stupa, Mulgandha Kuti Vihar Temples and the Archeological Museum with its collection of Buddhist sculptures. Later we fly to Delhi.

Day 16: Delhi. Our tour of Old Delhi includes an unforgettable rickshaw ride through 300-year-old Chandni Chowk Market – a maze of lanes crowded with shops selling a huge variety of items. We will see Jama Masjid – India's largest mosque, the Red Fort – Delhi's most famous landmark, and Raj Ghat – a beautiful memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. Tonight is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 17: Delhi. Our touring of Delhi continues with the 12th century monument of Qutab Minar, India Gate, the Presidential Palace and Parliament House. The afternoon is at leisure until our late evening transfer to the airport.

Day 18 / 19: Home. We depart for Canada, arrival the next day.



South Africa

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with United Airlines
- First Class hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily, plus 8 lunches
- All visa fees and arrangements
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$11597
- Single Supplement - \$1490
- Montreal, Ottawa or Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary or Vancouver - add \$990

- **Plus Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) and Chobe National Park (Botswana)**

South Africa is one of the world's most beautiful countries, and we are sure you will agree after your first visit. The incredible scenic beauty includes nearly 2,000 miles of beautiful coastline, snow capped mountains and tropical splendour. The magnificent National Parks and game reserves boast an unparalleled diversity of wild life. Other features that make this destination so desirable include a wonderful climate, ancient forts and historic monuments, tribal dancing, museums and art galleries. Above all, South Africa's hospitality is legendary.

In addition to our tour of South Africa's highlights we will also visit Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) and safari in Chobe

20 DAYS • 2 DATES IN FALL 2023

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 13

OCTOBER 8 - 27

National Park (Botswana). Victoria Falls are the largest waterfalls in the world (they are three times as wide and twice as high as Niagara Falls), and the spray can be seen 20 miles away! Chobe National Park is world renowned for its splendid and unique variety of wildlife.

So join us on this remarkable adventure and experience the diversity and beauty that is South Africa.

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

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Johannesburg, via Newark.

Day 2: Johannesburg. We arrive in Johannesburg in the late afternoon and transfer to our hotel.

Day 3: Johannesburg and Soweto. We start with a tour of Johannesburg and a visit to the Apartheid Museum. In the afternoon we visit the township of Soweto – the most populous black residential area in the country. Soweto sets the trends for South Africa in politics, fashion, music and dance. You will never forget your visit here. This evening we enjoy Welcome Cocktails and our Welcome Dinner

Day 4: Victoria Falls. We fly to Victoria Falls and transfer to our lovely lodge hotel.

Day 5: Victoria Falls. We enjoy a morning tour of the Falls – a sight to behold! The afternoon is free, and there will be an opportunity to take an optional helicopter flight over the falls. This evening we enjoy a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River, and dinner will be a special African experience.

Day 6: Chobe. This morning we proceed to our safari lodge near Chobe National Park – home to a splendid variety of wildlife, including hippo and elephants that troll the river paths to drink. We take our first game cruise this afternoon.

Day 7: Chobe. On our morning game drive we enjoy the wonderful surroundings of wild Africa! In the afternoon we take a boat ride along the river and get up close with the bounty of Chobe as we view herds of kudu, waterbuck and possibly elephants coming to the river to drink.

Day 8: Johannesburg. We fly from Victoria Falls back to Johannesburg, and then proceed to our hotel en route to Kruger National Park.

Day 9: Kruger National Park Area. We proceed to Kruger National Park for wildlife viewing at its best! The park offers an experience in beauty, tranquility and variety not found anywhere else in the world. En route we visit the majestic Blyde River Canyon to see God's Window and Bourke's Luck Potholes – true natural wonders! Our hotel is located just outside the Park.

Day 10: Kruger National Park Area. A full day of game viewing in open safari vehicles. We start early in the morning, the best time to find the world's largest variety of wildlife including the Big Five (lion, elephant, rhino, leopard

and buffalo), hippo, cheetah, giraffe, zebra and crocodile. The park is also home to more than 400 bird species.

Day 11: Kruger National Park Area. A morning at leisure to enjoy the various activities at the hotel. Relax by the pool, do some game or bird watching or take a nature walk. Later we depart for our evening game drive to see if we can catch some nocturnal animals in the spotlight.

Day 12: Garden Route. We return to Johannesburg for our flight to George, on South Africa's fabled Garden Route.

Day 13: Garden Route. We travel over the mountains to Oudtshoorn to visit an ostrich farm, followed by a visit of the Cango Caves, whose stalagmites and stalactites will leave a lasting impression.

Day 14: Garden Route. Today we visit a township near George, where we will have a chance to meet the children at a local primary school. Then we travel to Knysna and ferry over to the Featherbed Nature Reserve, dedicated to the protection of the local flora.

Day 15: Garden Route / Cape Town. Our Garden Route drive takes us along the coast, around lakes, mountains, golden beaches and cliffs – an enchanting drive with a romantic history. We arrive in Cape Town and take a cable car ride up Table Mountain for panoramic views.

Day 16: Cape Town. Our city tour shows us the Malay Quarter, the Botanical Gardens and more. In the afternoon we embark on a ferry ride and guided tour of the Robben Island Prison Museum (weather permitting) where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 27 years.

Day 17: Cape Town. A Winelands tour through lovely scenery of vineyards, oak shaded rivers and old Dutch colonial homes. We enjoy a tasting in a wine cellar and lunch at a private estate. In Stellenbosch we visit the Village Museum.

Day 18: Cape Town. A full-day tour to Cape Point. After a boat ride to Seal Island we continue to Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope, where we see colonies of penguins and seals in their natural environment. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 19: Departure. After a morning at leisure, we transfer to the airport for our flight home, via Newark.

Day 20: Home. Arrival back in Canada.



Safari in Tanzania and the island of Zanzibar

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with KLM
- First Class safari and hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily while in Africa, plus 10 lunches
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto - \$13397
.....
- Single Supplement - \$1390
- Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$990

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.

15 DAYS • OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 14

The island of Zanzibar, just 40 kms 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 (also a 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 that makes this destination so intriguing.

While on safari we will enjoy a mixture of accommodations including beautiful lodges. While in Zanzibar we will stay at a First Class hotel.

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

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: Ngorongoro Crater. This morning we depart for the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ngorongoro Crater. En route we will visit a coffee plantation for lunch and a guided tour. Our lodge is perched atop the uppermost rim of the crater and offers breathtaking views of the crater floor far below. The 100 square miles of this collapsed volcano is 10 miles across and 2,000 feet deep.

Day 4: Ngorongoro Crater. We descend in to 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 5: Ngorongoro Crater. This morning we enjoy a special Bush Breakfast in the crater, followed by some more game viewing. In the afternoon we visit a Masaai village.

Day 6: 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 7 & 8: 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 prowl.

Day 9: Lake Manyara. We take a flight to Lake Manyara National Park and our lodge overlooking the Great Rift Valley and the 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, rhino, impala, giraffe, leopard, water buck and blue and vervet monkeys. The lions here have honed their tree-climbing skills. Manyara is also noted for its wonderful bird life.

Day 10: 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.

Day 11: Arusha / Zanzibar. We depart for Arusha where we will have lunch before boarding our plane to Zanzibar. Upon arrival, we transfer to the Bluebay Beach Resort and Spa located on the beautiful north-east coast.

Day 12: Zanzibar. We have a morning city tour of historic Stone Town and later visit a spice farm for an interesting and educational tour.

Day 13: Zanzibar. A day at leisure. You may consider taking an optional Blue Safari Fumba boat trip with a beach visit. 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.



Walking in South Wales and the Cotswolds plus London

On this exciting tour we will walk through impressive countryside and picturesque villages led by experienced, expert hiking guides.

Each day there will be a choice of 3 different levels of walks, each designed for the avid walker. The gentle walks will range from 5 - 6 kms with ascents of up to 150m. More challenging walks will also be offered daily for those interested.

The first 7 nights will be in the Cotswolds town of Bourton-on-the-Water (voted one of England's prettiest towns), where gentle hills, picture-postcard villages and tempting tea shops combine to make this quintessentially English countryside perfect for walking. Here we will stay at the *Harrington House*, which retains many of its stunning original Georgian features - the most breathtaking is the sunny walled garden with a landscape of green rolling hills and timeless golden stone villages in the background.

We will spend the following 3 nights in Brecon (Wales) - a quaint market town at the foot of the Brecon Beacons - an area of sweeping high moorland and beautiful green valleys. Our hotel, the historic *Nythfa House*, is a charming country house on the edge of Brecon within easy

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class country house hotels, and a First Class hotel in London
- Full English breakfast and dinner daily (except for one dinner while in London), and 8 picnic lunches
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal, or Halifax - \$6797
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa or Vancouver - add \$90
- Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$190
- Edmonton - add \$590

14 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 14 - 27

reach of the Brecon Beacons National Park and many fine walking areas - a location is perfect for walkers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Our final 2 nights will be at a centrally located hotel in 'everyone's favorite city', London.

Tour Highlights:

- Walking the stunning Cotswolds countryside with green rolling hills criss-crossed by countless footpaths
- Bath - a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Stratford-upon-Avon, including Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Distillery
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- London

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete a minimum of 6 km of walking.*

Walks described are the easier option. More challenging walks will also be offered each day.

Day 1: Depart. We depart for London

Day 2: Bourton-on-the Water. We arrive in London and transfer to our country house hotel in the centre of Bourton-on-the Water. On our guided walking over the next few days we'll discover glorious golden stone villages with thatched cottages, mansions, pastoral countryside and quiet country lanes. This evening is our Welcome Briefing and Dinner.

