





# WELCOME TO SEASON

As a third generation family-owned company that's been in business since 1918, we can't wait to share another year of travel adventures with you. This past year was full of exploration as I went to Devon and Cornwall in the UK for the first time (Dan), and I explored Finland and saw the Northern Lights (Jaclyn). This upcoming travel season will bring us back to some of our favourite spots and introduce us to places we've dreamed about. Traveller, where will you go?

No matter where you explore, you'll dive in because local experts are behind the scenes, creating incredible tours that offer exclusive glimpses into local culture.

Simply put, our tours are built by travellers, for travellers, and we believe this makes all the difference.

We can't wait to see you on the road.

Dan Sullivan

CEO

Jaclyn Leibl-Cote

President & Chief Customer Experience Officer

Danuel Vullim J Saclyn F. Cola



ON THE COVER
African elephants in the wild. Learn more starting on page 20.

## 170+ Tours7 Continents5 Travel Styles

From leisurely tours of the French Riviera to more challenging journeys into the wilds of Patagonia, we have tours for every type of traveller, so you can see the world through a different lens. Are you a foodie? A wine connoisseur? History buff? Nature lover? Whatever it is you're looking for, we've got a tour for that.

#### **TRAVEL STYLES**

All tours are **Classic** (Iconic sites, enriching experiences) except those marked as follows:

- **E** Small Group Explorations A connection to culture
- S Spotlights Single-Hotel Stays
  Go in depth, unpack just once
- © Cruising
  Explore the world's scenic waterways
- F Faith
  Spiritual journeys

See pages 12-15 for full travel style descriptions



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#### Level 1

You're a leisurely traveller. You typically take it easy and discover the energy of a new place by peoplewatching or soaking in the atmosphere at a local café. You can climb at least one flight of stairs, board a coach, and walk unassisted at a relaxed pace for up to 60 minutes without difficulty. You can easily handle altitudes up to 1524 metres.

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Take your trip to the next level when you add an extension to the start or end of a tour.

- ➤ Fully Guided Extension: experience all the inclusions of a Collette tour, led by a Tour Manager or local expert.
- ► Hosted Extension: includes overnight accommodations, daily breakfast, airport transfers, and some locally guided experiences. A dedicated Tour Manager will not be present.
- ▶ Independent Extension: includes overnight accommodations, daily breakfast, and airport transfers. No Tour Manager will be present.

#### Level 2

You like a balanced approach to travel. Walking 3 to 5 kilometres over the course of a day is no problem for you. You can partake in a two-hour leisurely walking tour, covering up to 3.2 kilometres (with included breaks). You can handle a variety of terrains, from cobblestone streets to moderate hills with relative ease and without assistance. You can climb two flights of stairs with ease. There may be 1 to 2 days on this tour when walking tours can cover four to seven kilometres over uneven terrain. You can handle altitudes up to 1828 metres.

#### Level 3

#### You're an on-the-go traveller.

You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking six kilometres over the course of a day is doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 1828 and 2743 metres. Expect some longer days balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travellers who require mobility assistance devices.

#### Level 4

You're ready to seize the day, whatever it may bring. You lead an active life at home (walking, biking, and half or full day hikes are things you may enjoy) and 10,000 steps a day is normal for you. You can handle longer walking tours (more than 3 hours covering five kilometres at a steady pace) and activities that involve uneven terrain, steep slopes, standing for periods of time, and varying altitudes and temperatures. You don't mind being on the go with some early starts, late-nights, and full days. You can handle altitudes of 2743 metres or higher with little to no issue. This level is not appropriate for travellers who use wheelchairs, walkers, and other mobility assistance devices.



Remember when guided travel meant long days on the coach, dining at hotel buffets, and staying in typical accommodations? Well, times have changed. **Travellers** want to dive in deep. And we're right there with you.

That's why food is an experience on tour. You'll eat in locals' homes and take cooking classes. You might get from point A to point B via dog sled, a safari jeep, or public transportation. When it's time to rest, you might find yourself peeking at the skies from your Finnish igloo or embracing the romance of an Italian villa.

Will you take a walk on a cloud? Anyone can go to Costa Rica... but when you go with Collette you'll walk through a cloud forest. You can taste the food in Vietnam... but with us, you'll board a basket boat in Hoi An and sail to a cooking class.



## With **local experts curating every experience**, our tours take a typical experience like a meal, hotel stay, or transportation and create experiences that dive into culture.

#### **Transportation: Reimagined**

"On our Flavours of Portugal & Spain (pg. 182) tour, climb aboard a private tram to discover Lisbon from its hills. Postcard worthy vistas greet you at every turn!."



– Vasja Product Design Manager, Central & Eastern Europe



#### More than a Meal

"On the small group Japan: Past & Present (pg. 44) tour, get an exclusive chance to see the Ama pearl divers in action. These women defy gender norms generation after generation. Seeing them dive, sharing a meal, having a conversation – it's inspiring."



– Samantha Product Design Manager, Japan



#### Stay in Style

"Imagine staying in an Italian resort overlooking the vineyards of the Romagna Region. On our **Best of Italy (pg. 218)** tour, you can...and it's picture-perfect."



ShannonProduct Design Manager, Italy



## It's Time to Go, Relax, and Worry About Nothing...

You know what you want to see and do – let a team of experts handle all the details. We design tours that include:

- √ Must-sees & hidden gems
- ✓ Centrally-located accommodations
- ✓ Transportation & cool rides
- √ Immersive culinary experiences
- √ Local lessons
- ✓ In-destination expert Tour Managers & Guides
- ✓ A perfect balance of included activities and free time

## Experiences designed by travellers, for travellers.

No two days are the same. We like to keep things fresh – from the food you'll eat (and occasionally catch or cook) to the ways you'll travel around your destination — think dog sleds, trains, tuk tuks, and trolleys.

Get the must-sees and the local culture – not one or the other. Your time is best spent in destinations, not driving between them — so our tours spend the fewest hours on the coach as possible. We know that no one likes to be rushed, so we strive to keep one-night stays to a minimum.

Choice on Tour allows you to choose between two included excursions to customize your tour.





"I grew up in South Africa and have been in the tourism industry for thirty years. Uncovering Africa's beauty is my passion. We design our own itineraries and hand-pick safari lodges and experiences. It allows us to listen and react to traveller feedback and build the exact experience our travellers are looking for."

RogerProduct Design Manager, Africa









### Multi-Tour: Combine Two Tours and Make the Most of Your Travels

We can help you seamlessly string together two of our tours, so you can have the Collette travel experience back-to-back. You'll save time and money.

#### **Optional Excursions**

A sunset dinner in Santorini... ziplining in Costa Rica... flightseeing to the Arctic Circle in Alaska. Our team has created exciting optional tour excursions that travellers can purchase to personalize their trip even more. During built-in free time, you can opt to partake in experiences that deepen your perspective of the destination.

## How You Travel Matters

It's not just where you travel, but how you travel that matters. Want your itinerary packed with must-sees and bucket list attractions? Prefer a laid-back locale at a leisurely pace? A cultural deep-dive with a small group? How do you like to travel?







#### **Classic Experiences**

- Master the art of sushi making during a hands-on class in Kyoto.
   Cultural Treasures of Japan, pg. 46
- At the Palace of Versailles, tour the private apartments of King Louis XIV – an area closed to the general public.
   France Magnifique, pg. 204

### Classic

Group Size Average: 33 / Maximum: 44

On a Classic tour, take in the best of a destination! Must-sees are included on these feature-rich tours, as well as opportunities to connect with the local culture. Ideal for travellers who want to mark things off their bucket list by visiting iconic destinations and engaging in cultures.

collette.com





#### **Small Group Explorations Experiences**

- Tour the streets of Dublin with a guide from Secret Street Tours, a non-profit that trains citizens who've experienced homelessness to be guides in their own city.
  - The Best of Ireland, pg. 158
- Spend 3 nights on a houseboat on Lake Kariba for a safari experience that breaks the mold.

  Wilderness of Southern Africa, pg. 24

## **Small Group Explorations**

Group Size Average: 16 / Maximum: 24

On a small group Explorations tour, you'll dive deeper. Get to know the pulse of a destination by engaging with the people who live there. Access experiences, accommodations, and destinations that large groups can't always reach. Ideal for savvy, confident travellers who want to connect with locals, and build camaraderie on tour with their fellow travellers and Tour Manager.





#### **Spotlights Experiences**

- Traverse London on a retro doubledecker bus, the "Tube," and by boat. Spotlight on London, pg. 172
- Take in two Broadway shows in NYC
   one with your fellow travellers and one of your choice from a curated list.
   Spotlight on New York City, pg. 104

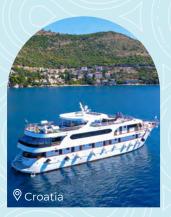
## **Spotlights**

Group Size Average: 33 / Maximum: 44

On a Spotlights tour, unpack just once and get comfortable! These getaway-styled tours give you the unique opportunity to really get to know a destination in depth. Whether a city-stay or a region-stay, Spotlights balance free time with fuller days. Know where the locals go with a guide by your side. Find that neighbourhood café or hole-in-the-wall shop that locals love. Check off the destination's must-sees and really dive deep.

collette.com







## Cruising

Collette's cruising tours are ideal for travellers who enjoy sailing the world's scenic waterways and taking in the sites and culture onshore. Enjoy a more inclusive experience, a relaxed pace, and ample sightseeing on vessels ranging from private yachts to small ships. Whether cruising iconic rivers or the open sea - when you step off the boat, included onshore excursions and experiences immerse you in the local culture.

#### **Cruising Experiences**

- Explore lesser-known northern islands of Croatia, like Krk and Rab and the smallest town in the world, Hum, as you cruise the Adriatic on an 18-cabin small ship. Venice & Croatian Islands Cruise, pg. 254
- Cruise through the Chilean Fjords on an expedition-style vessel and trek through a colony of penguins.

Patagonia: Edge of the World, pg. 76

## **Faith**

Group Size Average: 33 / Max: 44

Faith tours are spiritual journeys ideal for those who wish to connect with their faith on a deeper level. With included Mass on many tours, and visits to shrines and holy sites, these tours are reverent and reflective. Expect modest 3-star accommodations which capture the humble surroundings.

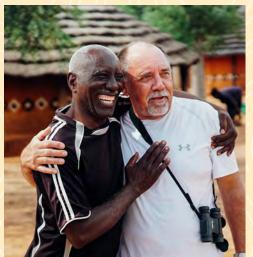
#### **Faith Experiences**

- Sail the Sea of Galilee aboard a boat similar to what Jesus would have sailed. Israel: A Journey of Faith, pg. 271
- · Visit the ruins of Ephesus, where Paul the Apostle lived during his ministry. Greece: In the Footsteps of Paul the Apostle, pg. 270















#### **Travel You Can Trust**

Go ahead and book that dream trip. With Collette's industry-leading Travel Protection Plan, you can cancel for any reason and get your money back – all the way up to 24 hours before your departure.

TO LEARN MORE, SEE PAGE 274-275.



## More Than Air: Collette's Complete Transportation Package

Enjoy door-to-door sedan service when you purchase air through Collette. From there, you'll be brought to the airport, picked up at the airport on your tour, and dropped at your hotel. We also offer 24/7 support while flying to your destination, and all internal travel is already built into each tour. All you need to do is grab your bags and enjoy the ride.



#### A Fresh Face

We've revamped our website to make it easier for travellers to find new tours, book trip extensions and add-ons, search by activity level or travel style, and to download and share itineraries. We want to make it as easy as possible for you to make each tour uniquely your own.



#### **Collette Passport Club**

It's your "stamp" to more adventures. When you travel with us, you're automatically enrolled into our Loyalty Program. Unlock the perks today. Scan the QR code for details.







Safari encounters with the "Big 5" on the savannah. Hands-on history lessons in the Valley of Kings. Stunning views of the roaring white waters of Victoria falls. Africa will seize you, and never let go.

#### THE PLAINS **OF AFRICA**

14 DAYS · 33 MEALS STARTING AT \$6044

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Nairobi - Aberdare National Park -Shaba National Reserve - Samburu National Reserve - Sundowner -Lake Nakuru • Masai Mara • Karen Blixen Home - Amboseli National Park -11 Game Drives • Africa's "Big 5"



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit with Rothschild giraffes up-close at a sanctuary.
- · Learn the traditions of the Samburu people during a visit with a tribe member.
- Enrich yourself in the culture during a visit to a Masai village.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 11 Lunches (L) - 10 Dinners (D)

- · Indulge in a traditional dinner in the bush with Masai entertainment.
- Enjoy a leisurely breakfast in the bush, surrounded by nature.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Day 2 Sarova Stanley Hotel, Day 3 Aberdare Country Club, Nyeri Sarova Shaba Lodge, Days 4, 5

Shaba Reserve

The Ark Hotel, Nyeri Days 7, 8 Sarova Lion Hill Lodge, Lake Nakuru

Sarova Mara Camp, Masai Days 9, 10 Mara

Sarova Stanley Hotel, Day 11 Nairobi

Days 12, 13 Ol Tukai Lodge, Amboseli

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### Enjoy Kenya's scenic vistas and magnificent wildlife as you traverse the African plains on an intimate safari adventure.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Prepare to see an Africa you've only known in your dreams, and one you never knew existed. Explore Kenya's wildlife, up close and personal, against stunning vistas across the plains of Africa.

#### Day 2: Nairobi, Kenya - Tour Begins A continent of adventure stirs the soul in Kenya,

the heart of safari country. Your adventure begins

#### Day 3: Nairobi - Aberdare National Park

After breakfast, travel to Aberdare National Park. Inside this isolated volcanic range, peaks reach as high as 14,000 feet. Indigenous forests surround you on all sides, and red soil stirs under brilliant waterfalls. Set your eyes on Mweiga Hill, where a welcome party of giraffes wait to greet you at your lodge. Overlooking the park, enjoy the lodge's amenities at leisure this afternoon. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Aberdare National Park - Buffalo **Springs Reserve - Shaba Reserve**

Discover the magic of the Shaba, Samburu and Buffalo Springs reserves - home to some of Africa's most exotic wildlife - particularly two species you can only find north of the Equator: Grevy's zebra and the reticulated giraffe. Arrive at peaceful Shaba National Reserve, your home for the next two nights. This afternoon, head for Buffalo Springs

- a starkly beautiful semi-desert that's a mecca for birds and wildlife. On your game drive in this remarkably serene landscape, see if you can spot the "Big 5" - lions, elephants, buffalo, leopards and rhinos. (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: Shaba Reserve - Samburu **National Reserve - Shaba Reserve**

Marvel at the striking contrast of sand, sky, and bush during a morning game drive inside Samburu National Reserve, a tiny gem of Kenya's North Country. Return to Shaba Reserve for lunch before heading out on an afternoon game drive. Bring your camera as you continue searching for the elusive "Big 5." Make sure to look up for the approximately 350 species of birds that call this region home. As the sun sets over the banks of the Ewaso Ng'iro River, enjoy a traditional Sundowner, and relish the chance to deepen your cultural experience. In the company of a Samburu tribe member, learn about the culture, traditions, and folklore of the Samburu region and its people. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Shaba Reserve - Aberdare **National Park**

Journey to the forests of Aberdare National Park in the heights of the Aberdare Mountain Range. An amazing experience awaits you upon arrival to your lodge, The Ark. This incredible place is an experience all on its own. Surrounded by forest and wildlife, The Ark offers four viewing decks that make it easy to watch the game go by. Tonight, learn more about the conservation efforts and anti-poaching measures in the region. Many animals visit the Ark's floodlit water hole throughout the night. So you don't miss any of the action, you can choose to be notified through the unique buzzer system of any wildlife sightings. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Aberdare National Park -Lake Nakuru

To the middle of the Earth and beyond! Hit the road for a spectacular, mountain-kissed journey on the way to Nyahururu waterfalls. One of the Great Rift Valley's soda lakes, Lake Nakuru is a haven of ecological diversity surrounded by picturesque ridges and wooded, bushy grassland. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Lake Nakuru

Wake up in the embrace of Nakuru's acacia forest. During this morning's game drive, make sure your binoculars are ready – this is rhino country. Find this park absolutely brimming with wildlife, on the ground and in the air. Regale in a true taste of Africa: a traditional breakfast prepared right in the bush. Unwind at your lodge before continuing your journey through the park on an afternoon game drive. Return just in time to witness one of Nakuru's unforgettable sunsets. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Lake Nakuru - Masai Mara Game Reserve

Welcome to the Masai Mara Game Reserve, one of Kenya's best spots for game viewing. Your tented accommodations in the Mara provide you with all the deluxe amenities of a proper lodge, with the added adventure of being on level with the wild. Graced with an astounding collection of wildlife including lions, giraffes, zebras and elephants, the Mara offers an unsurpassed safari experience on your game drive this afternoon. After a Mara sunset, head over to your tent and be lulled to sleep by the sounds of the animals in the distance. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Masai Mara Game Reserve

Ernest Hemingway said, "I never knew a morning in Africa when I woke up and was not happy." During our early morning game drive, enjoy the grassy plains and rolling hills of the Masai Mara. This is truly nature's greatest theater, where savanna, cloud shadows and amazing wildlife spot the horizon. Tonight, indulge in a traditional bush dinner, complete with a Masai dance performance. (B, L, D)

#### Day 11: Masai Mara Game Reserve - Nairobi

Return to Nairobi and visit the farmhouse of Karen Blixen for a true Out of Africa experience. Visit the Giraffe Sanctuary and get up close and personal with these fantastic creatures. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Nairobi - Amboseli National Park

This morning, experience an **Impact** Moment when you visit Ocean Sole, a social enterprise that turns ocean debris into colorful works of art. Learn about their mission to clean the waterways and grow the Kenyan economy. You'll also get a chance to peruse their collection of products before continuing on to Amboseli National Park. Later, learn about Masai culture during a visit to a local village (an enkeng in Maa, the Masai language). Take to the plains for an afternoon game drive in the breathtaking aura of snowcapped Mt. Kilimanjaro. Complement your journey with an opportunity to give back to nature with a "seedball." The compact balls of seed limit the cost of planting indigenous trees around the world. A moment of impact can grow into a lifetime of change, so toss your seedball out the window anytime during your stay in Amboseli. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 13: Amboseli National Park**

Today will start with an early morning game drive followed by breakfast back at the lodge. All of Amboseli is at your feet during morning and afternoon game drives. Derived from the Masai word meaning "salty dust," this unique corner of Kenya is one of the best places in Africa to see hundreds of elephants up close. Wildebeests and zebras are ever-present, plus there's a good chance you'll see





#### **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**



a cheetah and a hyena or two. Today is your last full day on the continent and your last chance to spot some more members of the elusive "Big 5." If you haven't tossed your "seedball" into the wilds yet, now's your chance to make an impact on the continent you've grown to love. (B, L, D)

**Day 14: Amboseli National Park - Nairobi - Tour Ends**Return to Nairobi for your departure home. You may choose to reserve a day room to freshen up prior to your flight. (B)

## FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION ADD 5 NIGHTS IN TANZANIA



POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$3705† PP

Extend your adventure with an optional 5-night tour of Tanzania. Witness even more wildlife and spot the Big 5 with game drives in Serengeti National Park.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/146

† Additional air segment purchase required.

and meeting new people in a small group.

- Joan H.

#### **AFRICAN SAFARI: KENYA** AND TANZANIA

15 DAYS · 38 MEALS STARTING AT \$7594

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Nairobi - David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust • Out of Africa Farmhouse • Amboseli National Park - Shanga Workshop • Karatu • Ngorongoro Crater

• Serengeti • Lake Eyasi • Tarangire National Park • 12 Game Drives



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- See how a local workshop empowers citizens with disabilities through the Shanga Project.
- · Get a peek into the daily lives of two local tribes at Lake Eyasi.
- Seek out the elusive "Big 5" on 12 different game drives.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 13 — Chat with a local fruit vendor in Mto Wa Mbu village -ORspend time with a local craftsman who will show you current projects at African Galleria.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 13 Breakfasts (B) - 13 Lunches (L) - 12 Dinners (D)

· Enjoy five picnic lunches on your game drives, taking in the natural landscape around you.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi Kilima Safari Camp, Days 4, 5 Amboseli

Days 6, 7 Country Lodge, Karatu Days 8 - 10 ThornTree Camp, Serengeti

Lake Eyasi Safari Lodge, Days 11, 12 Lake Eyasi

Days 13, 14 Sangaiwe Tented Lodge, Tarangire National Park

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.





In the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro, embark on 12 lively safaris to seek out the elusive "Big 5" -Africa's "bucket list" of animals.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to Africa - where sprawling grasslands and cultural traditions intersect into a land like no other. In the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro, discover a natural wonderland of curious giraffes, playful elephants, and wandering lions. From the picturesque savanna in Kenya to the renowned Serengeti in Tanzania, this is the wild Africa of your dreams.

#### Day 2: Nairobi, Kenya - Tour Begins

Your journey begins in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. Serving as the gateway to Africa's soughtout wildlife, Nairobi is the ideal place to get acclimated to the Kenyan lifestyle.

#### Dav 3: Nairobi

Visit the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, which rehabilitates young or injured elephants. See the gentle giants up close as they are fed and bathed by their caretakers. Head to Karen Blixen's Out of Africa farmhouse for lunch before stepping outside to visit the sanctuary's inquisitive Rothschild giraffes. Visit the Kazuri Beads Factory, where mothers are employed and trained as jewelry artisans. In the evening, toast to the start of your African adventure at a savoury welcome dinner. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Nairobi - Amboseli National Park

Make your way to Amboseli National Park, nestled along the border of Tanzania and looking out on the great Mt. Kilimanjaro. After lunch, get a glimpse into Kenyan culture and interact with locals at a Masai village. Settle into your accommodations for the next two nights - a deluxe tented camp with the comfort amenities of a proper lodge. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 5: Amboseli National Park**

Embrace your wild side on a full day of game drives in Amboseli National Park. This is your first chance to seek out Africa's elusive "Big 5" - the safari "bucket list" of animals includes lions, leopards, rhinos, elephants, and water buffalos. Enjoy a picnic lunch on the open plains, watching for herds of wildebeest and grazing zebras. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Amboseli National Park - Arusha, Tanzania - Karatu

Enter Tanzania, a country devoted to harmony among its people and animals. Today will be an impact moment as you visit Shanga, a local jewelry workshop that trains and employs citizens with disabilities. Your day ends in Karatu, a humble town located on the precipice of



untamed nature. Overnight in a charming lodge where colourful gardens meet welcoming hospitality. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Karatu - Ngorongoro Crater - Karatu

Make the most of more opportunities to spot the local wildlife with a full day of game drives in Ngorongoro Crater, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site. Containing** one of the densest mammal populations in the world, this "African Eden" is one of the best places to seek out the "Big 5." Allow the sheer magnitude of the area to wash over you as you enjoy a picnic lunch in the highlands, taking in the flourishing habitat around you. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Karatu - Serengeti

Your path continues to the renowned Serengeti, a Masai word meaning "endless plains." Enjoy lunch and venture out on your first Serengeti adventure on an afternoon game drive, returning to camp at dusk. Relax in your exclusive safari abode, your home for the next three nights. The camp includes all of the deluxe amenities of a lodge but allows you to remain immersed in nature. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Serengeti

Say good morning to the Serengeti! Take to the grasslands on an early morning game drive, then return to camp for breakfast before enjoying a full day of animal-seeking safari adventures and a picturesque picnic lunch. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Serengeti

Lions. Gazelles. Cheetahs. Hippos. There's no telling what you might spot on your morning and afternoon game drives. Under the careful guidance of an expert, discover the savanna's wild residents and get a glimpse into the untamed animal kingdom. (B, L, D)

#### Day 11: Serengeti - Lake Eyasi

You're on your way to Lake Eyasi, an unexpected splash of blue amidst the plains and mountains. Pause for a picnic lunch along the way, providing more chances to view the local wildlife. Meander around the salt lake, perhaps passing a wading pat of flamingoes or some lively hippos cooling off in the water. (B, L, D)

#### Day 12: Lake Evasi

See how native communities live in harmony with the environment. Start your morning with the Hadzabe tribe, huntergatherers that strive to leave no lasting impact on their surroundings. After lunch back at your lodge, continue with a visit to the Datoga tribe - another community based at Lake Eyasi - and see how their vast farms contribute to day-to-day life. (B, L, D)

#### Day 13: Lake Eyasi - Tarangire National Park 😯

Decide how you spend the morning because it's your choice! Learn from a local fruit vendor in Mto Wa Mbu village about their trade -OR- spend time with a local craftsman who will show you current



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$7594 SOLO Starting at \$8494 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on May 11, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

November 2023 - April 2024 May 2024 - April 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*)

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: Nairobi (1-2 NIGHTS)



projects at African Galleria. Then, head to Tarangire, the forested national park known for its giant baobab trees and elephant migration. After lunch, embark on a thrilling game drive. Don't be surprised if you see a pride of lions lounging in the shade, a herd of buffalos wading into the water, or a parade of elephants passing by. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 14: Tarangire National Park**

Enjoy a full day of game drives, venturing out in the morning and afternoon on your quest for animal sightings with a break for a picnic lunch in between. Make sure you look to the skies because Tarangire is an aviary paradise, home to more than 500 bird species. Keep your eyes peeled for various starlings, weavers, and guinea fowl. Wish Africa goodbye at a farewell dinner with your fellow travellers. (B, L, D)

Day 15: Tarangire National Park - Arusha - Tour Ends Return to Arusha on the final day of your African adventure. Settle into a dayroom to relax before lunch. Depart with memories of the endless plains and unparalleled wildlife. (B, L)



#### FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION

ADD 4 NIGHTS IN KENYA'S MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE



PRE TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1545 PP

Start your tour early with 4 nights in Masai Mara National Reserve. Enjoy 5 spectacular game drives and search for wildlife such as the hippo, lion, hyena, wildebeest and many more!

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/670

#### **WILDERNESS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA: SAFARI BY LAND & WATER**

15 DAYS · 33 MEALS STARTING AT \$9359

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Chobe National Park • 3 Cruises on the Chobe River - Hwange National Park -Private Lake Kariba Safari Boat . Victoria Falls • 7 Game Drives & Game Cruises . Home Hosted Meal



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Cruise the Chobe River for a unique way to search for game species in Chobe National Park.
- · Board a privately chartered safari boat on Lake Kariba for 3 nights.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 8 — While at Hwange National Park choose to join a morning game drive -OR- a morning game walk with a specialized ranger. A privilege few people ever get to experience!



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 13 Breakfasts (B) • 10 Lunches (L) • 10 Dinners (D)

- · Share a simple traditional meal during a home hosted lunch in Victoria Falls.
- Enjoy a beach barbecue on the shores of Lake Kariba.
- Savour an al fresco dinner on the banks of the Zambezi River.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Day 2 Radisson Hotel & Convention Centre, O.R. Tambo, Johannesburg

Days 3 - 5 Chobe Bush Lodge, Chobe National Park, Kasane

Iganyana Tented Camp, Days 6 - 8 Hwange National Park

Days 9 - 11 Lake Kariba Safari Boat Days 12 - 14 Ilala Lodge, Victoria Falls

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

**TRAVEL STYLE:** SMALL GROUP **EXPLORATIONS** 



Journey through Southern Africa from its wild plains and dry woodlands to rivers and lakes on a true safari adventure by land and water.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to southern Africa, where your search for wildlife will take you from grasslands and dry woodlands to rivers and lakes.

#### Day 2: Johannesburg, South Africa - Tour **Begins**

Welcome to Johannesburg, South Africa's largest city! This afternoon, transfer to your hotel for the evening and enjoy a relaxing evening before your adventure in search of the Big 5 begins.

#### Day 3: Johannesburg - Victoria Falls, ZW - Chobe National Park, Botswana

This morning, board a plane for a short flight to Victoria Falls, where you will meet your Tour Manager before continuing to your lodge for the next three nights in Botswana. Enjoy some time at leisure at the lodge before embarking on a private cruise on the Chobe River. Perhaps you'll see some hippopotamuses or crocodiles while you scan the water and sip on cool beverages. After, return to the lodge and gather with your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (B, D)

#### **Day 4: Chobe National Park**

Rise early with the sounds of the local wildlife ahead of your first game drive in Chobe National Park, an excellent location to search for the Big 5.

You and your fellow travellers will ride in open-air vehicles with a local expert who will tell you all about the creatures you'll see along the way. Later in the morning, enjoy some free time, either at the lodge or in the nearby town of Kasane. After lunch at the lodge, return to your private boat and take to the waters of the Chobe River once more, in search of elephants and aquatic birds. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 5: Chobe National Park**

Start your day early with a private game cruise on the Chobe River and see the animals visiting the water first thing in the morning. After your search, return for some free time at the lodge, perhaps relaxing at the pool or stopping by their beauty salon. After lunch this afternoon, enjoy a game drive in Chobe National Park, where you may spot Cape buffalo, hyenas, or zebras. Later, enjoy a dinner cruise along the gentle waters of the Chobe River during an exclusive boat ride with your fellow travellers. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Chobe National Park - Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe - Hwange National **Park**

Enjoy your last game drive in Chobe National Park for a final opportunity to see nature at its best. After breakfast, take a 90-minute drive to Victoria Falls, where we will stop for lunch. Savour fresh, local ingredients while you look over the gorge to the Zambezi River below. Next, it's off to Hwange National Park, the largest national park in Zimbabwe, for a late afternoon game drive. This national park is home to over 100 types of mammals and 400 bird species, giving you the chance to look out for cheetahs, lions, giraffes and so much more. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 7: Hwange National Park**

Today is another day to rise early in search of the Big 5. After breakfast, spend a full day on a game drive in Hwange National Park. By enjoying a picnic lunch break, you can venture deep into the bushland and maximize your chances to spot Cape buffalo, elephants and other animals gathering in the park. Return to the lodge for dinner. You'll savour your meal and the memories of the day's extensive safari. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Hwange National Park 😯

This morning, search for the Big 5 your way, because it's your choice! Return to an open-air vehicle and enjoy a morning game drive **-OR-** join an expert national park guide on a game walk, giving you the rare opportunity to search for wildlife up close, including seeing some plants, insects, and reptiles you may not spot otherwise. After, return to the lodge and relax over tea and pastries. This afternoon, you will be returning to the park for another glimpse into the animal kingdom. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 9: Hwange National Park -**Lake Kariba

After breakfast, travel to Victoria Falls where you will board a flight to Kariba, the gateway to your safari cruise. Upon arriving in Kariba, embark on a private safari boat on Lake Kariba, your home for three nights. With limited access to technology, revel in the experience of floating along the still waters, seeing breathtaking sunsets, and searching for local wildlife in the water. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Lake Kariba

Trade in your safari boat for a smaller tender boat, perfectly sized to cruise upriver channels off the lake. You will return to the safari boat for brunch. Later, enjoy the chance to try your hand at fishing in Lake Kariba from a tender boat. This evening, you and your fellow travellers will take to the shore and enjoy a barbecue dinner on the beach. The stargazing conditions overhead, coupled with the delicious meal, will be a dining experience you won't soon forget. (B, L, D)

#### Day 11: Lake Kariba

Start your day with a return to land. Alongside an expert ranger, feel the dirt beneath your feet and venture onto the land for a two-hour walking safari, offering a more secluded atmosphere than the national park game searches you have experienced. Return to the safari boat for brunch later this morning and enjoy another trip and chance to fish on tender boats in the afternoon. Before having dinner on the safari boat, take time to admire the stunning red and orange hues of the setting sun over Lake Kariba. (B, L, D)

#### Day 12: Lake Kariba - Victoria Falls

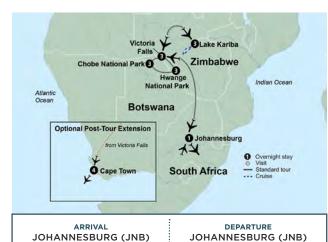
Your safari boat experience will come to a close this morning as you fly back to Victoria Falls. Upon arriving at the Ilala Lodge, enjoy lunch. Then grab your poncho because this afternoon you will visit the exhilarating natural wonder of Victoria Falls! At 5,600 feet wide and 354 feet tall, this waterfall is one of the world's largest. (B, L)

#### **Day 13: Victoria Falls**

This morning, start your day with a visit to Chinotimba township. Visit a local market, where you can barter for goods and experience daily life. After, you will visit the modest home of a local family for lunch. Your host will prepare an authentic, simple meal with you and share what life is like in around Victoria Falls. Following your home visit, return to the hotel for an evening at leisure. Perhaps you will join an optional tour taking a relaxing cruise on the Zambezi River, a body of water that separates Zimbabwe and Zambia whose banks are frequented by the local animals. (B, L)

#### **Day 14: Victoria Falls**

Your last full day on tour will bring you up





close to elephants at a local sanctuary. Hear stories from these gentle giants' caretakers and learn about the efforts to understand, care for, and protect these intelligent and inspiring creatures, all while marvelling at the animals interacting and walking by their side. Continue learning about animal conservation and care during an Impact Moment visiting the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust. The staff at the VFWT will review some of the incredible work they do, ranging from wildlife rehabilitation to community outreach and disease research. You will have the afternoon free to do as you wish. This evening, you will join your fellow travellers for a 3-course farewell dinner under the stars on the bank of the Zambezi River. (B, D)

#### Day 15: Victoria Falls - Johannesburg, South Africa -**Tour Ends**

Say goodbye to your safari companions as you depart your African adventure and head home. (B)







#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1495† PP

Extend your journey and explore Cape Town! Take a ride up Table Mountain by cable car; visit the Cape of Good Hope; visit the famous penguins on Boulders Beach and more!

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/702

† Additional air segment purchase required.

#### **EXPLORING SOUTH AFRICA,** VICTORIA FALLS **& BOTSWANA**

15 DAYS · 29 MEALS STARTING AT \$7440

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Victoria Falls • Chobe National Park • Pilanesberg National Park • 8 Wildlife Safaris • Cape Winelands • Cape Town - Table Mountain



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Head out for an African sundowner via 4x4 and enjoy the sunset.
- · Learn about African elephants during a sanctuary visit.
- · Explore the Dutch architecture and vineyards of the Cape Winelands.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - Continue the wildlife search by land on an afternoon game drive **-OR-** venture down the river for a different perspective on a safari cruise.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 13 Breakfasts (B) • 6 Lunches (L) • 10 Dinners (D)

- · Sample South African wines at a vineyard tasting.
- · Get to know a Capetonian family over dinner in their home.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Southern Sun O.R. Tambo. Day 2 Johannesburg

The Wallow, The Elephant Days 3, 4 Camp, or Ilala Lodge, Victoria Falls

Days 5, 6 Chobe Marina Lodge, Kasane

Black Rhino Game Lodge, Days 7 - 9 Pilanesberg National Park

Days 10, 11 Lord Charles Hotel, Somerset West

Days 12 - 14 Southern Sun the Cullinan Hotel or The Portswood Hotel, Cape Town

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### Get ready for an unparalleled journey through the cultural diversity and abundant wildlife of southern Africa.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to southern Africa, where incredible landscapes lead the way to a blend of cultural diversity, an abundance of wildlife, and a remarkable history.

#### Day 2: Johannesburg, South Africa - Tour **Begins**

Your adventure starts in Johannesburg - a vibrant city that revolves around modernity and a goldmining history. As South Africa's largest city, Johannesburg is home to a wide collection of cultures, museums, and attractions. Enjoy time to get settled on your own before tomorrow's exploration into the wild.

#### Day 3: Johannesburg - Victoria Falls, **Zimbabwe**

Fly to Victoria Falls today - an awe-inspiring Natural Wonder of the World. When you arrive, check in to your lodge - an authentic African tent camp with all the amenities of a luxury resort. This afternoon, when rainbows are at their best. witness the awesome power of Victoria Falls. (B, D)

#### **Day 4: Victoria Falls**

Embark on an experience of a lifetime. Greet African elephants, spend some quality time interacting with them in their own habitat, and witness some of their unique behaviours. Then, experience an Impact Moment during our visit to the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust and learn how their programs are having a positive impact in the local communities and animals. After you've worked up an appetite, travel to a township where you will join a local family for a simple home-hosted lunch. Your evening continues with dinner on the shores of the Zambezi River overlooking Victoria Falls. (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: Victoria Falls - Chobe, Botswana

Start your day with a visit to a traditional rural homestead, meet the village chief, and come to understand more about traditional ways of living in this part of the world. Cross the border into Botswana and arrive in Chobe – an untamed national park whose namesake river twists its way throughout the area. During a captivating safari cruise along the Chobe River, spot elephants and hippos that linger along the shores, and crocodiles basking in the sun. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Chobe National Park 😯

On a game drive through Chobe National Park, take in diverse ecosystems and unparalleled biodiversity. After lunch, it's your choice! Continue the wildlife search by land on an afternoon game drive -OR- venture down the river again for a different perspective on a safari cruise. Tonight, gather by the river for an unforgettable dinner. Learn the secret to cooking a traditional braai, complete with some local favourites and delicacies. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 7: Chobe - Victoria Falls** - Johannesburg - Pilanesberg **National Park**

This morning transfer to Victoria Falls Airport where you will fly to Johannesburg. On arrival at Johannesburg transfer to Pilanesberg National Park, a game reserve set within an ancient crater and where the lions reign as kings. This is the wild Africa you've always dreamt of - now laid out before you just waiting to be discovered. Venture out in a 4x4 in search of the "Big 5" across vast marshlands and craggy landscapes, and while you're out there, enjoy a traditional African sundowner and watch as the sun disappears behind the mountain. (B, D)

**Day 8: Pilanesberg National Park** Before sunrise, in the open expanse of Pilanesberg, drive out in your 4x4 on a search for the elusive "Big 5." Later on, an afternoon game drive could take you past the big cats preparing for the hunt. Back at the lodge tonight, indulge in a bush dinner.

#### **Day 9: Pilanesberg National Park**

(B, L, D)

Discover the wildlife around you with another full day in Pilanesberg. On morning and afternoon game drives, continue your search for the "Big 5" and other local animals, such as giraffes or cheetahs. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Pilanesberg - Cape Town, **South Africa - Somerset West**

The winelands of the Western Cape await. See for yourself why this area boasts a reputation as one of the world's most beautiful wine countries. Head to Johannesburg and board your flight to Cape Town, South Africa. A short drive takes you to the town of Somerset West located in South Africa's most famous wine region and overlooking the majestic False Bay. Settle in for a two-night stay among rolling vineyards and historic Cape Dutch architecture. (B)

#### Day 11: Somerset West -Franschhoek - Somerset West

Sip the South African specialties with a full day exploring the country's winelands. Start in the Stellenbosch Valley and enjoy a tasting at your first winery of the day.

Perhaps you'll try the local favourite, crossed between a Pinot Noir and a Cinsaut, the Pinotage is a specialty of South Africa. Travel to the charming village of Franschhoek for lunch. Take advantage of time at leisure before visiting a second winery in the afternoon. Cap the evening off with a dinner featuring locally-sourced ingredients. (B, L, D)

#### Day 12: Somerset West - Cape Town

Say hello to Cape Town, South Africa's electric cultural mecca that captivates you at every turn. Explore Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, a Cape Town hotspot. From heritage sites to historic landmarks, markets, shops, and restaurants, the waterfront is one of South Africa's most compelling destinations. On arrival, rise gently over the South African landscape in a cable car to Table Mountain, taking in views of Cape Town, Lions Head, and historic Robben Island. Return to the city via Table Bay. Pass through the Moorish Malay Quarter and pause at Milnerton Lighthouse. (B)

#### Day 13: Cape Town

Travel to Cape Point, the southwestern tip of Africa. Marvel at the vibrant green foliage blanketing the rocky outcrops, set as a contrast to the bright blue waves below. Set out on an easy hike down the mountain, wandering by diverse patches of native flowers. Stop at Boulders Beach for the rarest of black-tie events - a rendezvous with endangered African penguins! Tonight, you're an honoured quest in a Capetonian family's home. Over dinner, exchange stories and get to know what everyday life is like here in Cape Town. (B, D)

#### Day 14: Cape Town

Enjoy your final day at leisure before gathering with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner to taste the country's beloved flavours at dinner, starring a host of South African specialties and delicacies. (B, D)

#### **Day 15: Cape Town - Tour Ends**

Today you bid farewell to your fellow travellers when you leave Cape Town. Depending on your departure flight time, you will have access to a day room. (B)

#### **United Arab Emirates D** Dubai To Johannesburg, South Africa Botswana South Africa ndian Ocean Franschhoel ARRIVAL DEPARTURE JOHANNESBURG (JNB) CAPE TOWN (CPT)

Zimbabwe

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$7440 SOLO Starting at \$8740

Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

Prices based on April 11, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Johannesburg (1-2 Nights)



#### **Post-Night:**

Cape Town (1-2 Nights)





#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSION**



Day 4: Sunset Cruise on the Zambezi River

Set sail on the majestic Zambezi River! Find yourself surrounded by amazing views during one of the most magical times of the day - sunset. It is Africa's fourth largest river and a lifeline for crocodiles, hippos, elephants, and a variety of wildlife. Be welcomed aboard with a glass of champagne and toast to the start of your scenic adventure. Enjoy an all-inclusive bar menu and complimentary hot and cold snacks as you sit and gaze at the calm waters of the river. Get your cameras ready as the sun sets and fills the sky with a warm glow.



#### **FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION**

ADD 3 NIGHTS IN DUBAL



#### PRE TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1170† PP

Visit Dubai, one of the world's fastest growing and most intriguing countries. With its many famous man-made structures, Dubai is a must-see destination for any traveller.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/466 † Additional air segment purchase required.

#### **SPECTACULAR SOUTH AFRICA**

14 DAYS · 25 MEALS STARTING AT \$4459

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Johannesburg • Soweto • Panoramic Route • Kruger National Park • Safari Game Drives • Garden Route • Knysna • Featherbed Nature Reserve • Stellenbosch • Wine Tasting & Dinner • Cape Town - Table Mountain



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Experience a thrilling cable car ride rising more than 3,000 feet.
- Taste the incredible wines that Stellenbosch is acclaimed for.
- · Learn the local beat with a lesson on the djembe drums.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 8 - Visit Plettenberg Bay to enjoy views of beaches, dramatic rock formations and lagoons -ORenjoy your afternoon at leisure in Knysna.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Lunches (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- · Join locals for lunch at a nearby Shebeen, or house tavern.
- Experience an African Boma dinner in Kruger.
- Enjoy lunch amongst the ancient milkwood trees in Knysna.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Sandton Sun Hotel, Days 2, 3 Johannesburg

Kruger Gate Hotel, Kruger Days 4 - 6 National Park

Days 7, 8 The Rex Hotel, Knysna De Zalze Lodge, Days 9, 10

Stellenbosch

Days 11 - 13 Southern Sun Waterfront Hotel, Cape Town

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### Experience a harmony of intriguing cultures, stunning wildlife, lush winelands, and elaborate history.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

One country with a world of treasures, South Africa awaits your arrival. Breathtaking mountain scenery, winding coastlines, remarkable cultural diversity and abundant wildlife in its natural habitat comprise this incredible experience.

#### Day 2: Sandton, South Africa - Tour **Begins**

Your journey begins in Sandton, a city established in 1969. Famous for its rich veins of gold and other valuable minerals, it is now the bustling cosmopolitan centre of greater Johannesburg.

#### Day 3: Sandton - Soweto - Sandton

Today, have some time to ponder history at Liliesleaf, the former centre of the liberation movement and the site of the police raid that led to Nelson Mandela's lifetime prison sentence. Following this, a guided tour of Soweto - South West Township - showcases luxurious mansions and informal settlements as you learn about the historical significance of the area. Experience the regional lifestyle when joining locals for lunch at a nearby Shebeen, or house tavern. This afternoon, visit the Apartheid Museum commemorating the rise and fall of apartheid in South Africa. Gather this evening with your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner, (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Sandton - Panoramic Route -**Kruger National Park**

Travel through the spectacular Northern Drakensberg Mountain Range en route to Kruger National Park, the largest game reserve in South Africa, Scenic wonders surround you as you pass through the Blyde River Canyon, made mostly of red sandstone, and known as one of Africa's greatest natural wonders. Along this magnificent route, stop at God's Window and stand at what seems like the edge of creation. On clear days, you can see as far as Mozambique. This evening, enjoy a traditional Boma dinner where you may sample some local game meat! (B, D)

#### Day 5: Kruger National Park - Safari **Game Drive**

Have your camera ready for an unforgettable day of adventure and excitement! Enjoy a full day open-air-vehicle safari game drive. A local expert leads you in search of the "Big 5" - elephant, buffalo, lion, leopard and rhino - and provides insight into these fascinating animals along the way. Watch carefully - you may also see a graceful impala, dazzling zebra or gorgeous giraffe. Relax with a South African braai lunch in the natural beauty of Kruger National Park. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Kruger National Park -Safari Game Drive

Embrace the rare opportunity to head back into the wild on another full day safari game drive in Kruger National Park, Enjoy this second attempt to see any elusive animals you may have missed yesterday or get another look at your favourites. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Kruger National Park -Johannesburg - George - Knysna

Travel back to Johannesburg to board your flight to George. Upon arrival, travel to the resort town of Knysna in the heart of the Garden Route. Located on the coast, Knysna is your gateway to the natural beauty of South Africa. (B)

#### Day 8: Knysna 😯

Today visit the nearby Featherbed Nature Reserve, looking out over the Indian Ocean. Begin with a lagoon cruise out to the famous Knysna Heads, which mark the entrance to the lagoon. Next, board a 4x4 vehicle and travel deep into the forest. Discover the local flora and fauna during a leisurely-paced nature walk. Enjoy lunch amongst the ancient milkwood trees - so called because of their white latex sap before your return cruise. This afternoon, it's your choice! Visit Plettenberg Bay, a tranquil and charming town originally known as "Bahia Formosa" (Beautiful Bay) and witness views of beaches, dramatic rock formations and lagoons -OR- enjoy your afternoon at leisure in Knysna with time to independently explore the charming waterfront. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Knysna - Stellenbosch

Say goodbye to Knysna as you begin your journey to Stellenbosch. Get a taste of the culture when you join your fellow travellers for dinner and a wine tasting. (B, D)

#### Franschhoek - Stellenbosch

Stellenbosch, a university town known for its vineyards and mountainous nature reserves. Get a chance to taste some wine before continuing on to nearby Franschhoek. Experience the town's

renowned wine culture with a cellar tour and tasting followed by lunch before returning to Stellenbosch. With the remainder of your day at leisure, discover the town on your own. Maybe you'll taste some more of the legendary wine, wander along the oak-lined avenues, or explore the surrounding nature. (B, L)

#### Day 11: Stellenbosch - Cape Town

Travel to the beautiful harbor side city of Cape Town, the oldest city in South Africa. Enjoy a traditional Cape Malay lunch in the colourful Bo-Kaap neighbourhood. Settle in for your 3-night stay in the "Mother City," nestled in the valley between towering mountains and the glistening sea. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Cape Town

See the highlights of the city on a panoramic tour. Take in the celebrated architecture that fuses the traditions of the French, German and Dutch. Enjoy a thrilling ride on a cable car that whisks you to an altitude of more than 3,000 feet, landing atop the aptly named - and flat-topped -Table Mountain. The views of Cape Town, Robben Island and Lion's Head will leave you breathless. Return to the city via Table Bay, passing through the Malay Quarter with its mosques and minarets. Make a special stop at the massive Milnerton Lighthouse. Enjoy the rest of the day on your own to explore Cape Town from your strategically located hotel. (B)

#### Day 13: Cape Town

Explore the coastal scenery and charming towns that populate the Cape Peninsula. Travel out to Cape Point, stopping for a visit with the penguins at Boulders Beach. This evening, experience a unique farewell to Africa as you enjoy a lesson on the djembe drums before a communal African dining experience with dishes from all over the continent! (B, D)

#### **Day 14: Cape Town - Tour Ends**

Your tour ends today in Cape Town. For travellers with late flight departures, enjoy the use of a day room prior to your departure to the airport. (B)



JOHANNESBURG (JNB)

DEPARTURE CAPE TOWN (CPT)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4459 SOLO Starting at \$5759

includes on-tour air.

Prices based on April 3, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 May 2024 - April 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*)

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 – April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



#### **Pre-Night:**

Johannesburg (1-2 Nights)

#### **Post-Night:**

Cape Town (1-2 Nights)







66 We enjoyed the days spent on the reserves with the animals, and the home visits with locals. Our days were packed with activities to see everything we could. 99

- Diane A.

#### Day 10: Stellenbosch -

Start your day with a walking tour of

#### **FEATURED TOUR EXTENSIONS**

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/163

#### **DUBAI 3-NIGHT PRE TOUR** STARTING AT: \$1170†



Additional air segment purchase required.

#### **VICTORIA FALLS 3-NIGHT** STARTING AT: POST TOUR



† Additional air segment purchase required.

#### **COLOURS OF MOROCCO**

15 DAYS · 27 MEALS STARTING AT \$4599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Rabat • Fes • Sahara Desert Luxury Tented Camp • Camel Ride • Khamlia Music Village • Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou • High Atlas Mountains • Marrakech • Cooking Class • Casablanca • Hassan II Mosque



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit with a Nomad family and learn about their ancient traditions.
- Experience the desert by 4x4 and during your 2-night camp stay.
- Stroll through the cobbled alleyways of ancient markets and medinas.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 12 — Embark on a walking tour with a local guide, stopping at shops of traditional craftsmanship -OR- relax in a traditional Hammam and experience this ancient form of wellness -OR- return to the hotel to relax by the pool.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 13 Breakfasts (B) • 6 Lunches (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

- Select your own ingredients before a culinary workshop at a local women's cooperative.
- Experience a dish prepared by the women of the Ksar, following traditional recipes.
- · Indulge in a tour and tasting at a winery estate.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Flower Town Hotel & Spa, Days 2, 3 Rabat

Days 4 - 6 Riad Yacout, Fes Kasbah Hotel Xaluca, Day 7

Erfoud Sahara Desert Camp, Days 8, 9

Merzouga Day 10

Hotel Xaluca Dades, Boumalne du Dades

Days 11 - 13 Es Saadi Hotel or Movenpick Hotel Mansour Eddahbi, Marrakech

Day 14 Barcelo Anfa, Casablanca

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### Get to know the vibrant culture and colourful backdrops that are distinctively Morocco.

#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

On a captivating adventure through a land of centuries-old culture and customs, discover the "Land of Sunset" and "Gateway to Africa" - the place they call Morocco.

#### Day 2: Casablanca, Morocco - Rabat -**Tour Begins**

Welcome to Morocco! After you land in Casablanca you will transfer to Rabat. Depending on your arrival flights, you may join your local Tour Manager on a vicinity walk to get acquainted with the area around your hotel in Rabat, your home for the next two days.

#### Day 3: Rabat

Come to know Rabat on an in-depth tour with a local guide who will share his knowledge of this city and its architectural gems. Visit the Chellah Necropolis, a walled town containing both Roman ruins and a medieval necropolis. Explore the Mausoleum of Mohammed V, the epitome of modern Moroccan design. The mausoleum's ornate woodwork, marble, and bronze ornamentations make this a tomb truly fit for a king. See the Kasbah de Oudaias and its whitewashed buildings. Enjoy free time to explore on your own in the afternoon. At the end of your day, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Rabat - Fes

Depart Rabat for Fes this morning. En route to Fes, stop at a winery estate for a tour, tasting and lunch. Explore the winery's grounds on a guided tour through the vineyard and cellar, taking in sweeping views of vines and tasting some of the vintages. End your tour with a lunch in the estate. Then continue on to Fes where you will spend the next three nights at your riad. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Fes

Get ready to discover Fes, one of the holiest cities in the world. Learn about its history as a centre of government, philosophy, medicine, and religion. Visit the Royal Palace and the Al-Qarawiyyin University, the oldest continuously-operating university in the world (UNESCO), admiring its high arches and Andalusian influences. On a walking tour of the 9th-century medina, explore the alleyways and stalls of this ancient market. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Fes

Enjoy your day at leisure in Fes. Explore the city further, strolling through marketplaces or visiting a museum. Perhaps you will join an optional tour to Meknes and Volubilis. On this full-day tour. experience Meknes, one of four Imperial cities in Morocco where you will see the Bab Mansour gate. After an included lunch, travel to Volubilis,

a UNESCO World Heritage site, with its impressive and well-preserved Roman ruins. (B)

#### Day 7: Fes - Midelt - Erfoud

Cross some of Morocco's most breathtaking desert landscapes on the way to the Sahara. En route, pause in Midelt to bask in majestic views of the Middle Atlas Mountains. Arrive in Erfoud, called "Door to the Desert," and where many famous movies were filmed, including The Prince of Persia and The Mummy. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 8: Erfoud - Sahara Desert**

This morning, get to know a little more about local life at El Maadid Ksar, a village with narrow lanes surrounded by ancient, fortified walls. Spend some time walking through town and get an authentic look into how local people live, like the farmers who spend their days tending to fields on the outskirts of the village. This evening, make your way into the Sahara aboard 4x4 Jeeps, for a 2-night stay in a luxury tented camp in the desert among the stars. (B, D)

#### **Day 9: Sahara Desert**

Rise early to watch the sun illuminate the Sahara in stunning hues of orange, yellow and red. This morning you will have the opportunity to ride through the dunes on the back of a camel. Continue your day by travelling to the village of Khamlia. Meet with locals to have an eye-opening and meaningful discussion before experiencing traditional sub-Saharan Gnawa music. The next step of your desert expedition brings you to meet a nomadic community where you'll learn more about this ancient way of living and how their traditions have changed. Return to your camp as the sun sets over the desert. This evening, sit with your Tour Manager and learn more about the importance of Islam in Morocco through the centuries and its impact in today's day-to-day life in sub-Saharan Africa. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Sahara Desert - El **Khorbate - Boumaine du Dades**

Return to the edge of the desert this morning and marvel as the sun illuminates the vast sands. Visit the fortified village of El Khorbat. Dating back to the 17th century,

this village showcases Jewish and Muslim architecture and artifacts. Learn more about Berber culture while visiting the museum within the village. Sit down to a simple lunch at a local restaurant. This **Impact Moment** supports a business whose profits are used to conserve the cultural heritage and improve the living conditions of this small community. Later, arrive in Boumalne du Dades, where a golden sun lights up the gorge's river valleys, palmeries and burnished mudbrick homes. (B, L, D)

#### Day 11: Boumaine du Dades - Ksar Ait-Ben-Haddou - Marrakech

Follow the rugged "Road of a Thousand Kasbahs," where turreted fortresses rise up like sandcastles along this ancient trading route. Arrive at the UNESCO site of the Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou and discover the earthen buildings, defensive walls, and corner towers that make the ksar a striking feat of Moroccan architecture. Before you reach the exotic city of Marrakech, you will experience a homemade meal, and then continue along the Tizi n'Tichka Pass in the High Atlas Mountains, a scenic route through lush oasis valleys, imposing mountains and several Berber villages. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Marrakech 😯

Among the mosques and palaces, souks and riads, visit the Jardin Majorelle, an iconic site that showcase the beauty and ingenuity of Morocco's cultural heritage, then visit the ancient El Bahia Palace, whose architecture is a distinct blend of both Islamic and Moroccan styles. Then it's your choice! Embark on a walking tour with a local quide, stopping at shops along the way -OR- relax in a traditional Hammam, a community bathhouse where locals still gather to relax, cleanse, and socialize today -OR- return to the hotel to relax by the pool. (B, D)

#### Day 13: Marrakech

Today experience an **Impact Moment** and join a local women's training centre in an interactive cooking class. Head to a garden on the property grounds to source your own herbs and vegetables and learn the secret to making the country's





#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Post-Night: Casablanca (1-2 NIGHTS)



most celebrated dish: the tagine. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure. This evening, perhaps you will join an optional horsedrawn carriage through Marrakech, followed by dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L)

#### Day 14: Marrakech - Casablanca

Depart Marrakech for Casablanca this morning. Upon arrival in Casablanca, visit the largest functioning mosque in Africa, the Hassan II Mosque. Learn about the history and the significance of this mosque on a privately-led tour. Gaze upon the intricate, colourful artistry of ceramic tile and hand-carved stone of this architectural wonder. Then bid farewell to your Tour Manager and fellow travellers during a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

#### Day 15: Casablanca - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close this morning. (B)





PRE TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1690 PP

Start your trip with 4 nights in Northern Morocco. Visit Chefchaouen, "the Blue City," a photographer's paradise, and Tangier, Europe's gateway to Africa.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/564

#### **TREASURES OF EGYPT**

12 DAYS · 22 MEALS STARTING AT \$4449

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Cairo • Grand Egyptian Museum • Luxor • Temple of Karnak • Valley of the Kings • 4-Night Nile River Cruise • Queen Hatshepsut Temple • Kom Ombo • Aswan • Philae Temple • Khan el-Khalili Bazaar • Giza - Pyramids - Sphinx



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Dress up and join the fun at a traditional galabeya party.
- · Journey by motorboat to Philae Temple, rescued stone by stone during the construction of the High
- Embark on a 4-night cruise and discover the secrets of the Nile, the world's longest river.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 11 - Meet with a local archeologist to learn about the most recent findings in Egyptology and how they influence the active digs on the Giza plateau -OR- channel your inner explorer and venture inside the largest Pyramid of Giza via the Robber's Tunnel.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Lunches (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- Experience freshly prepared traditional local cuisine each night on your Nile cruise.
- Get a first-hand introduction into how Egyptian cuisine is prepared during a cooking demonstration.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Days 2 - 4

Overnight Flight Sheraton Cairo Hotel & Casino, Cairo **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** 

During your stay at the Sheraton Cairo Hotel & Casino you may choose to enjoy views of the Nile River by upgrading your accommodations to a partial Nile River View room.

Days 5 - 8

Day 9 Days 10, 11

Movenpick Royal Lily Movenpick Resort, Aswan

Intercontinental Citystars Hotel, Cairo

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Follow the allure of the Nile, uncover complex legends, and retrace the steps of the pharaohs in ancient Egypt.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Step back in time and explore thousands of years of history, legend, and lore as you walk amongst Egypt's timeless wonders.

#### Day 2: Cairo, Egypt - Tour Begins

Begin your journey in Cairo, a modern megalopolis with an intriguing past. This evening, gather for a welcome dinner at your hotel. (D)

#### Day 3: Cairo

Get a glimpse into ancient Egypt's Pharaohs, and dynasties during an introductory talk before navigating Cairo's famous traffic on your way to the remarkable collections of the Grand Egyptian Museum. See the statues, reliefs, sarcophagi, and treasures from the tomb of Tutankhamun before returning to the hotel for an evening at leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: Cairo

The day is yours to experience the energy of Cairo's buzzing streets. Wander a maze of stalls at the market, relax at a local café, or maybe even spend time in one of the city's many museums. Perhaps you will join a full-day exploration of Alexandria, Egypt's second-largest city. The 3.5-hour-drive north takes you to the shores of the Mediterranean. Here you'll discover Alexandria's Hellenic roots and Greco-Roman architecture, set in unique harmony with the ultramodern facade of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Or you may choose to join a local guide for a tour of Sakkara and Djoser's Step Pyramid. (B)

#### Day 5: Cairo - Fly to Luxor - Board **Cruise Ship**

Depart your hotel before dawn for your flight to Luxor home to the expansive Karnak Temple. Wander through this 4,000-year-old complex of pylons and obelisks. This afternoon, board your cruise ship for a voyage on the Nile River. Relax aboard, taking in the views from the sundeck. In the early evening, opt to join a visit to Luxor temple, all lit up and boasting fascinating plays of light and shadow, ending at a local café for a taste of mint tea before returning to the ship for a late dinner followed by a folkloric belly dancing performance. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Luxor - Valley of the Kings - Edfu

As the sun rises, cross the Nile for a day in ancient Thebes. Explore the Valley of the Kings, including the world-renowned tombs of Tutankhamun and Ramses VI. Visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut as well as the Colossi of Memnon before returning to the ship for a late lunch. This afternoon, take in the views of the fertile banks of the Nile as you sail down the river towards Edfu. Join a culinary demonstration and learn about the staples of Egyptian cuisine from your chef. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Edfu - Kom Ombo - Aswan

Beat the heat with an early morning visit to the well-preserved Temple of Horus at Edfu. Peruse the endless carvings of scenes depicting the

power and grandeur of the pharaohs. Later this morning, participate in an informative talk covering Egypt from past to present. After lunch, set sail for Kom Ombo and explore the unique double temple before continuing to Aswan, the Nubian City. This evening, dress up and join the fun during a traditional galabeya party after dinner on board. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Aswan

Board a motorboat towards the sanctuary island dedicated to the goddess Isis. Philae Temple (UNESCO) is among the architectural wonders rescued from the rising waters of the Nile during the construction of the High Dam. Then, learn about Aswan's ancient trade of granite extraction and carving techniques during a visit to an ancient quarry and its unfinished obelisk. The afternoon is yours to explore more of Aswan. Perhaps you'll visit the fascinating artifacts at the Nubian Archeological Museum. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Aswan - Disembark Cruise Ship

Disembark the ship this morning and sail to the lush oasis of Kitchener Island where you embark on a stroll through the botanical gardens. Aboard a felucca (wooden sailboat), take in the views of the tall sand dunes on the western shore of the Nile before arriving at your hotel for an afternoon at leisure. Perhaps you'll stroll along the Corniche, Aswan's waterfront promenade before regrouping for dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

#### Day 10: Aswan - Fly to Cairo

Pre-sunrise, consider an optional tour to Abu Simbel for a visit of the extraordinary temples of Ramses II, relocated here during the construction of the High Dam. If you're not participating in the optional tour, you will transfer to the Aswan airport sometime between 5:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. for your return to Cairo. Walk along el-Moez Street, admiring the elegant Islamic architecture of Historic Cairo (UNESCO) and enjoy some free time to shop in the world-famous souk of Khan el Khalili. Peruse colourful trinkets, hand-painted crafts, polished pendants, and more. (B)

#### Day 11: Cairo - Pyramids of Giza 😯

Fulfill a lifelong dream and head to nearby Giza (UNESCO). Embark on an in-depth visit to the Pyramids of Giza, one of the seven ancient wonders of the world. Marvel at the iconic Great Sphinx, one of the world's oldest and largest monuments. Then, it's your choice! Meet with a local archeologist to learn about the most recent findings in Egyptology and how they influence the active digs on the Giza plateau -OR- channel your inner explorer and venture inside the largest Pyramid of Giza via the Robber's Tunnel, winding through the inner chamber. Join your fellow travellers this evening for a farewell dinner at your hotel. (B, L, D)

#### Day 12: Cairo - Tour Ends

Your epic adventure comes to a close today. (B)

Optional 4 Night Jordan, Petra & the Dead Sea Post-Tour Extension Starting at \$1820† pp



#### Day 12: Cairo - Amman, Jordan -Madaba - Mt. Nebo - Petra

An early morning transfer brings you to the airport in Cairo for your flight to Amman. Upon arrival, embark on an afternoon-long bus ride towards the ancient city of Petra. Arrive in Wadi Musa, Petra's modern-day settlement, for a 2-night stay. This evening, experience the flavours of the region during dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

#### Day 13: Petra

Early this morning, travel to the archeological site of Petra (UNESCO). Enjoy a full day walking tour of this remarkable stone-carved city, one of the new Wonders of the World. This remarkable treasure of the ancient world remained "hidden" behind rugged mountains prior to its discovery in 1812, after being lost for over 500 years. Explore these breathtaking ruins, carved from sandstone by the Nabataeans. (B)

Day 14: Petra - Wadi Rum - Dead Sea Depart for the immense desert of Wadi Rum, home of the famous film, Lawrence of Arabia. Learn about the fascinating history of the Bedouin people who have lived for generations in the Wadi Rum's stark and unspoiled desert. Pause for lunch at a local campsite before an afternoon-long transfer to the Jordanian shore of the Dead Sea. Arrive in the early evening and enjoy sunset overlooking the Promised Land. (B, L)

Day 15: Dead Sea - Madaba - Mt. Nebo Take advantage of your hotel's private access to the beach and enjoy a morning at leisure to experience the Dead Sea's natural buoyancy. Then travel to Madaba, the "City of Mosaics." Enjoy a home hosted lunch and savour traditional Jordanian hospitality as you connect with your hosts over a traditional meal. In the afternoon, visit the church of St. George to see the famous 6thcentury Byzantine mosaic map of the region. Then pause at Mt. Nebo, where Moses saw the Promised Land - present day Israel - and is believed to be laid to rest. (B, L)

Day 16: Dead Sea - Extension Ends Transfer to the airport for your flight. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4449 SOLO Starting at \$5349

Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

Prices based on May 9, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 May 2024

(different itinerary - see note\*)

September 2024 - April 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: Cairo (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSION**



#### **Excursion:** Abu Simbel

Visit the great sun temples of Abu Simbel, built by Ramses II. The Temple of Ramses II was constructed so that the sun's rays would illuminate four statues of Egyptian deities on his birthday and on the anniversary of his coronation, October 20 and February 20. The temple is fronted by four colossal figures of Ramses II seated with the gods and attended by his Queen and daughters. The smaller temple is dedicated to Queen Nefertari. This excursion must be purchased at time of booking.

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.

#### **JOURNEY THROUGH EGYPT & JORDAN**

14 DAYS · 26 MEALS STARTING AT \$5979

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Cairo • Grand Egyptian Museum • Giza Pyramids & Sphinx - Historic Cairo -Aswan - 3-Night Nile River Cruise - Kom Ombo • Edfu • Luxor • Valley of the Kings Amman • Wadi Rum • Petra • Impact Moment - Dead Sea - Home Hosted Lunch



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Discover the secrets of the Nile, the world's longest river, on a 3-night cruise.
- · View the tomb of King Tut during a tour of the Valley of the Kings.
- · Connect with locals at a cooperative advancing women's employment in Jordan.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- Day 8 Visit the expansive ruins of Karnak Temple -OR- admire spectacular views of the Nile while you enjoy high tea at the Old Winter Palace.
- Day 11 In Petra, trek up to the legendary "Monastery," -OR- join a local family at their home for tea and learn about life in their community -OR- visit a Nabatean outpost.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) • 6 Lunches (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a Bedouin lunch baked in the sand of Wadi Rum's desert.
- Prepare your meal and eat familystyle at an Arabic cooking class.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 4 Sheraton Cairo Hotel & Casino, Cairo **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:** 

Upgrade your stay to a Partial Nile View room and enjoy views of the Nile River. CALL FOR DETAILS

Anakato Wadi Kiki Nubian Day 5 Houses, Aswan

Days 6 - 8 Sonesta St. George 1 Day 9 Amman Marriott Hotel, Amman

Days 10, 11 Movenpick Resort, Wadi Musa, Petra

Days 12, 13 Movenpick Resort and Spa, Dead Sea



#### Experience a dramatic world beyond imagination as you enter into lands of legends, relics, and indescribable beauty.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Feel as if you've stepped into another time as you enter a world of legends, relics, and indescribable beauty. Eons of history and iconic wonders, mouthwatering bites of savoury cuisine, and stretching sunsets fading against the desert horizon - discover the essence of Egypt and Jordan.

#### Day 2: Cairo, Egypt - Tour Begins

Your adventure starts in Cairo, the capital of Egypt. A constant thrum of energy wrapped around you, feel the ever-present heartbeat of the country in the city streets. Located strategically along the banks of the Nile, generations of wanderers have traversed these grounds just as you do now. At your hotel this evening, connect with your fellow adventurers at a welcome dinner featuring local specialties. (D)

#### Day 3: Cairo

This morning, join your Tour Manager-Egyptologist for an introductory talk on ancient Egypt. Get a glimpse into ancient Egypt's Pharaohs, power struggles, and dynasties before navigating Cairo's famous traffic on your way to the remarkable collections of the Grand Egyptian Museum, a collection featuring some of the country's oldest artifacts. Return to your hotel for an evening at leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: Cairo

Early this morning, venture to nearby Giza and embrace the Egypt you have always imagined. Stand in awe before the iconic Pyramids of Giza, one of the seven ancient wonders of the world. Marvel at the stoicism of the Great Sphinx, a colossal structure jutting out of the desert sand, full of mystery and intrigue. This afternoon, walk along el-Moez Street, admiring the elegant Islamic architecture of Historic Cairo (UNESCO) and enjoy some free time to shop in the worldfamous souk of Khan el-Khalili. Peruse colourful trinkets, hand-painted crafts, polished pendants, and more. (B)

#### Day 5: Cairo - Aswan

Pre-dawn this morning, transfer to the Cairo airport for the 2-hour flight that takes you to Aswan, a breathtaking port city up the Nile. You may choose to partake in an optional tour to Abu Simbel and see the extraordinary temples of Ramses II relocated there during the construction of the High Dam. Experience the Nubian culture of Upper Egypt as you transfer by motorboat to your rustic riverside lodge, with its colourful decorations and naïve architectural style. This afternoon, learn more about the Nubian people, their ancestral heritage and language during a

walk in the nearby village, before relaxing over dinner at your lodge. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Aswan - Board Ship

This morning, discover the mysteries of Philae Temple. Located on a small island, this complex can only be reached by motorboat. Philae is among the architectural wonders rescued from the rising waters of the Nile during the construction of the High Dam. Then, board your cruise ship and settle in for the next three nights. The afternoon is yours to explore more of Aswan. Perhaps you'll visit the fascinating artifacts at the Nubian Archeological Museum. This evening, aboard a felucca (wooden sailboat), take in the views of the tall sand dunes on the western shore of the Nile before relaxing over dinner aboard, (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Kom Ombo - Edfu

Coast along to Kom Ombo and visit a rare double temple. Watch the Egyptian landscape slowly drift by as you sail on to the mesmerizing Temple of Edfu, dedicated to the ancient god Horus. Relax during an afternoon on board as you glide down the Nile, before enjoying a festive Galabeya Party, where you might don a traditional Egyptian gown. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Luxor 😯

As dawn breaks, venture to Luxor's West Bank, trekking along the elaborate tombs of the Valley of the Kings. Delve even further into Egyptian legends with an included viewing of the tombs of King Tutankhamun and Ramses VI. Visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut as well as the Colossi of Memnon before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon, it's your choice! Visit the expansive ruins of Karnak Temple. Wander through this 4,000-yearold complex of pylons and obelisks, often of near-mythic proportions -OR- admire expansive views of the Nile while you enjoy high tea at the Old Winter Palace which hosted esteemed guests such as Agatha Christie, Winston Churchill and the great Egyptologist Howard Carter. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Luxor - Disembark Ship -Amman, Jordan

Pre-dawn this morning, say goodbye to the land of the pyramids as you fly to Cairo, where you connect to Amman, the capital of Jordan. Get a peek into this innovative city housing both modern technologies and ancient relics on your way to tonight's street food dinner which includes local specialties such as hummus, falafels and kunafa. (B, D)

#### Day 10: Amman - Wadi Rum - Petra

This morning, cross Jordan all the way to the south as you leave Amman for the isolated desert of Wadi Rum where you arrive by lunchtime. Nicknamed the Valley of the Moon, this ethereal landscape resembles nothing found on earth. Cruise through the reserve on the back of a pickup truck and take in the vast landscape around you. Enjoy lunch at a local camp before venturing onward to Petra, the fabled "Rose Red City." In the evening, stroll down the street to an authentic Arabic cooking class. Prepare your meal, featuring fresh ingredients from local markets and traditional Jordanian recipes, before digging in family-style. (B, L, D)

#### Day 11: Petra 😯

At daybreak, weave along sandstone carvings as you tour the vast archeological site of Petra with your guide. Serving as a crossroads between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea, Petra contains ages of hidden wonders just waiting to be explored. This afternoon, it's your choice! Keep exploring Petra's vast archeological site on your own. Perhaps you'll trek up to the "Monastery," one of Petra's legendary monuments -OR- join a local family at their home for tea and friendly conversation about life in the Bedouin community of Wadi Musa -OR- visit Little Petra, a Nabatean outpost located a few miles from its famous big sister, and featuring a 2000year old Nabatean fresco that finds no corresponding in its larger neighbour. (B)

#### Day 12: Petra - Dead Sea

A full morning transfer takes you north to the fertile basin of the Jordan Valley. Here, connect with the local community during an **Impact Moment** at a cooperative promoting the conservation of traditional crafts through the employment of Bedouin women. After lunch at the cooperative, descend to the lowest point on earth, the Dead Sea for a 2-night stay at a hotel featuring direct access to the legendary sea. (B, L)

#### Day 13: Dead Sea

Journey to Madaba and delve deep into St. George's Church and its famous Byzantine mosaic representing the Holy Land. Then, connect with the local community during a home hosted lunch. Experience traditional Jordanian hospitality and authentic home cooking as you share stories and connect with your hosts over a traditional meal. Gaze upon the Promised Land at Mount Nebo like Moses long before you. This evening, celebrate the end of your Middle Eastern journey during a farewell dinner at your hotel. (B, L, D)

#### Day 14: Dead Sea - Tour Ends

Your epic adventure comes to a close today. Return home with a new understanding of these mystical lands. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5979 SOLO Starting at \$7179

Prices based on December 1, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May & September 2024 January - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: Cairo (1-2 NIGHTS)





#### **JORDAN** & ISRAEL: **CULTURAL CROSSROADS**

15 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$6149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Dead Sea • Madaba • Petra • 2 Impact Moments • Wadi Rum • Red Sea • Eilat Desert Agriculture Research Center Masada • Jerusalem • Yad Vashem • Sea of Galilee • Safed • Nazareth • Tel Aviv



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Head into the desert on the back of a pick-up truck and see the striking landscape of Wadi Rum.
- · Engage in a discussion with a Holocaust Survivor at Yad Vashem.
- Impact Moment: Visit a non-profit community centre and learn a traditional craft from local women.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 7 — Explore biblical history at the traditional site of King Solomon's mines in Timna-OR- relax aboard a glass bottom boat cruise in search of marine life.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 13 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Dine with a local Jewish family during a home-hosted dinner.
- Try your hand at Arabic culinary techniques during an authentic cooking class.
- Enjoy a traditional Bedouin lunch baked in the sand of Wadi Rum's desert



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

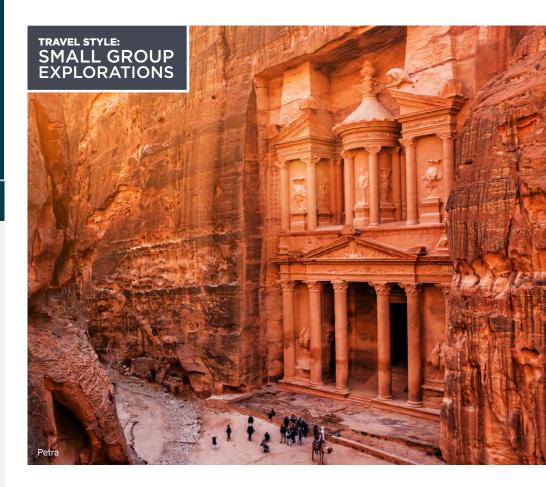
Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 Dead Sea Marriott Resort, Dead Sea

Days 4, 5 Petra Marriott, Petra Dan Panorama or Dan Days 6, 7 Neptune Eilat Hotel,

Days 8 - 10 Atlas Arthur Hotel, Jerusalem

Days 11, 12 Ruth Zefat Hotel, Safed Days 13, 14 Atlas Artist Hotel, Tel Aviv

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Delve into the past and present of Jordan and Israel, uncovering a land of quiet deserts, modern coastlines, ancient ruins, and spiritual roots.

#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

In Jordan and Israel, uncover the truth behind a land cloaked in mysteries, legends, and unwavering cultures.

### Day 2: Amman, Jordan - Dead Sea - Tour

Start your journey in Amman, the capital of Jordan. Make your way to the legendary Dead Sea, whose salty shores draw inquisitive nomads, health gurus, and those seeking out a slice of indulgence. Feel at peace as you settle into your tranquil home for the next 2 nights. Get to know your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner at your hotel. (D)

#### Day 3: Dead Sea

Admire sprawling vistas from Mount Nebo, where Moses shared his vision of the elusive Promised Land. In Madaba, visit St. George's Church, whose Byzantine mosaic illustrates a glimpse into ancient history. Then, connect with the local community during a home hosted lunch. Experience traditional Jordanian hospitality and authentic home cooking as you share stories and mingle with your hosts over a traditional meal. Return to the hotel in the mid-afternoon and enjoy time on your own to float in the Dead Sea's ethereal waters. (B, L)

#### Day 4: Dead Sea - Petra

Start your morning with an Impact Moment at a cooperative promoting the conservation of traditional crafts through the employment of Bedouin women, where you'll participate in a hands-on lesson before lunch. Continue on to Petra, a red sandstone city carved into the cliffs and settle into your hotel for a 2-night stay. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Petra

Beat the crowds and the heat of the sun with an early-morning tour of Petra's archaeological remains (UNESCO), With towering bluffs overhead. delve into this ancient crossroad with a local guide. The remainder of the day is yours to discover this "lost city" on your own. This evening, try your hand at culinary techniques during an authentic Arabic cooking class. After you prepare your meal, discover the unique blend of flavours as you enjoy your carefully crafted dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Petra - Wadi Rum - Border **Crossing - Eilat, Israel**

Launch into a land of quiet stillness and open dunes as you make your way to Wadi Rum. Cruise through the reserve on the back of a pick-up truck and take in the vast landscape around you. Take time for lunch at a local camp before returning back through the desert. Grab your bags and get ready for the second part of your adventure as you cross the border into Israel. A short transfer takes you to your hotel located in Eilat's Marina, your home for the next 2 nights. (B, L)

### Day 7: Eilat 😗

Soak in the atmosphere as it's your **choice!** Spend a morning exploring the traditional site of King Solomon's mines at Timna -OR- relax aboard a glass-bottomboat cruise of the Gulf of Agaba in search for marine life. With a free afternoon, perhaps you'll go on an optional excursion to the Eilat Mountains, where you'll be able to take in the sun as it sets over four countries: Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel and Egypt. Gather around a bonfire and gaze over the Sinai, the area where Moses led the Jews during their Exodus from Egypt and back to the Promised Land. (B, D)

Day 8: Eilat - Masada - Jerusalem

Discover why the locals have so much pride in their ability to grow food in this harsh climate. Visit the Vidor Center for Desert Agriculture and learn about drip irrigation and other innovative techniques that allow crops to flourish in the desert. Travel to the desert fortress of Masada (UNESCO), perched upon a cliff overlooking the Dead Sea, Explore Herod's Palace and the Roman Camp. Descend the ancient walls by cable car before continuing on to Jerusalem. (B)

### Day 9: Jerusalem

Today, you'll begin your exploration of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, where you'll marvel at the panoramic view of the Holy City, including the shining Dome of the Rock. Get ready to see Jerusalem on foot and embark on a comprehensive tour of the old city, covering multiple religions that have coexisted here for centuries. Pause at the Western (Wailing) Wall, follow the Stations of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa, and walk in the footsteps of millions before you. With the remainder of your day at leisure, delve

into Jerusalem's Shuk (the Bazaars of the Old City), with each narrow street dedicated to different trades passed down through generations. As you explore, breathe in the smell of freshly baked bread and savoury spices. This evening, you may opt to see the city from the different perspective with a tour of Jerusalem at night. (B)

#### Day 10: Jerusalem

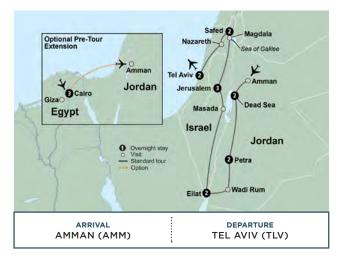
Reflect on the sorrows of the past at Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, followed by a poignant discussion with a Holocaust survivor. The rest of the day is yours to do as you please. Perhaps you'll take an optional tour through the Judean Hills to Bethlehem, returning in the early evening. (B)

### Day 11: Jerusalem - Safed

A full morning transfer takes you to the hills of Galilee and to Safed, one of Judaism's Four Holy Cities. This afternoon, join a local expert for a walking tour of the Old Town. Learn about Kabbalah's mystical beliefs, providing a glimpse into a local religion. This evening, connect with one of the town's Orthodox Jewish families over a home-hosted dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Safed

Head to Magdala, regarded to be the hometown of Mary Magdalene, and find an ancient city of stone carvings and excavated temples. Sail on the sea of Galilee in a historic replica boat before continuing on to the Mount of Beatitudes, an overlook where Jesus gave his famous Sermon of the Mount. Then, meet with a member of the Druze community to learn more about this mysterious and secretive sect of Islam. Return to Safed in the early evening for a buffet dinner at your hotel. (B, L, D)





### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



**Post-Night:** Tel Aviv (1-2 Nights)



#### Day 13: Safed - Nazareth - Tel Aviv

Explore Nazareth, the childhood town of Jesus. Nazareth's culinary scene and growing businesses brought the city into the 21st century. After visiting the Basilica of the Annunciation, experience an Impact Moment at a community centre where local women lead a lesson on traditional crafts. Pause for lunch in a historic house. featuring Arab-Israeli favourites such as hummus, baba ghanoush, pastries, and more. This afternoon, head to the bustling waterfront city of Tel Aviv - the remainder of the day is yours. Perhaps you'll relax in an outdoor café or check out the dynamic nightlife. (B, L)

#### Day 14: Tel Aviv

Make your way through Tel Aviv's historic section, Jaffa, passing by St. Peter's Church, Wishing Bridge, Ramses Gate, and the unique Suspended Orange Tree. Then taste your way through one of Tel Aviv's lively street markets as you connect with the locals, getting a true taste of everyday life in this bustling Mediterranean city. This evening, toast to the end of your trip at a farewell reception. (B, L)

### Day 15: Tel Aviv - Tour Ends

Wish Israel goodbye as you depart for home. (B)



#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You're on your way to Egypt. Step back in time and explore thousands of years of history, legend, and lore as you walk amongst timeless wonders.

#### Day 2: Cairo, Egypt - Extension Begins

Settle into Cairo, an ancient city with an intriguing past. This evening, connect with your fellow travellers and get a taste of local cuisine at a welcome dinner. (D)

#### Day 3: Cairo

Start your day by exploring the remarkable collections of the Grand Egyptian Museum.See the statues, reliefs, sarcophagi, and treasures from the tomb of Tutankhamun. Walk along el-Moez Street, admiring the elegant Islamic architecture of Historic Cairo (UNESCO) and enjoy some free time to shop in the world-famous Khan el Khalili Bazaar. Peruse colourful trinkets, handpainted crafts, polished pendants, and more. (B)

### Day 4: Cairo - Giza - Cairo

Fulfill a lifelong dream and head to nearby Giza (UNESCO). Embark on an in-depth visit to the Pyramids of Giza, one of the 7 ancient wonders of the world. Marvel at the iconic Great Sphinx, one of the world's oldest and largest monuments. Take advantage of some free time to explore these ancient temples on your own. The remainder of the day is yours. (B)

#### Day 5: Cairo - Amman, Jordan

Wish Egypt goodbye as you depart for Jordan. (B)

## **ICONIC** ISRAEL

10 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$4149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Tel Aviv - Jaffa - Carmel Market Food Tour - Caesarea - Winery Visit - Sea of Galilee -Druze Lunch • Nazareth • Mount of Olives • Jerusalem • Home-Hosted Dinner • The Western Wall • Yad Vashem • Holocaust Survivor Discussion • Masada • Dead Sea



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Connect with the Orthodox Jewish community at a home-hosted dinner in Jerusalem.
- Engage in a conversation with a Holocaust survivor at Yad Vashem.
- Enjoy 2 nights in Tel Aviv, Israel's dynamic and thriving strip of metropolitan life.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Sample wines integral to Israeli traditions at a vineyard in the Galilee
- Enjoy a traditional Druze lunch and learn about this Arab-Israeli community.
- · Get a taste for Israeli cuisine on a walking food tour in Carmel Market.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1

Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3

Isrotel Sea Tower Hotel,

Tel Aviv

Days 4, 5

Leonardo Plaza Hotel,

**Tiberias** 

Days 6 - 9

Dan Panorama, Dan Jerusalem Hotel or Dan

Boutique Jerusalem Hotel, Jerusalem

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Discover the ancient world of Israel, where legendary stories of humanity's collective history blend with the thriving dynamic of modern life.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Explore Israel, an ancient land rich in tradition. Step into a living history museum and discover some of the most celebrated treasures in the world.

Day 2: Tel Aviv, Israel - Tour Begins

Welcome to Tel Aviv, a thriving, reinvented city on the Mediterranean coast. Feel the bustling energy humming around you and jump right into this epicentre of Israeli-chic. The city cultivates an ever-evolving restaurant scene paired with sparkling coastlines, resulting in an irresistible hub of urban sophistication. This is Tel Aviv, a non-stop celebration of innovation and excitement. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome reception at your hotel.

### Day 3: Tel Aviv

This morning, explore Tel Aviv's "White City" (UNESCO), highlighting famous Bauhaus architecture. Then it's on to Carmel Market for a walking food tour. Sample fresh hummus and savoury street foods as you connect with the locals, getting a true taste of everyday life. This afternoon, walk the narrow stone streets of Jaffa, an ancient port city. Enjoy an evening at leisure to take in the sunset along Tel Aviv's rejuvenated waterfront promenade or delve into the city's captivating nightlife of rooftop lounges, sophisticated cocktail bars, and more. (B, L)

### Day 4: Tel Aviv - Caesarea - Tiberias

Follow the coast to the ruins of the ancient city of Caesarea, built by Herod the Great in the 1st century BC. Pause for a visit of a winery set among the hills of the Galilee region. Enjoy a light lunch accompanied by the wines produced on the farm. This evening, set sail on the tranquil waters of the Sea of Galilee aboard a replica boat reminiscent of the 1st century. Your day comes to a close in Tiberias, your home for the next 2 nights. (B, L, D)

### Day 5: Tiberias

Begin your day by exploring the excavated ruins of Magdala, regarded to be the hometown of Mary Magdalene, and find an ancient city of stone carvings and excavated temples. Visit the Mount of Beatitudes, an overlook from where Jesus preached the Sermon of the Mount, Journey to Maghar and chat with locals over a plate of enticing Arabic food during a home-hosted lunch with members of the Druze community. (B, L, D)

Day 6: Tiberias - Nazareth - Jerusalem Depart Tiberias for the historic city of Nazareth. Visit the Church of the Annunciation and Mary's







remainder of the day is yours. Perhaps you

### Day 7: Jerusalem

Walk in the footsteps of millions before you and discover the old walled city of Jerusalem (UNESCO). On this walking tour, see the Western (Wailing) Wall and the storied path of the Stations of the Cross. Immerse yourself in the everyday culture of Jerusalem's Shuk (the Bazaars of the Old City), with each narrow street dedicated

Well. Continue south to the Mount of Olives

and marvel at the all-encompassing view

of Jerusalem, including the shining Dome

of the Rock. Housing layers of history

and heritage, allow the resilient spirit of

the city to capture your senses. Tonight,

get to know a local family as you enjoy a

traditional meal in their home. (B, D)

### Day 8: Jerusalem

Begin your day with a poignant visit to Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Centre. You won't just tour this powerful museum, but you'll get to have an open conversation with a Holocaust survivor. The rest of your day is at leisure to explore more of Jerusalem. Perhaps you'll visit the Israel Museum to

to different trades passed down through generations. As you explore, breathe in the smell of freshly baked bread, roasting sesame seeds, and savoury spices. The will join an optional tour of Jerusalem by night, which includes a sound and light show. (B, D)

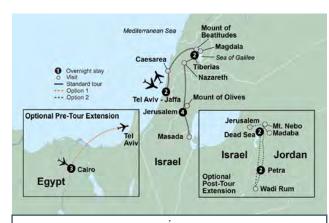
Day 9: Jerusalem

Travel to the desert fortress of Masada (UNESCO), situated on a cliff next to the Dead Sea. Ascend the ancient walls of Masada by cable car and explore Herod's Palaces, the Roman Camp, and the Synagogue. Float in the tranquil healing waters of the Dead Sea, experiencing its unique natural buoyancy. This evening, toast the end to an incredible journey during a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 10: Jerusalem - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close today. (B)

66 I think the home visits and meals were probably my favourite parts of the whole tour. I also really enjoyed the

- Janice, L.



ARRIVAL TEL AVIV (TLV)

DEPARTURE TEL AVIV (TLV)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4149 SOLO Starting at \$5849 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on January 14, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May 2024 - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation..

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Tel Aviv (1-Night)







view the Dead Sea scrolls or consider an optional trip to the city of Bethlehem, spread along the Judean Hills. Visit the Church of the Nativity-the birthplace of Jesus and the first church ever built. (B)



CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/238

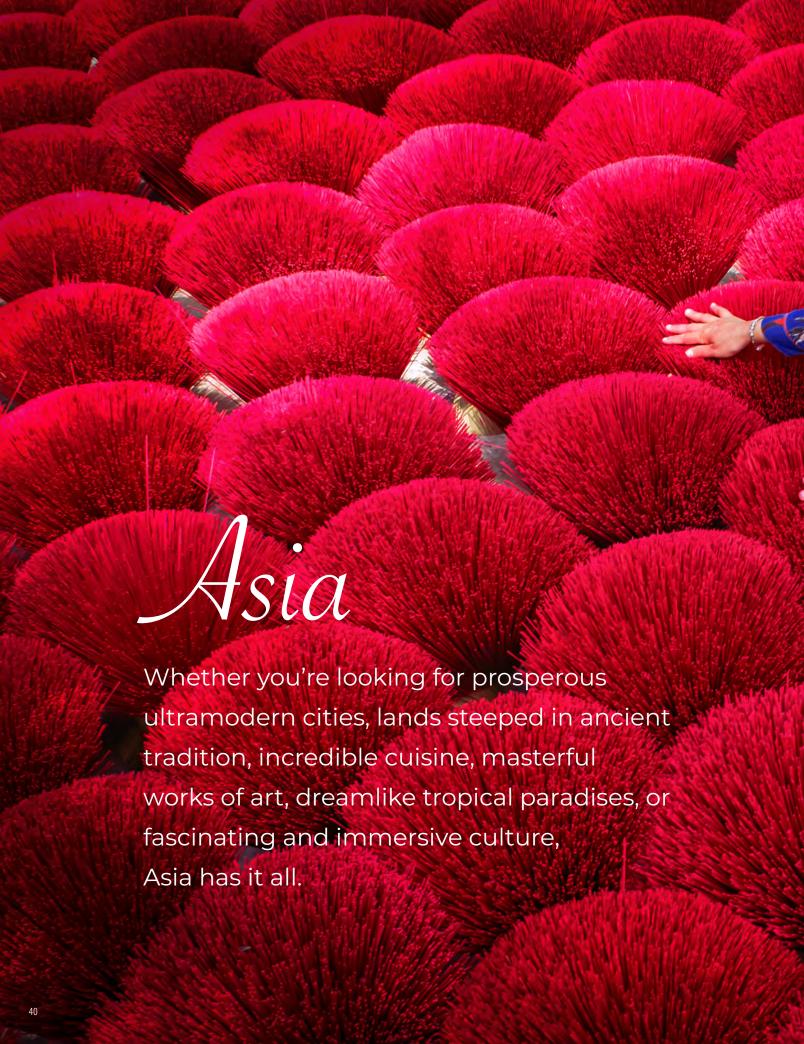
**CAIRO** 3-NIGHT PRE TOUR STARTING AT: \$1300†



**JORDAN** 4-NIGHT POST TOUR STARTING AT: \$1820+



walking food tour in the market. 99





## **MYSTERIES OF INDIA**

15 DAYS · 26 MEALS STARTING AT \$3689

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Old Delhi • Jaipur • Hawa Mahal • Amber Fort • Home-Hosted Dinner • Ranthambore National Park - Abhaneri Stepwell - Taj Mahal - Chandela Temple Complex • Varanasi • Ganga Aarti Ceremony



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Travel to Khajuraho on an exciting train journey.
- · Venture through the main streets and back roads of Old Delhi via rickshaw.
- Marvel at the illuminated Ganga Aarti ceremony.



### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 9 - Return to your hotel to simply relax while in Ranthambore OR- visit Dastkar Ranthambore, a social enterprise dedicated to providing employment and training for local artisans.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 13 Breakfasts (B) - 7 Lunches (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

· Learn the secrets to preparing incredible Indian food at a home-hosted dinner.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 The Suryaa Hotel, Delhi Radisson Jaipur City Days 5 - 7 Center, Jaipur Juna Mahal, Ranthambore Davs 8. 9

Days 10, 11 Grand Mercure, Agra Radisson Jass Hotel, Day 12

Khaiuraho

Days 13, 14 Radisson Hotel, Varanasi Day 15 Lemon Tree Premier, Delhi

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From the iconic tigers of Ranthambore to the legendary Taj Mahal, step into a world of captivating mysteries and vibrant colour.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Discover India's perfect synthesis of nature, spirituality, and regal legacy. From the fabled Taj Mahal to the iconic tigers of Ranthambore, step into a world of captivating mysteries and vibrant

#### Day 2: Delhi, India - Tour Begins

A paradise of contradiction, Delhi features a bustling energy, age-old monuments, and an all-encompassing vitality that courses its way through the busy streets. Experience everything this dynamic metropolis has to offer, from modern New Delhi to historic Old Delhi.

### Day 3: Delhi

Start your morning at the expansive Humayun's Tomb, one of the best-preserved Mughal monuments dating back to the 1500s. This sprawling complex inspired countless mausoleums, including the legendary Taj Mahal. Enjoy some free time in the afternoon to explore on your own. Gather with your group in the evening for a welcome dinner featuring Indian specialties. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Delhi

Cut through Old Delhi's buzzing streets on a rickshaw - your mode of transportation for

an exhilarating tour of old Delhi. See the city's friendly vendors as you travel down narrow streets and busy corridors. Visit Jama Masjid, one of the largest mosques in India, and stand in awe before its iconic red sandstone towers. Your exploration of New Delhi continues on a journey by the city's famous monuments, including the India Gate and Parliament building. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Delhi - Jaipur

Wish the city goodbye and embark on a scenic drive through the countryside. Stop for lunch in a local restaurant before arriving in Jaipur, the "Pink City." See Hawa Mahal, the former home of a maharaja (Indian prince). Marvel at the city's architectural brilliance as you stroll through the heart of the Old City during your free time. (B, L)

#### Day 6: Jaipur

Take in the extensive palace complex of Amber Fort, India's former seat of power. Head to the palace by means of a vintage jeep, scaling the hills overlooking Jaipur. In the evening, get to know a local family as you join them for a hosted dinner in their home. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Jaipur

Set out to explore the beautiful city of Jaipur, starting with the City Palace. Nearby, take in





the impeccable masonry of the Jantar Mantar - the world's oldest stone sundial. The afternoon is yours to discover Jaipur however you please. (B)

### **Day 8: Jaipur - Ranthambore National Park**

Travel to Ranthambore National Park where we will seek out tigers in their natural habitat. Learn about Project Tiger's conservation efforts and the impact the organization has had on the Ranthambore sanctuary. Connect with a naturalist, introducing you to India's extensive wildlife. (B, L, D)

### Day 9: Ranthambore 😗

Board a canter (open-air truck) for your first game drive. Seek out barking deer,

Indian gazelles, and exotic birdlife. Follow the tigers' paths in search of the sanctuary's renowned wildlife. Then, it's your choice! Return to your hotel to relax -OR- experience an Impact Moment with a visit to Dastkar Ranthambore, a social enterprise dedicated to providing employment and training for local women artisans. No matter what you choose, return to the wild for another chance to seek out marsh crocodiles, sloth bears, and the park's famous Bengal tigers. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Ranthambore - Agra

Today we depart early as we make our way to Agra, a city rich with the splendors of the past. Along the way, visit the impressive Abhaneri step well. Built over 1,000 years ago it is an architectural marvel hidden from visitors until recently. Then stop for lunch and get another taste of local flavours. Home to stone forts and marble mausoleums, Agra features a lively culture and picture-perfect architecture. (B, L)

### Day 11: Agra

The Tai Mahal, a stunning vision in white marble and sandstone, was built as an expression of love by Emperor Shah Jahan. Experience the romantic spirit of the Taj Mahal in the early morning, when the colours of the sky dance on the bright façade and shimmer in its reflective pool. Visit Agra Fort, the seat of the Mughal Empire. During a second Impact Moment, enjoy lunch at Sheroes Hangout - a café that empowers female survivors of violence, allowing them to reclaim their lives through employment and sisterhood. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Agra - Khajuraho

Start your morning with a train ride to Jhansi where you will connect with your coach and make your way to Khajuraho. In the shadow of the Vindhya mountain range, find a city of stone temples and mystifying sculptures. Make the most of time at leisure this afternoon to explore the area on your own. (B, L, D)

### Day 13: Khajuraho - Varanasi

Take in the Chandela Temple complex, home to unparalleled temple architecture



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3689 SOLO Starting at \$4839

Prices based on September 23, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

Dec 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

September 2024 - April 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for September 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: Delhi (1-2 NIGHTS)



and intricate stone carvings. Fly to Varanasi - India's holiest city where spiritual energy radiates from the ground up. Sail along the River Ganges and pass by the ghats (banks) where locals wade into the river. From the Dasaswamedh Ghat, enjoy a reserved seat to experience the Ganga Aarti ceremony as it illuminates the night sky. (B)

#### Day 14: Varanasi

Take advantage of a morning boat ride for an opportunity to see the sunrise on the River Ganges. Travel to Sarnath, where Siddhartha Gautama - later known as Buddha - gave his first sermon in the 6th century B.C. Discover this holy site and gain insight into the country's divine past. Celebrate your adventure through India alongside new friends at a farewell dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 15: Varanasi - Delhi - Tour Ends

Enjoy a morning at leisure before flying back to Delhi, where a room has been reserved for you to freshen up before your return flight home, (B)





Additional air segment purchase required.