Day 3: Salmonsbury Camp and The Windrush Valley (Walk 7km with 40m ascent). We start our walk today leaving from Harrington House, we follow footpaths from Bourton exploring the area directly to the south and on the return we follow the Diamond Way. At the end of your walk there is plenty of time to explore Bourton-on-the-Water. Enjoy a pint in one of the pubs, visit the shops, or find a bench beside the River Windrush and soak up this charming rural village.

Day 4: Fish Hill to Broadway (Walk 5km with 40m ascent). Starting at Fish Hill we follow the Cotswold Way with time to visit Broadway Tower. Then we descend to spend time exploring Broadway. Broadway Tower was the brainchild of the great 18th Century landscape designer, Capability Brown. His vision was carried out for the Earl of Coventry and was completed in 1798.

Day 5: Stratford-upon-Avon. We spend the day in Shakespeare country! We start at Shakespeare's Schoolroom and Guildhall, where Shakespeare spent his schooldays, discovered theatre and was educated and inspired to become the world's greatest playwright! We will have a walking tour of the town, and end at *Judith's* (the home of Shakespeare's daughter) where we learn about the history and production of gin, ending with a tasting of course.

Day 6: Chedworth Roman Villa (Walk 7km with 180m ascent). We start this walk by exploring the beautiful 12th century church of Hampnett, with its astonishingly ornate patterns of mock-medieval stencilling. We then follow the Macmillan Way to the small rural parish of Yanworth. Finally we arrive at the Roman Villa at Chedworth.

Day 7: Hailes Abbey to Sudeley Castle (Walk 4.5km with 60m ascent). We explore Hailes Abbey before walking to

Winchcombe. We enjoy the views of the heritage steam railway before arriving at Sudeley Castle. Steeped in history, the castle was home (and now the burial place) of Queen Catherine Parr - one of Henry VIII's many wives.

Day 8: Lower Slaughter (Walk 5km with 60m ascent). We finish our time in the Cotswolds with a circular walk from Harrington House to the charming village of Lower Slaughter - one of England's most photographed villages. The twin villages of Upper and Lower Slaughter are just a couple of miles' walk from Bourton-on-the-Water.

Day 9: Brecon, Wales. We depart the Cotswolds and make our way to Brecon, arriving at our country house hotel, Nythfa House, for a 3-night stay. The hotel is surrounded by breathtaking scenery and some of the best walks in Wales.

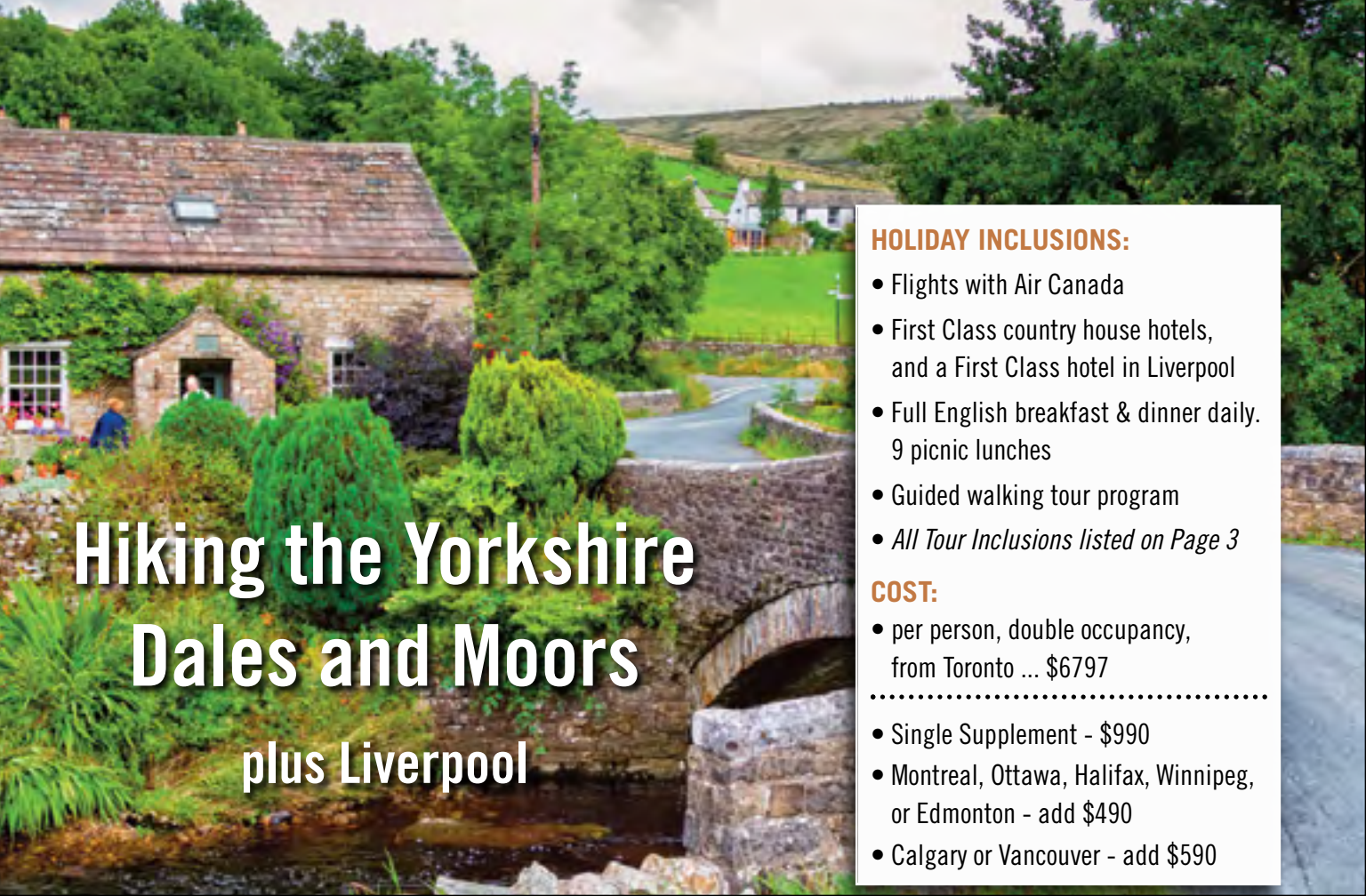
Day 10: Black Mountains and Crickhowell. (Walk 6km with 60m ascent). We take a circular walk around the lovely town of Crickhowell. After crossing the picturesque Usk bridge, we follow the canal passing the village of Llangattock, then return to explore Crickhowell with its shops, cafes and art galleries featuring local artists.

Day 11: Western Beacons - Craig-y-Nos Country Park (Walk 7km with 160m ascent). We begin walking in the village of Penycae in the upper Swansea Valley and pass Craig-y-Nos - a 19th century castle once owned by opera diva Dame Adelina Patti. We walk around the Country Park with its lake and tea room before continuing up the valley to Dan-yr-Ogof, with an optional visit to some of the most spectacular show caves in Europe. Watch for the many impressive species of ornamental trees.

Day 12: Bath / London. Enroute to London we stop in Bath for some free time to explore this UNESCO World Heritage City, famous for its beautiful architecture, Roman Baths and fascinating history which has attracted visitors for centuries. Later we arrive at our central London hotel.

Day 13: London. A free day in London to visit or revisit some of the countless attractions. At our Farewell Dinner we will raise a glass to say 'Cheers' for this memorable walking tour.

Day 14: Home. Air Canada takes us home.



Hiking the Yorkshire Dales and Moors

plus Liverpool

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class country house hotels, and a First Class hotel in Liverpool
- Full English breakfast & dinner daily. 9 picnic lunches
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto ... \$6797
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg, or Edmonton - add \$490
- Calgary or Vancouver - add \$590

Between the solitude of Yorkshire's glorious wilderness, and the charm of cobbled streets in its quaint villages, the quiet beauty of Yorkshire will have you hooked.

This unique walking tour will include "gentle" walks that range from 6 - 11 km with a maximum ascent of 320m, led by experienced hiking guides. There are 2 other walks available each day for those who prefer more of a challenge. Our walks will take in the amazing landscapes that Yorkshire is known for, and we will also stop at historic pubs oozing with character, so we can sample the local culture, cuisine and perhaps a pint or two as well!

We'll spend the first 4 nights in The Yorkshire Dales - the quintessential landscape of Northern England. Our country house hotel, *Newfield Hall*, sits in open countryside where we can enjoy the surrounding scenery of green patchwork fields, drystone walls and wild moorland hills.

The next 7 nights will be in the Yorkshire Moors, on the edge of the bustling harbour town of Whitby - the setting for Bram Stoker's "Dracula", and said to serve the best fish and chips in England. Our hotel, *Larpool Hall*, is an updated Georgian mansion with its original grandeur and

15 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 10 - 24

traditional hospitality, while offering contemporary comforts and gorgeous views over the Esk Valley.

Our final 2 nights are in Liverpool. The birthplace of the Beatles brims with maritime culture, magnificent Georgian and Victorian architecture, and countless attractions.

Tour Highlights:

- Guided walks through the wild landscape of the Southern Yorkshire Dales
- Green valleys and waterfalls on riverside strolls
- Quaint villages and the warm Yorkshire hospitality
- Heartbeat Village - Goathland
- Coastal Yorkshire town of Whitby
- Liverpool - Beatles landmarks, Maritime Mercantile City and UNESCO World Heritage Sites

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete a minimum of 7 km of walking.*

Walks described below are the easier option. Medium and harder walks will be offered daily as well.

Day 1: Depart. We depart for Manchester.

Day 2: Malham, Yorkshire Dales. Upon arrival in Manchester we transfer to *Newfield Hall House* for a 4-night stay. The hotel has an enviable location, close to Malham Cove in the Yorkshire Dales.

Day 3: Pennine Way (Walk 6.5 km with 140m ascent). This circular walk explores the Pennine Way before going over Eshton Moor to Haw Crag, then re-joining the Pennine Way to return to our hotel. This area offers stunning views, and those who wish may climb Haw Crag (213m).

Day 4: Wharfedale and Grassington (Walk 6.5 km with 140m ascent). We follow the Dales Way along the beautiful River Wharfe, first to Linton Falls, then to picturesque Grassington where there will be plenty of time to explore or relax in one of the many tea shops.

Day 5: Malham Cove (Walk 7km with 150m ascent). We cross the National Trust land and view Janet's Foss. Then a gentle walk takes us up to the magnificent Malham Cove, before walking back into Malham Village. Look out for peregrine falcons nesting on the cliffs, and the river emerging from the base of the cove.

Day 6: Thirsk / Whitby. We travel by coach across the Southern Dales, then make our way up to the town of Thirsk - a market town in North Yorkshire known for its racecourse, quirky yarnbomber displays, and local author (and world's most famous veterinarian) James Herriot. After visiting the Herriot Museum, we proceed to *Larpool Hall* on the edge of Whitby, for a 7-night stay.

Day 7: Captain Cook Country (Walk 6km with 40m ascent). We walk from the elegant market town of Stokesley, along the banks of the picturesque River Leven to the village of Great Ayton - childhood home of Captain James Cook. There will be free time to explore Great Ayton and learn about its famous son.

Day 8: Heartbeat Country and Goathland (Walk 6km with 40m ascent). Starting in the village of Goathland we follow the Esk Valley through Beck Hole and on to Grosmont. Goathland is the setting of the village Aidsensfield in the TV series "Heartbeat", while in Grosmont why not take a look around the impressive engine sheds!

Day 9: Whitby at Leisure. The former fishing town of Whitby is best known for its fish and chips and quaint harbour. You may visit some of the nearby charming Yorkshire villages, or relax at the hotel, where there are 14 acres of lovely grounds, a comfortable lounge, a licenced bar, books and games that you can enjoy!

Day 10: Coast and Clifftops (Walk 6.5 km with 60m ascent). A pleasant walk today takes us to Pannett Park - a haven of peace and tranquility in the centre of Whitby. The park has stunning views, planting schemes for all seasons, the Whitby Museum and Pannett Art Gallery.

Day 11: Dales of the Esk Way (Walk 4.5 km with 120m ascent). Beginning in the village of Castleton, we join the Esk Valley Way through Danby Park before ending our walk at The Moors Centre at Danby Lodge, where we can explore the Moors Centre and learn about the National Park.

Day 12: Deep into the North York Moors. (Walk 6.5 km with 120m ascent). Our walk begins at Lower Askew, and takes in the village of Lastingham with its Norman crypt of St Mary's Church. We then make our way to the picturesque village of Hutton Le Hole, where we can explore times-gone-by at the Ryedale Folk Museum.

Day 13: Liverpool. Leaving Yorkshire, we make our way to Liverpool. Our city tour begins at the historic waterfront - now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Liverpool's maritime history stretches back 800 years and was the world's first commercial wet dock. We drive along Hope Street and take in both cathedrals. No tour of Liverpool would be complete without taking in some of the Beatles landmarks, such as Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields!

Day 14: Liverpool at leisure. Liverpool's waterfront is one of the most iconic and recognizable waterfronts in the world. Marvel at the magnificent mercantile architecture, explore the Albert Dock, visit one of the world class museums, and visit, or revisit, some of the sites related to the Fab Four. Our Farewell Dinner will be at a restaurant on Albert Dock.

Day 15: Home. We fly back to Canada from Manchester.



Hiking Cinque Terre and the Amalfi Coast

Spectacular views, charming seaside towns, world-famous cuisine and a relaxing life style are just some of the features that make Italy's Cinque Terre and Amalfi Coast two of the world's most visited destinations.

The Cinque Terre is known for its spectacular hiking paths that link the 5 towns. The Amalfi Coast equally offers stunning views, and it also has one of Italy's largest concentration of gardens, villas and museums. This tour is designed for avid walkers and moderate hikers. Each day there will be a choice of two walks, ranging from 5 - 10 kms with ascents averaging 300m, led by experienced hiking guides.

Our home base for the first 5-nights is the family-run *Hotel Carla* situated near the Ligurian coast in the town of Levanto - known as the hidden gem of the Italian Riviera, and considered the gateway of the Cinque Terre.

On the Amalfi Coast we'll stay at the *Reginna Palace Hotel*, set in a truly spectacular location overlooking the bay, right by the Maiori waterfront and city centre - a perfect base from which to explore the region.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast and dinner daily (except for 2 dinners), plus 2 lunches. Wine and coffee included with all dinners
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver - \$7797
-
- Single supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transport. to the Montreal airport)
- Calgary or Edmonton - add \$490
- Halifax - add \$690
- Winnipeg - add \$990

13 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 11

Tour Highlights:

- Exploring the 5 towns of the Cinque Terre by way of the famous spectacular walking paths
- Full-day guided tour to Camogli, including a boat trip to San Fruttuoso Abbey and Portofino
- Visit of Montepulciano with lunch
- Excursion to Mount Vesuvius
- Guided visits of Amalfi and Ravello, with a visit of Villa Rufolo
- The ancient Sentieri dei Limoni (Path of the Lemons)
- Positano and the "Pathway of the Gods"

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete up to 7 km of walking on varied terrain.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Florence, via Paris.

Day 2: Levanto. We arrive in Florence we transfer to Levanto - our base for the next 5 nights. This evening our guides will give an orientation briefing on the walks offered during the tour.

Day 3: San Giorgio to Bonassola (Walk 5km with 300m descent OR 9km with extension), For our first walk we take the local bus to San Giorgio, then walk to the charming village of Monterosso, continuing to Bonassola with wonderful vistas of the Mediterranean Sea and countryside. We return by train to Levanto, or extend by walking back to Levanto along the coastal track.

Day 4: Cinque Terre Coastal Path (Walk 6.5km with 215m ascent OR 9.5km with 300m ascent). We travel by train to some of the most picturesque towns of the Cinque Terre. We start with Corniglia, nestled in the middle of the five towns. Corniglia is perched on a promontory set away from the sea and is surrounded on three sides by vineyards and terraces. After exploring this charming town we follow the coastal path which offers spectacular views of Manarola and its harbour embedded under the cliffs. Then we continue on the Via dell'Amore (Lovers' Path) to Riomaggiore - so named due to its characteristic tower homes built along the river. Here we enjoy some free time to stroll the narrow streets lined with beautiful pastel coloured buildings and tempting cafés. We return by train to Levanto.

Day 5: Camogli / Portofino / Santa Margherita (Walk 7km with 217m ascent). Today's excursion takes us along the Italian Riviera and Paradise Gulf - one of the Italian coastline's most beautiful stretches. We travel by train to Camogli - a romantic seaside village which was once a seaport known as 'the city of a thousand sailing ships'. Then we take a boat trip to San Fruttuoso Bay with its secluded Abbey, and to the ancient and sophisticated town of Portofino. Enjoy some time here to visit the gardens of Castle Brown for the best views. We continue by foot to Santa Margherita and walk through the town with its basilica and palazzo gardens, before returning by train to Levanto.

Day 6: Cinque Terre - Vernazza to Monterosso (Walk 7km with 220m ascent OR 10km with 300m ascent). Vernazza is perhaps the prettiest of the five Cinque Terre villages, with colourful houses winding down to its harbour protected by a rocky headland. Choose between two walks to get to Monterosso; either along the famous lower coastal path or on quieter paths in the hills. Both walks complete the final section of the coastal path which links the five villages. In Monterosso there will be plenty of time to explore the town and shop for local specialties.

Day 7: Montepulciano / Attigliano. We travel inland, stopping enroute in one of Tuscany's loveliest hilltop towns, medieval

Montepulciano. After our included lunch we will have some free time to discover the town's elegant Renaissance palaces, ancient churches and squares with stunning views over the countryside covered by vineyards producing the famous "Vino Nobile". We then continue to Attigliano in the heart of Umbria for an overnight.

Day 8: Mount Vesuvius / Maiori (Walk 4km with 180m ascent). On this scenic day we head to the Amalfi Coast. Enroute we will explore the slopes of famous Mount Vesuvius where, on a clear day, the views over the Bay of Naples are stunning. After our visit we will continue to our hotel in Maiori, for a 4-night stay.

Day 9: Amalfi. This morning we visit the famous town of Amalfi, set below the steep cliffs of Italy's southwest coast on the Tyrrhenian Sea. We will see the stunning Arab-Norman cathedral, the medieval shipyards (now an exhibition space) and enjoy some free time before returning to Maori for an afternoon at leisure.

Day 10: Ravello / Valley delle Ferriere National Park (Walk 7km with 300m ascent OR 8km with 510m ascent).

A short transfer takes us to Ravello where we begin our walks. After exploring this delightful village we walk to the medieval village of Pontone - one of "the oldest small towns of the Amalfi Coast". Then we'll proceed down to the Amalfi Coast, enjoying the delightful views this seaside is famous for. Those who wish to walk more may explore the beautiful Valley delle Ferrier before heading down to the coast.