## **JAPAN: PAST & PRESENT**

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$7699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Tokyo • Ginza • Asakusa • Tea Ceremony ■ Tokyo National Museum ■ Bullet Train Ise Grand Shrine • Kaiseki Dinner • Mikimoto Pearl Museum . Ama Pearl Divers Dinner - Kyoto - Golden Pavilion -Arashiyama Bamboo Forest • Women's Association of Kyoto . Gion Okunoin Cemetery
 Monastery Stay

- Hiroshima - Okonomiyaki Cooking Class & Lunch • Peace Memorial Park & Museum • Discussion with an A-Bomb Survivor - Osaka



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Stay among Buddhist monks at a monastery on Mount Koya.
- Meet Japan's ama pearl divers and learn more about their elite profession.
- · Visit Hiroshima's Peace Park and Memorial Museum and hear accounts of the atomic bomb's devastation.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

- Dive deep into the culture and social norms of Japan over dinner with the Women's Association of Kyoto.
- · Enjoy a traditional, multi-course kaiseki meal.
- Make delicious okonomiyaki, savoury pancakes that are a Japanese favourite.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 Prince Park Tower Hotel, Tokvo Days 5, 6 Nemu Resort, Ise-Shima Days 7 - 9 Hotel Granvia, Kyoto Sekishoin, Mt. Koya Day 10 Days 11, 12 ANA Crowne Plaza,

Hiroshima ANA Crowne Plaza, Day 13

Osaka

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From neon-lit streets filled with people to quiet shrines filled only with silence, come face-to-face with a culture thousands of years in the making.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

From the tranquility of ancient temples to the energy of bustling cities, find a blend of all things old and new in Japan.

### Day 2: Tokyo, Japan - Tour Begins

Say "Konnichiwa!" to the incredible, eclectic city of Tokyo. Japan is a land of contrasts, and you're about to discover the thousand facets of culture, art, and life that make up its incredible spirit. From neon-lit streets filled with people to quiet shrines filled only with silence, you'll come face-to-face with a culture thousands of years in the making. Storied history, artistic traditions, cutting-edge technology - it's all part of Japan's everyday life. You'll soon discover that you could explore Japan for a thousand years and only experience a part of what this country has to offer.

### Day 3: Tokyo

Feel the excitement start to build as you head to Asakusa, passing by the grounds of the Imperial Palace and see the Nijubashi Bridge. Next, witness the subtle art of preparing green tea. Prepare your own cup of this local staple and learn the gentle practice of making tea using a traditional method. Enjoy free time exploring Nakamise shopping street, where you can stroll between the stalls leading to the

Sensoji temple to buy local souvenirs and sweets. Then, head to Tokyo National Museum to learn about the fascinating history and culture of the city. The museum displays artwork and antiques from Japan and the surrounding area. Tonight, sit down and get to know your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Tokyo

This morning, start your day in Tokyo like a true local - by hopping on the subway. Clean, efficient, fast, and easy to use, the Tokyo subway system is one of the best in the world. Follow your Tour Manager on a walk through Ginza, one of the most elegant and luxurious streets in the world. Enjoy shopping at some of the most renowned "department stores" in Japan. This afternoon, visit Zojoji Temple, standing in the shadow of Tokyo Tower and painting a powerful picture of Tokyo's ancient roots and modern culture. Zojoji is the center of Japanese Buddhism in the region, and the resting place of the royal Tokugawa family. Head back to the hotel through the lush and beautiful Shiba park, a green oasis in the urban landscape. (B)

### Day 5: Tokyo - Ise-Shima

Climb aboard the high-speed shinkansen, or bullet train. Sleek, modern, and comfortable, the bullet

train will flash through the idyllic Japanese countryside at 200 miles per hour, but you'll barely feel or hear a thing. Keep an eye peeled for Mt. Fuji in the distance. Arrive at one of the most important shrines in Japan – Ise Shrine. This grand shrine is built to honor the Shinto sun goddess Amaterasu. Wander among the thatched roofs and raw wood of buildings, taking in the serenity of this spiritual wonder. Tonight, your meal will be a traditional and delicious Japanese *kaiseki* dinner, an artfully prepared and presented, multi-course meal using ingredients at the absolute peak of freshness. (B, D)

### Day 6: Ise-Shima

This morning, you'll head to the Mikimoto Pearl Museum. Explore the island and the legacy of the skilled *ama* pearl divers, women who defied conventional gender roles to dive in the sea to harvest oysters and their pearls. Watch divers take the plunge and learn about the history and science of pearl diving. This evening, set out for Azurihama Beach, where you'll venture across the sands to an *ama* hut for an incredible dining experience. While local seafood is grilled in a charcoal fire right before your eyes, hear tales from the *ama* women about their lives and the sacred rights of their profession. (B, D)

### Day 7: Ise-Shima - Kyoto

Kyoto awaits! Before arriving in Japan's former capital city stop at Nara Park and Todaiji Temple. Venture inside the massive building to take some time in this sacred place and find the huge bronze Buddha statue. Wander the grounds outside and discover the famous "bowing" deer of Nara. Next, it's off to Kyoto, one of the nation's top cosmopolitan cities. (B)

### Day 8: Kyoto

Head to Gion, Kyoto's famous geisha district. Here, your Tour Manager leads you through the narrow cobblestone streets and if you're lucky, you may see a woman in full traditional geisha regalia headed to one of the hidden, exclusive tea houses. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure to explore how you want. Perhaps you'll stay in the Gion district to wander among its temples,

shrines, traditional shops and charming cafes. Or, you could make your way to the Nishiki Market, where colourful stalls are filled with fresh foods and local specialties, like pickles, dried seafood, and sushi. (B)

#### Day 9: Kyoto

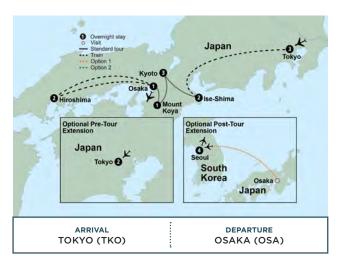
Begin your day at Arashiyama bamboo forest. Set out among the towering bamboo stalks that shade the forest paths and gently sway in the breeze. Depart for Kinkakuji (UNESCO), the Golden Pavilion, a Zen temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Once the lavish retirement home of a shogun, it was converted to a Zen temple in the 1400's. It has survived wars, been rebuilt after fires, and still stands as an impressive piece of historic architecture. Later, visit the Women's Association of Kyoto in a traditional Kvoto town house, Here, delve into a wide array of enlightening Japanese activities, guided by your knowledgeable hostess. Sip different sakes, try your hand at making sushi, fold intricate origami shapes, and speak to your hostess about Japan, its culture, and women's roles in this complex society. (B, D)

### Day 10: Kyoto - Mt. Koya

This morning, explore Fushimi Inari Taisha for a glimpse into the most revered shrine of Inari, Follow the rows of orange torii that weave through the forest, leading you to the inner shrine. Then, head for the mountain village atop Mount Koya. A special and sacred site, Mount Koya is filled with shrines, temples, and monasteries. This afternoon, walk into the heart of the awe-inspiring Okunoin Cemetery, and make your way to the mausoleum of Kobo Daishi, the founder of Shingon Buddhism. Kobo Daishi hasn't passed on - Buddhist belief says he waits in eternal meditation, answering the calls of those who would pray to him. After, settle into your accommodations for the night - a traditional Japanese monastery, complete with sliding paper doors and tatami mats. Meet with one of the monks of the temple and learn about life there before sitting down for dinner, where you'll eat a vegetarian meal, featuring tempura-fried favourites. (B, D)

EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED

† Additional air segment purchase required





#### Day 11: Mt. Koya - Hiroshima

If you so choose, you can rise in the early morning to join the Buddhist monks in prayer. Sit in the serenity of the temple shrine as the monks ring their gongs, chant, burn incense, and center themselves for the activities of the grand day ahead. Then, you'll once again board the *shinkansen* bullet train and be whisked away to Hiroshima. Enjoy lunch at a local cooking studio, where you'll learn how to make the famous Japanese *okonomiyaki*, or savoury pancake, a favourite of Hiroshima residents. After, visit the Peace Memorial Park, and pause to see the ruined Atomic Dome (UNESCO), a sobering reminder of the devastation caused by the dropping of the atomic bomb during World War II. Reflect at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. (B, L)

### Day 12: Hiroshima

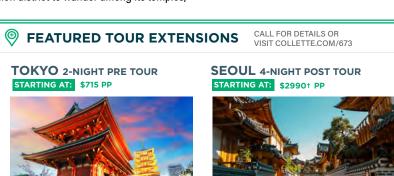
Head back to the Peace Park and Memorial Museum this morning for a powerful **Impact Moment**, a meeting with someone who experienced the devastating effects of the Atomic bomb firsthand. They'll talk about what it was like to live in Japan during that time, the aftermath of that terrible day, and how they keep the memories of those who were lost alive. After, board a ferry for the short trip to Miyajima Island, or "Shrine Island" (UNESCO). Famous for the Itsukushima Shrine and its mythic O-torii Gate standing proudly in the water. (B)

#### Day 13: Hiroshima - Osaka

Today, journey to your final destination, the energetic city of Osaka. Set out on a walking tour through the famous Dotonbori district. From shopping, to dining, to nightlife, Dotonbori has it all – bathed in the neon glow of huge electric signs. Learn why Osaka is known as the "Kitchen of Japan" as you sample its famous and delicious street food. Tonight, sit down and say your fond farewells to your travel companions at a farewell dinner. Raise a cup of *sake* and toast to the colourful spirit of Japan, and the adventures you've had. (B, D)

### Day 14: Osaka - Tour Ends

Take a quiet moment to reflect on all the new memories you have created before heading home. (B)



## **CULTURAL TREASURES** OF JAPAN

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$5999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Tokyo • Asakusa Sensoji Shrine • Ginza ■ Tea Ceremony ■ Hakone ■ Lake Ashi Cruise • Matsumoto Castle • Takayama Sake Tasting and Hida Beef Dinner Shirakawa-go • Kanazawa • Kyoto • Bullet Train . Hiroshima . Kaiseki Dinner & Maiko Show



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Try your hand at the centuries-old art of the Japanese tea ceremony, gold leaf decorating and stenciling.
- Travel by the famous Shinkansen bullet train.
- Explore the famous Ginza District, the first Western-style shopping district in Japan where modern and history blends.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a sake tasting at a local sake brewery followed by a Hida beef
- Participate in a sushi-making class.
- Experience a traditional kaiseki dinner with maiko show in Kyoto.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

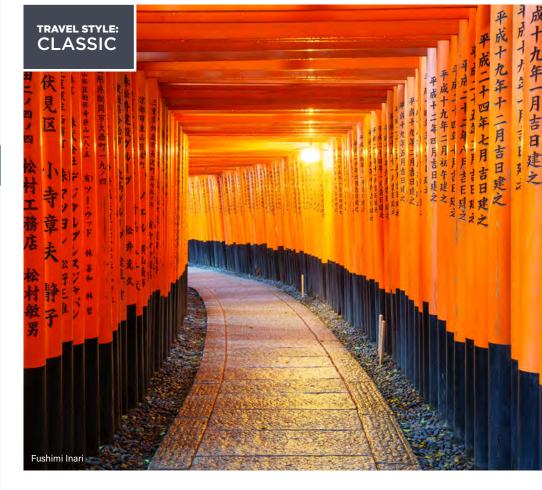
Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2 - 4 Grand Nikko Daiba, Tokyo Day 5 Odakvu Hotel de Yama or The Prince Haoke Lake Ashinoko Hakone

Takayama Green Hotel, Days 6, 7 Takayama

Kanazawa Tokyu Hotel, Days 8, 9 Kanazawa

Days 10 - 13 Hotel Nikko Princess Kyoto, Kyoto

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From the tranquility of ancient temples to the energy of bustling cities, find a blend of all things old and new in Japan.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Explore ancient and modern Japanese culture firsthand. Discover peaceful temples and technological marvels set against unimaginable natural beauty.

### Day 2: Tokyo, Japan - Tour Begins

Welcome to Japan, the "Land of the Rising Sun." Begin in the electrifying city of Tokyo, where pop culture is turned all the way up and traditions are rich and long kept.

### Day 3: Tokyo

Feel the excitement start to build as you pass by the grounds of the Imperial Palace and see the Niju Bridge, the well-known symbol of the Imperial Palace. Later, walk through Ginza, one of the most elegant and luxurious streets in the world, where modern landscape meets rich history. Enjoy shopping at some of the most renowned "department stores" in Japan. Later, amid a lush forest outside of Tokyo, visit the Meiji Shrine, dedicated to Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shoken. Tonight, join your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Tokyo

Begin the day exploring Asakusa, Tokyo's oldest

Geisha district. Visit the famous Buddhist temple, Senso-ji, the colourful temple famous for the red chochin (lantern) hanging at the entrance gate. Experience the long-standing tradition of the Japanese tea ceremony, dating back to the 15th century. During your free time, explore the Nakamise Shopping Arcade and feel the energy of the oldest shopping street in Japan. Then, head to Tokyo National Museum to learn about the fascinating history and culture of Tokyo. The museum displays artwork and antiques from Japan and the surrounding area.

### Day 5: Tokyo - Hakone

Journey to the lakeside resort of Hakone, renowned for its hot springs. In the shadow of Mt. Fuji (UNESCO), this scenic town hugs the shorelines of Lake Ashi. Make a stop at Owakudani, located in an active volcanic zone. The Owakudani crater was created some 3,000 years ago, when Mt. Hakone erupted. Climb aboard the Hakone Ropeway, an aerial cable car descending from Owakudani for a breathtaking view of Mt. Fuji. Next, take to the deep-blue waters of Lake Ashi on a cruise where you'll see epic views of the local





mountains before stopping in the charming town of Moto-Hakone. Tonight, experience a traditional kaiseki dinner. (B, D)

# Day 6: Hakone - Matsumoto - Takayama

This breathtaking day begins in Matsumoto at Matsumoto Castle, known as the "Crow Castle" because of its striking black exterior. Later, you'll step back in time in the rural Edo-period town of Takayama, nestled in the Japanese Alps. Well known to the locals for its connection to sake, this is the perfect place to gather for a visit to one of Japan's 200-year-old sake breweries. Afterward, experience a true Japanese epicurean treat – traditional rice wine paired with a special Hida beef dinner. (B, D)

### Day 7: Takayama

The ancient cultures of Takayama come alive this morning in the town's historic district. Take a walk through the past and glimpse the 19th-century Jinya government building. Stroll through the morning market, a 600-year-old open air market with locally grown and produced products, located along the Miyagawa River. Circuit the winding streets, where the town's traditional charms are preserved in the inns and houses. This afternoon,

relish some free time to continue your exploration of Takayama on your own. (B, L)

## Day 8: Takayama - Shirakawa-go - Kanazawa

Today, embrace the unique charms of Shirakawa-go (UNESCO). Hidden away in the mountain, this harmonious village is famous for its gassho-zukuri-style houses – thatched-rooftops designed to resemble two hands joined in prayer. Journey to Kanazawa, the origin of gold-leaf making since the 16th century. Visit the Samurai district where we will enter the former home of the Nomuras, a wealthy samurai family who served the ruling Maeda family. Then, travel to the Geisha quarters of Kanazawa, the Higashi Tea district. (B, D)

### Day 9: Kanazawa

More than 25 acres of absolute beauty await you today at Kenroku-En – Garden of Six Qualities. From the beauty of Japan's most stunning gardens, dive into the ancient craft of gold leaf making during a hands-on lesson in decorating your own lacquer box! In the centre of town, take in the action of the Omicho fish market before venturing out on your own to really immerse yourself in Kanazawa's dynamic culture. (B)

### Day 10: Kanazawa - Kyoto

Kyoto awaits! The former Imperial capital of Japan is now one of the nation's top cosmopolitan cities. At the same time, Kyoto's connection with its past is strong; you won't need to look far to see one of its 2,000 temples and shrines. For lunch, participate in a sushi making class and master the art of sushi making. This afternoon, visit Kinkakuji (UNESCO), the Golden Pavilion, a Zen temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. (B, L)

### Day 11: Kyoto - Bullet Train -Hiroshima - Kyoto

All aboard the Shinkansen bullet train to Hiroshima. Upon arrival, board a ferry for the short trip to Miyajima Island, or "Shrine Island" (UNESCO). Afterwards, head into Hiroshima city to visit the Peace Memorial Park, and pause to see the ruined Atomic Dome (UNESCO). Reflect at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. As this long and moving day comes to a close, return to Kyoto by the Shinkansen bullet train. (B)

#### Day 12: Kyoto

This morning, explore Fushimi Inari Taisha for a tour of the most revered shrine of Inari. Follow the spectacular rows of orange torii (made famous in the





#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



movie *Memoirs of a Geisha*) that weave through the forest, leading you to the inner shrine. Enjoy the remainder of your day at leisure. (B)

### Day 13: Kyoto

Today, visit the home of the first Shogun, Nijo Castle (UNESCO), and see intricate woodcarvings, wall paintings, and the Ninomaru Garden, designed by Kobori Enshu, a landscape architect and tea master. Next, learn about the ancient craft of stenciling during a hands-on lesson. This afternoon, spend some time relaxing or set out to explore Kyoto on your own. Fully immerse yourself in Japanese culture tonight during a special farewell dinner and maiko show. (B, D)

### Day 14: Kyoto - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close in this fascinating land. As you depart, reflect on its beauty and all you have learned about its rich history and culture. (B)

## KINGDOMS OF **SOUTHEAST ASIA**

19 DAYS · 31 MEALS STARTING AT \$4759

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Hanoi • Walking Food Tour • Discussion with Vietnam War Veteran • Ha Long Bay - Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City -Reunification Palace • Mekong Delta • Siem Reap - Angkor Wat - Luang Prabang • Wat Xieng Thong • Monk Alms Offering • Pak Ou Buddha Cave • Bangkok



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore Hanoi's historic Old Quarter on an exciting walking tour.
- See the Cu Chi Tunnels, a maze of underground passageways used by the Viet Cong.
- · Visit with a Vietnam war veteran and learn about the war from his perspective.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 15 — In Luang Prabang, venture into the lively outdoor markets at night -OR- return to the hotel for an evening at leisure.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 17 Breakfasts (B) - 7 Lunches (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- A local Laotian family welcomes you into their home for dinner.
- · Learn the secrets of Vietnamese cooking during an interactive class.
- Sample several famous Vietnamese dishes on a walking food tour.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2 - 4 Mercure Hanoi la Gare, Hanoi Day 5 Bhaya Classic Days 6 - 8 Little Oasis Hotel & Spa, Hoi An Novotel Saigon Centre, Days 9 - 11

Ho Chi Minh City Days 12 - 14 Tara Angkor Hotel, Siem

Days 15 - 17 Souphattra Hotel, Luang

Prabang Rembrandt Hotel & **Day 18** Suites, Bangkok



## Delve into an ancient and mysterious world of rural landscapes, bustling cities, and fascinating history in Southeast Asia.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Set out on a journey that reveals the best of Southeast Asia. From the villages of Vietnam and the temples of Cambodia to the friendly locals of Laos and the lively energy of Thailand, embark on an unforgettable cultural adventure. Start your journey in Vietnam - where lush valleys and verdant fields create a beautiful country with a long and rich history.

### Day 2: Hanoi, Vietnam - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Hanoi, Layers of the city's complex past can be found interwoven into its modern culture. Known for its French colonial architecture, tree-lined streets, and vibrant street food scene. Hanoi is Vietnam's dynamic capital and second most populous city.

### Day 3: Hanoi

Start your morning with a city tour of Hanoi and the Old Quarter. Visit Ba Dinh Square and the Temple of Literature. Follow the meandering streets, decorated with temples and pagodas, and feast on the history before you. After working up an appetite, enjoy a walking food tour featuring some of Vietnam's most famous dishes such as banh mi and pho. Enjoy coffee and views of Hoan Kiem Lake - the "Lake of the Restored Sword" - at a rooftop café. Later this evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

### Day 4: Hanoi

Today you may choose to start your day early by joining your Tour Manager and locals as they practice tai chi at a local park. After, visit the infamous Hoa Lo Prison. This historic site, dubbed the "Hanoi Hilton"

by American POWs, is now a museum that tells the story of colonial history from the Vietnamese perspective. Following your visit, sit down with a local veteran from the Vietnam War to chat and connect with him as he recounts his history. The rest of the day is yours to enjoy as you see fit. You may choose to join an optional tour to see the famous water puppets of Hanoi followed by dinner.

### Day 5: Hanoi - Ha Long Bay

Journey to Ha Long Bay and board a charming junk boat for an overnight cruise - the perfect vantage point for soaking up the landscape. Once on board, enjoy fresh seafood as you sail past vistas of low green mountains, small villages, hundreds of islands, and limestone peaks jutting out from the sea. Disembark to discover the wonders of nature, history, and archaeology. Back on board, sit back and relax as the sounds and peaceful sway of the boat Iull you to sleep. (B, L, D)

## Day 6: Ha Long Bay - Hanoi - Da Nang -

Your day begins with a Tai Chi lesson on the sundeck at sunrise. After a light breakfast we head off to visit Sung Sot cave, one of the many limestone grottos accessible by boat in the UNESCO World Natural Heritage that is Halong Bay. It is time to say farewell to this stunning natural wonder and cruise back to the mainland. Fly to Da Nang and travel to Hoi An (UNESCO), an ancient trading port. (B, D)

### Day 7: Hoi An

Explore the flavours of Hoi An. Board a basket boat and journey along the Co Co River for an immersive

cooking class. Learn how to catch seafood in the river and grind rice into flour. Use your ingredients to cook four classic dishes which you'll enjoy for lunch. Later, on a walking tour of the old town, stroll by the ornate Chinesestyle temple Phuc Kien Assembly Hall and a 400-year-old Japanese covered bridge. End at the vibrant market on the banks of the Thu Bon. (B, L,)

### Day 8: Hoi An

Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore the magic of Hoi An. Walk along the canals that cut through Ancient Town on your own, uncovering a preserved history interwoven into the modern way of life. Perhaps you'll visit an art gallery, wander through a cultural museum, or go shopping for the perfect souvenir. (B)

### Day 9: Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City

Leave Hoi An and fly to Ho Chi Minh City, the energetic urban capital formerly known as Saigon. On an eye-opening city tour, you'll see the Post Office, Notre Dame Cathedral, and the Reunification Palace. Head over to explore treasures from local vendors on display at the Old Market in District 1. (B)

### Day 10: Ho Chi Minh City - Mekong **Delta - Ho Chi Minh City**

Take to the waters of the famous Mekong Delta. As you sail along, your quide will delve into the history and culture of the region. Discover the region's cottage industry with a visit to a coconut candy factory and learn how this confection is made. Enjoy lunch featuring southern Vietnamese cuisine before travelling back to Ho Chi Minh City. (B, L)

### Day 11: Ho Chi Minh City

Spend your morning at the Cu Chi Tunnels, a maze of underground passageways used as hideouts by the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure in metropolitan Ho Chi Minh City before your dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 12: Ho Chi Minh City - Siem Reap, Cambodia

This afternoon, board your flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia's gateway to the wonders of Angkor. In this ancient city, you'll discover a world where colonial and Chinese architecture melds into a sophisticated urban and culinary scene. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant accompanied by a traditional Khmer dance performance. (B, D)

### Day 13: Siem Reap - Angkor Wat -Siem Reap

Depart for a sunrise at Angkor Wat, a perfect example of classic Khmer architecture. Enter its eastern gate and exit to the west, watching the sunlight dance along stones. Later, visit Ta Prohm, a sprawling monastic complex that is overgrown with jungle. At Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Khmers, visit the Terrace of the Leper King and the temples of Baphuon and Bayon, 11th- and 12th-century masterpieces at the center of the city. (B)

### Day 14: Siem Reap - Preah Dak -**Siem Reap**

Start your day with an **Impact Moment** experience at the Visitor Center of APOPO, where "hero rats" are trained to navigate minefields and save lives. Learn about the country's history with war and meet the professional rats at a demonstration. Then travel to the village of Preah Dak to learn about daily life and see how Nom Banh Jok (rice noodles) are created. Get a peek into the local culture at the palm sugar market, where tree sap is gathered and cooked for sugar. Make your way to Les Chantiers Ecoles, where local apprentices are trained in fine arts, and peruse the different workshops of sculpture, carving, and more. You may choose to end your day with a visit to Phare, the Cambodian Circus. (B, L)

### Day 15: Siem Reap - Luang Prabang, Laos 😯

Board a flight to Luang Prabang, the spiritual capital of Laos. Get acquainted with the city with your guide. Then, it's your choice! Venture into the lively outdoor markets at night -OR- return to the hotel for an evening at leisure. (B)

### **Day 16: Luang Prabang**

Hop into a tuk tuk with a guide and make your way to the city center, including a visit to the National Museum - the former Royal Palace. Continue to Wat Xieng Thong monastery, decorated in eye-catching gold. Meander along the Nam Khan River to Wat Khili, highlighting the local culture and history. After lunch, cruise to the Pak Ou Caves, shrouded in mystery and home to thousands of Buddha statues. End your day





#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR





with a home-hosted dinner and traditional Baci ceremony - celebrating a significant event in someone's life. (B, L, D)

### Day 17: Luang Prabang - Ban Long Lao - Luang **Prabang**

You may choose to rise early and begin your day with a traditional alms offering to local monks. After breakfast back at the hotel, journey to a traditional Hmong hill tribe village in Ban Long Lao and learn about this ethnic group and their way of life. Set out on an easy hike through lush jungle and panoramic mountain scenery to the incredible Kuang Si Waterfall. Return to Luang Prabang and lunch in a local restaurant. This afternoon you may choose to join an optional tour to visit with Laotian weavers. (B, L)

### Day 18: Luang Prabang - Bangkok, Thailand

Board your flight to Bangkok, the capital of Thailand. A feast for the senses, this bustling city on the banks of the Chao Phraya River blends cosmopolitan sophistication with a strong sense of history and tradition. Tonight, join your fellow travellers and toast to the end of your adventure on a Klong dinner cruise. (B, D)

### Day 19: Bangkok - Tour Ends

Return home with memories of your travels through the kingdoms of Southeast Asia. (B)

FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION ADD 3 NIGHTS IN BANGKOK



#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$910+ PP

Set out on a journey that introduces you to Bangkok, the capital of Thailand. Marvel at ancient monuments, explore local culinary treasures, shop for unique souvenirs or just soak in the energy of the city.

† Additional air segment purchase required. CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/425 **NEW TOUR** 

## **WONDERS OF THAILAND**

16 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$4449

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Bangkok - Reclining Buddha -Emerald Buddha - Bangkok Street Food - Sukhothai - Chiang Rai - The Golden Triangle • Chiang Mai • Elephant Experience in Chiang Mai - Lanna Home Visit . Home-Hosted Meal . Phuket • Tuk Tuk Rides



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Zip around the buzzing city streets of Bangkok on a tuk tuk.
- Trek by 4x4 vehicle to an elephant sanctuary where you will prepare tasty treats for the endangered residents.
- Explore the canals of Bangkok's old town on a boat trip.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- Day 5 Visit the Suan Pakkad Palace Museum in Bangkok, known for its Thai antiques -OR- visit the Marble temple where you will join Buddhist monks in their daily chanting.
- Day 10 Choose between a relaxing one-hour Thai massage experience in Chiang Mai -OR- get a taste of the local flavour during dinner at a local restaurant.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Savour the sweet, spicy, and salty flavours of Bangkok's famous street food.
- · Join a Lanna family, thought to be the first people of Thailand, for a homehosted meal.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 Amari Watergate, Bangkok Days 5, 6 Sriwilai Sukhothai Resort & Spa, Sukhothai

Days 7, 8 The Legend Chiang Rai **Boutique River Resort &** Spa, Chiang Rai

Kantary Hills Chiangmai, Days 9 - 11 Chiang Mai

Days 12 - 14 Cape Panwa Hotel, Phuket Day 15 Kantary House, Bangkok



# ancient temples, and stunning jungle beaches coexist.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

TRAVEL STYLE:

Embrace the diversity of Southeast Asia as you explore Thailand on this classic journey featuring lavish temples, cultural discoveries, and its stunning natural beauty. From tropical vistas to gilded palaces and ancient ruins, Thailand offers up a piece of its soul to travellers - and your story starts here.

Day 2: Bangkok, Thailand - Tour Begins Begin your discovery of Thailand in Bangkok, its capital city. Here, vibrant street life is contrasted by a backdrop of ornate shrines and rich history.

#### Day 3: Bangkok

Begin your journey exploring the canals in Bangkok's old town on a private boat trip. On Rattanakosin Island, visit Wat Po, the famous Buddhist temple complex in the Phra Nakhon District and see the world-renowned Reclining Buddha. Enjoy some free time before joining your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Bangkok

Today, experience more of Bangkok's highlights, including a visit to the Wat Phra Kaew; the Emerald Buddha is regarded as the most sacred Buddhist temple in Thailand. Visit the ornately decorated Grand Palace - the official residence of the Kings of Siam since 1782. Enjoy some free

time or choose to join an optional tour to the Jim Thompson house and museum, featuring lunch. This evening, a night tour of Bangkok will create memories for a lifetime as you experience the city from a completely fresh perspective. Climb aboard your tuk tuk - a motorized rickshaw - for a front row seat to the bustling Bangkok city streets lit up at night. The streets are alive with excitement and energy as your tuk tuk brings you for food tastings that capture the local flavour. End with a visit to the flower market - this normally busy, bustling landmark feels solitary and peaceful in the quiet of night. Enjoy more food tastings in a private setting before returning to the hotel. (B, D)

### Day 5: Bangkok - Sukhothai 😯

Today, it's your choice! Choose between a walk from the hotel to visit the Suan Pakkad Palace Museum, known for its Thai antiques -OR- take the coach to visit the Marble Temple where you will join Buddhist monks in their daily chanting. After, head to the airport for a short flight to Sukhothai. This evening, enjoy dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

### Day 6: Sukhothai

Dive into history today as you discover the archaeological sites in Sukhothai. Visit its Historical Park, spanning the ruins of Sukhothai

- which means "dawn of happiness" - as well as the famous site of Wat Si Chum. a landmark temple boasting a 49-foot Buddha and an open ceiling. (B, L)

Day 7: Sukhothai - Chiang Rai Set off today for Chiang Rai. During this longer ride, stop for lunch at a local restaurant and visit the White Temple, called Wat Rong Khun - an intricately designed Buddhist-styled temple. Arrive in Chiang Rai, once the capital of the Mengrai Dynasty. (B, L)

### Day 8: Chiang Rai

Explore the beauty of Chiang Rai today. This laid-back town offers up a cultural experience as an ethnic melting pot in Thailand. Enjoy a tour of the Golden Triangle, where Burma, Laos and Thailand meet, separated by the Mekong River. Visit the Opium Museum today. As you explore this museum, learn all about the opium trade and the impact to local communities. Then, it's all aboard for a short boat ride along the Mekong River, to float at the confluence of Laos, Thailand and Burma. Back on land, walk to a restaurant for lunch before driving to the hill tribe village to learn from locals about the long, rich traditions of this beautiful area. Most of the Thai ethnic groups are set off in remote locales, and the hill tribes relocated here to warmly welcome visitors and introduce them to each of the ethnic groups. Meet with Akha and Karen Long Neck people. As the women weave during the visit, you have the opportunity to support these local artisans by purchasing some of the products they make for tourists. This evening, enjoy a walk in a night bazaar, experiencing the culture of this region in a whole new way. (B, L)

### Day 9: Chiang Rai - Chiang Mai

Today, it's off to Chiang Mai - once a religious centre, where elaborate Buddhist temples create a beautiful backdrop reflecting its rich, cultural history. En route, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting Doi Suthep - one of the twin peaks of a beautiful granite mountain to the west of Chiang Mai. A cable car whisks you to its peak to visit Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, one of the most important Buddhist temples in Thailand. Marvel at the stunning views before taking the ornate steps back down. Flanked by jeweled naga - lavish serpents - these steps are the perfect spot for a photo! Enjoy dinner on your own this evening. (B, L)

### Day 10: Chiang Mai 😯

See elephants in their natural setting today during a visit to ChangChill, which literally means "relaxed elephants." This sanctuary prides itself on its ethical treatment of these endangered species. Climb aboard your 4x4 vehicles and meander through country roads to reach the camp. Then walk through rice paddy fields and meet the resident elephants. From a distance watch them graze, bathe in the river, roam the lush forest, socialize with one another - and embrace their freedom. Make herb balls and fruit snacks to place in feeding stations. Enjoy a simple vegetarian lunch served by the camp staff as the elephants arrive for their snacks. Participate in a discussion with a mahout on changes to the elephant trade practices and the impact to the mahout community. Travellers who wish to observe the elephants grazing can set off for a 20-minute hike to do so. Tonight, it's your choice! Choose between a relaxing one-hour Thai massage -OR- get a taste of the local flavour during dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L)

### Day 11: Chiang Mai

Enjoy a warm welcome today from an extended family belonging to the Lanna ethnic group. Visit their home where you can learn from one of the family members about their customs and religion, see their garden and hear all about the herbs grown here. Together with hosts you will learn how to prepare local dishes and then join them as you enjoy the fruits of your labour with a simple lunch. (B, L)

### Day 12: Chiang Mai - Phuket

Fly to Phuket this morning and head to your resort, set on a private tropical beach. Relax for the rest of the day as the salty sea breeze rolls in, rustling the palms and soothing the soul. Perhaps hit the waves, or unwind with a good book, reflecting on your cultural journey thus far. Stay as long as you'd like. (B)





### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



🖶 Pre-Night: Bangkok (1-2 міднтя)

### ALSO AVAILABLE

### **Essence of Thailand**

\* DATES AVAILABLE: OCTOBER 2023 - APRIL 2024

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/680

#### Day 13: Phuket

Travel to Phuket's Old Town, adorned with brightly painted, historic Sino-Portuguese townhouses, stores, cafes and ice cream shops. Explore this charming old town all morning and enjoy free time for lunch on your own. After lunch, return to your beach-front resort to soak up those salt water vibes and laid-back tropical lifestyle for the day. (B)

#### Day 14: Phuket

It's a completely free day today, so take advantage of your idyllic tropical resort or perhaps head back to the old town and dive into some of Phuket's most popular haunts. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner, toasting an experience full of history, beauty, culture and incredible discoveries in Thailand. (B, D)

### Day 15: Phuket - Bangkok

Fly to Bangkok this afternoon and head to an airport hotel, preparing to return home with a lifetime of memories - the best kind of souvenir. (B)

### Day 16: Bangkok - Tour Ends

Say farewell to Thailand and return home today. (B)



CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/711



#### PRE TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$2600† PP

Explore Singapore with a local guide. Visit the heritage neighbourhoods and learn about what makes this country so unique. Then visit the must-see Gardens by the Bay. End your time in Singapore with dinner.





## **AUSTRALIA'S OUTBACK TO NEW ZEALAND'S SOUTH ISLAND**

20 DAYS · 28 MEALS STARTING AT \$9569

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Sydney - Sydney Opera House - Cairns -Great Barrier Reef - Alice Springs - Uluru -Melbourne - Queenstown - Milford Sound Mt. Cook National Park - Christchurch



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Overnight in the majestic Mt. Cook National Park.
- Take a guided tour of the Sydney Opera House - an architectural wonder.
- Cruise Milford Sound, taking in the natural beauty that surrounds you.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 13 - Enjoy free time to explore on your own -OR- visit the Melbourne Botanical Gardens and Shrine of Remembrance.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 17 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 9 Dinners (D)

- · Witness Ayers Rock at sunset while you sip champagne.
- Take in the sights during a delightful dinner cruise of Sydney Harbour.
- Dine with a Kiwi family in their home.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Overnight Flight

Days 3 - 5 Sofitel Sydney Wentworth,

Svdnev

Bailey Crystalbrook Days 6 - 8 Collection Hotel, Cairns

Crowne Plaza Alice Days 9, 10 Springs Lasseters Hotel,

Alice Springs

Day 11 Desert Gardens, Uluru

Crown Promenade Days 12, 13

Melbourne, Melbourne Days 14 - 16 Novotel Queenstown

Lakeside, Queenstown

The Hermitage, Mount Day 17 Cook

Days 18, 19 Distinction Christchurch, Christchurch



## Venture through the natural splendour of New Zealand's Southern Alps and the stillness of Australia's rugged Outback.

#### Day 1 - Day 2: Depart from Home

Cross the International Dateline (skipping a day ahead) for an adventure discovering the treasures of Australia and New Zealand, including their unparalleled beauty and captivating culture.

### Day 3: Sydney, Australia - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Sydney, perhaps one of the friendliest metropolises in the world. Tonight, join your fellow travellers and toast to the start of your adventure down under during dinner in lively Darling Harbour. (D)

### Day 4: Sydney

See where English colonists first settled during a city tour of Sydney, featuring Kings Cross, the Harbour Bridge, Chinatown, the Rocks, Circular Quay, the Botanic Gardens, and the fashionable suburb of Darlinghurst. Take an expert-led tour of the Sydney Opera House, poised majestically on Sydney Harbour. Then, have the chance to join a special presentation at the National Opal Collection. In the evening, consider an optional dinner and engaging performance at the famous Opera House. (B)

#### Day 5: Sydney

Deepen your exploration of Sydney's many

wonders with a day at leisure. Tonight, enjoy scenic vistas of Sydney during a delightful dinner cruise of Sydney Harbour. Marvel at the magnificent skyline and iconic attractions: the Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Bridge.

#### Day 6: Sydney - Cairns

Fly to Cairns, the tropical gateway to one of the world's most spectacular natural attractions the Great Barrier Reef (UNESCO), Established as a marine park in 1975, the reef is a haven for thousands of species of sea life, as well as turtles and birds. (B)

#### Day 7: Cairns

Soak up the tropical atmosphere - the morning is yours. Perhaps you will take an optional tour on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, taking you above the rainforest canopy for a bird's-eye view of unspoiled nature. This afternoon, visit Hartley's Crocodile Adventures to see crocodiles on a nature cruise. Head through rainforests on boardwalks to see animals such as wild birds. reptiles, and wallabies. Visit with a koala and chat with a wildlife naturalist to learn more about these furry creatures. (B, D)

### **Day 8: Cairns - Great Barrier Reef** - Cairns

Board a glass-bottom catamaran and sail to the Low Isles to discover the aquatic realm of the Great Barrier Reef. Spend the day however you please, perhaps choosing from a selection of included activities. Maybe you'll soak up the sun on a tiny remote island, located along the outer reef. Or, consider snorkeling in the rolling waves, uncovering a pod of vibrant sea life. You can also meet with a marine biologist or join an expert on a heritage trail walk along the island. (B, L)

### **Day 9: Cairns - Alice Springs**

Experience the vast landscapes and tranquility of the Outback, Your flight takes you to Alice Springs, the perfect place to begin exploring this unique land. Tonight, continue your cultural immersion with a memorable bush dinner set against the backdrop of this unique desert environment. (B, D)

### **Day 10: Alice Springs**

Access the history and culture of the Arrernte Aboriginal people by enjoying a guided walk on their sacred land, followed by a talk with an Aboriginal guide. Gain insight into their cultural history and discover what makes this place so special. This afternoon, discover a more modern side to Outback living when you visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service, a lifeline to thousands across the vast terrain of Central Australia, Later, tour the Old Telegraph Station and Anzac Hill with its excellent views of Alice Springs and the surrounding area. (B)

### Day 11: Alice Springs - Uluru

Traverse the "Red Centre" and head to Uluru (the Aboriginal name for Ayers Rock) in the heart of the Australian Outback. This huge monolith and the sandstone domes known as Kata Tjuta were created through upheaval and erosion. Tour the base of "the Rock," learning about its geology and significance to Aboriginal culture. Witness the changing colours of Uluru at sunset accompanied by a champagne toast. (B)

### Day 12: Uluru - Melbourne

Fly to the beautiful Victorian city of Melbourne. Set upon the shores of Port Phillip Bay and the Yarra River, the city exudes a lively and cosmopolitan atmosphere. (B, D)

### Day 13: Melbourne 😯

Set out on a city tour and see Fitzroy Gardens and Melbourne's bustling "laneways." Then, it's your choice! Enjoy free time to explore on your own -ORvisit the Melbourne Botanical Gardens and Shrine of Remembrance, With an afternoon to yourself, perhaps you will join an optional excursion to Phillip Island, home to the world's largest colony of Little Penguins, where you'll see hundreds of these birds waddle out of the sea and cross the beach to their dune burrows. (B)

#### Day 14: Melbourne - Queenstown, **New Zealand**

Leave Australia behind and fly to Queenstown, New Zealand, One of New Zealand's most popular towns, Queenstown is nestled against a picturesque bay and snowcapped mountains. Home to ski resorts, hiking trails and an abundance of natural beauty, the city is known as the "Adventure Capital of the World." Settle into your new home for the next 3 nights. (B, D)

### Day 15: Queenstown - Milford Sound - Queenstown

Soak in the rugged grandeur of Hollyford Valley as you travel through an ancient beech forest via the Homer Tunnel. Cruise the Milford Sound and see why this fjord is one of the most visited sights on the South Island. Following the cruise, consider returning to Queenstown via a short optional flight (weather permitting) for spectacular views of New Zealand's Southern Alps. (B, L)

### Day 16: Queenstown

Your day is free to experience Queenstown your way. Shop or people-watch in the village, find a unique eatery for lunch, sample some New Zealand wine - the day is yours to enjoy this stunning city. (B)

### Day 17: Queenstown - Mt. Cook **National Park**

Set off for the 19th-century settlement of Arrowtown, founded in the gold fever. Follow the Kawarau River and cross Lindis

## Australia New Zealand Christchurch Mt. Coo ARRIVAL **DEPARTURE** SYDNEY (SYD) CHRISTCHURCH (CHC)



#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



### **Pre-Night:**

Sydney (1-2 Nights)





Christchurch (1-2 Nights)



Pass before arriving in New Zealand's most famous national park - Mt. Cook. Savour some free time in this Alpine paradise. You may choose to take a nature walk or simply meditate on the beauty of the Southern Alps. (B. D)

#### Day 18: Mt. Cook National Park - Christchurch

Depart for Christchurch this morning and pay a visit to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve. A leader in the conservation of New Zealand species, Willowbank offers the chance to view New Zealand's "Big 5" up close and personal. Later, join a local Kiwi family for a home hosted dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 19: Christchurch

Devastated by an earthquake in early 2011, see firsthand how the "Garden City" is recreating itself during a sightseeing tour that highlights the city's magnificent gardens and elegant park district. As the day draws to a close, toast to your adventure down under at a farewell dinner with your fellow travellers. (B, D)

#### Day 20: Christchurch - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close, leaving you with unforgettable memories of the South Pacific. (B)





### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$910+ PP

Welcome to Fiji! Famous for its palm lined beaches, azure lagoons, lush landscapes, and welcoming locals, it is the perfect place to unwind after a tour.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/97

## **AUSTRALIA AND NEW** ZEALAND **UNCOVERED**

22 DAYS · 32 MEALS STARTING AT \$10679

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Maori Culture in Wellington - Cook Strait • Nelson • Abel Tasman National Park Punakaiki's Pancake Rock Franz Josef • New Zealand's Wild West Coast • Queenstown • Milford Sound • Sydney Opera House • Adelaide • Barossa Valley • Sounds of Silence Dinner at Uluru - Great Barrier Reef



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore New Zealand's pristine wilderness and coastlines on several easy walks.
- Walk amongst the history and heritage of Maori culture.
- Spend the day at the Great Barrier Reef at leisure - with included options to snorkel, hike, or chat with a marine biologist.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 9 - View the Franz Josef Glacier with a local guide, traversing an exclusive trail -OR- learn more about Kiwi conservation at the West Coast Wildlife Centre.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 19 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Lunches (L) - 8 Dinners (D)

- Taste Maori culture at a Hangi lunch.
- At a memorable Sounds of Silence dinner, dine under the stars overlooking Uluru (Ayers Rock).



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Overnight Flight Rydges Wellington, Days 3, 4 Wellington

Days 5, 6 The Nelson Hotel, Nelson Day 7 Beachfront Hotel, Hokitika

Scenic Franz Josef Glacier Days 8, 9 Hotel, Franz Josef

Days 10 - 12 Heritage or Novotel Queenstown Lakeside, Queenstown

Days 13 - 15 Park Royal Darling Harbour, Sydney

Peppers Waymouth, Adelaide Days 16, 17 Day 18 Desert Gardens Hotel, Ayers Rock

Days 19 - 21 Flynn Crystalbrook Collection Hotel, Cairns

Explore the open-air Nelson Market, featuring delicious foods and goods. Chat with artisans



Uncover the core of Maori culture in New Zealand. Dive into the Outback of Australia. This is Oceania. a paradise in the South Pacific.

### Day 1 - Day 2: Overnight Flight

Encounter the untamed vitality and the captivating culture of New Zealand and Australia.

### Day 3: Wellington, New Zealand - Tour **Begins**

Your journey starts in New Zealand. Feel the ever-present heartbeat of Maori culture on this set of islands. Say hello to Wellington, the colourful capital city of New Zealand.

### Day 4: Wellington

Enjoy a traditional powhiri, an elaborate ceremony for welcoming guests. Marvel at the carved wakas, sleek canoes of intricate design, at a Maori culture centre. Get exclusive access to an archaeological site not open to the public during a guided exploration of a waterfront pa (Maori for village). Taste Maori heritage in a Hangi dish and discover the roots of the culture at the Te Papa Museum. Admire the rolling waves as you share conversation, connecting over dinner. (B, L, D)

### Day 5: Wellington - Picton - Nelson

The Cook Strait offers a picturesque landscape as you cruise over the stunning waters on your way to the South Island. Visit Nelson and enjoy an evening at leisure to experience this coastal hub. (B)

### Day 6: Nelson - Abel Tasman National Park - Nelson

as you peruse an ever-evolving library of Kiwi crafts. Venture on to Kaiteriteri, a coastal paradise where you'll set sail through the graceful natural beauty of Abel Tasman National Park. A picnic lunch awaits at the Anchorage, a scenic bay set amongst gentle waves and sandy coasts. (B, L)

### Day 7: Nelson - Hokitika

Today venture to the natural phenomenon of Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks, Feel the spray of the ocean crashing against these unique limestone formations with a flapjack façade. Tonight, dine at your beachfront hotel. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Hokitika - Franz Josef

Wake up in Hokitika, better known as a "cool little town." Head to Hokitika Gorge and then return to town for a tour, ending with a walk along the beach and some free time. Make your way to Franz Josef, New Zealand's glacier country. Discover the area's seaside allure by combing the beach in search of New Zealand jade. (B)

### Day 9: Franz Josef 😯

Today, it's your choice! View the Franz Josef Glacier with a local guide, traversing an exclusive trail not open to the public -OR- get a glimpse of kiwis at the West Coast Wildlife Centre, where you'll learn more about conservation and rehabilitation of this national icon. Enjoy free time to relax. (B, D)

### Day 10: Franz Josef - Queenstown

Journey through the thick rainforest and emerge

on the "wild" west coast. Flanked by beaches and snowcapped Alps, there is no shortage of riveting landscapes to capture your eye. Pause in Wanaka, and then continue to Queenstown, the adventure capital of the world, and settle into your home for the next 3 nights. (B)

### Day 11: Queenstown - Milford **Sound - Queenstown**

Enjoy the rugged grandeur of the Hollyford Valley and cross through an ancient red beech forest. Cruise along the waters of the dramatic Milford Sound, taking in the natural splendour around you. With cliffs rising up to nearly 4,000 feet, you'll see why this is one of the most visited sights on the South Island, Following your cruise, you may choose to return to Queenstown via a short optional flight (weather permitting). (B, L)

### Day 12: Queenstown

Today is yours! Explore the adventure capital whichever way your heart desires. Perhaps you'll choose an optional tour to cruise Lake Wakatipu surrounded by Queenstown's stunning landscape aboard an iconic coal-fired steamship. Once on land, enjoy a BBQ lunch lakeside followed by a sheepdog demonstration. (B, D)

### Day 13: Queenstown - Sydney, **Australia**

Wish New Zealand goodbye and arrive in Australia, home to the expansive Outback and lively waterfront cities. Start your Aussie adventure in Sydney, the country's largest city. (B)

### Day 14: Sydney

During a city tour get a glimpse at all the main highlights Sydney has to offer. Then, explore the historic Rocks neighbourhood, situated along the edge of Sydney Harbour. Continue along to the port Circular Quay before strolling the Royal Botanical Gardens. Here, you'll delve into Aboriginal culture by learning about native plants and foraging for traditional foods. Go behind the scenes of the Sydney Opera House on an expert-led guided tour of this legendary venue. As the sun sets, admire the city skyline on a dinner cruise through Sydney Harbour and watch the sky transform into a myriad of pinks and oranges over the

iconic Sydney Opera House. (B, D)

#### Day 15: Sydney

Make the most of your final day in Sydney with a full day at leisure where you can take advantage of your included hop-on, hop-off bus passes! (B)

### Day 16: Sydney - Adelaide

Set off on a short flight to Adelaide and indulge in a wine tasting at d'Arenberg Cube, home to eccentric architecture and vibrant surroundings, and discover why the wine maker is referred to as the "Willy Wonka of Wines." Dinner tonight will be in the home of a local family. (B, D)

### Day 17: Adelaide - Barossa Valley -**Adelaide**

Enjoy a full-day exploration of the Barossa Valley's fine food and wine. Your day starts with an interactive cooking demonstration in the Barossa Valley, after which your vintner voyage continues with a tour and tasting at the famous Seppeltsfield Winery, one of the oldest in the Barossa Valley. Following the tour enjoy a delicious Barossa-style lunch. (B, L)

### Day 18: Adelaide - Uluru (Ayers Rock)

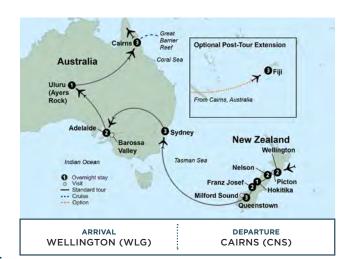
Your adventure continues to Uluru (Ayers Rock). After your flight from Adelaide, relish in free time this afternoon before gathering for an unforgettable evening set in the backdrop of this Aboriginal destination. Experience the Sounds of Silence dinner, a gourmet meal overlooking the glowing Uluru. Savour dinner under a bed of stars, overlooking Australia's greatest natural wonder. (B, D)

#### Day 19: Uluru (Ayers Rock) - Cairns

Get a close look at the iconic, massive red rocks emerging from the earth, sprung up as if beckoned toward the clouds. On a guided tour of Uluru's base and the neighbouring Kata Tjuta rock formations, discover the heritage of Australia's Aboriginal people. Fly to Cairns and enjoy an evening at leisure, getting to know this gateway to an underwater paradise. (B)

### **Day 20: Cairns - Great Barrier Reef** - Cairns

Board a glass-bottom catamaran and sail to the Low Isles to discover the aquatic





### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** Wellington (1-2 Nights)



**Post-Night:** Cairns (1-2 Nights)



realm of the Great Barrier Reef. Spend the day however you please, perhaps choosing from a selection of included activities. Maybe you'll soak up the sun on a tiny remote island, located along the outer reef. Or consider snorkeling in the rolling waves, uncovering a pod of vibrant sea life. You can also meet with a marine biologist, or join an expert on a heritage trail walk along the island. (B, L)

#### Day 21: Cairns

This morning, a short cruise takes you to a stunning wetland environment where Traditional Aboriginal Owners greet you with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony. Afterwards your indigenous guides will introduce you to native foods and bush medicines, as well as ancient Aboriginal traditions, customs, and artefacts. This afternoon is at your leisure to relax or explore the tropical city of Cairns. Toast to the end of your journey at a farewell dinner, reflecting on your Outback escapade. (B, D)

### Day 22: Cairns - Tour Ends

Your tour of New Zealand and Australia comes to a close today. (B)

### **FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION** ADD 3 NIGHTS IN FIJI



#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$910+ PP

Welcome to Fiji! Famous for its palm lined beaches, azure lagoons, lush landscapes, and welcoming locals, it is the perfect place to unwind after a tour.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/644

## SOUTH PACIFIC **WONDERS**

15 DAYS · 22 MEALS STARTING AT \$6459

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Christchurch • Queenstown • Milford Sound • Lake Wakatipu Cruise & Sheepdog Demonstration - Cairns -Great Barrier - Sydney Opera House



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Come to know Australia's ancient traditions at the Rainforestation Nature Park.
- · Take a guided tour of the fascinating Sydney Opera House.
- Paddle the Avon River in a traditional Maori waka (canoe).



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 8 - Go bird watching at the Kiwi Birdlife Park -OR- take a gondola to the top of Bob's Peak.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- · Enjoy a BBQ on the western shore of Lake Wakatipu.
- Take in the sights during a dinner cruise of Sydney Harbour.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1, 2 Overnight Flight

Distinction Christchurch Days 3, 4 Hotel, Christchurch

Days 5 - 8 Millennium Hotel,

Queenstown

Bailey Crystalbrook Days 9 - 11

Collection Hotel, Cairns Days 12 - 14 Novotel Sydney Darling

Square or Holiday Inn Darling Harbour, Sydney

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



See what life is like "Down Under" on this incredible journey along the coast of Australia and through New Zealand's South Island.

### Day 1 - Day 2: Depart from Home

Cross the International Dateline, skipping a day ahead, and begin your adventure of a lifetime.

### Day 3: Christchurch, New Zealand -**Tour Begins**

Arrive in the historic city of Christchurch. Devastated by an earthquake in early 2011, see firsthand how the city known as "the Garden City" is recreating itself. Meet your fellow travellers during a welcome dinner and start your South Pacific journey off on the right foot. (D)

### **Day 4: Christchurch**

Start your morning with a city tour of Christchurch. Then, pay a visit to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve. A leader in the conservation of New Zealand species, Willowbank offers the chance to view New Zealand's "Big 5" - the Kiwi, the Kea, the Tuatara, the Kaka, and the Takahe up close and personal. Then, learn about the local Indigenous culture of the Maori with a paddle on the Avon River in a traditional waka (canoe). (B)

### Day 5: Christchurch - Queenstown

Depart Christchurch and make your way south to Queenstown. Known as the "Adventure Capital of the World," Queenstown is nestled against a

picturesque bay and snowcapped mountains. Arrive in Queenstown in the afternoon and have time to explore independently before dinner.

### Day 6: Queenstown

Cruise Lake Wakatipu surrounded by Queenstown's stunning landscape aboard an iconic coal-fired steamship. Then, enjoy a BBQ lunch lakeside followed by a sheepdog demonstration before sailing back. This evening is yours to enjoy charming Queenstown. (B, L)

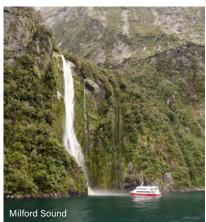
### Day 7: Queenstown - Milford Sound -Queenstown

Enjoy the rugged grandeur of the Hollyford Valley as you travel through an ancient beech forest via the Homer Tunnel. Cruise the Milford Sound and see why this fjord is one of the most visited sights on the South Island. Following your cruise, you may choose to return to Queenstown via a short optional flight (weather permitting) for spectacular views of New Zealand's Southern Alps. (B, L)

#### Day 8: Queenstown 😯

A free morning offers an optional tour taking you through the majestic Queenstown countryside





showcasing many of the locations where blockbuster movies have been filmed, or perhaps you'll want to shop and peoplewatch in the village. Later, it's your choice! Go bird watching at the Kiwi Birdlife Park -OR- take a gondola to the top of Bob's Peak for stunning panoramic views of the area. Gather for a "farewell to New Zealand" dinner. (B, D)

### Day 9: Queenstown - Cairns, Australia

Fly to Cairns, the tropical gateway to one of the world's most spectacular natural attractions and a World Heritage site the Great Barrier Reef, Established as a marine park in 1975, the reef is a haven for thousands of species of sea life, as well as turtles and birds. (B)

#### Day 10: Cairns

Come to know the history of Australia's

original inhabitants at the Rainforestation Nature Park where an Indigenous Pamagirri guide will show you through some of their oldest customs and traditions. Then, visit Hartley's Crocodile Adventures to see crocodiles on a nature cruise. Head through rainforests on boardwalks to see animals such as birds, reptiles, and wallabies. Visit with a koala and chat with a wildlife naturalist to learn more about these furry creatures. End your visit at Hartley's with a dinner of local favourites. (B, D)

### **Day 11: Cairns - Great Barrier Reef - Cairns**

Board a high-speed catamaran for an exciting excursion to the Great Barrier Reef. Explore the reef from your base on Green Island. Enjoy a glass-bottom boat ride, stroll the island's walking trails, relax on the beach, snorkel or just watch the fish and sea turtles swim past from the pier. For a more adventurous encounter with the reef, an optional outer reef tour is also available. (B, L, D)

### Day 12: Cairns - Sydney

The morning is yours. Enjoy your last few hours in Cairns by relaxing and taking in the tropical atmosphere and surrounding neighbourhood. Then, fly to the bustling city of Sydney. (B, D)

#### Day 13: Sydney

See where English colonists first settled during a city tour of Sydney, featuring Kings Cross, the Harbour Bridge, Chinatown, the Rocks, Circular Quay, the Botanic Gardens, and the fashionable suburb of Darlinghurst. Take an expert-led tour of the Sydney Opera House, poised majestically on Sydney Harbour. Then, have the chance to join a special presentation at the National Opal Collection. (B)

### Day 14: Sydney

Embrace the exciting city of Sydney during a day of independent exploration. Tonight, say farewell to Australia while on a delightful dinner cruise of Sydney Harbour. Marvel at the scenic vistas of the harbour, showcasing Sydney's



ARRIVAL CHRISTCHURCH (CHC)

**DEPARTURE** SYDNEY (SYD)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6459 SOLO Starting at \$8409

Prices based on September 18, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024-April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



### **Pre-Night:**

Christchurch (1-2 Nights)



### **Post-Night:**

Sydney (1-2 Nights)





magnificent skyline, the iconic Sydney Opera House, and the Harbour Bridge. (B, D)

### Day 15: Sydney - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many pleasant memories of a wonderful adventure. (B)

> 66 I enjoyed the beautiful scenery and locations and the camaraderie that developed within our group. And our AWESOME Tour Director! 99

> > - Claudia S.

### **FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION 3 NIGHTS IN FIJI**



#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$910+ PP

Welcome to Fiji! Famous for its palm lined beaches, azure lagoons, lush landscapes, and welcoming locals, it is the perfect place to unwind after a tour.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/95

## **SOUTH PACIFIC WONDERS**

**INCLUDING** 

## **NEW ZEALAND'S** NORTH ISLAND

18 DAYS · 28 MEALS STARTING AT \$8299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









Auckland • Rotorua • Christchurch • Queenstown • Milford Sound • Lake Wakatipu Cruise & Sheepdog Demonstration • Cairns • Great Barrier Reef • Sydney Opera House



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Come to know Australia's ancient traditions at the Rainforestation Nature Park.
- Take a guided tour of the fascinating Sydney Opera House.
- Paddle the Avon River in a traditional Maori waka (canoe).



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 11 — Go bird watching at the Kiwi Birdlife Park -OR- take a gondola to the top of Bob's Peak.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 15 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 10 Dinners (D)

- · Enjoy a BBQ on the western shore of Lake Wakatipu.
- Take in the sights during a dinner cruise of Sydney Harbour.
- Experience a memorable authentic Hangi dinner celebration.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1, 2 Overnight Flight Rydges Auckland, Day 3 Auckland

Days 4, 5 Millennium Hotel, Rotorua Distinction Christchurch Days 6, 7 Hotel, Christchurch

Millennium Hotel, Days 8 - 11 Queenstown

Days 12 - 14 Bailey Crystalbrook Collection Hotel, Cairns

Days 15 - 17 Novotel Sydney Darling Square, Sydney

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



See what life is like "Down Under" on this incredible journey along the coast of Australia and through New Zealand's North and South Islands.

#### Day 1 - Day 2: Depart from Home

Cross the International Dateline, skipping a day ahead, and begin your adventure of a lifetime.

### Day 3: Auckland, New Zealand - Tour **Beains**

Arrive in one of the world's most inspiring and sought-after destinations due to its clean air, stunning scenery, and friendly culture -New Zealand. Arrive in Auckland, the "City of Sails." Auckland has the highest Polynesian population in the world, imbuing its chic atmosphere with the vibrant feel of the Pacific Islands. Meet your travel companions at this evening's welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 4: Auckland - Rotorua

Get to know the best of Auckland during a panoramic city tour featuring the America's Cup Village, the War Memorial, vibrant Queen Street and the Auckland Harbour Bridge. Next, travel to the dramatic geothermal landscape of Rotorua. Known as the Maori capital of New Zealand, over one-third of Rotorua's population has Maori roots dating back over 1,000 years. Tonight, experience an authentic Hangi dinner celebration and learn about the warm-hearted Maoris as well as their lives before European

colonists arrived in Aotearoa (New Zealand) and since. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Rotorua

This morning you visit Te Puia, New Zealand's premier Maori cultural and geothermal experience. Witness a landscape of erupting geysers, bubbling mud pools and other geothermal wonders. The National Carving School and National Weaving School are located here, passing on age-old customs by teaching the tribal youth these traditional skills. Take part in an interactive demonstration on the art of weaving. You will also view the Kiwi bird and learn what is being done in an effort to remove the Kiwi from the endangered species list. Then, visit the Agrodome for a fun sheep shearing demonstration and learn about the importance of agriculture to the nation. After dinner, relax or explore this lovely city on your own. (B, D)

### Day 6: Rotorua - Christchurch

A short flight brings you to the historic city of Christchurch. Devastated by an earthquake in early 2011, see firsthand how the city known as "the Garden City" is recreating itself. (B, D)

### **Day 7: Christchurch**

Start your morning with a city tour of Christchurch. Pay a visit to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve. A leader in the conservation of New Zealand species. Willowbank offers the chance to view New Zealand's "Big 5" - the Kiwi, the Kea, the Tuatara, the Kaka, and the Takahe - up close and personal. Then, learn about the local Indigenous culture of the Maori with a paddle on the Avon River in a traditional waka (canoe). (B)

### Day 8: Christchurch - Queenstown

Depart Christchurch and make your way south to Queenstown. Known as the "Adventure Capital of the World," Queenstown is nestled against a picturesque bay and snowcapped mountains. Arrive in Queenstown in the afternoon and have time to explore independently before dinner. (B, D)

### Day 9: Queenstown

Cruise Lake Wakatipu surrounded by Queenstown's stunning landscape aboard an iconic coal-fired steamship. Then, enjoy a BBQ lunch lakeside followed by a sheepdog demonstration before sailing back. This evening is yours to enjoy charming Queenstown. (B, L)

### Day 10: Queenstown - Milford Sound - Queenstown

Enjoy the rugged grandeur of the Hollyford Valley as you travel through an ancient beech forest via the Homer Tunnel, Cruise the Milford Sound and see why this fjord is one of the most visited sights on the South Island. Following your cruise, you may choose to return to Queenstown via a short optional flight (weather permitting) for spectacular views of New Zealand's Southern Alps. (B, L)

### Day 11: Queenstown 😯

A free morning offers an optional tour taking you through the majestic Queenstown countryside showcasing many of the locations where blockbuster movies have been filmed, or perhaps you'll want to shop or people-watch in the village. Later, it's your choice! Go bird watching at the Kiwi Birdlife Park -OR- take a gondola to the top of Bob's Peak for stunning

panoramic views of the area. Gather for a "farewell to New Zealand" dinner. (B, D)

### Day 12: Queenstown - Cairns, Australia

Fly to Cairns, the tropical gateway to one of the world's most spectacular natural attractions and a World Heritage site the Great Barrier Reef. Established as a marine park in 1975, the reef is a haven for thousands of species of sea life, as well as turtles and birds. (B)

### Day 13: Cairns

Come to know the history of Australia's original inhabitants at the Rainforestation Nature Park where an Indigenous Pamagirri guide will show you through some of their oldest customs and traditions. Then, visit Hartley's Crocodile Adventures to see crocodiles on a nature cruise. Head through rainforests on boardwalks to see animals such as birds, reptiles, and wallabies. Visit with a koala and chat with a wildlife naturalist to learn more about these furry creatures. End your visit at Hartley's with a dinner of local favourites. (B, D)

### Day 14: Cairns - Great Barrier **Reef - Cairns**

Board a high-speed catamaran for an exciting excursion to the Great Barrier Reef. Explore the reef from your base on Green Island. Enjoy a glass-bottom boat ride, stroll the island's walking trails, relax on the beach, snorkel or just watch the fish and sea turtles swim past from the pier. For a more adventurous encounter with the reef, an optional outer reef tour is also available. (B, L, D)

### Day 15: Cairns - Sydney

The morning is yours. Enjoy your last few hours in Cairns by relaxing and taking in the tropical atmosphere and surrounding neighbourhood. Then, this afternoon, fly to the bustling city of Sydney. (B, D)

### Day 16: Sydney

See where English colonists first settled during a city tour of Sydney, featuring Kings Cross, the Harbour Bridge, Chinatown, the Rocks, Circular Quay, the Botanic Gardens, and the fashionable suburb of Darlinghurst. Take an expert-





### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** Auckland (1-2 Nights)



**Post-Night:** Sydney (1-2 Nights)



led tour of the Sydney Opera House, poised majestically on Sydney Harbour. Then, have the chance to join a special presentation at the National Opal Collection.(B)

### Day 17: Sydney

Embrace the exciting city of Sydney during a day of independent exploration. Tonight, say farewell to Australia while on a delightful dinner cruise of Sydney Harbour. Marvel at the scenic vistas of the harbour, showcasing Sydney's magnificent skyline, the iconic Sydney Opera House, and the Harbour Bridge. (B, D)

### Day 18: Sydney - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many pleasant memories of a wonderful adventure. (B)



### **FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION**

ADD 3 NIGHTS IN FIJI



### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$910+ PP

Welcome to Fiji! Famous for its palm lined beaches, azure lagoons, lush landscapes, and welcoming locals, it is the perfect place to unwind after a tour.

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## THE COMPLETE **SOUTH PACIFIC**

27 DAYS · 38 MEALS **STARTING AT \$12119** 

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Melbourne • Little Penguins • Tasmania Barossa Valley Wine Tasting • Uluru • Cairns • Great Barrier Reef • Sydney Opera House - Auckland - Rotorua -

Wellington • Christchurch • Queenstown • Milford Sound



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Learn about the endangered Tasmanian Devil and the conservation efforts aimed at its survival.
- · See koalas in their natural setting during a stop at a conservation centre.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

• Day 6 - Embark on an early morning walking tour of Hobart -OR- take the morning to relax and enjoy a walking tour in the afternoon.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 24 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 11 Dinners (D)

- · At sunset, enjoy a champagne toast while gazing at Uluru.
- Taste world-class wines during a private tour of Chateau Tanunda in the Barossa Valley.
- · Join a local Kiwi family for a homehosted dinner.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Davs 1, 2 Overnight Flight Rendezvous Hotel Days 3, 4 Melbourne, Melbourne Hadley's Orient Hotel, Days 5 - 7 Hobart Days 8, 9 Pullman Adelaide, Adelaide Desert Gardens Hotel, Day 10 Ayers Rock Days 11 - 13 Flynn Crystalbrook Collection Hotel, Cairns

Days 14 - 16 Sofitel Sydney Wentworth,

Sydney

Day 17 Rydges Auckland, Auckland

Days 18, 19 Millennium Hotel, Rotorua Novotel Wellington, Days 20, 21

Wellington Distinction Christchurch, Days 22, 23

Christchurch

Days 24 - 26 Heritage Hotel, Queenstown



## From the underwater splendour of the Great Barrier Reef to the towering Southern Alps of New Zealand - this is the South Pacific.

### Day 1 - Day 2: Overnight Flight

Cross the International Dateline as you begin a comprehensive adventure through Australia and New Zealand.

### Day 3: Melbourne, Australia - Tour **Begins**

Your tour opens in Melbourne. Set upon the shores of Port Phillip Bay and the Yarra River, the city exudes a lively and cosmopolitan atmosphere. (D)

### Day 4: Melbourne

Set out on a panoramic city tour and see Fitzroy Gardens and Melbourne's bustling "laneways." After, enjoy time to explore on your own before heading to Phillip Island, where you'll visit koalas in their natural setting at a conservation centre. Continue to the nature reserve that houses the world's largest colony of Little Penguins. Hundreds of them waddle out of the sea and cross the beach to their burrows. (B)

#### Day 5: Melbourne - Hobart

A flight to Hobart, Tasmania brings you to Australia's second oldest city. An island state of Australia, Tasmania is surrounded by more than 300 scattered isles. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Hobart 😯

Today, it's your choice! Embark on an early morning walking tour of the city -OR- take the morning to relax and enjoy a walking tour in the afternoon. No matter how you start your day, visit the Tasmanian Devil Conservation Center and learn about this unique marsupial. Tour the Port Arthur Historic Site, the best-preserved example of Australia's original penal colonies. En route, witness the coastal rock formations of Tasman Arch, Devil's Kitchen, and the Blow Hole. (B)

#### Day 7: Hobart

Enjoy a free day to explore Tasmania's capital city on your own. (B)

### Day 8: Hobart - Adelaide

Fly to Adelaide, South Australia's bustling cosmopolitan capital. (B, D)

### Day 9: Adelaide - Barossa Valley -**Adelaide**

Today, explore Barossa Valley. Breathe in the calming essence of lavender at Lyndoch Lavender Farm, joining an expert on a guided tour of the estate. Savor a light lunch during a lavender tea party. Continue to Chateau Tanunda for a private tour and tasting of their world-class wines. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Adelaide - Uluru (Ayers Rock)

This morning, make your way to Uluru (the Aboriginal name for Ayers Rock) in the Australian Outback. Tour the sandstone domes known as Kata Tjuta and the beautiful area surrounding the base of "The Rock." As the day draws to a close, sip a glass of champagne as Uluru's hues change dramatically with the setting sun. (B)

### Day 11: Uluru - Cairns

Fly to Cairns. Before your departure, perhaps you will choose to partake in an optional camel ride, taking in the magnificent Uluru at sunrise. (B)

#### Day 12: Cairns

Rise high on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway for an unforgettable ride over the rainforest canopy. Explore the forest floor up close with access to specially designed boardwalks. Your evening is at leisure to enjoy your tropical surroundings. (B, D)

### **Day 13: Cairns - Great Barrier Reef** - Cairns

Board a glass-bottom catamaran and sail to the Low Isles to discover the Great Barrier Reef. Spend the day however you please, perhaps choosing from a selection of included activities like snorkeling in the rolling waves. You can also meet with a marine biologist, or join an expert on a heritage trail walk along the island. (B, L)

### Day 14: Cairns - Sydney

Fly to the dynamic city of Sydney. This evening, it's Diner's Choice - choose from a variety of local restaurants for an included dinner along bustling Darling Harbour. (B, D)

### Day 15: Sydney

See where English colonists first settled during a city tour of Sydney, featuring Kings Cross, the Harbour Bridge, Chinatown, the Rocks, Circular Quay, the Botanic Gardens, and the fashionable suburb of Darlinghurst. Take an expert-led tour of the Sydney Opera House, poised majestically on Sydney Harbour. You'll have the chance to join a special presentation at the National Opal Collection. In the evening, consider an optional dinner and engaging performance at the famous Sydney Opera House. (B)

### Day 16: Sydney

Enjoy a day at leisure in beautiful Sydney. (B)

### Day 17: Sydney - Auckland, New Zealand

Fly to New Zealand and arrive in Auckland, the "City of Sails". A city tour features the America's Cup Village, the War Memorial, vibrant Queen Street and the Auckland Harbour Bridge. (B, D)

#### Day 18: Auckland - Rotorua

Head to Rotorua's dramatic geothermal

landscape. Find culture behind every corner - over one-third of Rotura's population boasts Maori roots, making it known as the Maori capital of New Zealand. (B, D)

#### Day 19: Rotorua

Discover Whakarewarewa - a Maori cultural and geothermal experience. Explore an authentic Maori village where people live using natural geothermal resources to cook, bathe and heat their homes as they have done for centuries. At the Agrodome, see a sheep-shearing demonstration and learn about the importance of agriculture to the nation. (B)

### Day 20: Rotorua - Wellington

Make your way to Wellington, New Zealand's capital city and the world's southernmost capital city. Built on the foreshore of a harbor and ringed by mountains, this gives the city the nickname "Windy Wellington." (B, D)

### **Day 21: Wellington**

Come to know Wellington on a tour including the Beehive, New Zealand's Parliament, historic St. Paul's Church, and the Old Government Building - the largest wooden building in the Southern Hemisphere. Explore the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongawera, a fascinating center dedicated to art, history and the Maori culture. (B)

### Day 22: Wellington - Picton -Christchurch

Today, experience what has been called "the most beautiful ferry ride in the world" as you sail across the Cook Strait on your way to the historic city of Christchurch, the "Garden City." Enjoy some free time to explore. Perhaps you'll stroll through the city's gardens or learn about its more recent history at the Quake City exhibition. This evening, join a local Kiwi family for a home-hosted dinner. (B, D)

### Day 23: Christchurch

This morning, enjoy a city tour that highlights the city's magnificent gardens and elegant park district. Then, visit Willowbank Wildlife Reserve. A leader in the conservation of New Zealand species. Willowbank offers the chance to view New Zealand's "Big 5" up close and personal. (B)





#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



**Post-Night:** Queenstown (1-2 Nights)



#### Day 24: Christchurch - Queenstown

Make your way to Queenstown, nicknamed the "Adventure Capital of the World." Nestled on Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown is surrounded by stunning natural beauty. (B, D)

### Day 25: Queenstown

Enjoy the rugged grandeur of the Hollyford Valley as you travel through a beech forest via the Homer Tunnel. Cruise the breathtaking Milford Sound and see why this fjord is one of the most visited sights on the South Island. Following your cruise, consider returning to Queenstown via a short optional flight (weather permitting) for spectacular views of New Zealand's Southern Alps. (B, L)

### Day 26: Queenstown

A free day in Queenstown offers limitless activities set amidst breathtaking Alpine scenery. Today, you have the opportunity to partake in a tour through the charming Queenstown countryside, showcasing the filming locations of many blockbuster movies. Tonight, gather with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner and toast to a fabulous trip. (B, D)

### Day 27: Queenstown - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close in Queenstown. (B)





#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$910+ PP

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## **EXPLORING** NEW ZEALAND'S **WONDERS**

19 DAYS · 26 MEALS STARTING AT \$6499

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Auckland - Bay of Islands - Rotorua -Maori Cultural Experience • Wellington - Christchurch - Mt. Cook Region -Dunedin • Milford Sound • Queenstown • Lake Wakatipu Cruise & Sheepdog Demonstration



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Cruise through the Bay of Islands' famous "Hole in the Rock."
- Overnight in the spectacular Mt. Cook region where permanent ice fields and glaciers blanket the ragged peaks.
- · Visit Walter Peak High Country farm for a sheepdog demonstration.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 18 — Go bird watching at the Kiwi Birdlife Park -OR- take a gondola to the top of Bob's Peak for stunning panoramic views of the region.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 16 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 8 Dinners (D)

- · Experience an authentic Hangi dinner and learn about Maori culture.
- Enjoy a BBQ on the western shore of Lake Wakatipu.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Overnight Flight Rydges Auckland, Days 3, 4 Auckland

Days 5, 6 Copthorne Hotel and Resort, Waitangi, Bay of Islands

Days 7, 8 Millennium Hotel, Rotorua

Days 9, 10 Novotel, Wellington Days 11, 12 Distinction, Christchurch

Day 13 The Hermitage Hotel, Mount Cook

Days 14, 15 Scenic Hotel Southern Cross, Dunedin

Days 16-18 Novotel Queenstown Lakeside, Queenstown

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From geothermal springs and ice fields to stunning fjords and Maori culture, experience New Zealand at its best.

### Day 1 - Day 2: Depart from Home

Cross the International Dateline and begin the adventure of a lifetime by skipping a day ahead.

### Day 3: Auckland, New Zealand - Tour **Begins**

Your tour opens in Auckland, the "City of Sails," consistently rated one of the world's best places to live. Auckland's Polynesian population instills into its chic atmosphere the vibrant feel of the Pacific Islands. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 4: Auckland

Come to know the best of Auckland during a panoramic city tour featuring the America's Cup Village, the War Memorial, bustling Queen Street, and the Auckland Harbour Bridge. The afternoon is yours to explore New Zealand's largest city on your own. Perhaps you will choose to go on an optional America's Cup sailing experience. (B)

### Day 5: Auckland - Bay of Islands

Depart Auckland and travel north to the Bay of Islands, your home for the next 2 nights. This sunsoaked region boasts more than 144 islands and warm waters with abundant marine life. Visit the Waitangi Treaty House, the site where Maori and British leaders signed the 1840 treaty establishing New Zealand as a nation. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Bay of Islands

Begin the day with a cruise that features the bay's famous Hole in the Rock, Look out at the Cape Brett Lighthouse, standing nearly 500 feet above sea level at the edge of the Cape Brett Peninsula. The rest of the day is yours to independently explore Paihia - the quaint town known as "the jewel of the Bay of Islands." (B)

### Day 7: Bay of Islands - Matakohe -Rotorua

Leave the sparkling waters of the Bay of Islands behind and head to Matakohe in the heartland of the North Island. Make a stop at the Kauri Museum and come to know the stories surrounding the giant kauri tree that can live for 2,000 years. Discover how the early settlers used this abundant tree to build a life for themselves. Later, continue on to the town of Rotorua, known for geothermal activity and Maori culture. (B, D)

### Day 8: Rotorua

Find yourself amid the dramatic geothermal landscape of Rotorua, known as the Maori capital of New Zealand. Visit Whakarewarewa, a Maori cultural and geothermal experience. Explore an authentic Maori village where people live using natural geothermal resources to cook, bathe and heat their homes as they have done for centuries. In the evening, experience ceremonial Maori





rituals at an authentic Hangi dinner and performance. (B, D)

### **Day 9: Rotorua - Wellington**

Today we travel to Wellington, a coastal city nestled against the mountains. Embark on a tour of New Zealand's capital city, known as the "Windy City." See the Beehive - New Zealand's Parliament; historic St. Paul's Church: and the Old Government Building, the largest wooden building in the Southern Hemisphere. (B, D)

#### **Day 10: Wellington**

Explore the Te Papa Tongawera Museum, a fascinating centre dedicated to art, history, and the Maori culture before enjoying an afternoon and evening at leisure. With your free time, perhaps you'll consider a ride on the Wellington Cable Car to the suburb of Kelburn for stunning panoramic views of the city. (B)

### Day 11: Wellington - Picton -Christchurch

Board a ferry and sail across Cook Strait.

Experience what is considered to be one of the most beautiful ferry rides in the world. Arrive in Picton on the South Island where you will have free time for lunch. Continue along the breathtaking east coast to Christchurch. (B)

### Day 12: Christchurch

Christchurch, the "Garden City," is recreating itself after a devastating earthquake in 2011. See firsthand how this city is evolving on a sightseeing tour that highlights the city's magnificent gardens and elegant park district. Pay a visit to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve, a leader in the conservation of New Zealand species. Here, you'll have the chance to view New Zealand's "Big 5" - kiwi, kaka, tuatara, kea, and takahe - up close and personal. (B)

### Day 13: Christchurch - Mt. Cook Region

Journey through New Zealand's unspoiled wilderness and arrive in the Mt. Cook region, where permanent ice fields and glaciers blanket the ragged peaks. The Maori word for Mt. Cook is Aoraki, which means "cloud piercer." This is where famed New Zealand mountaineer Sir Edmund Hillary honed his skills before conquering Everest. You can take a nature walk, enjoy an optional glacier flightseeing tour (weather permitting), or simply meditate on the beauty of the Southern Alps. (B, D)

Day 14: Mt. Cook Region - Dunedin Travel to Dunedin, situated on the southeast coast of New Zealand. One of the earliest European settlements on the islands, Dunedin holds proudly to its Scottish heritage and traditions. Enjoy time to explore this cultural city on your own. (B)

#### Day 15: Dunedin

Start your morning with a panoramic tour, visiting Larnach Castle and Baldwin Street - the world's steepest public road. Later, spend time at the Royal Albatross Centre, the only mainland breeding location in the world for these otherworldly birds. Albatrosses are the focus in many seafaring myths, and their epic wingspan can reach nearly 10 feet. (B, D)

Day 16: Dunedin - Queenstown Enjoy the rugged grandeur of the Hollyford Valley and the Homer Tunnel as you head





### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR





### **Post-Night:** Queenstown (1-2 Nights)



to Queenstown, a mountainside town set against the shores of Lake Wakatipu. The rest of your day is yours to explore the city dubbed the "adventure capital of the world." (B)

### Day 17: Queenstown - Milford Sound - Queenstown

During a cruise of the beautiful Milford Sound, you will see why this fjord is one of the most visited sites on the South Island. With rock faces that rise nearly 4,000 feet on either side, the scenery will take your breath away. On your return to Queenstown, perhaps you will consider an optional scenic flight, allowing you to see the landscape from an entirely new perspective. (B, L)

### Day 18: Queenstown 😯

Cruise Lake Wakatipu surrounded by Queenstown's stunning landscape aboard an iconic coal-fired steamship. Then, enjoy a BBQ lunch lakeside followed by a sheepdog demonstration before sailing back. Later, it's your choice! Go bird watching at the Kiwi Birdlife Park **-OR-** take a gondola to Bob's Peak for stunning views of the area. Gather for a farewell dinner and enjoy a locally sourced meal. (B, L, D)

### Day 19: Queenstown - Tour Ends

Your adventure comes to a close today, leaving you with many pleasant memories of a wonderful trip. (B)





#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$910+ PP

Welcome to Fiji! Famous for its palm lined beaches, azure lagoons, lush landscapes, and welcoming locals, it is the perfect place to unwind after a tour.

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South and Central America offer a tapestry of vivid destinations and unforgettable experiences. Find yourself immersed in inspiring landscapes and captivating culture, from spectacular glacial fiords to the majestic Andes Mountains to the footsteps of Machu Picchu



## **COSTA RICA:** A WORLD OF NATURE

12 DAYS · 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$3749

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Tortuguero National Park - Cooking Demonstration • Sarapiquí • Tirimbina Rainforest Center - Chocolate-Making Demonstration & Tasting - River Safari -Forest Reserve Guided Walk - Hanging Bridges - Arenal Volcano - Manuel Antonio National Park - Jungle Crocodile Safari & Bird Watching



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Learn about Costa Rica's ecosystem and local culture.
- · Visit the world's first sea turtle research station in Tortuguero National Park.
- · Explore Arenal during a captivating 3-night stay.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 7 - Embark on one of Costa Rica's most thrilling zip lining experiences and take in one-of-akind views of the Arenal rainforest -OR- enjoy a moderate hike along the trails of Arenal Volcano National Park; cross lava fields and pause to enjoy spectacular views of the volcano.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 11 Breakfasts (B) - 4 Lunches (L) - 8 Dinners (D)

- Taste for yourself why cacao is called "the food of the gods" and observe the process of converting this seed from bean to bar.
- · Learn how to cook using a coconut before making some delicious local candy.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Doubletree by Hilton Cariari Day 1 Hotel, San Jose

Days 2, 3 Evergreen Lodge, Tortuguero

Tilajari Hotel Resort, San Days 4, 5 Carlos

Days 6 - 8 Hotel Lomas del Volcán,

Arenal

Days 9, 10 Marriott Los Suenos, Playa

Herradura

Doubletree by Hilton Cariari

Hotel, San Jose



From thrilling water journeys to ethereal jungle expeditions, discover what pura vida means to you when you explore the essence of Costa Rica.

#### Day 1: San Jose, Costa Rica - Tour Begins

Pura vida. In English, it translates to "the simple life." But *pura vida* is so much more: it's an attitude; a celebration of life in the moment. It's time to experience what pura vida means to you. You're on your way to explore a place that's unlike anywhere else in the world, where pura vida is an unofficial motto and a way of life. Welcome to the emerald of Central America: Costa Rica.

### Day 2: San Jose - Tortuguero National **Park**

Seemingly endless mountain horizons. Complex evergreen forests. These are the wonders of Tortuguero National Park. Travel by boat to your hotel before heading further down the rivers and canals to the world's first sea turtle research station. Later, have time to explore Tortuguero town with your Tour Manager. Get away from it all and relax at your lodge set in the middle of the jungle, your home for the next two nights. From the morning calls of the monkeys to the gentle chatter of the birds, listen to the active sounds of the rainforest around you. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 3: Tortuguero National Park**

Begin the day on an excursion to search for the elusive green macaw and other unique winged creatures that flock to Tortuguero. Embark on a nature cruise, getting a glimpse into the life of jaguars, manatees, ocelots, and more. The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy your Tortuguero resort. Tonight, a local will teach you all about his village and its previous history as a coconut plantation. Watch as he demonstrates how they use coconuts before trying your hand at making a local favourite: coconut candy. (B, L, D)

### Day 4: Tortuguero National Park -Sarapiquí - San Carlos

Take a boat back to the mainland and make your way towards Sarapiquí and Tirimbina Rainforest Center. Today will be an Impact Moment as you visit a cacao plantation at the Tirimbina Rainforest Center — an ecotourism destination that is vigilant of environmental, social, and economic impact. Learn the process of sustainably converting seed from bean to bar and taste for yourself why it's called "the food





of the gods." Later, arrive at your secluded nature resort, nestled on the edge of the San Carlos River. Stroll the butterfly and botanical gardens lined with fruit trees, including lemon, soursop, guava, mango and tangerine. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 5: San Carlos**

Explore the beauty of your surroundings on a Peñas Blancas River Safari, Paddle and float down the river on a peaceful adventure, taking in the sights and sounds of the rainforest as your naturalist guide describes the intricacies of the wildlife around you. Visit the *finca* of a local family and try specialty snacks such as banana bread, gourmet Costa Rican coffee and more. End your day with a guided walk through a private, primary forest reserve for a look at the various flora and fauna. (B, D)

#### Day 6: San Carlos - Arenal

Today, suspended over the rainforest floor, relish a bird's-eye view of the jungle on a guided tour of Arenal's famous hanging bridges. High above the jungle canopies, marvel at a cloud forest taking shape around you. Settle into your resort where you'll be surrounded by striking views of Arenal's famous volcano for the next 3 nights. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Arenal 😯

Today, it's your choice! Since Costa Rica is the birthplace of zip lining, glide over the canopies on a mind-blowing rip through the jungle -OR- make your way across lava fields for an up-closeand-personal look at the volcano on a moderate hike along the trails formed by lava during the 1968 eruption. The afternoon is yours to spend as you please. Perhaps you'll discover the town of La Fortuna or relax in the hotel's naturally heated pools. Also consider an optional excursion to a family-owned finca with an included farm to table lunch. (B, D)

### **Day 8: Arenal**

In the shadow of Arenal Volcano, the day is yours to enjoy at leisure. Perhaps, if you're feeling adventurous, you'll opt for an exhilarating white water rafting experience. Or simply hang back at the resort, explore the grounds, and soak in the views. (B)

### Day 9: Arenal - Playa Herradura

This morning, wake up and smell the coffee at a local farm that produces some of Costa Rica's well-known beans. Take a tour with local plantation workers and have a chance to discuss what life is like for these coffee farmers. In the afternoon, head to Playa Herradura and settle into your resort for the next 2 nights. As the day draws to a close, watch the sun set over the Pacific alongside birds in every colour of the rainbow. (B, D)

### Day 10: Playa Herradura - Manuel **Antonio National Park - Playa** Herradura

Welcome to Manuel Antonio National Park, home to verdant rainforests and white sand beaches. In this natural wonderland, traverse the trails where the wild things are, or go for a swim in the turquoise waters as wildlife rummages in the canopies. (B)

### Day 11: Playa Herradura - Tárcoles - San Jose

See wild crocodiles among the mangroves of Tárcoles' Rio Grande. On this exhilarating jungle crocodile safari, you'll boat beneath the towering jungle, looking along the river banks for a glimpse of these incredible creatures. Then say goodbye to the coast and hello to San Jose. Toast to the *pura vida* of Costa Rica tonight over a farewell dinner. (B, L, D)

### Day 12: San Jose - Tour Ends

Bid Costa Rica farewell as your tour comes to an end today. (B)





### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night or Post-Night: San Jose (1-2 NIGHTS)



66 The tour truly exceeded my expectations. It was focused on encounters with wildlife throughout Costa Rica and provided us several opportunities to learn about the people and culture of this beautiful country. 99

- Kimberly C.

## **TROPICAL COSTA RICA**

9 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$2299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

San Jose - Coffee Plantation - Arenal Volcano • Cano Negro Refuge • Lake Arenal Cruise • Farm Tour and Lunch • Monteverde Cloud Forest • Guanacaste



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy the breathtaking scenery surrounding Arenal Volcano.
- · Spot indigenous wildlife while on a Cano Negro riverboat cruise.
- · Learn about Costa Rica's vegetation on a guided walk in the cloud forest



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 6 — Climb high into the trees for your choice of a "Hanging Bridges" tour **-OR**- ziplining in the cloud forest.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Discover the history of coffee in Costa Rica during your visit to a coffee plantation.
- Learn about local farming practices and learn to make tortillas while having lunch at Don Juan Finca Educativa.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

DoubleTree by Hilton Cariari, San Jose

Days 2 - 4 Mountain Paradise Resort & Spa. Arenal

Days 5, 6 El Establo Hotel, Monteverde Cloud Forest

Days 7, 8 Nammbu Beachfront Bungalows, Playa Carrillo, Guanacaste

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Discover Costa Rica's pura vida on a rendezvous with exotic fauna, lush rainforests, and endless coastlines.

# Day 1: San Jose, Costa Rica - Tour

Your trip to Costa Rica opens in the colourful capital city of San Jose, the perfect place to relax and soak up the sights as your adventure begins.

### Day 2: San Jose - Coffee Plantation -**Arenal**

Welcome to the Central Valley. Begin with a tour of a local coffee plantation highlighting the history and cultivation of this driver of the Costa Rican economy. This afternoon, check in for a leisurely 3-night stay at a lodge overlooking the majestic Arenal Volcano. Get to know the Costa Rican culture this evening. (B, D)

#### Day 3: Arenal - Cano Negro - Arenal

Embark on a Cano Negro guided riverboat trip in a covered canoe known as a panga. These 20,000 acres are home to the largest viewable collection of indigenous wildlife in all of Costa Rica. Go in search of caimans, river otters, sloths, monkeys, river turtles, exotic birds and rare butterflies.

Later, return to Arenal for the chance to relax at your resort. (B)

### Day 4: Arenal

Today, explore a family-owned farm, getting a peek into the daily lives of the locals. During a tour of the gardens, learn how the plants are organically grown through the concept of sustainability. The farm considers itself a "classroom without borders." Taste the exotic fruit harvest and experience the traditional way to process sugar cane. Enjoy a sip of cane liquor before engaging in a culinary demonstration and a farm-to-table lunch. (B, L)

### Day 5: Arenal - Lake Arenal Cruise -Monteverde

Enjoy a delightful cruise on Lake Arenal, Costa Rica's largest and most important lake. Then, it's off to the secluded Monteverde Cloud Forest, a place you have to see to believe, where trees grow to heights of 100 feet! Set off on a nature walk through this spectacular ecosystem, where





you're sure to encounter many incredible species of flora and fauna. (B, D)

### Day 6: Monteverde 😯

It's your choice! Explore one of the world's largest butterfly gardens. Then, join an expert for a leisurely paced "Hanging Bridges" walking tour to gain a different perspective of the cloud forest's lush ecosystem -OR- take an exhilarating ride on one of the longest canopy zipline tours in Costa Rica. If you would like to do both the hanging bridges and the zipline tour, you may purchase the second as an option on tour. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Monteverde - Guanacaste

Today we make our way to breathtaking Guanacaste, known for its fine sandy beaches. Settle in for a relaxing 2-night stay at your resort and take in the mesmerizing ocean views. (B, D)

#### **Day 8: Guanacaste**

Fun in the sun is in store today as you explore the nearby beaches, or simply relax by the pool and take advantage of your resort's lovely amenities. This afternoon, visit the delightful beach town of Samara,

one of the top sunset spots in Costa Rica. Soak in the spectacular colours as the sun illuminates the natural landscape. (B, D)

### Day 9: Guanacaste - Tour Ends Today you depart for home with fabulous memories of your Costa Rican adventure.

### Optional 3 Night **Pre-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1105 pp, land only



#### Day 1: San Jose

Arrive in San Jose, Costa Rica's capital city for an overnight stay.

## Day 2: San Jose - Tortuguero National

This morning set out for an exciting soft-adventure jungle experience in Tortuguero, the Amazon of Costa Rica, in search of wildlife such as macaws, sloths, monkeys, falcons and other native species. Depart your San Jose hotel via private transportation for a transfer to the dock where you board an open-air boat with other travellers to journey into Tortuguero's unspoiled paradise. Check into an eco-lodge built in harmony with nature using the best sustainability practices where fans create breezes instead of air conditioning and meals feature locally sourced ingredients prepared with Caribbean flair. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 3: Tortuguero National Park**

An early morning bird watching excursion is offered so you may learn about the variety of local species and migratory birds that flock to this area. Join your fellow lodge guests on a spectacular boat cruise through the various canals and be sure to keep an eye out for wildlife including howler monkeys, sloths, toucans, aquatic birds, bats and caimans, as well as exotic flora. Tortuguero National Park is a study in rainforest, freshwater, and marine biology. It protects over 350 species of birds and mammals including green macaws; 57 species of amphibians; 111 species of reptiles; and 60 mammal species, including 13 of Costa Rica's 16 endangered species including jaguars, tapirs, ocelots, cougars, river otters and manatees. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Tortuguero National Park - San Jose

Depart Tortuguero National Park today to return to San Jose. Upon arrival, meet your Tour Manager and fellow travellers for the start of your Tropical Costa Rica tour. (B, L)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2299 SOLO Starting at \$2949

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 14, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May 2024 - April 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



San Jose (1-2 Nights)



## Post-Night:

Guanacaste (1-2 Nights)







#### **Excursion:** Dolphin Watching

Get a different perspective of the Costa Rican wildlife when you venture into the natural habitat of dolphins. With a guide, watch as dolphins play along the water's surface. Keep an eye out for other creatures as well, you may even spot some turtles or whales! Afterwards, you'll also get a chance to fish, swim or snorkel in the warm water.

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.

## **PERU: MACHU PICCHU AND** LAKE TITICACA

10 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$4259

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Lima - Sacred Valley of the Incas -Local Andean Cultures • Ollantaytambo Ruins • Home-Hosted Lunches • Machu Picchu • Cuzco • Lake Titicaca • Uros Floating Islands



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore the colourful markets of Peru, including the famous Pisac village market.
- · Discover the artist's techniques and designs at Pablo Seminario Ceramic Studio.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 7 — Travel above the city of Cuzco to discover the important sacred Incan ruins of Sacsayhuaman Fortress -OR- embark on a walking tour of San Blas, the traditional old quarter of Cuzco.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 9 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a culinary demonstration at your hotel at the base of Machu Picchu.
- · Delight in a home hosted farm-to-table lunch at a local Quechua community.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Hilton Garden Inn Lima Miraflores, Lima

Casa Andina Premium Days 3, 4 Sacred Valley, Yucay

Day 5 Sumaq Machu Picchu Hotel, Aguas Calientes

Days 6, 7 Hilton Garden Inn, Cuzco

GHL Lago Titicaca, Puno Days 8, 9

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From the sacred citadel of Machu Picchu to the floating islands of Lake Titicaca, the magical wonders of Peru are waiting behind every corner.

### Day 1: Lima, Peru - Tour Begins

Welcome to Peru, one of the treasures of South America. Travel through this intriguing land visiting some of the world's most legendary sites, including Machu Picchu, the "Lost City of the Incas." Arrive late this evening in Lima, the "City of Kings."

#### Day 2: Lima

Discover Lima's fascinating history during a colonial tour through the historic city centre, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Admire the artwork at San Francisco Monastery and enter the catacombs. View the elegant Cathedral at Plaza de Armas and visit the Casa de Aliaga - former house of the conquistador Jeronimo de Aliaga y Ramirez where the energy of colonial and republican Lima comes to life. Get to know your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner featuring artfully crafted Peruvian dishes. (B, D)

### Day 3: Lima - Cuzco - Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco, in the heart of the Inca civilization. Journey through the Andes to the majestic Sacred Valley of the Incas, the agricultural centre of their grand empire. While en route to your hotel, explore different towns in the valley, each a representation of the region's unique culture. After a short lesson

on the local language, stop in Pisac village to browse the colourful handicraft market. Settle into your hotel nestled in the heart of the Sacred Valley. (B)

### Day 4: Sacred Valley - Ollantaytambo -**Sacred Valley**

This morning, visit the spectacular Ollantaytambo ruins, the only Incan settlement that has been continually inhabited since its inception. A uniquely terraced complex topped with carved stone panels, these ruins reflect ancient Incan architecture and heritage. Then, head to the Pablo Seminario Ceramic Studio where you'll get first-hand knowledge of this internationally renowned artist's techniques and designs. inspired by ancient Peruvian cultures. Deep dive into the cultures of modern Andean people and experience an Impact Moment as you mingle with a nearby community. Thanks to their effort and teamwork, tourism has become an additional income to agriculture which has positively impacted their quality of life. You'll get a true taste of their daily life when participating in small group workshops that teach you traditional methods of growing, harvesting and weaving. Celebrate their culture as you learn their dances and listen to their musical instruments before

enjoying a home-hosted farm-to-table lunch featuring local specialties. (B, L)

## Day 5: Sacred Valley - Machu **Picchu**

Climb aboard your train to Machu Picchu for breathtaking views through panoramic windows as you ride through the Andes to the "Lost City of the Incas." Hidden by mountains and semi-tropical jungle, Machu Picchu is considered the most spectacular sight in South America. Spend the afternoon with your guide uncovering the mysteries of these majestic ruins. Tonight, stay at the base of Machu Picchu for a chance to further soak up its atmosphere. Enjoy an exclusive culinary demonstration and learn how to craft the perfect ceviche and pisco sour before your dinner featuring a Peruvian menu. (B, D)

### Day 6: Machu Picchu - Cuzco

This morning, take advantage of free time and explore the local markets in Aguas Calientes on your own, or you may choose to visit Machu Picchu at sunrise. Return to the Sacred Valley by train. Upon arriving in Cuzco, take time to explore the captivating city at your leisure. (B)

## Day 7: Cuzco 😯

Start your morning on a tour of Cuzco, visiting the San Pedro Market, the Koricancha temple, the central Plaza de Armas, and the Cuzco Cathedral. Later, it's vour choice! Travel above the city to discover the important sacred Incan ruins of Sacsayhuaman Fortress -OR- embark on a walking tour of San Blas, the traditional old quarter of Cuzco, lined with restaurants and artisan shops. The rest of the afternoon is yours. This evening, dine at your leisure at a local restaurant featuring the local flavours of Cuzco. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Cuzco - Puno

This morning, fly to Puno, hugging the shores of Lake Titicaca. Known as the birthplace of the Inca Empire, ancient legends say that life began here. Have time to meet the locals and discover the history of this region as you explore the village centre before checking into your lakeside hotel. Tonight, enjoy an evening at leisure.

## **Day 9: Uros Floating Islands - Lake** Titicaca - Chullpas de Sillustan -**Puno**

The Titicaca area, steeped in tradition and folklore, is the centre of Incan legends. Enjoy a morning cruise to the floating islands of the Uros people of Lake Titicaca; experience walking on the island's spongy surface made from compacted beds of tortora reeds and meet the locals. learning about their history and lifestyle. Later, cruise to a local rustic village for a home-hosted meal and swap stories with Peruvian families before visiting the mystical Chullpas de Sillustani - an archaeological area boasting 13th-century funerary monuments. (B, L)

## Day 10: Puno - Lima - Tour Ends

As your tour comes to a close, spend the morning relaxing on the shores of Lake Titicaca before flying to Lima. Upon arrival, head to the Larco Museum, a former mansion built on the site of a pre-Columbian temple. The museum offers a collection of over 3,000 years of ceramic, textile, and precious metal artifacts. After this incredible trip through history, your tour concludes with a farewell dinner on the grounds of the museum before departing for Lima's airport and your connecting flight home. (B, D)





\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation. See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Lima (1-2 NIGHTS)



## Optional 3 Night Peruvian **Amazon Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$780<sup>†</sup> pp



#### Day 10: Lima Your extension begins with an overnight stay in Lima.

#### Day 11: Lima - Puerto Maldonado -Peruvian Amazon Basin

Fly from Lima to the Puerto Maldonado

airport where you meet your naturalist guide. Board a canoe and transfer up the Madre de Dios River to the Inkaterra Hacienda Concepcion Lodge. After a welcome lunch, take a walk through the Concepcion trails and learn about the rainforest's composition. its uses, the human impact and its relevance to the world climate. At dusk, once again take to the water on a motorized canoe. Your evening excursion will teach you about the river's ecosystem, Amazonian creeks, nocturnal animals' behavior and the southern sky's constellations. Then, you'll enjoy a delightful dinner in the Casa Grande's dining

#### Day 12: Tambopata National Reserve -Lake Sandoval

After an early breakfast, your naturalist guide will lead you on a trek through Tambopata

National Reserve. Arrive at pristine Lake Sandoval and board a dugout canoe. Glide along taking in your peaceful surroundings. Keep an eye out for the endangered giant river otter, blue and yellow macaw, red howler monkey, black caiman, and one of the world's biggest fresh water scaled fish, the paiche. After lunch, the Inkaterra canopy walkway awaits. Begin at the Interpretation Center to learn about the project. Then ascend 98 feet in the air and cross a series of hanging bridges that connect the treetops, taking in the breathtaking panoramas and discovering the wildlife that surrounds you. This evening, explore the Amazon rainforest by moonlight and listen to the unique nocturnal sounds of the rainforest. Your day concludes with a wonderful dinner. (B, L, D)

#### Day 13: Puerto Maldonado - Lima - Extesion Ends

After breakfast, take a scenic boat ride back to Puerto Maldonado. Arrive at the Inkaterra Lounge (Butterfly House) where you may wait for your flight back to Lima. Later, depart Lima for your overnight flight home. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# **MACHU PICCHU** & GALAPAGOS **WONDERS**

**FEATURING A 4-NIGHT CRUISE** 

14 DAYS · 27 MEALS STARTING AT \$11104

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Lima - Sacred Valley of the Incas -Cooking Class - Pablo Seminario Ceramic Studio - Home-Hosted Meal - Machu Picchu - Cuzco - Colonial Quito - "Middle of the World" • 4-Night Galápagos Cruise



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Discover centuries-old Andean textile methods in the Peruvian Andes.
- · Wind through the Andes in a train to Machu Picchu.
- · Stand tall in the "Middle of the World" at the Equatorial Line Monument and Museum.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 7 - While in Cuzco, choose to visit the Incan ruins of Sacsavhauman Fortress -ORexplore the neighbourhood of San Blas' charming cobblestone streets.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 13 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Lunches (L) - 8 Dinners (D)

- · Master two of South America's classics, ceviche and pisco sours, at an interactive cooking class.
- · Indulge in a farm-to-table meal in a local community.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Casa Andina Premium Days 1, 2 Miraflores, Lima Days 3, 4 Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley, Yucay Casa Andina Standard Day 5 Machu Picchu, Aguas

Calientes

Casa Andina Premium, Days 6, 7 Cuzco

Mercure Hotel Alameda, Days 8, 9 Quito

Days 10 - 13 M/Y Coral II

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Journey from the Land of the Incas to the Galápagos archipelago, enjoying a 4-night cruise aboard a personal yacht.

### Day 1: Lima, Peru - Tour Begins

Touch down in Lima, the "City of Kings." Across ancient lands and earthly legends, experience the mysticism of the Peruvian Andes.

## Day 2: Lima

Become fascinated by Lima's history on a tour through the historic centre, a designated UNESCO World Heritage site, where the elegant Cathedral at Plaza de Armas stands out among the colonial architecture. Visit the former home of a conquistador and feel the surge of colonial and republican life. Get to know new friends over a menu of artful Peruvian dishes at a welcome dinner. (B, D)

## Day 3: Lima - Cuzco - Sacred Valley

Fly over the Andes on your way to Cuzco - the heart of the Inca civilization. Follow the trails of this Andean paradise with a local guide to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Learn about centuriesold methods of traditional textiles at Awana Kancha - known as the "palace of weaving." Stop in Pisac village and browse a handicraft market full of vibrant colours. Discover why Peru has consistently been named the world's top food travel destination during a fun-filled interactive cooking class where you will learn how to master ceviche and pisco sours. Settle in to your hotel

nestled in the heart of the Sacred Valley and relax in the calming surround of the Andes. (B, D)

## Day 4: Sacred Valley - Ollantaytambo -**Sacred Valley**

Visit the terraced ruins of Ollantaytambo, the only Incan settlement that has remained continually inhabited since its inception. At the ceramic studio of artist Pablo Seminario, see how he utilizes the intricate techniques inspired by ancient Peruvian cultures. Deep dive into the cultures of modern Andean people and experience an Impact Moment as you mingle with a nearby community.

Thanks to their effort and teamwork, tourism has become additional income for agriculture which has positively impacted their quality of life. Learn traditional methods of growing, harvesting and weaving, listen to their music and learn their dances before enjoying a farm-to-table meal of local specialties. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Sacred Valley - Machu Picchu

Hop aboard your train to Machu Picchu, where views of the Andes astound through panoramic windows as you climb toward the "Lost City of the Incas." Uncover the mysteries of this "Lost City" at the meeting point between the Peruvian Andes and the Amazon Basin. Wrapped inside a semi-tropical jungle and hidden by

mountains, Machu Picchu or La Ciudadela, (the Citadel), is one of the world's most spectacular archaeological sites. (B)

#### Day 6: Machu Picchu - Cuzco

Enjoy some leisure time this morning. You may choose an optional excursion to Machu Picchu at sunrise, or maybe you'll explore the local markets before boarding your train back to the Sacred Valley. Continue to Cuzco and feel the local culture at a special community dining experience. (B, D)

## Day 7: Cuzco 😯

Start your morning with a local guide on your tour of Cuzco, visiting the San Pedro Market, the Koricancha Temple, the central Plaza de Armas, and the Cuzco Cathedral. Later, it's your choice! Travel above the city to discover the Incan ruins of Sacsayhuaman Fortress -OR- embark on a walking tour of San Blas, the traditional old quarter of Cuzco, lined with restaurants and artisan shops. The rest of the afternoon is yours. This evening, enjoy flexible dining at a popular local restaurant featuring the local flavours of Cuzco. (B, D)

## Day 8: Cuzco - Quito, Ecuador

This morning, fly to Ecuador's stunning capital city - Quito, your home for the next two nights. An intersection of mountains and colonial architecture, this city is a UNESCO World Heritage site full of lively culture and vibrant history. (B)

#### Day 9: Quito

Today, tour the Presidential Palace in Quito's colonial centre. After lunch, stand at the "Middle of the World," situated between two hemispheres, at the Equatorial Line Monument and Museum. Spend the rest of the day at leisure. (B, L)

## Day 10: Quito - Baltra - Embark Ship - Santa Cruz Highlands, Galápagos

Fly to the gateway of the Galápagos, Baltra to launch your eco-adventure aboard the M/Y Coral II, an exclusive yacht that serves as your home for the next four nights. After dry landing on Santa Cruz Island, head from the coast to the dense humid forests and the Highlands Tortoise Reserve. In addition to famed Galápagos Giant Tortoises, you may also spot many different kinds of birds,

such as tree and ground finches, vermillion flycatchers, paint-billed crakes, yellow warblers, and cattle egrets - usually found standing on the tortoises' shells. (B, L, D)

#### Day 11: Isabela Island - Fernandina Island

On Isabela Island soak in the wonders of one of the richest marine havens on earth during deep-water snorkeling at the Bolivar Channel. Then, take a dinghy ride along the coast to observe a great diversity of sea and coastal birds; Nazca and bluefooted boobies, noddies, brown pelicans, penguins, and flightless cormorants. Continue on to make a dry landing on Fernandina Island, where the largest, most primitive-looking marine iguanas are found mingling with sea lions and Sally Lightfoot crabs. You may even encounter flightless cormorants at their nesting sites, Galápagos penguins and the "King" of predators on the islands, the Galápagos hawk! (B, L, D)

### Day 12: Isabela Island

Make a wet landing today on the volcanic black beaches of Urbina Bay - home to giant tortoises, land iguanas, and the unusual flightless cormorant. Here, colourful varieties of plants and flowers attract unusual insects, birds, and reptiles. Enjoy time to snorkel, possibly swimming alongside with sea turtles, sea lions, and countless tropical fish. Don't miss the remarkable views of the Alcedo Volcano from the island's uplifted coral reef. Travel from Urbina to Tagus Cove for a dry landing. Take the trail that leads to Darwin's salt-water crater lake, offering excellent views of lava fields and volcanic formations. A dinghy ride along the shoreline full of marine wildlife highlights a variety of seabirds, such as Bluefooted Booby, Brown Noddy, terns, and depending on the season - a large number of Galápagos Penguins which are only 35 cm tall and the only penguin species to live in the tropics. Keep an eye out for graffiti believed to have been left by 19th-century pirates. (B, L, D)

## Day 13: Santiago Island

Walk in Darwin's footsteps today on Santiago Island. Begin with a wet landing



DOUBLE Starting at \$11104 SOLO Starting at \$16304

Prices based on October 28, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 January - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024 February - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Lima (1-2 NIGHTS)



at Egas Port's black volcanic sand beach, visited by Darwin in 1835. Take a unique trail formed of volcanic ash that transitions halfway to uneven terrain of volcanic basaltic rock. The unique, truly striking layered terrain of Santiago is home to the bizarre, yellow-crowned night heron and marine wildlife such as lobster, starfish and marine iguanas that graze on algae alongside Sally light-foot crabs. Colonies of fur seals swim in volcanic rock pools. After landing in Sullivan's Bay on southeastern Santiago Island, walk through the otherworldly landscape of solidified pa-hoe-hoe lava flows, formed during the last quarter of the 19th century. (B, L, D)

### Day 14: Santa Cruz - Disembark Ship - Quito - Tour **Ends**

Your last landing in the Galápagos is on the north side of Santa Cruz at Bachas Beach where ponds entice Galápagos Flamingo's to visit, iguanas to sunbathe, and coastal birds such as Darwin finches, mockingbirds, and gulls flit among the red and black mangroves. This beach is also one of the main sea turtle nesting sites in the Galápagos and home to the remains of barges that sank during World War II. Bid the Galápagos goodbye and return to Quito, where a day room will be available close to the airport before your flight home. (B)



# **FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION**

ADD 3 NIGHTS IN PERUVIAN AMAZON



## PRE TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$780† PP

Complete your immersion in Peru with a visit to the Peruvian Amazon. Delight in the sights and sounds of this mighty rainforest and uncover a fascinating array of flora and fauna. CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/664

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# **PATAGONIA: EDGE OF THE** WORLD

12 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$9389

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Buenos Aires - Perito Moreno Glacier -Patagonian Estancia - Torres del Paine National Park • 4-Night Fjord Cruise • Ainsworth Bay . Tucker Islets . Pia Glacier

• Glacier Alley • Cape Horn • Wulaia Bay • Ushuaia • Tierra del Fuego National Park - Tango Show



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Get a glimpse into Argentine culture at a lively tango performance.
- Meet a local gaucho (cowboy) and learn all about life on the ranch.
- Embark on a 4-night cruise through the wilderness of Patagonia.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 9 In Ainsworth Bay, discover Ainsworth Forest and learn all about the evolution and vegetation and explore a beaver habitat -OR- venture off on an active hike along a glacial moraine.
- Day 10 At Pia Glacier, choose to traverse the Pia Boulders on a medium level hike for panoramic views -ORventure on an easy walk towards the Pia Lookout for panoramic views.
- Day 11 In Wulaia Bay, head towards the peak on the most difficult hike for a scenic lookout -OR- embark on a slower paced hike with a medium difficulty towards the Forest Lookout -OR- take a peaceful nature walk along the beach



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) • 4 Lunches (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

- · Visit a Patagonian estancia and enjoy a traditional dinner in the owner's home.
- Enjoy unlimited wine and beer with dinner while onboard your cruise ship.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 **NH Collection Buenos** Aires Crillón, Buenos Aires

Days 4, 5 Mirador del Lago Hotel, El

Calafate

Remota Patagonia Lodge. Days 6, 7 Puerto Natales

Days 8 - 11 Ventus Australis

Day 12 Los Acebos, Ushuaia

Day 13 NH Collection Buenos Aires Crillón, Buenos Aires TRAVEL STYLE: SMALL GROUP **EXPLORATIONS** 



# Take a step into a world of pure nature in Patagonia, where crystal-clear waters meet mountainside glaciers.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Snowcapped mountains towering in the distance. Vibrant teal waters lapping against the shore. Glaciers carving their way through the valleys. This is Patagonia - a rugged wonderland of nature nestled along Argentina and Chile.

### Day 2: Buenos Aires, Argentina - Tour **Beains**

Welcome to Buenos Aires - your journey starts here. The city radiates a Latin-infused rhythm interwoven with its European heritage. Meet your fellow travellers for a welcome briefing at your hotel. Head to dinner with your new friends and indulge in savoury Argentine flavours. (D)

## **Day 3: Buenos Aires**

Start the day with a visit to the famous Recoleta Cemetery and take in the towering mausoleums - considered to be one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the world - and the final resting place of Eva Peron. After, embark on a panoramic city tour and coast down the famous Avenida 9 de Julio. Take in the Parisian architecture and verdant trees lining the world's widest avenue. Discover the city's most well-known sites before arriving to the colourful neighbourhood of La Boca. This afternoon is yours to spend as you please. Perhaps you'll take a tour of the Teatro Colón or eat your way through the San Telmo Market. (B)

#### Day 4: Buenos Aires - El Calafate

Fly to El Calafate, the gateway to Patagonia's natural splendour, known as the "National Capital of the Glaciers." Perhaps in the afternoon you'll join your tour manager on a walk to the Reserva Laguna Nimez. Don't forget your binoculars as this natural reserve is home to various indigenous birds. Gather this evening for dinner with your fellow travellers. (B, D)

### Day 5: El Calafate - Perito Moreno **Glacier - El Calafate**

This morning, get ready to embark on a cruise that will take you up close to the Perito Moreno Glacier. This gigantic tower of vibrant ice rests against blue-green waters - an awe-inspiring blanket to the natural world. Then, capture many views of the glacier from a series of walkways. Gaze off the shoreline in search of floating icebergs as you listen to the resounding crack of ice sheets breaking free. (B)

#### Day 6: El Calafate - Puerto Natales, Chile

Make your way into Chile at Puerto Natales. En route, stop to spend time with a local gaucho in





his home – a typical Patagonian *estancia*. Enjoy a traditional lamb roast lunch as you chat and learn about the culture. Venture through the edge of the Patagonian countryside, featuring unparalleled views of lakes and mountains, before settling into your hotel. (B, L)

# Day 7: Puerto Natales - Torres del Paine - Puerto Natales

Venture into Torres Del Paine National Park, a UNESCO biosphere reserve. Among the jagged mountains, ethereal teal waters, and expansive grasslands, you may spot soaring condors, inquisitive *guanacos* (llamas), and independent felines. Marvel at the cascading waterfalls as you make your way through what is considered one of South America's most incredible national parks. (B, D)

### Day 8: Puerta Natales - Punta Arenas - Board Ship - Chilean Waters

Discover the coastal metropolis city of Punta Arenas with a local guide. Admire the sights where brightly coloured houses meet modern skyscrapers. As the day draws to a close, leave the mainland on the Ventus Australis – your home for the next four nights. Head for one of the most remote corners of the world as you sail through Chilean waters. (B, D)

# Day 9: Ainsworth Bay - Tucker Islets 😯

Dock in Ainsworth Bay. As you take your Zodiac to shore, keep an eye out for the area's extensive birdlife or perhaps a colony of elephant seals. Get ready to choose how to spend the morning because it's your choice! Embark on new adventures by starting at the beach to discover Ainsworth Forest, Learn all about the evolution and vegetation as a cause of the glacier recession and explore a beaver habitat -OR- venture off on an active hike along a glacial moraine – a unique form of glacial sediment made from rock and soil. No matter what you choose, take in surreal views of the Almirantazgo Sound and Darwin Mountain Range. Back on the ship, sail to the Tucker Islets where you'll head to shore for a close-up view of the Magellan penguins. (B, L, D)

## Day 10: Pia Glacier - Glacier Alley 😯

Take a Zodiac to shore and stand in awe before the Pia Glacier, a colossal mass of ice slowly crawling down the mountains. Decide where you want to hike because it's your choice! Traverse the Pia Boulders on a medium level hike for panoramic views of the glacier -OR- venture on an easy walk towards the Pia Lookout for panoramic views of the glacier. Back onboard the ship, continue through the Beagle Channel and into Glacier Alley. These impressive masses of ice are so large that most of them are named after countries – including Holland, Italy, Germany, and France. (B, L, D)

## Day 11: Cape Horn - Wulaia Bay 😯

Disembark at Cape Horn National Park, home to an archipelago of islands, and considered to be the "End of the Earth." This afternoon, anchor at fabled Wulaia Bay and visit the historic radio station, formerly used by the Chilean Navy. Explore the area by selecting a hike alongside an expert guide because it's your choice! Head towards the peak on the most difficult hike for a scenic lookout -OR- embark on a slower paced hike with a medium difficulty towards the Forest Lookout -OR- take a peaceful nature walk along the beach for a chance to witness even more wildlife. Each choice will offer sprawling vistas of the gentle bay and allows time to leave a postcard at the information centre. (B, L, D)

## Day 12: Disembark Boat - Tierra del Fuego National Park - Ushuaia

Embark on your final sail through Patagonia as you enter Argentine waters, docking at Ushuaia. End your Patagonian adventure at Tierra del Fuego National Park. With the wind in your hair and fresh air in your lungs, breathe in the peace and



DOUBLE Starting at \$9389
SOLO Starting at \$11889
Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

Prices based on October 16, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

TOUR DATES AVAILABLE
October 2023 - March 2024 October 2024 - March 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*)

\*Itinerary featured is for October 2024 - March 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**



## Pre-Night or Post Night: Buenos Aires (1-2 NIGHTS)



serenity. There's nothing like witnessing the dramatic landscape of waterfalls, glaciers, and forests surrounding you. (B)

## Day 13: Ushuaia - Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires where you'll spend most of the day at leisure. Gather for a farewell dinner at a popular tango house to savour Argentine cuisine before watching an authentic tango performance. (B, D)

#### Day 14: Buenos Aires - Tour Ends

Say adios to Argentina as your tour draws to a close this morning. (B)

# **JOURNEY TO ANTARCTICA:**

THE WHITE CONTINENT

14 DAYS · 34 MEALS STARTING AT \$23284

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Buenos Aires • Ushuaia • The Drake Passage • Authentic Expedition Ship • Zodiac Foray • Penguin Colony Close-Ups . Kayak Excursions . Photography Guidance • On Board **Educational Sessions** 



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Discover multitudes of Antarctic wildlife including seals, whales, albatross and chinstrap, gentoo and Adelie penguins.
- Enjoy nearly 24 hours of sunlight as you absorb your surroundings ashore and from the expedition ship's many observatory decks.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 12 Lunches (L) - 10 Dinners (D)

· Savour fresh and varied meals aboard the expedition ship while admiring the scenery around you.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Alvear Art Hotel, Day 2 **Buenos Aires** 

Days 3 - 12 National Geographic

Explorer

Alvear Art Hotel, Day 13 **Buenos Aires** 

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Discover the magic and wonder of Buenos Aires, Ushuaia and the "White Continent" - Antarctica.

#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

Collette proudly offers an active, immersive adventure exploring Antarctica in an authentic expedition style aboard the National Geographic Explorer. See more of the legendary landscapes and inhabitants - encounter iconic penguins, leopard seals, and marine mammals; kayak among icebergs and Zodiac cruise past resting leopard seals; and hike on the continent with the best ice team on Earth. Through the efforts of an undersea specialist, you will also experience the seldomseen Antarctic undersea. Your adventure begins with an overnight flight to Buenos Aires.

## Day 2: Buenos Aires, Argentina - Tour **Begins**

Arrive in cosmopolitan Buenos Aires, birthplace of the tango and the "Paris of South America." Stretching along the banks of the Rio de la Plata, the city is a mosaic of European-style architecture and South American spirit. This afternoon, enjoy a panoramic city tour highlighting its Beaux-Arts palaces, grand boulevards, and the famous balcony forever associated with Eva Peron. In the

early evening, gather for an informal reception at the hotel. (L)

# Day 3: Fly to Ushuaia - Embark Ship - At

This morning we fly over Patagonia before landing in Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world, surrounded by spectacular mountain scenery. Enjoy lunch while cruising the Beagle Channel, Later, embark the National Geographic Explorer, an authentic expedition ship uniquely equipped with a hull strengthened to "ice-class" and advanced navigation equipment for polar expeditions. With just 81 cabins and a maximum capacity of 148 passengers, the spacious and modern National Geographic Explorer offers a roster of tools for exploration and a variety of public areas for viewing the incredible passing landscape. In the ship's spacious lounge, you will have informative presentations and a nightly recap of the day's activities. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: The Drake Passage - At Sea

Cruise south through the fabled Drake Passage. named after the explorer Sir Francis Drake. Set







between Cape Horn and the Antarctic Peninsula, a crossing of the legendary Drake Passage is unforgettable - a milestone in any adventurer's personal travel history. Warmer waters of the north meet the colder, denser waters of the south here in the Antarctic Convergence, making the area rich in marine life. (B, L, D)

## **Day 5: Antarctica**

The next six days are filled with discovering Antarctica, the last great wilderness stretching across ice-covered desert and mountains for over five million square miles. The ethereal beauty and immense scale of the continent is like nowhere else on the planet. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Antarctica

The voyage keeps a flexible schedule (daily activities are contingent on weather conditions) to take advantage of the unexpected. With nearly 24 hours of daylight, make the most of your days with daily explorations. (B, L, D)

### Day 7: Antarctica

You may take a Zodiac foray amongst towering icebergs under a bright sun, walk along the shoreline amid a huge penguin colony, hike to a summit for a breathtaking

view, or kayak along a cliff-side rookery in search of blue-eyed shags. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Antarctica

Today you could have the thrill of watching the ship crunch through the packed ice or step ashore to the cries of thousands of Gentoo penguins. (B, L, D)

### **Day 9: Antarctica**

Learn from the experts how to identify different penguin species and get photo tips from a National Geographic photographer while watching those same penguins. (B, L, D)

### Day 10: Antarctica

Onboard, the undersea specialist may present video from that day's dive with rare images taken up to 1,000 feet below the surface. The expert staff will craft an expedition where you will learn more, see more and experience more. (B, L, D)

### Day 11: At Sea

Leave Antarctica and sail back to Ushuaia, crossing the southern waters of the Drake Passage. The ship's spotters will keep an eye out for marine life, albatross and other seabirds that cross the ship's bow. (B, L, D)



ARRIVAL **BUENOS AIRES (BUE)** 

**DEPARTURE BUENOS AIRES (BUE)** 

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$23284 Pricing is per person, land only, SOLO Starting at \$29884

Prices based on February 5, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

January - February 2024

\*Itinerary featured is for January - February 2024 tour departures. For departures after February 2024, please refer to our website.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## Day 12: At Sea

You may want to enjoy a wellness treatment, spend time in the gym, catch up on the book you haven't had a minute to read, or participate in on board discussions reflecting on all you have seen and learned. (B, L, D)

## Day 13: Ushuaia, Argentina - Disembark Ship - Fly to **Buenos Aires**

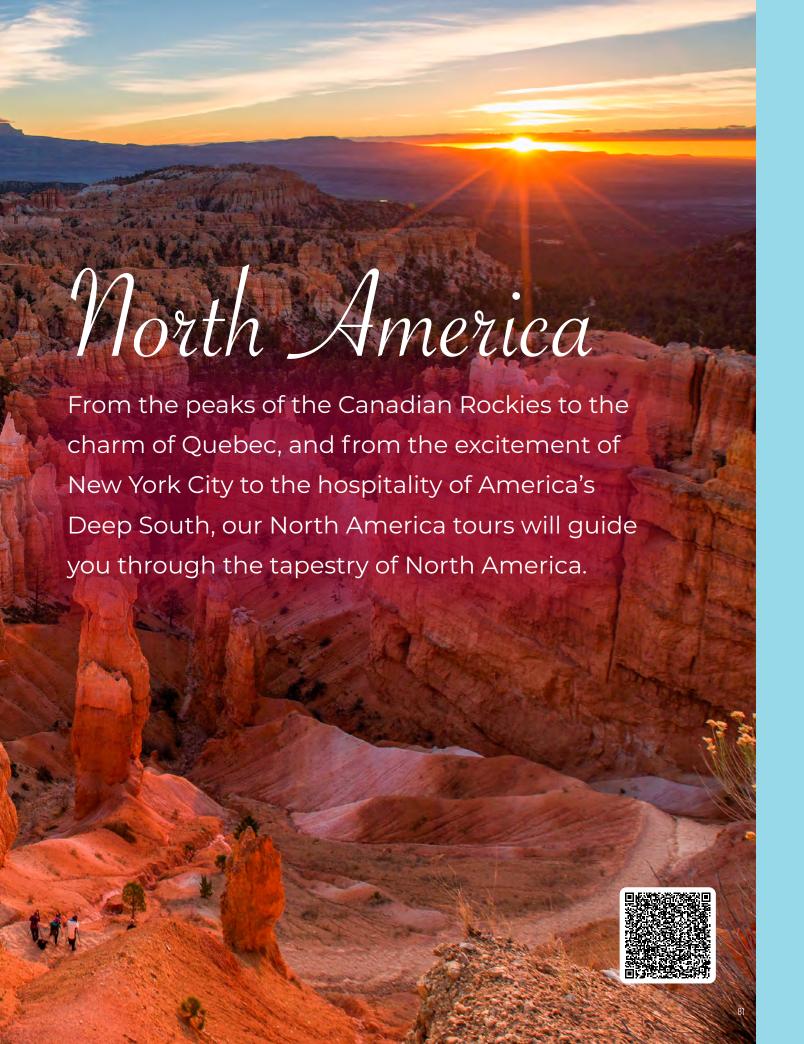
After breakfast, disembark in Ushuaia with time for independent exploration before proceeding to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires for an overnight stay. (B, L)

## Day 14: Buenos Aires - Tour Ends

Your tour ends today. (B)







# **PAINTED CANYONS OF** THE WEST

9 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$4199

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Colorado National Monument - Moab Arches National Park - Canyonlands National Park • Dead Horse Point State Park • Utah's Scenic Byway 24 • Capitol Reef National Park • Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument • Bryce Canyon National Park • Zion National Park • Las Vegas



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Spend two nights in Moab with time to explore Arches and Canyonlands national parks.
- Take in mesmerizing scenery on Utah's most picturesque byways.
- Climb aboard Zion's open-air tram with an expert guide.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 7 — Hike Zion National Park independently -OR- visit Zion's Human History Museum.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 2 Dinners (D)

· Enjoy dinner and a wine tasting in Colorado's wine country.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Sheraton Denver Downtown, Day 1 or Hilton Garden Inn Downtown, Denver, CO

Day 2 Doubletree Hotel, Grand Junction, CO

Days 3, 4 Element Moab Hotel, Moab, UT

Best Western Plus Bryce Day 5 Canyon Grand Hotel or Best Western Plus Bryce Canyon Ruby's Inn, Bryce, UT

Days 6, 7 Holiday Inn Express, Springdale, UT

Day 8 Paris Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Trek across the Southwest as you take in the sienna-coloured canyons, towering spires, and desert landscapes found in Utah's five national parks.

#### Day 1: Denver, Colorado - Tour Begins

Trek across the Southwest as you take in the sienna-coloured canyons, towering spires and desert landscapes found in Utah's five national parks. Your journey begins in the mile-high city of Denver - an urban gateway to America's natural beauty.

#### **Day 2: Denver - Grand Junction**

The Rocky Mountains are your travelling companions on the drive to Grand Junction. Look out at the natural scenery as you pass by Glenwood Canyon, a product of the Colorado River, carved more than 3 million years ago. Dine together at a family-owned vineyard and enjoy a wine tasting in the midst of Colorado wine country. (B, D)

### Day 3: Grand Junction - Colorado **National Monument - Moab, Utah**

Set out to explore the Colorado National Monument this morning along Rim Rock Drive. Make your way to Utah on the Upper Colorado Byway, known by the locals as "River Road." As the iconic Fisher

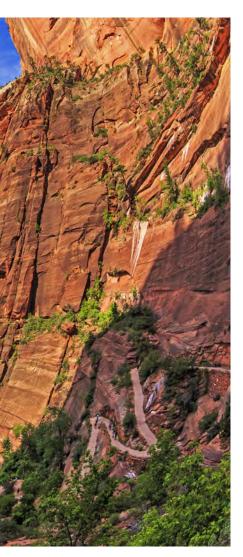
Towers loom over breathtaking mesas, make your way to Moab, Utah's outdoor adventure centre.

## Day 4: Moab - Arches - Canvonlands -**Dead Horse Point - Moab**

Journey through the otherworldly oases of two national parks. Hike along red rock features as you make your way through Arches National Park. Continue to Canyonlands National Park, resting in the heart of the Colorado Plateau, and discover a world of mesas and canyons. Close by, at the Island in the Sky, look out over a landscape of ethereal valleys and dreamy horizons. Today's park pilgrimage ends atop the sheer sandstone cliffs of Dead Horse Point State Park. (B)

### **Day 5: Moab - Capitol Reef National** Park - Brvce

Travel through the dramatic Utah desert on Scenic Byway 24. Visit Capitol Reef National Park, named for the curved white walls that resemble the U.S. Capitol building. On the Million Dollar Road, take in views of Grand Staircase-Escalante







River through the 2,400-foot deep, halfmile wide Zion Canyon. Choose how you spend the afternoon because it's your choice! Hike independently -OR- visit Zion's Human History Museum. (B)

## Day 8: Springdale - Las Vegas, Nevada

Age-old nature is replaced with captivating energy, vibrant lights, and endless excitement in Las Vegas. Toast with your travel companions at a farewell lunch. Then, the evening is yours spend your time along the neon-lit strip however you please. (B, L)

Day 9: Las Vegas - Tour Ends Say goodbye to Las Vegas and the painted canyons of the west as you depart for home.



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4199 SOLO Starting at \$5399 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on May 12, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 April 2024

(different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024 April 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** 

Denver (1-2 Nights)

Post-Night: Las Vegas (1-2 Nights)







66 The parks were wonderful, and I appreciated the opportunity to see them and hike them a little. 99

.....

National Monument, where layers of warm reds and oranges melt into smooth sided peaks. Spend the night in Bryce, your jumping-off point to Bryce Canyon National Park. (B, L)

## **Day 6: Bryce Canyon National** Park - Springdale (Zion)

Spend the day in Bryce Canyon National Park and see the famous hoodoos vibrant rock formations likened to fairy chimneys. Perhaps you'll start your morning with a hike, getting up-close and personal with the graceful geology. Take in the sprawling vistas as you walk along Sunset Point, leading into Sunrise Point Rim Trail. As the day draws to a close, settle into Springdale, a small town perched just outside of Zion National Park. (B)

## **Day 7: Springdale - Zion National** Park - Springdale 😯

There are few places on earth that match the beauty of the red and white sandstone cliffs of Zion. Make the most of an entire day exploring this rock-ridden paradise. On Zion's open-air tram, wind along the Virgin

# **NATIONAL PARKS OF AMERICA**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$6349

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Scottsdale • Grand Canyon • Lake Powell Zion - Bryce Canyon - Salt Lake City -Jackson Hole • Grand Teton & Yellowstone National Parks • Old Faithful • Sheridan

• Bighorn Mountains • Crazy Horse Memorial • Mount Rushmore



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Explore the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, a tribute to Buffalo Bill Cody.
- Meet Native Americans and discuss their unique and colourful culture.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

• Day 5 — Visit the Zion Human History Museum to learn more about the park -OR- continue to enjoy time in the great outdoors exploring the park.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Dinners (D)

 Experience a chuck wagon dinner and cowboy entertainment.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Courtyard by Marriott, Scottsdale, AZ

Yavapai East at South Rim, Day 2 Grand Canyon, AZ

Day 3 Lake Powell Resort, Page,

Days 4, 5 Holiday Inn Express, Springdale, UT

Day 6 Radisson Hotel Salt Lake Downtown, Salt Lake City,

Days 7, 8 Snow King Resort or SpringHill Suites by Marriott, Jackson Hole, WY

Yellowstone Lodges, Day 9 Yellowstone National Park or Buffalo Bill Village Holiday Inn and Cabins, Cody, WY

Day 10 Best Western Sheridan Center, Sheridan, WY

Day 11 Courtyard by Marriott, Rapid City, SD

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Experience the grandeur of the American West as you explore five fantastic national parks on this exciting journey.

Day 1: Scottsdale, Arizona - Tour Begins Journey through five of America's most incredible national parks. Your tour opens in Arizona where

you will enjoy a stay in the world-famous resort town of Scottsdale. This evening, join your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (D)

## Day 2: Scottsdale - Sedona - Grand Canvon

Begin the day with a visit to the artists' colony of Sedona and see the amazing rock formations that change hue with each turn in the road. Afterward, travel through the beautiful scenery before arriving at one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World - the spectacular Grand Canyon. Upon arrival, relax at one of the many public seating areas overlooking the immense and colourful canyon. Take a moment to reflect as you stand in awe of this iconic natural treasure. Before dinner you may wish to take a short hike to explore the

## **Day 3: Grand Canyon - Lake Powell**

Today, head to the Carl Hayden Visitors Center and look out over Glen Canyon Dam to see the end of Lake Powell. Later, arrive at Lake Powell for dinner and sunset views of the lake. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Lake Powell - Springdale, Utah

On the way to Utah, take in the views across Marble Canyon from historic Navajo Bridge, 467 feet above the Colorado River. Later, stop in Kanab, which locals refer to as "Little Hollywood" due to its history as a filming location for many western movies and TV series such as Stagecoach, the Lone Ranger and Gunsmoke. Arrive in Springdale, gateway to Zion National Park and your home for two nights. (B)

## Day 5: Springdale - Zion National Park -

Today's destination is Zion National Park, very likely one of the most awe-inspiring national parks in the world, just in sheer magnitude and colour. Climb aboard Zion's open-air tram and wind your way alongside the Virgin River and through the 2,400-foot deep, half-mile wide Zion Canyon. This afternoon, it's your choice! Visit the Zion Human History Museum to learn more about the park -OR- continue to enjoy time in the great outdoors exploring the park independently. (B)

## Day 6: Springdale - Bryce Canyon **National Park - Salt Lake City**

Today's journey takes you to Bryce Canyon





National Park, truly one of the most spectacular scenic wonders of the world. The formations within the park, called Hoodoos, are the creation of wind and water erosion over eons of time. Iron oxidizing within the rock causes the natural orange and red hues that colour these formations. Enjoy a hike along the Rim Trail looking into the expansive Bryce Amphitheater, from overlooks at Sunrise and Sunset Points. A drive north takes you to Salt Lake City, the "City of the Saints," for a 1-night stay. (B, D)

## Day 7: Salt Lake City - Jackson Hole, Wyoming

En route to Wyoming, see the majestic Bear Lake Summit. Later, arrive in the cowboy town of Jackson and experience a fun-filled evening of cowboy entertainment and a traditional chuck wagon dinner. (B, D)

#### **Day 8: Jackson Hole**

The day is yours to enjoy Jackson Hole. From hiking and river-rafting to shopping and sampling the local cuisine, there are endless activities to make the most of your day. (B)

## **Day 9: Jackson Hole - Grand Teton** & Yellowstone National Parks

From Jackson Hole, pass through Grand

Teton National Park. Towering more than a mile above the valley of Jackson Hole, the Grand Teton rises to 13,770 feet. Twelve Teton peaks reach above 12,000 feet and support a dozen mountain glaciers. The Teton Range is the youngest range in the Rockies and displays some of North America's oldest rocks. Later, arrive at the amazing Yellowstone National Park and explore the park's incredible sights. Experience the world-famous Old Faithful Geyser, a fountain of steam that rises more than 130 feet in the air. (B)

#### Day 10: Yellowstone - Cody -Sheridan

A delightful day of sightseeing begins with a trip along Yellowstone Lake and over Sylvan Pass. As you pass through Cody, stop at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, a tribute to one of the most well-known figures of the Old West. Before turning in for the night in Sheridan, drive through the incredible Bighorn Mountains and journey through the territory of the Great Sioux Nation. (B)

### Day 11: Sheridan - Rapid City, **South Dakota**

Visit Crazy Horse Memorial, a monument dedicated to Native Americans, Visit the Native American Cultural Center to learn more about local customs, when Native Americans discuss the movements of their dances and the significance of different clothes. Later, see one of the country's most famous landmarks, Mount Rushmore, whose four figures carved in stone represent the first 150 years of American history. At tonight's farewell dinner you will meet a local Lakota Native American and learn all about their fascinating way of life, past and present. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Rapid City - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close, leaving you with many wonderful memories.



On this tour you'll stay overnight right in or near the stunning national parks, which necessitates lodging in more rustic accommodations. Though the quality is not at our usual standards, the setting is incomparable. Also, to see five national parks in 12 days, there will be some longer drives.



ARRIVAL PHOENIX (PHX)

**DEPARTURE** RAPID CITY (RAP)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6349 SOLO Starting at \$7999

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 6, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 (different itinerary - see note\*) May 2024 - October 2024

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May - October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**



Pre-Night: Scottsdale (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **ALSO AVAILABLE**



#### America's National Parks and Denver

Experience the grandeur of the American West as you explore six fantastic national parks on this exciting journey.

**DATES AVAILABLE** OCTOBER 2023 MAY - OCTOBER 2024

66 Each stop had such different things to experience; I enjoyed them all. It was wonderful being with people and living again. 🤊

- Dorothy B.

# **MONTANA: EXPLORING BIG SKY COUNTRY**

11 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$7399

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Bozeman • Yellowstone • Old Faithful Mammoth Hot Springs - Yellowstone Grand Canyon - Helena - Gates of the Mountains • Great Falls • Glacier National Park • Going-to-the-Sun Road • Whitefish • Flathead Lake • Kootenai Traditions • Museum of Mountain Flying • Holt Heritage Museum



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore both the Northern and Southern Loops of Yellowstone National Park
- Learn about native culture at the Flathead Reservation.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 6 Visit the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center -OR- explore the exhibits of the C.M. Russell Art Museum.
- Day 8 Grab a paddle and get ready for a white-water rafting adventure -OR- take the calmer, scenic route on a float down the Flathead River.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 10 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Dig into a mouth-watering barbeque dinner.
- · Sample traditional food of the Kootenai people.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

AC Hotel Downtown, Day 1 Bozeman, MT

The Ridgeline Hotel at Days 2, 3 Yellowstone, Gardiner, MT

DoubleTree by Hilton Days 4, 5 Downtown, Helena, MT

Day 6 Great Bear Lodge at St. Mary Village, St. Mary, MT

Grouse Mountain Lodge, Days 7, 8 Whitefish, MT

Days 9, 10 DoubleTree by Hilton Edgewater, Missoula, MT

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Step outside, take a deep breath in, and look towards the mountains - you're in the big sky country of Montana.

#### Day 1: Bozeman, Montana - Tour Begins

Step outside, take a deep breath in, and look around you - you're in big sky country. Montana is wilderness, adventure, and beauty, and you're about to see what makes it unique, as well as its crown jewels. Today, arrive in Bozeman, the jumping off point to explore the northern and southern loops of Yellowstone, America's first national park. Get your cameras ready and your boots laced tight, there's a good chance you're going to come across roaming bison, roaring geysers, and more.

## Day 2: Bozeman - Yellowstone Southern **Loop - Gardiner**

This morning, pass through Yellowstone's western gate and venture into the Lower Loop, the road that encircles the entire lower half of the National Park. Your first stop will be at the Grand Prismatic Spring, where steaming azure-blue waters clash brilliantly with the bright orange of the clay earth surrounding it. You'll quickly learn why this is one of the most photographed spots in the entire park - its unearthly beauty is something to behold. The best spot to take it all in is at the overlook, and you'll have enough time to take the 20-minute hike up if you choose. Afterwards, head to Old

Faithful, the legendary geyser that you can "set your watch to." Enjoy lunch on your own, walk the boardwalk trails surrounding Old Faithful, and check the time on the next eruption. No drive through Yellowstone is that quiet, though - you'll want to gaze out your window at the mountains, plains, cliffs, and forests. Bison, elk, bears, eagles, wolves, and antelope call this incredible slice of wilderness their home, and you might spot them at any time. (B, D)

## **Day 3: Gardiner - Yellowstone Northern Loop - Gardiner**

Today, explore Yellowstone's northern loop. Your first stop will be Mammoth Hot Springs. Here, bubbling pots of geothermal water trickle down the step-like terraces, creating incredible shapes and colours. Explore the boardwalks that wind through the steaming landscape. Next, head to the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone lookout, where you'll find yourself standing over the massive, 20-mile-long canyon. Its craggy walls are streaked with brilliant whites, pinks, and oranges from the volcanic minerals contained in the rocks. The Yellowstone River roars along at the bottom over three different waterfalls. Later today, return to your hotel in Gardiner. (B)

#### Day 4: Gardiner - Paradise Valley -Helena

This morning, head through the sweeping vistas of Montana's Paradise Valley. In the distance, you'll see the Absaroka Beartooth Mountains to the east, and the Gallatin Range of the Rocky Mountains to your west. You'll arrive in the capital of Montana, Helena, a city with rich gold rush history and beautiful Victorian era architecture. These days, the "Queen City of the Rockies" is less known for gold and more known for its great local restaurants and microbreweries, as well as a stunning trail system in the surrounding landscape. (B, D)

## Day 5: Helena - Gates of the **Mountains - Helena**

Start your day today with a local guide showing you around the beautiful and welcoming mountain city of Helena on a narrated, train trolley tour. See the opulent mansion district, marvel at the Cathedral of St. Helena, and roll by governor's homes. Pass by a restored miners' village, enjoy the unique architecture along Last Chance Gulch, and catch a glimpse of the Old Fire Tower. After exploring the city a bit, you'll have time on your own to enjoy the charm of downtown Helena before heading to the Gates of the Mountains. Here, on the shores of the Missouri River, you'll follow in the footsteps of the most renowned explorers in American history - Lewis and Clark. Climb aboard a boat and cruise these storied waters, follow the path Lewis and Clark took on their legendary journey across this vast wilderness, and take in the natural beauty. Meriwether Lewis himself named this stunning canyon the Gates of the Mountains, and you'll discover just how it must have felt to come across this aweinspiring sight. Tonight, return to Helena for an evening at leisure. (B)

## Day 6: Helena - Great Falls - St. Mary 💎

Today, venture to Great Falls, where the mighty Missouri River thunders down from the Rocky Mountains, over five waterfalls to the great plains below. This was a massive obstacle for Lewis and Clark's expedition in 1805. They had to carry their boats over land for a month to make it from the lower falls to the upper falls. You will not have to work that hard, because it's your choice! Visit the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center where you can learn about the trials of the legendary expedition -OR- explore the exhibits at the C.M. Russell Art Museum during a guided tour, where you'll see the art of Charles Russell, a cowboy-turned-artist from the turn of the century, as well as his original home and log studio. Afterwards, continue

to St. Mary, the eastern entryway to Glacier National Park. (B, D)

## Day 7: Glacier National Park -Going-to-the-Sun Road - Whitefish

Head into Glacier National Park to board one of the 1930s vintage red buses and venture down one of the most breathtaking roads in North America, Going-to-the-Sun Road, Sit back and admire the views of the valley as your "jammer," one of the experienced guides, drives you through this natural landscape. Relax and take in all the majestic sights, before heading to the town of Whitefish where forests, lakes, rivers, and mountains unfold in every direction. (B, L)

## Day 8: Whitefish 😯

This morning, enjoy some leisure time in the quaint, picturesque town of Whitefish. Always listed as one of America's 25 prettiest towns, indulge yourself with time to stroll around, do some shopping, or just relax. Perhaps you'll stop for lunch at one of the great restaurants found along Central Avenue or buy some Huckleberry jam from a local shop. A true favourite in Montana, huckleberries can be found in snacks, drinks, candy, and more. Your morning leads into an adventurous afternoon, because it's your choice! Grab a paddle and get ready for a white-water rafting adventure -OR- take the calmer, scenic route on a float down the Flathead River. No matter which style river journey you choose, the awe-inspiring views of Glacier National Park await. Tonight, tell tales about your river escapades while sitting down for a mouth-watering barbeque dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 9: Whitefish - Flathead Lake -Missoula

Depart Whitefish and drive south, journeying along the western edge of beautiful Flathead Lake. Carved by the ancient glaciers that give Glacier National Park its name, Flathead Lake stretches almost 200 square miles. Quaint, small towns dot the shores here, built with the beautiful backdrop of nature behind them. You might even spot some orchards, growing Flathead cherries. Encompassing most of the lake is the Flathead Reservation, home to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation. At one point, these tribes had territories that stretched out of Montana and into Idaho, British Columbia, and Wyoming. The Hellgate Treaty of 1855 set aside Flathead Lake for the tribes, reducing their lands to a fraction of what it once was. Tribal land was once again shrunk in 1904 by over half a million acres. Despite all of this, the Tribal way of life continues





#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



on to this day, passed down from elders to children though a rich oral and spiritual tradition. Get a glimpse into these traditions when you meet a descendant of the last Kootenai chief, and learn about the importance of the land in native life. Afterwards, head to the final stay on your journey, the eclectic city of Missoula, where you can enjoy a relaxing evening at leisure. (B)

#### Day 10: Missoula

Your day in Missoula starts off with a visit to the Museum of Mountain Flying. Aircraft as well as interactive history displays that interpret and preserve the history of mountain flying and smoke jumping. Next, visit the Holt Heritage Museum, located on the Lolo Trail which was used by Lewis and Clark in 1805 and 1806. A private museum built by Bill and Ramona Holt, the extensive collection tells the story of Western Montana – from cowboys and rodeos, to the native Nez Pierce and Salish/Kootenai cultures. This evening, enjoy a memorable farewell dinner with your fellow travellers, where you can raise a glass and toast to a wildly fun Montana adventure. (B, D)

## Day 11: Missoula - Tour Ends

Say goodbye to Big Sky Country and its beautiful sights as you head home. (B)

# THE COLORADO **ROCKIES**

9 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$3849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Denver - Rocky Mountain National Park - Colorado National Monument - Grand Junction • Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park • Museum of the Mountain West • Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad • Mesa Verde National Park (UNESCO) • Pikes Peak Cog Railway - Garden of the Gods



#### CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Spend two nights in Durango, a fun-filled cowboy town where you can relive the excitement of the Old West.
- Journey aboard the Pike's Peak Cog Railway to the top of Pike's Peak.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 7 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

 Eniov an authentic farm-to-table dinner on a 450-acre, family-owned ranch.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

- Days 1, 2 Sheraton Downtown, Denver
- Days 3, 4 DoubleTree Hotel, Grand Junction
- Days 5, 6 Strater Hotel, Durango
- Days 7, 8 Embassy Suites by Hilton, Colorado Springs

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Experience the grand landscapes of the American West as you journey from the "Mile High City" of Denver to Colorado Springs.

## Day 1: Denver, Colorado - Tour Begins

Adventure awaits as you explore the towering peaks and rolling meadows of Colorado and Utah. This tour (which features four national parks) opens in the "Mile High City" of Denver where you will gather for a welcome dinner with your fellow travellers. (D)

### Day 2: Denver - Rocky Mountain National Park - Denver

Travel through Boulder, a scenic university town known for its iconic landmark...the striking, reddish-brown foothills known as the Flatirons. Stop in Estes Park, a mountain resort town and home of the Stanley Hotel, the inspiration for Stephen King's *The Shining*. Your adventure in Rocky Mountain National Park starts on the Trail Ridge Road, the highest paved, continuous highway in North America. It's a drive that should be on everybody's bucket list. At Rainbow Curve, marvel at the majestic mountains that stand in contrast to deep, rugged canyons. Later, return to Denver for a free evening in this dynamic city. (B)

## **Day 3: Denver - Colorado National Monument - Grand Junction**

The spectacular Rocky Mountains are your travelling companion. Make a scenic drive from Denver to Grand Junction, passing through many of Colorado's famous ski resorts. This journey also takes you to one of the grand landscapes of the American West - Colorado National Monument. Continue along the monument's historic Rim Rock Drive to see a colourful panorama of deep, sheer-sided canyons and high rock towers. Gather for dinner at a favourite local hangout in Grand Junction, a town that attracts outdoorsmen, foodies and all manner of free spirits. (B, D)

## Day 4: Black Canyon of the Gunnison **National Park - Grand Junction**

Today, venture to another amazing national park - Colorado's own "Grand Canyon!" Marvel at the steep-walled gorge and dramatic views of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park while travelling along its South Rim. Pause at one of the scenic viewpoints to soak in this stunning wilderness of rock, water, and sky. Enjoy a picnic lunch overlooking some of the steepest and oldest rock walls in North America, carved over 2 million years by the Gunnison River. Perhaps you'll even spot a peregrine falcon. Then, immerse yourself in the stories of the American west during a tour of the Museum of the Mountain West, a preserved and re-created pioneer town that captures life as it was over a century ago. Return to Grand Junction for an evening at leisure. (B, L)









**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3849 SOLO Starting at \$5149

Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on July 5, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

May - September 2024

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## Day 5: Grand Junction - Silverton -Durango

Head south to Silverton, a former silver mining town and now a National Historic Landmark. Hidden high in the San Juan Mountains, this town blends spectacular scenery, Victorian charm and historic architecture. Then it's "all aboard" the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. This 1881 coal-fired, steam-powered locomotive made its name hauling silver and gold ore from the San Juan Mountains, but you will soon realize it is the view that is its most precious asset. (B)

## Day 6: Durango - Mesa Verde National Park - Durango

An incredible day awaits in Mesa Verde National Park (UNESCO), home of the ancient Ancestral Puebloan civilization. Join a local guide on a drive through the park making several photo stops including views of the famous Spruce Tree House, one of Mesa Verde's best preserved cliff dwellings and Cliff Palace, the largest in the park. This evening, experience a farmto-table dinner on a family-owned ranch surrounded by red mountain peaks and lush green pastures. (B, D)

## Day 7: Durango - Colorado Springs Sit back and relax during a scenic ride to

Colorado Springs. En route, marvel at the landscape as you make your way from the San Juan National Forest and across Wolf Creek Pass, a section of the Continental Divide that would take pioneers two to three weeks to cross. Continue on through the Rio Grande National Forest, a vast expanse of wilderness named for the 1.800 miles of Rio Grande River that cuts through the forest. Your day concludes in Colorado Springs, an artistic and cultural hub. (B)

# Day 8: Colorado Springs -**Manitou Springs - Colorado**

Depart for Manitou Springs, home of Pike's Peak - the legendary symbol of the 1859 Gold Rush. Embark on a journey aboard the Pike's Peak Cog Railway, the world's highest cog railroad, for an 8.9 mile trip to the top of Pike's Peak. During the journey you will see magnificent views and perhaps animals in their native habitat. Later, travel to the Garden of the Gods to take in the view of towering sandstone formations that dot the landscape set in the backdrop of maiestic Pikes Peak. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner and celebrate your adventure. (B, D)

### Day 9: Colorado Springs - Tour **Ends**

Your tour comes to a close in Colorado Springs.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Denver (1-2 NIGHTS)





## A FASTER PACE

On this tour, see three incredible national parks, a national monument and travel on two scenic train trips. To experience it all, we must cover a lot of ground but the natural, awe-inspiring beauty is well worth the travels.

66 Our tour manager and driver made every experience memorable. They went out of their way to give context and perspective to the beautiful places we visited. 🤧 - Claire B.

# **CANYON COUNTRY**

8 DAYS · 10 MEALS STARTING AT \$3849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









Scottsdale - Kaibab National Forest -Grand Canyon • Rafting on Horseshoe Bend - Lake Powell Cruise - Bryce Canyon National Park - Zion National Park -Las Vegas



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy time in Sedona surrounded by red-rock buttes.
- · Climb aboard Zion's open-air tram with an expert guide.
- Experience the neon-lit Las Vegas



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - Delve into the area's native heritage and pioneer culture at the Zion Human History Museum -ORventure off on your own to explore the park independently.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

6 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

· Experience dinner overlooking the stunning blue waters of Lake Powell.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Courtyard by Marriott, Day 1

Scottsdale, AZ

Grand Canyon area hotel, Day 2 Grand Canyon, AZ

Days 3, 4 Lake Powell Resort,

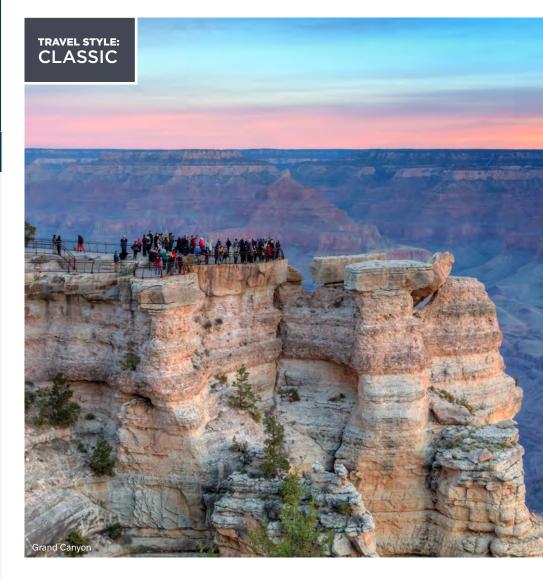
Page, AZ

Days 5, 6 Holiday Inn Express,

Springdale, UT

Day 7 Paris Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Experience America's canyons and venture through a world of colourful vistas and the neon-lit spectacle of Las Vegas.

## Day 1: Scottsdale, Arizona - Tour Begins

Explore the famous canyons of the American West on a journey featuring three national parks. Start your journey in Scottsdale and join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

## Day 2: Scottsdale - Sedona - Grand **Canyon Area**

Start your day in Sedona, where the sun shines against stunning sandstone formations. Soak in the inviting atmosphere and colourful vistas while browsing the many arts and crafts shops. Make your way through the Kaibab National Forest before reaching the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. (B, D)

## Day 3: Grand Canyon Area - Lake **Powell**

Follow the winding landscape along East Rim Drive, bringing you to Cameron Trading Post. For nearly a century, the post has acted as a haven for travellers, traders, and explorers. Continue north through mesa-studded desert before

arriving at your home for the next two evenings - overlooking the stunning blue waters of Lake Powell. Enjoy dinner and relax as you take in the picture-perfect canyon lake. (B, D)

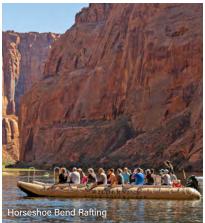
### Day 4: Lake Powell - Horseshoe Bend -**Lake Powell**

This morning, embark on a guided rafting adventure to the iconic Horseshoe Bend and experience the peaceful grandeur of the Colorado River. Look for fish in the crystal clear water, birds nesting on the banks of the river and possibly herd of big horns along the way. You'll look up in awe at the soaring cliffs above Horseshoe Bend as you learn the stories of the ancestral Puebloan people who lived in the area. Later this afternoon, enjoy the breathtaking views during a cruise on the lake. (B)

## Day 5: Lake Powell - Bryce Canyon National Park - Springdale, Utah (Zion) Your journey continues at Bryce Canyon National







Park, famous for its ethereal spires known as hoodoos. These rock formations, created over thousands of years by wind and water, display natural orange and red hues that contrast with the deep green forests in the park. Take in the sprawling vistas as you wander along Sunset Point, leading into Sunrise Point Rim Trail. Your day ends in Springdale, gateway to Zion National Park. (B)

## Day 6: Zion National Park 😯

In sheer magnitude and colour, few places on Earth match the beauty of Zion National Park. Marvel at red and white sandstone cliffs as you take a full day to explore Utah's first national park. Climb aboard Zion's open-air tram and wind your way alongside the Virgin River and through the 2,400-foot deep, half-mile wide Zion Canyon. This afternoon, it's your choice! Delve into the area's native American heritage and pioneer culture at the Zion Human History Museum -ORventure off on your own to explore the park independently. (B)

## Day 7: Springdale - Las Vegas, Nevada

Trade nature's beauty for the lights of the Vegas strip. This four-mile stretch of road features neon-lit resorts and aroundthe-clock action. This afternoon, toast to the end of your journey at a farewell lunch with your fellow travellers. Make the most of your free time this evening to experience the best that Vegas has to offer. (B, L)

## Day 8: Las Vegas - Tour Ends Depart for home with memories of

colourful canyons and winding valleys.



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3849 SOLO Starting at \$4899 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on April 23, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024 March - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** Scottsdale (1-2 Nights)



**Post-Night:** Las Vegas (1-2 Nights)





## **REMOTE + RUSTIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

During this tour, you'll stay overnight right in or near the stunning national parks, which necessitates lodging in more rustic accommodations. Though the quality is not at our usual standards, the setting is incomparable.

66 We thoroughly enjoyed the entire trip. Our tour manager was excellent. She was extremely friendly, courteous, helpful, and very knowledgeable on each aspect of the trip 🤊 - Jeffrev J.

# **AMERICA'S COWBOY COUNTRY**

8 DAYS · 10 MEALS STARTING AT \$3849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Badlands National Park • Custer State Park - Crazy Horse Memorial -Mt. Rushmore • Deadwood • Buffalo Bill Center of the West - Yellowstone National Park - Jackson Hole -Grand Teton National Park



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Marvel at the scale and patriotic energy of Mount Rushmore.
- Watch Old Faithful geyser erupt, sending steam high in the air.
- · Let nature fill you with awe at Grand Teton National Park.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Dinners (D)

• The Wild West comes to life during a traditional chuck wagon dinner.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Alex Johnson Hotel, Rapid Days 1 - 3

City, SD

Day 4 Best Western Sheridan

Center, Sheridan, WY

Buffalo Bill Village Day 5 Holiday Inn and Cabins,

Cody, WY

Days 6 - 7 The Lodge at Jackson Hole,

Jackson, WY

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Enjoy stunning views of the American West as you make your way through Yellowstone, Grand Teton National Park, and more.

## Day 1: Rapid City, South Dakota - Tour **Begins**

Welcome to Rapid City, long known as the gateway to the Black Hills and your home for three nights.

## Day 2: Rapid City - Badlands - Wall -**Rapid City**

Visit rugged Badlands National Park. Upon arrival at the visitor centre, view its informative exhibits and displays and watch a film that introduces you to the area. Follow the Badlands Loop Road, a wonder of rock formations and vibrant colours caused by mineral deposits. Stop at Wall Drug, a classic store from 1936, where there is time for lunch and browsing. This evening, a Lakota Native American will join you before your welcome dinner to discuss his dedication to his community and the Native American way of life, past and present. (B, D)

## Day 3: Rapid City - Custer State Park -Crazy Horse - Mt. Rushmore

Travel to Custer State Park and search for a herd of over 1,000 roaming bison. Your guide will fill you in on the park's wildlife history and facts. Next, prepare to be amazed by the Crazy Horse Memorial, the world's largest mountain sculpture still in progress. The memorial includes the Indian Museum of North America, Native American Cultural Center, the sculptor's studio, an orientation centre and theatres. Many Native American artists and craftspeople practice their art at the memorial and are on hand to discuss the influence their culture has on their work. Later, see Mount Rushmore, one of the country's most famous landmarks. (B)

## Day 4: Rapid City - Deadwood -Sheridan, Wyoming

Stop in Deadwood, a rambling Western town and a National Historic Landmark. Recreations of turn-of-the-century streetlamps light the way through the restored architecture. A local guide introduces you to the history of the city, where gold, gambling and gunpowder were once the order of the day. Visit Mount Moriah Cemetery, final resting place of Wild Bill Hickok,







Calamity Jane, and other figures from the Wild West, Continue to Kevin Costner's Tatanka: "Story of the Bison." This interpretive centre features large, awe-inspiring sculptures depicting the relationship of bison and the Lakota Native Americans. Your day ends in Sheridan, Wyoming. (B)

#### Day 5: Sheridan - Cody

This morning, make your way through the Bighorn Mountains and cross through the territory of the Great Sioux Nation. This afternoon, visit the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, a tribute to one of the most well-known figures of the Old West. (B, D)

## Day 6: Cody - Yellowstone National Park - Jackson, **Wyoming**

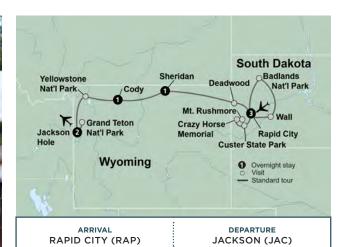
Visit Yellowstone National Park, the world's first national park. Famous for its geysers, hot springs and incredible wildlife - including free-ranging herds of buffalo - Yellowstone lives up to its reputation. No visit to the park would be complete without seeing its most renowned attraction: Old Faithful. Watch in awe as the geyser sends a fountain of steam more than 130 feet in the air. Travel over the Sylvan Pass and see Yellowstone Lake on the way to Jackson, your home for the next two nights. (B)

## Day 7: Jackson - Grand Teton **National Park - Jackson**

Wind through Grand Teton National Park, home to the youngest peaks in the Rockies. Keep your camera handy, there are plenty of opportunities to take photos. Afterwards, enjoy free time to explore trendy downtown Jackson. Look for the Antler Arch at the entrance to the historic town square. Get a taste of the Old West at your farewell dinner where your ride in a covered wagon takes you past the Cache Creek for a night of Western hospitality at a chuckwagon dinner with entertainment. (B, D)

#### **Day 8: Jackson - Tour Ends**

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many pleasant memories. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3849 SOLO Starting at \$5149

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 3, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 (different itinerary - see note\*) May - October 2024

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Rapid City (1-2 NIGHTS)



66 Honestly, I can't pick the most enjoyable part of this trip. The beauty of this part of the country is unbelievable. I look at our pictures and am still amazed. 99 - Karen K.

# SPOTLIGHT ON **SOUTH DAKOTA**

7 DAYS · 9 MEALS STARTING AT \$2899

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Mount Rushmore - Oglala Lakota Living History Village • Badlands National Park • Wall Drug • Deadwood • High Plains Heritage Center • Off-Road Jeep Safari at Custer State Park • Crazy Horse Memorial

Devils Tower National Monument



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Search for buffalo and other wildlife in Custer State Park on an exciting off-road Jeep safari.
- Stroll past 150 years of American history on the Presidential Trail.
- · Enjoy time exploring at the lofty Devils Tower.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

• Day 4 - Travel back in time on a guided tour of the Adams Museum -OR- learn about the bison and Lakota tribe at Tatanka: Story of the



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Dinners (D)

· Delight in local flavours during a Western dinner show.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 - 6 Residence Inn Marriott, Rapid City, SD

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

#### ADD MORE TIME TO YOUR TRIP



Pre-Night: Rapid City (1-2 NIGHTS)





# Discover the spirit of the American West and come to know the legends of the past.

## Day 1: Rapid City, South Dakota - Tour **Beains**

Welcome to the West. Your tour opens in Rapid City, gateway to the Black Hills. Tonight, you and your fellow travellers gather for a welcome dinner featuring a Native American chronicler who shares stories about the Lakota and Sioux way of life. (D)

## Day 2: Rapid City - Mt. Rushmore - Rapid City

Learn the history of enterprising Westerners at the Chapel in the Hills. Continue to Mount Rushmore. Spend time with the epic figures of Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Lincoln as you stroll along the Presidential Trail. This evening, return to Mount Rushmore for the nighttime lighting ceremony. (B)

## Day 3: Rapid City - Badlands - Wall -**Rapid City**

This morning, visit the Oglala Lakota Living History Village. The Oglala Lakota are one of the seven tribes that make up the Great Sioux Nation. In their own voices, hear about their history, relationship to the land and modern-day culture. Then, explore Badlands National Park and its visitor centre, with informative exhibits, displays and video. Travel the Badlands Loop Road, home to vibrant colours and rock formations created by mineral deposits. Visit the legendary Wall Drug, a store barely changed since 1936. Do a little browsing, have a seat at the soda fountain, and perhaps grab a bite for lunch. (B)

## Day 4: Rapid City - Deadwood - Rapid City 😯

Get ready for Deadwood, where gold, gambling, and gunpowder were once the order of the day. This morning, it's your choice! Take a guided tour of the Adams Museum and explore dynamic exhibits that shine a light on Deadwood's legends and outlaws -OR- visit Kevin Costner's Tatanka: Story of the Bison, sculptures depicting the relationship between bison and the Lakota. This afternoon, this National Historic Landmark comes alive as if you've stepped onto the set of an old-fashioned Western. A local guide shows you the town, including where Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane are buried. This evening, enjoy a dinner and Western show at the High Plains Heritage Center. (B, D)

## Day 5: Rapid City - Custer - Crazy Horse - Rapid City

Head to Custer State Park and keep your eyes peeled for bighorn sheep or wandering elk. Venture off road with an exciting Buffalo Safari, cruising deep into the park in an open-air jeep and searching for herds of roaming buffalo. This afternoon, visit Crazy Horse Memorial and delve into the story of the largest, still-in-progress mountain sculpture. Take time to explore the Indian Museum of North America, the Native American Cultural Center, the sculptor's studio, and more. (B)

## Day 6: Rapid City - Devils Tower National **Monument, Wyoming - Rapid City**

Get your bearings at the Geographic Center of the Nation, marking the middle of the US. Cross into Wyoming and view the first national monument - Devils Tower. Stand in awe before this lofty monolith, perhaps hiking the 1.3-mile Tower Trail around the base. Although famous as the backdrop in Close Encounters of the Third Kind, the tower is also sacred to many local tribes. This evening, join your fellow travellers for dinner as the end of your South Dakota adventure draws near. (B, D)

## **Day 7: Rapid City - Tour Ends** Your tour comes to a close today. (B)

## **DOUBLE** Starting at \$2899 SOLO Starting at \$3699

Pricing is per person, land only, & varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 2, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023

(different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May - October 2024 tour departures, Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

ARRIVAL RAPID CITY (RAP)

DEPARTURE RAPID CITY (RAP)

# SPOTLIGHT ON **SAN ANTONIO**

5 DAYS · 5 MEALS STARTING AT \$2099

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Mission San José • The Alamo • El Mercado • Paseo del Rio Cruise • Fredericksburg • National Museum of the Pacific War • Historic Pearl District



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Discover the German settlement of Fredericksburg set in the Hill Country.
- Experience El Mercado, the Mexican Marketplace.
- · Visit the National Museum of the Pacific War.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 4 - Visit the South Texas Heritage Center at the interactive Witte Museum -OR- explore the San Antonio Botanical Gardens and the Texas Native Trail.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 3 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Dinners (D)

 Savour dinner in a restored convent in the King William Historic District.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 - 4 The Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio, TX

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

#### ALSO AVAILABLE

#### Spotlight on San Antonio Holiday

Enjoy the holiday spirit Texas-style as you settle into your River Walk hotel on this Southwestern getaway.

DATES AVAILABLE NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023 NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2024

#### **ADD MORE TIME TO YOUR TRIP**



Pre-Night or Post-Night: San Antonio (1-2 NIGHTS)



# Relax Texas-style as you settle into your River Walk hotel on this Southwestern getaway.

#### Day 1: San Antonio, Texas - Tour Begins

Welcome to the "American Venice." Historic missions, River Walk restaurants, Spanish architecture, and a beautiful river as the city's centerpiece make this a truly remarkable city. This evening, get to know your fellow travellers at a welcome reception.

#### Day 2: San Antonio

Your day begins with a fascinating tour of San Antonio with a local guide. History and culture abound with a visit to two UNESCO World Heritage sites. Visit the Mission San José, the second mission established by Fray Antonio Margil de Jesus in 1720. Then it's on to visit one of America's most historic sites, the Alamo, which played a critical role in the Texas Revolution. People worldwide continue to remember the Alamo as a heroic struggle against impossible odds - a place where men made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom. Next, browse for one-of-a-kind goods at El Mercado, the Mexican Marketplace. Board a boat and drift along the Paseo del Rio, also known as the River Walk, one of Texas's most prized attractions. Learn more about the architecture and culture of the city on this relaxing narrated boat ride. Then, enjoy some leisure time to discover San Antonio on your own. This evening, enjoy the local flavours of Texas during dinner in the King William Historic District at a restored convent.

### Day 3: San Antonio - Fredericksburg -San Antonio

Journey to the German settlement of Fredericksburg for a visit to the National Museum of the Pacific War, dedicated to teaching and preserving this chapter of U.S. history. The old-time Southwest will surround you as you take time to independently explore the quaint shops. Enjoy the evening at leisure

to explore San Antonio's beautiful River Walk, or venture further afield with your included Uber voucher. (B)

## Day 4: San Antonio 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Visit the South Texas Heritage Center at the Witte Museum, an interactive museum dedicated to sharing the stories of San Antonio's people and the land that has shaped their lives -OR- explore the 33-acre grounds of the San Antonio Botanical Gardens with expansive rose gardens, conservatory with tropical vegetation, and the Texas Native Trail showcasing ecosystems from the diverse regions of the state. Next, explore the historic Pearl District, a revitalized, cultural hub full of unique eateries and shops. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner with your travel companions at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### **Day 5: San Antonio - Tour Ends**

San Antonio's natural beauty, history, cuisine, and people create an experience you'll always remember.

> DOUBLE Starting at \$2099 SOLO Starting at \$2599

Pricing is per person, land only, & varies by departure date.

Prices based on February 23, 2025 departure.
All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

Oct. 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May 2024 Sept. 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing

ARRIVAL SAN ANTONIO (SAT)

DEPARTURE SAN ANTONIO (SAT)

# **ISLANDS OF NEW ENGLAND**

8 DAYS · 10 MEALS STARTING AT \$3749

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Providence • Newport • Lobster Trap Pull Demonstration & Cruise - Plymouth Rock - Cape Cod - Hyannis - Nantucket -Chatham • Martha's Vineyard • Lobster Dinner



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- See Plymouth Rock and step back in time in the town where the Pilgrims landed in 1620.
- Explore Rhode Island's Creative Capital and visit the Rhode Island School of Design.
- Cruise Plymouth Harbor and watch your boat's captain pull lobster traps from the water.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 2 Enjoy a panoramic city tour of Providence -OR- join a local guide on foot and get a closer look at some downtown attractions.
- Day 6 Spend the day enjoying your waterfront resort's amenities on Cape Cod -OR- spend the day exploring the nearby town of Chatham.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Dinners (D)

Celebrate the taste of Cape Cod with a traditional New England lobster dinner.



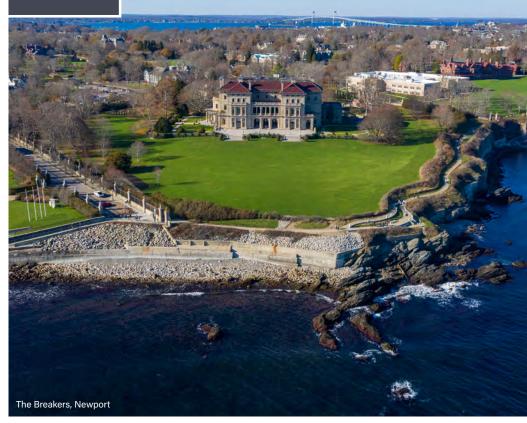
## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 - 3 Aloft Providence Downtown, Providence, RI

Days 4 - 7 Sea Crest Beach Hotel, Falmouth, MA **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** See next page for details.

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.





# The Atlantic coast is calling. Explore New England's majestic seaboards, from Rhode Island to Cape Cod.

## Day 1: Providence, Rhode Island - Tour **Begins**

Discover the natural beauty that lies along the shores of New England. Come to know its coastal charm, friendly people and fresh-from-the-sea cuisine. Your tour opens in Providence, the capital of Rhode Island.

## Day 2: Providence 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Enjoy a panoramic city tour with your Tour Manager on your coach and see highlights including the Brown University Campus and Waterplace Park -OR- join a local guide on foot and get a closer look at some downtown attractions like the Rhode Island State House and the historic Providence City Hall, After. reconnect with your fellow travellers and enjoy a self-guided visit to the Rhode Island School of Design Museum, where you can find works of art ranging from ancient Egyptian artifacts to modern and contemporary paintings. Tonight, celebrate the beginning of your journey after spending a day in the city known in New England as the Creative Capital. (B, D)

## Day 3: Providence - Newport -**Providence**

Head to Newport, a colonial port city that later

turned into a summer home to America's wealthiest industrialists. On your way, look to the calm water and see why the city has earned the moniker of the "Sailing Capital of the World" and was home to the America's Cup sailing competition for more than 50 years. In Newport, travel along Bellevue Avenue. Lined with extraordinary 19th-century summer "cottages," this road is home to 7 mansions designated National Historic Landmarks. These extravagant homes were used by affluent families like the Astors and Morgans, for fewer than two months each year. Step back in time and get a taste of the Gilded Age at The Breakers, the most opulent of the Newport Mansions and 70-room summer getaway of the Vanderbilt family. (B)

## Day 4: Providence - Plymouth, Massachusetts - Cape Cod

This morning, venture to the home of the first permanent colonial settlement in the country: Plymouth. Here, board a boat and cruise Plymouth Harbor. Your captain will share the importance of lobstering to New England culture and demonstrate how lobsters are pulled from the water. After returning to land,





stop in the town of Plymouth to see where the Pilgrims disembarked the Mayflower in 1620: Plymouth Rock. Later, arrive at your beachfront hotel for a 4-night stay on the Cape. (B)

## Day 5: Cape Cod - Hyannis -Nantucket - Cape Cod

Catch a glimpse of the Camelot era in Hyannis Port, home of the Kennedy compound, and visit the poignant Kennedy Memorial. Next, set off via ferry to explore the idyllic island of Nantucket. From its cobblestone Main Street to its beaches and lighthouses, this place lives up to its reputation. During time at leisure, meander the waterfront where sailboats and yachts sway in the harbor or shop for a famous Nantucket basket. Next, head to the Nantucket Whaling Museum and learn about this island's history as the former whaling capital of the world. Peruse exhibits about the danger of this industry in the 18th century and even see the skeleton of a 46-foot-long whale. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a popular local restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 6: Cape Cod - Chatham - Cape Cod 😯

Take in Cape Cod your way because today, it's your choice! Take advantage of the amenities at your waterfront hotel, perhaps sitting by the pool or visiting the private beach on the resort's property -OR- join your Tour Manager for a trip to Chatham, a town on the tip of Cape Cod, including some free time, stops at a local lighthouse and windmill, and a visit to the Atwood Museum - a museum that cover's the town's rich history. No matter which choice you choose, your evening is at leisure. (B)

## Day 7: Cape Cod - Martha's Vineyard - Cape Cod

A ferry ride transports you to beautiful Martha's Vineyard. Known for visits by presidents and royalty, this summer home of many artists, writers and celebrities is full of surprises. You'll see all the highlights of "the Vineyard" (as the locals call it), including quaint gingerbread-styled cottages and a once-famous whaling port resplendent with sea captains' homes and widow's walks. Later, depart the island and cruise back to Cape Cod. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner and traditional New England experience as you indulge in a lobster feast. (B, D)

Day 8: Cape Cod - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close, leaving you with many fond memories. (B)





#### Day 8: Cape Cod - Boston

Extend your stay in New England with 2 nights in Boston - Massachusetts's historic capital city. As the site of the famous "tea party," Boston has a long history of fighting for independence since the time of the Revolutionary War. Explore the city on your own, perhaps grabbing a bite of some renowned seafood or a cup of famous clam chowder. Consider venturing to the North End for some authentic Italian food, keeping an eve out for a fresh cannoli.

#### Day 9: Boston

The day is yours. Use your included ticket for a Hop-On Hop-Off bus to see the most of the city of Boston. Consider walking along the harbour, grabbing a pint in one of the many Irish pubs, or even visiting one of the city's museums. As the home of 35 different colleges, Boston features a perfect blend of history and modern innovations. (B)

#### Day 10: Boston - Tour Ends

Wish Boston goodbye as you depart for home. (B)



ARRIVAL PROVIDENCE (PVD)

DEPARTURE **BOSTON (BOS)** 

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3749 SOLO Starting at \$4749

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on May 10, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 (different itinerary - see note\*) May 2024 - October 2024

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



## Pre-Night: Providence (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 4-7: Sea Crest Beach Hotel

Enhance your experience at the Sea Crest Beach Hotel by upgrading your accommodations to an Oceanview Room with a balcony or patio.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

# **COLOURS OF NEW ENGLAND**

8 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$5199

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









Boston • Simon Pearce • Quechee Gorge • Stowe • Cold Hollow Cider Mill • Trapp Family Lodge • Rocks Estate • North Conway • Kancamagus Highway • Mount Washington • Lake Winnipesaukee Cruise - Portland - Kennebunkport -Lobster Dinner



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore the Rocks Estate and learn the importance of maple sugaring in the region on a farm tour.
- · Learn the history of the famous von Trapp Family during a visit to their lodge in Stowe.
- View the most photographed lighthouse in America, the Portland Head Light.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

**Day 5** — Spend some time appreciating the great outdoors alongside your Tour Manager during a nature walk -OR- explore downtown North Conway, with plenty of local shops for souvenir shopping.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 7 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

- · Taste the essence of New England at a dinner featuring succulent fresh lobster.
- Enjoy lunch prepared from fresh, local ingredients at the Simon Pearce restaurant.
- · Watch apple cider made the old-fashioned way.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

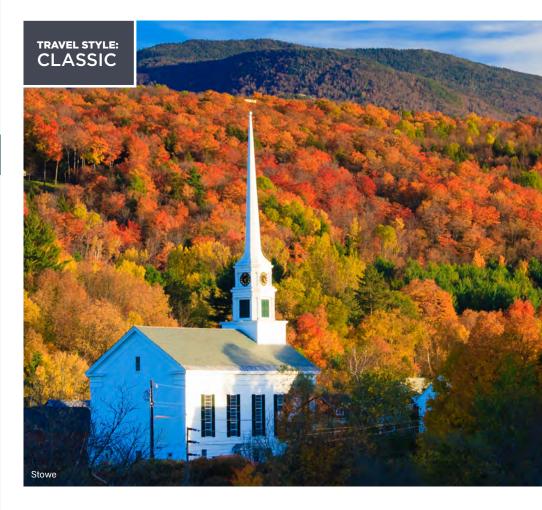
**Boston Marriott Copley** Day 1 Place, Boston, MA

Days 2, 3 Stoweflake Mountain Resort, Stowe, VT

Days 4, 5 White Mountain Hotel & Resort, North Conway, NH

Days 6, 7 Portland Area Hotel, Portland, ME

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# See a stunning display of vibrant foliage while travelling from historic Boston to the coast of Maine.

## Day 1: Boston, Massachusetts - Tour **Beains**

Welcome to Massachusetts, where your journey through charming and vibrant New England begins. Start your tour in the heart of Boston.

### Day 2: Boston - Woodstock, Vermont -**Stowe**

This morning, set out for Vermont where treecovered mountainsides dot a charming landscape of quaint villages with traditional, white steeple churches. Visit Quechee Gorge - known as Vermont's Little Grand Canvon. This afternoon. watch glassblowing artisans craft unique art at the Simon Pearce flagship store. Savor a lunch prepared with fresh, local ingredients served on Simon Pearce dinnerware. After lunch, arrive in Woodstock, "the quintessential New England village" with its beautifully restored Georgian homes, a covered bridge, and even a town green. This evening, settle into your resort in Stowe, nestled in the tranquil Green Mountains. (B, L, D)

#### Day 3: Stowe

Start off your day by heading to the Cold Hollow Cider Mill. In this historic mill, watch - and learn - how fresh cider is produced the old-fashioned way, via rack and cloth press; a process that's been passed down for generations. This afternoon,

visit the Trapp Family Lodge where you'll get to see the stunning alpine architecture and mountain views that reminded the famous family of their home in Austria. Indulge in the charms of this spectacular Alpine inspired property and learn their family history as depicted in the film The Sound of Music. (B)

## Day 4: Stowe - North Conway, New Hampshire

Today you will be New Hampshire bound! Soak in the lovely New England countryside as you journey through the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Make a stop to explore the Rocks Estate, home to the North Country Conservation & Education Center, On a tour of the farm, learn about the history and importance of maple sugaring in the region and visit a virtual tap room. Later, continue to North Conway via the Kancamagus Highway, a scenic byway offering spectacular views of the White Mountains region. (B, D)

#### Day 5: North Conway 😯

After breakfast, make your way to Mount Washington — the highest peak in the Northeastern United States. Break into smaller groups and enjoy a tour up the twisting Auto Road. Take in the sight of the peaks jutting into



the sky alongside a local expert who will

teach you about the unique history, plant,

Once you reach the summit, take time to

appreciate the fantastic view and spend

some time inside the museum to learn

conditions that impact the mountain's

time appreciating the great outdoors

alongside your Tour Manager during a

nature walk -OR- spend your afternoon

exploring downtown North Conway, with

plenty of free time for souvenir shopping.

and animal life you may see along the way.

about the extreme, rapid changing weather

peak. Later, it's your choice! Spend some





Fort Williams Park to view the Portland Head Light, the most photographed lighthouse in America and the oldest in Maine. As you take in the views of Portland Harbor and Casco Bay, four more lighthouses can be seen. Enjoy some free time this afternoon in beautiful Portland to stroll the historic Old Port neighbourhood's many shops and restaurants or check out one of the city's many museums or historical sites. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a very special farewell dinner featuring fresh native lobster, for which coastal Maine is renowned. (B, D)

## Day 6: North Conway - Lake Winnipesaukee - Portland, Maine

Journey to New Hampshire's picturesque lakes region, a popular vacation spot for visitors year-round. Board the M/S Mount Washington and spend the next hour cruising stunning Lake Winnipesaukee, New Hampshire's largest lake. Then, visit the charming town of Wolfeboro, the "oldest summer resort in America." Later, travel southeast to Maine's seacoast. Arrive in Portland, once home to sea captains and now known as one of "America's coolest cities." (B)

#### **Day 7: Portland**

(B, D)

This morning, a locally guided tour includes

## Day 8: Portland - Kennebunkport - Boston, Massachusetts - Tour **Ends**

Today, travel along spectacular Ocean Drive through the seaside community of Kennebunkport. See Walker's Point, the home on a rocky promontory that's a summer residence to the family of the late President George H.W. Bush. Return to the Boston airport with the many wonderful memories of your adventure. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5199 SOLO Starting at \$7199

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 14, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 (different itinerary - see note\*) September - October 2024

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for September - October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Boston (1-2 NIGHTS)

**Even More Time?** Combine Colours of New England with Islands of New

England for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.







66 I loved the beautiful colours of autumn in New England, the nice folks on the trip and the excellent tour director and bus driver. "

- Jody F.

# **ROAMING** COASTAL MAINE

7 DAYS · 9 MEALS STARTING AT \$3899

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Portland • Oyster Farm • Bar Harbor • Acadia National Park - Lobster Trap Pull Demonstration • Wine Tasting • Camden • Freeport • Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens - Boothbay



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Lose yourself in the natural beauty of Acadia National Park.
- · Watch as traps are hauled from the ocean onto a working lobster boat.
- Sample the vintages during a wine tastina.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 2 - Visit the Portland Museum of Art, Maine's oldest and largest public art institution -OR- join a locally-quided walking tour through Portland's oldest neighbourhood and learn about its diverse beginnings.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 2 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a rustic New England lunch at a traditional Maine lobster shack.
- Tour an oyster farm before digging into the local delicacies.
- Savour a Maine inspired welcome dinner.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Hyatt Place Portland Days 1, 2 Old Port, Portland, ME

Bar Harbor Grand Hotel, Days 3, 4 Bar Harbor, ME

Harraseeket Inn, Days 5, 6 Freeport, ME

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# This is Maine, where rocky shores, infinite nature, and endless lobster forge a coastal New England classic.

#### Day 1: Portland, Maine - Tour Begins

Welcome to Maine, a "Vacationland" of intricate coastlines and all-encompassing natural beauty that serves as the perfect getaway. From charming towns and scenic ocean overlooks to oyster shucking and lobster hauling, experience the best of this New England retreat.

#### Day 2: Portland 😯

Discover the essence of this vibrant harbour city by means of a true New England classic - a trolley. From the opulent Victoria Mansion to the hum of the Old Port, your guide will introduce you to Portland's hidden gems. Trade in the charming streets of the city for the rugged coastline, stopping at the picturesque Portland Head Light. This afternoon, it's your choice! Visit the Portland Museum of Art, Maine's oldest and largest public art institution whose collection includes pieces from Andy Warhol and Claude Monet -OR- join a locally-guided walking tour through Portland's

oldest neighbourhood and learn about its diverse beginnings. Get a chance to delve into the culture of Portland with free time to explore this seafaring city on your own. (B, D)

## Day 3: Portland - Bar Harbor

This morning, get an intimate look at a working oyster farm and learn how to dig into these local delicacies with an oyster shucking demonstration. Later, arrive in Bar Harbor, an iconic vacation spot featuring rich blue waters and home to Acadia National Park. With an evening at leisure, explore the bustling downtown, full of cozy cafes and indulgent ice cream shops just steps from your hotel. (B)

## Day 4: Bar Harbor - Acadia National Park - Bar Harbor

This is Acadia National Park. Breathe in the crisp, fresh air and allow the nature around you to captivate your senses. Admire the striking







mountains, towering forests, and rocky shorelines as you drive scenic Park Loop Road with a local guide. Take in the sweeping views from the summit of Cadillac Mountain. Then, dive into the cuisine and culture of Maine when vou join a local lobsterman on a lobster boat. See how lobster traps are retrieved from the ocean and watch the cages get pulled to the surface. Tonight is yours to explore Bar Harbor on your own. (B)

## Day 5: Bar Harbor - Camden -**Freeport**

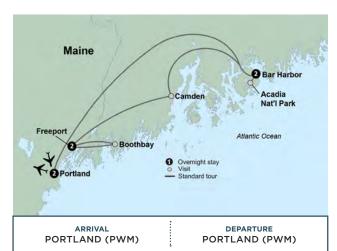
Sip some regional wine during a tasting at a local vineyard. Your scenic journey continues with a stop at a lobster shack to indulge in a must-try local favourite, the Maine lobster roll. Head to Camden for some time at leisure, giving you the perfect opportunity to explore this quintessential Maine town. Later, arrive in Freeport, your home for the next two nights. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)

## Day 6: Freeport - Boothbay -Freeport

Today, enter the natural wonderland of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, nearly 300 acres of grassy fields and woodland trails overflowing with floral hues. Enjoy some free time in Boothbay browsing this quaint, seaside town's cute shops and restaurants. Return to Freeport where you will visit the Maine Beer Company for an **Impact Moment**. Enjoy a guided tasting and learn all about the brewery's "Do What's Right" program in which they commit to employee wellness, minimizing their carbon footprint, and donating proceeds to environmental nonprofits. Tonight, toast to the end of your trip and bid Maine farewell over dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Freeport - Portland - Tour **Ends**

Your tour of coastal Maine comes to a close today. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3899 SOLO Starting at \$5599

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on May 26, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 (different itinerary - see note\*) May 2024 - October 2024

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May - October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**

Pre-Night: Portland (1-2 NIGHTS)





66 The hotels were great. We loved the oyster farm and the Lulu lobster boat tour, the scenery and harbours, and Acadia National Park! 99

- Frederick R.

# **MACKINAC ISLAND**

9 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$4249

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Chicago • Millennium Park • Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park • Mackinac Island • Grand Hotel • Frankenmuth • Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit the Henry Ford Museum and explore Greenfield Village.
- Climb aboard your horse-drawn carriage for an island tour.
- Explore the many gardens of the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 4 Dinners (D)

· Dine at the Grand Hotel where "every meal is an event."



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL

Day 3 Canopy by Hilton Grand Rapids Downtown,

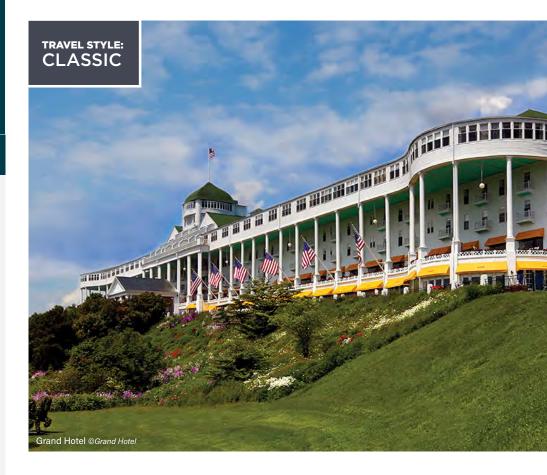
Grand Rapids, MI

Days 4, 5 Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI

Courtyard by Marriott Bay Day 6 City, Bay City, MI

Days 7, 8 Westin Hotel Southfield Detroit, Southfield, MI

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Discover the Midwest and all its charm on this delightful journey from idyllic Mackinac Island to the dynamic Great Lakes region.

## Day 1: Chicago, Illinois - Tour Begins

Get ready for a relaxing journey through the tranquil beauty of Mackinac Island and the Great Lakes region. This stunning landscape comes alive amid old-fashioned traditions.

#### Day 2: Chicago

Begin your day with a locally guided tour of Chicago's remarkable and impressive architecture. This dynamic city goes by many names including "Second City" and "The Windy City," but no matter what you call it, you're sure to fall in love. Highlights of your tour include famous Michigan Avenue, the "Magnificent Mile," the Wrigley Building, the Loop, the Lakefront, and a walking tour through Millennium Park. The remainder of your day is at leisure. You may want to visit one of Chicago's many museums, relax during a scenic boat ride across the Chicago River, or visit the Chicago Cultural Center. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (B, D)

## Day 3: Chicago - Grand Rapids, Michigan

Travel north as we make our way to the city of Grand Rapids. This afternoon, take some time to explore the many gardens, greenhouses, and art exhibits of the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. (B)

## Day 4: Grand Rapids - Mackinac Island This morning, enjoy a scenic drive before arriving

in Mackinaw City at the tip of Michigan's lower peninsula. You will have some time to explore this coastal vacation town and grab lunch before boarding the ferry that will take you back to a simpler time on Mackinac Island. Upon arrival, listen for how the neighs of horses replace the roar of engines. Your home for the next two nights is the glorious Victorian-era resort, the Grand Hotel. Both your hotel and the island itself are National Historic Landmarks. The island is a natural gem with over eighty percent of its land preserved by Mackinac State Park, a woodland paradise accented with limestone formations and ringed by Lake Huron. After dinner at your hotel, the evening is yours to enjoy. Perhaps you'll take a leisurely stroll through the quaint village or relax on the Grand Hotel's famous porch. (B, D)

## **Day 5: Mackinac Island**

Climb aboard your horse-drawn carriage for an island tour that includes stops at the Surrey Hills Carriage Museum and Arch Rock. Following your tour, savour some time to enjoy all of Mackinac Island's quiet pleasures. Enjoy brilliant views while sitting on the front porch of the Grand Hotel or take a walk downtown to visit the shops and buy some fudge, a favourite item on the island. Later, choose from a menu of tasty delicacies when you dine at the elegant Salle à Manger.







After dinner, enjoy a cup of coffee while listening to the refined sounds of the Grand Hotel's orchestra. If you crave a secluded hideaway, retreat to the charming Cupola Bar. (B, D)

Day 6: Mackinac Island - Bay City Enjoy some leisure time at the Grand Hotel and in town before departing this afternoon for your riverfront accommodations in Bay City. This evening is at leisure. Perhaps you will take to the river walk where you can explore the downtown on your own. (B)

### Day 7: Bay City - Frankenmuth -Southfield

Today, explore the architectural artistry of Alden B. Dow's home & studio during a guided tour. This legendary 20th century architect designed his home to be the peak of Mid-Twentieth Century Modern Architecture, and since its construction has been declared a National Historic Landmark, This afternoon, we visit the quaint town of Frankenmuth, or as the locals call it, "Little Bavaria," because of its Franconian-style architecture. Upon arrival, visit the largest Christmas store in the world - Bronner's. (B)

## Day 8: Southfield - Dearborn -Southfield

Today we visit Dearborn, hometown of Henry Ford and the Ford Motor Company. Visit the Henry Ford Museum and

Greenfield Village for an experience in living history. Learn how the automobile forever changed American life and society as you explore the Henry Ford Museum. At Greenfield Village, take in the historic homes and see the workshops where famous American icons like the Wright Brothers, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford and Robert Frost were once inspired. Enjoy a farewell dinner this evening, toasting the end of your wonderful journey. (B, D)

## Day 9: Southfield - Tour Ends

Your tour ends today, leaving you with a bounty of happy memories from your visit to America's heartland. (B)

#### ALSO AVAILABLE



#### Mackinac Island featuring **Tulip Time Festival**

Discover the Midwest and all its charm on this delightful journey from idyllic Mackinac Island to the extraordinary Tulip Time Festival.

\* DATES AVAILABLE **MAY 2024** 



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4249 SOLO Starting at \$5299

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 5, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 (different itinerary - see note\*) May - October 2024

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May - October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



## Pre-Night: Chicago (1-2 NIGHTS)



## **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 4-5: Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island

Enjoy views of the stunning Straits of Mackinac by upgrading your accommodations to a Lake View Room.

Please inquire about upgrade at time of booking.

# **SPOTLIGHT ON NEW** YORK CITY

5 DAYS · 5 MEALS STARTING AT \$2499

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Greenwich Village • Wall Street • Two Broadway Shows - Statue of Liberty -Ellis Island • 9/11 Memorial • 9/11 Museum



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore the 9/11 Memorial and the 9/11 Museum.
- The lights and energy of the Big Apple captivate as you walk NYC's bustling streets to dinner and Broadway shows.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 3 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Dinners (D)

 Experience breakfast and a taste of NYC diner culture in the city's staple eateries.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 - 4 Sheraton New York Times Square, New York, NY

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

#### ADD MORE TIME TO YOUR TRIP





66 The tour hit all the must-sees, plus Broadway shows. 99

- Gerald F. .....



# From Lady Liberty to Greenwich Village, New York City never sleeps. The Apple is big; enjoy every bite.

## Day 1: New York City, New York - Tour **Beains**

"Start spreading the news," because today you arrive in America's most exciting metropolis for a getaway filled with shopping, sightseeing and endless entertainment. Relax as you enjoy a single-hotel stay in the heart of the city.

## Day 2: New York City

An exciting day begins with breakfast at a local eatery, before embracing the city's energy on a locally guided tour of the "Big Apple." Find yourself in Greenwich Village, the Wall Street district, Chinatown, and Central Park. See the Empire State Building and many other timehonored landmarks. Take advantage of some free time this afternoon to discover the city at your own pace. Your Tour Manager has countless suggestions on how to spend your time. Maybe you are up for a shopping spree at some of the world's most legendary department stores, including Macy's, Bloomingdale's and Saks Fifth Avenue. Later, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. Then, take your seat at a Broadway show! (B, D)

#### Day 3: New York City

This morning, board a ferry for a cruise of New York Harbor. Take in the incredible views of the towering Statue of Liberty. Dock and get up-close to "Lady Liberty." She has welcomed immigrants and visitors to New York Harbor since 1886. Created as a token of friendship between the U.S. and France, the Statue of Liberty has become a global symbol of freedom. Then it's on to Ellis Island. Step back in time on a self-guided tour of the museum. Come to know the personal stories of the immigration boom of 1892-1924 when 12 million people passed through this station on their journey to America. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore "the city that never sleeps." Tonight, choose to join an optional walking tour of Greenwich Village including dinner. (B)

## **Day 4: New York City**

Enjoy breakfast at a local diner, Reflect at the 9/11 Memorial and take a self-guided tour at the 9/11 Museum - two poignant tributes to the lives lost. This afternoon, the curtains rise for your second Broadway show. You'll choose from a selection of Broadway's biggest hits. Say farewell to this extraordinary city tonight as we gather for your final taste of New York with dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 5: New York City - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close with many pleasant memories of your exciting tour of fabulous "New York, New York."