Day 11: Pathway of the Gods / Positano (Walk 5km with 100m ascent OR 8km with 100m ascent). We travel by bus to Agerola where we'll begin the spectacular walk to Positano along the route known as the "Pathway of the Gods". The route offers breathtaking views over the Amalfi peninsula. Picturesque Positano is a nearly vertical town with houses built on terraces in Moorish style with balconies beneath arcades. The town was made popular by many artists and writers such as John Steinbeck.

Day 12: The Sentieri dei Limoni (Walk 4km with 180m ascent OR 7.5km with 300m ascent). Today's hike takes us along the "Sentiero dei Limoni" (Path of the Lemons) - one of the most popular walks on the Amalfi Coast since Roman times. This ancient route follows the coast, through terraced lemon groves and connects the two charming seaside towns of Maiori and Minori. There is spectacular scenery throughout the walk - truly a feast for the senses! This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 13: Home. We fly home from Naples, via Paris.



Walking in Provence and the French Riviera

This walking tour in Southern France showcases the unspoiled parts of Provence and the French Riviera.

Discover picturesque hilltop villages, spectacular landscape of the Southern Alps and Mediterranean Sea and gorgeous architecture, complemented by delicious freshly prepared local cuisine and wines. Designed for the avid walker (and moderate hiker), each day we will enjoy walks ranging from 5 - 12 km with ascents of 100m – 400m, led by experienced hiking guides on good paths (which are sometimes rocky underfoot).

We begin in Provence with 5 nights in charming Gréoux-Bains - an ancient Roman town with thermal baths. Our hotel is the *Villa Borghese*, a member of the prestigious Château Demeures de Tradition group. The hotel has beautiful grounds, a spa, an outdoor heated swimming pool shaded by century old oak trees and a restaurant renowned for the quality of its regional cuisine.

We spend the next 5 nights in the Riviera's best kept secret - Menton, known throughout the country as "The Pearl of France". Menton's old town with its pastel-coloured buildings, fragrant lemon trees and pristine beachfront is a delight. Situated at the base of the Alps, the town is a hiker's paradise. We will stay at the lovingly

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air France
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast daily, 8 dinners and 1 lunch. Wine & coffee with all dinners.
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$6997
- Single supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$150 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal airport)
- Vancouver - add \$190
- Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$690

12 DAYS • OCTOBER 6 - 17

restored *Hotel Royal Westminster* - a 19th century Belle Epoque style palace located directly on the seafront promenade (all of our rooms are seaview!)

Tour Highlights:

- Explore dramatic clifftop villages described as the most beautiful in France
- Visits of Simiane-La-Rotonde and its castle
- Visit of the lively Provencal market of Forcalquier
- Visit of Eze Exotic Garden
- Walking tour of Menton
- Explore the Murrès Plateau, the Provencal Colorado in Rustrel and Verdon Gorge - Europe's largest canyon
- Guided visit of Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild
- An excursion to Italy's beloved Liguria region, with a typical Italian lunch and guided visit of Dolceacqua

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete up to 11 km of walking on varied terrain.*

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

Day 2: Gréoux-Les-Bains. We arrive in Marseille and transfer to Gréoux-les-Bains for a 5-night stay. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner in France.

Day 3: Moustiers Sainte Marie (Walk 6km with 110m ascent OR 10km with 350m ascent). We walk along the ridge above the Moustiers-Ste-Marie, listed as one of the Most Beautiful Villages of France. The town has ancient gates, medieval architecture, pottery shops and a gorgeous location at the base of rocky cliffs. On the shorter walk we will go through the Oules gate for a walk along the “olivettes” – small family olive groves. On the longer walk we will discover the Vallon du Castillon (valley) – a loop walk with views over the Valensol plateau, entering Moustiers by the North gate.

Day 4: Forcalquier / Mourres Plateau (Walk 7km with 200m ascent OR 11km with 400m ascent). We begin at the picturesque hilltop town of Forcalquier – home to one of the largest and liveliest Provencal markets. We will explore the market, then visit a typical olive mill and take in the gorgeous views over the Luberon landscape. Then we proceed with our walk on the Mourres Plateau where mushroom shaped formations resemble human faces – a true geological wonder! Both groups end the walk at Forcalquier.

Day 5: Verdon Gorges (Walk 8km with 150m ascent OR 12km with 250m ascent). We head to the village of Quinson for a scenic walk along the lower Verdon Gorges. The walkway follows an old canal previously used to carry drinking water to Aix-en-Provence. The views of the turquoise waters of the Canal are wonderful. Both groups will walk along the lower Verdon Gorges and back. We return to Gréoux where the rest of the day will be at leisure.

Day 6: Rustrel / Simiane-la-Rotonde (Walk 5km with 150m ascent). We travel to Rustrel, known for its amazing ochre cliffs and small canyons which gave the village the nickname the “Provencal Colorado”. On our walk we will see an incredible succession of rust-coloured rocks, golden cliffs and red earthen chimneys which rise majestically out of the vegetation. Then we visit Simiane-la-Rotonde, listed as one of the most beautiful villages of Provence. Simiane is a place where Mediterranean and Alpine influences meet. We will enjoy a visit of the medieval castle and free time to wander the charming streets of the village.

Day 7: Menton. We proceed to sunny Menton for a 5-night stay. On our walking tour of this delightful seaside resort we see the lovely pastel-coloured architecture, the old town, the cemetery where many prominent 19th century English and Russian figures are buried and the wonderful views of the surrounding countryside.

Day 8: Menton. At leisure in Menton to explore this exquisite town, enjoy a swim in the Mediterranean Sea, visit the museum dedicated to the artist Jean Cocteau, or nearby towns like Monaco or Nice.

Day 9: La Turbie / Eze (Walk 5km with 100m ascent OR 10km with 300m ascent). Our walk begins in La Turbie. Overlooking the Principality of Monaco, this small town resembles a balcony hanging over the Mediterranean and seems to float in the sky. The tall Trophee d’Auguste built 2,000 years ago for the glory of Emperor Augustus is impressive while the rest of the town, with its medieval vaulted passageways, bell tower and baroque fountains is enchanting. Then walk on the trail towards Eze – a fine 14th century village built on a hill. We’ll enjoy a visit of the exotic garden and magnificent views over the coast.

Day 10: Italy / Dolceacqua / Aprical. We cross into Italy for a beautiful day of sightseeing. We first discover the beautifully preserved medieval town of Dolceacqua located in the Lugharian Hills. The town enchants visitors with its scenic bridges and small houses that circle the Castello dei Doria. French painter Claude Monet immortalized the town in one of his famous paintings. We will enjoy a typical Italian lunch at a local restaurant featuring fresh locally grown food. Later we visit the perched village of Aprical – surrounded by forested hills it is on the list of the ‘Most Beautiful Villages in Italy’. Dinner is on our own this evening.

Day 11: Cap Ferrat / Villa Ephrussi (Walk 11km with 150m ascent). Our last walk is on the picturesque hiking path along the rocky seaside from Beaulieu and around the main peninsula of Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat. We pass magnificent villas and see how unspoiled Cap Ferrat has remained. We conclude our walk with a visit of the Villa Ephrussi – home of the Rothschild family. The villa’s opulent furnishings, garden with musical dancing fountains and views of the Mediterranean are breathtaking – a wonderful way to end our walking journey! Tonight enjoy a farewell cocktail followed by dinner.

Day 12: Home. We fly back to Canada via Paris.



Walking the Italian Dolomites and Slovenia

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- First Class and moderate hotels
- Full breakfast daily, 1 lunches and 10 dinners - wine & coffee with dinners
- Guided walking tour program
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 1*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal - \$7997
-
- Single Supplement - \$990
- Ottawa - add \$90
- Vancouver, Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, or Edmonton - add \$490

On this unique walking tour we will experience incredible mountain ranges, lush valleys, pristine lakes and stunning coastlines!

Designed for the avid walker, on most days there will be a choice of two walks, ranging from 7 - 15 km with ascents of 150m - 500m, led by experienced hiking guides on good paths (which are sometimes rocky underfoot).

The Italian Dolomites comprise a small section of the Alps and are renowned for their iconic peaks. These bizarre formations have been sculpted over the course of their 250 million-year history by wind, water and ice, and are an enchanting show of colour that magically changes throughout the day as the sun moves.

Slovenia is a country known for its breathtaking natural beauty - endless green valleys, limestone cliffs and sparkling lakes. We will explore the area of fairy-tale Lake Bled, Triglav National Park and the capital, Ljubljana, before we head to Piran on the coast. From our base here we will discover wonderful national parks, cliff trails with spectacular views of the Adriatic and beautiful beaches.

We finish our tour with an "off the beaten path" walking tour in Treviso - a culinary hub and gateway to the Prosecco region.

14 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 4 - 17

Tour Highlights:

- The iconic Dolomites
- Lago (Lake) di Braies
- Three Peaks Walk
- Kranjska Gora (Slovenia)
- Lake Bled (Slovenia)
- Vintgar Gorges
- Triglav National Park
- Ljubljana, capital of Slovenia
- Strunjan Nature Park
- The spectacular Adriatic Sea
- Off the beaten path sightseeing in Treviso

** Those participating on this walking tour must be able to complete up to 8 km of walking on varied terrain.*

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Innsbruck, Austria via Vienna.

Day 2: Innsbruck / Dolomites (Italy). We arrive in Innsbruck, and transfer to our hotel in the picturesque village of Dobbiaco, Italy - the “Gateway to the Dolomites”. Situated on a high plateau, it has spectacular views of the Dolomite range. This afternoon we’ll have a guided orientation tour.

Day 3: Chapels and Churches Walk / Dolomites (Walk 8km with 225m ascent OR 12km walk with 460m ascent). We walk from our hotel and meander through Tyrolean villages, which feature local old chapels and churches, each with their own unique frescoes.

Day 4: Lago di Braies Walk / Dolomites (Walk 7km with 250m ascent OR 13km with 500m ascent). Today’s walk features beautiful Lago di Braies. As we walk around this picturesque lake we will see the stunning colours of the mountains reflected on its surface. We will also see the famous wooden chalet at the foot of the lake and unique timber rowboats.

Day 5: Three Peaks Walk / Dolomites (Walk 10km with 300m ascent OR 14km with 450 ascent). The Three Peaks (“Tre Cime”) is one of the most iconic symbols of the Dolomites. The three jagged peaks dominate the landscape and are an unmistakable landmark that can be seen for miles around. Today’s route takes us toward the peaks of Cime Nove and Cime Ganda, to San Candido and along an old military route from the First World War, with fortifications and gun emplacements from that period.

Day 6: Platzwises / Strudelkopf / Dolomites (Walk 9km with 310m ascent OR 14km with 510m ascent). From Bruckele we take a car shuttle uphill to the “Prato Piazza” plateau, and then walk towards Monte Specie. At the summit crossing (known as “Croce die Reduci”), we will enjoy the fantastic panoramic views over the Tofane, Monte Cristallo, the Tre Cime and the remaining Sesto Dolomites. We descend through the Stollaalm hut.

Day 7: Kranjska Gora (Slovenia). We travel through Austria to Kranjska Gora in the Julian Alps in northwestern Slovenia, for a 3-night stay. After lunch, we’ll enjoy a short walk in the town and to Jasna Lake - a stunning aquamarine lake with white sand around its rim, and the high peaks of the Julian Alps serving as a dramatic backdrop.

Day 8: Vintgar Gorges Walk and Lake Bled Boat Tour / Kranjska Gora (Walk 8km with 100m ascent). This morning we will walk in the superb Vintgar Gorges along a wooden

walkway that criss-crosses the wirling Radovna River over rapids, waterfalls and pools, before reaching the Sum Waterfall. In the afternoon, enjoy a leisurely boat tour on Lake Bled with a stop at the central island.

Day 9: Triglav National Park / Tamar Valley / Kranjska Gora (Walk 10km with 340m ascent or 15km with 450m ascent).

From our hotel we walk towards Nordic Centre Planica - a state-of-the-art facility for ski jumping and ski flying. Then we enjoy a pleasant walk through the beautiful Tamar Valley to the Tamar mountain hut where we can enjoy a drink, and those who wish may extend the walk to the spectacular “Crne Vode”(Black Water) Waterfall rising below the Slemenovo Spit.

Day 10: Ljubljana / Piran. We depart for Slovenia’s capital, Ljubljana. The city’s history has been influenced by its geographical position - the doorway to the Slavic world and the window to Germanic and Latin cultures. After a morning tour of Ljubljana we continue to the charming town of Piran on the Slovenian coast.

Day 11: Lucija to Strunjan Nature Park Walk / Piran (Walk 10km with 225m ascent OR 15km with 450m ascent).

Today we enjoy a fantastic loop walk between the amazing coastline and the inviting Mediterranean countryside covered in olive groves. This walk offers extraordinary views of Croatia’s Istrian peninsula and the coast of Italy. We arrive in Strunjan Park with an opportunity to extend the walk along the coast atop high cliffs offering superb views of the Adriatic Sea. Then we will visit Strunjan Beach for a refreshing swim.

Day 12: Piran Walking Tour / Piran. This morning we enjoy a guided walking tour of Piran. Situated at the tip of a narrow peninsula, it is one of the loveliest towns on the Adriatic coast. The Old Town, with its Venetian Gothic architecture, is one of the best-preserved historical towns in the Mediterranean. The afternoon is free to explore one of the unique museums, stroll the many winding alleyways or take a dip in the sea.

Day 13: Treviso Walking Tour / Treviso Italy. We proceed to the charming Veneto city of Treviso. On our walking tour we’ll explore the medieval city walls, canals and narrow cobblestoned streets lined with food and wine boutiques selling local specialties. Enjoy some free time before this evening’s Farewell Dinner.

Day 14: Return Home. A short transfer takes us to the Venice airport for our direct flight to Canada.



Fall Foliage Cruise on the *Emerald 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 *Emerald 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.

HOLIDAY 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
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto
 - Inside Cabin..... \$4197
 - Outside Cabin with obstructed view... \$4597
 - Outside Cabin with clear view... \$4797
 - Outside cabin with private balcony.... \$5197
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
- Ottawa or Montreal - add \$190
- Halifax - add \$290
- * *Costs below include a Toronto overnight enroute.*
- Vancouver - add \$690. Edmonton - add \$790
- Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$990

9 DAYS - OCTOBER 7 - 15

As for entertainment, dazzling 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, an afternoon at leisure and our Farewell Dinner.

* *All shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or onboard the ship.*

Day 1: Departure / Embarkation. We depart for New York and upon arrival we transfer to our floating resort, the *Emerald 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, Nova Scotia. 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 half day 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*. The afternoon is at leisure. Our hotel is located in the heart of mid-town Manhattan - convenient for exploring the city. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 9: Home. After breakfast we transfer to the airport where Air Canada takes us home.



Eastern Caribbean Cruise

aboard the
Enchanted Princess

Come cruise with us to discover exotic landscapes
brimming with natural, unspoiled beauty,
world-renowned beaches and colourful cultures.

On this cruise we will venture deeper into the Caribbean on the road-less-travelled to remote islands teeming with lush rainforests, waterfalls, rare birds and spices unique to the region. We will also discover aquamarine seas ablaze with brightly coloured coral reefs teeming with technicolour fish, breathtaking national parks and world – renowned beaches.

We will cruise in style and luxury aboard the new *Enchanted 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.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto
- Inside cabin \$3997
- Outside cabin with balcony \$4797
- Deluxe balcony cabin \$4997

- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
- Montreal - add \$90
- Ottawa - add \$350 (with round-trip transport. to the Montreal airport, and a hotel overnight there)

*** *Add-ons below include an overnight in Toronto en route to Fort Lauderdale*

- Halifax or Vancouver - add \$390
- Winnipeg, Calgary, or Edmonton - add \$590

11 DAYS • DECEMBER 8 - 18

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 shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or onboard the ship.*

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 onboard.

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 rain forests, 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 plummed 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 eco-systems 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 pristine 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 / Home. We arrive back in Fort Lauderdale in the morning and transfer to the airport for our flight home.



15-Day Caribbean Adventure Cruise

aboard the *Caribbean Princess*

Come cruise with us to some of the most exciting ports in the Caribbean aboard the *Caribbean Princess*.

With a distinctive fusion of European and Latin American influences, the islands of the Caribbean are known for their quaint towns alive with a diverse culture, with a breathtaking backdrop of swaying palm trees, powder white beaches, turquoise waters and blue-green mountains. Highlights of this cruise include the Mayan ruins in Mexico, the vibrant culture and old world charm of Puerto Rico, the stunning beaches and salt sands of Turks & Caicos, and the Dominican Republic's colonial heritage and architecture, in beautiful natural surroundings.

We will cruise in style and luxury aboard the *Caribbean 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.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Cruise as described, port taxes, all tipping, all meals daily, all activities & entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal
- Inside Cabin\$4997
- Outside Cabins with obstructed view...\$5197
- Outside Cabin with private balcony\$5997
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
- Ottawa - add \$250 (with round-trip transport. to the Montreal airport, and a hotel overnight)
* *All add-ons below include an overnight in Toronto en route to Fort Lauderdale*
- Halifax - add \$490. Calgary - add \$590.
- Vancouver, Winnipeg or Edmonton - add \$790

15 DAYS • NOVEMBER 12 - 26

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 shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or onboard the ship.*

Day 1: Departure / Fort Lauderdale. We fly to Fort Lauderdale and upon arrival transfer to our cruise ship, the *Caribbean Princess*. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

Day 2: 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 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 wine tasting.

Day 4: 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 colonial 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 of El Morro, which covers over 70 acres and features six levels that rise from sea level to 145 feet.

Day 5: Amber Cove, Dominican Republic. On the north coast of the Dominican Republic, Amber Cove (named for the translucent gemstone found on its shores), sits just seven miles from the town of Puerto Plata. This cinematic locale was used as the backdrop for the first Jurassic Park film. Just steps from the dock you can take in the sparkling beach, which offers a host of water activities, or enjoy the serene, natural beauty of the scene from the comfort of a private bungalow. You may want to explore the 450-year-old San Felipe Fortress in Puerto Plata.

Day 6: Grand Turk, Turks & Caicos. This small island is bursting with 19th century Caribbean charm. The Bermudan British colonial architecture overlooks the marine - blue waters of the Caribbean. Grand Turk is blessed with miles of quiet sugary beaches and is close to several uninhabited cays just waiting to be explored.

Day 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 Los Olas Boulevard in the trendy Riverwalk district, with its fabulous art galleries, eclectic boutiques and busy sidewalk cafes.

Day 9: Princess Cays, Bahamas. Another day to enjoy Princess' own private island.

Day 10: At Sea. Enjoy a culinary demonstration, afternoon tea, or catch a movie under the stars.

Day 11: 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.