# DOUBLE Starting at \$2499 SOLO Starting at \$3299

Pricing is per person, land only, & varies by departure date. Prices based on February 13, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - Nov 2023 February - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### **ALSO AVAILABLE**

#### Spotlight on New York City Holiday

Rock around the (Rockefeller) Christmas tree and see the Big Apple dressed in its holiday

★ DATES AVAILABLE: NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023 **NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2024** 

ARRIVAL

DEPARTURE NEW YORK CITY (NYC) NEW YORK CITY (NYC)

# **SPOTLIGHT ON NEW** YORK CITY **HOLIDAY**

**5 DAYS · 5 MEALS** STARTING AT \$3599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Greenwich Village • Wall Street • Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall • Statue of Liberty • Ellis Island • 9/11 Memorial • 9/11 Museum • Broadway Show



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore the 9/11 Memorial and the 9/11 Museum.
- · Experience the streets of New York City like a native when you walk to dinner and a Broadway show.
- Experience the incredible Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 3 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Dinners (D)

 Experience breakfast and a taste of NYC diner culture in the city's staple eateries.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 - 4 Sheraton New York Times Square, New York, NY

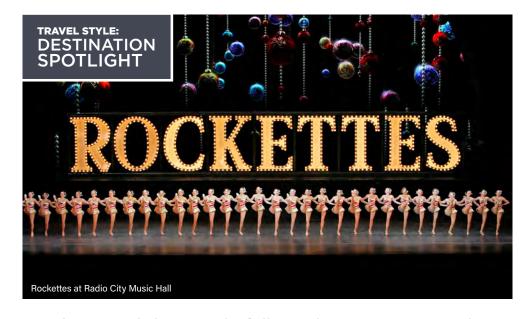
On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

#### ADD MORE TIME TO YOUR TRIP



## Pre-Night or Post-Night: New York City (1-2 NIGHTS)





# Rock around the (Rockefeller) Christmas tree and see the Big Apple dressed in its holiday best.

## Day 1: New York City, New York - Tour **Beains**

"Start spreading the news," because today you arrive in America's most exciting metropolis as it shines during the holiday season. Your New York City getaway is filled with shopping, sightseeing, endless entertainment and holiday cheer.

## Day 2: New York City

This morning, the day begins with breakfast at a local eatery, before setting out to embrace the energy of this fascinating city on a locally guided tour of the "Big Apple." You'll see Greenwich Village, the Wall Street district, Chinatown, the Empire State Building, Central Park and other time-honoured landmarks decorated for the season. This afternoon enjoy time at leisure to discover "the city that never sleeps" at your own pace. Your Tour Manager has countless suggestions on how to spend your time. Maybe you are up for skating at Rockefeller Center or Central Park. Be sure to take a picture in front of the colossal Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center and gaze at the elaborate 5th Avenue holiday window displays. After dinner at a local restaurant, you're in for the sweetest holiday treat - Radio City Music Hall and the incredible Christmas Spectacular featuring the high-kicking Rockettes - a short walk from your hotel! (B, D)

## Day 3: New York City

This morning, board a ferry for a cruise of New York Harbor. Take in the incredible views of the towering Statue of Liberty. Dock and get up-close to "Lady Liberty." She has welcomed immigrants and visitors to New York Harbor since 1886. Created as a token of friendship between the U.S. and France, the Statue of Liberty has become a global symbol of freedom. Then it's on to Ellis Island. Step back in time on a self-guided tour of the museum. Come to know the personal stories of the immigration boom of 1892-1924 when 12

million people passed through this station on their journey to America. Enjoy some time at leisure to partake in New York's fabulous holiday shopping at the world's most famous department stores including Macy's, Bloomingdale's and Saks Fifth Avenue, all dressed up in their holiday best, or choose to join an optional walking tour of Greenwich Village including dinner. (B)

### **Day 4: New York City**

Today enjoy breakfast at a local diner. Reflect at the 9/11 Memorial and take a self-guided tour at the 9/11 Museum - two poignant tributes to the lives lost. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a final toast as we gather for dinner at a local restaurant. Then, it's off to exhilarating Times Square to take your seat at an included Broadway show! You'll choose from a selection of Broadway's biggest hits. (B, D)

#### Day 5: New York City - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close with many pleasant memories of your exciting tour of fabulous "New York, New York" during the holiday season.



#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

Nov - Dec 2023 (different itinerary - see note\*)

Nov - Dec 2024 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for November - December 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

ARRIVAL NEW YORK CITY (NYC)

DEPARTURE NEW YORK CITY (NYC)

# SPOTLIGHT ON WASHINGTON, D.C.

6 DAYS · 8 MEALS STARTING AT \$3149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

U.S. Capitol Building Tour • World War II Memorial • Washington National Cathedral • Arlington National Cemetery • Mount Vernon • Old Town Alexandria • Vietnam Veterans Memorial • White House Visitor Center • Smithsonian Institution



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Behold the impressive Washington National Cathedral.
- · Peek into the life of America's first president at Mount Vernon.
- · Experience DC your way by visiting a Smithsonian Museum of your choice.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

• Day 3 - Join a walking tour retracing the plots and events leading to the Lincoln Assassination -OR- explore the life of espionage with a visit to the International Spy Museum.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 5 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Dinners (D)

· Experience international cuisine in local restaurants throughout the city.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Davs 1 - 5 Washington Marriott Georgetown, Washington, D.C.

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

#### ADD MORE TIME TO YOUR TRIP







# Walk the path forged by leaders of the free world in America's spirited capital city.

## Day 1: Washington, D.C. - Tour Begins

Explore America's heritage and history during your stay in the capital city of the United States -Washington, D.C.

## Day 2: Washington, D.C.

Your day begins at the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center with a guided tour of this historic and storied building. Discover the celebrated history of America's capital on a city tour. Take in views of the White House, National Mall and other monuments and museums. Pause to reflect at the poignant World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the Korean War Memorial. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (B, D)

## Day 3: Washington, D.C. 😯

Tour the Washington National Cathedral, which hosted state funerals, Presidential inaugural masses, and MLK's last sermon. Decide how you want to see more of D.C. today - it's your choice. Join a walking tour retracing the plots and events leading to the Lincoln Assassination -ORexplore the life of espionage with a visit to the International Spy Museum. This evening after an included dinner, enjoy an illuminated twilight tour of the Jefferson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Lincoln Memorials before returning to the hotel. (B, D)

## **Day 4: Arlington National Cemetery -**Mount Vernon, Virginia - Alexandria

Visit Arlington National Cemetery for a narrated tour that takes you to the Tomb of the Unknowns and the Kennedy gravesites. Head to Old Town Alexandria, nestled along the Potomac, and enjoy time to stroll the cobblestone streets on your own during a break for lunch. Continue to Mount Vernon, the beloved home of George Washington.

After a tour of the home, spend time wandering through the gardens and grounds before visiting the tomb of General Washington and his wife, Martha. This evening is yours to explore the district's culinary scene. (B)

### Day 5: Washington, D.C.

Spend time in the White House Visitor Center and see artifacts from the White House collection. Then, uncover some of the treasures of the Smithsonian Institution with free time to visit any of the more than 10 museums surrounding the National Mall. This afternoon you can choose to live like a local and take the metro with your Tour Manager to return to the hotel. Gather in the evening for a farewell dinner commemorating the end of your historical journey. (B, D)

# Day 6: Washington, D.C. - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close in Washington, D.C. (B)

## **DOUBLE** Starting at \$3149 SOLO Starting at \$3849

Pricing is per person, land only, & varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 3, 2024 departure.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024 March - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures, Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

ARRIVAL WASHINGTON D.C. (WAS) WASHINGTON D.C. (WAS)

DEPARTURE

# **SPOTLIGHT ON BOSTON**

5 DAYS · 6 MEALS STARTING AT \$2599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Faneuil Hall • Beacon Hill • Lexington & Concord • Buckman's Tavern • Harvard University



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Walk the grounds of Harvard University on a student-led tour.
- Use your Uber voucher to explore Boston your way.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

• Day 4 - Visit the JFK Presidential Library & Museum -OR- take an architectural walking tour of Boston.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 4 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Dinners (D)

Enjoy an Italian meal in Boston's famed North End.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 - 4 Marriott Copley Place, Boston, MA

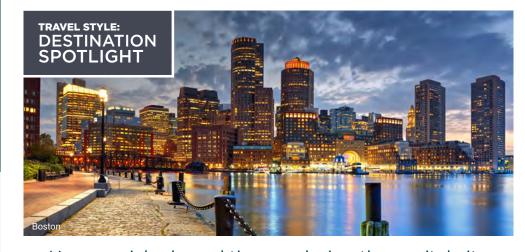
On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

#### ADD MORE TIME TO YOUR TRIP



Pre-Night: Boston (1-2 NIGHTS)





Have a wicked good time exploring the capital city of Massachusetts and the surrounding towns, all overflowing with American history and character.

## Day 1: Boston, Massachusetts - Tour Begins

Get ready for a wicked good time in Boston, a city steeped in history and bursting with character. Incredibly charming and walkable, Boston is ready to greet you with cobblestone streets, stately brownstone buildings, distinct neighbourhoods, art museums, shopping, and more.

#### Day 2: Boston

Take in Boston this morning on a panoramic city tour. You'll see historic sites like the Old South Meeting House, Boston Common, and the quaint cobblestone streets and Federal-style rowhouses of Beacon Hill. Your tour ends in Faneuil Hall, where you'll have free time to explore and try a local lunch favourite, like clam chowdah. The true heart of Boston, Faneuil Hall has been a marketplace and meeting hall since 1743. After that, it's your time to discover Boston on your own. Perhaps you'll follow the Freedom Trail from Faneuil Hall to the legendary USS Constitution. Or, you could use your included Uber voucher to head to Fenway Park for a tour, or the Museum of Fine Arts. Tonight, sit down to dinner at a local restaurant with your fellow travellers and toast to new friends met in the old city of Boston. (B, D)

## Day 3: Boston - Lexington & Concord -**Cambridge - Boston**

This morning, leave the bustle of Boston behind for the quiet of Lexington and Concord. These two towns were key in the start of the American Revolution, and your first stop will be Minute Man National Historic Park, Named for the militiamen who could be "ready in a minute's notice," the park will show an in-depth multi-media presentation on the spark of liberty that was struck here, setting the whole nation aflame. Afterwards, head to the exact spot where the "shot heard 'round the world" was fired, the Old North Bridge. Then, you're off for nearby Lexington to visit Buckman's Tavern and the Lexington Battle Green. See the place where colonial militiamen readied themselves to fight against the "redcoats," and learn what life was like in the early days of America. Depart for Cambridge

and arrive in Harvard Square for a tour of one of the most storied institutions of learning in the world - Harvard University. Get an insider's perspective of the campus straight from a student on a tour of the university, highlighting the history, culture, and famous figures of the school. After the tour, head back into Boston for an evening at leisure, or choose to add-on a Boston Harbor sunset cruise. (B)

#### Day 4: Boston 😯

Start the day your way with it's your choice! Choose to visit the Presidential Library & Museum of John F. Kennedy, built by legendary architect I.M. Pei, with exhibits dedicated to Kennedy's illustrious career -OR- discover the highlights and hidden gems of Boston with a walking tour that will take you through Copley Square, the Public Garden, Beacon Hill, and some off-the-beaten-path stops. This afternoon, you're free to explore Boston on your own. Perhaps you'll visit the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, or explore the shopping on Newbury Street, Afterwards, gather for a dinner in Boston's famed North End with your fellow travellers to bid farewell to Boston. (B, D)

#### **Day 5: Boston - Tour Ends**

Say goodbye to the history, the culture, and the new friends you found in Boston. (B)

> DOUBLE Starting at \$2599 SOLO Starting at \$3349

Pricing is per person, land only, & varies by departure date.

Prices based on September 12, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023

(different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May - October 2024 departures. Departures prior to this date may vary, Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing

ΔΡΡΙΥΔΙ BOSTON (BOS)

DEDARTURE **BOSTON (BOS)** 

# **AMERICA'S MUSIC CITIES**

8 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$4399

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

French Quarter • Jazz Revue • Grammy Museum • Graceland • Civil Rights Tour - Ryman Auditorium - Grand Ole Opry Show - Country Music Hall of Fame -Historic RCA Studio B



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Embark on a one-of-a-kind tour of Memphis tracing its ties to the Civil Rights Movement.
- · Tour the historic RCA Studio B for an up-close look at Nashville's oldest remaining recording studio.
- · Enjoy reserved seats at the Grand Ole Opry, the "home of American music."



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 7 - In Nashville, join a handson chocolate-making lesson at the iconic Goo Goo Candy Shop -ORvisit the Johnny Cash Museum where you'll be immersed in the life and legacy of Johnny Cash.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy Creole delights at a favourite French Quarter restaurant in New Orleans.
- Create your own Goo Goo Cluster Candy at a chocolate-making lesson.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Sheraton Hotel or Royal Sonesta Hotel, New Orleans,

Courtyard by Marriott, Day 3

Oxford, MS

The Guest House at Days 4, 5 Graceland, Memphis, TN

Gaylord Opryland Resort, Days 6, 7 Nashville, TN ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE

See next page for details.

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Enjoy a finger-snapping, toe-tapping time on a tour of America's most famed musical cities -New Orleans, Memphis, and Nashville.

## Day 1: New Orleans, Louisiana - Tour **Beains**

Step back in time on a cultural getaway that opens in the "Jazz Capital of the World," New Orleans! This soulful city abounds with rich history, mouthwatering Cajun and Creole cuisine, and of course, an incomparable soundtrack. Take in the sights, flavours, and sounds of New Orleans on your own today before meeting your group in the morning.

#### Day 2: New Orleans

Explore the many sides of New Orleans and how jazz began and thrives here. Join a local guide for a panoramic city tour, seeing the famous St. Louis Cemetery #3 and Esplanade. Then, it's on to a walking tour of the French Quarter viewing St. Louis Cathedral, Pirates Alley and more. Tonight, get to know your travel companions at a New Orleans-style dinner before continuing on to Maison Bourbon, a live jazz club in the French Quarter. (B, D)

Day 3: New Orleans - Oxford, Mississippi Leave New Orleans on a high note and head to the

next music landmark. Explore the history of one of the world's most prestigious awards in music at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi. Later, arrive in the charming college town of Oxford for a laidback evening. (B, D)

### Day 4: Oxford - Memphis, Tennessee

Travel north to Memphis, the birthplace of the Blues, Rock 'n' Roll, and Soul. Enjoy Southern hospitality at your hotel before jiving along to "Jailhouse Rock" as you visit Graceland, the stately mansion of the "King" himself, and tour Elvis's 14-acre estate, including his home, private jets, and Meditation Garden. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Memphis

This morning, embark on a civil rights history tour via coach and follow the route of Martin Luther King Jr's last march, stopping at Mason Temple where he gave his famous "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech the night before he was assassinated. Take time to explore the National Civil Rights Museum and grab lunch on your own. Later, get acquainted with the musical history of Memphis with a visit to Sun Studio, perhaps the







your choice! Join a hands-on chocolatemaking lesson at the iconic Goo Goo Candy Shop -OR- visit the Johnny Cash Museum where you'll be immersed in the life and legacy of Johnny Cash, a "100 Greatest Artists of All Time" honouree and the biographical inspiration for the blockbuster film, Walk the Line. (B, L)

Day 8: Nashville - Tour Ends Your rockin' musical journey comes to a close today. (B)

## most famous recording studio in the world before continuing on to the Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum, highlighting the musical journey of this popular city. (B)

## Day 6: Memphis - Nashville

Roll along Music Highway to Nashville - the "Music Capital of the World." Arrive in Nashville and tour the historic Ryman Auditorium, the original home of the Grand Ole Opry. What began as a building where a local radio broadcast show aired once a week in 1925 has grown to become an entertainment complex that attracts music fans from all over the world. This evening, take your reserved seat at the renowned Grand Ole Opry. (B)

## Day 7: Nashville 😗

Explore the Country Music Hall of Fame, the world's largest museum of popular music, and check out the vast collections of memorabilia, costumes, recordings, and instruments. Tour RCA Studio B and gain an insider's look at Nashville's oldest remaining recording studio, where Elvis Presley, Dolly Parton, and Charley Pride once recorded classic hits. You may even have the opportunity to record your own hit! After one more lunch together, it's

## ALSO AVAILABLE



#### America's Music Cities Holiday

Take in the sights and sounds of the holidays in America's most famed musical cities - New Orleans, Memphis, and Nashville.

**★ DATES AVAILABLE DECEMBER 2024** 



DOUBLE Starting at \$4399 SOLO Starting at \$5549

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on April 27, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

October 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** New Orleans (1-2 Nights)

**Post-Night:** Nashville (1-2 Nights)





## **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 6-7: Gaylord Opryland Resort

During your stay in Nashville, you may choose to enjoy views of one of the resort's beautiful atriums by upgrading your accommodation to a superior room.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

# **BLUEGRASS COUNTRY &** THE SMOKY **MOUNTAINS**

9 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$3849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7FOR DETAILS









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Churchill Downs . Kentucky Derby Museum • Old Louisville Walking Tour Buffalo Trace Bourbon Distillery Lexington Horse Farms • Great Smoky Mountains National Park •

Asheville • Biltmore Estate



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy a visit to a private horse farm in Lexington, Kentucky.
- · Stop in Berea, the arts and crafts capital of the state of Kentucky.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 2 — Visit the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory -OR- explore the Frazier Kentucky History Museum and its new Spirit of Kentucky exhibit.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 8 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

- Sip on samples of Kentucky's home-grown spirit during a tasting at Buffalo Trace Bourbon Distillery.
- · Enjoy Southern fare at historic Boone Tavern in the centre of Berea, Kentucky.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

- Days 1, 2 Hilton Garden Inn Louisville Downtown, Louisville, KY
- DoubleTree Suites by Hilton, Days 3, 4 Lexington, KY
- Hilton Garden Inn Gatlinburg, Gatlinburg, TN
- Cambria Hotel Downtown Days 7, 8 or DoubleTree by Hilton Asheville, Asheville, NC

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From the equestrian culture of Kentucky to the pioneer spirit of Tennessee, venture through the heart of Appalachia.

## Day 1: Louisville, Kentucky - Tour Begins

Your tour starts in Louisville, Kentucky, famous for Thoroughbreds, Bourbon and baseball. Settle in for a 2-night stay at your hotel, ideally situated in downtown Louisville.

## Day 2: Louisville 😯

Enjoy a visit to Churchill Downs, the Thoroughbred racetrack famous for hosting the pinnacle of all horse races: the Kentucky Derby. Experience the backside of the racetrack while watching the horses during their morning workouts! Then, tour the Kentucky Derby Museum and learn about the legendary history of the "Sport of Kings." Enjoy a walking tour of Old Louisville, a historic neighborhood of Victorian mansions. Later, head to "Museum Row" where it's your choice! Visit the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory for an All-Star baseball experience -OR- explore the Frazier Kentucky History Museum, and its Spirit of Kentucky exhibit, the official start of the Bourbon Trail. Tonight, join your fellow travellers at a local restaurant for a welcome dinner. (B, D)

## Day 3: Louisville - Lexington

Visit Buffalo Trace, the oldest continuously

operating Bourbon distillery in America. Learn about the subtle craft, meet some of the people who make it all happen, and taste some of the home-grown spirit. Stop in the quaint, historic town of Midway before exploring Kentucky's horse country. Learn about the area from a local guide and take in the rolling bluegrass pastureland and the horse farms that dot the landscape. Hear about time-honoured traditions during visits to private horse farms before settling into Lexington for your 2-night stay. (B)

## Day 4: Lexington - Berea - Lexington

Travel to Berea, the historic college town known as the arts-and-crafts center of Kentucky. Meet a few artisans while they demonstrate their craft. Enjoy lunch at Boone Tavern, where bluegrass country meets the rolling hills of Appalachia. Tonight, take in the tastes of Kentucky at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

### Day 5: Lexington - Gatlinburg, **Tennessee**

Travel through Daniel Boone National Forest. Extending across the western plateau region of the Appalachian Mountains, it's named for the









larger-than-life American pioneer who once blazed a trail across these rugged and wild lands. Arrive in the lively mountain resort of Gatlinburg, gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and your home for a 2-night stay. The rest of the day is yours, perhaps you will go to Dollywood, Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountains theme park or enjoy time in downtown Gatlinburg. (B)

## Day 6: Gatlinburg - Great Smoky **Mountains National Park -**Gatlinburg

With a local guide, explore Great Smoky Mountains National Park (UNESCO) - the United States' most visited national park. Stop at various lookouts on your way to Newfound Gap, which boasts views of both Tennessee and North Carolina. Enjoy your picnic lunch at a scenic location before continuing through the park to Cherokee and spend time at Qualla, the oldest Native American arts cooperative where you'll learn about traditional crafts and customs. Afterwards, tour the Ole Smoky Moonshine Distillery with a tasting before enjoying dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

## Day 7: Gatlinburg - Asheville, North Carolina

This morning, depart for Asheville, North

Carolina, your Blue Ridge Mountains home for two nights. The afternoon and evening are yours to explore a city known for craft breweries, chocolate, and farm to table cuisine. (B)

#### Day 8: Asheville

Back in 1895, George Vanderbilt II decided to build himself a "little mountain escape" in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. The result was the impressive and decadent grandeur of the Biltmore Estate. Today, tour the sprawling mansion and the manicured grounds and experience what it was like to be a wealthy tycoon in the Gilded Age of America, Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 9: Asheville - Charlotte -**Tour Ends**

Today your tour comes to an end. As you venture home, take the spirit and the warmth of America's Southeast with you. (B)



LOUISVILLE (SDF)

CHARLOTTE (CLT)

DOUBLE Starting at \$3849 SOLO Starting at \$4999

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on April 25, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024

Itinerary featured is for October 2023 -April 2024 tour departures. For departures after April 2024, please refer to our website.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Louisville (1-2 NIGHTS)





## ALSO AVAILABLE



#### Nashville & the Smoky Mountains Holiday

Enjoy the sights and sounds of Nashville, Gatlinburg and Asheville all decked out for the holidays.

DATES AVAILABLE NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023 NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2024

## **SOUTHERN CHARM**

7 DAYS · 9 MEALS STARTING AT \$3849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Historic Charleston • Boone Hall Plantation & Gardens - Savannah -St. Simons Island • Jekyll Island • Sea Turtle Hospital



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore Boone Hall Plantation & Gardens just outside of Charleston.
- · Visit the intriguing Mercer Williams House in Savannah.
- · See rehabilitation in action at the Georgia Sea Turtle Centre on Jekyll Island.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- Day 2 Stroll through Charleston's historic centre with a local guide OR- take a harbour cruise to Fort Sumter, where the first shots of the Civil War were fired.
- Day 4 Stroll through Savannah's historic centre with a local guide -OR- take in the ambiance of the "Old South" with a guided trolley tour.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Dinners (D)

 Enjoy a cooking demonstration and dinner showcasing regional specialities in Savannah



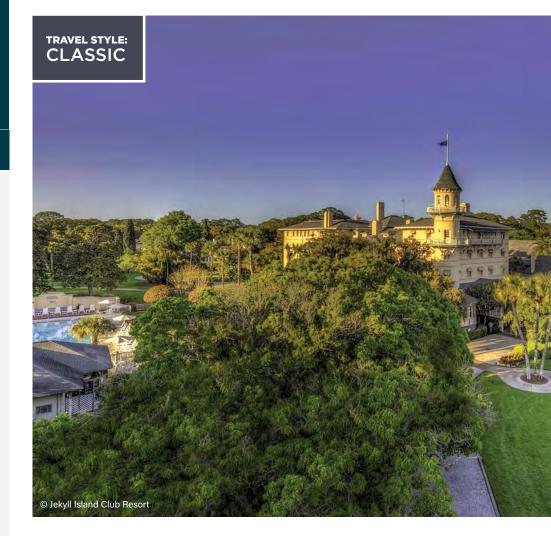
## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Emeline Hotel, Charleston, SC

Days 3, 4 The DeSoto, Savannah, GA

Days 5, 6 Jekyll Island Club, Jekyll Island, GA

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Embrace the charming allure of America's southeast as you explore cobblestone streets, historic homes and unspoiled coastline.

# Day 1: Charleston, South Carolina - Tour

Experience warm Southern hospitality in America's southeast. Come to know its rich history and deep traditions on this tour highlighted by stays in Charleston, Savannah and Jekyll Island. Begin your journey in Charleston, a city that has defied all odds. Charleston has survived the Civil War, major fires, an earthquake, and hurricanes - and still exudes elegance, charm, and grace. With free time upon arrival, perhaps you will visit Patriot's Point Naval Museum, the Aiken-Rhett House, or just settle into your accommodations in the Historic District.

#### Day 2: Charleston 😯

Decide how to see the city because it's your choice! Stroll through Charleston's historic centre with a local guide, exploring hidden alleys and quaint areas that are only accessible by foot -OR- take a harbor cruise to Fort Sumter. where the first fired shots of the Civil War were fired, and chat with a ranger before exploring on your own. Later, make your way to bustling

City Market, one of the country's oldest public markets and the central hub for Gullah sweetgrass basketry - an intricate handicraft of African origin. Explore Boone Hall Plantation and Gardens, where you'll experience Southern living as you come to know one of America's oldest plantations. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 3: Charleston - Savannah, Georgia

Enjoy a morning at leisure to explore Charleston on your own, Perhaps you will join an optional horse-and-carriage tour with lunch. Then, travel down the coast through South Carolina's Low Country to historic Savannah. This evening, spend some time exploring Factors Walk and River Street, where old cotton warehouses have been converted into trendy shops, taverns and restaurants. Tonight, gather at a popular local restaurant on Savannah's famous River Street for a cooking demonstration and dinner showcasing regional specialties. (B, D)







# South Carolina Atlantic Ocean Georgia St. Simons Island JekvII Island ARRIVAL DEPARTURE CHARLESTON (CHS) JACKSONVILLE (JAX)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3849 SOLO Starting at \$5149

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 7, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May - June 2024 September 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## Day 4: Savannah 😗

This morning, it's your choice! Take in the ambiance of the "Old South" with a trolley or walking tour highlighting Savannah's sprawling Historic District. Lively, informative commentary brings the city to life as you travel along the cobblestonepaved streets and beneath moss-draped oaks. Allow the stately mansions, beautiful squares and romantic riverfront promenades to capture your heart. Both tours will end at the Mercer Williams House, where you will receive a guided tour of the famed home from Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil. The rest of the afternoon and evening is yours to do as you wish. (B)

## Day 5: Savannah - St. Simons Island - Jekyll Island

Before saying so long to Savannah, stop at the Pin Point Heritage Museum to learn about the Gullah Geechee people. Then journey to Georgia's legendary Gold Coast and visit the quaint St. Simons Island. Enjoy time to explore the area on your own, meandering along the unique shops and restaurants in the village. Continue on to the exclusive Jekyll Island Club hotel, your home for the next two nights. (B)

## Day 6: Jekyll Island

Situated grandly in the middle of the Golden Isles, Jekvll Island was once the beloved vacation spot for prominent families, including the Rockefellers, Vanderbilts and J.P. Morgan. With a morning at leisure, enjoy the old-world atmosphere of this iconic resort. Gather for a tram ride that brings you on a tour of the island and the Jekyll Island Historic Landmark District - one of the nation's largest restoration projects. Then, visit the Georgia Sea Turtle Center where injured and sick sea turtles are rehabilitated and returned to the wild. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner at the Jekyll Island Club hotel. (B, D)

## Day 7: Jekyll Island - Jacksonville, Florida - Tour Ends

As your tour draws to a close, leave for home with memories of a trip welltravelled. Your days spent experiencing true southern charm and gracious hospitality will stay dear to your heart for years to come. (B)

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Charleston (1-2 NIGHTS)



### ALSO AVAILABLE



### Southern Charm Holiday

In South Carolina and Georgia, experience the unique charm of America's "Low Country" decked out for the holiday season.

\* DATES AVAILABLE NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023 NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2024



# **PACIFIC NORTHWEST** & CALIFORNIA

8 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$4249

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Seattle • Mount St. Helens Visitor Centre • Portland • Columbia River Gorge • Hood River • Yaquina Head Lighthouse • Newport • Bandon State Natural Area • Rogue River Cruise - Redwood National Park - Avenue of the Giants • San Francisco



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit lively Pike Place Market, Seattle's famous fish and vegetable
- Venture to Mount St. Helens Visitor Centre to learn about its volcanic activity.
- · Visit Columbia River Gorge and Multnomah Falls.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

· Savour a wine-tasting while gazing at views of Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Thompson Hotel, Seattle, WA Day 1 Days 2, 3 Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront, Portland, OR

The Mill Casino, North Bend, Day 4

Best Western Plus Bayshore Day 5

Inn, Eureka, CA Days 6, 7 Hyatt Regency Downtown SOMA, San Francisco, CA

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From Mount St. Helens to the giant Redwoods, fall under the spell of the Pacific Northwest and California.

#### Day 1: Seattle, Washington - Tour Begins

Your tour opens with an overnight stay in Seattle, dubbed the "Emerald City" for its lush green surroundings. Get to know your fellow travellers at tonight's welcome dinner. (D)

## Day 2: Seattle - Mt. St. Helen's - Portland, Oregon

Explore Seattle's colourful waterfront area and historic Pioneer Square with a local guide. Mingle with artisans at the lively Pike Place Market, a famous fish and vegetable market dotted with restaurants and shops. Travel by Washington State Ferry across Puget Sound to Bremerton - Seattle's skyline is spectacular from the water! Back on land, travel south through Olympia, stopping at the Mount St. Helens Visitor Center. Learn about its 1980 volcanic eruption as well as the history and geology of the state park. Continue to Portland, Oregon for a two-night stay in the picturesque "City of Roses." (B)

## Day 3: Portland - Columbia River Gorge -**Portland**

Drive along the Mt. Hood route to the lush Columbia River Gorge. Take in the unforgettable views of Mt. Hood as you leave the valley and enter the Cascade Mountains. Discover the aweinspiring landscapes of the magnificent Columbia River and Multnomah Falls, a 611-foot-tall roaring

cascade. Later, enjoy a wine-tasting at a local vineyard followed by a visit to a lavender farm. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 4: Portland - Willamette Valley -**Newport - North Bend (Oregon Coast)**

On the way to the Oregon coast, journey through the Willamette Valley. Today known for its wine that rivals that Napa, this was once the "Promised Land" for the pioneers who followed the Oregon Trail. On the coast, stop at the Yaguina Head Lighthouse, a 93-foot tower buffeted by wind and rain since 1872. Enjoy time at the interpretive centre or make your way down to Cobble Beach to explore the tide pools of colourful sea anemones and starfish. Stop in the seaside town of Newport before travelling further along the coast. End your day strolling North Bend's lively boardwalk, perched along scenic Coos Bay. (B, D)

## Day 5: North Bend - Bandon Natural Area - Redwood National Park - Eureka,

Drive to Bandon State Natural Area. Take in the breathtaking scenery as we travel along the striking Beach Loop. See Bandon Rocks and Face Rock, famous for their American Indian legends. Stop to enjoy a cruise up the spectacular Rogue River, taking you into Oregon's rugged wilderness for a chance to see bald eagles, cormorants,









SEATTLE (SEA)

SAN FRANCISCO (SFO)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4249 SOLO Starting at \$5299

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on April 21, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 April 2024

(different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024 April 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

seals and blue heron. Continuing south to California's redwood country, travel through Redwood National Park, home to trees that can reach nearly 300 feet. See for yourself why the sun seldom hits the ground. (B, L)

#### Day 6: Eureka - San Francisco

Return to the majestic beauty and splendid grandeur of the redwood forest as you traverse the "Avenue of the Giants," a scenic highway loaded with towering redwoods. Next, drive over the legendary Golden Gate Bridge and arrive in "the City by the Bay," San Francisco. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own at one of the many restaurants in this eclectic city. (B)

#### Day 7: San Francisco

Today, join a local guide to hear stories of the city's past and present as you drive past its famous landmarks including Fisherman's Wharf, the Presidio and the Golden Gate Bridge. You'll also see the iconic neighbourhoods of Chinatown, North Beach and Haight Ashbury. After a farewell lunch, the remainder of your day is at leisure to explore San Francisco independently. (B, L)

## Day 8: San Francisco - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close today, but the

memories will stay with you forever.

## Optional 1 Night Seattle **Pre-Tour Extension** Starting at \$520 pp



#### Day 1: Seattle, Washington

Arrive in Seattle, the Emerald City on Puget Sound. Check into your hotel and enjoy time on your own to settle in. A local representative will meet you at the hotel to assist with recommendations on how you can spend your afternoon and evening.

#### Day 2: Seattle

After breakfast, join a local guide on a walking tour of the famed Pike Place Market - one of the country's oldest farmers markets - on Seattle's bustling waterfront. All of your senses will be engaged as you have fun exploring the historic arcade and winding alleys. Later, travel like a local on Seattle's Monorail to the Seattle Center. Take your time visiting the Space Needle and Chihuly Garden and Glass - a monument to art as glass featuring an astounding display of Dale Chihuly's installations. Your entry includes 8 galleries, the central Glasshouse, and a sculpture garden. (B)

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Post-Night: San Francisco (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **Even More Time?**

Combine Pacific Northwest & California with California Dreamin' for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.







66 I enjoyed having everything planned out for me and the excellent selections of venues to visit. 99 - Jeannette K.

.....

## **CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'**

8 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$3849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Monterey - Scenic 17-Mile Drive -Yosemite National Park - Sacramento -Lake Tahoe Scenic Cruise - Napa Valley Vineyard Tour and Wine Tasting • San Francisco



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Marvel at the views along scenic 17-Mile Drive from Monterey to Carmel.
- Meet a local farmer and visit an almond orchard in the Central Valley.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 5 — Visit the California State Railroad Museum and explore the detailed exhibits with a guide -ORperuse a collection of Californian art and European master drawings on a guided tour of the Crocker Art Museum.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- · Visit a family-owned olive oil producer for lunch and a tasting.
- Sample local vintages during a winery tour and tasting in Napa Valley.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

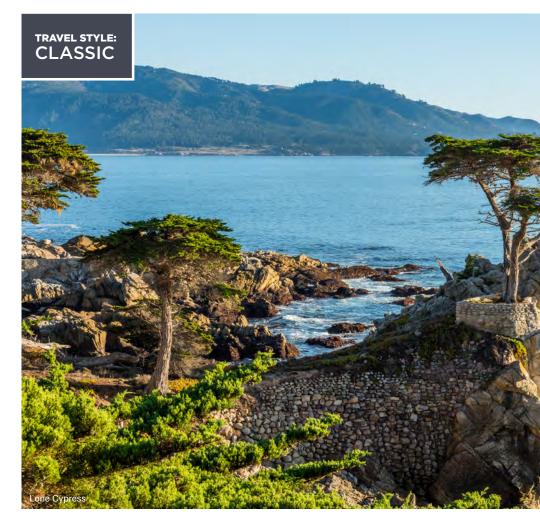
Days 1, 2 Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel & Spa, Monterey, CA

Days 3, 4 DoubleTree Hotel, Modesto, CA

Days 5, 6 Hyatt Regency, Sacramento, CA

Hotel RIU Plaza Fisherman's Day 7 Wharf, San Francisco, CA

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



This is the essence of Northern California, from fine wine and freshly caught seafood to vibrant cities and nature on an epic scale.

## Day 1: Monterey, California - Tour Begins

From the rugged coastline of the Pacific Ocean to Yosemite National Park, Lake Tahoe to Napa Valley, the scenery, history, and culture of northern California is unparalleled. Your tour opens in Monterey, a seaside city with a rich history and gorgeous scenery.

#### Day 2: Monterey

The morning is yours to relax or explore this charming city independently. Perhaps you'll visit the renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium or walk along Monterey's Path of History - a self-guided tour of the city's historic landmarks. This afternoon, the scenery of your dreams comes alive as you travel along the famed 17-Mile Drive to Carmel. See the Lone Cypress Tree, Seal Rock, and prestigious Pebble Beach Golf Course before relaxing over dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 3: Monterey - Modesto

Travel northeast toward California's Central Valley to Modesto, your base for visiting Yosemite and home for two nights. While Modesto is a city, it has a small-town atmosphere. Once you get there, visit a family-owned olive oil producer for an

informative presentation, olive oil tasting, and lunch. Afterwards, meet a local farmer and visit an almond orchard. Tonight, sit down with vour fellow travellers for dinner and continue to savour those local flavours. (B, L, D)

## **Day 4: Modesto - Yosemite National** Park - Modesto

Dramatic waterfalls to soaring granite peaks, Yosemite will leave you in awe. Enjoy a scenic drive to the gates of the national park, where you'll travel by coach through Yosemite's unrivalled landscapes with an expert guide. Natural wonders abound as you stand before El Capitan, and take in breathtaking vistas including Half Dome, Tunnel View and Yosemite Falls. (B)

#### Day 5: Modesto - Sacramento 😯

Arrive in Sacramento, enjoying time on your own for lunch in Old Sacramento - a historic Gold Rush-era neighbourhood filled with over 60 restored buildings, wooden sidewalks, and antique gas lamps. Then, it's your choice! Visit the California State Railroad Museum and explore the detailed exhibits with a guide -OR-









DOUBLE Starting at \$3849 SOLO Starting at \$4899

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on May 13, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) May - October 2024 March - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## peruse a collection of Californian art and European master drawings on a guided tour of the Crocker Art Museum. Dinner is included tonight at a local restaurant. (B, D)

# Day 6: Sacramento - Lake Tahoe - Sacramento

Travel over the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the resort town of Lake Tahoe. Board a classic yacht-style vessel for a narrated cruise of Lake Tahoe's pristine waters. Discover the history of the area and explore the enclosed and open-air decks for ideal places to snap photos of the dynamic landscape and breathe in the fresh air. (B)

# Day 7: Sacramento - Napa Valley - San Francisco

The iconic rolling vineyards of Napa Valley welcome you today. Tour the grounds of a vineyard while learning about the winemaking process before enjoying a private tasting and a delicious farewell lunch. Raise a glass of locally produced wine and toast to your California adventure. Tonight, enjoy an evening to explore San Francisco as you please. (B, L)

## Day 8: San Francisco - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many pleasant memories. (B)

## Optional 2 Night San Francisco Post-Tour Extension Starting at \$520 pp



# Day 8: San Francisco - Extension Begins

Continue your California adventure and independently explore San Francisco's iconic sights.

#### Day 9: San Francisco

today. (B)

Your day is free to enjoy San Francisco as you wish. Perhaps you'll discover Fisherman's Wharf, have lunch in Chinatown, venture to Alcatraz, or hop on a cable car – these are just a few of the things on offer in this vibrant City by the Bay. (B)

## **Day 10: San Francisco - Tour Ends** Your time in San Francisco comes to an end

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-N

Pre-Night: Monterey (1-2 NIGHTS)

**Even More Time?** 

Combine California Dreamin' with Pacific Northwest & California for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.







66 I loved farmer John, an enjoyable man with a great gift of entertainment. His farm had the best apple fritters I've ever eaten! 99

# **GRAND HAWAIIAN ADVENTURE**

13 DAYS · 17 MEALS STARTING AT \$8529

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Waikiki Beach . Pearl Harbor . Iolani Palace • Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park • Kona Highlights • Iao Valley• Polynesian Luau • Waimea Canyon



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy a cruise on tranquil Wailua River in Kauai.
- · Create your own lei as part of a cultural demonstration on the Big Island.
- · Visit Iolani Palace to see the last residence of the Hawaiian Royal Family.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Savour a Polynesian luau featuring tropical drinks and a sumptuous feast.
- · Spend time at a Kona coffee farm and learn how coffee is grown.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 - 3 Prince Waikiki, Oahu

Outrigger Kona Resort Days 4 - 6 and Spa at Keauhou Bay,

Days 7 - 9 Sheraton Maui Resort

and Spa, Maui Days 10 - 12 Royal Sonesta Kauai

Resort, Kauai **ROOM UPGRADES AVAILABLE IN ALL HOTELS!** 

See next page for details.

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Embrace the spirit of "Aloha" on a leisurely 4-island tour of Hawaii featuring 3-night stays each in Oahu, Big Island (Kona), Maui and Kauai.

## Day 1: Honolulu, O'ahu - Tour Begins

Aloha! Your adventure begins on the sundrenched beaches of Waikiki. Relax and "hang loose" before meeting your group tomorrow you are in Hawaii!

#### Day 2: Honolulu

Remember Pearl Harbor with a visit to the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, viewing artifacts from the attack and a short documentary on the "Day of Infamy." Travel by naval launch to view the white marble-clad USS Arizona Memorial, honoring those who lost their lives in the Pearl Harbor attack, After, take a city tour of Honolulu, highlighting the historic Iolani Palace, the impressive state capitol building, King Kamehameha's statue, and the National Cemetery of the Pacific. The remainder of the day is yours. (B, D)

#### Day 3: Honolulu - Waikiki

Dive into Hawaiian history with a visit to Iolani Palace to learn about the Hawaiian monarchs and the takeover of Hawaii by the United States. Then enjoy free time in downtown Honolulu with recommendations from your Tour Manager for the best spots for a traditional plate lunch. Later stop at the Pali lookout in O'ahu's rainforest before returning to Waikiki for an evening at your leisure. (B)

## Day 4: Honolulu - Hilo, Big Island - Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park -Kona

Board your flight to the volcanic "Big Island" of Hawaii and leave cosmopolitan O'ahu behind. True to its name, the island itself is larger than all the other Hawaiian Islands combined. Although the island's official name is the archipelago's namesake, the Big Island is also famous for its volcanoes creating black, rocky landscapes. Upon arrival, pause at the iridescent mist of Rainbow Falls before having time to explore Hilo on your own for lunch. Then set out for a tour of the South Coast including a visit inside Hawaii Volcanoes National Park to learn about Kilauea - the world's most active volcano. Make your way along the steam bluffs to get a view of the impressive caldera. On the way to the hotel take in views of the crystalclear waters of Kealakekua Bay and visit one of the iconic black sand beaches. (B)

## Day 5: Kona

This morning, take time to relax at your resort and look out over Big Island's rocky coastline. In the afternoon, your Tour Manager will bring you into Kailua-Kona — a town established by King Kamehameha I before he unified the Kingdom of Hawaii. After, enjoy ample time to peruse the





shops and grab a bite of lunch on your own before returning to the hotel for a lei making class taught by a local expert. Learn about their cultural significance and create one of your own to bring home. (B)

## Day 6: Kona - Honaunau Bay -Kona

Start the day at Bay View Farm, which has been harvesting coffee beans since 1984. Tour the farm with a local before enjoying a tasting of the local brew. Visit St. Benedict's Painted Church, built in the 1800s and adorned with vibrant frescos. Continue to Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park on the rugged coast, once the place of refuge for those that broke the Kapu (sacred law) in old Hawaii. (B, D)

## Day 7: Kona - Kahului, Maui -Ka'anapali

Board an inter-island flight to the "Valley Isle" of Maui, one of the most beautiful and popular outer islands. Visit the stunning lao Valley and view the 2,000-foot-high lao Needle, one of Maui's famous natural landforms. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Maui

Spend a day at leisure to see for yourself why locals say Maui no ka oi (Maui is the best). Perhaps you will take an optional cliff-side drive on the legendary Road to Hana. Or you may choose to take a stroll along the beach, shop for souvenirs or

simply relax at your luxurious Maui resort. There is no limit to the adventures you can have on this gorgeous island! (B)

#### Day 9: Maui

Enjoy another day in paradise. Tonight, celebrate the "aloha spirit" Hawaiian-style, at a traditional Polynesian luau featuring endless tropical drinks and a sumptuous feast. (B, D)

## Day 10: Kahului - Lihue, Kauai

A short flight takes you to the "Garden Isle" of Kauai, where you'll uncover the world of ancient Polynesia on the oldest island in the chain. Upon arrival, travel to the breathtaking Waimea Canyon, carved thousands of years ago by rivers and floods. At 10 miles long, 1 mile wide, and more than 3,500 feet deep, it is considered the "Grand Canyon of the Pacific." (B)

#### Day 11: Kauai

The day is yours to enjoy this beautiful island at leisure. Stroll along the beach or take advantage of your resort's activities.

#### Day 12: Wailua River - Lihue

Step aboard an open-air boat for a cruise along the tranquil Wailua River. Your captain will tell stories of days gone by before making a stop at the lush Fern Grotto. Embark on a short guided walk before your return boat ride. Feel the Hawaiian spirit as hula dancers join you to demonstrate this ancient art form, originally performed for the volcano goddess Pele. Tonight, complete your wonderful trip with a farewell dinner. (B, D)

## Day 13: Lihue - Tour Ends

Bid Aloha to Hawaii as your memorable tour ends in Kauai. Now, wherever your home is, you'll always be part of the Hawaiian ohana (family). (B)

#### ALSO AVAILABLE



#### **Hawaiian Adventure**

Embrace the spirit of "Aloha" on a leisurely 3-island tour of Hawaii featuring 3-night stays each in Oahu, Big Island (Kona), and Maui.

DATES AVAILABLE OCTOBER 2023 - APRIL 2024 MAY 2024 - APRIL 2025



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$8529 SOLO Starting at \$11779

HONOLULU (HNL)

Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

KAUAI (LIH)

Prices based on March 27, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

May 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**



Pre-Night: Honolulu (1-2 NIGHTS)



## **ROOM UPGRADES AVAILABLE**



#### **HOTEL UPGRADES**

During your stay in Hawaii, you may choose to enjoy views of the crystal blue waters of the Pacific by upgrading your accommodations to an oceanfront room during any of your hotel stays.

Please inquire about these upgrades at time of booking.

# **ALASKA: AMERICA'S LAST FRONTIER**

9 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$6449

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Fairbanks - Gold Mining - Museum of the North • Trans-Alaska Pipeline • Dog Mushing • Denali National Park

- Tundra Wilderness Tour Talkeetna
- Musk Ox Farm Anchorage Prince William Sound Glacier Cruise



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Learn about Alaska's gold mining past through the voices of two local sisters and try your hand at panning for paydirt.
- Get a local's perspective on the Alaskan way of life during an interactive discussion.
- Visit a Musk Ox Farm and learn about the sustainable domestication project.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 4 - Take an easy hike in Denali National Park and discover wildflowers in bloom and gorgeous views in every direction -OR- meet a park ranger who will introduce you to the park's sled dogs - the traditional mode of Alaskan wilderness transport.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 8 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

Dine on the grounds of the champion owned Trail Breaker Kennel.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 - 3 Pikes Waterfront Lodge, Fairbanks

Days 4, 5 Denali Bluffs Hotel, Denali Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge, Day 6 Talkeetna

Days 7, 8 Hilton Anchorage. Anchorage

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Journey through America's last great frontier to discover awe-inspiring beauty, inviting locals, and rich cultural heritage.

#### Day 1: Fairbanks, Alaska - Tour Begins

Your Alaskan adventure begins with a 3-night stay in Fairbanks - the "golden heart city." Discover this gold rush boomtown's unique mix of contemporary culture and rich history.

#### Day 2: Fairbanks

Tap into Alaska's "golden heart" with a visit to a locally owned gold panning experience, where you'll learn about the region's gold mining past and try your hand at panning for some paydirt yourself. Get to know Fairbanks on a city tour, including a stop at the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, an engineering marvel that delivers oil across the state to the port city of Valdez. After some free time this afternoon, you'll visit legendary Trail Breaker Kennel where you'll meet mushers and their happy pups. Witness the dogs in their element on a training run before enjoying dinner on the kennel's scenic property. (B, D)

## Day 3: Fairbanks

This morning, visit the Museum of the North at the University of Alaska where light filled spaces and

expansive windows highlight the spectacular views of the Alaskan range. Inside, the museum tells the state's rich history through art, artifacts and film. The afternoon is at leisure or take a cruise on the Riverboat Discovery to get a glimpse into everyday life along Alaska's rivers.

#### Day 4: Fairbanks - Denali 😯

Behold beautiful scenery as you relax and have breakfast in a deluxe domed railcar on your way to Denali National Park. Upon arrival in Denali, enjoy an included lunch and some free time. After it's your choice! Join your Tour Manager on an easy hike and discover wildflowers and gorgeous views in every direction -OR- take a bus into the park where a ranger will introduce you to the park's sled dogs dogs - the traditional mode of Alaskan wilderness transportation. The evening is yours to discover Denali as you please. (B, L)

#### **Day 5: Denali National Park**

Bring your binoculars and camera as you head







and increase awareness for these woolv creatures since 1954. Get acquainted with Anchorage on a panoramic city tour before enjoying an evening at leisure to discover what Alaska's largest city has to offer. (B)

## Day 8: Anchorage

Delve into the area's indigenous culture this morning at the Alaska Native Heritage Center where you'll learn about Alaska Head to Whittier and embrace the sheer magnitude of Alaska's natural beauty on a glacier cruise through Prince William Sound. Listen to an expert narrate your journey through a geological wonderland as blue skies collide with stark white the calm waters. Tonight, gather at a local restaurant to toast to your journey through America's last great frontier. (B, L, D)

**Day 9: Anchorage - Tour Ends** Your Alaskan adventure comes to a close today. (B)





Gulf of Alaska DEPARTURE ARRIVAL

FAIRBANKS (FAI)

ANCHORAGE (ANC)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6449 SOLO Starting at \$8549

Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on September 5, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

May - September 2024

\*Itinerary featured is for May - September 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

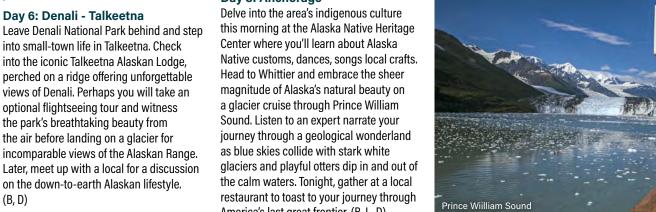
See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night or Post-Night:** 

Anchorage (1-2 Nights)







into Denali National Park on a full-day

Tundra Wilderness Tour, Travel over 40

Day 7: Talkeetna - Anchorage

On your way to Anchorage, discover the pastoral charm of Matanuska Valley. Enjoy free time in Palmer for lunch before you take a step into the past with a visit to a Musk 0x Farm. Learn about the Musk 0x project - a sustainable domestication effort that has worked to preserve, protect,

# **ALASKA'S NORTHERN LIGHTS**

7 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$4699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Anchorage - Northern Light Excursions • Winter Glacier Cruise • Prince William Sound • Talkeetna • Alaska Railroad • Fairbanks • Dog Mushing



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Search for the northern lights in Fairbanks' star-filled sky.
- · Hop in a sled and experience dog mushing like a local.
- · Visit Musk Ox Farm and learn about the sustainable domestication project.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a taste of wild Alaskan salmon.
- · Learn all about the Iditarod as you dine on the property of a legendary racing kennel.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Hilton Anchorage, Anchorage, AK

Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge, Day 3

Talkeetna, AK

Days 4 - 6 Pikes Waterfront Lodge,

Fairbanks, AK

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Take a snowy peek into Alaska. Visit the friendly local towns of the last frontier and bond with energetic sled dogs.

#### Day 1: Anchorage, Alaska - Tour Begins

Your journey starts in Anchorage, a city on the edge of the snowcapped Chugach Mountains and 60 sparkling glaciers. This is your gateway to wilderness and adventure.

## **Day 2: Anchorage - Winter Glacier Cruise** - Anchorage

Head to Whittier and embark on an incomparable glacier cruise of Prince William Sound, narrated by an expert guide. Blue skies collide with stark white glaciers, and playful otters dip in and out of the calm waters. Embrace the sheer magnitude of Alaska's natural beauty as you venture through a geological wonderland. Feel like a true explorer during a beach landing. In the evening, gather with new friends for a welcome dinner in a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

## Day 3: Anchorage - Palmer - Talkeetna

Take a step into the past when you visit Musk Ox Farm. Learn about the Musk Ox project - a sustainable domestication effort that has worked

to preserve, protect, and increase awareness for these wooly creatures since 1954. Continue on to Talkeetna as Denali, North America's tallest mountain, looms large over the landscape. Perhaps you will take an optional flightseeing tour and experience a breathtaking perspective of Denali. Check into the iconic Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge, perched on a ridge offering unforgettable views of Denali. Later, perhaps you will spend some time on the Lodge's expansive deck; a great place to search for the Northern Lights, or just enjoy some hot cocoa by the roaring fireplace in the great room. (B, D)

## Day 4: Talkeetna - Alaska Railroad -**Fairbanks**

Begin your day with a lecture on the downto-earth Alaskan lifestyle before hopping on Alaska Railroad's Aurora Winter Train for a full-day journey to Fairbanks. Sit back and relax as you are whisked away, through snowcovered mountains and striking valleys. Have your cameras ready - the train conductor will







point out wildlife as you pass by. Dinner is included in the train's dining car. This evening you arrive in Fairbanks, your home for the next three nights and one of the best places in Alaska to see the northern lights. (B, D)

### **Day 5: Fairbanks**

Enjoy a full day at leisure in the city of Fairbanks. Take this opportunity to relax or flex your sense of adventure with optional excursions: consider flightseeing to the Arctic Circle. Late this evening, chase the legendary northern lights, considered to be one of the most amazing natural spectacles in the world. Walk out in the snow under an unspoiled bed of stars and search for the shimmering hues of purple and green. (B)

#### Day 6: Fairbanks

Feel the brisk air and discover Fairbanks. the perfect combination of nature and civilization. Look into the past at the Antique Auto Museum, where vintage cars sit between timely artifacts and fashionable designer dresses from times gone by. Hop in a car yourself, throw on some flapper accessories, and pose for

a perfect souvenir snapshot. In the afternoon, embrace the Iditarod spirit and try your hand at dog mushing, stepping into a sled with an expert guide and gliding over the snow with your very own pack of sled dogs. Stay for dinner at the kennel owner's home and learn more about what the life of a musher is like. Later in the evening, enjoy a final chance to spot the northern lights. (B, D)

## Day 7: Fairbanks - Tour Ends

Enjoy a relaxing morning before heading to the Museum of the North, the University of Alaska's collection featuring 2.2 million years of biodiversity and thousands of years of human history. The remainder of your day is at leisure. A day room has been extended for your use before your transfer to the airport. (B)



DOUBLE Starting at \$4699 SOLO Starting at \$5749

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 21, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

February - March 2024

Itinerary featured is for February - March 2024 tour departures. For departures after March 2024, please refer to our website.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Anchorage (1-2 NIGHTS)





66 The tour guide was fantastic—very organized, knowledgeable, and eager to help in any way she could! Loved the small size of the group which allowed us to really get to know each other. 99

.....

- Tammy M.

# **ALASKA DISCOVERY LAND & CRUISE**

12 DAYS · 26 MEALS STARTING AT \$5700

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Fairbanks - Sternwheeler Discovery -Music of Denali Dinner Theater . Denali National Park • Tundra Wilderness Tour Luxury Domed Rail - Anchorage -Hubbard Glacier • Glacier Bay • Skagway • Juneau • Ketchikan • Inside Passage



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy an unforgettable rail journey from Denali to Talkeetna in a luxury domed railcar.
- Enjoy an expert guided Tundra Wilderness Tour in Denali National Park.
- Relive Alaska's Gold Rush days in historic Skagway.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 11 Breakfasts (B) • 7 Lunches (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

 Enjoy a lively dinner theatre performance about the first brave men to summit Denali.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

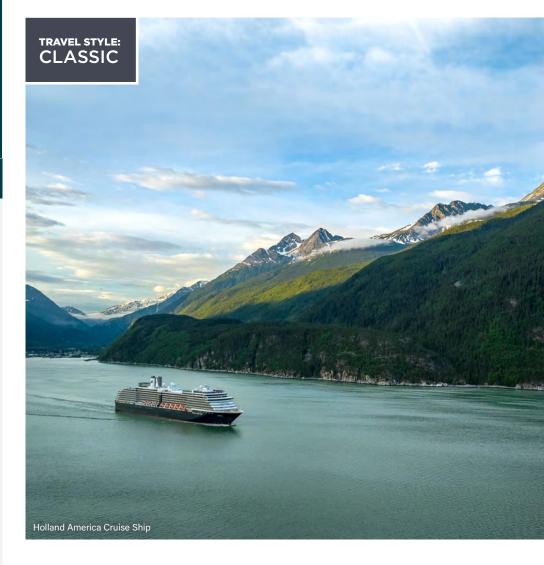
Westmark Hotel, Day 1 Fairbanks, AK

McKinley Chalet Resort, Days 2, 3 Denali National Park, AK

Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge, Talkeetna, AK

Days 5 - 11 Holland America Cruises' Noordam or Nieuw Amsterdam

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Traverse the Pacific coast by land and sea on this breathtaking journey through Alaska.

## Day 1: Fairbanks, Alaska - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Fairbanks, in the great state of Alaska, on an adventure that brings together the best of both land and sea.

#### Day 2: Fairbanks - Denali National Park

Step aboard the popular Sternwheeler Discovery, an unforgettable journey showcasing Alaska's diverse culture and rich history. Make stops along the way to meet the people and get a taste of local life. Take a scenic motor coach ride to Denali National Park. Tonight, enjoy a musical performance that tells the story of the first brave men to summit Denali followed by dinner. (B, L, D)

## **Day 3: Denali National Park**

This morning, travel deep into Denali National Park on the Tundra Wilderness Tour which affords the best opportunities to view the region's wildlife. Learn about the history of the park and see why Denali is one of the top three reasons that people visit Alaska. The remainder of the day is at leisure. (B)

## Day 4: Denali National Park - Talkeetna

Your day begins with a scenic train ride to Talkeetna. Savour every moment inside your luxury domed railcar. View the incredible landscape from glass-ceiling railcars and open-air observation platforms as rail guides provide expert commentary. Check into the iconic Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge, perched on a ridge offering unforgettable views of Denali. (B)

## Day 5: Talkeetna - Anchorage - Whittier - Board Cruise Ship

Depart for your ship, stopping en route in Anchorage, Alaska's largest city. Continue with a scenic drive along the Alaska Range. Drive along the Turnagain Arm to the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center. With a local guide, discover where orphaned or injured bears, wolves, porcupines, and moose are cared for in a 200-acre rehabilitation site. Arrive in the port of Whittier where you'll embark on your 7-night Holland America cruise aboard a fabulous









DOUBLE Starting at \$5700 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on September 4, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

TOUR DATES AVAILABLE

May – September 2024

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

Domed Raildar

66 The fact that we went by bus, by sternwheeler, train and ship was fun... I am in awe of all we were able to experience.

floating resort designed to make your stay on board truly memorable. You will be dazzled by the entertainment in the state-of-the-art lounges and a myriad of dining options. While on board, breakfast, lunch, dinner and nightly entertainment are included. (B, D)

Day 6: Cruising - Hubbard Glacier Your ship cruises past the mammoth Hubbard Glacier, one of Alaska's largest glaciers. Have your camera ready and take in the natural beauty of the glacier's stunning surface. (B, L, D)

**Day 7: Cruising - Glacier Bay** Cruise through Glacier Bay, a spectacular

national park and preserve that is a treasure trove of tidewater glaciers and scenic coastal islands. Its rich world of marine life and large concentration of tidewater glaciers is Alaska at its best. (B, L, D)

## Day 8: Cruising - Skagway

Relive Alaska's Gold Rush days in this "Gateway to the Klondike" and home of the famed Chilkoot Trail. In historic Skagway, Alaska's past lives on in a spectacular natural setting and cries of "gold in the Yukon!" can still be heard. (B, L, D)

## Day 9: Cruising - Juneau

From massive scenic mountains to historic buildings, there is so much to explore in Alaska's capital city of Juneau. (B, L, D)

## Day 10: Cruising - Ketchikan

Your port of call today is Ketchikan, known as the "Salmon Capital of the World" and the "City of Totems." Located on the tranquil Revillagigedo Island, Ketchikan is home to the world's largest collection of totem poles. (B, L, D)

Day 11: Cruising - Inside Passage A wonderful day of sightseeing awaits as your ship sails along the amazing Inside

Passage. (B, L, D)

# Day 12: Vancouver, B.C. Disembark Cruise - Tour Ends

Your cruise ends this morning in the vibrant Canadian city of Vancouver, leaving you with many wonderful memories of your tour to the last of the great frontiers.
(B)

# **CANADIAN ROCKIES FEATURING ROCKY MOUNTAINEER**

8 DAYS · 13 MEALS STARTING AT \$8149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Vancouver - Stanley Park -Rocky Mountaineer - Kamloops - Lake Louise • Banff • Icefields Parkway • Icefields Adventure - Calgary



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Spend two days onboard Rocky Mountaineer viewing coastal forests, roaring river canyons and lofty mountain peaks.
- · Enjoy an overnight in Lake Louise.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - In Banff, take a fun ride across a 1,000-foot thick mass of glacial ice -OR- take a walk on the Columbia Icefield Skywalk to experience the breathtaking views of the Sunwapta Valley from the glassfloored platform.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

 Enjoy elegant dining aboard the Rocky Mountaineer, as well as unlimited alcohol.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, Vancouver, BC

Day 3 Kamloons hotel

Fairmont Chateau Lake Day 4 Louise, Lake Louise, AB

Days 5, 6 The Rimrock Resort, Banff,

Calgary Marriott Downtown, Day 7

Calgary, AB

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From scenic mountains and valleys to the stunning Lake Louise, explore the best of Western Canada via the famous Rocky Mountaineer train.

## Day 1: Vancouver, British Columbia - Tour **Begins**

Set out to explore the beautiful Canadian Rockies by train. This timeless adventure begins in the beautiful city of Vancouver.

#### Day 2: Vancouver

Begin your Vancouver sightseeing tour at beautiful Stanley Park, Canada's renowned urban rainforest. Follow the park's famous seawall and discover views of the mountains along trails, beaches, historical landmarks and colourful gardens. Make your way to picturesque Granville Island Public Market to stroll through its fascinating stalls of handmade crafts and artisan food producers. This evening, enjoy dinner with your fellow travellers at a local restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 3: Vancouver - Rocky Mountaineer -**Kamloops**

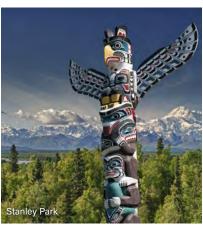
Onboard Rocky Mountaineer, embark on an aweinspiring rail journey as you travel through some of the world's most majestic scenery. Beyond your sparkling glass window, enjoy views of coastal deep-green forests, roaring river canvons, and snowcapped mountain peaks. From Vancouver, B.C. to Banff, Alberta, let the Rocky Mountaineer

bring you on a spectacular voyage through the verdant farmlands of the Fraser Valley and the towering peaks of the Coast Mountains. Inside your single-level dome coach, gaze out at the stunning panoramas of the mighty Fraser River and the raging white waters of Hell's Gate. Watch the landscape transform again, this time to a semi-arid desert, as you travel toward the city of Kamloops for your overnight stay in a hotel. (B, L)

## Day 4: Kamloops - Rocky Mountaineer -Lake Louise, Alberta

Continue east this morning to the spectacular Canadian Rocky Mountains. History comes alive as you travel this legendary rail route that united Canada as a nation, through the century-old Spiral Tunnels and along the powerful Kicking Horse River. Traverse the Continental Divide and keep an eye out for moose, elk, and bighorn sheep - not to mention osprey, soaring eagles, even the occasional bear. After another beautiful day onboard Rocky Mountaineer, raise a glass for a final toast. Arrive this evening in the picturesque village of Lake Louise and settle into the famous Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, a stunning property nestled along the banks of the lake. This evening, dine at one of the great





ARRIVAL DEPARTURE VANCOUVER (YVR) CALGARY (YYC) **DOUBLE** Starting at \$8149 Pricing is per person, land only, SOLO Starting at \$10499 Prices based on May 19, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars. **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** May - September 2024 See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

Alberta

Canada US

restaurants at Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise. (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: Lake Louise - Banff

Enjoy a leisurely morning and admire the enchanting turquoise waters of the lake. Set off for a scenic drive through Banff featuring the powerful Bow Falls and Surprise Corner, known for its pictureperfect panoramic views. Next, meet a local ammolite specialist to learn about this rare gemstone found only in Alberta. During an afternoon at leisure, perhaps you will take a stroll through Banff's charming downtown, (B)

## Day 6: Banff - Icefields Parkway -Banff 💎

A wonderful day of sightseeing awaits as you set out along the unforgettable Icefields Parkway. Marvel at impressive waterfalls, rushing rivers, glacial peaks, imposing cliffs and the picture-perfect snowcapped mountain ranges. Stop at the Athabasca Glacier where it's your choice! Take a fun ride across this 1,000foot thick mass of glacial ice - the largest accumulation of ice south of the Arctic Circle -OR- take a walk on the Columbia Icefield Skywalk to experience the breathtaking views of the Sunwapta Valley and witness the dramatic landscape from the glass-floored platform. This afternoon, stop at Bow Lake - a beautiful crystal clear lake fed by Bow Glacier - for photographs and a walk along its shore. Be on the lookout for bears and stately elk on your return to Banff. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Banff - Calgary

Enjoy a morning at leisure in Banff before heading to Calgary - where the wild West meets industrial skyscrapers. Stop at Cave and Basin National Historic Site. whose protected land led to the birth of Canada's first national park. Tonight, join in a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a memorable trip. (B, D)

## **Day 8: Calgary - Tour Ends**

Your adventure comes to a close today, leaving you with many memories of your extraordinary journey through the aweinspiring Canadian Rockies. (B)

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Vancouver (1-2 NIGHTS)

**British Columbia** 

Pacific Ocean



## **UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



#### Day 3: Rocky Mountaineer Train

While travelling on the Rocky Mountaineer Train, upgrade to GoldLeaf Service. Pamper yourself with panoramic views from your luxurious seat of a bi-level glass domed coach with full-length windows; access to a private dining room downstairs where you'll enjoy gourmet à la carte meals, and a large, exclusive outdoor viewing platform; and complimentary beverages.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

# **CANADIAN ROCKIES BY TRAIN**

9 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$7399

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

British Columbia • Vancouver • VIA Rail • Alberta • Jasper • Maligne Lake • Athabasca Glacier - Choice on Tour: Ice Explorer Glacier Tour or Columbia Icefield Skywalk • Lake Louise • Banff • Calgary



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- See the dramatic Maligne Canyon, one of the area's most spectacular landmarks.
- Behold spectacular Moraine Lake and the Valley of the Ten Peaks.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 5 — Choose a fun ride across the Athabasca Glacier-OR- take in breathtaking views on the Columbia Icefield Skywalk, a glass-floored platform.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 8 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy breakfast at picture-perfect Maligne Lake.
- · Delight in a traditional Albertan barbecue.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, Vancouver, BC

VIA Rail's The Canadian, Day 2 Vancouver, BC

Days 3, 4 Forest Park Hotel, Jasper, AB or Chateau Jasper, Jasper, AB

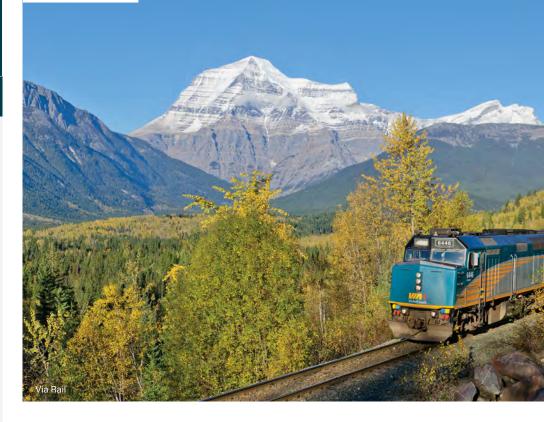
Fairmont Chateau, Lake Day 5 Louise, AB

Days 6, 7 Fairmont Banff Springs, Banff,

Calgary Marriott Downtown, Day 8 Calgary, AB

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.





## From the lush green Pacific coast of Vancouver, board VIA Rail's The Canadian for a once-in-a-lifetime overnight train journey.

## Day 1: Vancouver, British Columbia - Tour **Begins**

Take a remarkable journey through the stunning landscapes, charming towns and beautiful lakes of the Canadian Rockies, Your adventure opens in Vancouver.

#### Day 2: Vancouver - VIA Rail

A city tour of Vancouver begins this morning at beautiful Stanley Park, Canada's renowned urban rainforest. Then, continue to the waterfront, and Gastown - a turn-of-the-century centre comprised of pubs, art galleries, boutiques and the worldfamous steam-powered clock, perhaps the most photographed subject in all of Vancouver. Stroll picturesque Granville Island and its fascinating markets. Later, board VIA Rail's The Canadian to begin your journey to the majestic Canadian Rockies. Relive train travel in the days of old as you are rocked to sleep tonight in your private accommodations. (B, D)

#### Day 3: VIA Rail - Jasper, Alberta

Your eastbound train whisks you past the peaks of the Monashee Mountains and the stunning sight of Pyramid Falls cascading down Mt. Cheadle. Relax in the dome car as you experience 360-degree views of the glistening glaciers of the Albreda

Icefields and on a clear day, view Mt. Robson the highest peak of the Rockies! Moose, mountain goats, bear and caribou call this wonderland home. This afternoon, arrive in Jasper, nestled in the heart of the Canadian Rockies at the gateway to the incredible Icefields Parkway. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Jasper

This morning, travel to Maligne Lake, the largest natural lake in the Canadian Rockies, and enjoy breakfast against the backdrop of the pictureperfect sparkling waters of the lake. While at Maligne Lake, you may choose to embark on an optional cruise highlighting the beauty of Spirit Island. Later, enjoy the dramatic Maligne Canyon, one of the area's most spectacular landmarks. Return to your hotel with time to independently explore this lovely town. (B)

## Day 5: Jasper - Icefields Parkway - Lake Louise 😱

Set off for a wonderful day of sightseeing en route to Lake Louise. Journey along the unforgettable Icefields Parkway. Waterfalls, rushing rivers, glacial peaks, imposing cliffs and snowcapped peaks paint the breathtaking canvas - so have your camera handy! Enjoy a stop at the Athabasca Falls and marvel at its



sheer beauty and power. Then, it's your

and choose a fun ride across this mass of

- the largest accumulation of ice south of

the Arctic Circle -OR- take a walk on the

Columbia Icefield Skywalk to experience

the breathtaking views of the Sunwapta

down the parkway, be on the lookout

for bears, furry marmots and stately elk.

crystal-clear lake fed by Bow Glacier - for

photographs and a walk along its shore

Enjoy a stop at Bow Lake - a beautiful

Valley and witness the dramatic landscape

from the glass-floored platform. Continuing

glacial ice which is over 1.000 feet thick

choice! Stop at the Athabasca Glacier





During leisure time, perhaps you will take a stroll through Banff's delightful downtown. (B)

#### Day 8: Banff - Calgary

Leave the wonders of the Rockies for the prairies of Alberta en route to the Kananaskis Valley. Visit a local ranch for a line dance lesson and enjoy a wagon ride in search of buffalo. Then, delight in a traditional Albertan barbecue with beautiful views of the mountains in the background. Later, enjoy the views of the prairies before you reach the vibrant city of Calgary. Tonight, join in a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a memorable trip. (B. L. D)

**Day 9: Calgary - Tour Ends**Your tour ends today in Calgary. (B)

## Day 6: Lake Louise - Banff

before arriving in Lake Louise. (B, D)

Today, view the spectacular Moraine Lake and the awe-inspiring Valley of the Ten Peaks. The jagged Ten Peaks are distinctively saw-toothed, standing out amidst stunning Alpine scenery. Continue on to the charming mountain town of Banff for a 2-night stay. (B, D)

## Day 7: Banff

Set off for a scenic drive through Banff featuring the powerful Bow Falls and Surprise Corner, known for its picture-perfect panoramic views. Next, meet a local ammolite specialist to learn about this rare gemstone found only in Alberta.

memorable trip. (B, L, D)

# OVERNIGHT TRAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

Via Rail whisks you past forests, prairies, lakes and the breathtaking landscape of the Canadian Rockies! Your trip aboard this train necessitates an overnight stay in a small cabin with a bunk bed. On arrival to the Rockies, some of the most awe-inspiring scenery in the world awaits.



DOUBLE Starting at \$7399 SOLO Starting at \$8799

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on May 5, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 April 2024

(different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May - October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night:

Vancouver (1 Night)

Post-Night:
Calgary (1 Night)







#### **Excursion:** Victoria Day Trip

A scenic ferry crossing transports you to Vancouver Island to visit the incomparable and lovely Butchart Gardens. Set on over 55 acres, Butchart Gardens are among the world's most beautiful and are a veritable explosion of colour and fragrances. Then, take a short sightseeing tour of the "City of Gardens," Victoria, and enjoy leisure time to explore this charming, seaside city. In the evening you will journey back to the mainland via a short ferry ride.

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.

# WESTERN **CANADA'S ROCKIES, LAKES & WINE COUNTRY**

9 DAYS · 13 MEALS STARTING AT \$5149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Calgary - Albertan BBQ - Banff - Bow Falls • Lake Louise • Revelstoke Railway Museum • Okanagan Valley • • Vineyard Dinner and Wine Tasting . Vancouver . Stanley Park • Granville Island



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Stay 2 nights in the heart of the Okanagan - British Columbia's wine country.
- · Taste some local treats on an agricultural visit in the Okanagan.
- · Delve into the history of the Canadian Pacific Railway at the Revelstoke Railway Museum.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - Learn the hidden history of Kelowna during a city walking tour -OR- join an indigenous First Nation knowledge keeper for a sensory walking tour on ancestral lands.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- Delight in a traditional Albertan barbecue.
- Taste the wines of the Okanagan Valley during dinner at a local vineyard.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Calgary Marriott Downtown, Day 1 Calgary, AB

Days 2, 3 Banff Ptarmigan or Banff Caribou Lodge, Banff, AB

Sutton Place Hotel, Day 4 Revelstoke, BC

Days 5, 6 Delta by Marriott Okanagan Resort, Kelowna, BC

Days 7, 8 Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, Vancouver, BC

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Behold beautiful views and welcoming cultures as you journey across the Canadian Rockies from Calgary to Vancouver.

#### Day 1: Calgary, Alberta - Tour Begins

The vast unspoiled wilderness of the Canadian Rockies awaits you. Get ready to behold skyhigh peaks and tranguil lakes, wine country and engaging cultures. Your tour begins in Calgary, a cosmopolitan city with strong western roots and ties to its cattle ranching past.

## Day 2: Calgary - Banff

Discover the cowboy spirit of Western Canada with a stop at a local ranch for a line dance lesson and a wagon ride in search of buffalo. With soaring peaks serving as your backdrop, sit down for a traditional Albertan barbecue lunch. Continue on to Banff, where you'll have an evening to yourself to explore what this charming mountain town has to offer. (B, L)

## Day 3: Banff

A scenic drive through Banff reveals powerful Bow Falls and picture-perfect Surprise Corner. Learn about Banff National Park at Cave and Basin National Historic Site, where a short tunnel brings you to the hot springs that sparked the creation of Canada's first national park. You'll then meet with a local ammolite specialist to learn about this rare colourful version of the gemstone found

only in Alberta. Enjoy some free time to explore downtown Banff this afternoon, or opt for a thrilling helicopter tour up to Mt. Assiniboine. Tonight, meet up with your travel companions for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 4: Banff - Lake Louise - Revelstoke, **British Columbia**

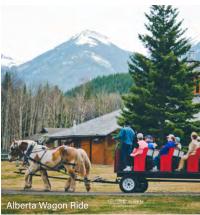
The famous glacier-fed, turquoise waters of Lake Louise are yours for admiring this morning. Perhaps you'll hike along the lakeshore or simply relax in the majesty of your surroundings. Enjoy lunch at the Ski Lake Louise Lodge before boarding the mountain gondola, which offers breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains and Lake Louise from an elevation of more than 6,800 feet (2,088 meters). The stunning scenery continues on your way to the ski town of Revelstoke, where you'll pass through Yoho, Glacier & Revelstoke National Park. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Revelstoke - Kelowna

All aboard for a visit to the Revelstoke Railway Museum - an interactive museum that connects you to the history of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Continue on to fertile lands of the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia's most celebrated wine







Canadian who will guide you around the neighbourhood's iconic landmarks and herbal stores all while sharing the history of their community. End this tour with a dinner featuring an assortment of Chinese dishes and a presentation on Chinese customs and culture. (B)

#### **Day 8: Vancouver**

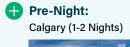
A city tour of Vancouver begins this morning at beautiful Stanley Park, Canada's renowned urban rainforest. Continue onto Gastown - a turn-of-thecentury neighbourhood comprised of pubs, art galleries, boutiques, and a world-famous steam-powered clock, Visit the picturesque Granville Island Public Market and stroll through its fascinating stalls of handmade crafts and artisan food producers. Tonight, toast to the end of your journey at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 9: Vancouver - Tour Ends Your tour through Western Canada comes to a close today. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5149 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date. SOLO Starting at \$7349 Prices based on September 19, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars. **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** May - October 2024 See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR











66 Every single day was enjoyable. I loved learning about The Canadian and Pacific RR, as well as a tour with an Indigenous woman in Kelowna. 99 - Amelia K.

region. Taste some local treats and meet the people who call this valley home during an agricultural visit. Arrive in Kelowna where you'll settle in for a 2-night stay by waters of Lake Okanagan. (B)

### Day 6: Kelowna 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Learn the hidden history of Kelowna during a city walking tour with a local guide, uncovering the legend behind Kelowa's namesake, revisiting a turn-of-the-century love story for the ages, learning the entertaining history of the Kelowna Regatta and more -OR- join an indigenous First Nation knowledge keeper for a sensory walking tour on ancestral lands, revealing deeply rooted traditions and pointing out various medicinal plants. This afternoon is yours to explore downtown Kelowna before travelling to a local vineyard for a tour, tasting, and dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Kelowna - Vancouver

Head west for the dynamic seaport city of Vancouver. This diverse city features incredible food and a thriving arts scene, surrounded by the North Shore Mountains. This evening is yours to taste your way around the city and get to know your new destination. Perhaps you'll join an optional Chinatown tour with a local Chinese

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# **CANADIAN ROCKIES & GLACIER** NATIONAL PARK

7 DAYS · 10 MEALS STARTING AT \$4199

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Calgary . Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump • Waterton Lakes National Park • Glacier National Park • Going-to-the-Sun Road • Banff - Athabasca Glacier - Lake Louise



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Ride aboard a historic Jammer, an open-air touring car, during your visit to Glacier National Park.
- Visit Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, one of the world's oldest buffalo jumps.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 5 - Stop at the Athabasca Glacier where you can ride across this mass of glacial ice -OR- take a walk onto a glass bottom platform at the Columbia Icefield Skywalk.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

6 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

· Enjoy lunch at Ski Lake Louise Lodge



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1

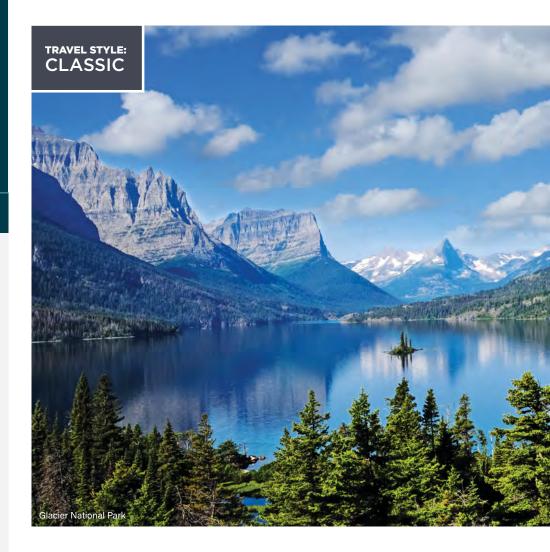
Marriott Downtown or Delta Hotels by Marriott Downtown, Calgary, AB

Days 2, 3 Bayshore Inn Resort and

Spa, Waterton Lakes National Park, AB

Days 4, 5 Banff Inn, Banff, AB Marriott Downtown or Delta Hotels by Marriott Downtown, Calgary, AB

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Ice fields, rushing waterfalls, glacial peaks, and towering summits are just a few of the wonders awaiting you.

# Day 1: Calgary, Alberta, Canada - Tour

Get ready for an adventure that brings together the beautiful expanse of the prairies, the soaring majesty of the Canadian Rockies and the brilliance of Montana's Glacier National Park. Your tour opens in the province of Alberta.

### **Day 2: Calgary - Waterton Lakes National Park**

This morning, journey south to the prairie lands while enjoying the distant views of the spectacular Rockies. Visit Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the world's oldest, best preserved buffalo jumps. Head-Smashed-In, in the foothills of the Rockies, has been used continuously by Aboriginal people for over 5,500 years. A Blackfoot guide brings to life the culture of the Plains people, the Buffalo Hunt, and the many secrets uncovered in archaeological digs. Continue travelling south to Waterton Lakes National Park. En route, pass through quaint villages and travel along roads sometimes traversed by grizzly bears, black bears, mountain

goats, cougars, wolves, moose and elk. You'll even get to view and photograph the famous Prince of Wales Hotel. Tonight, enjoy dinner overlooking Waterton Lake. (B, D)

## **Day 3: Waterton Lakes- Glacier National** Park, Montana, USA-Waterton Lakes, **Alberta**

Today, experience Glacier National Park, a naturalist's paradise. Glacier preserves over one million acres of forests. Alpine meadows and lakes, and is home to over 70 species of mammals and 270 species of birds. Enjoy a ride aboard one of its famous Jammer cars - built in the 1930s - along one of the most breathtaking roads in North America. Going-to-the-Sun Road stretches across the Continental Divide and offers incredible views of the valley and Glacier National Park. (B)

## Day 4: Waterton Lakes National Park -**Banff**

Relax during your journey to Banff and soak in a backdrop of wonderful wildlife and the majestic Canadian Rockies. This afternoon, arrive in Banff







will choose to hike along the lakeshore or simply relax in the majesty of your surroundings. Enjoy lunch at the Ski Lake Louise Lodge before boarding the gondola, which ascends the mountain in fourteen minutes to a height of 6,850 feet above sea level. Later, enjoy the views of the prairies while en route to Calgary. Join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a memorable trip. (B, L, D)

## Day 7: Calgary - Tour Ends

Your adventure comes to a close today, leaving you with a wealth of memories from your outstanding journey to two of the world's most beautiful areas: the incomparable Canadian Rockies and Glacier National Park. (B)



Alberta

## Prices based on June 16, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars. **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** June - September 2024 See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night or Post Night: Calgary (1-2 NIGHTS)





66 It is too difficult to choose one favourite location from this tour. You could have stopped me at any point and pointed me toward any direction, and it would have been beautiful. " - David W.

and enjoy stops at the powerful Bow Falls and Surprise Corner known for its picture perfect panoramic views. (B. D)

## Day 5: Banff - Icefields Parkway -Banff 😱

Set out along the unforgettable Icefields Parkway and behold lofty waterfalls, rushing rivers, glacial peaks, imposing cliffs and snowcapped mountain ranges. Stop at the Athabasca Glacier where it's your choice! Choose a fun ride across this mass of glacial ice nearly 1,000 feet thick, the largest accumulation of ice south of the Arctic Circle -OR- take a walk onto a glass bottom platform at the Columbia Icefield Skywalk to experience the breathtaking views of the Sunwapta Valley and witness the dramatic landscape. This afternoon, stop at stunning Peyto Lake, a glacier-fed lake that evokes pure serenity. Be on the lookout for bears and stately elk on your return to Banff. (B)

## Day 6: Banff - Lake Louise -Calgary

The famous glacier-fed, turquoise waters of Lake Louise are yours for admiring this morning. Perhaps you

# THE BEST OF **EASTERN CANADA**

9 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$3899

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Toronto • Niagara Falls • Niagara-on-the-Lake • Thousand Islands National Park • Ottawa • Quebec City • Montmorency

Falls • Maple Sugar Shack • Montreal



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Discover Niagara-on-the-Lake with quaint local shops and a charming atmosphere.
- · Admire some of the 1864 islands of the Thousand Islands National Park with a boat tour along the St. Lawrence River.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 6 — Join a local guide and stroll the streets of Old Quebec City on foot -OR- embark on a panoramic coach tour to experience the beauty and history of both Old and New Quebec.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 8 Breakfasts (B) · 4 Dinners (D)

- · Savour breakfast at a local sugar shack nestled in the Quebec countryside.
- · Enjoy an evening out and sample the local cuisine at a lovely restaurant on Ile d'Orleans.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

- Days 1, 2 Sheraton Centre, Toronto,
- Days 3, 4 Delta Hotels Ottawa City Centre, Ottawa, ON
- Days 5, 6 Hilton Quebec, Quebec City,
- Days 7, 8 Hotel Omni Mont-Royal, Montreal, QC

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From the old-world style of Quebec City to the power of Niagara Falls, say bienvenue to Eastern Canada.

#### **Day 1: Toronto, Ontario - Tour Begins**

Your tour opens in cosmopolitan Toronto, capital of Ontario and Canada's largest city. Enjoy spending the rest of your day discovering the city's multicultural neighbourhoods and sites before meeting your group in the morning.

## Day 2: Toronto - Niagara Falls - Toronto

This morning travel to the Niagara Falls, home to the awe-inspiring set of waterfalls nestled along the border between the United States and Canada. Embark on a boat cruise to the base of the Falls and witness the thundering water from up-close. Continue on to Niagara-on-the-Lake and take advantage of some free time to discover the "loveliest town in Canada." This evening, experience Toronto's culinary scene as you join your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (B, D)

## Day 3: Toronto - Ottawa

This morning, depart Toronto for Rockport, gateway to the spectacular Thousand Islands National Park. Enjoy a memorable cruise through this unspoiled region, located along the St.

Lawrence River, Then, take in the surrounding landscape of Ontario as you set off for Ottawa, Canada's culturally rich capital. A seamless blend of French and Canadian customs, the city's dynamic energy will capture your spirit. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant this evening. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Ottawa

Get acquainted with Ottawa as you explore the city. Venture past the Prime Minister's residence, multiple embassies, and the impressive National Art Gallery. You'll also see the gothic parliament buildings and the Rideau Canal - which becomes the world's largest skating rink in wintertime. The remainder of the day is yours to do as you please. (B)

## Day 5: Ottawa - Quebec City, Quebec

Say bonjour to Quebec City, the heart of Canada's French heritage. Enjoy free time in the late afternoon to explore the Old Town (UNESCO), strolling along picturesque cobblestone streets and 17th-century buildings.







Sample local cuisine at a restaurant on Ile d'Orleans, a farmland island on the Saint Lawrence River. (B, D)

## Day 6: Quebec City 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Join a local guide and stroll the streets of Old Quebec City on foot; see the Place Royale and listen to stories of days gone by in historic squares -OR- embark on a panoramic coach tour to experience the beauty and history of both Old and New Quebec; you'll see the stately Chateau Frontenac, the provincial Parliament, and the St. Louis Arch. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B)

#### Day 7: Quebec City - Montreal

Begin your day with breakfast at a local sugar shack, situated in the heart of the Quebec countryside. Learn about the traditions of maple syrup-making and enjoy samples of delicious traditional foods. Before leaving, try a favourite regional treat - maple taffy on the snow! Next, enjoy a visit to the impressive Montmorency Falls and marvel at this natural wonder plunging 272 feet off the Canadian Shield, approximately 100 feet higher than Niagara Falls. Your journey continues to Montreal.

From skyscrapers and cathedrals to rushing waterways and lush gardens, Montreal is a blend of all things old and new. The evening is yours to continue exploring the city independently. (B)

## **Day 8: Montreal**

Today, enjoy a fantastic sightseeing tour of Montreal highlighting Jacques Cartier Square and McGill University, among other spots. Your city tour will include a stop high atop Mount Royal from which the surrounding view is spectacular. Ascended by Jacques Cartier in 1535, Mount Royal is a small mountain in the city that gave its name to Montreal. After your guided visit to the renowned Notre-Dame Basilica of Montreal, your tour will end in Old Montreal where the afternoon is yours to explore the city at leisure. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a memorable trip. (B, D)

## **Day 9: Montreal - Tour Ends** Your journey draws to a close today. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3899 SOLO Starting at \$5299

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on May 10, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 (different itinerary - see note\*) May - October 2024

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May - October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** 

Toronto (1-2 Nights)



Post-Night: Montreal (1-2 Nights)



66 Cities we visited were spectacular. Our Tour Coordinator was exceptional! He was very detailed and organized and provided very good historical perspective. He was also very entertaining! "

- Joseph B

# **MARITIMES** COASTAL **WONDERS**

11 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$4999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Halifax - Peggy's Cove - Mahone Bay -Lunenburg • Cape Breton Island • Cabot Trail • Prince Edward Island • Anne of Green Gables Museum • Hopewell Rocks • Fundy Trail • Grand Pré National Historic Site



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore interesting inventions at the Alexander Graham Bell Museum.
- Learn a few handy Gaelic phrases and join in the fun of a "milling frolic."



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 3 — Delve into the local heritage at the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic -OR- take a locally guided walking tour to discover Lunenburg's unique architecture.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 10 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

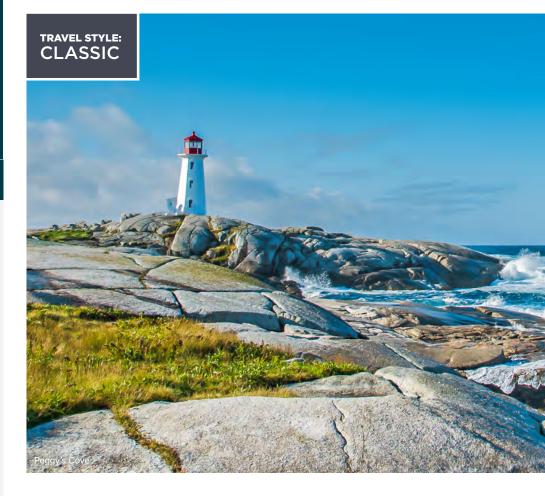
- · Savour a traditional Maritimes lobster feast at the Fundy Trail.
- Attend culinary "boot camp" for bragging rights on who cooks the best PFI mussels.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

- Days 1 3 The Westin Nova Scotian or The Hollis Halifax by Hilton, Halifax, NS
- Inverary Resort, Baddeck, Days 4, 5
- The Holman Grand Hotel, Days 6, 7 Charlottetown, PEI
- Hilton Saint John or Delta Davs 8, 9 Hotels Saint John, Saint John, NB
- Day 10 The Westin Nova Scotian or The Hollis Halifax by Hilton, Halifax, NS

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From the nautical beauty of Peggy's Cove to the rugged splendour of the Cabot Trail, the Maritimes will enchant you.

## Day 1: Halifax, Nova Scotia - Tour Begins

Explore the picture-perfect region known as Canada's Maritime Provinces. Venture along its rugged and pristine beauty, all while getting to know its Acadian, Mi'kmag, and Gaelic cultures. Settle into Halifax with a free evening.

## Day 2: Halifax - Peggy's Cove - Halifax

Stunning landscapes await. Head to one of the most picturesque spots in all of Canada - Peggy's Cove. Set along the Atlantic coast, the cove is home to a historic lighthouse that offers incredible views of the surrounding area. Continue to Halifax. exploring its charming downtown on a tour highlighting the waterfront, Public Gardens, Spring Garden Road, and the famous Citadel, (B. D)

## Day 3: Halifax - Mahone Bay - Lunenburg - Halifax 😗

Experience the small fishing village of Mahone Bay before travelling along the beautiful Lighthouse Route towards Lunenburg, Choose how you explore this town because it's your choice! Delve into the local heritage at the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic -OR- embark on a locally guided walking tour to discover Lunenburg's unique architecture. End your day back in Halifax for an evening on your own. (B)

## Day 4: Halifax - Cape Breton Island -**Baddeck**

Start your morning at the Millbrook Cultural and Heritage Centre to learn about the Mi'kmaq lineage and Glooscap legends. Travel the Canso Causeway on the way to stunning Cape Breton Island. You'll spend time at the Gaelic College, where you'll see a brief kilt-making demonstration and learn a few handy Gaelic phrases. Join in the fun of a "milling frolic," singing a Gaelic song and tapping to the rhythm. This evening, enjoy a dinner of local flavours. (B, D)

### Day 5: Baddeck - Cabot Trail -**Baddeck**

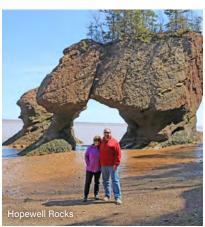
Set off for a full-day exploration of the Cabot Trail. Fall in love with its rugged terrain and spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean. Visit the famed St. Peter's Church in Cheticamp. Enjoy a picnic lunch in Cape Breton Highlands National Park. Take in the quaint charms of nearby fishing communities along the coast, including the lovely Neil's Harbour. (B, L)

## Day 6: Baddeck - Prince Edward Island

Explore the amazing range of inventions on display at the Alexander Graham Bell Museum.







Afterward, take a short ferry ride to Prince Edward Island, the "Land Cradled on the Waves." Tonight, roll up your sleeves and get ready for the ultimate island culinary experience in Charlottetown. Attend culinary "boot camp" where you'll compete for bragging rights to determine who cooks the best PEI mussels. (B, D)

## **Day 7: Prince Edward Island**

Get to know the rolling landscapes of Prince Edward Island, the backdrop of the acclaimed novel, *Anne of Green Gables*. Arrive in Cavendish and view Prince Edward Island National Park's pristine beaches. Visit the Anne of Green Gables Museum to learn the craft of potato farming from a farmer, with a first-hand lesson on the island's leading agricultural industry. Return to Charlottetown with time to explore this fascinating city on your own. (B)

# Day 8: Prince Edward Island - Saint John, New Brunswick

Leave Prince Edward Island behind as you cross the Confederation Bridge.

Travel along the shoreline to the amazing Hopewell Rocks. A New Brunswick icon, these flowerpot-shaped rocks were carved by the Fundy tides and rise 4-stories high at low tide, only to disappear into tiny islands after the tide

rolls back in. Continue to the city of Saint John where you'll enjoy a 2-night stay in the bustling waterfront area. (B)

## Day 9: Saint John

Greet the awe-inspiring Fundy Trail early this morning. Stop along the way to take in an endless stretch of breathtaking vistas. Sample authentic Maritimes dulse (seaweed) and fiddleheads, accompanied by traditional fiddle music. Savour a traditional Maritimes lobster feast at a restaurant on the world-famous Bay of Fundy, as an expert teaches you how to crack and eat lobster like a local. On your way back, gaze out your window at St. Martin's covered bridges. (B, L)

### Day 10: Saint John - Halifax, Nova Scotia

Onboard a ferry for Nova Scotia, make a stop at the Grand-Pré National Historic Site. Uncover the complex history of the Acadian people. Continue on to Halifax and enjoy time for yourself before a farewell dinner, toasting to the end of your Maritimes journey. (B, D)

#### Day 11: Halifax - Tour Ends

Today you depart the Maritimes, taking home countless memories of this coastal wonderland. (B)



DOUBLE Starting at \$4999 SOLO Starting at \$6449

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 6, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023
(different itinerary - see note\*)

May - October 2024

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May – October 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.



#### **REMOTE + RUSTIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

In Baddeck and Charlottetown, you'll stay in remote locales which necessitate lodging in more rustic accommodations. Though the quality is not at our usual standards, the locations allow you to experience the rugged beaches and charming villages that truly reflect the Canadian Maritimes.

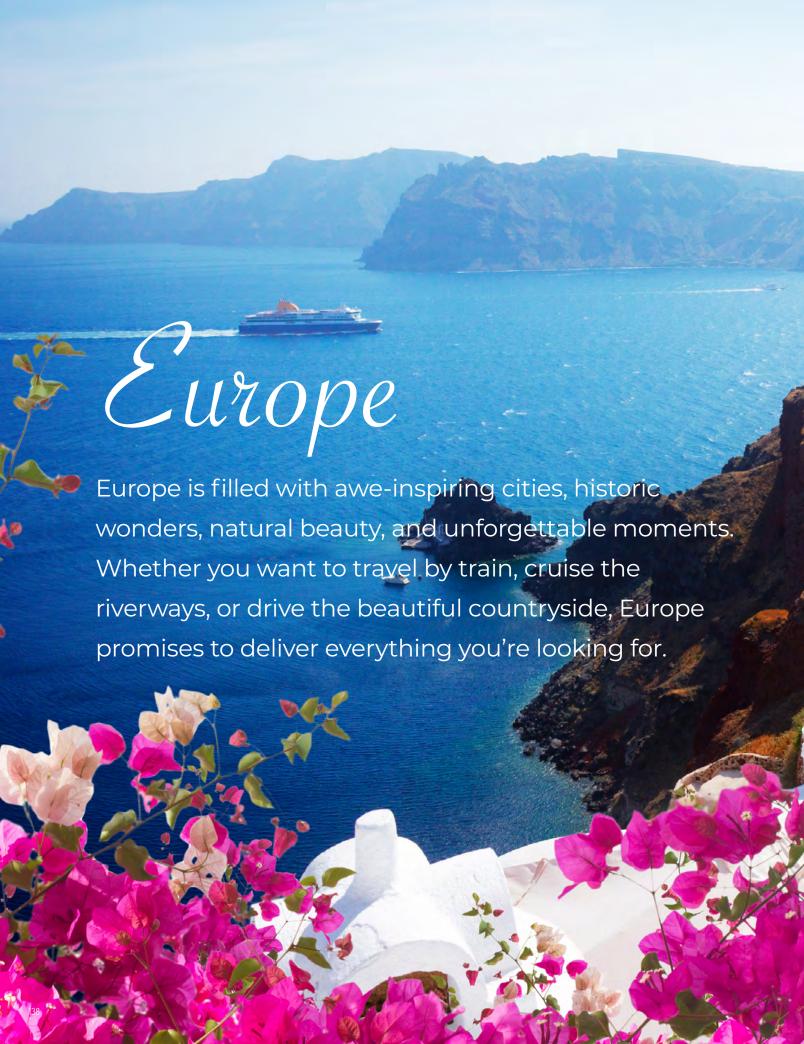


This is the first time we've ever taken part in a guided tour.

It was a pleasure and comfort to have lodgings, tours,
and many meals arranged on our behalf.

- Jack R

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# THE NORTHERN **LIGHTS OF FINLAND**

8 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$5649

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Helsinki - Senate Square - Helsinki Cathedral • Lapland Region • Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort • Finnish Sauna • Meet & Greet with Santa • Reindeer Safari • Northern Lights Searches • Husky Safari • Glass Igloo Accommodation



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Introduce yourself to majestic Lappish reindeer and meet Santa Claus himself.
- · Lead your very own dog sled team.
- · Spend the night in a glass igloo amid the Lappish wilderness.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Indulge in Finnish cuisine at Helsinki's local restaurants.
- · Sip warm berry juice, a Finnish winter tradition.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 2, 3

Overnight Flight Lilla Roberts Hotel,

Days 4 - 6

Helsinki

Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort - West Village, Kakslauttanen

Lilla Roberts Hotel, Day 7

Helsinki

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Hunt for the elusive northern lights and discover fascinating Finland, "Daughter of the Baltic."

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

On an adventure to the top of the world, experience a side of life that feeds the imagination and leaves you forever enchanted with Finland. "Daughter of the Baltic."

## Day 2: Helsinki, Finland - Tour Begins

Hei Helsinki! Finland's vibrant capital, where history converges with architectural style and combines with a laid-back vibe across beautiful islands and pristine public parks, welcomes you. This evening, gather with new friends for a welcome dinner in the city centre. Hyvää ruokahalua! (Bon appetit!) (D)

#### Day 3: Helsinki

Join a local expert for an engaging city tour. If Finland's heart beats in Helsinki, then Helsinki's core is in Senate Square, home of Helsinki Cathedral, the city's most iconic building. Walk the streets of empiric-designed Tori Quarters before

enjoying some free time in Market Square, the city's famous international market. See the steel monument dedicated to the composer Sibelius. During your leisure time, explore more of Helsinki independently. (B)

## Day 4: Helsinki - Kakslauttanen -**Northern Lights Search**

Escape to northernmost Finland's winter wonderland on board a flight to Ivalo and magical Lapland. Like a storybook come to life, Lapland's culture is steeped in myth and legend. Relish encounters with reindeer and unspoiled views of the northern lights. At the breathtaking Kakslauttanen Resort, spend two nights in your very own Finnish log cabin indulging in your personal Finnish sauna and other unique fixtures. Trek north toward Inari on a chase for the northern lights. Stops along the pursuit allow you the chance for a front-row seat at nature's dazzling, electric light show. (B, D)











Hit the snow and mush to breakfast aboard an authentic Finnish sleigh. From Kakslauttanen, head to the home of Santa Claus, an epicentre of Christmas cheer. Among prancing reindeer, learn about Santa's origins during a meet and greet at his house. Under the Arctic moonlight, a reindeer farmer introduces you to some friendly Lappish reindeer that will escort you on an exhilarating reindeer safari through remote Kakslauttanen. Gain insight into the importance of reindeer herding to the Sámi indigenous culture. Sip warm berry juice, a Finnish tradition, under the cover of blankets in the surround of northern Finland's wilderness as you continue the search for the elusive northern lights. (B, D)

Day 6: Kakslauttanen - Husky Safari - Northern Lights Search Breathe in the fresh Arctic air this morning and step into the role as leader of your

own dog sled team. Zoom through the wilderness on a husky safari, driving your husky guides that are as fast as they are adorable. Spend some time getting to know these amazing dogs and learn about their different commands. You'll also be introduced to the equipment you'll need to experience this incredible Arctic adventure at its best. Enjoy your last night in the heart of the Lappish wilderness, nestled in your own private glass igloo. You may even see the northern lights dancing overhead. (B, D)

Day 7: Kakslauttanen - Helsinki Say goodbye to enchanting Lapland and fly back to Helsinki. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Explore the city's central squares and get in tune with the latest Finnish

trends at a collection of charming shops. Tonight, in downtown Helsinki, toast to grand adventures and new friends. (B, D)

Day 8: Helsinki - Tour Ends Set out for home with incredible memories and a longing to return. (B)



HELSINKI (HEL)

HELSINKI (HEL)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5649 SOLO Starting at \$6649

Prices based on November 16, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

November 2023 - March 2024 November 2024 - March 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for November 2024 - March 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



## 🛨 Post-Night: Helsinki (1-2 міднтs)



## **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 4-6: Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort

Sleep under the northern lights when you upgrade to a Kelo glass igloo at the Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort. Kelo glass igloos come with a double bed with a stunning glass roof, an additional standard double bed in the main cabin area, a private sauna and a private fireplace. Accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

# **ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN** LIGHTS

7 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$3299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Reykjavík • Northern Lights Cruise • Search for the Northern Lights • Golden Circle • Thingvellir National Park • Gullfoss - Lava Exhibition Center -Vik - Seljalandsfoss - Skógar Museum Skógafoss - Skaftafell National Park - Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon -Sólheimajökull Glacier • Blue Lagoon



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore Skógar Museum, covering all aspects of Icelandic life.
- · Experience the energy at the geothermal fields of Geysir.
- · Learn about the volcanic nature of the island of Iceland during a visit to the Lava Exhibition Center.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Dinners (D)

· Savour gourmet Icelandic cuisine at a popular local restaurant.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Centerhotel Plaza or Day 2 Centerhotel Grandi,

Reykjavik

Days 3 - 5 Hotel Dyrhólaey, Vik

Centerhotel Plaza or Day 6 Cenerhotel Grandi,

Reykjavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Experience the "land of fire and ice" and chase the aurora borealis across an ethereal wonderland.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to Iceland, a land and culture forged by fire and ice. Where steaming lava fields and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords. In this land of many natural wonders, enjoy the rare opportunity to search for the aurora borealis — one of nature's most dazzling light displays, also known as the northern

## Day 2: Reykjavík, Iceland - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Reykjavík, Iceland's capital city. Make yourself comfortable at your hotel upon arrival, as your rooms are ready for an early checkin and breakfast awaits you. Get acquainted with old town Reykjavík with a local guide on a walking tour featuring the harbour, city hall, the Parliament building, and the nearby cathedral, dating back to 1796. Gather with your fellow travellers at a popular restaurant for dinner featuring Icelandic cuisine. This evening, take an exhilarating northern lights

cruise and sail into the darkness of Faxaflói Bay in search of the aurora borealis. (B, D)

## Day 3: Reykjavík - Golden Circle - Lava **Exhibition Center - Seljalandsfoss - Vík**

This morning, travel the Golden Circle to experience natural wonders, including the explosive Geysir thermal area and the doublecascade Gullfoss waterfall. You'll also experience the famous Thingvellir National Park, where you'll stand upon the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. In the afternoon, stop at the Lava Exhibition Center and delve into Iceland's past and present volcanic eruptions. Afterward, witness Seljalandsfoss, a rushing waterfall where you may walk behind the water for unique views from the inside out. Next, continue onto Vík. Drive or venture on foot into the stillness of rural Iceland in search of the northern lights. You'll enjoy three nights of searching to increase your likelihood of catching a glimpse of these elusive lights. (B, D)









ARRIVAL DEPARTURE REYKAJAVIK (RKV) REYKAJAVIK (RKV)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3299 SOLO Starting at \$4049

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on December 3, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - March 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) (featured itinerary)

September 2024 - March 2025

\*Itinerary featured is for September 2024 - March 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

 $\bigoplus$  See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## Day 4: Reynisfjara - Skógar Museum - Vík

Begin your day with journey to Reynisfjara, a volcanic sandy beach surrounded by basalt formations and home to thousands of nesting sea birds. Look out over the natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey, a small peninsula of volcanic origin towering over the ocean. Next, visit the Skógar Museum and discover its turf-built homes and artifacts. Afterward, stand in awe before the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of Iceland's biggest and most beautiful waterfalls. Cap off your day with a visit to Sólheimajökull Glacier, Iceland's fourth largest glacier. After dinner, gaze at the sky in search of the northern lights. (B, D)

## Day 5: Skaftafell National Park -Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon - Vík

Travel through Skaftefell National Park, gateway to Vatnajökull Glacier known for having Iceland's highest mountains and Europe's largest ice cap. Travel to Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon, filled with floating icebergs. Explore this extraordinary landscape and search for seals swimming

in cold waters. After dinner, continue searching for the northern lights dancing across the night sky. (B, D)

## Day 6: Vík - Blue Lagoon -Reykjavík

Drive along the south shore towards the Reykjanes Peninsula. Known for its rugged landscape, lava fields, and numerous hot springs, the peninsula is home to the Blue Lagoon. Take a dip in the warm, mineralrich waters of the geothermal pool, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field. Return to Reykjavík for your farewell dinner and overnight stay. (B, D)

Day 7: Reykjavík - Tour Ends Depart for home with many incredible memories. (B)

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night or Post-Night: Reykjavik (1-2 NIGHTS)





# **ICELAND: LAND OF** FIRE & ICE

10 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$4599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Reykjavík • Golden Circle • Thingvellir National Park • Gullfoss • Geysir • Akranes • Breidafjördur Bay Cruise • Lava Exhibition Center • Vík • Skógar Museum - Skógafoss - Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon -Vatnajökull National Park - Seljalandsfos



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Savour Viking sushi aboard a Breiðafjördur cruise.
- · Explore Icelandic life at the Skógar Museum.
- · Glide past icebergs on a cruise of the ice strewn Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

• Day 9 - Visit the Blue Lagoon and soak in the warm, mineralrich waters, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field, -OR- visit the Perlan Center to explore the wonders of Iceland through interactive exhibits such as the Ice Cave, the Planetarium, and the virtual aquarium.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Taste Icelandic cuisine at a popular local restaurant.
- · Relish Iceland's local cheeses during a visit to a family-owned dairy farm.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Centerhotel Plaza or Centerhotel Grandi, Reykjavik

Days 4, 5 Fosshotel, Reykholt

Days 6 - 8 Dyrholaey Hotel, Vik

Day 9 Centerhotel Plaza or Centerhotel Grandi, Reykjavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## An island of dramatic contrasts, uncover Iceland's natural beauty through a land forged by ice and fire.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Set out on a journey full of dramatic contrasts. Come to know Iceland; a place where steaming lava fields reflect a volcanic nature and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving behind thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords.

Day 2: Reykjavík, Iceland - Tour Begins Begin in the capital city of Reykjavík. Get to know your fellow travellers during an Icelandic lunch at a popular local restaurant before checking into your hotel in the later afternoon. Then, join a local expert for a walking tour of The Old City featuring the city hall, the harbour, the Parliament building and the nearby cathedral, dating from 1796. (L)

## Day 3: Reykjavík - Golden Circle -Revkjavík

Travel the Golden Circle and experience renowned natural wonders, including the double-cascade Gullfoss waterfall, the explosive Geysir thermal area, and the famous Thingvellir National Park, where you'll stand upon the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Along the way, stop at a family-run dairy farm to enjoy various cheeses and their famous ice cream during a light lunch. Your day ends with a visit to Friðheimar's stud farm and greenhouse cultivation centre. Discover how

pesticide-free produce is grown with the aid of geothermal energy and then learn about the tradition of breeding Icelandic show horses before returning to Reykjavík. (B, L)

Day 4: Reykjavík - Akranes - Reykholt Explore the western side of Iceland's coastline and visit Akranes, an old fishing town at the base of Akrafjall Mountain. Capture a photo of one of the most picturesque lighthouses in the world. You'll have an opportunity to climb up the stairs and enjoy the stunning views this lighthouse has to offer and hear some of the mysterious stories about this place, or perhaps you will want to take a walk along the historical harbour. Continue to Delidartunguhver, the highest-flowing hot spring in Europe. Enjoy a walk on a number of wooden walkways and observation points to explore the hot spring safely. Listen to local stories and legends while visiting Barnafoss, which translates to "the Children's Falls," before you wrap your day in Reykholt, located in the valley of

## Day 5: Stykkishólmur - Breiðafjördur Cruise - Grudarfjörður - Reykholt

the River Reykkladalsa. (B, D)

Begin your day with stunning views on your way to Stykkishólmur, located in the northern part





of the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, Search for marine birds before joining a nature cruise of Breiðafjördur Bay. As you drift across the water, sample fresh scallops and sea urchin roe straight from the ocean. You might spot puffins, cormorants, and the white-tailed eagle soaring as you look out at the shoreline. After, enjoy lunch on your own in this picturesque fishing town dotted with traditional wooden houses before continuing your journey on to Grudarfjörður. Take in views of Mount Kirkjufell with its iconic shape and freestanding form; this is one of the most photographed landscapes in Iceland. Witness Kirkjufellsfoss, a beautiful series of waterfalls, before returning to Reykholt for an evening at leisure. (B)

## Day 6: Reykholt - Lava Exhibition Center - Seljalandsfoss - Vík

Learn about geothermal renewable energy on a visit to Hellisheiðavirkjun, the largest power station in Iceland and the second largest geothermal power station in the world. Visit the Lava Exhibition Center and delve into Iceland's past and present volcanic eruptions. Afterward, witness Seljalandsfoss, a rushing waterfall where you may walk behind the water for unique views from the inside out. Arrive in Vík,

Iceland's southernmost village, and one of the most remarkable spots in Iceland.

## Day 7: Vík - Skógar Museum -Sólheimajökull Glacier - Vík

Drive along the scenic south shore to the Skógar Museum. Discover its turf-built houses and its collection of farm and domestic artifacts. Nearby, find the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of the tallest in Iceland. Behold Reynisfjara, a black volcanic sand beach scattered with caves and surrounded by basalt columns and cliffs. The beach is rich with bird life, such as the fulmar, black quillemot, razorbill, and gannet. You might also spot some nesting puffins along the unique natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey, a volcanic peninsula towering over the ocean. Cap off your day with a visit to Sólheimajökull Glacier, part of Iceland's fourth largest ice cap. Take in its dramatic, blue-white ice, rugged crevasses, and stunning views. (B, D)

## Day 8: Vík - Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon - Vatnajökull National Park - Vík

Journey to Vatnajökull, Iceland's largest National Park and home to the country's highest mountains. Marvel at the vistas and snowy mountain peaks while you set sail along the huge icebergs of the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon. Keep your eves peeled for possible seal sightings and get to taste the 1,000-year-old ice that surrounds you. (B, D)

### Day 9: Vík - Reykjavík 😯

Today, make your way back to Reykjavik, taking in the incredible backdrops that make this journey picturesque. In the afternoon, it's your choice! You may choose to visit the Blue Lagoon and soak in the warm, mineral-rich waters, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field, -OR- visit the Perlan Center to explore the wonders of Iceland through interactive exhibits such as the Ice Cave. the Planetarium, the virtual aquarium and more. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant and reflect on your adventures in the Land of Fire and Ice. (B, D)

## Day 10: Reykjavík - Tour Ends Depart for home with memories of your Icelandic adventure. (B)





#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night or Post-Night: Reykjavik (1-2 Nights)



**Even More Time?** 

Combine Iceland: Land of Fire and Ice with Spectacular Scandinavia for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.



66 It was an excellent itinerary with interesting excursions -I loved the Blue Lagoon experience! I learned so much about Iceland, their people, their history, and their geography. "

- Charlene C.

## **ICELANDIC ADVENTURE**

10 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$6074

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Reykjavík - Golden Circle - Thingvellir National Park • Gullfoss Waterfall • Lake Mývatn • Húsavík • Whale Watching • Goðafoss Waterfall - Akureyri - Horse Farm Visit • Snæfellsnes Peninsula • Impact Moment • Langjökull Glacier • Blue Lagoon



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Go whale watching in Skjálfandi Bay with specialized RIB Zodiac boats.
- Ascend the massive Langjökull glacier via mountain truck.
- · Learn about the 300 years of fishing history during a visit to a maritime museum.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 4 — Soak in the Lake Mývatn Nature Baths, a favourite local spot -OR- hike through Dimmuborgir and pass by lava pinnacles and mystical caves.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

- Indulge in Icelandic-inspired cuisine at a local restaurant.
- Taste homemade specialties during an Impact Moment visit to Jóhanna's goat farm.
- Taste a piece of lava bread and learn how locals use geothermal energy to cook food.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 Centerhotel Grandi, Reykjavik

Days 4, 5 Fosshotel, Husavik Laugarbakki Hotel, Day 6 Laugarbakki

Days 7, 8 Hotel Hamar, Borgarnes or Fosshotel, Reykholt

Centerhotel Grandi, Day 9 Revkiavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Encounter a world of untamed beauty as you discover Iceland's adventurous landscapes and rich cultural heritage.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to Iceland, a land forged by fire and ice, where adventurous landscapes give way to a rich cultural heritage. Discover the dramatic contrasts: from ethereal lava fields and thundering waterfalls to charming coastal villages.

## Day 2: Reykjavík, Iceland - Tour Begins

Discover culture and history in Reykjavík - Iceland's capital. Explore the old section on a walking tour featuring the Parliament, harbour, city hall, and the city's oldest building. Gaze up at the famous glass façade of the Harpa Concert Hall, a true marvel of modern architecture. Tonight, gather with your fellow travellers and experience the freshness of Icelandic food at a local restaurant, (D)

## Day 3: Reykjavík - Golden Circle -Revkjavík

Travel the Golden Circle to see Iceland's most iconic natural wonders, including the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in Thingvellir National Park where you can walk between two continents. Learn how locals use Iceland's geothermal energy to cook food and taste "lava bread," which is submerged into the earth and cooked for 24 hours. Continue along the Golden Circle and take in the beauty of the Gullfoss (Golden Falls) double-cascade waterfall before visiting the explosive Strokkur fountain geyser. Return to Reykjavik for an evening on your own. (B)

### Day 4: Reykjavík - Lake Mývatn -Husavik 🕜

This morning, fly to Akureyri and take in the unique volcanic landscape that surrounds Lake Mývatn. You will have a chance to explore the Hverir geothermal area, where bubbling mud pools resemble a Martian terrain. Next, it's your choice! Dip into the warm water and steam of the Lake Mývatn Nature Baths, frequented by Icelanders and visitors alike -OR- hike through Dimmuborgir and pass by irregular lava formations and mystical caves that inspire your imagination. End your day in Husavik, one of the first settlements on the island. (B, D)

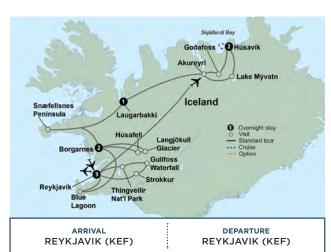
## Day 5: Húsavík - Whale Watching -Grenjaðarstaður - Husavik

Gear up in thermal wear to join expert whale watchers on a cruise on Skiálfandi Bav. Aboard specialized Zodiacs you'll get as close as you can to whales in northern Iceland. You may see humpback, minke, fin or harbour porpoise, and possibly the orca or giant blue whales that frequent these waters. After free time for lunch, travel to Grenjaðarstaður where you will visit and learn about the traditional Icelandic turf settlement homes. Return to Husavik in the late afternoon, where the remainder of the day is yours. (B)









**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6074 SOLO Starting at \$7324 Prices based on May 15, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** May 2024 June - September 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) May 2025 (featured itinerary) \*Itinerary featured is for June - September 2024 and May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation. See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## Day 6: Husavik - Goðafoss -Akureyri - Laugarbakki

En route to Akureyri, stop at one of Iceland's most historic waterfalls, Goðafoss, where Iceland was converted to Christianity in A.D. 1000. Enjoy time at leisure in Akureyri to explore Iceland's second largest city. Perhaps you'll peruse its botanical garden, a public park positioned just 30 miles south of the Arctic Circle and dedicated to finding and testing foreign plants to grow in Iceland, Next, head to the scenic Norðurland Vestra region, famous for its horse breeding. On a family-owned farm, grab your camera for a photo tour of the stables and interact with these friendly animals and their care takers. Later this afternoon, travel to the village of Laugarbakki for an overnight stay. (B, D)

## Day 7: Laugarbakki - Snæfellsnes **Peninsula - Borgarnes**

This morning, journey to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, with its camera-ready black sand beaches, mountain peaks, volcanic craters, rocky coastlines, and tiny fishing villages. Connect with the local culture during a visit to a maritime museum illustrating fishing techniques, such as the century-old tradition of catching and preserving the Greenland shark; you'll also taste hákarl - cured shark meat. End the day in Borgarnes, your home for the next 2 nights. (B, D)

## Day 8: Húsafell - Langjökull Glacier **Experience - Borgarnes**

This morning, journey inland to Húsafell and look out at the misty waterfalls cascading over lava rocks. Then, experience an Impact Moment with a visit to Jóhanna's goat farm. Here, she has helped to bring this unique breed, dating back to the time of Iceland's settlement. back from the brink of extinction. After visiting with the friendly goats, enjoy a simple meal of homemade specialties from the farm. Then, bundle up and ascend Langjökull glacier via mountain truck and go "Into the Glacier" to experience the purest blue ice colour in this man-made tunnel, the world's largest. (B, L, D)

## Day 9: Borgarnes - Blue Lagoon -Revkiavík

Visit the Settlement Museum and dive into the origins of Icelandic heritage, including the works of the famous Viking poet Egill Skallagrímsson. Drive to the Reykjanes Peninsula, home to the famous Blue Lagoon. Take a dip in the warm, mineralrich waters of this iconic geothermal pool, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field. Come together this evening for a farewell dinner at a restaurant featuring Icelandic cuisine. (B, D)

Day 10: Reykjavík - Tour Ends Head home having uncovered Iceland's adventurous side. (B)

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**







66 I experienced a wide variety of adventures in Iceland and enjoyed the active aspect of the tour. "

## **SPECTACULAR SCANDINAVIA**

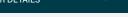
14 DAYS · 20 MEALS STARTING AT \$6409

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Copenhagen • Farm Visit • Granna • Stockholm • Oslo • Fram Museum • Stave Church • Flåm Railway • Geirangerfjord Cruise - Bergen



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Visit a family-run organic Danish farm.
- See the intricately-designed Borgund Stave Church, erected in 1180.
- Cruise through one of the world's most famous Fjords.



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 6 - In Stockholm, choose to explore the Vasa Ship Museum and learn about the vessel's shocking maiden voyage, when it sank in a single nautical mile -OR- visit the ABBA Museum, an interactive exhibition about the Swedish pop sensation.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 12 Breakfasts (B) - 8 Dinners (D)

- Savour Swedish cuisine in Stockholm's old town.
- · Experience traditional Norwegian cuisine in Bergen.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 Scandic Spectrum Hotel.

Copenhagen

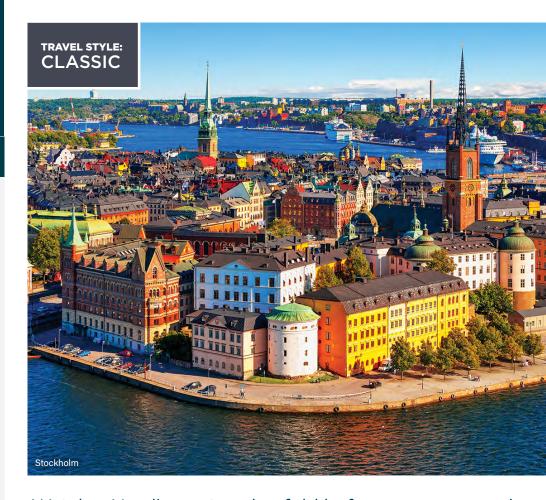
PM & Vanner Hotel, Vaxjo Day 4 Scandic Grand Central, Days 5, 6

Stockholm

Days 7, 8 Hotel Bristol, Oslo Fretheim Hotel, Flam Day 9 Days 10, 11 Alexandra Hotel, Loen

Days 12, 13 Scandic Ornen, Bergen

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Watch a Nordic postcard unfold before your eyes and discover the lands where Vikings reigned.

## Day 1: Overnight Flight

Set out to explore Scandinavia by land and experience one of the world's most incredible regions.

## Day 2: Copenhagen, Denmark - Tour **Begins**

Your tour opens in the beautiful city of Copenhagen. Take some time to venture out on your own and come to know this cosmopolitan capital, dubbed the "gastro capital of Scandinavia." Tonight, meet your fellow travellers for dinner. (D)

#### Day 3: Copenhagen

Join a local expert and set off on an engaging tour of Denmark's capital city. Explore Nyhavn, the picturesque harbour lined with colourful facades and charming cafes, as well as Amalienborg Palace, the residence of the Danish royal family. Visit the Little Mermaid Statue, a 1913 sculpture honoring Hans Christian Andersen's famous fictional character. See Christiansborg Palace, home to the Danish parliament, before enjoying some free time to explore Copenhagen on your own. (B)

## Day 4: Copenhagen - Farm Visit - Vaxjo Bid farewell to Copenhagen and travel north to

meet the Hage family on their organic farm, Learn about their work conserving ancient grains and the old Danish livestock breeds before enjoying some homemade treats. Continue on to Helsingor,

home of Kronborg Castle, and board a local ferry for a short ride across the famous Oresund to Sweden. This afternoon, arrive in Vaxjo, known locally as "the greenest city in Europe." (B, D)

### Day 5: Vaxjo - Granna - Stockholm

This morning, travel to Granna, a town situated on the shores of Lake Vättern and famous for its charming wooden houses, cobblestone streets and delectable candy shops. Continue north to Stockholm, Sweden's capital city. Tonight, enjoy a twist on modern dishes from Swedish and European cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Stockholm 😯

View Stockholm's greatest vistas and attractions, including Gamla Stan (Old Town), Riddarholm Church, the Royal Palace and the Parliament. Enjoy a visit inside Stockholm's stunning City Hall, which displays towering brick walls paired with an opulent interior. This afternoon it's your choice! Explore the Vasa Ship Museum and learn about the vessel's shocking maiden voyage, when it sank in a single nautical mile (the perfectly preserved ship, commissioned in the 1600s by King Vasa, was raised from the bottom of the harbour 334 years later) -OR- visit the ABBA Museum, an interactive exhibition about the Swedish pop sensation. The remainder of the day is yours to explore Stockholm independently. Discover its strikingly colourful architecture and sample its innovative cuisine. (B)



Day 7: Stockholm - Oslo, Norway Take a quick flight to Oslo, one of Europe's fastest-growing cities. As Norway's capital since 1814, Oslo is the center of the country's government and the home to the royal family. Here, you'll find a vibrant, cosmopolitan hub with an abundance of world-class museums, restaurants and art. This evening, enjoy traditional Norwegian fare in one of Oslo's oldest buildings. (B, D)

## Day 8: Oslo

A tour of Oslo begins at the remarkable Fram Museum, dedicated to telling the story of Norwegian polar exploration. Continue along Karl Johan Street and view the Royal Palace and city hall in quaint downtown Oslo. Visit Vigeland Park, home to the collection of statues and sculptures that comprise Gustav Vigeland's life's work. Later this afternoon, enjoy some free time to relax or explore Oslo independently. (B)

#### Day 9: Oslo - Flåm

Travel north from Norway's capital to the majestic fjord region. Visit the Borgund Stave Church, the intricate structure built in dedication to the Apostle Andrew in 1180. Arrive in the quaint village of Flam, nestled at the entrance to the stunning Aurlandsfjord. (B, D)

## Day 10: Flåm - Flåm Railway - Loen

Embark on the renowned Flam Railway, one of the world's steepest train rides, and ascend 3,000 feet past mighty waterfalls, towering mountains and amazing valleys. Journey to the mountain plateau of Myrdal and cascade down to the fjord of Flåm, taking in the breathtaking views each way. Continue onto the village of Loen, for a relaxing stay in the heart for Norway's fjord region. (B, D)

## Day 11: Loen - Fjord Cruise - Loen

An enchanting day in Norway's fjord region begins. In Geiranger, a UNESCO World Heritage site, embark on an exhilarating Geirangerfjord cruise, soaking in some of Norway's most beautiful scenery along the way. One of the most famous fjords in the world, Geirangerfjord is where you'll find Norway's mightiest waterfalls: the Seven Sisters, the Bridal Veil, and the Suitor.

Optional 3 Night Iceland **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$ 1170<sup>†</sup> pp



Day 14: Bergen - Fly to Reykjavík, Iceland Discover Iceland, a land and culture forged by fire and ice. Steaming lava fields reflect a volcanic nature. Massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving thundering waterfalls and breathtaking landscapes. After having the day to yourself, gather with your fellow travellers for an included Icelandic dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

#### Day 15: Reykjavík

This morning, join a local expert for a walking tour of the city's old section featuring Hallgrimskirkja church, city hall, the harbour, and Reykjavík's oldest building - home

of the Kraum Icelandic design centre. Enjoy the remainder of your day at leisure. Perhaps you will choose to relax on a scenic whale watching cruise; venture out on a horseback riding excursion; or travel out to the Reykjanes peninsula to spend quality time relaxing in the geo-thermal waters of the famed Blue Lagoon. (B)

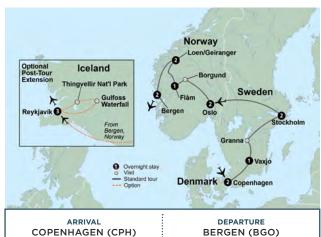
Day 16: Reykjavík - Golden Circle - Reykjavík

Travel the incredible Golden Circle, a route that encompasses many of Iceland's most renowned natural wonders. Marvel at the beauty of the Gullfoss (Golden Falls) waterfall, a stunning 100-foot double cascade. Journey to Thingvellir National Park, the nation's most historic area. Here, Icelanders gathered in A.D. 930 and established what is considered to be one of the world's first parliaments. Find yourself standing upon one of the globe's most geologically significant landscapes, Thingvellir's rugged rift valley (UNESCO) that marks the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the point where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates meet. Return to Reykjavík and have time to explore the city on your own. (B)

## Day 17: Reykjavík - Tour Ends

Your tour ends today, (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6409 SOLO Starting at \$8259 includes on-tour air. Prices based on October 5, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** May 2024 June - October 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) May 2025 (featured itinerary) \*Itinerary featured is for June - October 2024, May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation. See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR





Marvel at homesteads along the steep sides of the mountains, where farms have been kept for centuries. (B, D)

## Day 12: Loen - Bergen

Be inspired by Norway's most impressive landscapes en route to Bergen - the gateway to the fjords. Founded with Viking roots, the Bergen of today is known for its old-world charm and scenic landscapes. (B)

#### Day 13: Bergen

Join a guided walking tour of Bergen and stroll along the historic and iconic harbour front, known as the Bryggen (UNESCO). Enjoy the afternoon at leisure, before reuniting with your fellow passengers for an atmospheric farewell dinner in the historic Bryggen neighbourhood. (B, D)

#### Day 14: Bergen - Tour Ends

Depart for home today with incredible memories of your Scandinavian journey. (B)

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF NORWAY**

9 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$4149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Oslo • Fram Museum • Stave Church - Flåm Railway -Sognefjord • Briksdal Glacier • Geirangerfjord Cruise - Bergen



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit the intricately-designed Borgund Stave Church, erected in 1180.
- Travel across the dramatic Sognefjord to the Briksdal Glacier.
- Embark on an exhilarating Geirangerfjord cruise.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy traditional Norwegian fare in one of Oslo's oldest buildings.
- Dine in Bergen's historic Bryggen neighbourhood.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 Hotel Bristol, Oslo Fretheim Hotel, Flam Days 5, 6 Alexandra Hotel, Loen Days 7, 8 Scandic Ornen, Bergen

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Venture to a place where crashing oceans meet craggy mountains, forging the natural majesty of the Norwegian fjords.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Begin your journey to a land of mountains, glacial fjords, legends, and charming people, as you set off for Norway. Dive into the culture of the region, connecting with layers of Viking history, attentiongrabbing nature, and a sense of refined traditions.

## Day 2: Oslo, Norway - Tour Begins

Arrive in Oslo, Norway's grand capital. An upand-coming foodie destination, Oslo combines classic tastes with modern twists. Meet your fellow travellers for a hearty and delicious welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 3: Oslo

Join a local guide and begin your day at the Fram Museum, dedicated to telling the story of Norwegian polar exploration. Venture down Karl Johan Street, passing by iconic buildings such as the Royal Palace and city hall as you take in the charming heart of downtown Oslo. Make your way to Vigeland Park, home to a collection of statues and sculptures that the legendary artist Gustav Vigeland constructed during his life. This afternoon, enjoy free time to relax or continue discovering the hidden secrets of Oslo on your own. (B)

#### Day 4: Oslo - Flåm

Heading north of Norway's capital, enter the majestic and unique landscapes of the fjord

region. Visit the Borgund Stave Church, an aweinspiring building dedicated in honour of the Apostle Andrew in 1180. Continue to the quaint village of Flåm, your gateway to the grandeur of Aurlandsfjord. Traverse the terrain on the renowned Flam Railway, one of the steepest train rides in the world, and climb 3,000 feet past rushing waterfalls, looming mountains, and picturesque valleys. Admire the scenery along the mountain plateau of Myrdal before descending into the fjord of Flåm. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Flåm - Loen

Immerse yourself in the striking nature of the Sognefiord before traversing the Briksdal Glacier. Surrounded by thundering waterfalls and towering mountains, the glacier is considered to be one of the most awe-inspiring in all of Norway. Climb the glacier in a traditional "troll" car (the park's open-air vehicles), and arrive for a relaxing stay in Loen, a welcoming village situated in the heart of Norway's fjord region. (B, D)

### Day 6: Loen - Geiranger - Fjord Cruise - Loen

Find yourself immersed in the enchanting landscapes of Norway's fjord region. Soak up the mesmerizing landscape on an exhilarating Geirangerfjord cruise in Geiranger (UNESCO). Discover Norway's mightiest waterfalls - the

Seven Sisters, the Bridal Veil, and the Suitor. Marvel at the homesteads built along the steep sides of the mountains, where farmland has endured for centuries. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Loen - Bergen

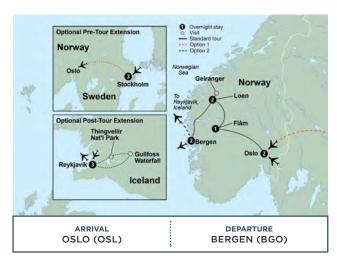
Norway's impressive landscapes continue to weave their spell on you as you travel to Bergen, the portal from the fjords. The Bergen of today - charming, old-world, and scenic - is much different from when it was founded by the legendary Viking warriors of the past. Enjoy a free evening to uncover the mysteries of this former Viking seaport, nestled against the imposing mountain range. (B)

#### Day 8: Bergen

Stroll along the historic and iconic Bryggen harbour front (UNESCO) on a guided walking tour of Bergen. This afternoon you may join an optional tour to taste the cuisine of Bergen or enjoy an afternoon at leisure. Reunite with your fellow travellers at an atmospheric farewell dinner in the historic Bryggen neighbourhood, home to pleasant little houses stacked side-by-side against the harbour. (B, D)

#### Day 9: Bergen - Tour Ends

Say "ha det" to Norway and depart for home with incredible memories of your adventures. (B)





## Optional 3 Night Stockholm **Pre-Tour Extension**

Starting at \$1300† pp



## Day 1: Stockholm, Sweden - Tour Begins

Arrive in Stockholm, Sweden's capital city. A lively hub for tech startups and picturesque harbors, the city has the highest population in all of Scandinavia. Spend the day exploring on your own. Perhaps you'll stroll along the waterfront, grab a bite of local seafood, or pop into a museum to get a glimpse into the country's centuries-old culture. Settle into your hotel, your new home for the next 3 nights, located in the bustling city centre.

#### Day 2: Stockholm

View Stockholm's greatest attractions with a local guide, passing through the city via public transport. Venture inside Stockholm's stunning City Hall which displays towering brick walls paired with an opulent interior. Visit the Vasa Ship Museum and see a 17thcentury vessel that was sunk on its maiden voyage. Explore Gamla Stan (Old Town). The remainder of the afternoon is yours to explore independently. After some free time on your own, gather in the evening to enjoy a twist on modern dishes from Swedish and European cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 3: Stockholm

The day is yours. Maybe you'll visit the ABBA Museum, an interactive exhibition that gives an in-depth look at the Swedish pop sensation. No matter how you spend the day, you're bound to encounter a Swedish way-oflife that will capture your heart. (B)

Day 4: Stockholm - Oslo, Norway Fly to Oslo, Norway to start your tour. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.



## Optional 3 Night Iceland **Post-Tour Extension**

Starting at \$1495† pp



#### Day 9: Bergen - Reykjavík, Iceland

Discover Iceland, a land and culture forged by fire and ice. Tonight, enjoy an Icelandic dinner at a popular local restaurant. (D)

## Day 10: Reykjavik

This morning, join a local expert for a walking tour of the city's old section featuring Hallgrimskirkja church, city hall, the harbour, and Reykjavík's oldest building - home of the Kraum Icelandic design centre. Enjoy the remainder of your day at leisure. Perhaps you will choose to enjoy a scenic whale watching cruise, venture out on a horseback riding excursion, or travel to relax in the geo-thermal waters of the famed Blue Lagoon. (B)

Day 11: Reykjavík - Golden Circle - Reykjavík

Travel the incredible Golden Circle, a route that encompasses many of Iceland's most renowned natural wonders. Marvel at the beauty of the Gullfoss (Golden Falls) waterfall, a stunning 100-foot double cascade. Journey to Thingvellir National Park, the nation's most historic area. Here, Icelanders gathered in A.D. 930 and established what is considered to be one of the world's first parliaments. Find yourself standing upon one of the globe's most geologically significant landscapes, Thingvellir's rugged rift valley (UNESCO) that marks the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the point where the North American and Eurasian

tectonic plates meet. Return to Reykjavík and

have time to explore the city on your own. (B)

#### Day 12: Reykjavík - Tour Ends Your tour ends today. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4149 SOLO Starting at \$5299

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on April 26, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

April - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 April - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: Oslo (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **Even More Time?**

Combine Highlights of Norway with Iceland: Land of Fire & Ice for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.







66 We loved the pace of the tour and we never felt rushed. There were beautiful hotels in perfect locations within each city which let you feel the culture of the area. 99

- Donna N

## **IRISH SPLENDOUR**

8 DAYS · 9 MEALS STARTING AT \$2199

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Dublin • Christ Church Cathedral • Blarney Castle • Dingle Peninsula • Farm Visit • Cliffs of Moher • Whiskey Distillery . Castle Stay



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Travel the Dingle Peninsula, one of the world's most beautiful coastal routes.
- · See the Rock of Cashel, the historic site where St. Patrick preached.
- Overnight on the grounds of a historic castle.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Dinners (D)

- Delight in a whiskey tour and tasting.
- · Learn how a traditional Irish farm works over homemade scones and tea.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 Hotel Riu Plaza The Gresham, Dublin

Days 4, 5 The Heights Hotel, Killarney Old Ground Hotel, Ennis Day 6

Cabra Castle, Kingscourt Day 7

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From the Dublin's charming Grafton Street to the breathtaking sights of County Kerry, savour a true taste of "Irish Splendour."

## Day 1: Overnight Flight

Experience a true taste of "Irish Splendour" on a trip that combines 4-star accommodations, stunning scenery and tasty local cuisine. Make a return to times past when you join us on an unforgettable tour of the Emerald Isle's splendour.

## Day 2: Dublin, Ireland - Tour Begins Your tour opens in Dublin, Ireland's historic capital

city. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for dinner at a local farm-to-table restaurant. (D)

#### Day 3: Dublin

Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Dublin, the "Fair City." Take in the lively atmosphere of O'Connell Street, the city's main thoroughfare dotted with monuments and historic buildings, and charming Grafton Street with its galleries, boutiques and pubs. See Trinity College before touring medieval

Christ Church Cathedral and its imposing crypt. Then, enjoy some free time to independently explore the cultural offerings of delightful Dublin. Later, you may join an optional tour to the Guinness Storehouse, followed by a traditional Irish evening with dinner and an Irish dancing performance. (B)

## Day 4: Dublin - Killarney

Depart Dublin for Ireland's breathtaking countryside. Visit the town of Cashel for views of the historic Rock of Cashel, the reputed location where St. Patrick preached and converted the King of Munster. Next, journey to historic Blarney Castle where you'll have the opportunity to kiss the famous Blarney Stone. Legend has it that those who kiss the stone are bestowed with the gift of eloquence. End your day in Killarney, a town surrounded by natural landscapes and









beauty. Enjoy dinner this evening at a local restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 5: Killarney - Dingle Peninsula - Killarney

Set off this morning to follow what is perhaps Ireland's most majestic coastal route - the stunning Dingle Peninsula. Travel to the town of Dingle and drive the beautiful Slea Head road, where some of the country's most spectacular landscapes are found. (B)

## Day 6: Killarney - Cliffs of Moher -**Ennis**

Today, experience the customs and daily life of a traditional Irish family and enjoy homemade scones and tea during a memorable visit to the Molanna Dairy Farm. Continue to the stunning 700-foothigh Cliffs of Moher for awe-inspiring views of the mighty Atlantic and the Aran Islands. End your day in the charming town of Ennis. Enjoy the ambience of your historic hotel, and feel the warmth of Irish hospitality. This evening you may join an optional tour to a Medieval Banquet dinner, which is hosted in a castle. (B)

## Day 7: Ennis - Whiskey Distillery -**Castle Stay**

Start your day with a cross-country journey to Irish whiskey territory. During a visit to a historic distillery, learn the process of whiskey making and delight in a tasting of the final product. Top your day off with an overnight stay on the regal grounds of a historic castle where you toast the end of a fabulous trip during your farewell dinner. (B, D)

**Day 8: Kingscourt - Tour Ends** Your tour comes to an end in Kingscourt. (B)



ARRIVAL DUBLIN (DUB)

**DEPARTURE** DUBLIN (DUB)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2199 SOLO Starting at \$2849

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on January 30, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 February - March 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

October 2024 - March 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for October 2024 – March 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: Dublin (1-2 NIGHTS)



66 There were so many positive and amazing experiences on this tour! I'd say the overall ease of the tour was enjoyable. How you and our travel agent provided all of the pre-planned details to offer us the ease to arrive and enjoy each day was the most enjoyable. 🤊 - Holly S.

## SHADES OF **IRELAND**

10 DAYS · 13 MEALS STARTING AT \$2999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Dublin • Irish Evening • Kilkenny • Waterford • Blarney Castle • Killarney - Jaunting Car Ride - Ring of Kerry -Limerick - Cliffs of Moher - Sheepdog Demonstration • Galway • Castle Stay



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Overnight on the grounds of a stately castle.
- · Experience the Ring of Kerry, one of the world's great coastal roads.
- See Irish sheepdogs in action during a traditional demonstration.



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

- Day 3 Ride with a local guide and see Dublin's most famous sites -OR- take a walking tour of the city's historic centre.
- Day 4 Tour the Waterford Crystal factory -OR- visit the Medieval Museum and have a glass of wine in the 15th-century Wine Vault.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Enjoy a hearty dinner and night of traditional Irish entertainment.
- · Taste the "water of life" during an Irish whiskey tasting.
- · Settle in for an elegant dinner at a castle.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Days 2, 3 Hotel Riu Plaza The Gresham, Dublin

Granville Hotel, Waterford Day 4

Days 5, 6 Killarney Avenue Hotel, Killarney Towers Hotel, Killarney Plaza Hotel, The Heights Hotel, Great Southern Killarney, or The Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney

Days 7, 8 Castletroy Park Hotel, The Savoy Hotel, or The George Hotel, Limerick

Cabra Castle, Kingscourt or Day 9 The Johnstown Estate, Meath

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From history-filled Dublin to the rolling green hills and dramatic coast, experience Ireland's charm on a journey through the Emerald Isle.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Anticipation mounts as you make your way toward the Emerald Isle and its many wonders. Rich history, rolling hills and warm smiles lie ahead in Dublin, Waterford, Killarney and Limerick. With tomorrow comes quintessential Ireland.

Day 2: Dublin, Ireland - Tour Begins Get a taste of old Dublin. Tonight, you and your fellow travellers revel in a traditional Irish evening, including regional cuisine. (D)

## Day 3: Dublin 😯

Today, it's your choice! Choose to ride with a local guide to see St. Patrick's Cathedral, O'Connell Street, the National Gallery, and the historic Phoenix Park -OR- choose a walking tour of the city's historic centre, exploring St. Stephen's Green, Grafton Street, and the General Post Office. Either way, what follows is an afternoon to discover Dublin's charms on your own. Later, you may join an optional tour to the Guinness Storehouse, followed by dinner at a contemporary restaurant showcasing Irish cuisine. (B)

Day 4: Dublin - Kilkenny - Waterford 👽 Step back in time and begin the day in the medieval splendour of 12th century Kilkenny on

the River Nore. Then, in Waterford, embark on a

leisurely paced walking tour of Ireland's oldest

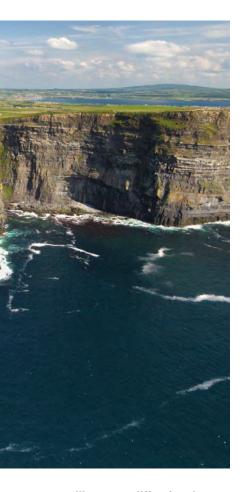
city. It's your choice! Tour the Waterford Crystal factory and learn how exquisite crystal has been made for centuries -OR- visit the Medieval Museum for a guided tour and a glass of wine in the 15th-century Mayor's Wine Vault. (B, D)

## Day 5: Waterford - Blarney Stone -Killarnev

The legend goes that those who kiss the Blarney Stone gain the gift of eloquence - give it a try if you wish at historic Blarney Castle. Cross into County Kerry and continue on to charming Killarney. Enjoy a traditional jaunting car ride through Killarney National Park before boarding a boat and sailing through the breathtaking lakes in the company of an expert boatman. Tonight, it's Diner's Choice... choose your included dinner from a "menu" of Killarney's great restaurants. (B, D)

## Day 6: Killarney - Ring of Kerry -**Killarney**

Take in the rugged coastline as you loop your way around the picturesque Ring of Kerry, past pristine beaches, quaint villages and majestic landscapes. At the Gap of Dunloe, shop for local artisan-made crafts. The night is free for reminiscing about the day as you find your own authentic taste of Irish culture. (B)







## Day 7: Killarney - Cliffs of Moher -Limerick

Today brings you to the dramatic, 700-foothigh Cliffs of Moher for cinematic views of the mighty Atlantic. Continue to Limerick, where a panoramic city tour showcases King John's Castle and the Treaty Stone. Delve into the fascinating history of the "city of the violated treaty." This evening you may join an optional medieval banquet dinner, hosted in a castle. (B)

### Day 8: Limerick - Galway -Limerick

Pass through the windswept, limestone Galway for a brief tour that showcases "The City of Tribes." Return to Limerick to relax over dinner. (B, D)

## Day 9: Limerick - Kilbeggan -**Kingscourt**

You don't have to be a connoisseur to appreciate the old-world heritage of Ireland's whiskey territory. Your journey brings you to Kilbeggan in the heart of Ireland, where a superb distillery brings whiskey craftsmanship to life and gives you a taste of the final product. Top your day off with an overnight stay on the stately grounds of Cabra Castle, where you toast the end of a memorable trip during an elegant dinner. (B, D)

**Day 10: Kingscourt - Tour Ends** Your journey ends in Kingscourt. (B)



DEPARTURE DUBLIN (DUB)

Optional Pre-Tour Extension

Optional

Post-Tour Extension

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2999 SOLO Starting at \$3699 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

**England** 

London

Scotland

Edinburgh

Prices based on October 31, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

Kilkenny

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**

Pre-Night: Dublin (1-2 NIGHTS)

Post-Night: Cabra Castle (1-2 NIGHTS)

**Even More Time?** 

Combine Shades of Ireland with Discover Scotland for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.



### **ALSO AVAILABLE**



#### Shades of Ireland featuring Northern Ireland

Experience Ireland in all its vibrant shades from the lively city of Dublin to the natural beauty of Northern Ireland.

DATES AVAILABLE: OCT - NOV 2023 MARCH - MAY 2024 & JUNE - NOV 2024 MARCH - MAY 2025

## SPECIAL EVENT



#### St. Patrick's Day

Celebrate in Ireland in the birthplace of St. Patrick, the "Apostle of Ireland."

★ DATES AVAILABLE MARCH 2024

landscape of the Burren, known for its stark beauty and Neolithic tombs. See border collies in action during a traditional sheepdog demonstration. Continue on to

**FEATURED TOUR EXTENSIONS** 

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/68

#### **LONDON 3-NIGHT PRE TOUR** STARTING AT: \$1040†



† Additional air segment purchase required.

#### **EDINBURGH** 3-NIGHT POST TOUR \$1040+



† Additional air segment purchase required

## **COUNTRYSIDE OF THE EMERALD ISLE**

10 DAYS · 13 MEALS STARTING AT \$3699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Dublin • Irish National Stud • Rock of Cashel • Distillery Tour • Kinsale • Garnish Island • Dingle Peninsula • Aran Islands - Cliffs of Moher



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Overnight on the enchanting Aran Islands and jump head-first into Irish culture.
- Enjoy an after-hours private tour and reception at Christ Church Cathedral.
- Discover a hidden garden island nestled in Bantry Bay.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 7 — Take a walk along the coast from Dunquin Pier -OR- visit the Blasket Centre.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Explore the Old Midleton Distillery, home of Jameson Irish Whiskey.
- Savour traditional Irish cuisine at a popular local restaurant.
- Enjoy a cheese tasting at an award-winning goat farm.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Trinity City Hotel, Dublin

Days 4, 5 Garryvoe Hotel, East Cork,

Days 6, 7 Dingle Harbour Lodge,

Dinale

Aran Islands Hotel, Aran Day 8

Islands

Day 9 Old Ground Hotel, Ennis

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Embrace the pure tranquility found in Ireland's natural landscapes, less-travelled roads and storybook castles.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

This is your chance to experience a seldomexplored side of Ireland. From the vaults of Christ Church Cathedral to the rolling hills of Dingle, we'll bring you back to your Irish roots (even if you don't have anv).

#### Day 2: Dublin, Ireland - Tour Begins

Fáilte and welcome to Dublin, Ireland's cosmopolitan capital. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome reception in the crypt of Christ Church Cathedral. Within the medieval walls of the city's oldest structure, surrounded by nearly 1,000 years of Irish myths and legends, toast the start of an incredible adventure.

## Day 3: Dublin

A local expert escorts you through Dublin's magnificent sights. Exalt in the culture and colour of Ireland's world-famous shopping thoroughfare, Grafton Street. Get lost inside the gardens of St. Stephen's Green, and marvel at the electric green expanse of the largest enclosed city park in all of Europe, Phoenix Park. This afternoon you may join an optional tour to a traditional pub for lunch, followed by a visit to the Guinness Storehouse, or enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure to explore Dublin's fair city. This evening, we'll gather again for dinner and enjoy authentic Irish cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 4: Dublin - Irish National Stud -Cashel - East Cork

Take to Ireland's country roads. Tour the Irish National Stud, an area of outstanding natural beauty that's home to regal thoroughbreds and opulent gardens. Continue south to the awe-inspiring Rock of Cashel. Be amazed by its imposing facade and visit the spot where St. Patrick preached. (B, D)

### Day 5: East Cork - Kinsale - Midleton -**East Cork**

This morning, head to the pretty coastal town of Kinsale. Enjoy time to peruse the charming shops, galleries and cafes before joining a local expert for a leisurely walking tour. Later this afternoon, visit the Old Midleton Distillery, home of the world-famous Jameson Irish Whiskey. Indulge in a tipple with a tasting of the distillery's production. (B)

## Day 6: East Cork - Garnish Island -Dingle

Travel through forty shades of green before arriving in the charming village of Glengarriff. Board a ferry and sail to a place that must be seen to be believed, Garnish Island. Sheltered in the Glengarriff harbour of Bantry Bay, this hidden island is home to one of Ireland's most beautiful gardens. Continue over the Cork and







Kerry mountains onto the colourful town of Dingle, located on the Dingle Peninsula. Tonight, settle into a charming seaside lodge — your home for two nights. (B)

## Day 7: Dingle - Dingle Peninsula -Dingle 😯

This morning, explore the spectacular scenery of the Dingle Peninsula, with a drive along Slea Head, with its enchanting hills and weather-worn bluffs. The locals will remind you that beyond the water "the next parish over is Boston." Then, it's your **choice!** Take a walk along the coast from Dunquin Pier, a secluded bay surrounded by cliffs -OR- visit the Blasket Centre, which shares the story of the people of the Blasket Islands, highlighting their struggles with the elements and the tenacity of their community. The rest of the day is free for you to explore the colourful streets and harbour of Dingle. This evening dinner will be at a pub located in a nearby village. (B, D)

## Day 8: Dingle - Aran Islands (Inishmore)

Leave the rugged southern coast behind and embark on an adventure. Board a ferry bound for Inishmore, the largest of the three Aran Islands. Upon arriving in Inishmore's ethereal landscape, take a private tour through the labyrinth of stone walls blanketing the island. Visit the east

of the island and see the Old Cromwellian Castle and Port Aodh, Learn about the island's 850 inhabitants, their livelihoods and devotion to traditional culture and customs. As the last ferry leaves for mainland Ireland, breathe in the fresh Atlantic air and settle into your cozy island chalet. The humble accommodations in the heart of Inishmore allow the striking, rocky coast to be the star of your stay. (B, D)

## Day 9: Aran Islands (Inishmore) -**Cliffs of Moher - Ennis**

In the morning, visit Dun Aonghusa, a prehistoric hill fort facing the Atlantic Ocean. Continue to the Seven Churches, a pilgrimage site in the Middle Ages. Look to catch a glimpse of a colony of seals on your way to visit a family-run goat farm. Savour the flavours of locally produced, award-winning cheeses during a tasting. Later, enjoy time in Kilronan village to explore and peruse the famous Aran sweaters. Then ferry back to the mainland. taking in unrivalled views while sailing beneath the iconic Cliffs of Moher. This evening, toast the end of an incredible adventure! (B, D)

#### Day 10: Ennis - Tour Ends

Your journey comes to a close today, leaving you with the spirit of Ireland in your heart forever. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3699 SOLO Starting at \$4449

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 13, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Dublin (1-2 NIGHTS)





66 Beautiful Ireland, personable and knowledgeable tour guides, and friendly people...Best trip ever — thank you! 99 - Margaret S.

## THE BEST OF IRELAND

15 DAYS · 21 MEALS STARTING AT \$5399

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Dublin • EPIC Immigration Museum • Belfast • Giant's Causeway • Derry • Seanchaí Experience - Galway -Cliffs of Moher - Dingle -Kilkenny - Hurling Experience



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- With a traditional seanchaí (Irish storyteller), listen to folklore and legends that have been passed down through generations.
- Travel back in time when you explore the thatched cottages of Glencolmcille.
- · Enjoy a traditional Irish game of hurling



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

 Day 14 — Enjoy a leisurely morning in Kilkenny and visit the iconic castle **-OR-** explore Jerpoint Abbey and attend a captivating glass-blowing demonstration



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 13 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- · Savour new Irish cuisine during dinner in Dublin.
- · Taste the traditional flavors of Ireland in a local pub.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Hvatt Centric The Liberties. Days 2, 3 Dublin Europa Hotel, Belfast Days 4, 5 Days 6, 7 Mill Park Hotel, Donegal

Lough Erne Resort, Day 8 Enniskillen

The Connacht Hotel, Days 9, 10 Galway

Days 11, 12 Dingle Harbour Lodge or Dingle Benners Hotel, Dinale

Days 13, 14 Lyrath Estate, Kilkenny

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



It's time to experience the beauty and culture of Ireland, passed down through generations and reborn in the modern era.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Rocky coasts, animated pubs, a storied past, and endless green hills - where else but Ireland? Experience the country like never before, visiting the traditional sites you'd expect, as well as a few off-the-beaten-path spots you couldn't find on your own. Connect with the locals, connect with your roots, and connect with the Emerald Isle.

## Day 2: Dublin, Ireland - Tour Begins

Your Irish adventure starts in Dublin, built upon layered history and featuring a lively local culture. This evening, toast the start of your journey with dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

## Day 3: Dublin

Start your morning with an **Impact Moment** and walk with an expert from Secret Street Tours, a non-profit organization that encourages and supports citizens formerly affected by homelessness to be guides in their own city. See the city through their eyes and gain insight into their life story as you discover Dublin's Liberties district. Visit EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, and trace how so many Irish fled to foreign lands. The remainder of the day is yours to explore on your own. Later you may join an optional tour to the Guinness Storehouse, followed by dinner at a traditional pub. (B)

#### Day 4: Dublin - Belfast, Northern Ireland

This morning, cross the border into Northern Ireland and arrive in Belfast. Ride through town in a traditional black taxicab with a guide, taking in different murals & iconic buildings along the way. Pause at the Peace Wall, which separates the Catholic and Protestant communities, adorned with political graffiti. This afternoon, enjoy time at leisure in Belfast before joining your fellow travellers for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Belfast - Giants Causeway -**Belfast**

Visit the ethereal Giant's Causeway, walking in the footsteps of mythical legends. Marvel at the hexagonal basalt slabs, that according to legend, were formed by gargantuan beasts crossing the crashing waves. (B)

## Day 6: Belfast - Derry - Donegal, Ireland

Make your way to Derry, a growing artistic and cultural hub, and site of the infamous Bloody Sunday massacre. Delve into the city's local history on a guided tour before continuing on to the pretty town of Donegal. Embark on an expertled tour of castle ruins, right in the heart of the town. In County Donegal tonight, connect with an age-old heritage when an esteemed seanchaí - a





traditional Gaelic storyteller - joins you for dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Donegal

Set out to explore the Wild Atlantic Way. Visit the Slieve League Cliffs, offering stunning views over the Sligo Mountains and Donegal Bay. Three times higher than the Cliffs of Moher, these iconic cliffs are amongst the highest and most scenic in Europe. Afterward, travel back in time to 18th century Ireland when you visit the thatched cottages of Glencolmcille, a folk village maintained by the local community of southeast Donegal. Continue on to Donegal Town and enjoy time to shop and explore at your leisure. (B)

## Day 8: Donegal - Enniskillen, **Northern Ireland**

Enjoy a morning with free time to explore before departing Donegal for Fermanagh, a county blanketed by lakes and waterways. Take in pastoral surroundings as you cruise toward Devenish Island, a 6th century monastic site. Explore the ruins of this picturesque island, including one of the finest high towers in Ireland. This afternoon, arrive at your beautiful resort on the banks of Lough Erne. (B, D)

Day 9: Enniskillen - Galway, Ireland Arrive in Galway, a lively city of medieval relics and modern flare. Join a local guide

to explore stories about the city, from its days as a medieval trading centre through to the present. Tonight, dinner is at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 10: Galway

The day is yours. Perhaps you'll pop into a pub for a drink with the locals, or peruse one of the city's many museums, or go shopping along bustling Quay Street. Consider taking an optional tour to Kylemore Abbey, where you'll drive through Connemara National Park before embarking on a tour of the monastery. (B)

## Day 11: Galway - Cliffs of Moher -**Dingle**

Peek into Irish culture at a sheep farm, where you'll watch a dog-herding demonstration and meet the friendly canine workers. Experience the Ireland you've always imagined at the Cliffs of Moher, where mossy cliffs plunge 700 feet into the ocean. After visiting one of the country's most beloved sites, arrive in the colourful town of Dingle, located on the Dingle Peninsula. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a pub. (B, D)

## Day 12: Dingle

This morning, explore the spectacular scenery of the Dingle Peninsula, visiting Slea Head, where the locals will remind you that beyond the water, "the next parish over is Boston." After returning to Dingle, the rest of the day is yours to explore how you choose. (B)

#### Day 13: Dingle - Kilkenny

Today, enjoy a lunch at a traditional Irish pub, owned by the same family for 200 years. Listen to stories about the family ancestors, and the social role that pubs play within rural communities. Afterwards, watch a hurling demonstration, a traditional sport of Ireland, with the opportunity to participate yourself! Continue to Kilkenny, one of Ireland's most charming cities. (B, L)

#### Day 14: Kilkenny 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Enjoy a leisurely day to explore the town and Kilkenny Castle on your own -OR- travel just outside of town to the ruins of Jerpoint Abbey, a Cistercian abbey founded in the 12th century. You will also attend a captivating demonstration at a familyowned glass company and learn about the important role Kilkenny plays in Irish design and craftsmanship. No matter what activities fill your day, come together in the evening for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. Sláinte! (B, D)

## Day 15: Kilkenny - Tour Ends Wish the Emerald Isle goodbye as you depart for home. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5399 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date. SOLO Starting at \$6699

Prices based on March 11, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Dublin (1-2 NIGHTS)





66 I loved all the different places we saw and were able to explore. Also, I enjoyed the fact we had local guides and visited local establishments. 99 - Trudy M.

## **EXPLORING** BRITAIN & IRELAND

15 DAYS · 20 MEALS STARTING AT \$5349

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Edinburgh • York • High Speed Train • London • Afternoon Tea • Stonehenge - Bath - Wales - Cardiff Castle - Welsh Evening • Waterford • Blarney Castle • Killarney - Ring of Kerry - Jaunting Car Ride - Dublin - Traditional Irish Night



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Behold the sights of Killarney on a traditional jaunting car.
- Visit an innovative 500-acre family farm in the Scottish Borders.
- · Enjoy an evening of traditional Irish song and dance in Dublin.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 9 In Cardiff, visit St. Fagan's National Museum of History -ORenjoy time at leisure to explore.
- Day 11 In Waterford, tour the House of Waterford Crystal factory -OR- enjoy a walking tour of the city.
- Day 14 Ride with a local guide and see Dublin's most famous sites -OR- take a walking tour of the city's historic centre.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 13 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

- · Delve into Scottish culture with a whisky-inspired dinner.
- In Wales, enjoy an evening of Welsh music, poetry and cuisine.
- Experience a traditional afternoon tea in London.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Mercure Edinburgh Days 2, 3 Haymarket Hotel, Edinburgh

DoubleTree by Hilton York, Days 4, 5

Days 6, 7 Meliá White House, London Days 8, 9 Clayton Hotel, Cardiff

Day 10 Granville Hotel or Fitzwilton Hotel, Waterford

Days 11, 12 Scotts Hotel, Great Southern Killarney or The Heights Hotel, Killarney

Days 13, 14 Riu Plaza The Gresham, or

Aloft Dublin City, Dublin



Travel through the most fashionable cities and historic places of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

An overnight flight transports you to stunning landscapes, lively cities and stirring history.

## Day 2: Edinburgh, Scotland - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Edinburgh, the historic capital of Scotland, where rocky hills tower in the distance and the shadows of history can be seen around every corner. Discover Scotland's capital and see how medieval crossroads blend seamlessly with a vibrant modern energy. This evening, delve into Scottish culture with a whisky-inspired dinner highlighting the flavours of Scotland. (D)

### Day 3: Edinburgh

Today get acquainted with Scotland's regal capital on a locally guided city tour exploring both the Old and New Towns. Explore the Royal Mile on foot and visit Edinburgh Castle, home of the Scottish Crown Jewels. (B)

## Day 4: Edinburgh - Scottish Borders -**Hexham, England - York**

Depart Edinburgh, travelling through the picturesque countryside of Northumberland. Visit a family farm situated in the heart of the Scottish Borders, where sustainability and innovation are core to their business. Continue to Hexham Abbey, one of the earliest seats of Christianity in England. Then, head south to York, with its historic city walls. (B)

### Day 5: York

Take in York's rich and storied history while joining your Tour Manager on a leisurely orientation walking tour. Explore the quaint, narrow streets of the 'Shambles' that appear today almost as they did during the Middle Ages. At the heart of the city is its impressive Minster, the largest Gothic cathedral in Northern Europe. Venture inside and stand in awe of the seemingly endless sea of stained-glass windows. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. Tonight, enjoy traditional fare at a local pub for dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 6: York - London

Board a high-speed train to London. Upon arriving in England's bustling capital, enjoy a traditional afternoon tea. Afterward, join a local expert for a panoramic city tour. At Westminster, see the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and Big Ben, and continue to Buckingham Palace, the London home to Britain's royalty since 1837. (B, L)

## Day 7: London

Enjoy a day to explore this incredible city at your leisure. You may choose to take an optional excursion to Windsor Castle. Originally built to guard the city of London, Windsor Castle has been the home of kings and queens for nine





centuries and is the oldest royal residence still in use today. (B)

## Day 8: London - Stonehenge - Bath - Cardiff, Wales

Travel to Stonehenge, the mysterious formation that dates back to the Stone Age. Explore theories on how the colossal stones arrived at the location and their purpose. Continue to the elegant Georgian town of Bath to visit the Roman Bath Museum's 2,000-year-old elaborate spas. Stroll through Bath's cobblestone streets and soak in its old-world atmosphere. Your day ends in the Welsh capital of Cardiff. (B)

## Day 9: Cardiff 😗

Join a local expert on a leisurely-paced walking tour of Cardiff. Learn about the city's deep ties to the coal industry, its connection to ancient Rome, and its famous Victorian shopping arcades. Tour Cardiff's historic castle, an impressive structure that was once a Roman fort. a Norman castle, and an extraordinary Victorian Gothic fantasy palace. This afternoon, it's your choice! You may choose to accompany your Tour Manager to St. Fagan's National Museum of History, an open-air museum chronicling the history, culture and architecture of the Welsh people -OR- enjoy time to explore Cardiff at your leisure. Tonight, dive into Wales'

rich cultural heritage when you join local artists for an evening of Welsh music, poetry and cuisine. (B, D)

## Day 10: Cardiff - Waterford, Ireland

Take in the beautiful Welsh countryside en route to the coastal village of Fishquard. There, board the ferry for Ireland, crossing the Irish Sea, Upon arrival in Rosslare, travel to Waterford, your home for the evening. (B, D)

## Day 11: Waterford - Blarney -Killarney W

This morning, it's your choice! Tour the House of Waterford Crystal factory featuring a fascinating visitor's centre and a retail store housing the largest collection of Waterford Crystal in the world -OR- enjoy a leisurely-paced walking tour of Ireland's oldest city and discover its rich Viking, Norman and Cromwellian history. Later, travel to historic Blarney Castle. Make your way to the top of the castle, lie back and kiss the famous Blarney Stone. Legend has it that if you do, you will be blessed with the "aift of eloquence." This evening it's Diner's Choice...tonight's dinner is included and you'll choose the perfect spot from a "menu" of Killarney's great restaurants. (B, D)

## Day 12: Killarney - Ring of Kerry -Killarnev

This morning, explore Killarney National Park on a traditional jaunting car ride. Then, travel along the glorious Ring of Kerry where you'll find some of Ireland's most magical scenery. Marvel at the vistas created by windswept cliffs, rugged mountains, lakes and picturesque villages. Enjoy an evening in Killarney at your leisure. (B)

#### Day 13: Killarney - Rock of Cashel - Dublin

Venture through the "Golden Vale" en route to the awe-inspiring Rock of Cashel. Take in its imposing facade and visit the spot where St. Patrick preached. Continue on to vibrant Dublin, Ireland's capital. (B)

#### Day 14: Dublin 😯

Today, it's your choice! Choose to ride with a local guide to see St. Patrick's Cathedral, O'Connell Street, the General Post Office, and the historic Phoenix Park -OR- choose a walking tour of the city's historic centre, exploring St. Stephen's Green, Grafton Street, and the River Liffey. Either way, what follows is an afternoon to discover Dublin's charms on your own. Tonight, experience Ireland's lively music and dynamic dancing during a fun-filled evening of Irish entertainment. (B, D)

#### Day 15: Dublin - Tour Ends

Depart today with many fond memories of lovely Britain and Ireland. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5349 SOLO Starting at \$6949

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on April 6, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

October - November 2023 June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** Edinburgh (1-2 Nights)



## **Post-Night:** Dublin (1-2 Nights)



## ALSO AVAILABLE



#### Exploring Britain & Ireland featuring the Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Travellers arriving in Edinburgh August 3-24, 2024 will receive tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo Show.

★ DATES AVAILABLE JULY & AUGUST 2024

66 I enjoyed the experiences I had with the group. I gained a lot of knowledge that I wouldn't have had I been travelling on my own. 99

- Alecia L. .....

## **DISCOVER SCOTLAND**

10 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$3549

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Bagpipe Lesson • Isle of Skye • Loch Ness • Orkney Islands • Dunrobin Castle

• Sheepdog Demonstration • Edinburgh Castle - Scottish Cooking Experience



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit a working farm and meet a shepherd and his sheepdogs.
- Take a cruise on Loch Ness, the largest loch in the Highlands.
- · Discover the remains of a Neolithic village at Skara Brae.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

 Day 3 — In Oban, take a walk with your Tour Manager up to the iconic landmark of McCaigs Tower -ORvisit Dunollie Castel and Museum, the centre for Scottish Culture and Heritage and home to the worldwide clan MacDougall.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 8 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Dinners (D)

 Enjoy an interactive cooking experience at one of Edinburgh's premier culinary institutions.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Day 2 Maldron Hotel, Glasgow

Days 3, 4 Ballachulish Hotel,

Ballachulish

Days 5, 6 Pentland Hotel, Thurso or Castletown Hotel,

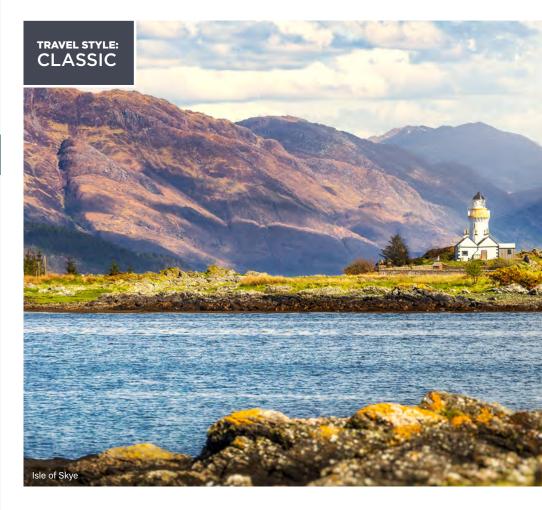
Thurso

Day 7 Best Western Palace Hotel, Columba Hotel

or Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness

Days 8, 9 Radisson Blu, Edinburgh

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From its rugged sea-sprayed islands to its stately castles layered in history, Scotland awaits.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

An overnight flight transports you to a country of stunning landscapes, lively cities and stirring

## Day 2: Glasgow, Scotland - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Glasgow, Scotland's Victorian city. Start your Scottish adventure with a visit to the National Piping Centre. After a demonstration and lesson with a renowned piper, it's your chance to give it a go! Then, join your fellow travellers for a lively welcome dinner at the Centre's farm-to-table restaurant. (D)

#### Day 3: Glasgow - Oban - Ballachulish 😯

This morning, bid Glasgow farewell as you travel to Oban, known as the 'Gateway to the Isles'. After free time for lunch, it's your choice! Take a walk up to McCaig's Tower with your Tour Manager -OR- visit Dunollie Museum, castle and grounds. Admire the verdant green hills and mountainside waters as you arrive at your remote countryside hotel situated on lovely Loch Linnhe. (B, D)

## Day 4: Ballachulish - Isle of Skye -**Ballachulish**

This morning, take a ferry ride to the stunning Isle of Skye, also known in poetry and song as Eilean a' Cheò (The Misty Isle). Upon arrival in Armadale,

a local guide from the island will join you to share the history of this magical place and what it is like to live there today. Visit the capital of Portree for some time to explore, then continue north for stunning views of the Storr. End your day by returning to Ballachulish via the Skye Bridge and a scenic drive along the "Road to the Isles". (B, D)

## Day 5: Ballachulish - Loch Ness -**Thurso**

Today, enjoy stunning and unspoiled landscapes as you journey further into the Highlands. Travel through the Great Glen, famous for its many lochs (lakes). Visit the striking ruins of Urquhart Castle before enjoying a cruise on Loch Ness, one of Britain's most famous bodies of water. Keep your eyes open — you never know when Nessie will appear! Travel off the beaten path to Thurso, one of Scotland's most remote towns on the North Coast. Embrace the rustic environment of the Scottish Highlands as you settle in for your 2-night stay. (B, D)

## Day 6: Thurso - Orkney Islands -**Thurso**

Grab your windbreaker - it's time for an adventure on the Orkney Islands. Ferry to



this former Viking stronghold off the

northernmost coast of Scotland, where

artists admire the ever-changing clouds

rolling across the sky like a time-lapse at

wind in your hair as you view the abundant

double speed. On the crossing, feel the

bird life and, if you are lucky, porpoises and seals. A local guide introduces this ethereal place that few visitors to Scotland

get to experience. Visit Skara Brae and

discover the remains of a Neolithic village

built before the Great Pyramids in Egypt.

Standing Stones of Stenness, reported to

be older than Stonehenge. Make your way

through the town of Viking Kirkwall before

northern coast, visit the majestic Dunrobin

Continue on toward the prehistoric

returning to the mainland. (B)

Day 7: Thurso - Inverness

As you make your way back from the

Castle which dates back to the 1300s. The Castle is built in the style of a French

château and is home to the Duke of

Sutherland. Next, visit the powerfully

emotive and atmospheric battlefield of

Culloden, where the Jacobite Rising came

to a tragic end. Enjoy an overnight stay in

Inverness, capital of the Highlands. (B, D)





sheepdogs at work while surrounded by the mountain wilderness of Cairngorms National Park. Continue on to the vibrant Victorian town of Pitlochry for some time Day 9: Edinburgh

Today visit Edinburgh Castle, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels. Enjoy a panoramic tour of Edinburgh's new town, before your local expert takes you on a walking tour up to the magnificent castle. Enjoy an afternoon of free time. This evening, give traditional Scottish ingredients a modern twist. Enjoy a lively and interactive cooking experience at one of Scotland's premier culinary institutions. With a "wee dram" in hand, toast the end of a wonderful journey. Today (B, D)

Your tour of Scotland comes to a close today. (B)



farm set in the heart of the Highlands. See at leisure to explore on your own. End your day in Scotland's capital city of Edinburgh.

## Day 10: Edinburgh - Tour Ends

Scotland England

> ARRIVAL GLASGOW (GLA)

DEPARTURE EDINBURGH (EDI)

DOUBLE Starting at \$3549 SOLO Starting at \$4599

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 23, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\* Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Niaht: Glasgow (1-2 Nights)



Post-Night: Edinburgh (1-2 Nights)



**Even More Time?** 

Combine Discover Scotland with Shades of Ireland for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.



#### ALSO AVAILABLE



#### Discover Scotland featuring the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Guests arriving in Edinburgh from August 3 - 24, 2024, will receive tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo show.

★ DATES AVAILABLE AUGUST 2024

## Day 8: Inverness - Pitlochry -**Edinburgh**

Begin your day with a visit to a family-run

## **EXPLORING SCOTLAND & IRELAND**

13 DAYS · 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$4699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Edinburgh • Edinburgh Castle • St. Andrews - Loch Ness Cruise - Urquhart Castle • Highland Evening • Glasgow • Belfast • Titanic Experience • Giant's Causeway - The Causeway Coast Rail Journey • Derry • Cider Farm Tour • Dublin



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Embark on one of the world's most breathtaking rail journeys along the Causeway Coast.
- Explore the Titanic Experience in Belfast.
- Discover the heritage of Glasgow with a local guide.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 11 Breakfasts (B) - 7 Dinners (D)

- Taste apple cider at a family-run farm.
- . Join in the fun during a night of traditional Scottish food and entertainment.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Davs 2, 3 Radisson Blu, Edinburgh Best Western Palace Days 4, 5 Hotel, Inverness Day 6 Hilton Glasgow, Glasgow

Maldron Hotel, Belfast Days 7, 8

Days 9, 10 City Hotel, Derry

Days 11, 12 Herbert Park Hotel, Dublin

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Experience rugged natural beauty and historic cities and castles in Scotland and Ireland.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

From rugged natural beauty to vibrant and historical cities, the diverse charms of Scotland and Ireland await.

## Day 2: Edinburgh, Scotland - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Edinburgh, Scotland's capital city. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

## Day 3: Edinburgh

This morning, visit Edinburgh Castle, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels and enjoy a panoramic tour of Edinburgh's new town and an insightful walking tour up to the castle. This afternoon, enjoy free time to explore the city further at your leisure. This evening you might like to join the optional tour to the Spirit of Scotland Show. (B)

## Day 4: Edinburgh - St. Andrews -**Inverness**

Depart Edinburgh and travel onto St. Andrews, the beautiful town in the Kingdom of Fife that gave the world the game of golf - see the Royal and Ancient Clubhouse and the famous Old Course. Continue on to Inverness, the capital of the Highlands. (B, D)

## Day 5: Inverness - Loch Ness - Inverness

This morning, take a scenic cruise on Loch Ness before disembarking at the base of the famed Urquhart Castle. Explore the ruins of this historic

stronghold where acts of chivalry and defiance exhibit more than 1,000 years of Scottish history. Return to Inverness and have time to explore the city or take a riverside walk. This evening, enjoy a Highland evening filled with storytelling, singing and Scottish dancing! (B, D)

### Day 6: Inverness - Fort William - Glencoe - Glasgow

Depart Inverness and stop just north of Fort William to take in the historic Caledonian Canal and its famous Neptune's Staircase, a flight of eight locks and an incredible feat of engineering. Continue to the scenic valley of Glencoe, one of Scotland's most historic and breathtaking glens. Your day ends in Glasgow. (B, D)

### Day 7: Glasgow - Belfast, Northern **Ireland**

This morning, explore Glasgow with a local guide. Highlights include a visit to George Square, and passing by Glasgow Cathedral, Provand's Lordship, the oldest house in the city. Travel to the scenic Ayrshire coast to your ferry. Cross the famed Irish Sea as you head for Northern Ireland's capital city of Belfast. (B)

### Day 8: Belfast

Enjoy a privately guided tour of Belfast, Northern Ireland's largest city. Learn about the struggles





in this great city's history as you pass through its distinctive neighbourhoods. See "Samson" and "Goliath," the massive cranes of the Belfast shipyard. Complete today's tour with a visit to the award-winning Titanic Experience museum. (B, D)

# Day 9: Belfast - Glens of Antrim - Giant's Causeway - Derry

Venture along the stunning Antrim Coastal Route, stopping at the Giant's Causeway (UNESCO). Formed by volcanic activity millions of years ago, the causeway resembles an old, cobbled road leading mystically into the sea. Then, embark on one of the world's most beautiful railway journeys along the Causeway Coast. Soak up the incredible scenery before arriving in the walled city of Derry. Set out on a walking tour featuring the medieval city walls, St. Augustine's Cathedral, and the Guildhall. Perhaps you will discover why Derry is one of Ireland's best-kept secrets during an optional evening with a local singer playing traditional music at a pub serving traditional pub-style food. (B)

# Day 10: Derry - Donegal Town - Derry

Today's journey showcases the rugged beauty of County Donegal. Start your day with a visit to Donegal Castle, a restored 15th century castle with a unique history. Enjoy some free time to explore Donegal Town, a picturesque village at the mouth of the River Eske. Return to Derry, where tonight, it's *Diner's Choice...* choose the perfect spot from a "menu" of Derry's great restaurants. (B, D)

## Day 11: Derry - Armagh - Cider Farm Visit - Dublin, Ireland

Depart on a journey through the scenic countryside of Northern Ireland, stopping in Armagh to view the twin cathedrals dedicated to Ireland's Patron Saint. The two St. Patrick's Cathedrals, one Catholic and one Protestant, symbolize the two souls of Ireland. Then, visit a family-run cider farm. Meet the family and explore the orchards before sampling their award-winning Irish ciders. Continue on to the Republic of Ireland. Your day concludes in Dublin, Ireland's vibrant capital city. (B)

## Optional 3 Night London Pre-Tour Extension Starting at \$1170 pp



#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You're on your way to the United Kingdom. Begin in England and enjoy a 3-night stay in London.

## Day 2: London, England - Extension Begins

Experience London, the esteemed capital of

the United Kingdom. Often described as a world within a city, London is a sophisticated metropolis with a timeless style all its own.

#### Day 3: London

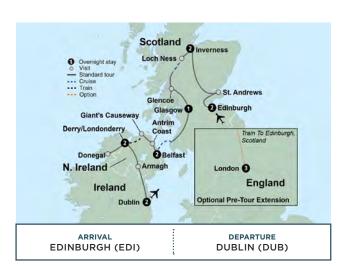
Navigate the city with a local expert. Using your included Oyster card, hop on the famous underground Tube. Take a walking tour around Westminster, The Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace. Your tour will end in Trafalgar Square, one of London's most iconic landmarks. Enjoy the afternoon to further explore the city. (B)

#### Day 4: London

See London your way today! Be sure to take advantage of your included ticket to the Tower of London to peek into the city's storied past and uncover the secrets of this 11th-century fortress. (B)

## Day 5: London - Edinburgh, Scotland

Wish London goodbye as you take a highspeed train through the English countryside to Scotland. (B)



DOUBLE Starting at \$4699 SOLO Starting at \$5999

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 23, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) June - October 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Post-Night:
Dublin (1 Night)



#### Day 12: Dublin

A locally guided tour of Dublin highlights the world-renowned St. Patrick's Cathedral, O'Connell Street, Phoenix Park and the city's magnificent rows of lovely Georgian town homes. You may choose to join an optional tour with lunch at a local pub followed by a visit to the Guinness Storehouse. Spend the rest of your day at leisure as you delve further into Dublin's cultural treasures. This evening, toast the end of an incredible adventure during a farewell dinner at one of the city's most popular local restaurants. (B, D)

### Day 13: Dublin - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close. (B)

#### ALSO AVAILABLE



## Exploring Scotland & Ireland featuring the Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Travellers arriving in Edinburgh August 3-24, 2024 will receive tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo Show.

★ DATES AVAILABLE: AUGUST 2024

## **SCOTLAND: LAND OF LORE** & LEGEND

12 DAYS · 17 MEALS STARTING AT \$4849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Glasgow - Sheepdog Demonstration -Auchindrain - Scottish Highlands -Loch Melfort • Oban • Isle of Mull • Isle of Iona • Urguhart Castle • Moray Firth Cruise - Culloden - Blair Castle - Impact Moments - Dundee - Whisky Tasting -**Edinburgh Castle** 



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Wander the ruins of a 13th-century medieval fortress.
- · See border collies in action during a traditional sheepdog demonstration at a family-run farm.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- Day 3 In Glasgow, visit the Kelvingrove Art Gallery with its iconic art collection -OR- explore the Riverside Museum, dedicated to transport.
- Day 10 In Dundee, see the ship RRS Discovery that transported Shackleton to Antarctica -ORexplore the Victoria & Albert Design Museum.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 10 Breakfasts (B) - 7 Dinners (D)

· Sip the famous "water of life" at a local whisky tasting.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 Hilton Glasgow, Glasgow Days 4 - 6 Loch Melfort Hotel, Arduaine, Oban

Best Western Palace Hotel, Days 7, 8 Inverness

Day 9 The Landmark Hotel,

Days 10, 11 Voco Edinburah -Haymarket, Edinburgh

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Discover the mystical side of Scotland, with its legends, whisky, clans and historical cities.

#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

Rolling landscapes of green hills and rocky coastlines. Lively cities of friendly locals and the renowned "water of life." This is Scotland - where legends live long, and storybook pages come to life.

Day 2: Glasgow, Scotland - Tour Begins

Welcome to Glasgow, a cultural trove of art, music, and history. Get ready to experience the eclectic architecture, friendly locals (Glaswegians), and rich traditions that make this city such a fascinating place. Settle into your hotel before joining your fellow travellers this evening for dinner. (D)

#### Day 3: Glasgow 😯

Soak in the rich culture of Glasgow. Join a local guide on a walking and coach tour that leads you through historic George Square and the beautiful Beaux-Arts style architecture that surrounds it; to Provands Lordship—the oldest surviving house in the city; the medieval Glasgow Cathedral: prestigious Blythswood Square; and the futuristiclooking Science Centre. After lunch on your own in central Glasgow, it's your choice! View one of Europe's great art collections at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery -OR- see the city's fabulous technology

and transport collections at the Riverside Museum, situated on the banks of the River Clyde.

## Day 4: Glasgow - Loch Lomond -**Auchindrain - Loch Melfort**

Leave the city behind, travelling along sloping fields towards Loch Lomond. Visit a family-run farm with spectacular views of the lake and surrounding hills, see border collies in action during a traditional sheepdog demonstration, and enjoy Scottish snacks. Next, arrive in Luss and explore this quaint lakeside village of stone cottages and bright flowers. After enjoying lunch on your own, it's off to Auchindrain. Learn about Scotland's rural history during a guided tour of this well-preserved farm township dating back to the 16th century. Continue to Loch Melfort and settle into your hotel for the next three nights. Take in a stunning view of the ocean from the hotel before wandering the grounds, home to friendly Highland cows and neighbouring the National Trust's Arduaine Gardens. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Loch Melfort - Oban - Loch Melfort

This morning, put on your comfy shoes and embark on a guided walking tour of historic

Oban, the "Gateway to the Isles." Uncover the history of the iconic McCaig's Tower and find out what's buried under the North Pier as you traverse the scenic harbourside town with a local expert. Afterwards, enjoy some free time, perhaps exploring Oban's food stalls and seeing for yourself why it's considered the seafood capital of Scotland. Return to your hotel in Loch Melfort to relax and spend the remainder of the day as you please. Perhaps you'll opt to join your Tour Manager in the bar before dinner for a friendly discussion about Scottish Independence. (B, D)

## Day 6: Loch Melfort - Isle of Mull -Isle of Iona - Loch Melfort

It's time to island hop. Take the ferry from Oban to the Isle of Mull, a picturesque island that is the largest of the Inner Hebridean Islands, Continue to the Isle of Iona, one of Western Europe's oldest Christian religious centers. Journey to Iona Abbey on foot and enjoy free time to explore the tranquility of the grounds on your own before returning to Oban and back to your hotel in Loch Melfort. (B, D)

## Day 7: Loch Melfort - Glencoe -**Loch Ness - Inverness**

Geological wonders await you in the Highlands, Head to the National Nature Reserve in Glencoe and stop at the visitor centre to learn about the spectacular Glencoe mountain range, then walk the trails and experience this unique landscape for yourself. After lunch, continue on to Loch Ness. Wander the ruins of the legendary Urguhart Castle and imagine all that transpired inside the walls of this 13th-century medieval fortress. Afterwards, travel to Inverness, capital of the Highlands, to settle into your hotel for the night. After dinner, you may wish to take a stroll with your Tour Manager to neighbouring Eden Court along the River Ness. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Inverness

Head out on the water and cruise Moray Firth, travelling up the Beauly Firth to the Caledonian Canal and then back out as far as Munlochy Bay. Keep your eyes peeled for otters, porpoises, seals, and numerous shore birds along the way. Continue to Culloden Battlefield, where in 1746, a half-hour

battle changed the course of Scotland's history. Experience the 360-degree battle immersion theater at the visitor centre and see artifacts from the conflict. Later this afternoon, return to Inverness, and have some time at leisure to explore. (B)

## Day 9: Inverness - Blair Atholl -**Dundee**

Immerse yourself in history today at Blair Castle & Gardens, the ancestral home of Clan Murray. Explore the ornate 18th century interiors and wander the nine acres of walled gardens where you may spot a peacock roaming free. After lunch, continue to Bamff Ecotourism for an **Impact Moment.** Meet the owners of this tranquil estate and learn why they're helping to reintroduce the wild beaver population to Scotland. Continue on to Dundee, an up-and-coming city on the banks of the River Tay. (B, D)

## Day 10: Dundee - Edinburgh 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Visit Discovery Point, home to the RRS Discovery, the ship that took Scott and Shackleton to Antarctica in 1901 -OR- get inspired at the V&A Dundee, Scotland's highly acclaimed design museum. Your day ends in Scotland's capital city, Edinburgh. Tonight, you may wish to join an optional Scottish cultural show for a night of food, song, and dance. (B)

#### Day 11: Edinburgh

Start with an Impact Moment getting a local's perspective from a guide with Invisible Cities, a social enterprise that trains people affected by homelessness to become tour guides of their own city. After your tour, visit Edinburgh Castle, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels. The rest of the day is yours to explore as you wish. Perhaps you'll take a stroll among the Georgian architecture of the New Town or journey to Leith for a visit to the Royal Yacht *Britannia*. Gather in the evening for a whisky-inspired farewell dinner highlighting the flavours of Scotland and toast to your Scottish explorations. (B, D)

## Day 12: Edinburgh - Tour Ends

Wish Scotland a fond farewell as you depart for home. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4849 SOLO Starting at \$5749

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 5, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR





## **Post-Night:** Edinburgh (1-2 Nights)



#### ALSO AVAILABLE



Scotland: Land of Lore and Legend featuring the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Travellers arriving in Edinburgh from August 3-24, 2024 will receive tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo show.

★ DATES AVAILABLE JULY - AUGUST 2024

## **FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION** ADD 3 NIGHTS IN LONDON



#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1170 PP

Extend your stay in London. Ride the Tube with a local expert and zoom to the city's beloved attractions. Visit Kensingston Palace. Visit the Tower of London independently with your included pass and enjoy free time to explore.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/663

66 It was a good ratio of tour time, bus time, and on our own time. And the [Tour Manager's] history talks and stories were brilliant. ">

- Wendie W.

## **JOURNEY THROUGH SCOTLAND & ENGLAND**

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$5299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Edinburgh Castle • Lake District • Liverpool • Cotswolds • Bath • Glastonbury Abbey - Cornwall -Great Western Railway - London



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Overnight in a 16th-century Elizabethan manor house.
- · Relax as you journey through the countryside by train from Cornwall to London.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 5 In the Lake District, visit Rydal Mount, home of poet William Wordsworth -OR- embark on a guided hike through valleys and trails.
- Day 6 In Liverpool, explore the strawberry fields that inspired John Lennon -OR- tour Albert Dock and visit the Merseyside Maritime Museum.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 12 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

- · Personalize your evening with Diner's Choice in Bath.
- Enjoy lunch at the historic Bell Inn in the charming village of Willersey.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 VOCO, Edinburgh

Days 4, 5 Low Wood Bay Resort and Spa, Lake Windermere

**ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** 

See next page for details.

Day 6 Hotel Indigo, Liverpool The Greenway Hotel & Spa, Day 7

Cotswolds Days 8, 9 The Francis Hotel, Bath

Days 10, 11 The Cornwall Hotel and

Spa, Cornwall

Days 12, 13 Clayton Hotel City of

London, London



## From poetic countrysides to bustling capitals, experience the different sides of Scotland and England.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

From poetic countrysides to bustling capitals, experience the distinctive sides of Great Britain. Encounter the history, connect with the locals, and see what life is like in the United Kingdom.

#### Day 2: Edinburgh, Scotland - Tour Begins

Your journey begins in Scotland, where age-old legends intersect with scenic beauty. Start in Edinburgh, the country's capital, and enjoy time to settle in for your stay. Delve into Scottish culture with a locally inspired dinner. (D)

## Day 3: Edinburgh

See the city like a local during a walking tour of the Old Town, passing by Victorian houses and cobblestone streets. Explore the Royal Mile, ending at Edinburgh Castle, where you'll enjoy a guided tour of this historic fortress. The rest of the day is yours. Take advantage of free time to experience the city however you please. (B)

## Day 4: Edinburgh - Lake Windermere, **England**

Say goodbye to Scotland and travel to the scenic Lake District, eternalized through the works of Scott and Wordsworth. Along the way, pause at the Pan Am Memorial at Lockerbie Cemetery and Gretna Green, where runaway lovers would marry in secret. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon on the shores of Lake Windermere, your home for the next 2 nights. Breathe in the crisp air and admire the rolling hills nestled against the water. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Lake District 😯

See the area from a different perspective and set sail on Lake Windermere, England's largest lake. Take in the tranquil backdrop before visiting the charming village of Grasmere. Personalize your afternoon because it's your choice! Soak up the romance of the Lake District with a visit to Rydal Mount, the home of poet William Wordsworth -OR- embark on a guided hike through glacial valleys and along lakeside trails. (B)

## Day 6: Lake Windermere - Liverpool 👽

Head to Liverpool, England's popular port city. After some free time to explore, it's your choice! Perhaps you will visit Strawberry Field, the site where John Lennon came to play as a child, which he later immortalized in the song, 'Strawberry Fields Forever'. Here you will experience an Impact Moment and learn about the work the Salvation Army does at Strawberry Field to give young people with learning difficulties the opportunity for work experience -OR- embark on a walking tour of Albert Dock and learn about Liverpool's rich industrial history, connection to the American Civil War, as well as explore the Merseyside Maritime Museum. This evening, perhaps you'll join your Tour Manager at the Cavern Club, where The Beatles used to perform. (B)

## **Day 7: Liverpool - Cotswolds**

Delve into the English's love of horticulture with





a visit to a traditional garden. Your glimpse into the quintessential English lifestyle continues as you make your way to the Cotswolds. A region of hilly fields and stone houses, the Cotswolds is a charming collection of storybook villages. Settle into a 16th-century Elizabethan manor house for the night, situated among 8 acres of verdant countryside. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Cotswolds - Bath

This morning explore the Cotswolds, taking in the rolling hills and honey-colored stone homes that make this one of England's most beautiful areas. Visit the quaint village of Broadway, and enjoy lunch at the historic Bell Inn located in the village of Willersey. Your day continues in the ancient Roman town of Bath, a beloved getaway for Jane Austen, Thomas Gainsborough, and Charles Dickens. Venture into the Roman Bath Museum to see the elaborate spas that have been prized since Roman times for their curative properties. The evening is yours to enjoy. (B, L)

## Day 9: Bath

Enjoy a day at leisure. Perhaps you'll visit the Jane Austen Museum, shop in the quaint boutiques, or simply stroll through Bath's stunning Georgian streets. No matter how you spend your day, this evening is Diner's Choice! Choose where you eat dinner from a selection of different included restaurants. (B, D)

### Day 10: Bath - Glastonbury -Cornwall

Visit the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey, which legend claims is the home of storied King Arthur. Then travel on to Cornwall, England's remote southwestern peninsula. Cornwall has always danced to its own tune. Passing through rugged moors and lush valleys, it becomes clear why this far-reaching corner of the earth has been a source of inspiration for so many. This evening, enjoy dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

## Day 11: Cornwall

This morning, visit the Eden Project. Dubbed the Eighth Wonder of the World, it is a dramatic global garden housed in some of the world's largest biodomes. This afternoon take in a coastal walk with a local guide and then continue onto Charlestown to learn about the local links to Poldark. (B)

## Day 12: Cornwall - Great Western Railway - London

Wish the countryside goodbye and travel on the Great Western Railway to London, England's lively capital. Upon arriving in London, get the lay of the land on a panoramic tour with a local expert. Take in London's iconic sites, such as Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbev. and Buckingham Palace. The rest of the day is yours to explore independently. (B)

#### Day 13: London

Spend the day discovering London on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a pint with the locals, wander through one of the many museums, or see the city from a different perspective at the London Eye. You may choose to join an optional excursion to the Tower of London followed by lunch at a traditional pub. This evening, gather with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner and toast the end of an incredible adventure, (B, D)

### Day 14: London - Tour Ends

Your journey through Great Britain comes to a close today. (B)

#### ALSO AVAILABLE



#### Coasts & Countrysides of **England featuring the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**

Enjoy tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo Show.

★ DATES AVAILABLE AUGUST 2024



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5299 SOLO Starting at \$6599

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 13, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024

\*Itinerary featured is for October 2023 - May 2024 tour departures. For departures June 2024 - April 2025, please see the Coasts & Countrysides of England tour.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR







## **Post-Night:**

London (1-2 Nights)



#### **COMING SOON!**



Coasts & Countrysides of England with Edinburgh, Liverpool & London

14 Days • 18 Meals

**DEPARTURES AVAILABLE: JUNE - NOVEMBER 2024** MARCH - MAY 2025

## **BRITISH LANDSCAPES**

10 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$2999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Edinburgh Castle • York • Chester • Betws-y-Coed • Stratford-upon-Avon • Oxford • London



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Behold the Crown Jewels of Scotland on a guided tour of Edinburgh Castle.
- · Discover the medieval Snickelways of York.
- · Explore William Shakespeare's childhood home in Stratford-upon-Avon.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 6 Explore Caernarfon Castle on a self-guided visit -OR- walk through the market town discovering the local shops and cafes with your Tour Manager.
- Day 8 Visit Britain's first public museum, the Ashmolean -ORexplore Oxford on foot during a guided walking tour.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy London's culinary renaissance at a dinner highlighting contemporary British cuisine.
- Taste the best of Scottish fare in a traditional local restaurant.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Apex Grassmarket, Days 2, 3

Edinburah Holiday Inn York City Day 4 Centre, York

Days 5, 6 Grosvenor Pulford Hotel and Spa, Chester

Hotel Indigo, Stratford-Day 7 upon-Avon

Days 8, 9 Mercure London Bridge, London

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## An adventure fit for a Shakespearean tale takes you from verdant hillsides to bustling British cities rich with culture.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Feel the vibrant energy of England, hear the unique sounds of Scotland, and see the rolling countryside of Wales on a trip that combines dramatic history and an array of fascinating landscapes.

## Day 2: Edinburgh, Scotland - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Edinburgh, the historic capital of Scotland, where rocky hills tower in the distance and the shadows of history can be seen around every corner. Discover Scotland's capital and see how medieval crossroads blend seamlessly with a vibrant modern energy. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

#### Day 3: Edinburgh

Today visit Edinburgh Castle, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels. Your panoramic and walking tour of old and new Edinburgh combines Georgian architecture, writers and monuments, alleyways and hidden passages, and a thoroughly modern museum. Enjoy time to explore the city as you

wish this afternoon and evening. Perhaps you will choose to join an optional night of Scottish food, song and dance. (B)

## Day 4: Edinburgh - Borders Region -York, England

Say goodbye to the rolling hills of Scotland while travelling south through the Borders Region, stopping at Jedburgh, a historic royal burgh dating back to the 17th century. Visit the archeological site of Vindolanda, an Ancient Roman fortress built along Hadrian's Wall in the 2nd century to protect Roman Britain from the tribes of Scotland. Arrive in the medieval city of York, surrounded by historical city walls. This evening you may wish to join an optional tour to a Yorkshire vineyard and sample a selection of English wines over dinner. (B)

#### Day 5: York - Chester

Enjoy a leisurely morning to explore York at your own pace. Meander the labyrinth of quaint, narrow streets known as "snickelways" or maybe





visit the city's famous Minster. End the day in Chester, your home for the next two nights, where ancient walls enclose charming Tudor and Victorian houses. Discover the charms of the city with your local guide. Tonight, meet a local with many tales about life in Chester, past and present. (B, D)

## Day 6: Chester - Caernarfon, Wales - Betws-y-Coed - Chester, England 😯

Today, visit a royal town in Wales, where it's your choice! Visit Caernarfon Castle to discover the history behind one of Edward I's most imposing castles -ORtake a leisurely stroll around the town

with your Tour Manager, seeking out local shops, cafes, and markets. Then take a scenic drive through the best of the Welsh landscape over the mountain pass to the quaint and picturesque village of Betws-y-Coed. This magical landscape holds a distinctly alpine feel and breathtaking natural beauty. (B)

## Day 7: Chester - Stratford-upon-

Step back in time on a journey through the English countryside to Stratford-upon-Avon - the Bard's birthplace. After touring the childhood home of William Shakespeare, take time to explore this historic market town on your own. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for dinner. (B, D)

## Day 8: Stratford-upon-Avon -Oxford - London 😯

Bid farewell to Stratford and travel to the charming university city of Oxford. Upon arrival, it's your choice! Visit the Ashmolean Museum, opened in 1682 as Britain's first public museum, with collections ranging from Egyptian mummies to contemporary art -OR- join an expert local guide for a walking tour, including one of the colleges used as a filming location for Harry Potter. Enjoy lunch on your own before continuing on to London, England's storied capital city. (B)

#### Day 9: London

Take in the sites of London on a tour of the city's quintessential sights. Begin with a walking tour of Westminster, where you see Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey. Continue to Buckingham Palace, the official residence of His Majesty The King, and make your way to Trafalgar Square, one of London's most vibrant spaces in the heart of the city. This afternoon is yours to discover more of London independently and make memories to treasure. This evening, join your fellow travellers to toast the end of your journey through Britain's scenic and storied landscapes. (B, D)

#### Day 10: London - Tour Ends

Your journey through Britain comes to a close today. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2999 SOLO Starting at \$3999

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on February 23, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 February - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** 

Edinburgh (1-2 Nights)

**Post-Night:** London (1-2 Nights)





**Even More Time?** 

Combine British Landscapes with Shades of Ireland for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.