Day 12: 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 13: Mahahual (Costa Maya), Mexico. This fishing village is the gateway for exploring the ancient Mayan ruins on Mexico's Costa Maya. Explore the ruins of Chacchoben, Kohunlich and Dzibanche, or experience a Mayan village with a visit to a family in their home.

Day 14: At Sea. A final day to enjoy the activities and entertainment on board our ship.

Day 15: Home. We disembark the ship in Fort Lauderdale and transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Christmas / New Years Caribbean Cruise aboard the *Island 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 festively decorated Atrium, a host of holiday events, festive onboard activities, a traditional Christmas dinner and a festive New Years 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 *Island Princess* - a floating resort with all the amenities of a resort hotel,

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Cruise as described, port taxes, all tipping, all meals daily, all activities & entertainment
- Gala Christmas and New Years celebrations
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal
 - Inside Cabin\$5997
 - Outside Cabin (obstructed view).....\$6197
 - Outside Cabin (clear view).....\$6397
 - Deluxe Balcony Cabin\$7797
-
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
 - Ottawa - add \$250 (with round-trip transport to the Montreal airport, and a hotel overnight)
 - Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$390 (includes a Toronto overnight en route to Fort Lauderdale)

15 DAYS • DECEMBER 21 - JANUARY 4

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 shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or onboard the ship.*

Day 1: Departure. We fly to Fort Lauderdale and upon arrival we transfer to our cruise ship, the *Island Princess*. This evening we enjoy our first delicious dinner onboard.

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. 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 rain forests.

Day 5: Guadeloupe (Christmas Day). A butterfly shaped island between the islands of Antigua and Dominica. Grande — Terre on the Eastern side has an extensive stretch of sand dotted with colourful beach towns. The mountainous Basse-Terre, on the western side is home to the wonderful Guadeloupe National Park. The park is dense with lush rainforest foliage, waterfalls, and incredible wildlife and bird species.

This evening we enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner, with all the trimmings, prepared by Princess' own expert chefs.

Day 6: 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 7: 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 eco-systems not found anywhere else in the region, including rain forests, mountains and beaches that truly deserve the pristine designation.

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 steel pan and calypso music. There is plenty to see here. The Asa Wright Nature Center 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. Enjoy a culinary demonstration, afternoon tea, or catch a movie under the stars.

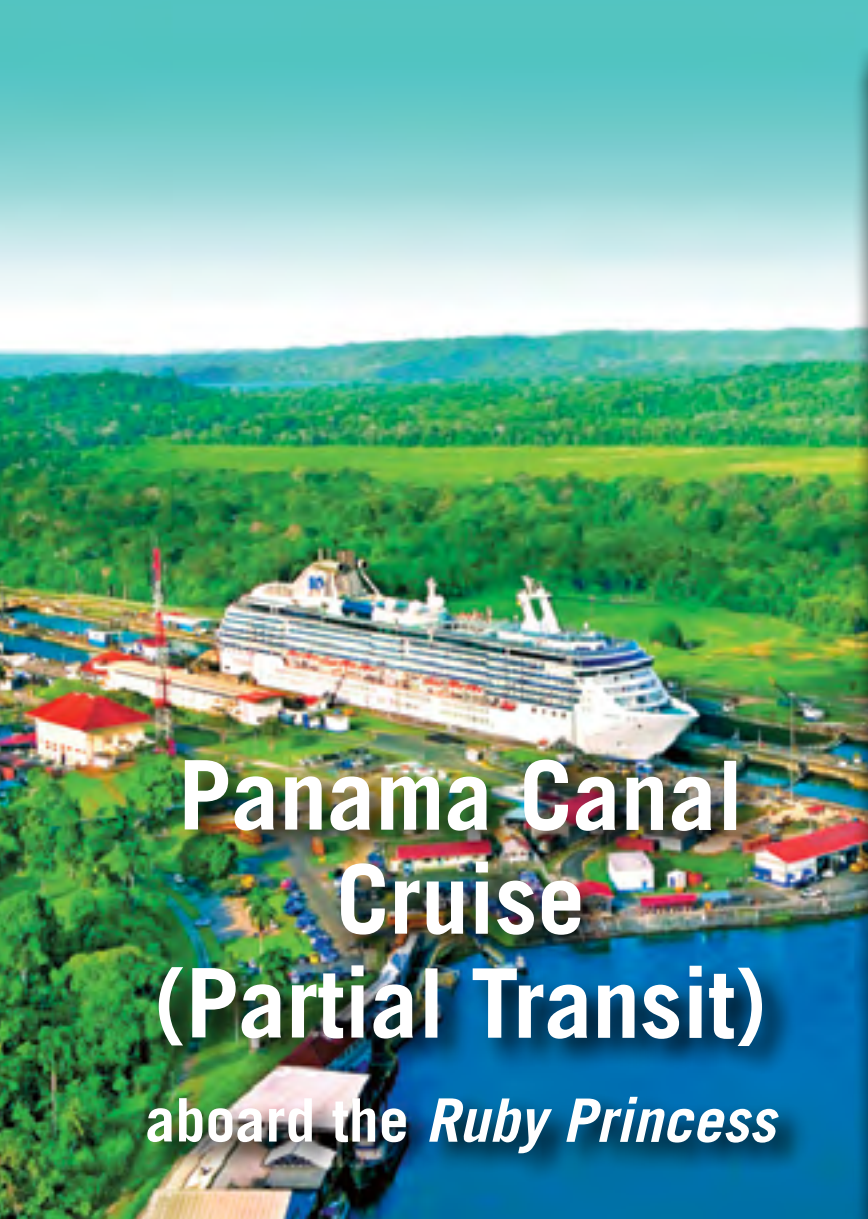
Day 11: Curacao (New Year's Eve). Colourful Willemstad is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most recognizable spots in the Caribbean. While the shops in town offer great bargains, there is also an array of pristine beaches as well as the fascinating Hato Caves.

This evening we enjoy a gala New Year's Eve Countdown Party.

Day 12: Aruba (New Years Day). 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 (Partial Transit) aboard the *Ruby Princess*

As early as the days of Columbus, man was determined to find a shortcut between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

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 will sail round-trip from Fort Lauderdale via the “Path Between the Seas”, for a partial transit of the canal aboard the *Ruby 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.

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto or Montreal
- Inside Cabin (various decks).....\$3797
- Outside Cabin (obstructed view)
Emerald Deck.....\$3997
- Outside Cabin (clear view)
Plaza Deck.....\$4397
- Outside Cabin with private balcony
Baja or Aloha Deck.....\$4997

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- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
 - Ottawa - add \$250 (with round-trip transportation to the Montreal Airport, and a hotel overnight there)
 - ** All add-ons below include an overnight in Toronto or Montreal en route to Fort Lauderdale*
 - Halifax, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$290
 - Winnipeg or Calgary - add \$390

11 DAYS • NOVEMBER 20 - 30

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 shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises’ website, or onboard the ship.*

Day 1: Departure / Fort Lauderdale. We depart for Fort Lauderdale, and upon arrival we transfer to our cruise ship. This evening we will enjoy our first delicious dinner on board.

Day 2: At Sea. Time to relax and 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: Montego Bay, Jamaica. Popularly called “Mo Bay”, Montego Bay offers a kaleidoscope of Jamaica’s charms: from pristine beaches and tropical scenery to historic plantation houses. Enjoy an optional excursion to Rose Hall Great House - a living museum of an authentic 18th century sugar cane plantation. This was the home of Annie Palmer, the infamous “White Witch” of Jamaican folklore.

Day 4: At Sea.

Day 5: Cartagena, Columbia. In the 17th century this walled city was a target for every pirate on the high seas. It has many architectural treasures along its narrow streets with Spanish inspired facades and balconies. A ride to the top of La Popa Hill will give you great views of the city and harbour, the old fort and a 17th century monastery. Gold, silver and precious stones are available at bargain prices.

Day 6: Panama Canal. Today we experience the 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 and tropical plants, trees and bird life. As we cruise through there is a detailed narration of this colossal undertaking that cost \$367 million in 1914.

Day 7: Limon, Costa Rica. The mountainous beauty of this country will surprise you. You may want to take an excursion through the jungle or to a coffee plantation.

Day 8: At Sea. Following all of the exciting sightseeing of the past few days, a day to relax comes most welcome.

Day 9: Grand Cayman. We arrive at Grand Cayman, famous for its Seven Mile Beach and some of the finest duty-free shopping in the Caribbean. In Georgetown the 5-story building limit contributes to the charming ambiance of this island.

Day 10: At Sea. A final day to relax or participate in the activities on board ship.

Day 11: Home. We disembark the ship in Fort Lauderdale and transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Hawaiian Island Cruise

aboard the *Crown 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, Maui - with its green hills and gentle valleys, Kauai (*The Garden Isle*), and Oahu for the excitement of Honolulu.

We will cruise in style and luxury aboard the *Crown 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

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Cruise as described, port taxes, all meals daily, all activities and entertainment
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

- per person, double occupancy, from Toronto, Edmonton or Calgary
 - Inside Cabin (various decks)..... \$4797
 - Outside Cabin (obstructed view)
Emerald Deck..... \$4997
 - Outside Cabin (clear view), *Plaza Deck*.. \$5997
 - Outside Cabin with private balcony
Aloha or Baja Deck \$6997
-
- Single Supplement - add 50% to costs above
 - Montreal - add \$90
 - Ottawa - add \$190 (overnight in Toronto en route)
 - Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$390 (overnight enroute in each direction)
 - Vancouver - deduct \$300

17 DAYS • NOVEMBER 5 - 21

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 shore excursions are optional, and may be purchased in advance on Princess Cruises' website, or onboard the ship.*

Day 1: Departure / San Francisco. We depart for San Francisco. 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 - 5: At Sea. Time now to enjoy the many pleasures of our cruise ship. Pamper yourself in the Spa, play a game of shuffleboard, take some time for golf or partake in afternoon tea. Browse the boutiques, take in a movie at the theatre or just curl up in a deck chair with a good book - a time honoured seafaring tradition.