#### ALSO AVAILABLE



#### British Landscapes featuring the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Travellers arriving in Edinburgh from August 3 - 24, 2024 will receive tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo Show.

★ DATES AVAILABLE AUGUST 2024





#### POST TOUR EXTENSION

Extend your adventure with a 3 night optional posttour to Paris, uncovering all the best that this iconic city has to offer.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/54

## **SPOTLIGHT ON LONDON**

7 DAYS · 8 MEALS STARTING AT \$2799

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









London Retro Bus • Westminster Abbey • London Underground • Tower of London • Greenwich Culinary Walking Tour



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Take a ride on "the Tube" London's famous Underground.
- Tour the West End from a retro double-decker bus.
- Cruise along the River Thames to Greenwich.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

• Day 4 — Enjoy a matinee performance at one of London's theatres -OR- sit for afternoon tea at Covent Garden.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 5 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 2 Dinners (D)

- · Sample British fare on a culinary walking adventure through London's village of Greenwich.
- Enjoy dinner in a traditional English pub.

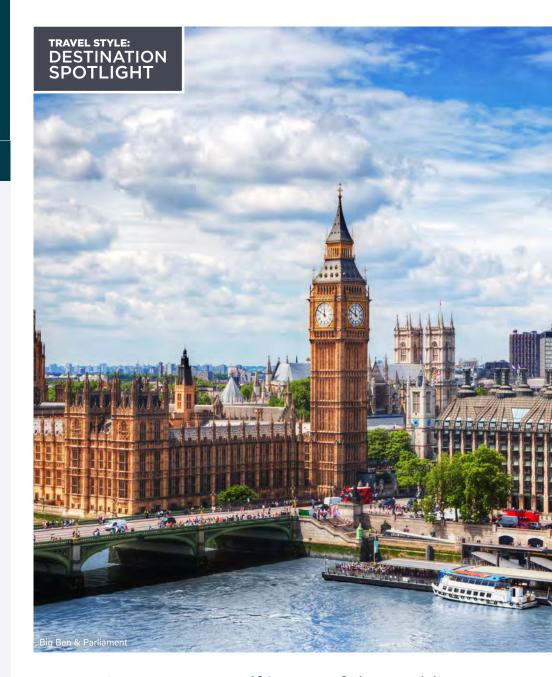


## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Days 2 - 6 Overnight Flight DoubleTree by Hilton

London - Tower of London, London

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Immerse yourself in one of the world's most iconic cities and delve into London's rich history and culture.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Get ready for a trip to one of the world's trendiest cities, full of history, charm, and regal flair.

## Day 2: London, England - Tour Begins

Welcome to London, a metropolis that is both timeless and sophisticated. Beautiful gardens line bustling city streets. Museums, monuments, and grand theaters tell a rich story that you'll uncover on your journey. This evening, take a short walk with your new travel companions to a restaurant, enjoying the vibe of the city, and kick off your tour with a welcome dinner. (D)

## Day 3: London

Hop on and off - all over "London Town". Your retro double-decker bus cruises past St Paul's

Cathedral, the buildings of Westminster and more. A local expert adds meaning to the famous scenery, which includes Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, and Parliament. Visit Westminster Abbey, the towering Gothic church that has been home to royal coronations and weddings. This afternoon, enjoy free time to explore London at your leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: London 😯

Visit the Tower of London this morning, the iconic World Heritage Site that is steeped in a dark, fascinating history. Personalize your afternoon because it's your choice! Perhaps you'll choose to attend a matinee performance at one of London's many theatres -OR- maybe







a walking culinary tour of Greenwich's charming neighbourhoods. Test your seafaring prowess onboard the Cutty Sark, a Victorian-style ship that served as a tea clipper. Tonight, join your new friends at a favourite London pub for a farewell dinner and toast the end of a wonderful getaway. (B, L, D)

## Day 7: London - Tour Ends

It's time to go home... with new friends, countless memories, and souvenirs from your London adventure. (B)



LONDON (LON)

LONDON (LON)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2799 SOLO Starting at \$3599 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 27, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**

Pre-Night: London (1-2 NIGHTS)



## ALSO AVAILABLE



## Christmas in London

Feel the holiday spirit when you experience the Christmas season in London, a world within a city.

DATES AVAILABLE NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023 NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2024

66 The walking parts of the tour were by far my favourite! It is at the pedestrian level that you get to use your senses to see, hear, smell, and taste this amazing city! "

.....

- Carolyn K. 

afternoon tea at Covent Garden is more your style. Either choice makes for a fabulous (and very British) afternoon. (B)

#### Day 5: London

Today, you do you, London-style. A free day means independent exploration of London's treasures. Or perhaps join an optional excursion to Windsor Castle, the home of kings and queens for nine centuries and the oldest royal residence still in use today. (B)

## Day 6: London - Greenwich -London

Cruise along the River Thames en route to Greenwich to change up the view; the Tower looks entirely different from here. On arrival, explore Greenwich Market. Local stalls, specialty treats, and charming venues are perfect spots for lunch and shopping. Join a local guide for

## LONDON & PARIS

9 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$3899

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Westminster Abbey • Buckingham Palace • Covent Garden • Windsor Castle • Eurostar Train • Arc de Triomphe • Eiffel Tower Dinner . Seine River Cruise



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Take advantage of leisure time in both London and Paris.
- · Cruise along the Seine against a backdrop of Paris's glittering skyline.
- Discover London on a walking tour to Westminster and see the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - With a local guide, venture into the Musée de Montmartre and glimpse into the roots of cabaret and the lives of Paris's most famous artists -OR- head inside Sacré-Coeur and take in the city from this iconic hilltop basilica.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 7 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- · Experience a quintessential English afternoon tea.
- Enjoy London's culinary renaissance at a dinner featuring contemporary British cuisine.
- Savour an exclusive dinner at the Eiffel Tower, featuring delicious cuisine and breathtaking views.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 4 Riu Plaza London Victoria, London

Days 5 - 8 Crowne Plaza Republique or Le Meridien Etoile, Paris

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From cosmopolitan London to romantic Paris, cross the English Channel via train and take in the best of these iconic cities.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

From cosmopolitan London to romantic Paris, see the best of the world's most captivating cities. To help make the most of your getaway, unpack just once in each city. Enjoy a leisurely-paced journey with plenty of time for independent exploration.

Day 2: London, England - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in London, the United Kingdom's dynamic capital. This evening, get a taste of contemporary British fare as you join your fellow travellers for a meal highlighting London's culinary renaissance. (D)

## Day 3: London

Start your morning with a local in London. You'll kick off your day with a walking tour of Westminster, where you will see the exteriors of Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey. Continue to Buckingham Palace, the official residence of His Majesty The King, to witness the Changing of the Guard ceremony. This afternoon, head over to Windsor Castle. Originally built to guard the city of London, Windsor Castle has been the home of kings and queens for nine centuries and is the oldest royal residence still in use today. The evening is yours to do as you wish. (B)

#### Day 4: London

After a hearty breakfast, enjoy some free time this morning to spend how you please. This afternoon, travel by Tube to London's famous Covent Garden Market. Take time to wander and peruse the many stalls of fresh produce and quirky shops. After, sit down for a quintessential afternoon tea. (B, L)

### Day 5: London - Eurostar Train - Paris, **France**

Allons-y! Today, you're on to Paris! Hop aboard the Eurostar High Speed Train to get there in just two hours. A sophisticated metropolis of style and culture, Paris's bustling city streets are filled with colourful history, fascinating museums, renowned monuments and grand theatres. Settle in for your 4-night stay in the "City of Light" as you join your Tour Manager for a walk to get acquainted with the neighbourhood. (B, D)

## Day 6: Paris V

This morning, it's your choice! Take in the most iconic sights of Paris on a panoramic city tour. With your local guide, see the Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Elysees, Notre Dame Cathedral and Place de la Concorde -OR- step into the shoes of a local and navigate Le Métro on your way to





the hilltop neighbourhood of Montmartre and its iconic Sacré-Cœur Basilica. As your day comes to a close, make the most of an evening at leisure. If you'd prefer to do something with the group, you can enjoy an optional dinner at the Paradis Latin for a champagne-flowing, can-can kicking, music-driven night at the cabaret. (B)

#### Day 7: Paris

Be romanced by Paris - the whole day is yours for the taking. Perhaps you'll wander over to the Left Bank of the Seine and plunge into the bohemian atmosphere of the Saint-Germain-des-Prés neighbourhood and the Latin Quarter. Or, join an optional excursion to Versailles, where you'll explore King Louis XIV's magnificent Palace and Gardens. Relive history as you walk through the various rooms of the State Apartments, including the famous Hall of Mirrors. If you're looking for a unique way to spend your evening, enjoy an optional spin the wheels of time from the backseat of a retro car. You'll cruise through the chic boulevards to the Montmartre neighbourhood, where hip bohemia meets heaven-seeking basilicas. (B)

#### Day 8: Paris

This morning, step into the kitchens of an authentic Parisian bakery! See the workspaces and the various tools and machines these bakers use to make their delicious products, and learn about some of the secrets and history of baking, baguettes and croissants. It's your last afternoon in Paris - how will you spend it? Should you indulge in some of the world's best shopping on the Champs-Elysees, or simply do as the Parisians do and sit at a sidewalk café, watching the beauty that is Paris go by? No matter what you decide, end the day with a romantic Seine River cruise set against Paris' glittering skyline. After, experience an exclusive dinner at the Eiffel Tower, featuring French cuisine and breathtaking views. (B, D)

#### **Day 9: Paris - Tour Ends**

You depart today, but London and Paris will remain in your heart forever. (B)

Optional 3 Night Amsterdam **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1820 pp



Day 9: Paris - Amsterdam, Netherlands

Board a high-speed train and take off for Amsterdam, the thriving 800-year-old capital of Holland. After some time to settle in, meet up with a local guide to get acquainted with the Jordaan District of Amsterdam. Explore this charming neighbourhood and learn of its rich

multicultural roots during a walking food tour where you'll taste traditional Dutch fare as you walk along the canals and historic homes between stops. (D)

#### Day 10: Amsterdam

Stroll through the city with a local expert. Get acquainted with the cozy lanes and quintessential Dutch houses as you wander along the canals that lead to Amsterdam's museum district. Explore the Rijksmuseum with your local guide and experience works from the great Dutch masters such as Rembrandt, Vermeer and Van Gogh. Enjoy an afternoon on your own to do as you please. Perhaps you'll choose to explore the Anne Frank House, a museum dedicated to the memory of the young diarist who documented her time in hiding during WWII. (B)

#### Day 11: Amsterdam

The day is yours. Explore the narrow canals, stone bridges, and bike-brimmed roads at your leisure. Perhaps you'll embark on a canal cruise or spend some time relaxing at a café. Consider perusing Dutch art at the Rijksmuseum, or even take the train to The Hague to see the renowned Girl with a Pearl Earring in the Mauritshuis Museum. (B)

#### Day 12: Amsterdam

Bid Amsterdam farewell as your tour comes to a close today. (B)



ARRIVAL LONDON (LON)

**DEPARTURE** PARIS (CDG)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3899 SOLO Starting at \$5449 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on February 26, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: London (1-2 NIGHTS)



Post-Night: Paris (1-2 NIGHTS)

### **OPTIONAL EXCURSION**

#### **Excursion:** Versailles

Visit the incomparable Palace of Versailles. On this excursion, travel by coach to Versailles where your local guide will recount the history of the palace and lead you through the various rooms of the State Apartments Of particular interest are the Queen's bedchamber and the famous Hall of



Mirrors. You then have leisure time to explore the incredible gardens, which took over 40 years to complete.

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.

## ALSO AVAILABLE



#### **London & Paris Holiday**

Take in the best of these iconic cities during the holiday season.

★ DATES AVAILABLE NOV - DEC 2023 & NOV - DEC 2024



#### London & Paris featuring New Year's Eve in Paris

Ring in the New Year in two of Europe's most incredible cities!

DATES AVAILABLE DECEMBER 2023 & DECEMBER 2024

## **TREASURES OF EUROPE**

14 DAYS · 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$5749

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









London • Eurostar Train • Paris • Seine River Cruise and Dinner • TGV High-Speed Train • Lucerne • Venice • Italian Vineyard Experience - Florence -Michelangelo's David - Rome - The Vatican Museums & St. Peter's Basilica



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy free time in London and Rome to explore at leisure.
- · Stroll through the floating city of Venice.
- Travel across 3 countries on high-speed trains.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 5 - In Paris, take in the most iconic sights on a panoramic city tour -OR- explore the hilltop Montmartre district by Métro.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a relaxing cruise along the Seine River and drift past famous landmarks as you dine on French cuisine.
- Sample delectable wines and traditional cuisine at a vineyard in the Chianti region.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2, 3	Clayton Hotel City of London, London
Days 4, 5	Hyatt Regency Paris Etoile, Paris
Days 6, 7	Radisson Blu Hotel, Andermatt or Radisson Blu Hotel, Lucerne
Days 8, 9	Leonardo Royal Venice Mestre, Venice
Days 10, 11	Starhotels Tuscany,

Days 12, 13 Donna Laura Palace Hotel, Rome

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Set your sights on the European journey of a lifetime and discover all the must-sees of England, France, Switzerland and Italy.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to an unforgettable journey to some of the most beloved countries in Europe.

### Day 2: London, England - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in London, England's sophisticated capital. Discover a bustling city where centuries of history meet an evolving modern culture. Join your fellow travellers and toast to the start of an incredible journey during a welcome dinner in a contemporary English pub. (D)

## Day 3: London

Start your morning on a tour of the quintessential sights of London. Alongside a local guide, see the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament, The remainder of the day is yours. Take advantage of free time to explore this iconic city on your own.

### Day 4: London - Eurostar Train - Paris, **France**

Venture inside St. Pancras' railway station - a masterpiece of Victorian engineering - and board the high-speed Eurostar train. Relax in style as you're whisked away to Paris, the "City of Light." Famous for its world-renowned art, food, and fashion, Paris' captivating energy can be found

around every corner. This evening, enjoy views of the Eiffel Tower as you gently float down the Seine River, tasting savoury French cuisine on a dinner cruise. (B, D)

## Day 5: Paris 😗

This morning, it's your choice! See Paris at its best during a panoramic city tour featuring views of the endangered Notre Dame Cathedral, Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Élysées and more -OR- step into the shoes of a local and navigate Le Métro on your way to the hilltop neighbourhood of Montmartre and its iconic Sacré-Cœur basilica. Enjoy an afternoon on your own to explore Paris independently. Then, experience Paris' nightlife during an optional dinner at the dynamic Paradis Latin for a champagne-flowing, can-can kicking, music-driven night at the cabaret. (B)

## Day 6: Paris - TGV Train - Basel, **Switzerland - Andermatt**

On board the TGV - France's high-speed train depart Paris and make your way to Basel. Take in the scenery on your journey into Switzerland, passing gentle hills and verdant fields. Then, enjoy views of Alpine lakes and snowcapped mountains as you transfer to the quaint village of Andermatt, nestled in the Ursern Valley. (B, D)







for its age-old glass-blowing tradition. After leaving Murano, embark on a walking tour of Venice, a collection of 117 tiny islands surrounded by a latticework of 150

canals and 400 bridges. In this floating city, see the Clock Tower, St. Mark's Basilica, and marble palaces along boat-filled canals. The afternoon is yours to explore the hidden secrets of this charming city. Perhaps you will take an optional gondola ride through the narrow waterways. (B)

#### Day 10: Mestre - Florence

Traverse the Po River Valley en route to Tuscany. Stop at a vineyard in the heart of the Chianti region and enjoy a tour, tasting. and traditional bites. Continue to Florence, where you'll spend 2 nights in the "Cradle of the Renaissance," home to masterpieces of art and iconic symbols of centuries-old history. (B, L)

### Day 11: Florence

On a full day walking tour, explore Florence, the legendary city of the Medici and the iconic Duomo. Enjoy a real-life history lesson as you discover the 4 pillars of city life: art, architecture, food, and fashion. You'll also visit the Galleria dell'Accademia, home to Michelangelo's David. (B)

#### Day 12: Florence - Rome

Say arriverderci to Florence and journey to Rome, Italy's capital city. Upon arrival, a



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5749 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date. SOLO Starting at \$7449 Prices based on January 30, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars. **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** October 2023 June 2024 - May 2025 February - May 2024 (featured itinerary) (different itinerary - see note\*) \*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation. See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** London (1-2 Nights)



Post-Night: Rome (1-2 Nights)



panoramic tour allows you to discover famous sights such as the Baths of Caracalla, the legendary Aventine and Palatine hills, the ancient Circus Maximus, and views of the majestic Colosseum. The evening is yours. Perhaps you will join an optional food tour and taste your way around Rome's bohemian Trastevere district. (B)

## Day 13: Rome

Start your morning with a tour of the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica. Explore Papal palaces, halls and galleries housing priceless statuary from classical Greece and Rome. Admire the Gallery of Maps and works by great Renaissance masters such as Perugino, Botticelli, Ghirlandaio. In the Sistine Chapel, marvel at Michelangelo's frescoed ceiling and brilliant Last Judgement. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure in the Eternal City. Tonight, toast the end of an epic journey through Europe at a farewell dinner paired with local musical entertainment. (B, D)

## Day 14: Rome - Tour Ends

Your European adventure comes to a close today. (B)

## Day 7: Andermatt - Lucerne -**Andermatt**

Explore Lucerne, the "Swiss Paradise on the Lake". Upon arrival, set out on a walk through its romantic Altstadt (Old Town), passing through Lucerne's iconic covered Chapel Bridge. During free time, seek out the renowned Lion Monument commemorating the heroic Swiss Guard or visit the Alpineum museum dedicated to alpine landscape painting. Perhaps, you'll embark on an optional excursion to Mount Pilatus, ascending the world's steepest railway on a panoramic gondola to the summit. Return to Andermatt in the late afternoon for an evening at leisure. (B)

## Day 8: Andermatt - Como, Italy -Mestre

Travel south through the pastoral landscapes of Switzerland. Crossing into Italy, traverse through the heart of the Alps, taking in vistas of rugged mountains as far as the eye can see. Pass through the picturesque Italian Lake District - a holiday destination since Roman times, and pause in the lakeside city of Como, famous for its silk production. In the early evening, settle in for a 2-night stay in Mestre, situated on the Venetian mainland. (B, D)

## Day 9: Mestre - Venice - Mestre Cruise to the island of Murano, renowned

## **NEW TOUR**

## **MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL JOURNEY**

16 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$6949

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Barcelona • La Sagrada Família • Costa Brava • Winery Visit • Impact Moment • Aixen-Provence • French Riviera • Monaco-Montecarlo • Portofino • Cinque Terre • Florence • Truffle Hunting • San Gimignano



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- View the Spanish coastline during a walk from Calella de Palafrugell to Llafranc.
- Impact Moment: dine at a restaurant solidale (solidarity restaurant) in Marseille that uses its profits to give meals to the poor.
- Set out through the rolling hills of Tuscany in the company of a truffle hunter and his truffle-sniffing dogs.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 4 In Barcelona, visit Catalunya's National Museum of Art -OR- ascend the Montjuïc Castle for bird-eye views over the bustling port.
- Day 8 In Marseille, explore the Cosquer Cave replica, an example of primitive rock art -OR- discover the city's 600 year soap heritage during a visit to the Marseille Soap Museum.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- Dine on traditional Catalan specialties in a 17th-century farmhouse restaurant.
- · Visit an ancient abbey turned winery for a tour and tasting.
- In Italy, dine at a restaurant renowned for its cheese-filled focaccia and homemade pesto sauce.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Hotel Catalonia Passeig Days 2 - 4 de Gracia, Barcelona

Park Hotel San Jorge, Days 5, 6 Costa Brava

Days 7, 8 NH Collection, Marseille Days 9, 10 Hotel Apollinaire, Nice, French Riviera

Days 11 - 13 NH Collection Genova Marina, Genoa, Italian Riviera

Days 14, 15 Hotel Borgo di Cortefreda, Chianti Countryside or Park Hotel Chianti, Barberino Tavarnelle, Tuscany

**TRAVEL STYLE: SMALL GROUP EXPLORATIONS** 



Venture along the glittering Mediterranean coast on an immersive journey connecting the Spanish, French and Italian Rivieras.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to the Mediterranean coast for a journey connecting the Spanish, French and Italian Rivieras, From chameleonic Barcelona to sun-kissed Nice; from glamorous Monaco to the rolling hills of the Chianti countryside, embark on a coastal journey combining rich scenery, art, culture, food, and wine.

Day 2: Barcelona, Spain - Tour Begins

Welcome to the Mediterranean coast. Begin your journey in the spirited city of Barcelona, famed for its exceptional architecture and vibrant culinary scene. Settle in for a 3-night stay in this cosmopolitan city. Tonight, meet your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

#### Day 3: Barcelona

This morning, explore the ever-changing Catalonian capital as it was meant to be explored - on foot. Ramble along the bustling La Rambla boulevard, famous for its street artists and performers. Wander along the Gothic Quarter's labyrinthine streets and delve into one of Barcelona's lively food markets pausing to savour a traditional paella lunch. The afternoon is yours.

Perhaps you'll venture to the hilltop Park Güell or join an optional food tour of the Eixample district, interlacing Modernist architecture with tasty tapas. (B, L)

#### Day 4: Barcelona 😯

Gain a different perspective on Barcelona during a panoramic tour showcasing the expansive Plaça de Catalunya, the Columbus Monument, and Antoni Gaudí's Batllo House and Casa Mila building (UNESCO). Then, it's your choice! Visit Catalunya's National Museum of Art in company of a local guide -OR- hop on a cable car and ascend the Montjuïc Castle for bird-eye views over the bustling port. This afternoon, visit the awe-inspiring La Sagrada Família (UNESCO). Work on Gaudí's visionary basilica began in 1882, and is scheduled to be completed in 2026, on the 100th anniversary of the architect's death. As the day draws to a close, dine on traditional Catalan specialties at a farmhouse turned restaurant.

#### Day 5: Barcelona - Girona - Costa **Brava**

Set out for Girona, a medieval town known for its atmospheric Old Quarter. Explore the Barri

Vell in company of a local guide and enjoy some free time to stroll along its riverbanks. Admire Girona's colourful houses before heading to the Catalonian coast for a 2-night stay at a seaside hotel. Costa Brava is an incredibly alluring place, and the perfect region to spend your days relaxing in your sea-view room or exploring its secluded coves and beaches.

### Day 6: Costa Brava - Figueres -Besalú

Take in the Spanish coastline during a coastal walk between the charming villages of Calella de Palafrugell and Llafranc. Then, travel to nearby Figueres, where the surreal outside architecture of the Dalí Theatre-Museum matches the artist's legendary works inside. After taking in the mind-boggling art of Salvador Dalí, you'll continue on to the medieval village of Besalú. This evening, relax over dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

## Day 7: Costa Brava - Winery Visit - Marseille, France

Bid adiós to Spain this morning as you cross into France during a full-day transfer. Along the way, pause at the Abbey of Fontfroide founded almost 10 centuries ago. Explore its tumultuous history during a guided visit that concludes with lunch and a taste of its locally produced wine. Check into your hotel in the early evening and make yourself at home in multicultural Marseille, France's second-largest city. (B, L)

#### Day 8: Marseille 😗

Founded over 26 centuries ago, Marseille is France's oldest city. In the company of an expert quide, explore Le Panier district, the city's eminently walkable old town. Narrow lanes lined with flowers and street-art embellished facades suddenly open onto the blue waters of the Old Port, the city's museum and cultural hub. The area was entirely rejuvenated when Marseille was elected European Capital of Culture in 2013. Then, it's your **choice!** Delve into the area's prehistoric past with a visit to the Cosquer Cave, an outstanding example of primitive rock art admirably replicated in the Villa Méditerranée Museum -OR- hop on a local ferry and discover one of the city's heritage trades during a visit to the museum of "Marseille" soap, which has been crafted in the area for over 600 vears. The afternoon is yours. Perhaps you'll venture to the hilltop cathedral of Notre Dame offering panoramic views of the city or take a scenic cruise of the Calangues National Park. This evening's

**Impact Moment** comes in the form of dinner at a socially responsible restaurant that uses its profits to provide meals to the impoverished for a symbolic cost. (B, D)

### Day 9: Marseille - Aix-en-Provence - Nice, French Riviera

Let the colours and light of southern France captivate you as you explore Aixen-Provence. Perhaps you'll visit the atelier (artist studio) of Paul Cézanne, frozen in time since the painter's death in 1906. Or acquaint yourself with the Provençale lifestyle browsing the town's food shops in search of the perfect olive tapenade. An afternoon transfer takes you to Nice, a coastal pearl known for its legendary opulence and balmy beaches. Join an orientation walk of the old town before setting off for an evening at leisure. (B)

#### Day 10: Nice

The day is yours to explore Nice. Perhaps you'll stroll along the lively seafront Promenade des Anglais before finding your favourite café and soaking in the local life. Or join an optional tour to historic St. Paul de Vence. After exploring this charming walled medieval village, continue to Grasse, the capital of French perfume. Learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop led by an expert perfumer, affectionately referred to as nez (nose) before returning to Nice for an evening at leisure. (B)

## Day 11: Nice - Monaco - Monte Carlo - Genoa, Italy

Bid au revoir to France this morning as you head to Monaco, the second smallest country in the world. On a walking tour, view the changing of the guards and visit the Cathedral of Monaco - the permanent resting place of Prince Rainier III and Princess Grace. Explore the tiny Principality on a panoramic Little Train tour taking you across to Monte Carlo for views of its famous Casino. Take in the coastal views as you cross into Italy during an afternoon-long transfer to the bustling port city of Genoa. In the early evening, settle into your hotel for a 3-night stay in the Italian Riviera. (B)

### Day 12: Genoa - Portofino -Genoa

Taste your way across Genoa's old town during a walking tour of this ancient Maritime Republic, once so affluent that it rivalled Venice. This afternoon, board a boat to one of the most glamorous spots on the Italian Riviera. Spend time in Portofino and take in the colourful harbour, dotted with fishing boats and yachts set against a backdrop of pastel-coloured buildings. This evening pause for a taste





of the Italian Riviera at a local restaurant renowned for its cheesefilled focaccia and home-made pesto sauce. (B, D)

## Day 13: Genoa - Cinque Terre - Genoa

Spend the day exploring the colourful cliffside villages of Cinque Terre. Take in the picturesque, rugged coastline dotted with terraced vineyards as you travel by rail. Make your way through this seemingly inaccessible string of fishing villages, nestled between the mountains and the Mediterranean Sea. (B)

## Day 14: Genoa - Florence - Tuscan Countryside

A morning-long transfer takes you to Florence, the 'Cradle of the Renaissance'. Home to Italy's best art and architecture. Florence is a work of art all on its own. Marvel at Ghiberti's 'Gates of Paradise' and Brunelleschi's imposing dome at the Santa Maria del Fiore cathedral complex. Take in the towering Palazzo Vecchio - the centre of power of the Medici dynasty, before concluding your guided walking tour in the expansive Piazza Santa Croce. Enjoy an hour at leisure before savouring Tuscan specialties for dinner at a local restaurant. In the early evening journey further into the surrounding hills for a 2-night stay in the Tuscan countryside. (B, D)

### Day 15: Tuscan Countryside - Truffle Hunting - San Gimignano

Let a memorable epicurean adventure commence with a truffle hunt, led by a local expert and trained, truffle-sniffing dogs. Set out on foot through rolling hills and silvery olive groves in search of the elusive tuber-shaped fungi before sampling the results for lunch. Then spend time in San Gimignano, whose slender medieval towers stand tall over the surrounding vineyards. As the sun begins to set, gather with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner at your hotel. (B, L, D)

## **Day 16: Tuscan Countryside - Tour Ends**

Say arrivederci to Italy as your journey along the Mediterranean coast comes to an end today. (B)

## **EXPLORING IBERIA**

## **SOUTHERN SPAIN TO COASTAL PORTUGAL**

13 DAYS · 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$4649

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







## **HIGHLIGHTS**

Málaga • White Villages of Andalusia • The Alhambra • Ronda • Cordoba • La Mezquita • Home Hosted Meal • Seville Cathedral • Estremoz • Portuguese Riviera • Lisbon • Sintra • Quinta da Regaleira



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · View Lisbon in a new way through the windows of your private tram.
- Experience Ronda, one of Spain's loveliest and most historic towns.
- Explore Sintra, the summer residence of Portuguese kings for centuries.



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- Day 3 Venture into the The Alcazaba and get to know the fortified palace with a local guide -OR- enter the Picasso Museum, where you'll see paintings by this iconic artist who called Málaga his first home.
- Day 9 In Seville, walk along the quaint Santa Cruz Quarter -OR- see the city from a different perspective with a horse and carriage ride to Plaza de Espana and Maria Luisa Park.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 11 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- · Sample Málaga's tapas during a tour of the city.
- Enjoy a home-hosted meal in Ronda.
- · Savour the flavours of a family-owned olive oil producer for lunch.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 5 NH Hotel, Malaga H10 Palacio Colomera, Days 6, 7 Cordoba

Days 8, 9 H10 Casa de la Plata,

Seville

Days 10 - 12 Vila Gale Collection Palácio Dos Arcos, Oeiras,

Portuguese Riviera

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## From bustling cities to peaceful stays on the Mediterranean coast, get a true taste of the Iberian Peninsula.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Enjoy a true taste of the Iberian Peninsula. Your tour begins with an overnight flight.

## Day 2: Málaga, Spain - Tour Begins

Welcome to Málaga, a city known for its Andalusian lifestyle and birthplace of artist Pablo Picasso. This evening, join your fellow travellers and your Tour Manager for a welcome reception.

#### Day 3: Málaga 😯

Discover the port city of Málaga with a local guide. Walk through the colourful market stalls and learn about the history and culture of this seaside community. Meet a local from the Sepulcro Brotherhood to learn about the importance of the brotherhoods to the local culture. Then, stop at a local bodega bar to sample same tapas. Then it's your choice! Venture into The Alcazaba and get to know the fortified palace with a local guide -OR- enter the Picasso Museum, where you'll see paintings by this iconic artist who called Málaga his first home. (B, D)

## Day 4: Malaga - Granada - Malaga

Today travel to Granada, the last capital of the Moors in Spain before it fell to the Catholic monarchs in 1492. Spend the morning with a local expert visiting the Alhambra, a UNESCO World

Heritage site that's known as one of the Wonders of the Muslim world. After your extensive morning walk at this centuries-old palace and fortress complex, enjoy some free time in Granada for lunch on your own. Later, return to your hotel to spend the evening as you please. (B)

## Day 5: Málaga - Frigiliana - Nerja -Málaga

Journey to the picturesque white villages of Andalusia. Frigiliana, considered to be one of the most beautiful villages in the region. It will make you feel as though you have stepped back in time. Take in its whitewashed houses and historical sites while walking through the narrow cobblestone streets. Travel to the town of Neria and explore its famous caves, home to one of the world's largest stalactites. In Nerja, visit the Balcón de Europa, a balcony in the centre of town with stunning views of the sea. Return to Málaga where you can choose to join your Tour Manager on a sunset marina stroll with a sweet surprise - the perfect way to say goodbye to Málaga. (B)

#### Day 6: Málaga - Ronda - Cordoba

Next stop: Ronda, a historic town perched upon a cliff in Andalusia. Explore the Old Town full of twisting narrow streets, the 18th-century Puente





Nuevo (New Bridge) over the El Tajo gorge, and La Alameda Park with its panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. During your walking tour, get the local perspective about the often-debated topic of bullfighting in this city rich with history surrounding these contests. Complete your tour of Ronda and be welcomed in to a local's home for a farm-to-table homehosted lunch. Arrive in Cordoba and end your day with dinner at a local restaurant alongside your fellow travellers. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Cordoba

Begin your day immersing yourself in the culture of Cordoba when you admire the rows of patios filled with colourful flowers and plants. Meet with a local to discuss the tradition and importance of these bountiful displays. Later, tour the magnificent Mezquita (UNESCO). Originally built as a mosque, it was converted into the city's

cathedral when the Christians conquered the region in 1236. (B)

#### Day 8: Cordoba - Seville

Your taste of local culture continues today, rather literally. Head to an awardwinning olive grove and learn about this family-owned business. Try their unique olive oil at lunch before departing fort Seville, Spain's "cultural capital." Once you arrive, get acquainted with Seville on a panoramic city tour featuring the famous Bull Ring, Torre de Oro, Plaza de Espana, and Maria Luisa Park. This evening, take in sweeping views of Seville from atop the Mirador Setas viewpoint. After you've worked up your appetite, you'll sit down to dinner at a trendy local restaurant. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Seville ?

In Seville, it's your choice! Take a walking tour of the quaint Santa Cruz Quarter with its cascading bright flowers, whitewashed buildings and winding streets -OR- take a horse and carriage ride through Plaza de España and Maria Luisa Park - one of the loveliest parks in all of Europe. Then, discover the magnificent Seville Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the largest gothic cathedral in the world. View the ornate architecture of the cathedral and see Christopher Columbus' tomb. Later this afternoon, during an Impact Moment, participate in a flamenco lesson at Fundacion Cristina Heeren de Arte Flamenco. This is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the art of flamenco in Spain and internationally. After your lesson, enjoy a traditional flamenco performance. (B)

## Day 10: Seville - Estremoz, Portugal - Portuguese Riviera

Say adios to Spain and travel through the Portuguese countryside to Estremoz - a historic town whose marble can be found in Portuguese monuments throughout the country. After a lunch full of local flavour, continue on to the Portuguese Riviera, the picturesque region situated along the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy an evening at leisure to do as you please. (B, L)

Day 11: Portuguese Riviera -**Lisbon - Portuguese Riviera** 









**Post-Night:** 



 $\emph{Olá}$  Lisboa!, It's time to get to know Europe's second oldest capital city. Start in Belem, home to many of Lisbon's most iconic sites. After viewing the impressive Jeronimos Monastery (UNESCO) facade, embark on a unique panoramic city tour. Hop on to one of Lisbon's iconic trams taking you through the postcard-worthy streets of the hilly city. Return to your hotel, because the rest of the day is yours to explore independently. This evening, you may choose to join an optional experience to see local artists perform traditional Fado music (UNESCO). (B)

#### Day 12: Portuguese Riviera - Sintra - Portuguese Riviera

Head to the town of Sintra (UNESCO), a favourite summer residence of Portuguese kings for six centuries. Explore the Quinta da Regaleira, a 20th-century palace with an elaborate gothic façade and beautiful gardens. Then stop at a local bakery and indulge in a local pastry before enjoying some time on your own to discover this storybook town. Tonight, toast to a wonderful trip with your fellow travellers during a farewell dinner featuring savoury Portuguese favourites. (B, D)

## **Day 13: Portuguese Riviera - Tour Ends**

This cultural deep dive into Spain and Portugal comes to a close today. (B)



## **FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION**

ADD 3 NIGHTS IN MADRID



#### PRE TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1040 PP

Explore Madrid, Spain's lively capital and largest city. Enjoy a guided tour of the city's historic centre and visit the Prado Museum. Then, explore the city on your own using your metro card.

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## **FLAVOURS OF PORTUGAL** & SPAIN:

16 DAYS · 22 MEALS STARTING AT \$5649

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Lisbon • Tagus River Cruise • Tomar • Porto • Port Wine Tastings • Braga • Douro River Valley - Douro River Cruise - Salamanca - La Rioja - Pamplona -Bullfighter's Home Experience • San Sebastian • Bilbao • Guggenheim Museum • Pintxos Tapas Pub Crawl



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Stay in a picturesque quinta estate in the Douro River Valley for 2 nights.
- Climb to "Bom Jesus de Braga" UNESCO site and walk the streets of Braga's historical downtown.
- · Visit a bullfighter's family home in Pamplona and learn about this iconic Iberian tradition.



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

Day 14 - Visit the coastline of Basque Country and tour the villages of Zumaia and Getaria -OR- take a hike along the coastal St. James' Way -OR- take time at leisure to experience San Sebastián however you choose.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Explore wine cellars in the Douro and Rioja regions and enjoy wine tastings.
- Enjoy a petiscos cooking class in the **Douro River Valley**
- Go on a "pub crawl" to taste pintxo tapas.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Turim Boulevard Hotel, Lisbon Days 2 - 4

Days 5 - 7 Turim Porto Hotel, Porto

Days 8, 9 The Wine House Hotel -

Quinta da Pacheca or Quinta do Barrilario Sensory Hotel & Spa, Douro River Valley

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE

See next page for details.

Day 10 NH Collection Palacio de Castellanos, Salamanca

Days 11, 12 Eurostars Fuerte Ruavieia.

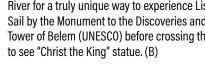
La Rioja

Days 13 - 15 NH Collection Aranzazu,

San Sebastian

Explore Lisbon today at your own pace. With plenty

of free time in the capital city, you may wish to check out its famous culinary scene or venture downtown to do some shopping. If you'd prefer to tour today, choose an optional excursion to Ericeira and Sintra; from wind swept cliffs in Ericeira to the quaint palaces and villas of Sintra you will learn a thousand fascinating tales. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a private cruise on the Tagus River for a truly unique way to experience Lisbon. Sail by the Monument to the Discoveries and the Tower of Belem (UNESCO) before crossing the river



#### Day 5: Lisbon - Tomar - Porto

Depart Portugal's capital city and head to Tomar, home of Portugal's historical jewels, the Templar Castle, and Convent of Christ — a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the octagonal Templars' Rotunda and imagine the day-to-day life of a warrior monk in the domestic areas. Next stop: Porto. Take in the landscape of wild pine trees as you leave Tomar and embark on a two-and-a-halfhour drive to Portugal's second largest city. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Porto

Today, an extensive walking tour of Porto reveals all of its many charms. See the São Bento Railway Station, which opened in 1916 and remains one of Portugal's most striking stations. Visit the Bolsa Palace (UNESCO), otherwise known as the Stock Exchange Palace - a 19th century



## Taste the essence of Portugal and Spain as you wander through historic cities with rich culture and vintage wines.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Sparkling coastlines... historic cityscapes... mouthwatering cuisine... aromatic wine... Northern Portugal and Spain await you with open arms for the journey of a lifetime.

## Day 2: Lisbon, Portugal - Tour Begins

Arrive in Lisbon, the trendy capital of Portugal. Lisbon glistens like a treasure perched on seven hills and enchants travellers with its laid-back charm. At a local restaurant, meet your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner to officially kick off an experience-rich adventure. (D)

#### Day 3: Lisbon

Start your day on foot with your Tour Manager, walking to the public funicular. Hop on and ride to the upper side of the downtown area. Meander through historic neighbourhoods, hearing the kinds of stories that bring the city to life. Walk to the Chiado neighbourhood and embrace its elegant flair and bohemian vibe, en route to a local cafe and sit down to a tasting of typical Portuguese foods and savour the flavours of the city. After, your journey will take you to the Praca do Comercio in downtown Lisbon, one of the biggest squares in Europe. This gorgeous square flaunts colourful artwork and sculptures. Enjoy time to explore on your own and return to the hotel by subway. (B)

#### Day 4: Lisbon

Neoclassical masterpiece and finish your morning crossing the river to Vila Nova de Gaia for a visit. Get a taste for the port wine production scene with a tour and tasting. Enjoy your afternoon how you choose. (B)

#### Day 7: Porto - Braga - Porto

Today, travel to Braga and behold the "Bom Jesus do Monte" (UNESCO) – a sanctuary and Christian pilgrimage site in Tenões that boasts stunning Baroque architecture. After an included lunch, walk the narrow streets of the historic downtown. Many of Braga's locals place great importance on religion and the city has one of the highest concentrations of churches in Portugal. After, explore on your own with built-in free time. With so many shops and its quaint charm, you will find plenty of ways to pass the time in Braga. (B, L)

### Day 8: Porto - Amarante - Douro

Today, say "tchau" to Porto and set out for the Douro wine region where you'll indulge in two nights on the grounds of a traditional winery. En route to Douro, stop in Amarante, a quaint town set on a bend in the Rio Tamega. From its balconied houses to its willow-lined riverbanks, this town is full of surprises. Finally, step into your home for the next two nights in the heart of the Douro River Valley. Later, wander down to the cellar for a tasting before enjoying a dinner complete with locally sourced, traditional Portuguese cuisine. (B, D)

#### Day 9: Douro

Enjoy a relaxed morning. Then, roll up your sleeves and join a cooking class (of course you'll dine on your creations with a light lunch of *petiscos*, or Portuguese tapas). This afternoon, join your fellow travellers for a cruis down the Douro River on a traditional wooden rabelo boat. Marvel at the rows of twisting vines, lush trees, and colourful houses from a different perspective. Enjoy your evening how you'd like. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Douro - Salamanca, Spain

Depart the lush Douro wine region and cross the border into Spain! In Salamanca, feel like you've stepped back in time as you take a short walking tour and learn more about this ancient city. With over two thousand years of history and its sandstone architecture, Salamanca is a little gem waiting to be discovered. (B)

### Day 11: Salamanca - Burgos - La Rioja

Today, leave for the famous Rioja wine region! On your way, stop in Burgos where you will get to know the city during a walking tour. From its pedestrian-friendly riverside to the historic Plaza Mayor, Burgos delivers a traditional Spanish experience. Enjoy free time for lunch on your own.

Finally, arrive in La Rioja, your home for the next two nights. During your stay at a winery hotel, take in the mountainous vistas. (B, D)

### Day 12: La Rioja - Pamplona - La Rioja

Today, it's off to Pamplona, the capital of the Navarre province and home to the legendary Feast of San Fermin - the Running of the Bulls. Once every year, bulls are led through the city's streets by daredevil runners and today, a local guide takes you on a city tour of Pamplona where you can hear all about its colourful, unique history before visiting the family home of a bullfighter. The bullfighter's family greets you in the traditional way - with light tapas and drinks - truly welcoming you into their world for a little while. During your visit, learn firsthand about bullfighting traditions, controversies and enjoy the chance to ask your own questions. As you make your way back to stunning Rioja, stop at the Marques de Riscal Winery nestled in the centre of Spain's beautiful Basque country - one of the most fascinating wineries to behold with its famously avantgarde design. Taste some of the wines and walk the vineyards before heading back to vour hotel. (B)

### Day 13: La Rioja - San Sebastian

Are your shoes made for walking? Today, set off for an extensive walking tour of San Sebastian, a coastal city that runs along the Bay of Biscay. With its strong regional character, quaint old town and beachfront life, you will feel like a local as you meander through charming neighbourhoods boasting with traditional architecture. Enjoy free time for lunch on your own before rejoining your fellow travellers for a panoramic tour along the coastal road, finding picture-perfect views that will take your breath away. (B)

## Day 14: San Sebastian 😯

Today, it's your choice! You can choose a guided tour of the coastal villages of Zumaia and Getaria for a special opportunity to explore the glimmering Spanish coastline and enjoy a tasting of Txakoli wine -OR- take a leisurely hike along the "Camino of Saint James" and make your way back to the city centre, enjoying a healthy, scenic experience in this beautiful destination. Lastly you can choose to stay in San Sebastian to relax or further explore on your own! A great spot for shoppers and foodies alike, there is plenty to do to pass the time. (B)

### Day 15: San Sebastian - Bilbao -San Sebastian

Head to Bilbao to visit the world-renowned



DOUBLE Starting at \$5649 SOLO Starting at \$7199 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on January 26, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

TOUR DATES AVAILABLE

October 2023 - May 2024 June 2024 - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE



Days 8-9: Wine House Hotel, Quinta da Pacheca Choose to upgrade your room to a unique wine barrel room for 2 nights at the Quinta da Pacheca in the Douro River Valley of Portugal. Admire the vineyard rows from the comfort of your bed and enjoy all the luxuries of a hotel in your quirky, barrel-shaped cabin.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

Guggenheim Museum, set along the Nervion River and hailed as a true icon of architectural culture, with its contemporary design. See some of the modern art housed inside its fascinating walls. Then take a walking tour of Bilbao's old town where you can find historic old churches, festive markets and quintessential Spanish squares. Enjoy some free time in the historic Bilbao downtown before returning to San Sebastian. Tonight, gather together and toast the end of a flavourful journey at a farewell dinner in a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

## Day 16: San Sebastian - Tour Ends

Today, your tour of Portugal and Spain comes to a close – all of the wonderful memories will truly be the best souvenirs. (B)

## **SUNNY PORTUGAL**

10 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$2699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









Lisbon • Belem • Cork Factory • Evora • Winery Visit • Alentejo • Lagos • Algarve - Silves - Setubal - Portuguese Riviera • Obidos • Sintra • UNESCO World Heritage Sites



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy a 2-night stay in Lisbon, Portugal's capital city.
- Experience the exclusive Cante Alentejano music (UNESCO) in
- Spend the night in Evora, known as the "Museum City of Portugal."
- · Enjoy a leisurely 3-night stay on the sunny coast of the Algarve.



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

- Day 3 Discover the art of the Portuguese sidewalk with a local guide -OR- venture with your Tour Manager to discover the country's best-loved fish, bacalhau (codfish).
- Day 9 In Sintra, you can choose to explore the quaint hilltop village independently, taking some time to wander through the winding streets -OR- join a guided tour of the National Palace of Sintra, a medieval royal palace considered the bestpreserved royal palace in Portugal.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 8 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- Taste the wines of the Alentejo region during a locally-sourced lunch at a winery.
- · Savour the flavours of the Algarve with iconic local petiscos.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 3 Turim Marques Hotel,

Lisbon

Vitoria Stone Hotel Day 4

or Hotel Vila Galé, Evora

Days 5 - 7 Hotel Vila Galé Lagos, Algarve

Day 8 - 9 Hotel Vila Galé, Cascais **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** 

See next page for details.



From the Portuguese capital, Lisbon to the sunny cliffs of the Algarve and Portuguese Riviera, venture along Portugal's stunning shoreline.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Ancient castles and Roman ruins, groves of orange and almond trees, quiet whitewashed villages, and welcoming locals - Portugal is waiting for you.

Day 2: Lisbon, Portugal - Tour Begins Say hello to Lisbon, Portugal's capital and a city

full of authenticity, where old customs and ancient history intermix with cultural entertainment. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

#### Day 3: Lisbon 😯

Choose how you want to explore Lisbon today, because it's vour choice! Discover the art and tradition of the Portuguese sidewalks during a locally led walking tour -OR- venture with your Tour Manager on foot and discover the city through the lens of the country's most loved fish, bacalhau (salted codfish). After, travel to Belem where you'll see the iconic Belem Tower (UNESCO) and the Monument to the Discoveries. Witness the facade of the 16th-century Jeronimos Monastery (UNESCO) and learn about the importance of this iconic monastery. Tonight, you may choose to join an optional tour to listen to local artists perform traditional Fado music, a UNESCO intangible cultural heritage highlight. (B)

#### Day 4: Lisbon - Evora

Today, you'll make your way through Portugal's charming countryside. Visit a family-owned cork factory, where you'll learn about the product's importance to the local economy and why Portugal is the world's top cork producer. Your journey then takes you to Evora (UNESCO) - the "Museum City of Portugal." A traditional Alentejo lunch will be waiting for you, accompanied by Cante Alentejano music (UNESCO). In the afternoon, take time to explore this medieval walled city and see its wellpreserved Roman temple up close. (B, L)

### Day 5: Evora - Lagos

Journey to the stunning coasts of the Algarve - the southernmost region of Portugal. On the way, indulge in full-bodied wines from the Alentejo region during a winery tour, tasting, and light lunch. Then, explore the historic resort town of Lagos, where Moorish and Renaissance influences meet towering seaside cliffs. Many celebrated voyagers began their explorations from this bustling port city. (B, L)

#### Day 6: Lagos

It is your day to experience the Algarve on your own. Geraniums, camellias, and oleanders





grow alongside fig, orange, and almond trees, while brightly coloured fishing boats bob in the sea. Protected by hills to the north and warmed by the sea, the Algarve's mild climate and beautiful beaches attract visitors from all over the world. You may choose to join an optional boat tour today that will get you closer to some of the most famous coastal scenery in Portugal. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Lagos - Silves - Lagos

This morning, venture to Silves. Allow your senses to take over when you see the contrast of dark red castle walls with the whitewashed buildings as you climb the hills of this sleepy town, once the capital of Moorish Portugal. During your stop, explore the town at your own pace or choose to climb up to the castle and see for yourself one of the bestpreserved examples of Moorish defensive architecture in Portugal. Venture into a local farm nestled among rich landscapes, to learn secrets of regional bread and fruits and sample the results with a savoury lunch featuring freshly prepared Algarve seasonal and local specialties. Continue down the coast to discover the importance the canning industry held in the Algarve. After, return to Lagos for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 8: Lagos - Setúbal - Cascais En route to the Portuguese Riviera, make a stop in Setubal a colourful industrial city and one of southern Europe's best kept secrets. See the Mercado (Farmers Market) do Livramento up close. It is considered one of the best fish markets in the world, but it's also rich with displays of fresh fruits and vegetables. Meet local artisans at a family-run shop and learn how the famous hand-painted Portuguese tiles, azulejos, are made. After, head to the Portuguese Riviera. Mansions scattered throughout Cascais and Monte Estoril all hint at this area's history as a haven for exiled European royals and nobility. (B)

### Day 9: Cascais - Obidos - Sintra -Cascais 😯

Explore the picture-perfect city of Obidos, where white-washed houses sit snug within medieval city walls. Continue on to Sintra (UNESCO), a breathtaking hub that served as the summer residence of Portuguese kings for six centuries. Then, it's your choice! Explore this quaint hilltop village and wander through the winding streets lined with cork products and pastries -OR- venture into the National Palace of Sintra and learn about its 1000-year old history. On your return to Lisbon, stop to admire the stunning Cabo da Roca, the western most point of continental Europe. Bid Portugal goodbye during dinner in Lisbon and celebrate the end of your unforgettable journey. (B, D)

Day 10: Cascais - Tour Ends Your tour ends today. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2699 SOLO Starting at \$3349 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on February 9, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.



## **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 8-9: Hotel Vila Galé, Cascais

Upgrade to a Sea View Room at the Vila Galé in Cascais to enjoy views of the Bay of Cascais and its marina.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

## ALSO AVAILABLE



#### Sunny Portugal featuring New Year's Eve in Funchal, Madeira

Start the new year off with a toast and fireworks on the island of Madeira.

★ DATES AVAILABLE DECEMBER 2023 & DECEMBER 2024



## Sunny Portugal featuring Porto

Begin your Sunny Portugal tour with an additional 3 nights in Porto, on the scenic Douro River.

DATES AVAILABLE JUNE - NOVEMBER 2024 FEBRUARY - MAY 2025





#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$975† PP

Extend your stay in Portugal with 3 nights on the island paradise of Madeira and 1 night in Lisbon, Portugal's vibrant capital city.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/51

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# **AZORES JEWELS OF PORTUGAL**

13 DAYS · 20 MEALS STARTING AT \$4354

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Off-Road Sete Cidades Experience • Furnas Valley • Home-Hosted Dinner • Angra do Heroismo • Algar do Carvao • Natural Volcanic Pools • Volcanic Stone House Stay - Pico Wine Museum



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Spend 3 nights in the eco-friendly lava stone houses of Aldeia da Fonte, Pico Island.
- · Traverse the dirt paths of the Sete Cidades caldera and gaze upon the twin lakes.
- Swim in natural volcanic pools.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 4 — In Furnas, enjoy the thermal waters at the Terra Nostra local pool, built in the 18th century by the American consul to the Azores -OR- embark on a guided visit to the organic paradise that is the Terra Nostra Botanical Garden.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 11 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 7 Dinners (D)

- Experience a truly unique cozido das furnas lunch in Furnas valley.
- Enjoy a home-hosted meal at a village in the Sao Miguel Island
- Experience one of Lisbon's oldest neighbourhoods with a walking food tour.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 5 The Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico, Sao Miguel, Azores **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** See next page for details.

Aldeia da Fonte Nature Hotel. Days 6, 7 Pico, Azores

Days 8 - 10 Zenite Boutique Hotel & Spa, Terceira, Azores

Days 11, 12 Bessa Hotel Liberdade, Lisbon

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Enter an untouched paradise on an adventure through the Azores, the archipelago gems of Portugal.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

From volcanic craters and thermal waters to lush vegetation and picturesque coasts, enjoy the natural splendour of this Portuguese archipelago and see why the Azores are commonly referred to as "the Hawaii of Europe."

## Day 2: São Miguel, Açores, Portugal -**Tour Begins**

This is the Azores. A set of islands virtually untouched by urban development. Your adventure begins on São Miguel, the largest of the nine volcanic islands. Relax and explore as you wish, perhaps sit along the seaside promenade and breathe in the mild air of the Atlantic.

## Day 3: Ponta Delgada

Get to know Ponta Delgada, the capital city of São Miguel, on a morning walking tour of the area. This afternoon, traverse the dirt paths to the Sete Cidades caldera's highest point on an off-road adventure. On your way, gaze down upon the blue lake (reflecting the sky) and the adjacent green lake (reflecting the lush vegetation). As you take in the greenery around you, an Impact Moment introduces how our partnership with a local company is supporting reforestation efforts on the island. Celebrate the beginning of your journey with a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 4: São Miguel 😯

Start the day with a visit to one of the few remaining basket weavers on the island, Learn how

willow basket making has evolved and how this father-son enterprise has kept this traditional craft alive. Then, it's your choice! Enjoy the thermal waters at the Terra Nostra pool, built in the 18th century by the American consul to the Azores -ORembark on a guided visit to the organic paradise that is the Terra Nostra Botanical Garden, For lunch, enjoy a traditional cozido das furnas meal, where your food is cooked in the earth's volcanic heat. Later, continue on to the green fields of a nearby tea plantation where we will learn about this unique crop before an evening of leisure in São Miguel. (B, L)

#### Day 5: São Miguel

Today enjoy a full free day to explore Sao Miguel at your own pace. Or you may choose to join a Flavours of Sao Miguel optional tour where you will taste your way through some of the unique products this island has to offer. At a local quinta, taste Azorean gin, blended with botanicals and seaweed and learn how a local foundation supports local marine conservation. End this optional excursion with a light lunch of locallysourced ingredients. Regardless of how you choose to spend your day, gather tonight for a home-hosted dinner at a local village. (B, D)

## Day 6: São Miguel - Madalena, Pico

Board your flight to Pico, one of the most unique Azorean islands. Start with a visit to the Pico Wine Museum, where you will learn about the

uniqueness and adaptability of the wine production on the island. See firsthand why the vineyard landscape is labeled as a UNESCO Heritage site. End the day at the rustic lava stone houses of Aldeia da Fonte, an eco-sustainable hotel and your home for the next two nights. Enjoy dinner at this cliffside abode. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Pico

Bring your walking shoes today and start your day on Lagoa do Capitao and look out over Sao Jorge Island in the distance. Travel to one of the most prestigious wine producers in the archipelago for a tasting. After, visit the whaling museum that highlights the historical ties of the industry to the culture of the islands. Learn about the importance of whaling to Pico and the transition from hunting to protecting these giants of the oceans. End your day with an included dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 8: Pico - Angra do Heroismo, **Terceira**

Board your flight to Terceira and say hello to the colourful capital of Angra do Heroismo (UNESCO) with a local guide. Restored in traditional style, the city features white facades and vibrant trims. Learn about the Holy Ghost Chapels, known locally as Imperios, and customs surrounding this tradition. Tonight, get a taste of the culture at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 9: Terceira

Start your day with a swim in the natural volcanic pools of Biscoitos. Later, on your way to Algar do Carvao, stop at Serra do Cume viewpoint where views of the agricultural fields and their neat orderly stone walls will take your breath away. At Algar do Carvao, the "Cavern of Coal," feel the quiet stillness as you descend into this ancient lava tube. Enjoy the evening to explore Angra do Heroismo as you wish. (B)

#### Day 10: Terceira

Today the day is yours to enjoy at your own pace. You may choose to join an optional tour to the western side of Terceira in the morning, sipping coffee at an organic coffee plantation and tasting locally grown bananas along the way and ending at a family-owned cheese factory for a light lunch made up of local products. End the day at a tapas home-hosted dining experience. (B, D)

#### Day 11: Terceira - Lisbon

Say farewell to the Azores archipelago as you head to Lisbon in continental Europe. Lisbon, known as the city of the seven hills, and the starting point of many of its 15th century explorations, was also the departure point of many of its immigrants that crossed the Atlantic searching for a better life. Check in to your hotel after your flight and enjoy a free night. (B)

## Day 12: Lisbon

Start your morning with a panoramic tour of Belem. See the imposing 16th century Jeronimos Monastery and the Belem Tower, a fortress built to protect Lisbon and later used as a prison. Return to downtown Lisbon and join a walking food tour in one of the historical neighbourhoods of Lisbon. Every corner of the city seems to be about to tell you a story, with a unique character and "tascas" with delicious "petiscos". Enjoy free time for the rest of the afternoon before you gather for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

### Day 13: Lisbon - Tour Ends

Say adeus (goodbye) to Portugal and the Azores as you depart this coastal paradise. (B)

## Optional 3 Night Lisbon **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1040 pp



### Day 13: Lisbon

Experience Lisbon, Portugal's capital city where old traditions intermingle with modern twists. See the city on a lively tuk-tuk tour, zooming through the urban energy from the back seat of an open-air vehicle. Venture through the city's beloved neighbourhoods. After becoming acquainted with the area,

enjoy the rest of your day at leisure to explore on your own.

#### Day 14: Lisbon

Enjoy this day to discover a whole new region, starting in Mafra, where the great convent stands out from the small town. Reach the cliffs of Ericeira to Explore the picture-perfect city of Obidos, where whitewashed houses sit snug within medieval city walls. (B)

#### Day 15: Lisbon

The day is yours! Take advantage of your day at leisure; maybe stroll along Praca do Comercio, or even make your way to São Jorge Castle for a sprawling panorama of the city. Gather in the evening for dinner in a local restaurant, getting a taste of some of Portugal's favourite flavours. (B, D)

## Day 16: Lisbon

Wish Lisbon goodbye as you depart for home. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4354 SOLO Starting at \$5354 Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on October 10, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



## Pre-Night: Ponta Delgada (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 2-5: The Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico

You may choose to upgrade your room at The Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico to an ocean view room for your first 4 nights of the tour. Take in the sparkling coastline and wake up to an incomparable view.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

## **PORTUGAL** & ITS ISLANDS

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$4729

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Lisbon • Belem • Sintra • Fado Dinner Show • St. Michael Island, Azores • Ponta Delgada • Terra Nostra National Park • Sete Cidades • Madeira Island • Espetada Dinner • Folkloric Show • Porto Moniz



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Gaze upon the pristine twin lakes of Sete Cidades.
- · Visit Funchal's Lavradores market, a fruit and exotic flower paradise.
- Experience a night of Fado (UNESCO) and learn about this traditional art form.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - Stroll through the Terra Nostra Botanical Park -OR- relax in the park's mineral rich thermal water loog.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

- Experience a truly unique cozido das Furnas lunch in Furnas Valley.
- · Enjoy a traditional dinner in Madeira, known as an espetada, and local folkloric entertainment.
- Taste Madeira wine and learn why this wine had such an important role in the history of the Island.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Days 2 - 4 Lumen Hotel, Lisbon

Days 5 - 8 Azoris Royal Garden Hotel, Ponta Delgada, Sao Miguel,

Days 9 - 12 Pestana Casino Park Hotel, Funchal, Madeira Island

Day 13 Lumen Hotel, Lisbon

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Experience the best of Portugal as you explore its capital city, coastal villages, and remote islands.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Experience the beauty of Portugal as you travel through the capital Lisbon, the Azorean island of St. Michael, and the island of Madeira.

Day 2: Lisbon, Portugal - Tour Begins Your adventure opens in Lisbon where Old World traditions blend seamlessly with modern ways. Experience Portuguese cuisine, regional wines

and folkloric entertainment among colourful buildings and winding pathways. Tonight, meet your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (D)

## Day 3: Lisbon - Belem - Lisbon

Set out on a tour of Lisbon and uncover some of the city's most famous sights. Travel to Belem where the age of Portuguese Maritime Discoveries comes to life at the Monument to the Discoveries and the Tower of Belem (UNESCO). Go to downtown Lisbon, and enjoy some free time to have lunch, take in the intricate architecture, and explore the beautiful streets. You can choose to return to your hotel and relax or enjoy the free afternoon to continue exploring Portugal's capital city. This evening, over Portuguese cuisine and wine, listen to local artists perform the traditional Fado (UNESCO). (B, D)

#### Day 4: Lisbon - Sintra - Lisbon

Today travel to Sintra (UNESCO), the summer residence of Portuguese royalty and visit the National Palace. Enjoy some free time for lunch on your own and explore this storybook town at your own pace before returning to Lisbon. Enjoy some free time to continue exploring the city, or join an optional tour on the Portuguese Riviera. This late afternoon option will transport you to the coastal towns of Cascais and Estoril. (B)

## Day 5: Lisbon - St. Michael, Azores -**Ponta Delgada**

To the Azores! Fly to St. Michael, the largest of the 9 volcanic islands that form the Azores archipelago. On a brief walking tour of Ponta Delgada's town centre, see the Portas da Cidade (the City Gates), and several of the main architectural sights that make up this unique island capital. Enjoy dinner this evening at a local restaurant featuring traditional Azorean cuisine. (B, D)

## Day 6: Terra Nostra Botanical Park -Ponta Delgada 😯

Start the day with a visit to a 150-year old family run ceramic factory where we will learn about the process of creating traditional Portuguese





pottery. Then, it's your choice! Take a stroll through the natural beauty of Terra Nostra Botanical Park -OR- rest and relax in the park's thermal water pool. In Furnas Valley, experience a cozido das Furnas lunch, cooked in the heat of the volcanic earth. After lunch let the green, lush beauty of Ribeira dos Caldeiroes Natural Park surround you as you stroll through the natural landscape and take in the watermills so typical of this place. Then head to the verdant pastures of a tea plantation, one of two in Europe, and delve into its cultivation methods and trade history before heading back to Ponta Delgada. The evening is yours to do as you please. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Ponta Delgada

Make the most of a day at leisure. Perhaps you will take an optional whale watching adventure and cruise over the waves with an expert biologist followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Regardless of your Azorean activities during the day, gather in the late afternoon to explore a local pineapple plantation and learn more about this species introduced to the island by Portuguese navigators. Then, enjoy a cocktail and dinner in one of the best family-run restaurants of Ponta Delgada. (B, D)

## Day 8: Ponta Delgada - Sete Cidades - Ribeira Grande - Ponta Delgada

Today visit the iconic Sete Cidades volcanic crater and peer down at its twin lakes. The lakes appear to be different colours - one blue (reflecting the sky) and the other green (reflecting the ground). Learn about the stories and legends associated with the two lakes before journeying to a boutique, family-run winery where the volcanic soil plays a key role in the end product. After, travel to the quaint town of Ribeira Grande where we will have time free time for lunch. End your full day of touring with a visit to Ribeira dos Caldeiroes Nature Reserve, where watermills and nature create a lush, otherworldly setting. (B)

## Day 9: Ponta Delgada - Funchal, Madeira

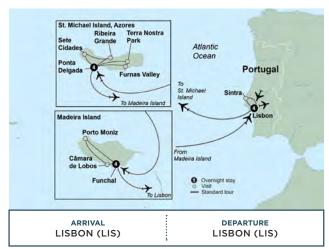
Fly to Madeira, the "Pearl of the Atlantic." After our afternoon arrival, we will embark on a walking tour of the capital city of Funchal, to get our first glimpse at the quaint old town and some of its main sights. Then, discover the Madeira Botanical Gardens as you make your way through a terraced landscape of more than 2,000 exotic plants. (B)

#### Day 10: Funchal

Explore the Lavradores market, a hub of exotic fruits, flowers and a traditional fish market. The local culture comes to life here! A tasting at a Madeira wine lodge teaches you about the famous Madeira wine. Head to the colourful Santa Maria Street, where vibrant murals and brightly painted doors liven the streets and the many cafes tempt you to linger over lunch on your own. A free afternoon provides more time to explore or to relax and enjoy your hotel's garden, pool and spa. Gather again this evening for a traditional espetada dinner, feasting on local cuisine cooked over an open fire amidst a backdrop of folk dancers and lively music. (B, D)

## Day 11: Funchal - Câmara de Lobos - Porto Moniz - Funchal

Begin your day with a tour that will take you to Câmara de Lobos, a traditional village on a picture-perfect bay which served as a special retreat for Sir Winston Churchill. It was here that Madeira's natural beauty captivated him and inspired many paintings of the village. Drive along mountain roads, passing vineyards en route to the world's second-highest cliff, Cabo Girão where you can walk on the highest glass skywalk in Europe. With the Madeira banana always in the spotlight, you will find immersive history of this



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4729 SOLO Starting at \$5779 includes on-tour air. Prices based March 29, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** October 2023 June - October 2024 March - May 2024 March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) (featured itinerary) \*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation. See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night or Post-Night: Lisbon (1-2 NIGHTS)

nutritional fruit at BAM, before leaving for the lively fishing village of Porto Moniz. Here, enjoy free time for a swim (weather permitting) in the natural volcanic rock pools before returning to Funchal. (B)

### Day 12: Funchal - Free day

The day is yours to explore independently. Or, perhaps you will embark on a full day optional tour of the island. Start with an easy trek along the island's levadas, and learn about this unique watering system. Then travel to a Quinta for a lunch with views of the Atlantic. End with a visit to the traditional A-frame houses of Santana, a reminder of the island's farming past. (B)

## Day 13: Funchal - Lisbon

Board your flight and return to the metropolitan energy of Lisbon. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure. Later, bid adeus to Portugal during a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 14: Lisbon - Tour Ends

Depart for home with Portugal in your heart as your tour ends today. (B)

## **SPAIN'S CLASSICS**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$3849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Madrid • The Prado Museum • Toledo • Cordoba • La Mezquita • Seville • Flamenco Show • Granada • The Alhambra • Valencia • Paella Experience • Barcelona • La Sagrada Familia



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Feel the energy of Spain at a flamenco performance in Seville.
- . In Cordoba, take a walking tour of the Mezquita, a religious marvel.
- · Step back in time in Toledo, the former capital of the Spanish Empire.
- Experience the AVE high-speed train from Madrid to Cordoba.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

 Day 6 — In Seville, walk along the charming and quaint Santa Cruz Quarter with an expert guide **-OR-** see the city from a different perspective with a boat ride on the Guadalquivir River.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Savour a "paella experience" including a paella-making demonstration and lunch.
- · Take a bite of the local culture on a tapas tasting food tour in Granada.
- Indulge in Spanish wines with every included dinner.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 4 Riu Plaza Espana, Madrid

Days 5, 6 NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas,

Seville

Day 7 Barcelo Carmen, Granada

Days 8, 9 AC Hotel by Marriott,

Valencia

Days 10, 11 Catalonia Plaza Catalunya,

Barcelona

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Embark on a Spanish adventure as you take in medieval architecture, idyllic landscapes and delectable cuisine.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You are on your way to a colourful and cultural adventure featuring the best of Spain.

#### Day 2: Madrid, Spain - Tour Begins

Welcome to Madrid, Spain's lively capital and largest city. Tonight, gather with your fellow travellers and enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)

## Day 3: Madrid

During a locally guided panoramic tour of Madrid's historic centre, see iconic sites such as the Puerta del Sol and Plaza Mayor, where events have been held since the 17th century. Join a local expert to explore the priceless masterpieces of the Prado Museum, which opened in 1819 and boasts the world's finest collection of art by masters such as Velazquez and Goya. Tonight, you might choose to experience Madrid like a local with a metro ride, a walking tour and dinner with traditional entertainment at a local restaurant. (B)

#### Day 4: Madrid - Toledo - Madrid

Travel to the hilly town of Toledo (UNESCO), the capital of Spain until 1560. Embark on a comprehensive tour, highlighting the magnificent Gothic cathedral. Then, visit the Church of Santo Tome and view El Greco's masterpiece painting, The Burial of Count Orgaz, before returning to Madrid. (B)

#### Day 5: Madrid - Cordoba - Seville

Travel to the extraordinary Moorish city of Cordoba by the AVE high-speed train to reduce travel time and allow you to enjoy more free time in Cordoba, Embark on a walking tour of Cordoba's well-preserved and historical old Jewish Quarter. Then visit La Mezquita (UNESCO), an 8th-century mosque that was converted into the city's cathedral in the 16th century. End your day in Seville, considered to be Spain's "cultural capital" with dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Seville 😗

Embark on a panoramic tour before arriving at the iconic Plaza de España. Then decide on how you see Seville because it's your choice! Walk the charming and quaint Santa Cruz Quarter with an expert guide, admiring the orange trees and white-washed houses -OR- see the city from a different perspective with a boat ride on the Guadalquivir River, drifting by timeworn bridges and towers. Later, visit the Seville Cathedral (UNESCO) - the largest gothic church in the world - and see Columbus' tomb and the Giralda Bell Tower. End the afternoon with a tapas lunch at a local taberna. This evening, enjoy an authentic flamenco show (UNESCO) featuring Seville's top performers. (B, L)



#### Day 7: Seville - Granada

Travel to Granada, the last great capital of the Moors in Spain before it fell to the Catholic monarchs in 1492. Upon arrival, join a local expert for a tour of the worldfamous Alhambra (UNESCO), a stone fortress overlooking the entire city and serving as a mesmerizing example of Islamic architecture. This evening, a guided tapas tour on foot is on the menu! (B, D)

#### Day 8: Granada - Valencia

Travel through Spain's amazing landscape on your way to the Mediterranean coast. Pass by rolling hills dotted with picturesque olive and orange groves before arriving in the city of Valencia. A treasure trove of Roman and Arabic architecture, Valencia is Spain's third largest city melding historic and modern culture. (B)

## Day 9: Valencia - Albufera -**Valencia**

On a panoramic tour of Valencia, see the City of Arts and Sciences - an ultramodern educational institution. Explore the city's old town on foot, discovering the history with a local expert. View the ornate towers before wandering through the bustling central market, where you'll shop side-byside with the locals. Travel to Albufera, the area where paella first originated. Enjoy a boat ride on the canals surrounding the rice field plantations. Visit a traditional fisherman's home, known as a barraca, and enjoy a paella-making demonstration and an authentic paella lunch. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Valencia - Barcelona

Travel to Barcelona, one of Europe's most beautiful and exciting cities. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Barcelona's fascinating boulevards including the famous Las Ramblas, dotted with colourful bird and flower stalls. (B)

## Day 11: Barcelona

Embark on a panoramic tour of Barcelona, showcasing the Columbus Monument, Parc de Montjuic, and Antoni Gaudi's Batllo House and Casa Mila building (UNESCO). A local

expert will accompany you on a visit to the awe-inspiring La Sagrada Familia (UNESCO), considered to be the most famous of Gaudi's works. Work on the basilica began in 1882, and it is scheduled to be completed in 2026 on the 100th anniversary of the architect's death. As the day draws to a close, enjoy a farewell dinner celebrating the end of your trip to Spain. (B, D)

Day 12: Barcelona - Tour Ends Return home with memories of a beautiful land and a diverse cultural heritage. (B)

Optional 4 Night Barcelona & Costa Brava Post-Tour Extension Starting at \$1560 pp



#### Day 12: Barcelona

Take a full day at leisure in Barcelona. Delve into the historic Gothic Quarter with its narrow medieval alleyways. Perhaps head over to Park Güell and its mosaic walls, or maybe spend some time exploring the shops and restaurants of Las Ramblas.

Day 13: Barcelona - Girona - Costa Brava

Set out for Girona in the morning, a beautiful medieval city known for its Old Quarter. You'll meet with a local guide and take a tour of the city before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant. Then, head for the Catalonian coast, where you'll arrive at your seaside hotel and settle in for the next 3 nights. Costa Brava is an incredibly alluring place, and the perfect region to spend your days relaxing and exploring. (B, L)

#### Day 14: Costa Braya

Today is yours to enjoy Costa Brava how you'd like. Take advantage of this day at leisure - maybe heading down to the private beach or venturing into the local towns for some souvenir shopping. (B)

## Day 15: Costa Brava - Calella de Palafrugell - Llafranc - Besalu - Costa

Today, your local guide will meet you at your hotel for a walking tour. You'll head first to the beautiful village of Calella de Palafrugell for a coastal walk towards the quaint village of Llafranc. Then, you'll drive to the Dalí Theatre-Museum, where the surreal outside architecture matches the legendary works inside. After taking in the mind-boggling art of Salvador Dalí, continue on to the medieval village of Besalu for free time and lunch. Arrive back at your hotel with enough time to relax before your farewell dinner this evening. (B, D)

## Day 16: Costa Brava - Barcelona

Say farewell to the Catalonian coast and Spain as you depart for home. (B)



ARRIVAL MADRID (MAD)

DEPARTURE BARCELONA (BCN)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3849 SOLO Starting at \$4849 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on December 6, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: Madrid (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **Even More Time?**

Combine Spain's Classics with Sunny Portugal for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.







66 The flamenco show in Seville and the food were the best! 99

## **SPAIN'S CLASSICS & PORTUGAL**

15 DAYS · 20 MEALS STARTING AT \$4849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Barcelona • La Sagrada Familia • Valencia • Paella Experience • Granada • The Alhambra - Seville - Flamenco Show -Cordoba • Madrid • The Prado Museum • Toledo • Elvas • Lisbon • Belém • Obidos



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Stop in the little-known town of Peniscola, the "City in the Sea."
- Feel the energy of Spain at a flamenco performance in Seville.
- Marvel at world-renowned Spanish art at the Prado Museum.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 8 — In Seville, walk along the Santa Cruz Quarter and Plaza de España with an expert guide **-OR-** see the city from a different perspective with a boat ride on the Guadalquivir River.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 13 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Savour a "paella experience" including a paella-making demonstration and lunch.
- Take a bite of the local culture at a tapas lunch.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 H10 Casanova, Barcelona Days 4, 5 SH Valencia Palace. Valencia

Day 6 Catalonia Hotel, Granada Barcelo Renacimiento, Days 7, 8

Seville

H10 Puerta de Alcala, Days 9, 10

Madrid

Vila Gale Collection, Elvas Days 12 - 14 Altis Grand Hotel, Lisbon

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Embark on an Iberian adventure as you take in medieval architecture, idyllic landscapes and delectable cuisine.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You are on your way to a colourful cultural adventure featuring the best of Spain and Portugal.

#### Day 2: Barcelona, Spain - Tour Begins

Welcome to Spain. Begin your journey in the vibrant city of Barcelona. Tonight, meet your fellow travellers and enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

#### Day 3: Barcelona

Start your morning with a walk from your hotel to some of Barcelona's main sights, getting to experience this amazing city as it was meant to be explored - on foot. After some free time for lunch on your own, embark on a panoramic tour of Barcelona, showcasing the Columbus Monument, Parc de Montjuic, and Antoni Gaudi's Batllo House and Casa Mila building (UNESCO). A local expert will accompany you on a visit to the awe-inspiring La Sagrada Familia (UNESCO), considered to be the most famous of Gaudi's work. Work on the basilica began in 1882, and it is scheduled to be completed in 2026 on the 100th anniversary of the architect's death. (B)

## Day 4: Barcelona - Peniscola - Valencia

Today, say goodbye to Barcelona! On your way to Valencia, stop in beautiful Peniscola where

you will enjoy free time to explore on your own. Known as the "City in the Sea," this fortified town and its Knights Templar Castle dating back to the 13th century are a little hidden gem. End your day in Valencia, a treasure trove of Roman and Arabic architecture, surrounded by citrus groves. Perhaps you will join an optional tour that explores the myths and legends of Valencia. (B)

### Day 5: Valencia - Albufera - Valencia

On a panoramic tour of Valencia, see the City of Arts and Sciences - an ultramodern educational institution. Explore the city's old town on foot, discovering the history with a local expert. View the ornate Serranos Towers before wandering through the bustling central market, where you'll shop side-by-side with the locals. Enjoy time on your own to explore as you wish. Travel to Albufera, the area where paella first originated. Enjoy a short boat ride on the canals surrounding the rice field plantations. Visit a traditional fisherman's home, known as a barraca, and enjoy a paella-making demonstration and a delicious paella lunch. (B, L)

## Day 6: Valencia - Granada

Today you'll make your way to Granada, the last great capital of the Moors in Spain before it fell to the Catholic monarchs in 1492. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for dinner at a nearby restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 7: Granada - Seville

This morning, join a local expert for a tour of the world-famous Alhambra (UNESCO,) a stone fortress overlooking the entire city and serving as a mesmerizing example of Islamic architecture. End your day in Seville, considered Spain's "cultural capital." (B, D)

#### Day 8: Seville 😯

Decide how you see Seville because it's vour choice! Walk the Santa Cruz Quarter with an expert guide, admiring the orange trees and white-washed houses before continuing to the Plaza de España -OR- see the city from a different perspective with a boat ride on the Guadalquivir River, drifting by timeworn bridges and towers. Later, visit the Seville Cathedral (UNESCO) - the largest gothic church in the world - and see Columbus' tomb and the Giralda Bell Tower. End the afternoon with a light tapas lunch, overlooking the cathedral. This evening, enjoy an authentic flamenco show (UNESCO) featuring Seville's most famous traditions. (B, L)

### Day 9: Seville - Cordoba - Madrid

Travel to the extraordinary Moorish city of Cordoba. Upon arrival, embark on a walking tour of La Mezquita (UNESCO), an 8th-century mosque that was converted into the city's cathedral in the 16th century. Continue your exploration of Cordoba in the city's well-preserved and historical Jewish Quarter. Then, board the AVE high-speed train to Spain's capital city, Madrid! Arrive in the late afternoon and enjoy some free time to rest or venture out and explore on your own. (B)

#### Day 10: Madrid

During a locally guided panoramic tour of Madrid's historic centre, see iconic sites such as the Puerta del Sol and Plaza Mayor, where events have been held since the 17th century. Join a local expert to explore

the priceless masterpieces of the Prado Museum, which opened in 1819 and boasts some of the world's finest collections of art by masters such as Velazguez and Goya. Your afternoon will be free to explore this fascinating city further. (B, D)

## Day 11: Madrid - Toledo - Elvas, **Portugal**

Travel to Toledo (UNESCO), the capital of medieval Spain until 1560. Embark on a comprehensive tour, highlighting the magnificent Gothic cathedral. Then, visit the Church of Santo Tome and view El Greco's masterpiece painting, The Burial of Count Orgaz. Bid Spain adios and cross the border into Portugal, arriving in the off-thebeaten-path town of Elvas, a garrison town recognized as a World Heritage site. (B)

### Day 12: Elvas - Lisbon

After enjoying a relaxing morning in Elvas, make your way to Lisbon, the capital of Portugal. Spend your day uncovering legends of the country's past, including the Jeronimo's Monastery (UNESCO), the Monument to the Discoveries, and the Tower of Belém (UNESCO). Enjoy time in the evening to settle into your new home for the next 3 nights. (B)

#### Day 13: Lisbon

The day is yours! Discover the capital city on your own. Consider tasting the city's mouthwatering cuisine or taking the tram to the vibrant Alfama district, Perhaps you will go on an optional excursion to the Portuguese Riviera, visiting the picturesque towns of Cascais and Sintra.

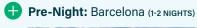
#### Day 14: Lisbon - Obidos - Lisbon

Today, visit one of Portugal's most famed towns - Obidos! With its labyrinth of cobblestoned streets and whitewashed houses, this medieval town beckons you to linger and enjoy its charm. You may choose to try one of the local delicacies - sour cherry liquor served in chocolate cups, or simply enjoy the narrow streets



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4849 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date. SOLO Starting at \$6149 Prices based on February 15, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars. **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** October - November 2023 June 2024 - May 2025 February - May 2024 (featured itinerary) (different itinerary - see note\*) \*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation. See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**

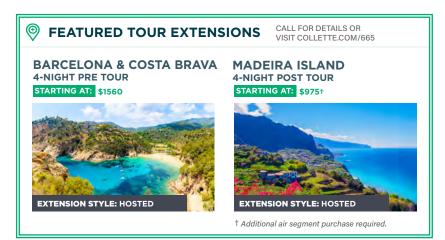




and picture perfect alleyways. Gather this evening for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of an unforgettable trip to Spain and Portugal. (B, D)

## **Day 15: Lisbon - Tour Ends**

Return home with memories of a beautiful land and a diverse cultural heritage. (B)





**NEW TOUR** 

## SPAIN'S COSTA **DEL SOL** & MADRID

9 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$2699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Málaga • Marbella • Sentenil de las Bodegas • Ronda • Home-Hosted Lunch • The Alhambra • Madrid • Segovia



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Tour the centuries-old port city of Málaga during a guided tour.
- Experience Ronda, one of Spain's loveliest and most historic towns.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

 Day 3 — Venture into The Alcazaba and get to know the fortified palace with a local guide -OR- enter the Picasso Museum, where you'll see paintings by this iconic artist who called Málaga his first home.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 7 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 2 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a home-hosted meal in Málaga.
- · Enjoy an iconic Spanish culinary staple at local restaurants.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Days 2 - 6 Occidental Fuengirola, Costa del Sol

NH Madrid Príncipe de Days 7, 8 Vergara, Madrid

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Let yourself be charmed by the sunny Andalusian lifestyle and discover the culture, cuisine, and charm of southern Spain.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Get ready for a true taste of southern Spain, from the sparkling blue waters of Costa del Sol to the chic avenues of Madrid. Your tour begins with an overnight flight.

### Day 2: Málaga, Spain - Fuengirola - Tour **Begins**

Welcome to Málaga, one of the oldest cities in Europe, known for its sunny, Andalusian lifestyle and for being the birthplace of artist Pablo Picasso. Settle into your new surroundings and start enjoying the town of Fuengirola. Depending on your flight arrival time, join your Tour Manager and fellow travellers this evening for a welcome reception at your hotel.

## Day 3: Fuengirola - Málaga -Fuengirola 😯

Discover the port city of Málaga with a local guide. Walk through the colourful market stalls and learn about the history and culture of this seaside community. Let Málaga's winding old town streets and historic Roman Theatre transport you back in time, then it's vour choice! Venture into The Alcazaba and get to know the fortified palace with a local guide -OR- enter the Picasso Museum, and

explore at your own pace many of the paintings by this iconic artist who called Málaga his first home. No matter which you choose, reconnect with your fellow travellers during lunch at a local's home. (B, L, D)

## Day 4: Fuengirola - Setenil del las Bodegas - Ronda - Fuengirola

Travel to Setenil de las Bodegas, a town known for its whitewashed houses built into the cliffs. Like many of the Andalusian white villages, Setenil has deep ties to the Arab population that once ruled the region. Enjoy some time to explore on your own before heading to Ronda. Walk the Old Town and see its 18th-century Puente Nuevo (New Bridge) over the El Tajo gorge. After some free time to explore on your own, head back to Fuengirola where the sunsets beckon a relaxing ending to the day.

## Day 5: Fuengirola - Marbella -**Fuengirola**

Journey to romantic Marbella today and enjoy a walking tour of the city's winding cobblestone streets before spending some free time to explore Marbella's charming shops, cafés, and









MALAGA (AGP)

MADRID (MAD)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2699 SOLO Starting at \$3149

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on November 30, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

galleries on your own. Afterwards, return to your hotel and spend the rest of the day at leisure, perhaps relaxing on the beach, just a short walk from your hotel, or perhaps you'll join an optional tour to Mijas, one of Andalusia's most famous villages. (B, L)

## Day 6: Fuengirola - Granada -**Fuengirola**

Today travel to Granada, the last capital of the Moors in Spain before it fell to the Catholic monarchs in 1492. Here, spend the morning with a local expert visiting the Alhambra, a UNESCO World Heritage site also known as one of the Wonders of the Muslim world. After your extensive morning walk at this centuries-old palace and fortress complex, enjoy some free time in Granada for lunch on your own before returning to your hotel in Fuengirola to spend the evening as you please. (B)

## Day 7: Fuengirola - Málaga -Madrid

This morning, say adiós to the Costa del Sol and hop on a northbound fast-speed train to the capital city of Madrid. Relax and enjoy the scenic ride, then join a panoramic tour of the city's historic centre. See iconic sites like the Gran Via and Puerta de Alcala and get a better sense of the layout of this famous capital city. Tonight, you might

choose to experience Madrid like a local with a metro ride and a walking tour followed by dinner with traditional entertainment at a local restaurant. (B)

## Day 8: Madrid - Segovia - Madrid

This morning travel to the historic town of Segovia. Join a local guide for a walking tour and learn about its iconic Roman Aqueduct, massive 16th century cathedral, and historic Main Square. Next, take a tour of the Alcázar de Segovia (Segovia Castle), an impressive medieval castle with lavish interiors, a museum, and military archives. Enjoy lunch on your own in Segovia before heading back to Madrid. Tonight, bid farewell to Spain and your fellow travellers during dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 9: Madrid - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, Reflect on the warmth and spirit of the Costa del Sol as you journey home. (B)

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** Malaga (1-2 Nights)



**Post-Night:** Madrid (1-2 Nights)





## **SPAIN & MOROCCO**

17 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$4999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Madrid • Córdoba • The Alhambra • Antequera • Seville • Flamenco Show • Tangier • Chefchaouen • Fes • Marrakech • Bin El Oudaine • Casablanca

Hassan II Mosque



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy a Flamenco show in enchanting Seville.
- · Embark on a walking tour of Córdoba's religious marvel, the Mezquita.
- Stroll through the cobbled alleyways of the ancient Medina of Fes.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 13 — Explore the breathtaking rural mountainside landscape with a local guide on a hike -ORexperience a calm and relaxing afternoon during a boat ride around Lake El Ouidane.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 15 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 8 Dinners (D)

- · Take a bite of the local culture on a tapas tasting food tour in Granada.
- · A traditional Riad sets the scene for a Moroccan dinner.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 Riu Plaza Espana, Madrid Barcelo Carmen, Days 4, 5 Granada Days 6, 7 NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas, Seville Day 8, 9 Hilton Tanger City Center, Tangier

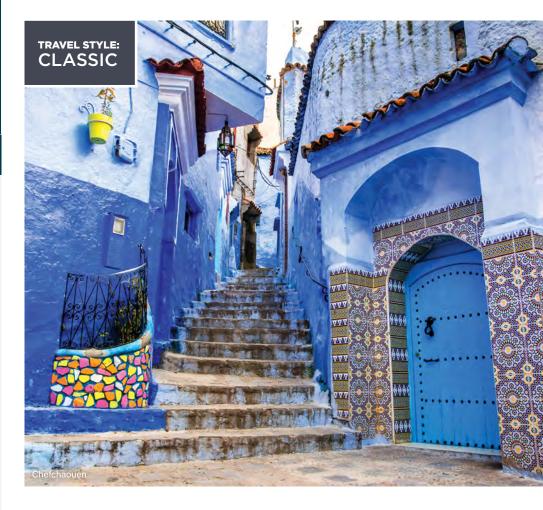
Days 10 - 12 Barceló Fès Medina, Fes Day 13 Widiane Hotel, Bin El

Oudaine

Days 14, 15 Movenpick Hotel Mansour Eddahbi,

Radisson Blu Hotel City Day 16 Center, Casa-blanca

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Make your way across two continents and discover a vivid tapestry of cultures, customs, and cuisines.

## Day 1: Overnight Flight

It's an adventure that spans two continents. It's culture centuries in the making. It's your tour of Spain and Morocco. You're on your way: are you ready?

#### Day 2: Madrid, Spain - Tour Begins

Welcome to Madrid! Did you know that Spain's capital was a fortified enclave during the Andalusi period? Experience the city's vibe as you walk to your welcome dinner. With new friends, say "Salud!" to a new journey. (D)

#### Day 3: Madrid

A local expert highlights Madrid's diverse and iconic spots, including Puerta del Sol and Plaza Mayor. Dive deeper into the city's Mudejar history to see how centuries of co-existence molded the city and its inhabitants. With the rest of your day on your own, you do you - Madrid-style. If you prefer to tour, an optional excursion to the fortified city of Segovia explores its medieval streets where you'll see the 14th-century Alcazar Palace. This UNESCO World Heritage Site blends Christian and Muslim influences. (B)

## Day 4: Madrid - Córdoba - Granada

¡Zoom! Travel at alta velocidad aboard the AVE highspeed train to Córdoba. This is a city known for its harmonious blend of Christians, Muslims, and Jews

and yet it also tells a story of the religious upheavals along its history. Walk with a local expert to La Mezguita (UNESCO), an 8th-century mosque that was converted into the city's cathedral in the 16th century during the Reconquista. Explore Córdoba's well-preserved and historic Jewish Quarter. Then, it's off to Granada, Spain's final Moorish capital before it fell to Catholic monarchs in 1492. (B)

#### Day 5: Granada

Explore the world-famous Alhambra (UNESCO) with a local expert. This stone fortress overlooks Granada, a mesmerizing example of Islamic architecture. With a free afternoon, soak in the local culture however you choose. Tonight, embark on a walking food tour and eat as the Spanish do... because tapas is on the menu. (B, D)

## Day 6: Granada - Antequera - Seville

Make your way to Antequera, the dividing line between Christian and Muslim territories during the Middle Ages. This stunning white village of Andalusia welcomes you. Learn about the Spanish-Baroque buildings that give it its unique character on a walking tour. Enjoy a lunch of local dishes, then head to Seville, Spain's "cultural capital." This evening, experience Spain's musical culture during a flamenco show (UNESCO). Passionate performers enchant as they showcase this dance form with mysterious roots. (B, L)

### Day 7: Seville

A local expert uncovers the city's historic Mudéjar architecture with you - as well as Seville's intriguing stories. A panoramic tour reveals iconic sites, including the Giralda Bell Tower, originally built as a minaret for the Great Mosque of Seville. Visit the Seville Cathedral (UNESCO), the largest Gothic cathedral in the world. Meander the narrow streets of Barrio Santa Cruz, the old Jewish Quarter of Seville. Here, quaint courtyards, bright flowers, and whitewashed buildings create the most charming backdrop. (B, D)

Day 8: Seville - Tangier, Morocco

Climb aboard the high-speed ferry to Africa because today, you'll say "adios" to Spain and "salaam alykum" to Morocco. Cross the Strait of Gibraltar (it's a short ride), and disembark in the city of Tangier, a multicultural hotspot. Tangier was once occupied by the Portuguese and the British. A local expert leads you throughout the city to share places with you like the old medina and the kasbah. Perhaps you'll see why this coastal city has been inspiring artists and writers for ages. With a free evening, explore this revitalized seaside city your way. Stroll the oceanfront promenade. Visit the marina. Shop in the Medina. Or take in the stunning view from any of the city's restaurants. (B)

## Day 9: Tangier - Asilah - Tangier

A morning at leisure means more time to explore Tangier. Later, get to know the American Legation in Tangier; it's the only U.S. National Historic Landmark located in a foreign country and a symbol of the diplomatic ties of these two nations that dates back to the 1800s. This afternoon. discover the walled city of Asilah, a seaside town with a bohemian art presence. Historically, Asilah hosted many conquerors and pirates - and now it welcomes you. (B, D)

## Day 10: Tangier - Chefchaouen -Fes

Leave Tangier for Morocco's "Blue City" - Chefchaouen, Scenic mountains and brightly painted buildings signal your arrival. With free time, explore the famous indigo-blue streets of this hilly town. Stop in one of its handicraft shops - and find the wool garments and woven blankets that are unique to this region. This evening, arrive in Fes (UNESCO). The "Mecca of the West," Fes remains as the region's religious capital, (B)

#### Day 11: Fes

Explore Fes, one of the holiest cities in the world. Learn of its historical importance as a centre of government, philosophy, medicine, and religion during your tour. See the Jewish Quarter, the city ramparts, and the gates of the Palace. Then, set out on a walking tour in the Medina. Founded in the 9th century, it is home to the world's oldest continuously functioning university. Along the cobbled alleyways of this ancient market, find spices and colourful wares. Find out about the leather tanneries, a tradition dating back to the 11th century. View the honeycomb of vats exuding brilliant colours. Tonight, the food: a Moroccon dinner. The setting: a traditional Riad. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Fes

Today, Fes is yours to discover. Stroll its marketplaces or perhaps visit a museum. If you prefer a guided activity, join an optional tour to Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its impressive and well-preserved Roman ruins. Later, visit a vineyard for lunch and a wine tasting. (B)

## Day 13: Fes - Bin El Oudaine 😯

The awe-inspiring Middle Atlas Mountains are a jewel in Morocco's crown - take in their majesty on today's journey to the small, rural hamlet of Bin El Oudaine. Today, it's your choice! Explore the breathtaking rural mountainside landscape with a local quide on a hike -OR- take a boat ride around Lake El Ouidane for a calm and relaxing afternoon. No matter what you do, a natural wonderland is yours to experience. (B, D)

## Day 14: Bin El Oudaine -Marrakech

Travel to Marrakech, an imperial city full of ancient artistry and religious history. Visit El Bahia Palace, with its marble floors and carved cedar ceilings. Stroll the Jardin Majorelle, one of the most stunning botanical gardens in Morocco. This evening, wander through a maze of colours and fragrances in Jemaa el-Fnaa - one of Morocco's famous squares before sitting





#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**Pre-Night:** Madrid (1 Night)



**Post-Night:** Casablanca (1 Night)



down for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 15: Marrakech

Explore Marrakesh's labyrinth-like medina. Local crafts and wares like rose petals, spices, babouches and Berber rugs make this experience a highlight. Find out what made this souk one of the most famous in the world, as well as the centrepiece of so many novels and travel books. The rest of the day is yours to explore "the red city" of Marrakech at your own pace. This evening, you may choose to set off for the Agafay Desert for an optional dinner with fellow travellers. Embrace desert life as your dinner is served in tents; and you'll even have the opportunity to ride a camel. (B)

## Day 16: Marrakech - Casablanca

Today, it's off to Casablanca, a romantic setting that showcases the modern side of Morocco in the best way. Tour the Hassan II Mosque, an architectural masterpiece of Moroccan artisanship. Later, step inside the legendary saloon, Rick's Café, from the film Casablanca. Here's looking at you, (and your fellow travellers), as you toast your adventure during your farewell dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 17: Casablanca - Tour Ends

It's time to say adios and besslama to an incredible tour. But remember... you'll always have Spain and Morocco. (B)





#### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1300+ PP

Extend your stay with 3 nights in Lisbon - Portugal's capital city. See the city like never before - zooming to the famous sights via tuk-tuk and metro! Then, enjoy free time to explore on your own.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/632

† Additional air segment purchase required.

## **ESSENCE OF FRANCE**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$5149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Paris • Le Marais Food Tour • Seine River Cruise • High-Speed TGV Train • Aixen-Provence • Truffle Hunting • Cassis • Grasse • Perfume Workshop • Nice • Saint Paul de Vence • Villa Rothschild



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Hunt for truffles with a local chef and his truffle-sniffing dogs.
- · Zoom through the French countryside at 186 mph aboard a TGV high-speed train.
- · Learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop.



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 7 — In Cassis, explore the coves and inlets of the Calanques National Park by land or sea. You can relax on a scenic cruise for views of the towering cliffs -OR- challenge yourself on a hike through the Mediterranean shrub to view the rugged landscape from above.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- Indulge in the flavours of Paris during a tasting tour of Le Marais.
- · Taste locally made cheese during a visit to a goat farm in the Provençal countryside.
- Enjoy a typical French lunch in the tearoom of the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Renaissance Paris Days 2 - 4 Republique Hotel, Paris

Days 5 - 8 Grand Hotel Roi René, Aix-en-Provence

Days 9 - 11 Hotel Massena, Nice

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



The wine, cuisine, art and landscapes of France ignite the senses on a journey to romantic Paris, chromatic Provence and the sparkling French Riviera.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Allons-y! Ignite the senses on a journey to romantic Paris, chromatic Provence and the sparkling French Riviera. Mouthwatering cuisine, stunning views, art and history create a trip that shows you the true essence of France.