Day 6: 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 7: Honolulu / Oahu. Honolulu is Hawaii's largest city and the state capital. It is probably most famous for its main beach - 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 Harbour.

Day 8: 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".

Day 9: Lahaina (Maui). Maui is the second largest of the Hawaiian Islands. It's largest town, Lahaina, was once a whaling port and now a lovely resort area. It is a great place in which to stroll. The surrounding hills are planted with sugar cane and pineapple and the excellent beaches welcome those who like to swim. Well worth a visit is the Haleakala Crater, the highest point on the island.

Days 10 - 14: At Sea. We leave Hawaii and begin our cruise back to the mainland. Be watchful for whales and dolphins. We have not had a lot of time during these past 4 days to enjoy everything our ship has to offer, but as we head for the mainland you will be able to catch up. Relax and enjoy all the activities, facilities and entertainment on board.

Day 15: 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 16: At Sea. A final day to enjoy our luxurious cruise ship.

Day 17: San Francisco / Home. Farewell to our friends on our Princess cruise ship as we disembark and transfer to the airport for our flight home.



Grand Lower Danube Cruise

Daily excursions included!

On this delightful cruise we will sail from Bucharest, Romania, taking in six Old World countries, through the Danube Delta - a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and ending in Vienna, Austria.

The itinerary will immerse us in the thousand-year-old history and culture of this fascinating region, home to the once mighty Hapsburg Empire. Featured stops include Bucharest, Nikopol (Bulgaria), Belgrade (Serbia), Budapest (Hungary), Bratislava (Slovakia), and Vienna.

An added-value feature of this cruise is that all excursions are included and expertly guided in English. Exclusive old world highlights on board include folklore entertainment, lectures, theme dinners, welcome and farewell cocktail receptions and a Captain's Gala dinner.

A big advantage to riverboat cruising is in the central docking facilities at each port of call that makes the disembarkation and exploration of each destination quite

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- 9-night Deluxe cruise in outside cabins, all meals (wine with dinners) and all tipping
- 3 nights First Class accommodation (1 night Bucharest and 2 nights Vienna) with breakfast daily, 2 dinners and 1 lunch
- Daily excursions as described
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COSTS:

per person, double occupancy, from Toronto

- *Haydn Deck*\$8497
- *Strauss Deck*.....\$9497
- *Mozart Deck*.....\$9997

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- Single accommodation on request.
 - Ottawa, Montreal or Halifax - add \$190
 - Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver - add \$290

14 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 9

effortless. Our riverboat is the *MS Amadeus Star*. On this deluxe floating hotel you may relax in the lounge, Panorama Bar or outside on the deck. The ship has a shop, hair salon and offers exercise classes. All meals are included and graciously presented in a smoke-free dining room. Unlimited quality wines from Europe's most famous wine regions are included with every dinner.

Cabins have twin beds, private bathroom (shower only), hairdryer, phone, safe, TV with satellite, in-house video channels and climate control. Cabins on *Haydn Deck* have a panoramic window that cannot be opened. Cabins on the *Strauss* and *Mozart Decks* are larger, with panoramic windows that can be opened.

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Bucharest.

Day 2: Bucharest, Romania. We arrive in Bucharest and transfer to our hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Day 3: Bucharest / Fetesti (Romania) / Embarkation. Our city tour of Romania's capital (the "Paris of the East") will take us along the city's broad boulevards, past the State University, the Triumphal Arch, Romanian Athenaeum and former Royal Palace. We continue on foot through the historic center, and visit Stavropoleos - one of city's oldest Orthodox churches. Later we'll see the Parliament Palace - the 2nd largest administrative building in the world after the Pentagon. Then we'll transfer to Fetesti to embark our ship. After a welcome cocktail we'll enjoy our Welcome Dinner.

Day 4: Danube Delta / St. George Village. We enjoy an unforgettable Delta boat trip through the Danube Delta - a UNESCO World Heritage Site with unique flora and fauna. Our vessel docks in the tiny fishing village of St. George, known for its old world tranquility (the village is not reachable by car). Our trip also takes us through the Sahalin Lagoon, the Ciotica Channel and passes by the region's oldest fish processing center. The unique habitat of waterfowl, fish and flora here is beautiful and untouched by civilization.

Day 5: Hirsova, Romania. We arrive in the small town of Hirsova, which is the gateway to Constanta - the oldest continually inhabited city in Romania, tracing its history back 2500 years. We'll enjoy a guided tour in the historic part of the city with views over the Great Mosque, the Casino, and Genovese Lighthouse. A visit to the History and Archaeology Museum will reveal the city's history and blend of cultures.

Day 6: Svistov / Nikopol, Bulgaria. We drive to the museum village of Arbanassi with its unique houses that look like small fortresses. The village is famous for its painted churches and artist market. We will see the "Konstantsaliev" - an amazing well-preserved centuries old very wealthy district. We'll also visit the Nativity Church and admire some of the region's earliest frescoes. Then we'll proceed to Veliko Tarnovo - the Medieval capital of Bulgaria, where we'll see the Tsarevets Fortress and learn about the history of Bulgarian kings. Later we dock in Nikopol.

Day 7: Cruising Through the "Iron Gates" Gorge. Today's highlight will be the passage through the "Iron Gates" - the highest gorge on the Danube. Over 100 km long, this canyon was historically a gigantic obstacle to navigate because of its pointed rocks, cliffs, and changing water levels. A dam

built in the 1970's enables safe passage for passenger and cargo ships all the way to the Black Sea.

Day 8: Belgrade, Serbia. On our city tour of this vibrant capital we'll see the Kalemegdan Fortress, which offers an impressive panoramic view over the Danube and Sava Rivers. We then see the National Museum, the Parliament, Terazije Square, Palace of Princess Ljubica, and St. Sava Cathedral - the world's largest Orthodox Church.

Day 9: Mohacs / Kalocsa, Hungary. We enjoy an excursion to Puszt, and visit a "Paprika House" for an opportunity to taste cakes baked with paprika and other products made from paprika. After a short folk dance performance, the local women will demonstrate the making of embroidery and the painting of eggs. Later we'll visit a Hungarian Puszt, to enjoy the scenery and riders wearing traditional costumes on beautiful Hungarian half-blood horses.

Day 10: Budapest, Hungary. Our tour of Hungary's beautiful capital will take in the splendid Baroque buildings such as the Hungarian State Opera. We will also stop in Heroes' Square, and go up to Castle Hill, where we'll visit St. Matthews's Church and the famous Fisherman's Bastion. Then we'll visit the Royal Palace of Godollo, which was the favourite summer residence of Empress Elisabeth and Emperor Franz Josef of Austria. It is the largest and most attractive complex of Baroque buildings in Hungary.

Day 11: Bratislava, Slovakia. Our city tour of this lovely city will take in the famous St. Martin's Cathedral and the Grassalkovich Palace. From Michael's Gate we will stroll the historic city center and admire such sights as the Primatial Palace, Academia Istropolitana - the city's oldest university, numerous palaces, and the main square with the old City Hall, the Opera House, and Maximilian Fountain.

Day 12: Disembarkation / Vienna, Austria. We disembark our ship and enjoy a guided tour of the "Imperial Capital" of Vienna. We will see the magnificent state buildings, including the historic Parliament, City Hall, the University, National Theatre and museums. We will also see the Imperial Palace - home to Austria's president. Later we will visit Schonbrunn Palace - summer home of the Imperial family and a superb example of Austrian Baroque architecture.

Day 13: Vienna. A day at leisure to enjoy Vienna. There is so much to see, and your Tour Manager will offer suggestions.

Day 14: Home. We transfer to the airport for our flight home.



The Enchanting Rhine River

- **Deluxe Riverboat Cruise from Switzerland to Amsterdam**
- **2 nights Lucerne and 2 nights Zurich**
- **Many shore excursions included!**

This enchanting holiday begins in Switzerland, with 2 night stays in both Zurich and Lucerne. In the midst of Switzerland's stunning scenery and world famous cities we will enjoy lake-side excursions and Alpine vistas.

After our Alpine experience we board our deluxe riverboat for a leisurely 7-night cruise through Switzerland, France, Germany and Holland. Our cruise takes us to the Alsatian capital of Strasbourg, the legendary Black Forest region, Cologne with its majestic Cathedral, the historic university town of Heidelberg and Amsterdam with its legendary canals.

Our riverboat, the new *Amadeus Imperial* (launched in 2020) is a modern ship specially built for cruising

HOLIDAY INCLUSIONS:

- Flights with Air Canada
- Deluxe cruise in outside cabins, including all meals (wine included with all dinners), and all tipping
- 4-nights in First Class hotels in Lucerne and Zurich, with breakfast daily and 3 dinners
- All excursions as described
- *All Tour Inclusions listed on Page 3*

COST: per person, double occupancy, from Toronto

- *Haydn Deck* with panoramic window.\$9797
- *Strauss Deck* (larger cabin) with drop-down panoramic window\$10797
- *Mozart Deck* (larger cabin) with drop-down panoramic window.....\$11197
- Single accommodation on request
- Ottawa or Montreal - add \$190
- Halifax or Winnipeg - add \$290
- Vancouver, Calgary or Edmonton - add \$390

13 DAYS • SEPTEMBER 5 - 17

European rivers, combining the luxuries of a 5-star hotel with innovative design and First Class service.