#### Day 2: Paris, France - Tour Begins

Welcome to Paris, the brilliant capital of France. A 3-night stay in the "City of Light" showcases its vibrant atmosphere, cuisine and history. Meet your fellow explorers this evening over dinner as you toast "santé" to the beginning of a grand adventure. (D)

## Day 3: Paris - Île de la Cité - Seine River Cruise

Do as the locals do as you step aboard Le Métro your main mode of transportation while in Paris. As you learn to navigate the city with your Tour Manager, embrace the freedom to set off later as you wish. The first stop is the hip and historic district of Le Marais, Join a local foodie and venture to the neighbourhood's beloved venues, getting a taste of the cozy shops and Parisian flavours before pausing at a local bistro for a glass of wine and the plat du jour. In the early afternoon, walk down to Île de la Cité, and take in the progress of

restoration efforts of Notre Dame Cathedral, Later, glide along the Banks of the Seine (UNESCO) on a river cruise admiring the Eiffel Tower and the city's famous bridges. Spend the evening as you please. Perhaps you'll stroll along the grand Champs-Élysées or venture to the Louvre Museum. (B, L)

#### Day 4: Paris

Experience Paris at your own pace today. Perhaps you'll venture to bohemian Montmartre, pausing to observe modern artists at work in Place du Tertre. Or journey to Versailles on an optional visit to the Royal Palace of King Louis XIV, the "Sun King." Tour the State Apartments and Hall of Mirrors with an expert guide before exploring its famous gardens that took over 40 years to complete. (B)

## Day 5: Paris - High-Speed Train to Marseilles - Aix-en-Provence

Au revoir, Paris! Grab your bags and let a TGV -France's high-speed train - whisk you away to colourful Provence. Arrive in Marseille in the early afternoon. Get a quick look at France's oldest city before transferring to Aix, your home for the next 4 nights. This evening, savour the flavours of Provence during a tasting dinner in a local restaurant. (B, D)





# Day 6: Aix-en-Provence - Truffle Hunting

Let a memorable epicurean adventure commence with a truffle hunt led by a local chef and trained, truffle-sniffing dogs. *Avant la chasse* (the hunt), visit a goat farm nestled among rich landscapes that inspired van Gogh, Picasso, and Renoir to learn secrets of regional cheese production and sample the results. Then savour a lunch featuring freshly prepared Provençal specialties whipped up by your chef. Back in Aix, the balance of the afternoon is yours. Perhaps you'll take a stroll along Le Cours Mirabeau. This tree-lined, pedestrianized avenue is dotted by fountains and cafés cherished by locals and visitors alike. (B, L)

# Day 7: Aix-en-Provence - Cassis - Aix-en-Provence 😯

Journey to the fishing village of Cassis. Sheltered by the Calanques National Park on one side and the mighty Cap Canaille on the other, Cassis charms with its multicoloured houses and array of small fishing boats, yachts and sailboats quietly bobbing in the town's harbour. Then, explore the National Park's coves and inlets by land or sea because it's your choice! Relax on a scenic cruise for views of the towering cliffs -ORchallenge yourself on a hike through the Mediterranean shrub to view the rugged landscape from above. No matter your choice, once back in Cassis make the most of your free time, perhaps tasting a traditional bouillabaisse fish stew before returning to Aix in the mid-afternoon. (B)

#### Day 8: Aix-en-Provence

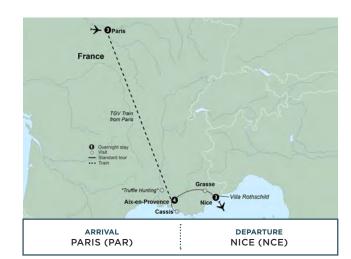
The day is yours to explore Aix-en-Provence at leisure. Perhaps you'll visit the atelier (artist studio) of Aix's most renowned citizen, Paul Cézanne, frozen in time since the painter's death in 1906. Or you may choose a full day optional tour exploring the historic village of Saint-Rémy with its bustling weekly market and the cobbled streets of Les Baux-de-Provence, a picture-perfect hilltop village. Before returning to Aix, experience an impressive multimedia presentation at the Carrières de Lumières. Making use of a former quarry, iconic works of art are projected onto the surrounding rock, accompanied by stirring music. (B)

# Day 9: Aix-en-Provence - Grasse - Nice

This morning, traverse southern France en route to the French Riviera. Pause in Grasse to learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop led by an expert perfumer, affectionately referred to as "Nez" (Nose). Arrive in Nice in the late afternoon, and settle in for a 3-night stay in the leading resort town of the Côte d'Azur. This evening taste Mediterranean-inspired French cuisine during dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

# Day 10: Nice - Saint Paul de Vence - Nice

This morning, discover Nice's famed flower market and be enchanted by the brightly coloured blooms before journeying to historic St. Paul de Vence, situated atop





## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**





a hill overlooking the beautiful countryside. Explore this charming walled medieval village, soaking in its distinctive light said to have inspired artists such as Matisse and poet Jacques Prévert. Back in Nice this afternoon, bask in the sunshine at a local café or perhaps take in an artist's perspective at the Chagall National Museum. (B)

#### Day 11: Nice - Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat - Villa Rothschild

Head to Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, the crown jewel of the French Riviera, where you'll visit the impressive Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. Uncover the lush gardens replete with lovely views of the Mediterranean Sea. Your visit to the villa is complete with a celebratory lunch served in the Villa's charming tearoom. Gaze over the Bay of Villefranche as you compare notes and experiences with fellow travellers as you say "au revoir" to the magic of France. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Nice - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many fond memories of the essence of France. (B)





PRE TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1560+ PP

Extend your stay with visit to Santa Margherita Ligure, on the Italian Riviera. Stop in Monaco and see the famous Casino. Travel by train to colourful Cinque Terre and tour glamorous Portofino.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/568

## **SPOTLIGHT ON PARIS**

9 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$3999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Eiffel Tower Dinner • Louvre Museum • Le Marais • Place des Vosges • Parisian Food Tour • Notre Dame • Versailles Palace & Gardens • Montmartre • Champs-Elysees • Arc de Triomphe • Seine River Dinner Cruise



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Navigate Paris like a local by riding the metro to destinations.
- · Feel like a true Parisian when you discover the beloved neighbourhood of Montmartre.
- · Explore the Le Marais neighbourhood's winding streets, gorgeous old mansions, and oldest planned square in Paris.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 8 - With a local guide, venture into the Musée de Montmartre and alimpse into the roots of cabaret and the lives of Paris' most famous artists -OR- head inside Sacré-Coeur and take in the city from this iconic hilltop basilica.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy an exclusive dinner at the Eiffel Tower with unparalleled views of the "City of Light."
- · Feel the hustle and bustle of the city with your personal foodie guide and sample French delicacies on a walking food tour.
- Admire the city skyline as you float down the Seine on a relaxing dinner cruise.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 8 Le Meridien Etoile, Paris ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE: During your stay at the Le Meridien Etoile Hotel you can choose to upgrade your room to a larger room with a seating area, CALL FOR DETAILS

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Be filled with joie de vivre as you soak in the romance and unparalleled charm of Paris.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Iconic skylines of picturesque towers. A trendsetting culinary scene. The inspirational muse for the world's greatest artists. Fashion-forward haute couture. This is the "City of Light." Feel the essence of Paris as the locals do - with its chic cosmopolitan vibe and constant energy. You're on your way to a 7-night stay in the thriving heartbeat

#### Day 2: Paris, France - Tour Begins

Be swept off your feet as the Paris of your dreams comes alive. Make your way down the Champs-Élysées, the hotspot for Parisian fashion, and marvel at the towering Arc de Triomphe. Words can't do justice to the view from within the Eiffel Tower, where you'll enjoy an exclusive dinner featuring savoury French cuisine. (D)

## Day 3: Paris

Step into the shoes of a local and navigate Le Métro - your main mode of transportation for the week. Get to know this underground system with a local pro, giving you the freedom to set off later as you wish. First stop - the Louvre Museum. The ethereal glass pyramid at the Louvre's entrance serves as your gateway into another realm, where ancient sculptures lead to 19thcentury canvases. Wander past and marvel at the palette progeny of Raphael and Botticelli before making your way to Da Vinci's renowned Mona Lisa. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore Paris as you please. Perhaps you'll take a leisurely stroll through the Tuileries Garden or elegant Place Vendôme with its glittering vitrines displaying jewelry and high-fashion designs. (B, D)

#### **Day 4: Versailles**

Channel your inner royal at Versailles - an iconic palace located in the heart of France. There's a reason why Versailles has served as a model for countless international abodes, which you'll discover as you wind your way through sprawling green gardens and palace halls with a local guide. From the prominent Hall of Mirrors to the opulent bedchamber of the queen, take in the palace's most famous sights. This evening, experience Paris' nightlife during an optional







dinner at the dynamic Paradis Latin for a champagne-flowing, can-can kicking, music-driven night at the cabaret. (B)

#### Day 5: Paris

Make the most of a free day in the world's most chic capital city. If you'd prefer to continue touring, you can join an optional tour to Normandy, If you choose this, you'll retrace the history of World War II with visits to Mulberry Harbor - a WWII engineering marvel, the Normandy American Cemetery, and the D-Day landing site at Omaha Beach. (B)

#### Day 6: Le Marais

Your cultural lesson continues this morning with a culinary quest through the hip and historic district of Le Marais. Join a local foodie and venture to the neighbourhood's beloved venues, getting a taste of the cozy shops and Parisian flavours. Along the way, meander through the flourishing trees and bright grassy patches of spectacular Place des Vosges, the oldest town square in all of Paris. Take a walk down to the Ile de la Cité to snap a picture of the awe-inspiring Notre Dame or relax in one of Le Marais' cozy

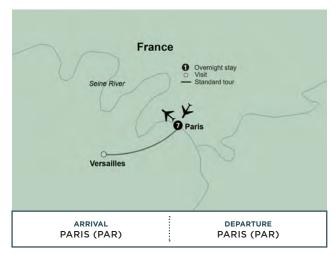
cafés and indulge in the Parisian art of people watching. As your day wraps up. make the most of an evening at leisure. Or, enjoy an optional tour taking in the city from the backseat of a retro car. Take in the City of Lights while cruising through the chic boulevards to the Montmartre neighbourhood, where hip bohemia meets heaven-seeking basilicas. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Paris

Enjoy your day on your own to explore Paris however you want. You may want to take an optional tour and delve into the creative mind of Claude Monet and let the art scene leave its impression on you with a visit to his countryside home at Giverny. Stroll through the colourful living work of art that is Monet's garden, where you'll see the source for the artist's inspiration, including the setting for his iconic Waterlilies. (B, D)

## Day 8: Montmarte 😯

It's your last day in Paris - spend the morning exploring the hip bohemian neighbourhood of Montmartre. Blending artistic roots and quirky modernity, this



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3999 SOLO Starting at \$5699

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on February 25, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 February - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 February - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

18th *arrondissement* neighbourhood is home to classical painters and cultural provocateurs. Choose how you discover the area because it's your choice! Venture into the Musée de Montmartre and glimpse the roots of cabaret and the lives of Paris' most famous artists with a local guide -OR- head inside Sacré-Coeur and take in the city from this iconic hilltop basilica. Tonight, say salut as you toast to the end of your Parisian getaway, admiring the city skyline as you gently float down the Seine on a dinner cruise. (B, D)

#### **Day 9: Paris - Tour Ends**

Au revoir! Your tour comes to a close today. (B)



66 I introduced my daughter to Europe and the joys of travel. Staying in Paris and seeing it through the eyes of my wife and daughter was my favourite part. 99

- Lawrence P.

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE FRENCH **RIVIERA**

9 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$2999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Nice - Food Tour & Tasting - Nice Flower Market • Monaco • Monte Carlo • Grasse • Fragonard Perfumery Workshop • Cannes • Saint-Honorat Island & Wine Tasting • Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild . St. Paul de Vence



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit the stunning seaside palazzo Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild and its gardens.
- Explore Saint-Honorat Island belonging to the monks of Lérins Abbev.
- · Learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 4 — Explore the tiny Principality on a panoramic Little Train tour taking you across to Monte Carlo for views of its famous Casino -ORvisit the Oceanographic Museum, perusing its aquarium and the collection of fossils and skeletons amassed by the great researcher Jacques Cousteau.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 7 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- · Savour the Riviera's Mediterranean cuisine during dinner in Vieux Nice.
- · Discover Nice with a local foodie on an interactive city tour.
- Enjoy a typical French lunch in the tearoom of Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 8 Hotel Radisson Blu, Nice

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Uncover the chic resorts, sun-soaked beaches, and elegant allure that attract the rich and famous to the exquisite French Riviera.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

It's time to live the good life and embark on a getaway to the fabulous French Riviera, or Côte d'Azur. With its elegant coastal resorts, superb eateries, chic boutiques and captivating museums, it's the ultimate sunny retreat for the elite. Unpack your bags just once and stay at a single hotel for your entire adventure, which begins with an overnight flight to France.

## Day 2: Nice (French Riviera), France -**Tour Begins**

Your tour commences in the stunning city of Nice, a coastal pearl of the Mediterranean known for its legendary opulence and balmy beaches. With an average of 300 sunny days per year, Nice is a seaside paradise. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner in Vieux Nice featuring Mediterranean-inspired French cuisine.

#### Day 3: Nice: The Flower Market & the **Local Foodie**

Step into the shoes of a local and navigate the Tram this morning. Get familiar with the routes and use it to your advantage during some free time. With a local expert, discover Nice by meandering through the city's famed and colourful flower

market. Then, delve into the Old Town, sampling local delicacies while on a tasting tour. The rest of the day is yours. Perhaps you'll return to your hotel and stroll along the lively seafront Promenade des Anglais. You may even stay downtown and visit one of Nice's world-class art galleries, such as the Chagall or the Matisse Museums. Maybe you'll find your favourite café for the week and soak in the local life. (B, L)

## Day 4: Monaco: Alluring & Royal 😯

Travel along the spectacular Corniche coastal road to the Principality of Monaco. On a walking tour, view the changing of the guards and visit the Cathedral of Monaco - the permanent resting place of Prince Rainier III and Princess Grace. Then it's your choice! Explore the tiny Principality on a panoramic Little Train tour taking you across to Monte Carlo for views of its famous Casino -OR- visit the Oceanographic Museum, perusing its aquarium and the collection of fossils and skeletons amassed by the great researcher Jacques Cousteau. (B)

## **Day 5: Hilltop Grasse & Perfume** Workshop

Today, learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop and tour of the





Fragonard Perfumery, where fragrant formulations have been prepared since 1782. Spend time soaking up the atmosphere of this charming Provencal hill town before returning to Nice for an evening at leisure. Perhaps you'll join an optional excursion that takes you to the most Italian, French village of Menton. After working up an appetite, savour a peaceful dinner in the medieval Village of

### Day 6: Glamorous Cannes - Saint-**Honorat Island & Wine Tasting**

Journey to Cannes and rub elbows with Europe's elite. Walk in the footsteps of celebrities when you see the Film Festival Palace and the iconic red carpet featured during the Cannes Film Festival. During free time, explore the cobbled lanes of the Le Suguet neighborhood or the lively Forville farmer's market. Then, sail across the Bay of Cannes to the tiny island of Saint-Honorat, belonging to the monks of Lérins Abbey. Pause for a taste of the locally produced wine before returning to Nice in the late afternoon. Back in Nice this evening, savour a wine-paired tasting menu highlighting the delights of the South of France. (B, D)

## Day 7: Once Upon a Villa

Head to Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, referred to as the crown jewel of the French Riviera, where you'll visit the impressive Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. Uncover the lush gardens replete with jaw-dropping views of the Mediterranean Sea. Your visit to the villa is complete with lunch served in the charming tearoom overlooking the Bay of Villefranche. Back in Nice, enjoy free time to relax and take in the laid-back atmosphere along the Riviera. Perhaps





## Day 9: Nice (French Riviera) - Paris

Head to the airport this morning for your flight to the French Capital. In less than 2 hours, you'll be in Paris, the "City of Light." For dinner, get a taste of the city's local flavours at a local Parisian restaurant. As the day draws to a close, admire the city from a relaxing sightseeing cruise, passing by illuminated landmarks as you drift softly along the Seine. Settle into your hotel, just steps away from the Eiffel Tower. (D)

## Day 10: Paris

Step into the shoes of a local and navigate Le Métro. Get to know this underground system with a local pro, giving you the freedom to

set off later as you wish. First stop - the hip neighbourhood of Montmartre, Blending artistic roots and quirky modernity, this 18th arrondissement neighbourhood is home to classical painters and cultural provocateurs. Venture into the Musée de Montmartre and glimpse the roots of cabaret and the lives of Paris' most famous artists, before taking advantage of time at leisure to explore on your own. Perhaps you'll browse the luxury shops of L'Opéra District or take a stroll down the Champs-Élysées. (B)

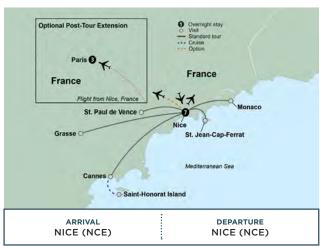
#### Day 11: Paris

It's your last day in Paris - how will you spend it? Perhaps you'll explore Le Marais. This trendy district abounds with winding streets, gorgeous old mansions, and independent boutiques. Or maybe you'll stroll down to the Île de la Cité, the island set in the heart of Paris to take in the progress of restoration efforts of the awe-inspiring Notre Dame Cathedral. No matter how you spend your day - you'll get a true taste of the Parisian lifestyle. (B)

#### Day 12: Paris - Extension Ends

Wish Paris goodbye as you transfer to the airport for your flight. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.





you'll set off in search of the whimsical architecture of St. Nicholas' cathedral. (B, L)

### Day 8: St. Paul de Vence: An Artist's Haven

This morning, venture to historic St. Paul de Vence, situated atop a hill overlooking the beautiful countryside of Provence. Explore this walled medieval village, soaking in its distinctive light said to have inspired Matisse, Braque, Chagall and other artists. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of an unforgettable trip. (B, D)

#### Day 9: Nice - Tour Ends

Depart for home with many wonderful memories of your journey through the Cote d'Azur. (B)

## ALSO AVAILABLE



### Spotlight on the French Riviera featuring Carnival

Enjoy the elaborate floats, flower parades and electric atmosphere of this exciting event on the French Riviera.

DATES AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 2024 & FEBRUARY 2025

The excellent balance between scheduled activities and free time and the sites and excursions chosen for us was the best part of our tour. 99

- Claire W ......

## **FRANCE MAGNIFIQUE**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$4849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Versailles Palace & Gardens - Giverny Normandy D-Day Landing Sites Omaha Beach • American Cemetery • Le Mont St. Michel • Loire Valley • Winery Tour • 2-Night Château Stay • Chenonceau Castle - Amboise - Paris -Seine River Cruise • Eiffel Tower Dinner



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Visit the private apartments of King Louis the Great in the Royal Palace of
- Enjoy 2 nights at your 15th-century castle accommodations at the Château de Beauvois.
- · Admire famous landmarks while cruising along the River Seine in Paris.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 11 — Take in the most iconic sights of Paris on a panoramic city tour. with your local guide -OR- step into the shoes of a local and navigate Le Métro on your way to the hilltop neighbourhood of Montmartre.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 10 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Savour local flavours during dinner at a traditional French restaurant.
- Delight in a tour and tasting at a local
- · Enjoy an exclusive dinner at the Eiffel Tower, featuring delicious cuisine and breathtaking views.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Le Louis Versailles Chateau - MGallery, Versailles

Best Western PLUS Days 4, 5 Le Moderne, Caen

Days 6, 7 Hotel Oceania or Hotel Le Grand Be Hotel, Saint-Malo **HOTEL OCEANIA ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** See next page for details.

Days 8, 9 Château de Beauvois, Loire Valley

Days 10, 11 Hyatt Regency Étoile, Paris

TRAVEL STYLE: **CLASSIC** 



## From the royal Palace of Versailles to the enchanting streets of Paris, grab a baguette and rendezvous with the best of France.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Embark on your journey through France. Bask in the rich history, art, culture and romance of its celebrated cities and charming towns.

Day 2: Versailles, France - Tour Begins Your tour begins in the royal borough of Versailles. Celebrate the beginning of your voyage with a savoury French dinner in the culturally rich town of

Versailles. (D)

## Day 3: Versailles - Royal Palace and **Gardens**

Start your day with an exploration of the iconic Palace of Versailles (UNESCO). A guide leads you through the Private Apartments of King Louis XIV. the Sun King, who transformed his father's hunting lodge into the resplendent seat of the Royal Court. Continue your visit independently through the lavish State Apartments. From the prominent Hall of Mirrors to the opulent bedchamber of the queen, take in Versailles' most famous sights at your own pace. This afternoon your explorations continue in the palace's grandiose formal gardens, where the Baroque fountains regularly spout water to the tune of classical music. (B)

Day 4: Versailles - Giverny - Caen

Journey into Normandy and let the art scene leave

its impression on you with a visit to Monet's countryside home at Giverny. Stroll through the colourful living work of art that is Monet's Garden, where you'll see the source for the artist's inspiration, including the setting for his iconic Waterlilies. Then, set off through the rich pasturelands of Normandy to the city of Caen, your home for the next 2 nights. (B, D)

## Day 5: Caen - D-Day Landing Sites -

This morning visit Omaha Beach and stop at the Normandy American Cemetery & Visitor Center. See the stars and stripes raised over the graves of the valiant soldiers who gave their lives in the Battle of Normandy. Then, walk through Pointe du Hoc Ranger Memorial and see where the 2nd Ranger Battalion scaled 100-foot cliffs on D-Day to seize the fortified enemy position. Next, make your way to Sainte Mère Eglise, the heart of the American Airborne operations on D-Day, and visit its parachute-shaped Airborne Museum. (B)

## Day 6: Caen - Peace Memorial - Saint-Malo

Your exploration of the D-Day Landing Sites continues today with a visit to Juno Beach and to Arromanche-les-Bain, to see the remains of the





artificial Mulberry port built by the Allies to resupply their lines during the liberation of France. Conclude the morning with a visit to the Caen Memorial Peace Museum, built to commemorate those who died in the epic Battle of Normandy in 1944. Then it's off to Saint-Malo, Brittany's famous coastal village. Immerse yourself in the beautiful beaches, striking blue water, and views of the fortified Old Town. Tonight, enjoy a freshly prepared local dinner. (B, D)

## Day 7: Saint-Malo - Le Mont St. Michel - Saint-Malo

Travel to Le Mont St. Michel (UNESCO), the "Wonder of the West." Resting on the border between Normandy and Brittany, this world-famous pilgrimage site sits on the edge of the sea and becomes an island at high tide. Take in the breathtaking views as you stroll through the old village at the base of the Abbey before exploring one of the most beautiful monastic complexes in France, dating back to the 11th century. Return to Saint-Malo and enjoy time to relax or explore independently. (B)

# Day 8: Saint-Malo - Chinon - Loire

Journey south to the Loire Valley, a UNESCO site brimming with châteaux and parks. Arrive in the medieval village of Chinon. Joan of Arc first met young Charles VII here and

shared her vision that he would defeat the English during the Hundred Years' War, Visit the market, abundant with fresh produce, flowers and local products, and take time to enjoy lunch along the banks of the Vienne River. Next, tour a local winery and discover some of the Loire Valley's best wines. This afternoon, feel like royalty when you arrive at your 15th-century castle accommodations at the Château de Beauvois. Delve into the history of this site frequented by King Louis XIII as you enjoy some leisure time to explore the grounds or relax on the château's charming terrace. This evening, delight in gourmet French cuisine in the opulent dining room of your château. (B, D)

## Day 9: Loire Valley - Amboise -**Loire Valley**

Explore the spectacular Château de Chenonceau at your own pace. Perched along the banks of the Cher River, this romantic castle is a jewel of Renaissance architecture. Head to the picturesque centre of Amboise. Enjoy free time for exploring and getting to know the local culture. (B)

#### Day 10: Loire Valley - Paris

Travel the French countryside to France's capital, the City of Light - Paris. Pause for lunch at a modern bistro, before gliding under romantic bridges during a scenic cruise along the Seine River. Take in the city's most iconic landmarks such as Notre Dame Cathedral, the Conciergerie, and Île Saint-Louis peaking at you from the Banks of the Seine (UNESCO). As your day comes to a close, make the most of an evening at leisure in this incredibly walkable. world-famous city. Perhaps you will enjoy an optional dinner at the dynamic Paradis Latin for a champagne-flowing, can-can kicking, music-driven night at the cabaret. (B, L)

## Day 11: Paris 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Take in the most iconic sights of Paris on a panoramic city tour. With your local guide, see the Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Elysees, Notre Dame Cathedral, and Place de la Concorde -OR- step into the shoes of a local and navigate Le Métro on your way to the hilltop neighbourhood of Montmartre and its iconic Sacré-Cœur Basilica. Take advantage of a free afternoon to write your own story in romantic Paris. This evening, celebrate the conclusion of your French voyage during an exclusive dinner at the Eiffel Tower, featuring French cuisine and panoramic views of the City of Light. (B, D)

## Day 12: Paris - Tour Ends

Set out for home with many magnificent memories. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4849 SOLO Starting at \$6399

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 20, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

November 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Versailles (1-2 Nights)



## **Post-Night:** Paris (1-2 Nights)



## **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



#### Days 6-7: Hotel Oceania

See the rolling waves of the Saint Malo beach on the English Channel when you upgrade your room at the Hotel Oceania in Saint-Malo, France to a Deluxe Sea View room for a two-night stay

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

## NETHERLANDS, **BELGIUM & FRANCE**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$6349

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Amsterdam • Canal Cruise • Kinderdijk • Bruges - Reims - Route du Champagne -Paris - Parisian Retro Cars - Montmartre -The Louvre Museum - Seine River Cruise



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Ride through the "City of Light" in an open-roof retro car.
- Spend 2 nights in the storybook Belgian town of Bruges (UNESCO).
- Immerse yourself in France's countryside during an exploration of its Route du Champagne (UNESCO).



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 8 - Stroll through the vineyards for a visit to the eco-museum of Verzenay -OR- climb the 101 steps to the top of the museum's lighthouse for unencumbered views of the Champagne countryside.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- · Taste Dutch specialties on a food tour of Amsterdam's Jordaan district.
- Tour a traditional brewery in Bruges and sample some legendary Belgian
- Meet local cheese enthusiasts in Meaux and sample their famous Brie



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 Swissôtel, Amsterdam Days 5, 6 Hotel Aragon, Bruges Days 7, 8 Continental Hotel, Reims Days 9 - 11 La Maison Favart, Paris

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Dutch windmills, cosy streets, bubbling champagne, and the "City of Light" - experience the essence of 3 must-visit European countries.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

From iconic Dutch windmills and cozy Belgian streets to the world-renowned Champagne region and the "City of Light," experience the essence of 3 European countries. Connect with deeply rooted cultures as you make your way through the Netherlands, Belgium, and France.

## Day 2: Amsterdam, Netherlands - Tour **Begins**

Narrow canals, stone bridges, and bikebrimmed lanes - this is Amsterdam, the lively starting point of your journey. Check into your hotel, located in the heart of the city centre and your home for the next 3 nights. Get a taste of the local flavours and meet your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (D)

## Day 3: Amsterdam

See the city the way it's meant to be seen by canal. On your private boat, cruise under sloping bridges and pass by quintessential Dutch houses. Then, discover Amsterdam's rich culinary heritage on a locally-led food tour of the multicultural Jordaan district. During your walk, you will get to experience a historic proeflokaal (tasting room) and partake in a tasting of genever, local Dutch gin. As

the day draws to a close, meet with a local for a chat about the city's progressive and often controversial culture. The evening is yours. (B, L)

## Day 4: Amsterdam - Optional Excursion

Make the most of a free day in Amsterdam. You could visit the Van Gogh Museum and explore the Anne Frank House. Or opt to spend the day in Royal Delft. This picture-perfect town has changed little since the times of Johannes Vermeer, who captured its charm in the most iconic paintings of the Dutch Golden Age. Your guided tour concludes with a visit to the Royal Delft porcelain manufacture which has been producing the renowned hand-painted, blue motives since the 16th century. Try your hand at painting a tile before returning to Amsterdam for an evening at leisure. (B)

## Day 5: Amsterdam - Kinderdijk -**Bruges, Belgium**

Cross the Dutch countryside to Kinderdijk (UNESCO), where iconic Dutch windmills spin slowly over the marshy landscape. Experience the story of wind, water, and of the Dutch willpower that harnessed the elements during a guided tour of the Nederwaard Museum Mill built in 1738. This evening, step into a storybook when

you end your day in Bruges, settling in for the next 2 nights. (B, D)

### Day 6: Bruges

This morning, wander the cobblestone streets of Bruges while you get familiar with this cozy Belgian town during an orientation walk. Cruise through fairytale canals before connecting with local traditions – tasting Belgian chocolate and learning about the intricate craft of lace making. After an afternoon at leisure, conclude the day with a visit to a local brewery, where you embark on a tasting of Belgium's most quintessential beverage. (B)

## Day 7: Bruges - World War I Battlefields - Reims, France

Today, traverse the Flanders, a major battle theatre on the Western Front during the First World War between 1914-18. A local expert recounts the area's eventful history as you pause to see the stars and stripes raised over the graves of the valiant soldiers who gave their lives in the same battlefields that inspired John McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields." Early this evening, trade your waffles for wine as you enter Reims, set in the heart of France's illustrious Champagne region. Settle into your city-centric boutique hotel before dining your way through French cuisine with a 5-course tasting menu and glass of champagne. (B, D)

# Day 8: Reims - Champagne Winery - Reims ♥

Discover Reims, uncovering the city's Celtic roots and Gothic architecture during a guided walking tour. Step into the cathedral of Notre-Dame de Reims, gazing up at a sea of colorful stained glass. Cityscapes give way to vineyard

rows as you make your way along the Route du Champagne, learning about this world-famous artisan production during a tour and tasting at a nearby maison du champagne. Then immerse yourself in the countryside because it's your choice! Stroll through the vineyards for a visit the eco-museum of Verzenay -OR- climb the 101 steps to the top of the museum's lighthouse for unencumbered views over the rolling hills of the Champagne countryside. (B)

#### Day 9: Reims - Meaux - Paris

Make your way to the French capital this morning. Pause in Meaux, the capital of brie cheese - one of France's famous soft cheeses. Learn about the artisanal production methods and aging process from a local cheese enthusiast before sampling some of this delectable product for yourself. This afternoon say bonjour to Paris, a hub of innovative cuisine and artistic culture, and your home for the next 3 nights. Explore your new neighbourhood until the sun fades and the "City of Light" debuts its sparkling grandeur. Then, spin the wheels of time from the backseat of a retro car, cruising through the chic boulevards to the Montmartre neighbourhood, where hip bohemia meets heaven-seeking basilicas. (B, L)

# Day 10: Paris - Optional Excursion

This morning, the ethereal glass pyramid at the Louvre's entrance serves as your gateway into another realm, where ancient sculptures lead to 19th-century canvases. In company of an expert guide-lecturer, marvel at masterpieces such as the Venus of

## ondon Day 13: London

Navigate the city with a local expert. Using your included Oyster card, hop on the famous underground. Take a walking tour along the River Thames, where you can see St Paul's Cathedral, the Tate Modern Art Gallery and Shakespeare's Globe. End at Borough market, London's premier Food Market, dating back over 1000 years. You will love independently strolling the small, speciality produce stalls and sumptuous street food traders. (B)

#### Day 14: London

See London your way today! Be sure to take advantage of your included ticket to the Tower of London to peek into the city's storied past and uncover the secrets of this 11th-century fortress. (B)

#### Day 15: London - Tour Ends

Wish London goodbye as your visit ends today. (B)





#### **ALSO AVAILABLE**



Netherlands, Belgium & France featuring Keukenhof Gardens

Peruse the world's largest flower garden.

\* DATES AVAILABLE: MARCH - APRIL 2024

Milo and Delacroix's Liberty Leading the People before making your way to Da Vinci's renowned *Mona Lisa*. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore Paris as you please. Perhaps you'll take a leisurely stroll through the Tuileries Garden or elegant Place Vendôme with its glittering vitrines displaying jewelry and high-fashion designs. This evening, experience Paris' nightlife during an optional dinner at the dynamic Paradis Latin cabaret show, featuring champagne, can-can dancers, and endless excitement. (B)

## **Day 11: Paris - Optional Excursion**

Be romanced by Paris – today is yours for the taking. Perhaps you'll visit the Orsay Museum, a former railway station that now houses the world's best impressionist art. Or channel your inner royal on an optional excursion to the magnificent Royal Palace of Versailles. Relive history as you wind your way through sprawling green gardens and palace halls with a local guide. From the prominent Hall of Mirrors to the opulent bedchamber of the queen, take in the palace's most famous sights before returning to Paris. Tonight, enjoy a romantic dinner cruise along the Seine River. Set against Paris' glittering skyline, dine on French specialties while peering up at the Eiffel Tower and gently gliding under romantic bridges. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Paris - Tour Ends

Say au revoir to Europe as you depart for home. (B)

## Optional 3 Night London Post-Tour Extension Starting at \$1300 pp



Day 12: Paris - London, England
Travel by train under the English Channel as
you head to London, the esteemed capital
of the United Kingdom. Often described as a
world within a city, London is a sophisticated
metropolis with a timeless style all its own.

## **PEAKS OF EUROPE:** THE ALPS TO THE DOLOMITES

13 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$6299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Chamonix • Annecy • Mont Blanc • GoldenPass Train • Gstaad • Jungfrau Lucerne - Alpine Walks & Nature Experiences • Innsbruck • Dolomites • Cortina • Prosecco Region • Venetian Villa Stay



## **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Inhale fresh alpine air with 3 unique mountaintop experiences.
- · Discover the local flora and fauna during a nature walk with a local alpinist.
- Meet the pups of Barryland, a foundation that protects the heritage of Switzerland's national dog - the St. Bernard.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

• Day 4 - Ascend the Aiguille du Midi via cable car -OR- take in the views aboard the Tramway du Mont Blanc.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 11 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Toast to the end of your scenic journey during a farewell dinner in a Venetian villa.
- Taste the fruits of Italy's Prosecco region, with a vineyard visit and tasting
- Savour the flavours of Switzerland during a raclette brunch at a dairy farm.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 La Folie Douce Hotel, Chamonix

Golf Hotel Le Hauts de Day 5 Gstaad, Gstaad

Sunstar Alpine Hotel, Days 6, 7 Grindelwald

Seelos Hotel NIKO, Seefeld Days 8, 9

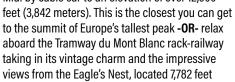
Days 10, 11 Hotel Post Bruneck, Brunico Day 12

Hotel Villa Condulmer, Mogliano Veneto, Venice or Hotel Relais Monaco,

Treviso

Mont Blanc - the birthplace of mountaineering because it's your choice! Ascend the Aiguille du





## Day 5: Chamonix - Gstaad, Switzerland

Bid Chamonix and France adieu and set out for Switzerland, During today's Impact Moment, get to know the pups of Barryland, a local foundation that promotes and protects the heritage of the St. Bernard, the official dog of Switzerland. An afternoon train ride on the GoldenPass whisks you through the pastoral Swiss landscape en route to Gtsaad. Check in to your hotel before relaxing over dinner. (B, D)

### Day 6: Gstaad - Grindelwald

Travel through the alpine meadows of the Bernese Oberland, an area renowned for its cheese production. Visit an artisanal creamery producing raclette cheese and taste the local produce during brunch on the farm. Continue on to Trümmelbach, a complex of waterfalls located inside a cavern in the Lauterbrunnen Valley. This afternoon, head on to Grindelwald, nestled at the base of legendary



## Embark on an invigorating journey through Europe's towering Alps and charming towns.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Postcard-perfect vistas and storybook villages. Rolling hills and the crisp scent of fresh mountain air. There is nothing in this world quite like the Alps. You're on your way to explore Europe's iconic peaks and valleys on a journey through France, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria and Italy.

## Day 2: Chamonix, France - Tour Begins

Say bonjour to Chamonix - the perennial skihub nestled at the foot of Mont Blanc. Take the afternoon to wander the pedestrian-friendly streets of this quaint town steeped in hundreds of years of history. Tonight, join with new friends and toast to the beginning of your alpine adventure. (D)

#### Day 3: Chamonix - Annecy - Chamonix

Journey to one of France's most picturesque cities, Annecy - often called the "Venice of the Alps" due to its storybook charm. Join a local guide on a walking tour through an old medieval town featuring canals, crisscrossing bridges, and pastelcoloured houses. Take advantage of some free time to explore the town's vibrant outdoor market. This afternoon, we return to Chamonix where the rest of the evening is yours to enjoy at leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: Chamonix 😯

Today, decide how to explore the legendary





Mount Eiger. Settle in for a 2-night stay in this charming alpine village. (B, L)

## Day 7: Grindelwald - Jungfraujoch - Grindelwald

A short cogwheel train ride brings you to Jungfraujoch (UNESCO), known as the "Top of Europe." Take your time to explore this eternal winter wonderland with impressive views of the imposing triple peaks of Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau. Wander the frosty halls of the Ice Palace to see works of icy art carved by local artists

or stand next to the Swiss flag to capture your time above it all. Tonight is yours to do as you please. (B)

## Day 8: Grindelwald - Lucerne -Seefeld, Austria

Before departing Switzerland, spend some time to learn for yourself why the lakeside city of Lucerne is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Switzerland. Make your way through Liechtenstein, the only country to lie entirely within the Alps on your way to Austria. This evening is yours to relax and to get to know your home in Seefeld for the next 2 nights. (B, D)

### Day 9: Seefeld

This morning explore the idyllic town of Seefeld in a horse-drawn carriage, pausing to take in the unspoiled beauty of the Tyrolean mountains and forests. This afternoon cross into Germany on an optional tour of Oberammergau, the worldrenowned home of the Passion Play. This Bavarian village of traditionally painted houses comes together every 10 years to perform a marathon 10-hour folk theatre rendition of the Passion in thanksgiving for escaping the plague of 1633. After visiting the theatre site and town, indulge in homemade Tyrolean cuisine at a local restaurant before returning to Seefeld. (B)

## Day 10: Seefeld - Innsbruck -**Brunico, Italy**

Take in the scenery of the spectacular Bavarian Alps en route to enchanting Innsbruck. Walk the charming streets, discover the historic old town, and take in landmarks such as the Golden Roof. Depart Austria for Italy to witness the unique jagged limestone peaks of the Dolomites. Arrive in Brunico, a historic town dating back to the 1200s, and your home for the next two nights. (B, D)

## Optional 2 Night Venice **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$910 pp



## Day 13: Mogliano Veneto - Venice

Continue your exploration of Italy with a 2-night stay in Venice, the "Queen of the Adriatic." After a motorboat transfer, meet your local guide for a walking tour of this incredible city, including the Bridge of Sighs, the Clock Tower, and St. Mark's

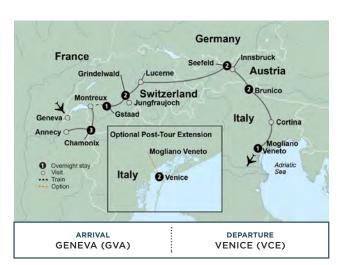
Square. You'll also learn about the Venetian art of glassblowing during an interactive demonstration.

#### Day 14: Venice

Enjoy a day to explore Venice at your leisure. From your centrally located hotel, the city is yours to uncover. Meander amongst the historic streets, taking in the city's unique architecture and gondola-laden canals. You may choose to experience the local cuisine at a typical bacaro, a small wine bar where locals stop for a glass of wine - traditionally called ombra - and a quick bite of local tapas - that Venetians call cicchetti. Or take a local public waterbus ride to the nearby island of San Giorgio which offers spectacular views of St. Mark's Square and the Doge's Palace. (B)

#### Day 15: Venice - Tour Ends

Say arrivederci to Italy as your tour comes to a close. (B)





### Day 11: Brunico - Dolomites - Brunico

Journey into the Dolomites (UNESCO) mountain range and discover natural beauty and local traditions. During a walk in the Val Badia valley, learn about the centuries old Ladin culture. Stop at a nearby maso - an alpine farm - for a taste of local Landin fare. After lunch, a cable car ride brings you to Rifugio Lagazuoi for a feast of stunning views of the Dolomites. The evening is yours to explore Brunico as you wish. (B, L)

## Day 12: Brunico - Cortina - Mogliano Veneto

Discover the charm of Cortina, a ski town encircled by the scenic backdrop of sky-skimming Dolomite peaks. The rolling hills of Italy's Prosecco region bring you to a local vineyard where you'll taste the region's sparkling specialty. This evening, explore the frescoed halls and grounds of your historic countryside villa before you gather for dinner and toast to new friends, fond memories, and unforgettable scenery. (B, L, D)

#### Day 13: Mogliano Veneto - Tour Ends

Your alpine adventure comes to a close today. (B)



## **DISCOVER** SWITZERLAND, **AUSTRIA & BAVARIA**

10 DAYS · 13 MEALS STARTING AT \$3799

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Bern - Alphorn Maker - Yodeling Demonstration • Fondue Lunch • Lucerne - Austrian Alps - Innsbruck -Salzburg • Mirabell Gardens • St. Peter's Restaurant • Bavaria • Linderhof Palace • Tyrolean Folklore Show



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Witness the creation of Alpine music during an alphorn and yodeling demonstration.
- Relax and unwind with two leisurely 4-night stays.
- Experience a Tyrolean Folklore show in İnnsbruck.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - Join a local guide as you discover Innsbruck's history, culture and popular attractions -OR- you may embark on a tour focusing on Innsbruck's unique architectural structures including its famous ski



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 8 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 3 Dinners (D)

- Savour lunch at the 1,200-year-old St. Peter's Restaurant, Austria's oldest.
- Experience a fondue lunch in a picturesque alpine town.
- Dine on Tyrolean cuisine at a local restaurant.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 5 Hotel Bern, Bern or Hotel Ambassador, Bern, Bern

Days 6 - 9 Hotel Innsbruck, Innsbruck

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Journey through spectacular mountain scenery and picturesque cities as you experience three Alpine countries.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Discover spectacular Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria on a tour featuring 4-night stays in two cities.

#### Day 2: Bern, Switzerland - Tour Begins

Your journey begins in Bern, the capital of Switzerland. This UNESCO World Heritage site rests in the Swiss countryside. The cobbled Old Town section is so well preserved that residents who lived here 500 years ago would still find it familiar today. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner featuring local cuisine. (D)

### Day 3: Bern

Explore delightful Bern on a panoramic sightseeing tour, led by a local guide, featuring the Bundeshaus (the Swiss Parliament), the famous Bear Pit, the Rose Gardens and the gothic cathedral which dominates Old Town's skyline. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore independently. Perhaps you'll take a ride in the red carriages of the Gurtenbahn funicular railway, climbing Gurten Mountain to an altitude of 2,574 feet (858 meters) for impressive views of Bern, the surrounding towns and mountains. (B)

#### Day 4: Bern - Habkern - Bern

Today, depart Bern and head to the small mountain village outside of Interlaken - Habkern, Boasting

classic postcard imagery of Switzerland, enjoy a tour with a local workshop owner learning how the alphorn is made, and even entertain your musical side by playing one. After, explore the world of vodeling through a professional demonstration. Perhaps you're a natural and never knew. Finish your afternoon with a fondue lunch at a local restaurant before heading back to Bern. Enjoy the rest of your afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

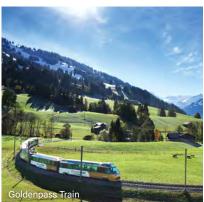
## Day 5: Bern - Lucerne - Bern

Set out for Lucerne, the "Swiss Paradise on the Lake." Enjoy a leisurely paced Altstadt (Old Town) walking tour, exploring the hidden treasures of this 800-year-old city such as the covered Chapel Bridge (1333); the famous Water Tower, which has served as a prison, watchtower and treasury; the Renaissance-style Town Hall; the baroque Jesuit Church: and the Lion Monument, carved from natural rock to commemorate the heroic Swiss Guard. Tonight, dine at one of Bern's great restaurants. (B, D)

## Day 6: Bern - Lichtenstein - Innsbruck, Austria 😯

En route to Innsbruck, make your way through Liechtenstein, the smallest German-speaking country in the world and the only country to lie entirely within the Alps. Upon arrival in





Innsbruck, it's your choice! Select one of two leisurely walking tours: join a local guide as you discover the city's history, culture and popular attractions including Maria-Theresien-Strasse, the Hofburg and the "Golden Roof" -OR- you may embark on a tour focusing on Innsbruck's unique architectural structures including its famous ski jump. (B)

#### Day 7: Innsbruck - Salzburg -Innsbruck

Travel through the picturesque Austrian countryside to Salzburg. Enjoy a walking tour featuring Mirabell Gardens (seen in The Sound of Music), the quaint Getreidegasse (birthplace of Mozart), and many other highlights of this beautiful city. Complete your afternoon with a delightful lunch at the 1,200-year-old St. Peter's Restaurant, the oldest in Austria and still owned by the monks. (B, L)

#### Day 8: Innsbruck

Savour a free day in this beautiful city. You may stroll through Old Town and shop at many of the city's outstanding stores or you may just relax and breathe in the mountain air while enjoying a beverage in one of the many cafés that dot this charming city. Later, experience the rich musical tradition of mountainous Austria during a Tyrolean folklore show hosted by a well-known local musical family. (B)

## Day 9: Innsbruck - Bavaria, **Germany - Innsbruck**

Tour Linderhof Palace, the only palace - out of three - that King Ludwig II lived to see completed. Walk the extraordinary halls that were modeled after Versailles with an expert guide and bask in the luxury of past royals. After, make your way to the Ettal Abbey - a Benedictine monastery founded in 1330 by Louis IV. Here, you'll tour the Basilica followed by a brewery tour complete with tastings. Next, return to Innsbruck. Tonight, you are treated to a farewell dinner at a traditional Tyrolean restaurant. (B, D)

Day 10: Innsbruck - Tour Ends Your tour comes to an end in Innsbruck. (B)





#### Day 10: Innsbruck - Vienna

Transfer to Vienna, the largest city in Austria. As the country's capital, Vienna is home to age-old traditions and well-known heritage. It was the former center of the Habsburg Empire, as well as the home for historical figures such as Freud, Mozart, Beethoven, and Strauss.

#### Day 11: Vienna

Start your morning on a city tour with a local guide. You'll make your way through the city like the locals do - on public transportation - and stop to visit Vienna's most popular sights. Visit the 12th-century St. Stephen's Cathedral, standing at nearly 450-feet tall and featuring an eye-catching mosaic roof. Enjoy time in the afternoon to explore on your own. Gather in the evening for a dinner and classical music concert, highlighting the works of Austrian-born Mozart and Strauss. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Vienna

The day is yours. With your free time, consider visiting the legendary Schönbrunn Palace, former residence of the Habsburgs and containing more than 1,000 rooms. Or maybe you'll spend the day exploring the museum at Belvedere Palace, home to Gustav Klimt's famous painting The Kiss. Or you could even grab a slice of Sachertorte in a Viennese café. No matter how you spend your day, soak in the Austrian culture and experience the best of this capital city. (B)

## Day 13: Vienna - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3799 SOLO Starting at \$4349

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on August 7, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 **April - May 2025** (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ALSO AVAILABLE



Discover Switzerland, Austria & Bavaria featuring Oktoberfest Toast to tradition at Munich's Oktoberfest. dating back to the 1800s.

★ DATES AVAILABLE: SEPTEMBER 2024



66 We had wonderfully power-packed day trips, with great things to see and do! Every day was equally as great as the previous! ">>

## **SWITZERLAND: HIDDEN TRAILS & MAJESTIC PEAKS**

12 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$6799

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Swiss Travel Pass • Neuchâtel • Walking Tour of Neuchâtel's Historic Quarter • Museum of Vine and Wine • Bern • Zermatt • Lake Geneva • Vevev • Lavaux Terraced Vineyards • Wine Tastings • Château de Chillon • Lucerne • Mount Rigi



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Learn about Neuchâtel's historic quarter and the treasures of the Belle Époque period.
- · Visit the 13th-century Château de Boudry, tour the Museum of Vine and Wine, and enjoy a tasting.
- Equipped with a Swiss Travel Pass, travel entirely by train.



## **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - In Zermatt, ascend more than 10,000 feet on Europe's highest mountain railway - the Gornergrat. Perhaps you'll even decide to hike a portion of the way down. -OR- Visit Matterhorn Glacier Paradise by summit lift and discover towering peaks and glaciers as far as the eye can see.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- · Savour lunch at a family-owned restaurant followed by a wine tasting at a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Dine at Mount Rigi during an exclusive dinner with your fellow travellers.
- · Explore the sweetest parts of Bern on a historic chocolate tour.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 Best Western Premier Hotel Beaulac, Neuchatel Hotel Alex, Zermatt Davs 5. 6

Days 7 - 9 Astra Hotel, Vevey Days 10, 11 Hotel Astoria, Lucerne

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From the soaring Alps to the picturesque Swiss Riviera - set your sights on an active journey across Switzerland by train.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to a journey through Germany, Austria, France, and Italy - this tour checks off so many bucket list moments. Your first stop: Switzerland. Explore this country entirely by train, getting the most panoramic view of the Alps and the villages of the Swiss

# Day 2: Neuchâtel, Switzerland - Tour

Willkkommen! Bienvenue! Climb aboard a Swiss Rail train to Neuchâtel. This medieval waterfront city stands out with its Gothic landmarks and sandstone grandeur. With Lake Neuchâtel as your backdrop, meet your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

#### Day 3: Neuchâtel - Boudry - Neuchâtel

Have you heard of the Belle Époque period? Learn all about it on a walking tour of Neuchâtel's historic quarter. Your day continues at Château de Boudry. This 13th-century castle houses the Museum of Vine and Wine where an expert insider guides you as you wander its galleries. The best part: before you leave, get a taste of the local favourites. (B)

#### Day 4: Neuchâtel - Murten - Neuchâtel

Take off today for the walled town of Murten, the language border between French and German. With free time to explore this medieval town, walk the rampart walls to take in views of the lake below. If you prefer, a full day at leisure in Neuchâtel is also an option. (B)

#### Day 5: Neuchâtel - Bern - Zermatt

All aboard! We're travelling by train from Neuchâtel to the Swiss capital city of Bern. Take on the day by exploring the sweetest parts of Bern alongside your expert guide. Retrace and taste the history of chocolate makers in Bern's old town centre. Complete your day by settling into the resort village of Zermatt, nestled against the backdrop of the Matterhorn. (B, D)

## Day 6: Zermatt 😯

Rise and shine and begin your morning getting familiar with Zermatt alongside your Tour Manager. Then, it's your choice! Ascend more than 10,000 feet on Europe's highest mountain railway - the Gornergrat. Maybe you'll even decide to hike a portion of the way down -ORvisit the Matterhorn Glacier Paradise by summit lift and discover towering peaks and glaciers as







ALucerne Switzerland DEPARTURE ARRIVAL ZURICH (ZRH) ZURICH (ZRH)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6799 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date. SOLO Starting at \$8349 Prices based on August 16, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars. **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** 

April - May 2024 June - September 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) April - May 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

far as the eye can see. Enjoy the afternoon and evening at leisure. (B)

#### Day 7: Zermatt - Vevey

Head to the north shore of Lake Geneva to Vevey, known as one of the "Pearls of the Swiss Riviera," with awe-inspiring views of the Alps. Take in a breath of fresh mountain air on a walking tour before exploring nature independently during an afternoon at leisure. (B)

## Day 8: Vevey - Lavaux - Vevey

A relaxing morning in Vevey before travelling to the terraced vineyards of Lavaux is a perfect start to the day. Enjoy a local lunch at a family-owned restaurant before visiting with our friends, Jacques and Aurelia, for a wine tasting. Wander the Lavaux vineyards (UNESCO) on foot before enjoying a second round of tastings from the region's finest varieties. (B, L)

#### Day 9: Vevey

Today, head to Montreux with your Tour Manager and visit the legendary Château de Chillon for a guided tour. This princely residence faces the lake and portrays the image of an imposing fortress from the mountains. Enjoy free time taking in Montreux's postcard landscapes and lively promenade. If you're looking to see more with your Swiss Travel Pass, maybe

an afternoon discovering the Olympic Museum is more your style. Tonight, join your travel companions for dinner and conversation. (B, D)

#### Day 10: Vevey - Lucerne

Board the train to Lucerne to find out why this destination is called the "Swiss Paradise on the Lake," Make your way through Altstadt (Old Town) with your Tour Manager, uncovering the town's 800-yearold secrets and history. Stroll along the famous covered Chapel Bridge, built in the early 14th century and stretching its way across the River Reuss. The remainder of the day is yours to explore however you'd like. (B)

### Day 11: Lucerne

Enjoy the first half of your day at leisure to explore Lucerne on your own. Depart for Rigi — also known as Queen of the Mountains — on an afternoon cruise through Lake Lucerne. All aboard the cogwheel train for a journey from Vitznau to Rigi Klum. On your ascent, a local guide will teach you why Rigi is one of the most sustainable mountains in Switzerland during an Impact Moment. End the day with smiles and say "cheese" for a group photo at the scenic overlook before heading to your private farewell dinner on Mount Rigi. (B, D)

## **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**

Post-Night: Lucerne (1-2 NIGHTS)



## Day 12: Lucerne - Tour Ends

Depart for home, dreaming of snowy Alps and captivating cultures. (B)



## **ALPINE LAKES** & SCENIC **TRAINS**

11 DAYS · 13 MEALS STARTING AT \$5249

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Zurich • Glacier Express Train • Zermatt • Lake Maggiore - Borromeo Palace -Island Dinner • Bernina Express Train • St. Moritz • Lucerne • Mount Pilatus



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Cruise through Lago Maggiore and visit one of the beautiful Borromean Islands.
- Stroll the lakeside boulevards of St. Moritz.
- Journey through the Bernina Pass on one of the world's most scenic railways.



## IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 7 - In Verbania, wander through the enchanted gardens of Villa Taranto. Among the dreamy landscapes and captivating reflections are mysterious flowers from the farthest corners of the world -OR- Visit Pallanza and tour the Troubetzkoy statuary collection housed in the town's museum, Museo del Paesaggio.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

## 9 Breakfasts (B) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Sit down for dinner on the Isola dei Pescatori in Lago Maggiore.
- Discover a sweeter side of Zurich on a locally guided history and chocolate
- Sample Italian specialties at a family owned shop.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Hotel Krone Unterstrass or Days 2 Motel One, Zurich

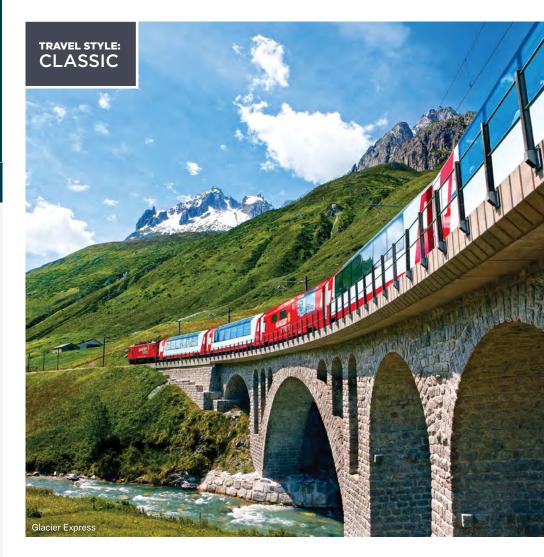
Days 3, 4 Hotel Alex, Zermatt Days 5-7 Zacchera Hotels, Lake

Maggiore **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** 

See next page for details. Hotel Steffani, St. Moritz

Day 8 Day 9, 10 Hotel Astoria or Radisson Blu Hotel, Lucerne

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Climb aboard legendary Alpine railways and set out on a journey across the captivating Alpine landscapes of Switzerland and Italy.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Breathtaking Alpine vistas await as you travel through Switzerland and Italy. Experience dramatic views aboard railways and lake cruises while enjoying cultural experiences in charming villages.

## Day 2: Zurich, Switzerland - Tour Begins

Welcome to Switzerland's largest city - Zurich. Enjoy some free time exploring its charming Old Town or one of its many museums on your own. This evening, get to know your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner. (B)

#### Day 3: Zurich - Andermatt - Zermatt

Say "good morning" to Zurich with a walking tour of the city. A local guide will teach you the city's history and make a few sweet stops along the way. Learn the history behind the chocolate shops and taste some delicacies for yourself. Treat your taste buds to even more flavours of Zurich with free time for lunch on your own. After that, it's all aboard! You're off to Andermatt to experience the world-renowned Glacier Express train. Natural backdrops of the Swiss Alps, thick

forests, gurgling streams, and deep valleys bring this mountain dream to life. Complete your day in the unique, car-less village of Zermatt. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Zermatt

Start your morning with a Tour Manager-led walk to get familiar with the quaint mountain village of Zermatt. With free time for the rest of the day, let your curiosity get the best of you while uncovering history in the Matterhorn Museum. Perhaps your adventurous side will bring you on the Gornergrat Railway to experience elevated views of the Matterhorn.

## Day 5: Zermatt - Lake Maggiore, Italy

Take on the day as you depart Zermatt and head towards Italy. Enjoy scenic mountain views on a drive through the Simplon Pass, used for centuries as a main trading route between northern Italy and Switzerland. Learn how Napoleon used the Simplon Pass to cross the Alps into Italy and gain control of Milan and Venice. Continue to a tranguil





resort area with crystal clear waters set against the backdrop of the Alps, known as Lake Maggiore. Take time this afternoon to stroll the cobbled streets of Stresa. Longfavoured by European aristocracy because of its blend of elegance, Stresa has inspired artists and writers since the late 1800s. Step inside a local wine shop where the family teaches you all about some of Italy's local specialties and invites you to try some. As the day draws to a close, settle in for a 3-night stay at your hotel. (B)

#### Day 6: Lake Maggiore

The entire day is yours. You might want to soak up the sun along the waterfront, relax in an outdoor café, or head out on the waves by boat. Perhaps you'll take an optional tour to picture-perfect Lake Orta - a hidden gem surrounded by romantic villages and filled with quaint islands. As the evening approaches, board a private boat for a cruise to Isola dei Pescatori. On the island, toast to your Italian experiences during dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Lake Maggiore 😯

Today, explore the twin towns of Verbania and Pallanza where it's your choice! In Verbania, wander through the enchanted

gardens of Villa Taranto. Among the dreamy landscapes and captivating reflections are mysterious flowers from the farthest corners of the world -ORvisit Pallanza and tour the Troubetzkov statuary collection housed in the town's museum, Museo del Paesaggio. This afternoon, set sail to Isola Bella - known as the "beautiful island." With an expert guide beside you, journey into the Borromeo Palace – a lakeside Baroque beauty adorned with an exotic garden.

#### Day 8: Lake Maggiore - St. Moritz, **Switzerland**

Experience sweeping coastal views on your drive along the picturesque shores of Lake Como during your full morning bus transfer to Tirano. Spend the afternoon travelling along one of the world's most scenic railways. Take a journey through the Bernina Express en route to St. Moritz, Switzerland. Witness the striking landscapes of the Italian and Swiss Alps throughout your voyage including the famed Morteratsch Glacier. Make your final stop in St. Moritz and enjoy the evening at leisure to relax or stroll the lakeside boulevard. (B)

#### Day 9: St. Moritz - Lucerne

Slow and steady wins the race today. Enjoy a leisurely start in St. Moritz before heading to Lucerne, the "Swiss Paradise on the Lake." Follow the ancient pathways of the city on a walking tour through an Altstadt (Old Town), passing through the covered 14th-century Chapel Bridge. Along the way, see the famous Water Tower that once served as a prison. Pause at the renowned Lion Monument, carved from sandstone to commemorate heroic soldiers. The evening is yours to relax or explore. (B)

#### Day 10: Lucerne

Today, enjoy the splendour of pure nature while gliding over a clear landscape in panoramic gondolas and spectacular cable cars. Ascend Pilatus on a unique excursion along the steepest railway in the world. From the top, soak in the magnificent Alpine views from 7,000 ft. above sea level. Enjoy leisure time at the summit, where you can stroll the walkway for new vantage points. Venture back down the mountain by panoramic gondola for another bird's eye view. Gather tonight for a farewell dinner featuring Swiss specialties. (B, D)

## Day 11: Lucerne - Tour Ends

Your scenic journey comes to an end today in Lago Maggiore. (B)



DOUBLE Starting at \$5249 SOLO Starting at \$6549

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on October 7, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

April - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 April - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Zurich (1-2 Nights)







## **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 5-7: Zaccera Hotels

During your stay at the Zacchera Hotels, you may choose to enjoy views of Lago Maggiore by upgrading your accommodations to a lake view room.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

## **EXPLORING** THE ALPINE **COUNTRIES**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$4599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Vienna - Schönbrunn Palace - Classical Concert • Danube Cruise • Salzburg • Munich • Oberammergau • Linderhof Palace • Black Forest • Freiburg • Lucerne



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Cruise along the legendary Danube River.
- Eniov a performance by opera singers and ballet dancers set to the music of Strauss, Mozart, and more,
- · Visit a woodcarving studio in the quaint village of Oberammergau.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- Day 5 Discover Salzburg on a leisurely paced walking tour of the Old Town -OR- feel like you've joined the Von Trapp family on a city tour featuring iconic film locations from The Sound of Music.
- Day 6 Take a panoramic tour of Munich to see the National Theatre of Bavaria and much more -OR- visit the lavish Treasury of the Munich Residence.



## **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Dinners (D)

- · Savour a dinner of local Swiss specialties in Lucerne.
- · Dine on Black Forest Cake in the region it originated from.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Intercontinental Hotel Days 2, 3

Wien, or Grand Hotel Wien, Vienna

Days 4, 5 Arcotel Castellani, Salzburg

Davs 6, 7 Hotel Alte Post, Oberammergau

Hotel Hofgut Sternen, Davs 8. 9 Titisee

Days 10, 11 Radisson Blu Hotel, Lucerne

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Discover storybook castles and opulent palaces amidst stunning Alpine vistas in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

From regal Austrian palaces to handcrafted German clocks and snowcapped Swiss Alps, set out to experience three Alpine cultures set amid postcard-worthy landscapes.

## Day 2: Vienna, Austria - Tour Begins

Welcome to Vienna, Austria's stately capital city. Built by the Habsburg Empire and amplified by classical composers, Vienna exudes an old-world charm that can be found in its cobblestone streets and elegant architecture. This evening, meet your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner in the city. (D)

#### Day 3: Vienna

Come to know Vienna this morning during a locally guided tour that showcases its architectural marvels. Visit the 17th-century Schönbrunn Palace, containing more than 1,440 rooms, and see the impressive St. Stephen's Cathedral. The afternoon is yours. Enjoy free time to explore the avenues of Vienna or perhaps visit one of its many museums. In the evening, enjoy a performance by opera singers and ballet dancers set to the music of Strauss, Mozart, and more. (B)

## Day 4: Vienna - Salzburg

Journey through the countryside before taking a cruise along the Danube, one of Europe's most renowned waterways. Continue to Salzburg, the "City of Music," and find lush gardens and oldworld charm. Dine on Austrian cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 5: Salzburg 😯

Choose how you spend your morning because it's your choice! Discover Salzburg on a leisurely paced walking tour of the Old Town -OR- feel like you've joined the Von Trapp family on a city tour featuring iconic film locations from The Sound of Music. No matter how you choose to spend the morning, enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore the beloved town on your own. (B)

### Day 6: Salzburg - Munich -Oberammergau, Germany 😯

Look out upon the Bavarian Alps en route to the most popular Bayaria city, Munich, Upon arrival, it's your choice! Take a panoramic tour of Munich, highlighting the National Theater of Bayaria and much more -OR- visit the lavish







End your day trying the region's famous black forest cake with the tree-studded mountains as your backdrop. (B, D)

### Day 9: Black Forest - Freiburg -**Black Forest**

This morning, hop on the train and journey to Freiburg, a vibrant city in southwest Germany's Black Forest region. With a local guide by your side, explore Freiburg, a city with a rich medieval flare including its Gothic cathedral at the centre of town and Bächle -- narrow channels with flowing water alongside the roads that once acted as a water supply for the town. Before returning to your hotel, stop at Lake Titisee and enjoy a short boat ride to take in the Black Forest scenery from a different perspective. (B, D)

### Day 10: Black Forest - Zurich, **Switzerland - Lucerne**

Enjoy a scenic drive through the Black Forest region before arriving to Zurich, Switzerland's luxurious cultural hotspot, also known as a global leader in banking and finance. Join a local guide for a tour of the city on foot, and then enjoy some free time to have lunch on your own in Zurich, After, head to Lucerne, the "Swiss Paradise on the Lake." Upon arrival, set



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4599 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date. SOLO Starting at \$5649 Prices based on March 27, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars. **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** 

April - May 2024 June - October 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) March - May 2025

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

Vienna (1-2 Nights)

**Pre-Night:** 

ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Post-Night: Lucerne (1-2 Nights)

(featured itinerary)



out on a scenic walking tour of the city, including a stroll through its romantic Old Town. (B)

### Day 11: Lucerne

The day is yours to relax or independently explore the best of Lucerne. Perhaps you will embark on an optional excursion to Mount Pilatus, ascending the world's steepest railway on a panoramic gondola to the summit. Tonight, come together with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner featuring local specialties and toast the end of a wonderful trip. (B, D)

### Day 12: Lucerne - Tour Ends

Wish the Alps goodbye as your tour comes to a close today. (B)

66 We had a small group and really enjoyed the friendships with all of them. Loved doing the train up the mountain and coming down, and touring Lucerne. 99

- Thelma R. 

Treasury of the Munich Residence. Both choices end with a viewing of the Rathaus - Glockenspiel chiming at Marienplatz. Continue on to Oberammergau, renowned

for its 380-year tradition of producing a Passion Play every 10 years, and your home for the next two nights. (B, D) Day 7: Oberammergau - Ettal -Oberammergau

Tour Linderhof Palace, the only palace -

out of three - that King Ludwig II lived to see completed. Walk the extraordinary halls that were modeled after Versailles with an expert guide and bask in the luxury of past royals. Later, fairytales become reality during a picture stop of Bavaria's most famous castle, King Ludwig's third palace, Neuschwanstein. Regarded as the most photographed castle in Germany it was the inspiration for the castle in Sleeping Beauty. On your way back to Oberammergau, stop by a woodcarving studio and learn all about

### Day 8: Oberammergau - Black **Forest**

this intricate craft and local tradition. (B)

You're off to the heart of the Black Forest, a region famous for artisans who create authentic cuckoo clocks and Hummels.

# **BEST OF ITALY**

12 DAYS · 17 MEALS STARTING AT \$4599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Venice - Gondola Ride - Classical Music Concert • Po River Delta Wetlands • Republic of San Marino • Impact Moment: Culinary Arts & Agriculture Vocational School Visit • Florence • Chiusi Etruscan Museum - Labyrinth of Porsenna - Rome Trastevere Food Tour Dinner



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Enjoy a classical music concert of Vivaldi's famous Four Seasons.
- · Explore the Po River Delta during a pontoon boat sailing of this UNESCO wetland region.
- Discover the craftsmanship behind the Venetian gondolas during a visit to a local Remèr oar-making workshop.



### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

- Day 5 Relax at your hotel with a wine-infused mud treatment -ORspend the day in Ravenna for a guided tour of its mosaics.
- Day 10 Explore Rome on a walking tour of its Renaissance and Baroque masterpieces -OR- search for the vestiges of the Empire during a panoramic tour featuring the Catacombs.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 10 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- · Participate in a hands-on cooking class dedicated to Romagna's garganelli and strozzapreti pastas.
- · Taste traditionally made Parmigiano cheese and Balsamic vinegar at a Culinary Arts vocational school.
- Experience the flavours of *Trastevere* - Rome's medieval district - during a food tour dinner.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 Maison Venezia UNA

Esperienze, Hotel NH Venezia Rio Novo, or Hotel Santa Marina, Venice

Days 4 - 6 Borgo Conde Wine Resort, Romagna Countryside, Forli

Grand Hotel Cavour, Days 7, 8 Florence

Days 9 - 11 Ponte Sisto Hotel, Rome



# Be whisked away into the beauty and history of Italy when you journey to Venice, Florence, and Rome.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Join us for a fabulous Italian adventure featuring the magic of Venice, Florence and Rome. Journey to the wine-producing Romagna countryside for a 3-night stay in a wine resort, and visit the Republic of San Marino, an enclave state of Italy. Come along with us and embrace the history, culture, art and romance of this incredible country.

### Day 2: Venice, Italy - Tour Begins

Welcome to enchanting Venice (UNESCO) with its 117 tiny islands surrounded by a latticework of 150 canals and 400 bridges. This evening, meet your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 3: Venice

This morning, explore the traditional Venetian craftsmanship behind one of the city's symbols: the sleek, iconic gondola boats. Visit a local Remèr oar-making workshop, one of only a handful still active in the city. Then, join a local guide for a walking tour of the Venice's most iconic sights. Pause for the perfect view over the Bridge of Sighs and take in St. Mark's Square, adorned with marbled palaces and gilded basilicas. Travel by boat to Murano for an expert glassblowing demonstration, a renowned tradition on the island. This evening, glide along the canals during a gondola ride before delving into Venice's

classical music heritage while attending a live performance of the Four Seasons composed by the great Venetian Antonio Vivaldi. (B)

### Day 4: Venice - Po River Sailing -Romagna Countryside

Say "Ciao" to Venice as you journey towards the Romagna region, famous for its epicurean lifestyle. Along the way, visit the Po Delta (UNESCO). Since ancient times, this delta has been the border between the Venice and Ravenna regions, once two independent states. These wetlands will give you a glimpse into what Venice and Ravenna looked like to ancient Roman settlers making their way here from the south. You'll explore these wetlands by pontoon boat, learning about how the ecosystem here actually aided the Romans in escaping the barbarians that harried them. You'll also learn about the lives of fisherman and farmers whose lives have changed very little over the last 1000 years. Take in the tranquil scenery before stopping for lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, continue to your hotel nestled among vineyards in the Romagna countryside and settle in for your 3-night stay. (B, L, D)

Day 5: Romagna Countryside 😯 Today, it's your choice! Bask in the bucolic landscape at your wine resort hotel and pamper yourself with an organic wineinfused mud treatment in the onsite spa -OR- spend the day exploring Ravenna (UNESCO). During the darkness that enveloped the last days of the Roman Empire, Ravenna emerged as a centre of power thanks to its strategic position. The city's rulers - the Byzantines, the Goths - adorned its churches with dazzling mosaics. During a guided walking tour, discover the city's most illustrious monuments, including the mosaics that inspired Cole Porter's Night and Day. This evening, join the local chef for a handson cooking class centred on Romagna's most typical pasta dishes with colourful names such as garganelli or strozzapreti (priest-stranglers), and enjoy the results of your work for dinner. (B, D)

### **Day 6: Romagna Countryside**

Grab your passport and journey to the landlocked Republic of San Marino, the fifth-smallest country in the world. Perched at the top of Mount Titano, the old town of San Marino (UNESCO) gives visitors sweeping views over the Adriatic Riviera and the gentle rolling hills of the Romagna countryside. Explore the Old Town's intricate system of fortification towers, walls, gates and bastions during time at leisure. This evening, wrap up your stay in the Romagna Countryside with a wine-pairing dinner at your wine resort hotel. (B, D)

# Day 7: Romagna Countryside - Florence

Today, travel to the Emilia region, Italy's foodie haven. Meet students and teachers at a vocational high school for an Impact **Moment** dedicated to the Culinary Arts and Agriculture. Here, Italy's future chefs and farmers learn how to make Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese according to traditional codes, dating back to the 1300s. Students also try their hand aging Balsamic vinegar, a generational process taking anywhere from 12 to 25 years. Enjoy a farm-to-table light lunch prepared by the culinary students using ingredients from the school's farm. Later, continue to Florence (UNESCO), the "Cradle of the Renaissance" and your home for the next 2 nights. (B, L)

### **Day 8: Florence**

This morning, meet a local expert for a walking tour of a city that is a work of art all on its own. Your guide will highlight the Piazza del Duomo, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the Baptistery. You'll also visit the Piazza della Signoria with its impressive Palazzo Vecchio. The

remainder of the day is yours to explore Florence's cultural riches independently. Perhaps you'll visit to one of the city's many museums, such as the Uffizi or Academy Gallery, where Michelangelo's *David* is kept. (B)

Day 9: Florence - Chiusi - Rome This morning traverse southern Tuscany, the ancient land of the Etruscans. This mysterious civilization predated the Romans, who assimilated them, erasing most of their way of life, even though many early kings of Rome were Etruscans. By all accounts, they were an advanced society and culture. On a guided walking tour of Chiusi, once part of the Etruscan Dodecapolis, you explore the town's underground water system - which has so many twists and turns that it was nicknamed Labyrinth of King Porsenna. You'll also visit the small archeological museum housing some of the most interesting artifacts archeologists found in the surrounding hills. Arrive in Rome (UNESCO) in the afternoon and settle in for a 3-night

### Day 10: Rome 😯

stay. (B)

This morning, it's your choice! Explore Rome your way: delve into Rome's second Golden Age on a walking tour exploring its Renaissance and Baroque heritage and featuring Caravaggio's paintings, alongside the Pantheon and Navona Square -OR- explore Rome's Christian heritage on a panoramic tour featuring the Catacombs and the medieval basilica of St. Sabina on the Aventine Hill. The afternoon is yours to explore more of Italy's capital city. Perhaps you'll stroll down the monumental avenue of the Imperial Forums for views of the Colosseum, or climb the Capitol Hill with its monumental piazza designed by Michelangelo. (B)

### Day 11: Rome

Make the most of a free day in the Eternal City. Perhaps you'll stroll through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or join an optional guided tour of the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel and Saint Peter's Basilica. Gather tonight to toast the end of your Italian adventure during a food tour in Rome's bohemian *Trastevere* district. (B, D)

### Day 12: Rome - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many fond memories of incredible Italy. (B)





### **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**



Post-Night:
Rome (1-2 Nights)





# **TUSCAN & UMBRIAN COUNTRYSIDE**

11 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$3799

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









Rome - Spoleto - Assisi - Home-Hosted Lunch • Olive Oil Mill • Pasta Factory Visit - Pecorino Cheese Farm - Pienza -Orcia Valley - Bagno Vignoni - Brunello Wine Tasting • Siena • Florence • Truffle Hunting • San Gimignano



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Behold the unique water-filled piazza in the village of Bagno Vignoni.
- Enjoy 3 nights in a restored Tuscan villa.
- Hunt for truffles with a local expert and his truffle-sniffing dogs.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 9 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- · Experience a home-cooked meal in one of Umbria's country homes.
- Sample pecorino sheep-milk cheese at a local farm in the Orcia Valley.
- · Savour the famous Brunello red wine during a musical tasting at a winery in Montalcino.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Day 2 Hotel Kolbe, Rome

Days 3 - 5 Hotel Antica Dimora Alla Rocca, Trevi, or Hotel Dei Duchi, Spoleto, Umbria

Hotel Corsignano, Pienza, Days 6, 7 Tuscany

Days 8 - 10 Villa San Lucchese Hotel, Chianti Countryside, Tuscany

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



On a journey through the less-travelled country roads of Umbria and Tuscany. discover another side to the Italy you love.

### Day 1: Overnight Flight

On a journey through Italy's roads less travelled, discover its endless treasures from Rome to Umbria to Tuscany, and the marvels of wine, cuisine, culture, and history in between.

### Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins

Italy's dynamic capital city beckons. Get a taste of the local culture and start your journey at a delicious welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 3: Rome - Spoleto - Umbria

Olive and cypress trees accent the Etruscan hill town of Spoleto. Stroll the historic streets with a local expert and see centuries of architectural history, from the Ponte delle Torri aqueduct to the gilded elegance of the Duomo of Santa Maria Assunta. Continue to discover Spoleto on your own this afternoon. Eat, drink, and explore the local scene. Then take in the splendours of country life in a pristine Umbrian hill town, your home for the next 3 nights. (B, D)

### Day 4: Umbria - Assisi - Umbria

Travel to Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis, Set out on a walking tour of the old city with a local guide, learning about its history as you stroll the medieval streets. Visit the famous Basilica of St. Francis. Later, a local family welcomes you to their country home for lunch as their honoured

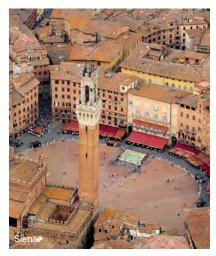
quest. Share stories and make an Umbrian friend (or two). (B, L)

### Day 5: Umbria

In the shadow of the Apennines, embark on a culinary journey through the dense olive groves of Umbria to an award-winning frantoio (olive presser), where olives are pressed each November. After learning about the many varieties of trees and oil-making methods, join a tasting of the different kinds of EVOO produced at the mill. Your exploration of Umbria's gastronomy continues with a visit to an artisanal factory where the same family has been producing pasta since 1918. After touring their museum, learn about the production process during a factory visit. (B)

### Day 6: Umbria - Pienza

Leave Umbria for the villages of Tuscany, nestled among the rolling hills and cypress trees of the Val d'Orcia region (UNESCO). Taste the flavours of the region at a local pecorino cheese farm. Snack on some of the cheesemaker's creations and take in the views of the sparse farmhouses and open fields on your way to Pienza (UNESCO), a Renaissance village where flowers and plants adorn the cobblestoned streets. (B, L)





### Day 7: Pienza

Traverse the Tuscan countryside to the unique hamlet of Bagno Vignoni, whose central piazza is filled with thermal water once used to cure pilgrims who stopped here on their way to Rome. Then explore hilltop Montalcino, namesake to one of Italy's great red wines, the Brunello. Tour a winery's

estate and cellar before indulging in a multi-sensory tasting, pairing wine with music. Back in Pienza for an afternoon at leisure, maybe you'll explore the countryside along one of the many white roads that cut through the farmland. (B)

### Day 8: Pienza - Siena - Chianti Region

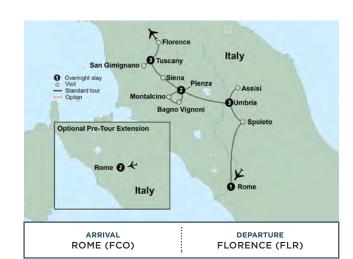
Take a guided walking tour through Siena, delving into the local history as you learn about the world-renowned Palio Horse Race. Enjoy free time to explore more of this hilly town, perhaps visiting its cathedral or the town hall's frescoes. An afternoon drive through Tuscany's Chianti Region takes you to the restored Tuscan villa where your hotel is located. (B)

### **Day 9: Chianti Region**

Explore Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance," during an extensive walking tour in the company of a local expert. View the Ponte Vecchio, the only Florentine bridge to survive WWII. Take in the Palazzo Vecchio, where, for over 300 years, the Medici Family ruled over the city. Admire the Piazza del Duomo, richly adorned by polychrome marble and gilded bronze doors. Take some time on your own to explore the city's seemingly endless treasures, before returning to your Tuscan villa in the evening. (B)

### **Day 10: Chianti Region**

Experience Tuscany's epicurean side and join a local truffle hunter in search of the elusive fungi in company of his



DOUBLE Starting at \$3799 SOLO Starting at \$4699

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on November 2, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

October - November 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*ttinerary featured is for June 2024 – May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

trained, truffle-sniffing dogs. Sample the goods yourself during a rustic, home-cooked lunch. Spend your afternoon in San Gimignano, whose beautiful 13th-century medieval towers stand tall over the surrounding vineyards. As the sun begins to set, gather with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner of Tuscan specialties. (B, L, D)

### **Day 11: Chianti Region - Tour Ends**

Your journey through Tuscany and Umbria comes to a close today in your restored Tuscan villa. (B)



66 I liked the small group and loved the unique places we visited that we might not have otherwise had access to.
 79
 Kim B.

### Optional 2 Night Rome Pre-Tour Extension Starting at \$1040 pp



### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You are on your way to the eternal city of Rome.

### Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins

Enjoy time to get settled into your hotel and acquaint yourself with the area on your own. Perhaps you'll explore the nearby neighbourhood of Trastevere, Rome's medieval heart.

### Day 3: Rome

Start your morning with a stroll in Rome's

Testaccio neighbourhood. Soak up the lively atmosphere - with homemakers stocking up in local delis, market workers stopping for a quick espresso at a corner café, and retirees soaking up the sun on the benches of a nearby piazza. Taste your way through Rome's beloved Testaccio farmers' market before pausing at a trattoria restaurant for a dish of pasta and a glass of wine. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to experience Rome on your own. Perhaps you'll want to visit the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel to view Michelangelo's Last Judgement. (B, L)

### Day 4: Rome

Delve into Rome's classical heritage during a walking tour of the Colosseum and Roman Forum in the company of an expert guide. Make the most of a free afternoon in Italy's capital city. Meander through Rome's streets all the way to the top of the Spanish Steps for a view over the rooftops, or pause to toss a good luck coin into the Trevi Fountain. In the early evening, meet with your fellow travellers to start off your exploration of the Tuscan and Umbrian countryside. (B)

# **TUSCANY &** THE ITALIAN **RIVIERA**

9 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$3249

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Turin • Langhe Wine Country • Barolo Winery - Italian Riviera - Cinque Terre -Lucca • Tuscan Estate • Florence • Greve in Chianti



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore the Langhe wine country (UNESCO) and its most refined wines on a vineyard tour.
- Uncover the walled city of Lucca before enjoying free time on your
- · Spend 3 nights in a beautiful Tuscan villa.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 7 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

- · Experience the food culture of northern Italy during a traditional welcome dinner.
- · Partake in an interactive pastamaking demonstration.
- · Taste different varietals of olive oil from an award-winning olive oil mill in the Chianti countryside.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 **NH Collection Torino** Santo Stefano or NH

NH La Spezia, Italian Days 4, 5 Riviera

Days 6 - 8 Villa Casagrande, Hotel Villa San Lucchese, Hotel

Villa Lecchi, or Hotel Villa San Paolo, Tuscany

Torino Centro, Turin

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From the rolling hills of Tuscany to the sun-soaked coast of the Italian Riviera. a romantic rendezvous with Italia awaits.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Experience the romance of travel among the elegant palazzos of regal Turin, the rolling hills of Tuscany and along the colourful coast of the Italian Riviera.

### Day 2: Turin, Italy - Tour Begins

Welcome to Italy. You'll make your way to Turin, Italy's first capital in the 1800s. Settle in for a 2-night stay, admiring the alpine peaks towering in the distance. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner featuring regional specialties. (D)

### Day 3: Turin

Walk through Turin with an expert guide, uncovering a blend of French and Italian heritage. Wrap up the tour by trying a bicerin - a mix of espresso and chocolate - in one of the city's cafés, reminiscent of Parisian coffee spots. After getting acquainted with the city, the rest of the day is

yours to further explore Turin on your own. This evening, consider an optional excursion to a historic palace after hours, where you will enjoy an aperitif with a local guide. (B)

### Day 4: Turin - La Spezia

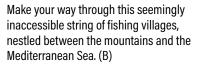
Head to Italy's picturesque Riviera, weaving through the Langhe wine country (UNESCO) along the way. Stop at the hilltop village of La Morra on your way to a local winery, where you will enjoy a tour and tasting. After a light lunch continue to La Spezia, the large port city gateway to the Italian Riviera. Get a bite of the local cuisine during dinner at your hotel. (B, L, D)

### Day 5: La Spezia - Cinque Terre - La Spezia

Spend the day exploring the colourful cliff-side villages of Cinque Terre with a local guide. Take in the picturesque, rugged coastline dotted with terraced vineyards as you travel by rail.







### Day 6: La Spezia - Lucca - Figline, **Tuscany**

Discover the medieval city of Lucca, encircled by 16th-century Renaissance walls. Wander with a local guide, delving into the city's Roman heritage and storied past. Enjoy some free time to explore the Piazza Napoleone and the rest of the city on your own. Continue on through the rolling hills of Tuscany for a 3-night stay in the village of Figline. This evening, try your hand at the local culture with an interactive pasta-making demonstration by your hotel's on-site chef. (B, D)

# Day 7: Figline - Florence - Figline

Explore Florence (UNESCO), the "Cradle of the Renaissance" during a locally guided walking tour of the city's iconic sites. View the Ponte Vecchio (Old Bridge), the only Florentine bridge to survive WWII. Admire





the Gates of Paradise and the imposing Dome of the cathedral. Wander past Piazza della Signoria and the ornate facade of Santa Croce. Enjoy time to explore more on your own before returning to your hotel in the evening. (B)

### Day 8: Figline

Journey through Tuscany's low-lying hills and dense olive groves to an awardwinning frantoio (olive mill), where olives are pressed each November. After learning about the many varieties of trees and oil-making methods, join a tasting of the different varietals of EV00 produced at the mill. Your exploration of the Chianti countryside continues in the village of Greve, surrounded by vineyard-carpeted hills. Cap off an unforgettable journey at a farewell dinner with your fellow travellers. (B, D)

### Day 9: Figline - Tour Ends

Say arriverderci to Italy as your journey comes to a close. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3249 SOLO Starting at \$3999

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 21, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Turin (1-2 NIGHTS)





66 Being a new traveller, I enjoyed having each day mapped out. I trusted that our guide would show us the must-sees and that is exactly what happened. It was wonderful. 🤧

- Karen K.

**NEW TOUR** 

# **SPOTLIGHT ON NORTHERN ITALY**

9 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$3149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Treviso • Tiramisu Cooking Class • Verona Murano Glass Blowing Demonstration

- Venice Asolo Prosecco Winery Tour
- The Dolomites Bassano del Grappa Venetian Villa Visit



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Discover hilltop Asolo, awarded the title of "Italy's Most Beautiful Village."
- · Explore Bassano, the hometown of Italy's renowned schnapps called grappa.
- · Tour a countryside villa belonging to one of the most ancient families of the Venetian Republic.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- Day 4 — Visit Verona, your way by joining a walking tour of its most remarkable painted houses -ORa walking tour along the town's riverbanks in search of its bridges and lesser-known monuments.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 7 Dinners (D)

- Master a few tips from a pastry chef and try your hand at making tiramisu according to the traditional recipe.
- Tour a winery in the Prosecco hills and sample this delectable sparkling
- Step back in time at a festive farewell dinner in a Venetian villa.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Hotel Villa Pace Park Hotel Days 2 - 8 Bolognese, Treviso

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Unpack once and take in the vineyards, villas, peaks, and prosecco of Veneto and Northern Italy.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Venture to vineyards, Venice, and Verona. It's almost time to unpack once in a Venetian villa and journey among the jewels of Northern Italy.

### Day 2: Treviso, Italy - Tour Begins

This tour has sweet beginnings: kick off your travels in Treviso, hometown of Italy's most iconic dessert - tiramisu. Treviso also has a long history tied to the nearby island city of Venice. Founded as a mainland (terraferma) settlement, Treviso was an early outpost with the look and feel of Venice. With your feet on "firm ground," settle into your home for the next seven nights — a charming villa nestled in the suburbs of Treviso. After dropping off your things in your modern-style room, take some time to explore the property's lush, green garden. Work up an appetite because tonight you'll dive into regional foods and Italian wines at a welcome dinner with your fellow travellers. (D

### Day 3: Treviso

Start your day with a short ride to downtown Treviso. Embark on a walking tour in the city commonly called "Venice on the Mainland." Take in the Old Town's gothic-style windows, marble latticework, and the Sile and Botteniga rivers humble elements all reminiscent of its famous

island neighbour. After your guided tour on foot, take some time to explore more of Treviso at your own pace. Maybe you'll wander through the weekly vegetable and housewares market? Or you can check out the picturesque Canale dei Buranelli and nearby Pescheria, where fishmongers have set up shop for centuries. When you stop for lunch on your own, consider noshing on radicchio trevigiano, an autumnal delicacy consisting of red chicory grilled with a generous helping of extra virgin olive oil. After, reconnect with your fellow travellers. Meet a local pastry chef and try your hand at preparing some sweet tiramisu in its homeplace. (B, D)

### Day 4: Verona 😯

Verona (UNESCO) is for lovers. After a 2-hour bus ride, find yourself in the romantic city of Romeo & Juliet. In Verona, it's your choice! Explore Verona's painted houses during a walking tour of the Old Town -OR- stroll along the town's riverbanks in search of its bridges and lesserknown monuments. No matter what you pick. you'll catch a glimpse of the city's must-sees: Juliet's balcony and the impressive exterior of the Arena, the ancient Roman amphitheater, After, enjoy some free time to explore Verona how







a short break to explore this resort town on your own. Reminisce on your mountain adventure tonight on your way back to the villa for a

# late dinner. (B, D) Day 8: Bassano del Grappa

Begin your day with a trip to the quaint town of Bassano del Grappa. The town's name is associated with the locally produced grape-based schnapps. Explore its cobblestoned piazzas and see the impact the beverage had on the town, including the ancient distillery in one of the pillars of the historic Palladian Bridge, Take some time to wander the town and grab a bite to eat for lunch (maybe paired with some grappa?). Tonight, step back in time at a classic Venetian villa. You'll tour the sprawling villa and its gardens that's still owned by the descendants of a noble family of Venice. After you follow the family's history within the villa's walls, gather with your fellow travellers and savour Venetian dishes prepared with fresh local ingredients at this evening's farewell dinner. (B, D)

### Day 9: Treviso - Tour Ends

It's time to say ciao, Italia. Have a buon viaggio back home with fond memories of Northern Italy. (B)



you'd like. Whether you're following in the footsteps of Shakespeare's most famous dramatic characters or retracing Italian history, savour time wandering in Verona's medieval city centre. After lunch on your own in the city, return to your villa in the late afternoon to relax before dinner. (B, D)

### Day 5: Murano Island - Venice

Board the coach and head to Venice (UNESCO). You'll trade wheels for water and take a boat to the isle of Murano. Famous for its glass-blowing foundries, Murano's history with glassmaking dates back 1,500 years. A local craftsperson will share the intricacies of this age-old trade during a glass-blowing demonstration. After, set sail for the area surrounding St. Mark's Square. Take in the Basilica and the ornate Gothic façade of Doge's Palace. During your free time, consider an optional gondola cruise to experience Venice's most famous pastime. Regardless of how you spend your afternoon, pause for an early dinner in town before journeying back to your villa for the night. (B, D)

### Day 6: Asolo

Get to know a hilltop haven for artists today in Asolo. After your Tour Manager helps you get acquainted with the village during an orientation walk, enjoy some free time. Find inspiration and trace the steps of author

Ernest Hemingway, poet Robert Browning, composer Igor Stravinsky, and many other famous virtuosos throughout history. Later, continue your journey into the rolling hills of Italy's Prosecco region (UNESCO), for a visit to a local vineyard where you'll taste the region's sparkling specialty. Toast to la dolce vita - the sweet life - in the Venetian countryside. You'll return to your hotel in the late afternoon to relax and sit down for dinner together. Rest well tonight; tomorrow will be a full day exploring The Dolomites. (B, D)

### **Day 7: The Dolomites**

Today will be our biggest trek yet. You're on your way to what UNESCO says is one of the world's most beautiful mountain chains: The Dolomites. Weave through the winding roads tucked within jagged rocks for a couple of hours en route to your first stop: the village of Alleghe. Venture into the village to catch a glimpse of Monte Civetta - a mountain noted for its rugged appearance and massive northwestern rock face. When in season, pause at the Flazarego Pass for a cable car ride to get a unique perspective on the surrounding peaks. Take some time to have lunch on your own before returning to the coach for a trip to Cortina -- the Pearl of the Dolomites, Your Tour Manager will show you around on foot and then you can enjoy



Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on March 20, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

June - November 2024 March - May 2025

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

# SPOTLIGHT ON TUSCANY

9 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$2299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Montecatini Terme • Lucca • Gothic Line • Winery Tour • Florence • Pisa • Cooking Class - Cheese Farm -San Gimignano



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Step to the front of the line to see Michelangelo's famous statue of David.
- · See the Gothic Line, one of the Germans' last lines of defense during
- Retrace the steps of ancient pilgrims as they crossed the Devil's Bridge in the Serchio Valley.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 5 — In Montecatini, learn more on a guided walking tour and visit to the historic Tettuccio Spa -ORjourney to Siena, home to the Palio horse race, and embark on a walking tour through its narrow streets.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 4 Dinners (D)

- · Sample delectable wines during a wine tasting at a local farm.
- Spend time at a cheese farm to taste flavourful pecorino cheese.
- · Learn about Tuscan cuisine during a cooking class.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1

Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 8 Hotel Ercolini and Savi or Grand Hotel Francia and Quirinale, Montecatini

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

# DESTINATION



# Discover the rolling hills of Tuscany, home to sprawling vineyards, medieval hill towns, and enchanting cities.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Rolling landscapes, savoury wines, delicious food and stunning architecture - find all of this and more in Tuscany. Unpack once on this journey among Italy's most charming towns.

### Day 2: Montecatini Terme, Italy - Tour **Begins**

Your tour opens in the famous spa resort town of Montecatini Terme, nestled in the heart of the rolling hills of Tuscany. This evening, get to know your fellow travellers during a welcome dinner where regional foods and Italian wines kick off your adventure. (D)

### Day 3: Lucca - Borgo a Mozzano -**Gothic Line**

Enjoy a guided tour of Lucca, Tuscany's best-kept secret. Discover Renaissance walls, Romanesque churches, and medieval streets flanked by towers. Explore on your own before setting off for Borgo a Mozzano. See the Ponte del Diavolo (Devil's Bridge) and the nearby remains of the Gothic Line - the Germans' last defense during WWII. Visit the Museum of Liberation and see authentic fortifications and bunkers. Make your way to a Tuscan winery and learn about the art of winemaking as you taste local varieties. (B)

### Day 4: Florence

An early morning takes you to Florence where an extensive walking tour showcases the

beautiful "Cradle of the Renaissance." Start with a visit to the Academy Gallery to see Michelangelo's sculpture of David. Join a local Florentine guide and make your way through the city on foot. At the Piazza del Duomo, see the impressive Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the gilded bronze doors of the Baptistery dedicated to St. John. Take in views of the Piazza della Signoria and Santa Croce Square before enjoying the remainder of your time in Florence to explore this unparalleled city as you choose. (B, D)

### Day 5: Montecatini Terme 😯

Today, it's your choice! Learn more about Montecatini's history during a half-day guided walking tour and visit to the historic Tettuccio Spa, known for the health benefits in its mineral waters -OR- journey to Siena on a full day excursion and embark on a walking tour through its narrow Gothic streets, getting to know the local lifestyle in a contrada (neighbourhood) whose community is centred around the colourful Palio horse race. (B)

### Day 6: Pisa

Explore historic sites in the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa, including the Piazza dei Miracoli, or "Field of Miracles" (UNESCO). Keep your camera handy at the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa. Visit the Baptistery, the largest in Italy. This evening, travel to the guiet countryside to learn the secrets of traditional Tuscan cuisine. Partake

in a cooking class, using local ingredients and culinary techniques that have been passed down for generations. Enjoy your freshly-prepared meal for dinner. (B, D)

### **Day 7: Montecatini Terme**

The day is yours to relax and experience the local flavour. Take this opportunity to shop at the local boutiques and dine at one of Montecatini's fine local restaurants. Or, perhaps you will choose an optional full day excursion to Cinque Terre with its rugged coastline dotted with terraced vineyards. Explore this string of fishing villages nestled between the mountains and the Mediterranean. (B)

### Day 8: Cheese Farm Visit - San Gimignano

At a nearby cheese farm, learn how the famous pecorino cheese is made before sampling it for yourself. Soak in breathtaking views as you travel to the hilltop village of San Gimignano, one of Tuscany's most picturesque places. Explore this enchanting medieval town, from its famous 14 towers to its magnificent vistas overlooking vineyards. Enjoy free time and perhaps indulge in some gelato. Later, attend a Tuscan feast of traditional cuisine and wines set in the countryside. (B, D)

### Day 9: Montecatini Terme - Tour **Ends**

Your journey comes to a close today. Depart with many fond memories of Tuscany, (B)





### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You are on your way to the eternal city of Rome.

### Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins

Get settled into Rome for your 3-night stay. Take time to get acquainted with the area on your own. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 3: Rome

Start your morning with a ride on La Metro - Rome's underground system. First stop - a locally guided tour of the Eternal City's most iconic monuments. Walk over cobblestoned streets to discover famous sights such as the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and Piazza Navona. The remainder of the day is yours. Perhaps you'll wander through one of Rome's many museums or stroll the Avenue of the Imperial Forum for views of the Colosseum. This evening, consider an optional dinner in a popular restaurant, accompanied by wine and local entertainment. (B)

### Day 4: Rome

Make the most of a free day in Italy's capital city. Perhaps you will join an optional tour to the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica, taking in world-renowned wonders such as the Sistine Chapel. In the afternoon, consider strolling through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's bohemian Trastevere district. (B)

### Day 5: Rome - Montecatini Terme

Say Arrivederci Roma as you transfer to Montecatini Terme to begin your tour of Tuscany. (B)

### Optional 2 Night Gourmet **Bologna Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1170 pp

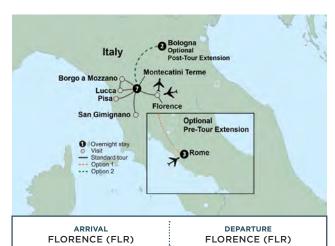


### Day 9: Montecatini Terme - Food Valley **Tour and Tastings - Bologna**

This morning, cross from Tuscany into the Emilia region, Italy's foodie haven. Visit a local farm producing Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese according to traditional codes dating back to the 1300s. Then pause for a light lunch at a nearby villa where the family still ages their Balsamic Vinegar production in the attic, as countless generations have done before them. Your exploration of Emilia's Food Valley concludes with a demonstration - and tasting - of authentic gelato, before arriving in Bologna, your home for the next 2 nights. (L)

### Day 10: Bologna - Walking Tour - Food Tour Spend the morning exploring Bologna with an expert guide. Food is a true passion here, as Bologna is the birthplace of some of Italy's most iconic foods: tortellini, mortadella and Bolognese sauce. Visit the ancient seat of the University - the oldest continuously operating in the western world - before browsing Bologna's specialty food shops. Then, sample local delicacies such as Parma ham and lasagna during lunch at a local eatery. Spend the afternoon at leisure in this lively town. Indulge in some people-watching at a café, or search for Bologna's very own leaning towers: the Garisenda and Asinelli. (B, L)

### Day 11: Bologna - Extension Ends Bid arrivederci to Bologna as your Italian sojourn comes to a close today. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2299 SOLO Starting at \$2799

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on February 26, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

# **OPTIONAL EXCURSION**



### **Excursion:** Day Trip to Cinque Terre

Spend a glorious day exploring Cinque Terre. Travel by rail and boat, past terraced vineyards and stunning panoramas on your way to a string of colourful fishing villages that sit along the area's breathtaking, rugged coastline. Savour the charms of this special place with a local guide who will help you explore some of the delightful towns of the area. Your day comes to a close tasting the flavours of the area at a local shop as you sip wine made in the region and try some local treats

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.

66 The daily tours were exceptional... I loved the cooking class, winery, and cheese tasting. 99

- Donna V. .....