You will enjoy superb dining throughout the cruise with special theme dinners. As a bonus, quality wines from Europe's most famous wine regions are included with every dinner. The nightly entertainment features folkloric and musical performances and informative lectures on our destinations.

All cabins have a panoramic window, and the *Sun Deck* invites you to relax outdoors, while offering breathtaking views of the passing river landscapes. To round out your experience, many shore excursions are included and expertly conducted by English speaking guides.

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

Day 1: Departure. We depart for Zurich.

Day 2: Zurich. Upon arrival in Zurich we embark on a city tour. We'll see St. Peter's Church with the world's largest church clock face, Grossmunster Abbey, which offers exceptional views of Zurich, Old Town and Fraumunster Abbey. After our tour we'll transfer to our hotel. This evening is our Welcome Dinner.

Day 3: Rhine Falls / Zurich. We travel to Schaffhausen to visit the spectacular Rhine Falls - Europe's largest waterfall, where we will enjoy a boat ride up to the rock at the foot of the falls. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 4: Lucerne. Today enjoy a scenic drive past three lakes before reaching Viztnau. Upon arrival we enjoy a cruise across the tranquil waters of Lake Lucerne, surrounded by spectacular mountain scenery. After our cruise we check in to our hotel in central Lucerne.

Day 5: Lucerne. We enjoy a walking tour of this medieval gem. See the city's lovely cobblestone streets, public squares, monuments, fountains, covered bridges and frescoed buildings. Afternoon at leisure to shop for watches, knives and delicious Swiss chocolate.

Day 6: Lucerne / Basel / Embarkation. This morning we visit the Lion Monument, then we depart for Basel for a walking tour of the city. Long an important center for banking and commerce, Basel's glorious past is still evident in its medieval Town Hall and 18th century homes. Later we will embark on our luxurious river cruise ship.

Day 7: Strasbourg, France. We arrive in the capital of Alsace for a walking tour through the old part of the town with its Gothic Cathedral and famous astronomical clock. We will take a boat cruise to see the famous quarter known as "Petite France" with its beautiful 500-year-old half-timbered houses on the banks of the river.

Day 8: Speyer / Heidelberg. Our morning tour of historic Speyer includes visits to the Romanesque Imperial Cathedral with its striking twin tower portal, the Church of the Holy Spirit, the Old Gate and the Jewish Ritual Bath. Our afternoon tour takes us to the well-preserved baroque town of Heidelberg, which for centuries has been one of Germany's foremost centres of literature, music and art. We'll visit the ruins of the red sandstone castle overlooking the town (considered Germany's most beautiful castle

ruin) and then stroll through the enchanting old town to the Karl-Theodor Bridge, the late-gothic Church of the Holy Spirit and the Town Hall before returning to our ship.

Day 9: Rudesheim / Koblenz. We arrive in the wine-making town of Rudesheim. Our tour there takes us on the unique Winzerexpress train to the "Siegfried Mechanical Music Cabinet" for a musical adventure with historical self-playing instruments. After our visit we explore the heart of the old town, including the Drosselgasse (with its abundance of wine houses and garden taverns), and the Eagle Tower - a part of the city wall and fortifications from the 15th century. With over 2,000 years of history, Koblenz is one of the oldest and most beautiful towns in Germany. On our guided walk through the romantic streets we'll see the highlights, including the famous St. Castor Basilica, Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, and the Koblenz State Museum.

Day 10: Cochem. We take a special trip down the romantic Moselle River - the largest tributary of the Rhine dominated by vineyards. We will anchor at the old town of Cochem. Our included walking tour of the narrow, winding streets will include a visit of Reichsburg Castle. Perched on a rock high above the city, this magnificent castle dominates the cityscape and offers an impressive view of the Moselle Valley with its forests, vineyards and old town.

Day 11: Cologne, Germany. Enjoy the scenery on deck as we sail to the beautiful city of Cologne. We will have a walking tour of Cologne's historic Old Town, taking in the Old Market, the Hay Market, the lively city squares and a visit of the famous twin-spired Cologne Cathedral.

Day 12: Amsterdam & Haarlem. We arrive in Amsterdam, renowned for its museums, flower displays and 90 islands separated by canals and bridges. On our city tour we'll see the Royal Palace, the Museum Quarter, and we'll enjoy a canal cruise. This afternoon we visit Haarlem. With spectacular monuments dating back 800 years, many great artists of the Golden Age captured this city's beauty. We will walk through the historic center with its beautiful "hofjes" (almshouses built around leafy courtyards), and we'll visit the Cathedral of St. Bavo with its famous organ (dating back to 1738 it is the most reproduced instrument in the world. This evening is our Farewell Dinner.

Day 13: Flight home. We disembark our ship and transfer to the airport for our flight back to Canada.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Please read this page carefully before booking your Senior Discovery Tours (SDT) holiday.

- SDT acts solely as agent between the passenger and supplier for providing services as described in the brochure. SDT will not assume **responsibility** for any claims, damages or expenses arising from situations beyond our control.

- **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.

- 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.

- Those who choose to decline our comprehensive insurance package will be issued a rebate on their tour cost, the amount to be informed by your Tour Consultant. The following schedule of cancellation fees applies to you (and your travelling companion) **only if you have declined our insurance package, or if you cancel a tour for a reason not covered in our insurance package** (applies to tours without a cruise portion. Cruise penalties may vary).

- Cancel 61 days or more prior to departure: \$75 admin. fee
- Cancel 60 days to 31 days prior: 25% of tour cost
- Cancel 30 days to 8 days prior: 50% of tour cost
- Cancel 7 days or less prior: 100% of tour cost

- Our 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.

- 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.

- We are unable to refund those who do not participate in any **included meals or excursions**, as they are prepaid.

- All **gratuities** are included for all services provided in our tour package. For extra services such as optional excursions, meals on your own, room service and any exceptional services, tipping is at your discretion. If you wish to show appreciation to your Tour Manager please do so on an individual basis - collections are not permitted!

- Please be advised that there may be **different standards** in utilities, services and accommodations outside Canada. Our classifications for accommodation are made in terms of local standards. Please note that outside North America coffee, tea and drinking water are generally not included with lunch or dinner. All rooms are non-smoking.

- **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.

- **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. Luggage carts are generally available at all airports worldwide.

- **Flight schedule changes** are beyond our control. We are therefore occasionally forced to change airlines, and/or routings, and/or date of travel for your benefit. In such cases we provide as much notice as possible, and do everything possible to ensure your convenience and comfort. Should a schedule change result in an unplanned overnight enroute to or from your destination, the cost will be borne by the traveller.

- SDT will attempt to accommodate **special requests** by notifying the suppliers in writing, however we cannot guarantee that requests such as room locations or meal requirements for flights or hotels will be adhered to by our suppliers, and therefore we cannot be held responsible. Please note that advance seat selection for flights on our group tours is not permitted, as per the conditions of our contract with the airlines. Sea view or pool view rooms are not guaranteed unless specifically noted in our brochure.

- **On cruises - all shore excursions are optional**, and are paid for on board the ship, unless stated otherwise in our brochure. Our local tour operators may also offer optional excursions. While we do our best to monitor their quality, SDT is not responsible for the operation or costing of these excursions.

- Our 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 wheel chairs 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.

- SDT supports **an environment of respect** toward our staff and clients. Harassment or abuse of any kind will not be tolerated. Our Code of Conduct can be found on our website.

- **If you join a tour beyond your physical 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.

- Generally you will receive your **tour documents** 10 to 14 days prior to departure, unless we are held up by a supplier providing documentation, in which case you may not receive them until closer to departure.

- 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 is not included. If you book different flights from the rest of the group, arrival / departure airport transfers at the destination are not included. If you book your own flights, please protect yourself with cancellation insurance as we cannot be held responsible for schedule changes, or if a tour is cancelled for any reason.

- You may not make any **changes to your flight arrangements** after the final payment due date.

- **Single travellers** must pay a supplement due to hotel charges. However this does not imply that they will necessarily be assigned a room as large as those assigned to two people sharing. We can often team up **those without a partner!**

- There may be occasions in which the **flight portion** of your SDT holiday is **unescorted**.

- All of our tours are conducted in **English only**. Reg.#2160711

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.

Eight ways we make your journey better

- 1 All flights, hotels, and most excursions are included:** plus, all transfers, taxes, and tipping!
- 2 Carefully selected hotels:** we personally inspect each property for quality, service, and value.
- 3 Most meals are covered:** and they are delicious ones too, allowing you to sample the best of local cuisine.
- 4 Exceptional Tour Managers:** who go above and beyond to make sure that everyone has a wonderful experience – and each day's activities are at just the right pace.
- 5 Round-trip transportation right from your doorstep to the airport:** and safely back home again (from most Canadian cities).
- 6 Health and cancellation insurance:** yes, we take care of that too, so you can travel carefree.
- 7 More than 100 destinations worldwide:** endless choices for your next journey!
- 8 Tour types to suit everyone:** we offer a wide range of tour styles, including stay-put relaxed vacations, two or three centre holidays, rail journeys, walking tours and cruises.

“



Very impressed with your tour manager.

Our tour to Sicily was wonderful. The planning and 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 and Louis, AB

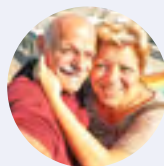
“



They even picked me up at home!

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, QC

“



Our trip was more than we ever expected!

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 and Barb, ON

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

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