# **ITALIAN VISTAS**

13 DAYS · 17 MEALS STARTING AT \$4849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Rome - Colosseum - Ruins of Pompeii -Sorrento • Florence • Statue of David • Leaning Tower of Pisa - Tuscan Winery -Venice • Murano Island • Verona • Lake Maggiore - Stresa



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Get an in-depth tour of the Colosseum.
- Enjoy a boat trip to Murano Island for a glass-blowing demonstration.
- Take in the view of the Bay of Naples from Sorrento's cliffs.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 5 Explore Pompeii's vast archeological site at your own pace. Pick between a leisurely tour of the highlights -OR- a faster paced visit combining must-sees and off-thebeaten-path gems.
- Day 12 —Boat to Isola Bella and enjoy a guided tour of the Borromeo Palace -OR- cross into Switzerland for a motor coach journey up the Simplon Pass to experience the Swiss Alps.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 11 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- · Visit a Tuscan winery and farm to enjoy lunch and sample the local wines.
- Savour traditionally produced macaroni during lunch at a family-owned factory.
- Taste balsamic vinegar, olive oil & local wines at a family-run wine shop in Stresa.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 4 Mediterraneo Hotel, Grand Hotel Palatino, or UNAHOTELS Trastevere, Rome

Hotel Michelangelo, Hotel Days 5, 6 Sporting, Vico Equense, Sorrento, Majestic Palace Hotel, Sant'Agnello, Sorrento or Grand Hotel Due Golfi, Massa Lubrense

Days 7, 8 Grand Hotel Baglioni, Starhotels Michelangelo or Hotel Albani Firenze, Florence

Davs 9, 10 NH Venezia Santa Lucia, Venice

Days 11, 12 Regina Palace Hotel, Stresa ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE See next page for details.



From the ancient ruins of Pompeii to the chic charm of the Sorrento Coast, embark on a spectacular Italian getaway.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Ciao, Italy!

### Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins

Welcome to Rome. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a special welcome dinner featuring regional delicacies and Italian wines. (D)

### Day 3: Rome

Discover the city on a locally guided tour of Classical Rome, passing by the Baths of Caracalla as well as the remains of the ancient Circus Maximus. During an in-depth visit to the Colosseum, your guide recounts its rich history. Meander through Rome's Renaissance district for a peek at the mythic Pantheon and the oval-shaped Piazza Navona, adorned with Baroque fountains. Spend the evening at leisure. Perhaps you'll head to the medieval Monti neighbourhood where the cobblestoned streets are lined with antique shops. independent boutiques and local restaurants. (B)

### Day 4: Rome

Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore Rome's cultural treasures. Your Tour Manager will be on hand to offer suggestions. Consider an optional trip to Vatican City to tour the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica. The evening is yours. Perhaps you will join an optional food tour and taste your way around Rome's bohemian Trastevere district. (B)

### Day 5: Rome - Pompeii - Sorrento 😯

Journey to the brilliant Bay of Naples, where charming villages are built into hillsides above the blue sea. In Pompeii, it's your choice! Soak in 2,000 years of history at your own pace. Pick between a leisurely paced tour of the highlights -OR- a faster paced visit of Pompeii's off-thebeaten-path gems. Pause in nearby Gragnano for a late lunch and visit to a pasta factory. Continue to the scenic resort town of Sorrento, your home for the next 2 nights. (B, L)

### Day 6: Sorrento

Today, sail to the enchanting Isle of Capri. Upon arrival, admire the island's iconic scenery on a panoramic cruise, passing by the steep cliffs, endless small caves, and the famous Faraglioni rocks, jutting out of the water. Spend time in Capri town with its world-famous piazzetta and explore this island paradise of chic boutiques, lush vegetation, and outdoor cafés. Return to Sorrento in the late afternoon for an evening at leisure. (B)

### Day 7: Sorrento - Florence

Head through Tuscany, with its landscape of vineyards and olive groves. Experience Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance." Home to Italy's best art and architecture, here you'll visit the Academy Gallery to see Michelangelo's renowned sculpture of *David*. Tonight, enjoy regional Italian cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)



### **Day 8: Florence**

Embark on a locally guided tour of Florence, highlighting the Piazza del Duomo and the famous Gates of Paradise on the Baptistery. Wander through the Piazza della Signoria and stand in awe before the imposing Palazzo Vecchio. The rest of the day is yours. Consider an optional excursion to the 14th century Certosa monastery, featuring an after-hours tour and dinner in a popular Tuscan restaurant. (B)

### Day 9: Florence - Pisa - Venice

Visit the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa to discover the Piazza Dei Miracoli and the famous Leaning Tower. A special stop is made at a Tuscan winery and farm to enjoy lunch and sample local wines and specialties. Next, cross the Apennine Mountains en route to Venice, where 117 islands are connected by a latticework of 150 canals and 400 bridges. (B, L)

### Day 10: Venice

Embark on a boat trip to Murano Island for a glass-blowing demonstration. When you return, step off the beaten path and see for yourself how the locals live. Explore the Castello district with a local expert, walking canal by canal through the narrow streets all the way to St. Mark's Square. Admire the Basilica and the ornate facade of the Doge's Palace. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Consider an optional gondola cruise to experience Venice's most famous pastime. (B)

### Day 11: Venice - Verona - Stresa, Lake Maggiore

Depart Venice for Verona and stroll the streets that were the backdrop for Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Arrive in the resort town of Stresa in the breathtaking Italian Lakes District, your home for the next two nights, and admire the beautiful views of Lago Maggiore. (B, D)

### Day 12: Stresa 😗

Today, it's your choice! Take a boat across Lake Maggiore to Isola Bella, where you'll join an expert guide and venture into the Borromeo Palace and gardens -OR- cross into Switzerland as your motor coach climbs up the Simplon Pass for a taste of the Swiss Alps, Tonight, travel by boat to Isola dei Pescatori for a farewell dinner surrounded by beautiful scenery. (B, D)

Day 13: Stresa - Tour Ends

Your Italian adventure comes to a close today. (B)

Optional 3 Night Taormina **Pre-Tour Extension** 

Starting at \$1170<sup>†</sup> pp



### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You're on your way to Sicily - an island paradise nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean.

### Day 2: Taormina, Sicily - Tour Begins

Arrive at the Catania airport and transfer to Taormina, a seaside hub of ancient Greek theaters and hilly walkways. Settle into your new home for a 3-night stay in this Sicilian gem perched high above the Mediterranean Sea. This evening, join your fellow travellers for dinner at a local restaurant featuring regional delicacies. (D)

### Day 3: Taormina - Walking Tour -**Afternoon at Leisure**

Uncover Taormina's charms in company of an expert local guide. During your walking tour, you'll see Corso Umberto, the Corvaja Palace, and the city's well-preserved Greek theatre. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean. Spend the afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques. (B)

### Day 4: Taormina - Mount Etna - Taormina

See Sicily's wilder side on an off-road adventure to Mount Etna. Stare up at the iconic peak as your off-road vehicle climbs along the sides of Europe's largest active volcano. Spend the day exploring this legendary giant, passing by lava formations and basalt rocks. Back in Taormina, enjoy an evening at leisure in this enchanting resort town. (B)

### Day 5: Taormina - Rome

Say Arrivederci Taormina as you transfer to the Catania airport for your flight for Rome. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4849 SOLO Starting at \$5749

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on January 27, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 – May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



**Pre-Night:** Rome (1-2 Nights)



Post-Night: Stresa (1-2 Nights)





### **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 11-12: Regina Palace, Stresa

Enjoy views of Lake Maggiore by upgrading your accommodations to a lake view room.

Please inquire about upgrades at time of booking.

66 The walking tours, museums, free time, and the great foods of Italy - it was all fantastic! We were not only sad to leave this amazing country, but such a fun group of people, too. 99

- Amy W.

# **REFLECTIONS OF ITALY**

10 DAYS · 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$3499

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Rome • Vatican Museums • Sistine Chapel • St. Peter's Basilica • Assisi • Perugia • Cortona • Florence • Michelangelo's David - Chianti Winery & Cooking Class • Venice • Murano Island - Lake Como



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Enjoy a boat trip to Murano Island for a glass-blowing demonstration.
- · Explore Cortona, the postcardworthy village that serves as the setting for Under the Tuscan Sun.
- Step to the front of the line to see Michelangelo's famous statue of David.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 3 Dinners (D)

- · Visit a historic winery in the heart of the Chianti region.
- · Enjoy a chef-led cooking class with lunch in a historic castle.
- Dine on regional delicacies and fine Italian wines.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Grand Hotel Palatino, Rome

Sangallo Palace Hotel, Day 4

Perugia

Days 5, 6 Hotel Albani, Florence

Days 7, 8 Hotel Carlton on the Grand Canal, Venice

Hotel Barchetta Excelsior, Day 9

Como

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Embark on a captivating journey that takes you from the piazzas of Rome to the canals of Venice.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Welcome to Italy, a land rich in history, culture, art and romance. Your journey begins with an overnight flight.

### Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins

Begin in Rome, the "Eternal City," This evening, get to know your fellow travellers during a welcome dinner featuring regional specialties. (D)

### Day 3: Rome

On a locally guided tour of the Vatican Museums explore the Papal palace housing priceless artifacts from ancient Egypt along with works by great Renaissance masters such as Perugino, Botticelli, and Ghirlandaio. In the Sistine Chapel, marvel at Michelangelo's frescoed ceiling and brilliant Last Judgement, Next, wander through the towering columns of St. Peter's Basilica, a daring feat of human artistry and engineering. Admire the baroque spirals of Bernini's altar canopy and gaze up at Michelangelo's dome - still the tallest in the world. Later this afternoon, take in views of the River Tiber, the Circus Maximus and the Colosseum during a panoramic drive back to your hotel. The evening is yours. Perhaps you'll join an optional dinner in a popular restaurant, indulging in a hearty meal accompanied by wine and local entertainment. (B)

### Day 4: Rome - Assisi - Perugia

Ease your way into the local culture as your Tour Manager shares a few key Italian phrases. Travel to Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis. Take in the old-world atmosphere on a guided walking tour of the Basilica of St. Francis. Then you're off to medieval Perugia, the historic capital of Umbria. With free time to explore, consider wandering along the Piazza IV Novembre or visiting medieval palaces and elegant cathedrals. (B)

### Day 5: Perugia - Cortona - Florence

Head through Tuscany's graceful low-lying hills to the Etruscan city of Cortona. Perched on the side of a hill, take in the ornate facades and medieval architecture. Peek at the adjacent Lake Trasimeno, situated off in the distance. You might recognize the city as the charming setting for the book and film *Under the Tuscan Sun*. End your day in Florence - the "Cradle of the Renaissance" - and visit the world-famous Academy Gallery to see Michelangelo's David. (B)

### Day 6: Florence

This morning, experience Florence's cultural treasures on a walking tour, passing by the Duomo, the Baptistery, the Palazzo Vecchio, and the Piazza della Signoria. The rest of the day is yours. Perhaps you'll join an after-hours tour





of the 14th-century Certosa monastery, followed by dinner featuring local wines, Tuscan food, and live entertainment. (B)

### Day 7: Florence - Venice

Start your day with a visit to a historic winery in the heart of the Chianti region. In the shadow of its 12th-century castle, learn about Tuscan wines and enjoy a chef-led cooking class. Next, sit back and savour regional delicacies during a delicious lunch. This afternoon, journey through central Italy, crossing the Apennine Mountains toward the Po River Valley. **Enchanting Venice awaits with 117 tiny** islands and its latticework of 150 canals and 400 bridges. (B, L, D)

### Day 8: Venice

See Venice from the water and take a boat to Murano Island. At a glass-blowing demonstration, discover the secrets of this ancient art up-close and marvel at the one-of-a-kind designs. Make your way to the historic centre of Venice and see the Castello district with a local expert. End in St. Mark's Square, taking in the basilica and the opulent façade of the Doge's Palace. The remainder of the day is yours. Consider an optional tour featuring Venice's most famous pastime - a serenaded gondola ride. (B)

### Day 9: Venice - Lake Como

This morning, you'll be whisked across the

plains of northern Italy to the shores of glamorous Lake Como. During a ferry ride to alluring Bellagio, admire the endless succession of historic villas, lush gardens, and colourful villages reflected in the lake's blue waters. Enjoy some time at leisure to explore Bellagio's charms before sailing back to Como where you check into your hotel in the late afternoon. This evening, celebrate the end of an unforgettable trip with a farewell dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

Day 10: Lake Como - Tour Ends Your journey comes to a close in Como this morning. (B)

Optional 3 Night Taormina **Pre-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1170<sup>†</sup> pp



### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You're on your way to Sicily - an island paradise nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean.

Day 2: Taormina, Sicily - Tour Begins Arrive at the Catania airport and transfer to Taormina, a seaside hub of ancient Greek theaters and hilly walkways. Settle into your new home for a 3-night stay in this Sicilian gem perched high above the Mediterranean Sea. This evening, join your fellow travellers for dinner at a local restaurant featuring regional delicacies. (D)

### Day 3: Taormina - Walking Tour -**Afternoon at Leisure**

Uncover Taormina's charms in company of an expert local guide. During your walking tour, you'll see Corso Umberto, the imposing Corvaja Palace, and the city's well-preserved Greek theatre. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean. Spend the afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs. (B)

Day 4: Taormina - Mount Etna - Taormina See Sicily's wilder side on an off-road adventure to Mount Etna. Stare up at the iconic peak as your off-road vehicle climbs along the sides of Europe's largest active volcano. Spend the day exploring, passing by lava formations and basalt rocks. Back in Taormina, enjoy an evening at leisure in this enchanting resort town. (B)

### Day 5: Taormina - Rome

Say *Arrivederci* to Taormina as you transfer to the Catania airport for your flight to Rome. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.



MILAN (MIL)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3499 SOLO Starting at \$4449 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on December 4, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR





# Post-Night:

Lake Como (1-2 Nights)





66 Our favourite part of the tour was the extra experiences you don't get if you organize on your own, like the cooking class, the tour of the monastery, and special dinners. 99

# ITALY'S **TREASURES**

12 DAYS · 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$5099

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Italian Lakes Region • Stresa • Wine Tasting • Impact Moment • Italian Riviera • Cinque Terre • Carrara Marble Quarries Off-Road Excursion • Tuscan Countryside • Italian Cooking Class • San Gimignano • Siena • Florence • Bologna • Venice



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore Lake Orta, one of Italy's hidden treasures.
- Discover colourful Cinque Terre, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- · Explore the marble quarries of Carrara aboard off-road vehicles.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Journey by boat to Isola dei Pescatori for a lovely welcome dinner.
- Taste authentic Italian gelato from an award-winning ice cream parlour in San Gimignano.
- Learn the art behind Tuscan cuisine during a hands-on cooking lesson.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Regina Palace Hotel, Stresa ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE See next page for details.

Days 4, 5 Grand Hotel dei Castelli, Grande Albergo or Hotel Due Mari, Sestri Levante, Italian Riviera

Days 6 - 9 Villa Lecchi, Villa Godenano, or Villa San Paolo, Tuscany

Days 10, 11 Hotel Ca' dei Conti, Venice

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Vineyards, olive groves, and cities that float. Incredible history, indelible culture, and unforgettable cuisine. This is *l'Italia* at its most iconic.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Travel along breathtaking landscapes and venture into metropolitan meccas ripe with culture and history. Discover Italy on an unforgettable journey that delves into its most cherished treasures.

### Day 2: Stresa, Italy - Tour Begins

Begin on the arresting shores of Lake Maggiore, surrounded by the peaceful beauty of the Alpine lakes region. This evening, cruise to Isola dei Pescatori, the most picturesque of the Borromean Islands, where you'll engage with new friends at a dinner welcoming you to Italy. (D)

### Day 3: Stresa

In an ancient village nestled in the mountains, a local family welcomes you to sample their very own artisanal cheeses, paired with the region's best wines. During an Impact Moment, have lunch at a social enterprise giving ex-offenders a second chance through the dignity of work. This restaurant trains and employs those who have been through the justice system for a non-violent offense as cooks and servers. The remainder of the day in Stresa is at your leisure. Explore the piazzas, flower-lined cobblestone streets, and lakeside promenades. Or enjoy your breathtaking surroundings during an optional cruise to Isola

Bella, known as the "beautiful island." Here an expert will guide you into the Borromeo Palace, a lakeside Baroque beauty adorned with an exotic garden. As the day draws to a close, visit a familyrun wine shop and enjoy a cocktail party with some antipasto snacks. (B, L)

### Day 4: Stresa - Orta - Italian Riviera

Witness picture-perfect views from Lake Orta, an ancient glacial lake in the Alpine foothills. A boat delivers you to the island of San Giulio, dominated by its working convent. Journey to the Italian Riviera and discover its immeasurable grandeur along the Liguria coast. (B, D)

### Day 5: Italian Riviera - Cinque Terre -**Italian Riviera**

Travel by rail today as you discover the colourful Cinque Terre (UNESCO), a string of medieval villages perched on the edge of the sea. Feel like you have stepped back in time as you traverse the rugged coastal area dotted with terraced vineyards. Spend an afternoon independently exploring this awe-inspiring landscape. (B)

### Day 6: Italian Riviera - Carrara Marble **Quarries - Tuscany**

Veer off the beaten path to visit one of Italy's





great natural wonders: the Carrara marble quarries. During an off-road drive in the Apuane Mountains, you'll follow the roads the cavatori (quarrymen) carved into the mountains while extracting the precious stone. Over the centuries, Carrara marble was used by artists such as Michelangelo to carve his *Pietà* in Rome's St. Peter's Basilica, as well as his legendary Statue of David. Enjoy some free time to explore Carrara's old town on your own; view the town's cathedral, the Duomo, built in white marble, or search for Michelangelo's bust marking his former home. Continue on through the rolling hills of Tuscany, ending the day in a historic Tuscan villa for a rejuvenating 4-night stay. (B, D)

### Day 7: Tuscany - San Gimignano -**Tuscany**

This morning, journey into the heart of the Chianti countryside, where a familyowned villa welcomes you. After a tour of the house and grounds, you'll engage in a hands-on cooking lesson. Break bread during an authentic Tuscan lunch and toast to your host with local Chianti wine. Later, take in Tuscany's landscape, a spectrum of verdant vineyards and endless groves en route to San Gimignano. Nicknamed the Manhattan of the Middle Ages, San Gimignano's 14 towers soar distinctively

over the landscape making this iconic hilltop village stand out against the rolling hills. Taste authentic Italian gelato from an award-winning ice cream parlour while you wander the cobbled streets and gaze up at the imposing towers during time at leisure in this Tuscan gem. (B, L)

### Day 8: Tuscany - Siena - Tuscany Travel south to Siena, a UNESCO World

Heritage site where stunning Romanesque and Gothic architecture can be found on every corner. Walk the narrow medieval streets on a guided tour. Get to know the local lifestyle of a contrada (neighbourhood) whose community Museum is centered around the colourful Palio horse race. Retreat to your Tuscan villa for a relaxing afternoon. (B, D)

### Day 9: Tuscany - Florence -**Tuscany**

Welcome to Florence - the birthplace of the Renaissance and the beloved home of the Medici family, Galileo, Botticelli and da Vinci. Set out on a walking tour of Florence's treasures and monuments. highlighting the Piazza del Duomo and the famous Gates of Paradise on the Baptistery. You'll also wander past the Palazzo Vecchio, the Signoria and Santa Croce squares. Enjoy time to explore Florence independently before returning to your villa. (B)

### Day 10: Tuscany - Bologna - Venice

On a walking tour, discover the culture of Bologna, a city barely changed since the time of the Renaissance and Italy's food capital. Browse the city's specialty food shops and sample local delicacies such as Parmigiano cheese, mortadella - the Italian progenitor of baloney - and lasagna, Arrive later in Venice, the "Queen of the Adriatic," and settle in for a 2-night stay in one of the most romantic cities in the world. (B, L)

### Day 11: Venice

Spend the day in Venezia, the floating city home to lavish art collections, wonders of architecture, and where marbled palaces tower over gondola-laden canals. A local guide takes you on a walking tour of its incredible sites, including the Bridge of Sighs, the Bell tower, and St. Mark's Square. Then, travel by boat to Murano for an expert glass-blowing demonstration, a renowned tradition on the island. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore more of Venice on your own. Say arrivederci to Italy at a savoury farewell dinner. (B, D)

### Day 12: Venice - Tour Ends

Wake up in Venice and depart for home. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5099 SOLO Starting at \$5999

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 15, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Lake Maggiore (1-2 Nights)

Post-Night: Venice (1-2 Nights)





# **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 2-3: Regina Palace, Stresa

Enjoy views of Lake Maggiore by upgrading your accommodations to a lake view room.

Please inquire about thisi upgrade at time of booking.

# ITALY: **AMALFI COAST TO PUGLIA**

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$4999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Naples • Impact Moment • Pompeii • Wine Tasting • Minori • Amalfi • Positano • Ravello • Matera • Lecce • Tarantella Folk Music & Dance Performance - Ostuni Ape Calessino Tour - Alberobello



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Zoom through Ostuni in the backseat of a 3-wheeled Ape Calessino car.
- Experience the Italian landscape like never before and spend 2 nights in a unique cave-dwelling accommodation.
- Impact Moment: Discover traditional Neapolitan songs and music during a private performance at a local social enterprise.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 7 - Visit Villa Rufolo and gaze out at the spectacular Amalfi Coast -ORhike the half-mile trail down to the remote gardens of Villa Cimbrone.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Sample wines just outside of Pompeii, created from the fertile volcanic countryside.
- Make your way through Lecce's city centre with a multi-stop dinner.
- Gaze out at the deep blue Bay of Naples and looming Mt. Vesuvius as you dine on regional specialties.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Royal Continental Hotel, Days 2, 3 Naples

> ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE See next page for details.

Days 4 - 7 Hotel Villa Romana or Minori Palace Hotel, Minori, Amalfi Coast

Locanda di San Martino Days 8, 9 Hotel, Matera

Days 10, 11 Santa Chiara Suite Hotel, Lecce, Puglia

Days 12, 13 Trulli Holiday Albergo Diffuso, Alberobello, Puglia

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Stray off the beaten path and explore a new side to the Italy you know and love.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

In a country of renowned cuisine, iconic coastlines, and ancient roots, stray off the beaten path and explore a new side of the Italy you know and love. Make your way through southern Italy and experience the Amalfi Coast and the Puglia region.

### Day 2: Naples, Italy - Tour Begins

Begin in Naples, a vibrant mecca for locals and travellers alike. Volcanic landscapes give way to medieval architecture and Grecian lanes, creating a unique culture exclusive to Naples. Settle into your new home for the next 2 nights and admire the view of crashing waves and bobbing boats. Toast to the start of your Italian getaway over dinner, looking out over the deep blue Bay of Naples to Mt. Vesuvius looming in the distance. (D)

### **Day 3: Naples**

Explore Naples' exuberant historic city centre (UNESCO) and underground ancient ruins with a local guide. Visit the Sansevero Chapel, home to the Veiled Christ statue, rumored to be created by alchemy due to its carved flowing cloth. During your afternoon at leisure, consider visiting the nearby National Archeological Museum and peruse relics from Pompeii. Tonight's Impact Moment comes in the form of a private concert, performed by the Napulitanata social enterprise.

which supports Italian heritage and abates the city's high unemployment. (B)

### Day 4: Naples - Pompeii - Minori

Feel the ghosts of the past as you wander through Pompeii with a guide. After you've explored the public baths and private villas, get a new perspective on the volcanic countryside with a visit to a nearby winery. Layers of ash have transformed the timeworn soil into a fertile vineyard. Enjoy a wine tasting with lunch before continuing to the beloved Amalfi Coast. Watch the sun fade along the horizon in coastal Minori. your new home for the next 4 nights. (B, L, D)

### Day 5: Maiori - Minori

A fishing village of terraced lemon groves, Minori exudes the quintessential Amalfitana vibe. Start your morning in a garden and learn about sfusato lemons, used in limoncello. Sample this fragrant liqueur in a pastry shop before hiking along the coast. You'll trek the rugged Path of Lemons - an ancient, hilly route that links Minori with the nearby town Maiori. Explore on your own before returning by boat. The remainder of the day is yours. (B)

### Day 6: Amalfi - Positano - Minori

Journey by boat to Amalfi, the rocky coast's namesake town. Formerly a maritime republic, Amalfi puts a historic spin on the seaside hubs,





containing cobblestone piazzas and towering mosaicked cathedrals. After a few hours on your own, ferry past tumbling cliffs and pastel-coloured houses on your way to Positano. Enjoy a free afternoon in this resort town, perhaps browsing the posh boutiques or resting along the beach. Return to Minori by ferry. (B)

### Day 7: Ravello - Minori 😯

Look down upon the Amalfi Coast from Ravello, a picturesque village with the best vantage point of the winding coastline. Then, it's your choice! Visit the gardens of Villa Rufolo, making your way through a latticework of hedges and flowers to gaze out at the azure waves below -OR- hike the half-mile trail down to the remote gardens of Villa Cimbrone before returning to Minori for an afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

### Day 8: Minori - Matera

This morning, discover one of Italy's delectable cheese products during a visit to a dairy farm. Taste freshly made mozzarella for lunch before continuing south to Matera (UNESCO), whose inimitable scenery has been featured in blockbuster films. Experience the town's cave dwellings, your home for the next 2 nights. Each cave is unique, half-excavated and half-carved from the land. In these unparalleled accommodations, connect with the Italian landscape like never before. (B, L)

### Day 9: Matera

Hike into Matera's 9,000-year-old history on a guided walking tour along its hillside caves, narrow passages and steep alleys known to locals as the Sassi. The afternoon is yours to explore more of Matera's heritage. Perhaps you'll visit the remarkable Palombaro Lungo underground water cistern or head out of town for a hike through the surrounding countryside dotted with prehistoric caves and medieval rock churches. (B)

### Day 10: Matera - Lecce

Cross into the Puglia region and pause at an olive grove to learn about the different kinds of oil before continuing to Lecce, a Baroque powerhouse of limestone. Get to know the city with a local expert and take in its iconic architecture and papier-mâché craftsmanship. Dine your way around Lecce in the evening with a multi-stop dinner in the city centre. (B, D)

### Day 11: Lecce

The day is yours. Lose yourself in the city's charismatic ambience - full of winding lanes, sun-kissed piazzas, and hidden cafes. Perhaps you'll join an optional excursion to Otranto and a nearby winery, featuring a tasting of wine from the region's dark-purple grapes. No matter how you spend the day, reconvene in the evening for a private folk music and dance performance, highlighting the traditional pizzica e taranta. According to legend, spider bites cause the women to dance with feverish energy. (B)

### Day 12: Lecce - Ostuni -Alberobello

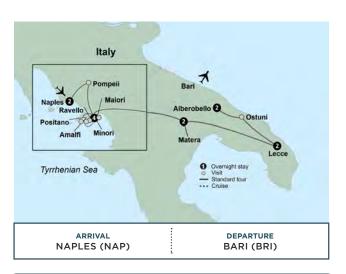
Stop in Ostuni, a whitewashed town surrounded by olive trees. Zoom through the town like a local in the backseat of an open-air Ape Calessino, a traditional 3-wheeled car. Enjoy time on your own before arriving in Alberobello. Make your way to your personal room, a converted house that will serve as your home for the next 2 nights. Make the most of a free evening to independently discover the town's secrets. (B)

### Day 13: Alberobello

Say "buongiorno" to Alberobello (UNESCO), a whimsical city that hosts a collection of cone-shaped trulli homes. Meander through a labyrinth of these gnomish houses, sometimes featuring symbols with superstitious connotations. The afternoon is yours to explore. As the day draws to a close, wish Italy goodbye at a farewell dinner. (B, D)

### Day 14: Alberobello - Tour Ends

Depart for home with treasured memories of rocky shores and cobblestone streets. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4999 SOLO Starting at \$6149

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 20, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**

Pre-Night: Naples (1-2 NIGHTS)



# **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 2-3: Hotel Royal Continental

For your 2-night stay in Naples you may choose to upgrade your room at the Hotel Royal Continental to a frontal sea-view room. Wake up to admire the sparkling waters of the Bay of Naples.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

# SICILY & **ITS ISLES**

14 DAYS · 21 MEALS STARTING AT \$4749

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Palermo • Monreale • Impact Moment • Trapani • Marsala Winery Tour • Erice • Olive Oil Farm . Agrigento . Valley of the Temples - Ragusa - Isle of Salina -Caper Farm • Taormina • Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Ascend the sides of Mount Etna (UNESCO) on off-road vehicles.
- · Soak up the relaxed ambiance of the Aeolian Islands (UNESCO) with a 2-night stay on the Isle of Salina.
- · Delve into the belly of Palermo on a walking food tour.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 3 - Explore the cloisters of Monreale's cathedral, taking in their serene atmosphere of the monastic complex **-OR-** ascend the southern tower to the panoramic terraces for a bird's-eye view over Palermo.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 12 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 7 Dinners (D)

- · Taste award-winning olive oil and learn about the Slow Food movement at a local farm.
- Enjoy world-renowned Marsala wine on a wine cellar tour.
- Savour salty capers and sweet Malvasia wine at a local producer on Salina island.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Days 2, 3 Best Western Ai Cavalieri Hotel Porta Felice, Palermo

Days 4, 5 I Mulini Resort, Trapani Baia di Ulisse Hotel, Agrigento Day 6

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE See next page for details.

Poggio del Sole Hotel, Davs 7, 8 Ragusa

Hotel Mamma Santina or Days 9, 10 Hotel La Salina Borgo Di Mare, Salina

Days 11 - 13 NH Collection Hotel, Taormina **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** 

See next page for details.





# Explore Sicily - an island paradise nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to Sicily - an island paradise nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean. Look past the Italy you think you know and see how this coastal farmland balances ancient traditions and modern comforts.

### Day 2: Palermo, Italy - Tour Begins

Start your journey in Palermo (UNESCO), Sicily's welcoming capital city. Uncover the island's deeply rooted heritage, teeming with Arab-Norman architectural masterpieces and delicate Classical designs. Come to know your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 3: Palermo 😯

Begin your adventure tasting your way through Palermo's lively markets on a walking tour unveiling the city's historical centre and introducing you to traditional Sicilian street food, which layers Oriental and Norman influences with local produce such as wild fennel, olives and spices. This afternoon, head to Monreale Cathedral, ascending on foot to see its majestic Byzantine mosaics. Then, it's your choice! Explore the cathedral's cloisters, taking in their serene atmosphere of the monastic complex -OR- ascend the southern tower to the panoramic terraces for a bird's-eye view over Palermo. (B, L)

### Day 4: Palermo - Impact Moment -Trapani

Experience an Impact Moment with Addiopizzo, an anti-Mafia nonprofit that supports locals who refuse to pay the Mafia's protection fees. Visit Capaci, the site of a terrorist act led by the Mafia, and pay tribute to fallen activists. Chat with locals for a personal perspective and learn how they overcame the Mafia's reign. Later this afternoon, settle into your hotel in coastal Trapani for a two-night stay. This evening, watch the sunset fade against the crashing waves and whirling windmills. (B)

### Day 5: Trapani - Marsala - Erice

Discover the ancient craft of sea-salt harvesting during a guided visit to the salt pans of Trapani. Then continue to Marsala, heading down into a cellar for a taste of its renowned wine paired with traditional bites. This afternoon, journey to the enchanted hilltop village of Erice before returning to your hotel for dinner. (B, D)

### Day 6: Trapani - Agrigento

This morning, head to an award-winning olive grove and learn about the Slow Food movement, which supports local cultures and preserves traditions. Try their unique olive oil at lunch before departing for Agrigento, where ancient roots and medieval buildings blend into modernity. Later this afternoon, wander through the imposing





Greek ruins of the Valley of the Temples (UNESCO) in company of an expert guide. (B, L, D)

### Day 7: Agrigento - Ragusa

Make your way to Ragusa (UNESCO), an ancient city perched upon a hill. Meander through its Baroque neighbourhood with an expert guide, passing by winding lanes, cobblestone streets, and wrought iron balconies. Make the most of a free afternoon to explore on your own. As the sun sets, retreat to your countryside resort just outside the city. (B, D)

### **Day 8: Ragusa - Optional Excursion**

The entire day is yours. With free time, you might choose to relax in the countryside and enjoy the resort's amenities. Or, perhaps you will join an optional tour to the pictureperfect towns of Scicli and Modica, where you'll enjoy a savoury brunch at a ricotta farm before continuing to an Aztec chocolate shop for some sweet samples. (B, D)

### Day 9: Ragusa - Milazzo - Ferry to Aeolian Islands - Isle of Salina -Lingua

Grab your bags and hop on a ferry in Milazzo. Sail by Vulcano and Lipari on your way to Salina, a far-flung isle surrounded by vibrant blue waters and dark volcanic rock. Somewhat off the beaten path, Salina is one of the less-travelled Aeolian Islands, preserved as a vacation getaway for

Italians. Settle into the hamlet of Lingua for a 2-night stay. (B, D)

### Day 10: Salina - Caper Farm -**Optional Excursion**

Dramatic landscapes of rocky cliffs and vibrant vineyards pass by on your way to nearby Pollara, famous for its traditional caper cultivation. Wander through the fields, tasting the salted flower buds accompanied by a glass of Malvasia, a locally produced dessert wine. The afternoon is yours to do as you please. Perhaps you'll take an optional cruise to Stromboli, where you'll swim off your private boat and dine at sunset; relax and watch for the signature glow of the island's active volcano. (B)

### Day 11: Salina - Ferry to Milazzo -**Taormina**

After a relaxing morning, ferry back to mainland Sicilia. Journey along the Ionian Coast to Taormina, a seaside hub of ancient Greek theaters and hilly walkways, Settle into your new home for the next three nights and enjoy a free evening to explore on your own. (B)

### Day 12: Taormina

Discover Taormina with a local guide, leading you to the city's Duomo, public gardens, and the well-preserved Greek theater. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean. Spend the afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs. (B)

### Day 13: Taormina - Mount Etna -**Taormina**

See Sicily's wilder side on an off-road adventure to Mount Etna. Stare up at the iconic peak as your vehicle climbs along the sides of Europe's largest active volcano. Spend the day exploring this legendary giant, passing by lava formations and basalt rocks. This evening, toast to your Sicilian sojourn at dinner, surrounded by local musicians. (B, D)

### Day 14: Taormina - Tour Ends

Your journey through Sicily comes to a close today. Return home with memories of Italy's favourite island. (B)



ARRIVAL PALERMO (PMO)

DEPARTURE CATANIA (CTA)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4749 SOLO Starting at \$5999 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on July 9, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 April - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 April - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR





### **Post-Night:** Taormina (1-2 Nights)



# **ROOM UPGRADES AVAILABLE**



Baia di Ulisse Hotel

Enhance your experience at the Baia di Ulisse Hotel with an upgrade to a Sea View room.



Days 11-13: **NH Collection** 

Enhance your stay at the NH Collection with an upgrade to a Sea View room and access to the hotel's spa.

Please inquire about these upgrades at time of booking.

### **NEW TOUR**

# **OLD WORLD SICILY & MALTA**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$4049

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Malta • Grand Harbour Cruise • Valletta • Impact Moment • Ferry to Sicily • Winery Tour • Ragusa-Ibla • Siracusa • Taormina's Greek Theatre Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Soak up the island ambiance of Malta with a 4-night stay in Sliema.
- Delve into Maltese culture during a tour of a traditional limestone village.
- · Ascend the sides of Mount Etna (UNESCO) in off-road vehicles.



### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

• Day 9 - In Siracusa, explore the ruins of the ancient Greek colony -OR- take in the city's most precious treasures during a visit of the archeological museum.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Explore the flavours of Maltese cuisine during a family-style dinner at a local band club.
- Pause for a Sicilian cappuccino and pastry breakfast at a local "bar."
- Taste natural wines produced without filtering and learn about the Slow Food movement at a local farm.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Days 2 - 5 Land's End Boutique Hotel, Tas-Sliema **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** See next page for details.

Days 6 - 8 Poggio del Sole Hotel, Ragusa Countryside, Sicily

Days 9 - 11 NH Collection or Hotel Villa Diodoro, Taormina **ROOM UPGRADES AVAILABLE** See next page for details.

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Explore Sicily and Malta - two island paradises nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to Malta and Sicily legendary isles nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean. Discover how ancient traditions blend into modern society as you travel along timeless Italian and Maltese towns.

### Day 2: Sliema, Malta - Tour Begins

Start your journey with a 4-night stay in Sliema, a welcoming Maltese resort town with a lively waterfront promenade. Stretch your legs and take in views of Marsamxett Harbour and Manoel Island. Uncover Malta's deeply rooted heritage, teeming with mysterious prehistoric temples and Renaissance architectural masterpieces. This evening, get to know your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 3: Sliema - Valletta - Sliema

Begin your adventure with a panoramic sailing of Valletta's (UNESCO) Grand Harbour aboard traditional Dghajsa boats before exploring the Maltese capital during a walking tour led by a local expert. View the skyline of the Three Cities from the Upper Barrakka Gardens and take in the elegant profile of the Grand Master's Palace.

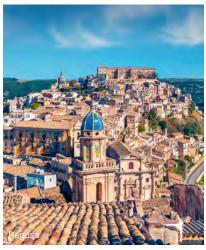
Then, enjoy some free time to explore on your own. This afternoon, visit the private home of a modern-day Knight of Malta before hopping on the local ferry back to Sliema for an evening at leisure. (B)

### Day 4: Sliema

The entire days is yours. With free time, you might choose to relax in Sliema or venture back to Valletta for a visit to Caravaggio's masterpiece housed in Saint John's Co-Cathedral. Or join an optional full day exploration of the Isle of Gozo, the second largest island of the Maltese archipelago and home to the Ggantija temple complex (UNESCO), which is older than Stonehenge. (B)

### Day 5: Sliema - Maltese Village **Experience**

Enjoy a morning at leisure. Perhaps you'll join a half-day optional tour to Mdina - the "Silent City" and Malta's ancient capital. This afternoon, immerse yourself in Maltese traditions as you board a retro bus for a village where daily life and customs remain unchanged. Experience an Impact Moment as you are hosted for dinner at a local band club. Band clubs have a





special place in the community. A source of intense pride and with a solid place in Maltese social culture, the band club's premises are an ideal meeting point for locals to exchange gossip, play a game of pool or engage in village festa activities. (B, D)

# Day 6: Sliema - Ferry to Sicily - Ragusa Countryside, Italy

Early this morning, grab your bags and hop on a ferry to Sicily. Pause in the seaside town of Pozzallo for a Sicilian breakfast. Like in most of Italy, breakfast in Sicily is a simple but tasty affair, traditionally consisting of a pastry and a cappuccino coffee. Continue with your culinary exploration of the Sicilian countryside as you pause at a familyowned winery to learn about their natural wine production and their support of the Slow Food movement conserving traditional food production methods. Then sample some of their wines during lunch. This afternoon, settle into your hotel for a leisurely 3-night stay in the Ragusa countryside. (B, L, D)

### Day 7: Ragusa Countryside -Ragusa-Ibla - Ragusa Countryside

Make your way to Ragusa-Ibla (UNESCO), a time-worn city perched upon a hill. Meander through its late-Baroque neighbourhood with an expert guide, passing by winding lanes, cobblestone streets, and wrought iron balconies. Make the most of a free afternoon to explore on your own. As the sun sets, retreat to your countryside resort just outside the city or linger in town for a dinner on own. (B)

### **Day 8: Ragusa Countryside**

The day is yours to do as you please. With free time, you might choose to relax in the countryside and enjoy the resort's amenities. Or, perhaps you will join an optional tour to the picture-perfect towns of Scicli and Modica (UNESCO), where you'll enjoy a savoury brunch at a ricotta farm before continuing to an Aztec chocolate shop for some sweet samples. (B, D)

# Day 9: Ragusa Countryside - Siracusa - Taormina 😯

Take in the rugged landscape of South-Eastern Sicily en route to Siracusa (UNESCO). Then, it's your choice!
Discover the expansive Neapolis, the ancient Greek colony established 27 centuries ago -OR- take in the ancient city's most precious treasures during a visit of the archeological museum in company of a local expert. This afternoon, relax during a bus transfer to Taormina, a charming resort town perched high above the Mediterranean Sea. (B)

### Day 10: Taormina

Discover Taormina with a local guide, leading you to the city's Duomo, public gardens, and the well-preserved Greek theater. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean. Spend the afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs. (B)

# Day 11: Taormina - Mount Etna - Taormina

See Sicily's wilder side on an off-road adventure to Mount Etna (UNESCO). Stare up at the iconic peak as your vehicle climbs along the sides of Europe's largest active volcano. Spend the day exploring this legendary giant, passing by lava formations and basalt rocks. Back in Taormina, gather with your fellow travellers as you recount memories of the Mediterranean islands accompanied by Sicilian food at dinner, surrounded by local musicians. (B, D)

### Day 12: Taormina - Tour Ends

Say goodbye to Sicily and the Mediterranean as your tour comes to a close today. (B)



DOUBLE Starting at \$4049 SOLO Starting at \$4999

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

June - November 2024

Prices based on November 3, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2023 March - May 2024

March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

(different itinerary – see note\*)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR





# Post-Night: Taormina (1-2 Nights)



# ROOM UPGRADES AVAILABLE



# **Days 2-5:** Land's End Boutique Hotel, Sliema

Enhance your experience with an upgrade to a sea view room.



**Days 9-11:** NH Collection, Taormina

Enhance your stay when you choose to upgrade to a Deluxe Sea View room with Spa access.



**Days 9-11:** Hotel Villa Diodoro, Taormina

Enhance your experience with an upgrade to a frontal Sea View room.

Please inquire about these upgrades at time of booking

# **ROME & THE** AMALFI COAST

10 DAYS · 13 MEALS STARTING AT \$3549

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









Rome • Trevi Fountain • Pantheon • Piazza Navona - Colosseum - Montecassino -Amalfi Coast • Sorrento • Farmhouse Visit and Mozzarella-Making Demonstration • Pompeii • Winery Visit and Lunch



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Discover the mountaintop monastery of Montecassino and its role in World War II.
- · Visit a pasta factory producing macaroni and spaghetti with traditional techniques.
- · Enjoy free time to explore Amalfi, a historic trading hub along its namesake coast.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 9 - Join a local guide for an indepth tour of Pompeii's best-known monuments: the excavated ruins of the Forum, the thermal baths and the Sanctuary of Apollo -OR- venture further to discover the hidden corners of this vast archeological site, such as the vibrant frescoes of the Suburban Baths and the once bustling thermopoli (taverns).



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 8 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Tour a family-run farm and learn how they make mozzarella cheese by hand.
- Sample homemade limoncello liqueur at a farm in the Sorrento countryside.
- Enjoy a tasting and lunch at a winery steps away from the archeological site of Pompeii.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 4 Hotel Imperiale, Rome

Days 5 - 9 Hotel Raito, Vietri-sul-Mare, Amalfi Coast or Hotel Michelangelo, Sorrento HOTEL RAITO ROOM **UPGRADE AVAILABLE** 

See next page for details.

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# From the legendary Colosseum to the rocky cliffs of the Amalfi Coast, take in the best of southern Italv.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Your adventure begins with an overnight flight to Italy. Journey through southern Italy and experience its rich scenery, art, culture, food and wine.

### Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in the "Eternal City" of Rome! Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner celebrating the start of your Italian journey. (D)

### Day 3: Rome

On a locally guided tour of classical Rome, walk over cobblestone streets and weathered passageways to discover famous sights such as the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and Piazza Navona. Then, tread in the footsteps of ancient gladiators during an in-depth visit of the Colosseum. The evening is yours. Perhaps you'll stroll to the top of the Spanish Steps for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's lively Monti district to soak in the local life. (B)

### Day 4: Rome

This morning, consider an optional tour to the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica, taking in world-renowned wonders such as the Sistine Chapel and Michelangelo's mural of The Last Judgment. Then, make the most of a free afternoon in Italy's capital city. Perhaps you will join an optional food tour dinner and taste your way around Rome's bohemian Trastevere district. (B)

### Day 5: Rome - Montecassino - Amalfi Coast

Journey to the Amalfi Coast, an iconic coastline of rocky beaches and towering cliffs. En route, make a stop at the Benedictine monastery of Montecassino, perched on a mountaintop that played a pivotal role in World War II. Discover its history while exploring the monastery's ornate chapel and courtyards. In the afternoon, settle into the Amalfi Coast, your home for the next 5 nights. Before gathering for dinner, take some time to explore your hotel, perched in a scenic location above the coastline. (B, D)

### **Day 6: Amalfi Coast Excursion**

Sail along the stunning Amalfi Coast (UNESCO), pausing in Amalfi, A former trading hub, Amalfi is now a quiet coastal town of historic landmarks and a black-and-white marble cathedral. Explore on your own before continuing to Positano with its pastel-coloured houses and pebbly beaches. Spend time in this legendary locale, browsing the posh boutiques or resting along the beach before returning to your hotel for an evening at leisure. (B)





### Day 7: Amalfi Coast - Sorrento -**Farmhouse Visit - Amalfi Coast**

Begin your day with a visit to a pasta factory artfully producing this national staple with traditional techniques. Then, it's on to the charming resort town of Sorrento. Wander through its narrow streets, peaking into the peaceful cloister of St. Francis Church or sampling some gelato made with local lemons. This afternoon, visit a local farm and see how mozzarella cheese is still made by hand. Get a taste of the product at a farm-to-table dinner capped with homemade limoncello before returning to your hotel in the late evening. (B, D)

### **Day 8: Amalfi Coast**

Enjoy a day at leisure to take in the relaxing beauty of the Amalfi Coast. Perhaps you will embark on an optional boat trip to the Mediterranean isle of Capri, where you'll enjoy lunch and a locally guided tour before setting out on your own adventure.

### Day 9: Amalfi Coast - Pompeii -Winery - Amalfi Coast 😯

This morning experience the eerily preserved ruins of Pompeii your way, because it's your choice! Join a local guide for an in-depth tour of Pompeii's best-known monuments -OR- venture further afield to discover the hidden

corners of this vast archeological site. Then, pause at a local winery to savour the area's famous Lacryma Christi wine and enjoy a typical lunch. After some free time, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner and bid salute to the end of your Italian getaway. (B, L, D)

**Day 10: Amalfi Coast - Tour Ends** Your tour comes to a close today. (B)

Optional 3 Night Florence **Pre-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1170 pp



### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You are on your way to Florence, the 'cradle of the Renaissance.

Day 2: Florence, Italy - Tour Begins Get settled into Florence for your 3-night stay. Take time to get acquainted with the area on your own.

### Day 3: Florence

Start your morning with a locally guided walking tour of Florence's cultural treasures, passing by the Duomo, the Baptistery, the Palazzo Vecchio, and the Piazza della Signoria. The afternoon is yours to browse the shops of via Tornabuoni, or perhaps visit one of the city's great museums such as the Uffizi or the Accademia, which houses Michelangelo's statue of David. (B)

### Day 4: Florence

Explore Florence's bohemian Oltrarno district during a guided walking tour of the city's Left Bank. Oltrarno literally means "on the other side of the Arno," the river which runs through Florence. Grasp the spirit of this "Florence of the Florentines": here the last craftsmen, the market stalls. the gardens and churches, the typical restaurants and cafés still move at the gentle rhythm of everyday life, away from the hustle and bustle of Florence's more famous monuments. The Oltrarno was so dear to the Medici family - Florence's great rulers - that they made it their home by establishing themselves in the Pitti Palace. The remainder of the day is yours to explore more of Florence. Perhaps you'll venture up to Piazzale Michelangelo, a panoramic terrace offering charming views over the city's towers and domes. (B)

### Day 5: Florence - Rome

Your Florentine sojourn comes to a close today. Say Arrivederci! as you transfer to Rome by high-speed train to begin your tour. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3549 SOLO Starting at \$4199

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on December 6, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



### **Pre-Night:** Rome (1-2 Nights)



### Post-Night: Amalfi (1-2 Nights)





### **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 5-9: Hotel Raito

During your stay at the Hotel Raito, Amalfi Coast, you may choose to enjoy a lateral view of the coastline and garden by upgrading your accommodations to a Deluxe Sea View room with a private French-style balcony, providing the opportunity to enjoy views of the Amalfi Coast from the comfort of your room.

Please inquire about upgrade at time of booking.

# **SOUTHERN ITALY & SICILY**

13 DAYS · 20 MEALS STARTING AT \$3999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Palermo • Cefalù • Monreale • Agrigento • Valley of the Temples • Piazza Armerina • Giardini Naxos • Taormina • Winery Tour & Tasting • Matera - Sorrento - Positano - Pompeii



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Stand in awe before the ancient Greek theatre in Taormina.
- Experience seaside Cefalù and Sicilian hospitality during a farmhouse dinner.
- · Journey to Positano village, the pearl of the Amalfi Coast.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 4 - Explore the cloisters of Monreale's Cathedral, taking in their serene atmosphere of the monastic complex -OR- ascend the southern tower to the panoramic terraces for a bird's-eye view over Palermo.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 11 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

- Indulge in a delicious regional dinner inside a winery's agriturismo restaurant.
- Tour a vineyard and cellar located in the badlands of Basilicata, Matera's region.
- Savour freshly made mozzarella cheese during a visit to a buffalo dairy farm.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 NH Palermo, Palermo

Days 4, 5 Baia di Ulisse, Agrigento ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE See next page for details.

Una Hotel Naxos Beach Sicilia or Hellenia Yachting Hotel, Giardini Naxos

Days 8, 9 MH Matera Hotel, Matera

Days 10, 11 Hotel Michelangelo, Sorrento or Hotel Sporting, Sorrento or Hotel Majestic, Sorrento or Hotel Due Golfi, Massa

Day 12 Radisson Blu GHR, Rome On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Journey through a crossroads of civilizations in Sicily and on to the spectacular coastlines of Southern Italy.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

The hidden treasures of Southern Italy and Sicily are yours to explore, for it's here you'll find breathtaking scenery, historic cities, centuries-old hilltop villages and iconic cuisine.

### Day 2: Palermo, Sicily - Tour Begins

Your Italian sojourn opens in Palermo, the capital of Sicily. Discover the city's vibrant culture as you take in its gritty, unshakable spirit and captivating energy. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner featuring authentic Sicilian cuisine. (D)

### Day 3: Palermo - Cefalù - Palermo

This morning, set off for the stunning seaside town of Cefalù on Sicily's northern coast. Stroll the charming medieval streets with a local guide and visit the city's impressive cathedral showcasing Norman architecture. Next, journey to a familyowned farmhouse, picturesquely set in the surrounding hills. Meet the owners and discover what a typical day on a Sicilian farm is like. Later, sit back and tuck into a hearty farm-to-table dinner, made with family recipes. (B, D)

Day 4: Palermo - Monreale - Agrigento 😯 Begin the day with a walking tour of Palermo's old town. Uncover cobblestoned piazzas and ornate buildings, many worn by time and conflict. Visit

hilltop Monreale (UNESCO), ascending on foot to its 12th-century cathedral for a guided tour of its majestic Byzantine mosaics. Then, it's your choice! Explore the cathedral's cloisters, taking in their serene atmosphere of the monastic complex **-OR-** ascend the southern tower to the panoramic terraces for a bird's-eye view over Palermo. This afternoon relax aboard your coach as you travel over rolling hills and peaceful farmland to Sicily's southern coast for a relaxing 2-night stay. (B, D)

Day 5: Agrigento - Valley of the Temples Step back 25 centuries and delve into ancient Greek history for a visit of the stunning Valley of the Temples (UNESCO), one of the world's most esteemed archeological site. Get an up-close view of the temples of Juno, Concordia, and Hercules during an extensive walking tour of this vast archeological site. The afternoon is yours to relax. Perhaps you'll venture into Agrigento's old town or stroll along the beach close to your hotel, taking in the glittering Mediterranean Sea. This evening, pause for dinner at a local restaurant and an evening view of the illuminated Valley of the Temples. (B, D)

### Day 6: Agrigento - Piazza Armerina -**Giardini Naxos**

Venture deep into Sicily's countryside to Piazza Armerina, home of the ancient Villa Romana del

Casale (UNESCO) and explore the site with an expert insider for a locally guided tour of its impressive mosaics. In the afternoon, journey east to Sicily's Ionian Coast and to Giardini Naxos - the "garden of Sicily" - for your 2-night stay. (B, D)

### Day 7: Giardini Naxos - Taormina -**Giardini Naxos**

This morning, explore beautiful Taormina, home to ancient relics, rocky hills, and charming gardens. With an expert local guide, you'll stroll the lively pedestrianized main street, see the imposing Corvaja Palace and climb to the city's wellpreserved Greek theatre. The afternoon is yours to explore more of this hillside resort or opt to see Sicily's wilder side on an offroad adventure to Mount Etna. During this optional tour, stare up at the iconic peak as your vehicle climbs along the sides of Europe's largest active volcano. Spend the day exploring this legendary giant, passing by lava formations and basalt rocks. This evening let traditional Sicilian melodies fill the air during an optional Sicilian dinner with musical accompaniment. (B)

### **Day 8: Giardini Naxos - Matera**

Take a short ferry ride to Villa San Giovanni, located on Italy's mainland. During your full day bus transfer, pass through the unspoiled region of Calabria to the Basilicata region. Wander through the twisting vines of a local winery before touring the cellar for a tasting. Linger over regional cuisine at dinner in the winery's agriturismo restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 9: Matera

Explore the Sassi di Matera (UNESCO), an ancient settlement of carved cave dwellings. A local guide shares the history and explains why film producers are seeking out this unique landscape. Visit a local shop and get a taste of regional specialties. The afternoon is at leisure. Perhaps you'll join an optional tour to Alberobello (UNESCO) in the nearby region of Puglia. Here, marvel at the town's whimsical trulli homes, known for their distinct, cone-shaped roofs. (B, D)

### Day 10: Matera - Sorrento

After a stop at a sustainable buffalo dairy farm for a taste of freshly made mozzarella and a peek into the history of this iconic cheese, arrive in Sorrento where you'll settle in for a 2-night stay. Later this afternoon, discover this charming seaside town during a walking tour and learn about the local tradition of wood marguetry. (B, L)

### Day 11: Sorrento - Positano -Sorrento

This morning, take in the sights and colours of the Mediterranean Sea as you sail along

the initial stretch of the breathtaking Amalfi Coast (UNESCO). Gaze out over the deep blue hues of the sea paired with the bright citrus fruits lining the hillsides. Pause in Positano with its pastel-coloured houses and pebbly beaches. Spend time in this legendary locale browsing the posh boutiques or resting along the beach, before returning to Sorrento for an afternoon at leisure. (B)

Day 12: Sorrento - Pompeii - Rome Journey north to Rome. En route, experience the excavated ruins of Pompeii (UNESCO). A local guide gives you an in-depth look into this 2,000-year-old Roman town, nestled in the foothills of Mount Vesuvius. Step into another time as you explore its preserved buildings and imagine life in the 1st century. An afternoon-long transfer leads to Rome where you arrive in the early evening. Celebrate the end of your journey with a delightful farewell dinner in a local restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 13: Rome - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close today. (B)

Optional 2 Night Rome **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1170 pp



### Day 13: Rome - Extension Begins

Enjoy a guided walking tour of Classical Rome, leading you through the Eternal City's most iconic monuments. Walk over cobblestone streets and weathered passageways to discover famous sights such as the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and Piazza Navona, one of Rome's most breathtaking Baroque piazzas. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Perhaps you'll wander through one of Rome's many museums, such as the Capitoline or stroll the Avenue of the Imperial Forum for views of the Colosseum.

### Day 14: Rome - Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel & St. Peter's Basilica

Early this morning join an expert local guide for a visit of the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica, including the world-famous Sistine Chapel where Michelangelo's Last Judgement fresco is situated. The afternoon is yours. Perhaps you'll explore Rome's bohemian Trastevere district and wander through its maze-like, ivy-clung streets. (B)

### Day 15: Rome - Depart for Home Transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3999 SOLO Starting at \$4899

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on February 21, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this

date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation. See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Pre-Night: Palermo (1-2 NIGHTS)



# **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Day 6: Baia di Ulisse Hotel

Enhance your experience at the Baia di Ulisse Hotel in Agrigento with an upgrade to a frontal Sea View room.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

**NEW TOUR** 

# **TREASURES OF TURKEY**

16 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$6029

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Istanbul • Hagia Sophia • Topkapi Palace • Spice Market • Food Tour • Bosphorus Cruise • Gallipoli • Pergamon • Ephesus • Aegean Coast Boat Ride • Impact Moment • Konya • Cappadocia • Grand Bazaar



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Cruise the Dalyan River to the Aegean Coast.
- Explore the towering rock formations of Cappadocia.
- Experience a transcendent Whirling Dervishes ceremony.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 8 - Bathe in the thermal spring waters of the Cleopatra Antique Pools -OR- take a guided golf-cart tour of Pamukkale's Greco-Roman



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Taste your way around Istanbul's Golden Horn district and Spice Market.
- Savour organic wines at a vineyard on the Dardanelles Strait.
- · Learn family recipes during a handson cooking class at a restaurant in Cappadocia.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 Galata's Hotel, Istanbul Day 5 Hotel Cura, Canakkale Park Inn by Radisson, Days 6, 7 Izmir

Day 8 Doga Thermal Hotel, Pamukkale

Days 9, 10 Arp Hotel, Dalyan **Day 11** Bayir Diamond Hotel,

Konva Days 12 - 14 Exedra Hotel, Cappadocia

Day 15 Galata's Hotel, Istanbul

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Explore ancient ruins and legendary architecture, otherworldly landscapes and underground cities in the country that bridges the gap between east and west.

### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You're on your way to Turkey, a country straddling two continents (Europe and Asia) and brimming with rich culture, diverse people, and sublime landscapes.

Day 2: Istanbul, Turkey - Tour Begins

Welcome to Istanbul, the bridge between East and West. Settle in to your hotel for the next three nights, and then meet your fellow travellers at a welcome briefing before taking the rest of the evening to relax as you please.

### Day 3: Istanbul - Blue Mosque - Hagia Sophia - Topkapi Palace

Today, sample some of Istanbul's most iconic sites, which connect Greek-Roman heritage with Ottoman-Islamic Art. First, the 17th-century Blue Mosque with its impressive domes and minarets, followed by the Hippodrome, the former sporting and social centre of the Roman Empire. Then on to Hagia Sophia (UNESCO), a church-turnedmosque, followed by Topkapi Palace and Harem, former home to the Ottoman Sultans, Istanbul is also known for its legendary traffic, which is also an iconic experience - one that requires great patience! This evening, gather at a local restaurant where the chef will delight you with their Ottomaninspired cuisine. (B, D)

### Day 4: Istanbul - Spice Market -**Bosphorus Cruise**

Taste your way around Istanbul's Golden Horn district during a walking tour that includes a visit to the

city's famous Spice Market and tastings of Turkish specialties sampled from local street vendors. This afternoon, take in Istanbul's majestic skyline as you sail between two continents during a cruise of the Bosphorus Strait, which divides Europe from Asia. The rest of the afternoon is yours to explore. Perhaps vou'll visit the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art. Or, choose to go on an optional excursion to an historic Hammam, where you'll enjoy an authentic Turkish scrub and foam bath. (B, L)

Day 5: Istanbul - Gallipoli - Çanakkale

Early this morning, depart Istanbul and enjoy a scenic ride along the Sea of Marmara and the Dardanelles Strait as you make your full-day transfer to Turkey's Mediterranean coast. Learn about the many conflicts these waters witnessed over the centuries. Stop at Anzac Cove to pay your respects and learn about the site's significance for Turks as well as Australians and New Zealanders before heading to a local organic winery for a tasting. Finally, cross the Dardanelles Strait to Çanakkale, a small coastal city and your home for the night. The evening is yours to unwind from your day of travelling. (B)

### Day 6: Canakkale - Carpet Weaving **Experience - Ancient Pergamon - Izmir**

Another long but rewarding day of travel begins with a transfer to the countryside of Pergamon, where you'll learn about the traditional Turkish craft of carpet weaving. This afternoon, visit the Ancient City of Pergamon (UNESCO), where you'll take a short cable car ride up to the acropolis to enjoy

commanding views of the valley below and a tour of the Greek ruins. End the day in Izmir, your home for the next two nights. Enjoy free time this evening to explore the seafront promenade, just a short walk from our centrally located hotel. (B, L)

# Day 7: Izmir - Ancient Ephesus - Sirince - Izmir

This morning, your in-depth tour of Ancient Ephesus (UNESCO) takes you to the Terrace Houses for a walking tour. See the Library of Celsus, the ruins of the Temple of Artemis, and walk the paths that Paul the Apostle once walked. Conclude the morning with a visit to the Archeological Museum. This afternoon, travel to charming Sirince, a hilltop village once inhabited by the Greek community. The village today is a rare and protected example of Ottoman Christian architecture, known for its locally produced olive oil, wine, and peaches. Relax at a local café, taste a traditional Turkish coffee, and meet with locals who offer Turkish coffee ground readings for those who want to get their fortunes told! Afterwards, head back to Izmir for an evening at leisure and dinner on your own. (B)

### Day 8: Izmir - Pamukkale 😯

Start the day by learning about the folklore of the *nazar boncuk* (evil eye) at a workshop where these traditional talismans are crafted using a process passed down through generations. Next, continue your journey inland to Pamukkale (UNESCO) to visit the famous Cotton Castle named for its natural cascading thermal pools and white limestone — as well as the ruins of the Greco-Roman period. While here, it's your choice! Visit the Cleopatra Antique Pools and bathe in thermal spring water surrounded by columns and paving stones from the ancient city -OR- take a guided tour of the archeological site via golf cart and visit the local museum. Whichever you choose, all will have free time to visit the site's "Cotton Candy" pools as well. This evening, check into the hotel and enjoy a relaxed buffet dinner. (B, D)

### Day 9: Pamukkale - Ancient Kaunos - Dalyan

Today, return to the coast after a full-morning transfer to the riverbank town of Dalyan. In the early afternoon, tour the ruins of Ancient Kaunos before checking in to your hotel for the next two nights — a small, family run bed & breakfast with simple accommodations overlooking the river. The evening is yours. (B)

# Day 10: Dalyan - Coastal Boat Ride - Impact Moment - Dalyan

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast this morning before setting off for a boat trip along the river that connects Dalyan to the Mediterranean Sea. Take in views of the Aegean coastline and make some stops (weather permitting) along the way for swimming. After lunch in a local restaurant, get ready for your **Impact Moment** at a loggerhead turtle rescue and conservation centre. Return to Dalyan for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

### Day 11: Dalyan - Isparta - Konya

Prepare for a full day of travel, beginning early and following the path of the ancient Silk Road trading route. Begin in the region of Isparta where the landscape and climate have proven ideal for the cultivation of aromatic plants. We'll stop to visit an ecocentre that uses sustainable practices to cultivate their organic crops. After a light lunch of Turkish pancakes, continue on to Konya, arriving in the early evening. Pause for dinner at a local restaurant before checking in to your hotel for the night. (B, L, D)

### Day 12: Konya - Sultanhani Caravanserai - Cappadocia

Begin the morning with a visit to the Mevlâna Museum, the world centre of the Whirling Dervishes. Next, visit Sultanhani Caravanserai, one of the largest surviving caravanserai along the Silk Road. Travel on, arriving in Cappadocia in the early afternoon for a tour of one of the region's famous underground cities. These subterranean towns, some built almost 3000 years ago, provided refuge for their inhabitants during times of war. As you head towards your hotel, take in the rock formations created by thousands of years of volcanic activity and erosion. This evening, check in to your home for the next three nights — a cave hotel with rooms carved out of the soft stone of the natural landscape. (B)

### Day 13: Cappadocia - Göreme Open-Air Museum

Get an early start with an optional balloon ride that takes you soaring above the "fairy chimneys" and rock dwellings dotting the hills and valleys below you. After reconvening with your fellow travellers, immerse yourself in Cappadocia's lunar landscape. Visit Göreme's Open-Air Museum (UNESCO), a vast site comprising of 11 early Christian rock-cut churches and monasteries often adorned with colourful frescoes. For lunch, join a local family at their home for a taste of homecooked burek (a savoury pastry filled with cheese or potatoes), accompanied by tea. This evening, come together for a Whirling Dervishes ceremony. (B, L)

# Day 14: Cappadocia - Love Valley - Cooking Class

Start the day with a countryside walk in Love Valley, famous for its conspicuous rock formations. Then, visit a pottery workshop



DOUBLE Starting at \$6029 SOLO Starting at \$7579

Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

Prices based on November 2, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.



### **OPTIONAL EXCURSION**



# Day 13: Cappadocia Sunrise Hot Air Balloon Ride

Get an aerial view of extraordinary rock formations on a sunrise hot air balloon ride above magical Cappadocia. Float above the rocky valleys as the morning sun paints the landscape rose pink in the dawn air.

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.

and learn how locals extract clay from the surrounding soil and make pottery. This afternoon, participate in a hands-on cooking class learning how to make traditional Cappadocia dishes, like slow-roasted testi kebab, before enjoying the results for dinner. (B, D)

### Day 15: Cappadocia - Istanbul - Grand Bazaar

Head to the airport in Kayseri this morning for a short flight back to Istanbul. After a drive back to the city, stop at the colourful Grand Bazaar. This intricate complex of covered streets and shops has been in operation for over 600 years and is one of the largest and oldest covered markets in the world. Later this afternoon, check in to the hotel before regrouping for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 16: Istanbul - Tour Ends

Your exploration of Turkey comes to a close today. (B)

# CLASSICAL **GREECE**

11 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$2999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









Athens • The Acropolis and Parthenon • Metéora • Delphi • Olympia - Greek Farm Visit - Cooking Class • Greek Dance Class • Nafplio



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Come to know two breathtaking Byzantine monasteries in Metéora, built over 600 years ago.
- Experience the Delphi Museum with its priceless collection of ancient artifacts.
- Broaden your knowledge of traditional Greek music with a delightful Greek dance class.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 9 - Journey to ancient Mycenae, once ruled by mythological King Agamemnon, and visit the Beehive Tombs and the Lion Gate -OR- linger in Nafplio and join a walking tour of Greece's first capital city.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 9 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

- Taste olive oil and homemade jams at a local farm in the Peloponnese countryside.
- Partake in a Mediterranean cooking experience followed by a traditional Greek lunch.
- Visit a family-owned distillery producing ouzo since 1869.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Crowne Plaza City Center, Days 2, 3

Athens

Day 4 Grand Hotel Meteora.

Kalambaka

Domotel Anemolia Mountain Day 5

Resort, Arachova

Days 6, 7 Europa Hotel, Olympia

Days 8, 9 Amphitryon Hotel, Nafplio Day 10 Crowne Plaza City Center,

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Discover the magnificent ruins of ancient Greece in their tranquil Mediterranean settings.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Discover the beauty and timeless wonder found only in Greece. This fascinating tour of Greece begins with an overnight flight.

Day 2: Athens, Greece - Tour Begins Arrive in Athens, cradle of Democracy and capital city of Greece. This evening, celebrate the beginning of your Greek experience with a delightful welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 3: Athens

Enjoy a panoramic tour of the highlights in Athens showcasing the city's ancient and glorious monuments, such as the Temple of Zeus, the Parliament, and the Olympic Stadium. Next, ascend the steep hill of the Acropolis, Greek for "highest city," the Acropolis was the religious center of ancient Athens and is crowned by the Parthenon, considered the pinnacle of classical Greek architecture. This evening, perhaps you'll choose to join an optional local food tour of Athens. (B)

### Day 4: Athens - Thermopylae -Kalambaka

Travel north through central Greece to Thermopylae. Stop to see a monument dedicated to Leonidas who died defending Greece against the Persians. End your day at a family-owned taverna and savor a delicious meal with recipes passed down from generations. (B, D)

Day 5: Kalambaka - Metéora - Arachova This morning, visit Metéora and enjoy guided tours of two remote monasteries situated in a unique landscape of limestone rock "towers" that extend nearly 900 feet into the air. Over 600 years ago, Byzantine monks chose to build their monastic community perched atop these virtually inaccessible rocks. Continue on to charming Arachova, a popular ski resort town with breathtaking views of the surrounding

Day 6: Arachova - Delphi - Olympia

mountains and valleys. (B, D)

This morning tour the ancient city of Delphi, one of Greece's most important religious centers during Classical times. A local expert guides you on a visit to the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Doric Temple, the ancient theatre, and the Delphi Museum with its priceless collection of ancient artifacts. It was here that the famous Oracle was consulted to foretell the destiny of mankind. Then travel along the Gulf of Corinth, crossing into the







Greece DEPARTURE ARRIVAL ATHENS (ATH) ATHENS (ATH)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2999 SOLO Starting at \$3799

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on March 9, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

November 2023 January - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

October 2024 - April 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for October 2024 - April 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

Peloponnese to the historic city of Olympia, a testament to the grandeur of ancient Greek civilization. Visit a local farm in the countryside and meet with the owners to learn about everyday life. Following the tour, enjoy a tasting of local wines, olive oil, homemade jams, marmalades and sweets. (B, D)

### Day 7: Olympia

This morning, enjoy a guided visit to ancient Olympia, including a tour of the sanctuary of Zeus, the Olympic Stadium where the first Olympic Games were held in 776 B.C. – and the museum, Next, learn how to cook some of the region's best dishes as you partake in a Mediterranean cooking experience followed by a traditional Greek lunch. This evening, broaden your knowledge of traditional Greek musical instruments and folkloric dances at a delightful Greek dance class. (B, L, D)

### Day 8: Olympia - Nafplio

Enjoy spectacular scenery as you cross the Arkadian Mountains en route to the picturesque seaside city of Nafplio. En route, stop at a family-owned ouzo distillery producing Greece's signature aniseflavoured aperitif since 1869. (B)

Day 9: Nafplio 😯

Today, it's your choice! Journey to ancient

Mycenae, once ruled by mythological King Agamemnon, commander-in-chief of the Greeks during the Trojan War. Explore the excavations during a guided visit featuring the Beehive Tombs and the Lion Gate -ORlinger in Nafplio and join a walking tour of Greece's first capital city. Nafplio's mix of Venetian and Neo-classical architectural influences make it Greece's most elegant city. (B)

### Day 10: Nafplio - Athens

This morning, stop for a view of the Corinth Canal en route to Athens. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Greece's capital. Perhaps you'll browse the myriad shops of the Plaka, Athens' historic district nestled at the foot of the Acropolis. Or, visit one of the city's world-class museums such as the National Archeological Museum with its majestic bronze statue of Poseidon or the Benaki Museum, which houses Greek works of art from prehistorical to modern times. Celebrate the end of a memorable trip to Greece by gathering with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 11: Athens - Tour Ends Your tour ends today. (B)

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night or Post-Night: Athens (1-2 NIGHTS)





66 The tour guide was wonderful. Very well informed of the area and approachable. The whole trip was enjoyable. 🤧

.....

- Carmen, M. .....

# **GREECE ISLAND HOPPER**

11 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$4339

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Athens • Taverna Dinner Show • Acropolis • The Parthenon • Mykonos Old Town • Santorini Island • Oia Village • Ancient Akrotiri • Wine Tasting



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Join a local expert in Athens and explore the city's world-renowned
- · Enjoy three days at leisure in Mykonos, the whitewashed island in the Aegean Sea.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 9 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Sample the finest wines in Greece during a winery tour and light lunch in Santorini.
- Indulge in local food and wine accompanied by traditional music.



### ACCOMMODATIONS

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 Titania Hotel Athens,

Athens

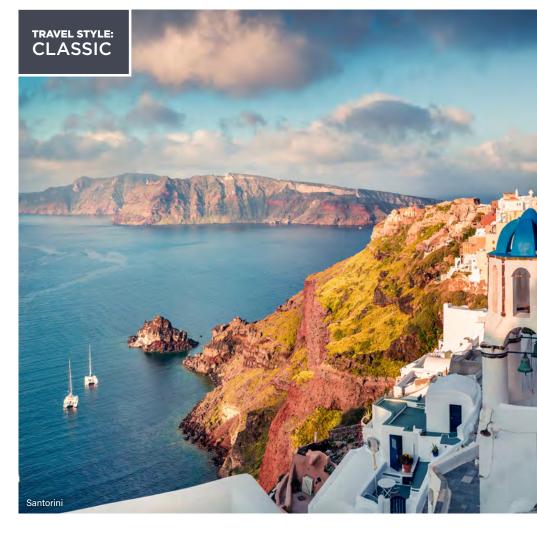
Days 4 - 6 San Marco Hotel or Porto Hotel, Mykonos

Days 7 - 9 El Greco, Aegean Plaza, or

Santorini Palace, Santorini

Day 10 Titania Hotel Athens. Athens

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



In Greece, discover a place where age-old legends and monuments intertwine with warm sunshine and island-style living.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to Greece - where Mediterranean sunshine and bright blue waters meet eons of creative ingenuity and an everlasting legacy. Feel the energy of the past and allow the ocean breeze to ruffle your hair - this is the picture-perfect getaway you've always dreamt of.

### Day 2: Athens, Greece - Tour Begins

Begin your journey in Athens, the immortalized capital of Greece. Meet your fellow travellers at a local taverna in the city's historic district, indulging in local cuisine and wine with traditional Greek entertainment. (D)

### Day 3: Athens

See the best of Athens with a local expert who highlights the city's ancient roots on a comprehensive panoramic tour. Make your way along the world-renowned monuments, including the Temple of Zeus, the Parliament, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and the Olympic Stadium. Step into the past on a tour of the legendary Acropolis, an ancient complex housing a collection of temples. Admire the breathtaking view of the city below and discover the country's beloved icon:

the illustrious Parthenon. Make the most of an evening at leisure. (B)

### Day 4: Athens - Mykonos

Start your day aboard a sleek, high-speed boat ride to Mykonos, an island paradise surrounded by the crystal-clear Aegean Sea. Start your island stay with an exploration of Chora, Mykonos' Old Town, where you discover its winding lanes independently. In the afternoon, check in to your hotel for a relaxing 3-night stay. From sandy beaches and seaside cafes to street musicians and a never-ending nightlife scene, Mykonos offers limitless opportunities to kick back and enjoy the island's irresistible lifestyle. (B, D)

### Day 5: Mykonos

The day is yours! Perhaps you will head down to the beach to soak up some sun, sip a cup of coffee on the waterfront promenade, or explore the town's winding streets as you weave in and out of whitewashed buildings. Or, you may join an optional excursion to the colourful village of Ano Mera followed by a visit to a local farm for a cheese tasting exploring the true flavours of Mykonos. (B)







# Day 8: Santorini - Akrotiri - Oia - Santorini

Uncover the past at Akrotiri, an ancient city buried and preserved in volcanic ash that is commonly referred to as the "Minoan Pompeii." Take a peek into the 15th century BC and explore the town. Head through a landscape of vineyards and volcanic cliffs to Oia, a seaside village with the island's best viewpoints. Next, visit a local winery and enjoy the famous wines of Santorini along with a light lunch. The rest of the afternoon is yours to relax and explore more of this Mediterranean gem. (B, L)

### Day 9: Santorini

Make the most of a day at leisure. Relax, shop in the island's charming town centre,



ARRIVAL ATHENS (ATH) DEPARTURE ATHENS (ATH)

DOUBLE Starting at \$4339 SOLO Starting at \$5639

Pricing is per person, land only varies by departure date and includes on-tour air

Prices based on April 5, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023
(different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 April - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**

Pre-Night or Post-Night: Athens (1-2 NIGHTS)



or even visit a local museum. Or, join our full day Island Hopping and Sunset Cruise optional excursion for a visit to some of the magical islets that surround Santorini before enjoying dinner on board and sunset from the water. (B)

### Day 10: Santorini - Athens

Depart the islands and fly back to Athens for your final night in Greece. Toast to the end of your sun-filled getaway at a farewell dinner. (B, D)

### Day 11: Athens - Tour Ends

Wish the Mediterranean goodbye as your tour draws to a close today. (B)

Greece is everything people say it is — and more.

The antiquities are incredible and bring you back to your childhood. Our group was great and the guide was superb.

- Ronald O.

### Day 6: Mykonos

Enjoy another day at leisure. Take time to explore on your own and discover this trendy destination however you'd like. Or, step into the past on a half-day optional excursion to the isle of Delos taking you to the fabled birthplace of the Greek Gods Apollo and Artemis. (B)

### Day 7: Mykonos - Santorini

Your journey continues to Santorini, the Eden-like island where blue-domed rooftops and gentle ocean waves complement the bright white buildings and rocky hillsides. A picturesque landscape and iconic destination, Santorini's charms reveal themselves during your 3-night stay. (B, D)

## FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION

ADD 3 NIGHTS IN ISTANBUL



### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1040† PP

Extend your tour longer with a 3-night stay in Istanbul, Turkey's most popular city. Enjoy a city tour with a local guide and sail between between two continents during a cruise of the Bosphorus Strait.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/658

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# **EXPLORING GREECE AND ITS ISLANDS**

16 DAYS · 25 MEALS STARTING AT \$6139

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Athens • The Acropolis • Parthenon • Metéora • Delphi • Olympia • Greek Farm Visit • Greek Dance Class • Cooking Class Mykonos - Santorini - Ancient Akrotiri



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Come to know two breathtaking Byzantine monasteries in Metéora.
- Experience the Delphi Museum with its collection of ancient artefacts.
- · Enjoy traditional Greek music and a delightful Greek dance class.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 9 - Journey to ancient Mycenae and visit the Beehive Tombs and the Lion Gate -OR- linger in Nafplio, and join a walking tour of Greece's first capital city.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 8 Dinners (D)

- · Taste olive oil and homemade jams at a local farm in the countryside.
- Partake in a Mediterranean cooking experience followed by a traditional Greek lunch.
- Sample the finest wines in Greece during a winery tour in Santorini.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1 Overnight Flight Crowne Plaza City Center, Days 2, 3 **Athens** Grand Hotel Meteora, Day 4 Kalambaka Day 5 **Domotel Anemolia** Mountain Resort, Arachova Days 6, 7 Europa Hotel, Olympia Days 8, 9 King Minos Hotel, Tolo Days 10, 11 San Marco Hotel, Mykonos Days 12 - 14 El Greco Resort, Aegean Plaza, or Santorini Palace, Santorini Crowne Plaza City Center or Day 15 Holiday Inn Attica, Athens

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# Discover the magnificent ruins of ancient Greece and bask in the brilliance of the Mediterranean.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Discover the beauty and timeless wonder found only in Greece. This fascinating tour of Greece begins with an overnight flight.

### Day 2: Athens, Greece - Tour Begins

Your tour begins in the capital city of Athens. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner featuring Greek specialties at a local restaurant in Athens. (D)

### Day 3: Athens

Enjoy a panoramic tour of the highlights in Athens showcasing the city's ancient and glorious monuments, such as the Temple of Zeus, the Parliament, and the Olympic Stadium. Next, ascend the steep hill of the Acropolis. Greek for "highest city," the Acropolis was the religious centre of ancient Athens and is crowned by the Parthenon, considered the pinnacle of classical Greek architecture. This evening, perhaps you'll choose to join an optional local food tour of Athens. (B)

### Day 4: Athens - Thermopylae - Metéora - Kalambaka

Travel north through central Greece to Thermopylae. Stop to see a monument dedicated to Leonidas who died defending the city against the Persians. Arrive in Metéora and visit two remote monasteries situated in a unique landscape of limestone rock "towers" that extend nearly 900 feet into the air. Over 600 years ago, Byzantine monks chose to build their monastic community perched atop these virtually inaccessible rocks. End your day at a family-owned taverna where you will sayour a delicious meal with recipes passed down from generations. (B, D)

### Day 5: Kalambaka - Delphi - Arachova

This morning, continue to the ancient city of Delphi, one of Greece's most important religious centres during Classical times. A local expert guides you on a visit to the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Doric Temple, the ancient theatre, and the Delphi Museum with its priceless collection of ancient artifacts. It was here that the famous Oracle was consulted to foretell the destiny of Man. Continue on to charming Arachova, a popular ski resort town with breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains and valleys. (B, D)

### Day 6: Arachova - Olympia

Travel along the Gulf of Corinth, crossing into the Peloponnese to the historic city of Olympia, a testament to the grandeur of ancient Greek civilization. Visit a local farm in the countryside

and meet with the owners to learn about everyday life in rural Peloponnese. Following the tour, enjoy a light lunch including a tasting of local wines, olive oil, homemade jams, marmalades and sweets. (B, L, D)

### Day 7: Olympia

Your guided visit to ancient Olympia includes a tour of the sanctuary of Zeus, the Olympic Stadium - where the first Olympic Games were held in 776 B.C. - and the museum. Next, learn how to cook some of the region's best dishes as you partake in a Mediterranean cooking experience followed by a traditional Greek lunch. This evening, broaden your knowledge of traditional Greek musical instruments and folkloric dances with a delightful Greek dance class. (B, L, D)

### Day 8: Olympia - Tolo

Enjoy spectacular scenery as you cross the Arkadian Mountains on your way to the picturesque seaside village of Tolo. En route, stop at a family-owned ouzo distillery producing Greece's signature aniseflavoured aperitif since 1869. (B)

### Day 9: Tolo - Napflio - Tolo 😯

Today head to the coastal city of Nafplio where it's your choice! Journey to ancient Mycenae, once ruled by mythological King Agamemnon, commander-in-chief of the Greeks during the Trojan War. Explore the excavations during a guided visit featuring the Beehive Tombs and the Lion Gate -ORlinger in Nafplio, and join a walking tour of Greece's first capital city. Nafplio's mix of Venetian and Neo-classical architectural influences make it Greece's most elegant city. (B)

### Day 10: Tolo - Athens - Mykonos -Chora

Early this morning, transfer to the port of Athens for the high-speed ferry ride to Mykonos, the whitewashed jewel of the Cyclades Islands. Enjoy magnificent views as you cruise across the brilliant Aegean Sea to this island paradise. Spend time in Chora (Mykonos Old Town), where mazes of narrow streets link the whitewashed buildings and traditional life continues amidst the bustling activity. (B, D)

### Day 11: Mykonos

Enjoy a relaxing day to independently explore the charms of Mykonos. Or join an optional excursion to the nearby island of Delos, the fabled birthplace of Apollo and Artemis. (B)

### Day 12: Mykonos - Santorini - Oia

Cruise to the most spectacular destination in the Mediterranean, the fabled island of Santorini. Next, travel through a fascinating landscape of vineyards, whitewashed chapels, and volcanic cliffs to the spectacular town of Oia, where the best views of the crater are found. (B, D)

### Day 13: Santorini - Akrotiri - Wine **Tasting**

Begin your day with a visit to the excavation site of ancient Akrotiri, the most important prehistoric settlement found anywhere in the Eastern Mediterranean. Known as the "Minoan Pompeii," the flourishing town was at once destroyed and preserved by a volcanic eruption around 1450 B.C. End your morning with a tasting and light lunch at a local winery that produces the unique and famous wines of Santorini. (B, L)

### Day 14: Santorini

Your day is at leisure to relax or independently explore Santorini. considered one of the most stunning landscapes in the world. Shop in Thira's charming town centre, take in the breathtaking scenery, visit a local museum or simply enjoy the amenities of your hotel. Perhaps you'll join an afternoon optional tour of Megalochori, one of the most picturesque villages on the island, followed by a dinner of flavourful regional cuisine. (B)

### Day 15: Santorini - Athens

Bid farewell to the Greek Islands and fly back to Athens for your overnight stay. Celebrate the end of a memorable trip to Greece with a delightful farewell dinner. (B, D)

Day 16: Athens - Tour Ends Your tour ends today. (B)

# y 1 Istanbul Turkey

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6139 SOLO Starting at \$7839

ARRIVAL

ATHENS (ATH)

Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

**DEPARTURE** 

ATHENS (ATH)

Prices based on June 6, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - October 2024 April - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



### 🖶 Pre-Night or Post Night: Athens (1-2 NIGHTS)



### **OPTIONAL EXCURSION**



### Day 3: Athens Local Food Tour

Experience Athens as a local! Join a local guide for a walking tour highlighting the cuisine of Athens. You'll make your way through three neighbourhoods full of hidden gems that few travellers ever get to see. Be welcomed into several local restaurants, bakeries, and markets to sample some of the area's best culinary specialties and wine. Your guide will explain the significance each dish serves to the culture and region. You'll learn about common grocery items found in the markets and the importance of spices used in Greek

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.



### FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION

ADD 3 NIGHTS IN ISTANBUL



### POST TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1040† PP

Extend your tour longer with a 3-night stay in Istanbul, Turkey's most popular city. Enjoy a city tour with a local guide and sail between between two continents during a cruise of the Bosphorus Strait.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/2

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# **CROATIA** & ITS ISLANDS

12 DAYS · 20 MEALS STARTING AT \$4999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Zagreb • Stone Gate • Šibenik • Cathedral of St. James • Krka National Park • Split • 7-Night Adriatic Cruise • Trogir • Bol • Hvar - Biševo Blue Cave - Vis - Korčula -Mljet National Park - Slano - Dubrovnik



### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Stand before the breathtaking waterfalls in Krka National Park.
- Explore the Old City of Dubrovnik with a local expert.
- · Meet the owner of a family farm and learn about prosciutto production.



### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 5 — Visit Split's Ethnographical Museum and marvel at a diverse range of exhibits related to local heritage and culture -OR- visit the Cellars of Diocletian's Palace, one of the best-preserved ancient complexes of their kind in the world.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 10 Breakfasts (B) • 5 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Experience a Captain's welcome dinner upon arrival in Split.
- · Dine on Continental cuisine at a favourite local restaurant in Zagreb.
- Enjoy Dalmatian delicacies prepared according to traditional recipes.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Day 2 Overnight Flight

Days 3, 4

Sheraton Hotel, Zagreb Hotel Olympia Sky, Vodice

Days 5 - 11 MS San Spirito or

MS Invictus

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# From medieval architecture to ethereal waterfalls. coast along the sparkling Adriatic Sea and experience the best of Croatia.

### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Wander along medieval walls, marvel at enchanting waterfalls, and relax on sunny islands. From Zagreb to Dubrovnik, set out to experience the best of Croatia and the Adriatic Coast.

### Day 2: Zagreb, Croatia - Tour Begins

Welcome to Zagreb, the capital of Croatia! Settle into your hotel before meeting your fellow travellers over dinner featuring Continental and Istrian cuisine. (D)

### Day 3: Zagreb - Vodice

Step right into the history and culture of everyday life in Zagreb as you tour the city with a local guide. See the main sights of the capital, including the Croatian Parliament building, the illustrious Zagreb Cathedral, and the legendary Stone Gate. Then, it's off to Vodice! Tonight, embrace the culture of Croatia when you meet the owner of a family farm to learn about prosciutto production and enjoy a traditional Dalmatian dinner at the farm restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 4: Vodice - Šibenik - Krka National Park - Vodice

Set off on a walking tour through the ancient alleyways and roads of Šibenik, where you'll get a chance to see the Cathedral of St. James, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Then, venture to the breathtaking Krka National Park, where waterfalls tumble through dramatic gorges. Meander along

the trails that surround the falls before embarking on a boat ride that takes you along the river to Skradin. Make the most of your free evening and get to know this Dalmatian town's historic architecture and striking coastline. (B)

### Day 5: Vodice - Split - Board Ship 😯

Your adventure continues! Discover Split, one of the oldest cities in this historic region. In this bustling port, explore Diocletian's Palace. One of Croatia's UNESCO World Heritage sites, Emperor Diocletian chose the palace to be his retirement home because of the incomparable beauty of Split. A guided tour takes you through the mysterious passageways and into the lower levels of this massive structure. Then, it's your choice! Visit the Ethnographic Museum of Split, located in the former residential complex of the Diocletian's palace. This captivating museum showcases exhibits on traditional costumes, crafts, and culture in Split including surrounding areas from the past centuries -OR- explore more of the Diocletian's Palace during a visit to its substructure. Set below the imperial apartments. this represents one of the best-preserved ancient complexes of their kind in the world. This afternoon you'll board a private 4-star ship, your new home for the next seven nights. Later, relax onboard before experiencing a Captain's welcome dinner. Enjoy your meal accompanied by live Klapa music, the traditional Croatian style of singing. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Split - Trogir

After an overnight in Split enjoy a morning at leisure to discover this city on your own. Then it's off to Trogir, a coastal gem renowned for its picturesque Venetian architecture. Stop for a quick swim along the way. Admire the striking stone houses and towering cathedral as you tour the city with a guide. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Trogir - Bol - Hvar

Start your day in the town of Bol, located on the picturesque island of Brac. With free time this morning, perhaps you'll choose to swim along the shore of the "Golden Cape," known to be one of the most popular beaches in Croatia. Return to the ship for lunch, then cruise coast by quaint coves and bays to the sunny island of Hvar. Upon arrival in Hvar, get acquainted with the area when a local guide introduces you to the history, culture, and lifestyle of the city. Discover how lavender was traditionally grown in the region for centuries and learn about some of its uses. Enjoy an evening at leisure. Perhaps you will choose to dine in one of the many local, family-owned restaurants that Hvar is known for. (B, L)

#### Day 8: Hvar - Biševo - Vis

Embark on a morning cruise to the island of Biševo. This island is home to the Blue Cave, a stunning grotto with a luminous blue glow, Cruise on to Vis, a small island practically untouched by tourism and overflowing with Renaissance architecture and beautiful beaches. With free time this afternoon, relax onboard and enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 9: Vis - Korčula

This morning, it's on to Korčula, debated home to one of the world's most famous explorers: Marco Polo. Decide for yourself if he was born in Korčula or Venice as you tour his alleged home. Join a local guide and make your way along the narrow streets while you wander among the medieval buildings and vibrant houses in the town known as "Little Dubrovnik." Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a dinner on board. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Korčula - Mljet National Park - Slano

This morning, arrive in Mljet National Park, Stroll around the lakes before exploring the Islet of St. Mary, home to a Benedictine Monastery from the 12th century. On this walk, be prepared to step up some stairs and travel by foot on uneven grounds. Don't miss out on a chance to take a swim in the strikingly blue waters. Then, your journey continues to Slano, a port city just outside of Dubrovnik, Your afternoon and evening are at leisure, consider an optional excursion to Ston, a nearby fortified city known for its decadent oysters and seafood. (B, L)

#### Day 11: Slano - Dubrovnik

This morning, cruise past the Elafiti Islands and be welcomed into Dubrovnik. You'll see why the city is called the "Pearl of the Adriatic" when you take in the medieval stone walls, iconic Baroque rooftops, and winding cobblestone

endless filming locations. Feel the ancient stone beneath your hands and marvel at the sparkling Adriatic Sea in the distance. With the city laid out before you, follow the twisting cobblestone streets that cut through the red rooftops. Dubrovnik welcomes you. (L)

#### Day 13: Dubrovnik - Cavtat

This morning, join your Tour Manager on a trip to Cavtat. Witness breathtaking views, rich architectural history, and vibrant culture. Walk along the enchanting waterfront with your Tour Manager and venture to the Racic Family Mausoleum. This octagonal whitestone tomb is the handiwork of preeminent Croatian sculptor, Ivan Mestrovic. In the wooded area near the peak of the peninsula is where you'll find the most spectacular views. Cap off your morning with free time for lunch on your own. Wander into one of the many charming restaurants on Caytat's iconic waterfront. The afternoon and evening are yours to explore Dubrovnik. (B)

#### Day 14: Dubrovnik - Tour Ends

Say goodbye to Croatia and the Adriatic Sea as your tour draws to a close. (B)









#### **Excursion:** Vis Island Tour

Take an optional tour to explore the beautiful island of Vis on a panoramic drive with a local guide. Here, you'll learn history, visit the St. George Fort and get to know more about the significant past of the island.

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.

as you explore the Old City with a local guide. During this walk, be prepared to take a number of steps and trek carefully across slippery limestone pavements. With free time for lunch and own for awe-inspiring views of Dubrovnik or simply enjoy the day on the Stradun (main street). Enjoy the views of the city during your farewell dinner onboard. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Dubrovnik - Disembark Ship - Tour Ends

Say goodbye to Croatia as your tour of the Adriatic Coast comes to a close today. (B)

#### Optional 2 Night Dubrovnik **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$910 pp



#### Day 12: Dubrovnik - Extension Begins

Continue your exploration of Dubrovnik with a Tour Manager who will guide the way. Join the locals on public transportation and make your way to the Old Town. Here you'll find a coastal fairytale where immoveable stone buildings meet bright blue waters. Hidden within the dazzling town alleys, savour Croatian cuisine at a small family restaurant while soaking in the charming atmosphere. Discover Dubrovnik's timeless secrets, like the medieval stone walls - an iconic winding fortress that serves as the backdrop for

streets. Embrace the feeling that you've stepped into another time discoveries, perhaps you'll ride a cable car to the top of Mount Srd

# **VENICE AND CROATIAN ISLANDS CRUISE**

13 DAYS · 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$5299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Venice • Murano Island • Collio Wine Region • Hum • Olive Oil Tasting • Farmto-Table Dinner • Opatija • 7-night Adriatic Cruise • Cres • Krk • Rab • Zadar • Sea Organ and Greeting to the Sun - Sailing through Kornati National Park • Šibenik • Cathedral of St. James



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Sail the islands of Northern Croatia aboard a small ship.
- · Explore Šibenik and its stunning cathedral during a city tour.
- · Local culture comes to life with traditional Croatian entertainment.
- Discover the craftsmanship behind the art of Murano glass making.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 6 - In Opatija, discover the views from Učka Mountain and take a hike through the oakwood and chestnut forests -OR- get to know the elegant resort town on a guided tour and stroll along the scenic seaside promenade of Lungomare.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 11 Breakfasts (B) • 7 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- · Taste some sweet and delectable Rab cake with a gin and tonic on Rab Island.
- Enjoy traditional Dalmatian delicacies prepared according to traditional recipes.
- · Savour a homemade olive oil tasting in Istria.
- Taste Italian wine in Collio, Italy's prime white wine producing region.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 3 NH Rio Novo Hotel, Venice Hilton Rijeka Costabella Days 4, 5

Beach Resort & Spa, Rijeka

Days 6 - 13 MS San Spirito or MS Invictus

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Explore the Istrian peninsula, discover magical Venice, and admire Croatia's trendiest islands along the northern Adriatic.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

It's time to explore the magic of Venice, the Istrian peninsula, and Croatia's islands on the northern Adriatic, Medieval architecture, sunny islands, and a private small cruise ship await you in Croatia.

#### Day 2: Venice, Italy - Tour Begins

Welcome to Venice (UNESCO)! Your tour begins in this enchanting city, with its 117 tiny islands surrounded by a latticework of 150 canals and 400 bridges. This evening, meet your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner and toast to the beginning of a memorable voyage. (D)

#### Day 3: Venice - Murano Island

This morning, travel by boat to Murano Island for an expert glass-blowing demonstration - a centuries-old tradition on the island. Then, join vour local quide for a walking tour of Venice's most iconic sights. Pause for a perfect view over the Bridge of Sighs and take in St. Mark's Square, adorned with marbled palaces and gilded basilicas. The rest of the day is yours to explore. (B)

#### Day 4: Venice - Rijeka

This morning, say "ciao" to Venice as you head towards Croatia. Along the way, experience the Italian region of Collio. Tucked in the northeast corner of Italy, this region is home to some of the world's best and most unique white wines. Pause for lunch in a family-owned winery before

continuing your journey to Croatia. You'll finish your day exploring the coastal city of Rijeka independently. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Rijeka - Hum - Motovun - Rijeka

After breakfast, take time to enjoy beautiful beaches and the coastline of the Adriatic Sea. Later, set off to discover Hum, situated on one of the numerous hilltops in Istria which is also the smallest town in the world. Enjoy the views from Istrian countryside landscapes at an olive farm - known to be one of the best producers in the Istrian Peninsula - and learn the process of producing olive oil and local flavours when you sample this aromatic culinary staple. A true farmto-table dinner at a local restaurant in the hills of Motovun allows you to end your day sampling regional wines and classic Istrian delicacies. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Rijeka - Opatija - Board Ship 😯

Today, it's off to Opatija to board your ship for a 7-night private cruise of the Adriatic. When you arrive in Opatija, it's your choice! Discover the views from Učka Mountain and take a hike through the oakwood and chestnut forests -OR- get to know the elegant resort town on a guided tour and stroll along the scenic seaside promenade of Lungomare to the beautiful water, rich coastal vegetation, and pristine beaches that lie around every corner. After, enjoy free time for

lunch independently. This afternoon, meet the captain and crew of your private cruise and settle in for a welcome dinner onboard the ship. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Opatija - Cres

The open, pristine waters of the Adriatic bring you to the colourful island of Cres, a lovely port town where the streets are lined by yellow, cream, tan, and brown terraced houses dotted with blue awnings and umbrellas. A city tour takes you through homes winding into a maze, which draw you to the center of Cres' Old Town. Medieval architecture harkens back to simpler times when the island was simply a fisherman's paradise. Relish an evening at leisure to take in the coast, culture and charm of Cres independently. (B, L)

#### Day 8: Cres - Krk

Today, sail to the largest island in the Adriatic: Krk. During a guided tour of Krk Town, learn about the long history and rich cultural heritage still reflected in the present day town. See the 5th-century Krk Cathedral and the 12th-century Frankopan Castle built by Croatian noble people. Each well-preserved wall, cathedral, temple, square and monument reflects a different part of the islands' story and there is a piece of history underfoot with each step you take. After exploring Krk, return to your ship and enjoy dinner. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Krk - Rab

Take advantage of a morning at leisure and have some more time to visit Krk

Town or swim in the crystal blue waters of the Adriatic. Or, perhaps you will join an optional tour to get a taste of the region's past with visits to the Kornic Ethnographic collection, the traditional coastal village

of Punat and a boat trip to the tiny natural wonder of Košljun Island. Return to the ship for lunch onboard. After, head towards the narrow island of Rab. An included tour of Rab, which is enclosed by ancient stone walls, highlights the four majestic church towers that welcome visitors to its old town, the beautiful park that winds around wooded hills to the beaches, and the large collection of sacral art at the Franciscan Monastery of St. Bernardino. This evening, a pastry chef will show you how to make a Croatian delicacy local to the island: Rab cake. Bite into this delectable almond spiral while you sip on a gin and tonic made with locally-made gin. The night is yours to explore Rab your way. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Rab - Zadar

Pass picturesque Pag, Olib, and many of the other smaller islands on your way to Zadar this afternoon. Upon arrival, explore this fascinating city's irresistible blend of old and new during a guided tour. Roman ruins dating back to the 1st Century, Byzantine architecture of the 9th Century, and the magnificent Cathedral of St. Anastasia speak to Zadar's rich history, while exciting modern art instillations on the seafront engage you in the present. Listen to the mystical warbling of the Sea Organ, whose sound comes from ocean water rushing through tubes below marble steps and witness the art installation Greeting to the Sun, creating beautiful evening light shows powered by the day's sunshine for experiences that could only happen in Zadar. This evening is at leisure for you to stroll Zadar's streets, perhaps sampling Dalmatian cuisine during dinner at a local café or indulging in one of the many gelato shops. (B, L)

# Collio Rijeka Venice Motovun Opatija Cres Krk Rab Overnight stay Visit Standard lour Cruise Telaščica Nature Park Kornati National Park Adriatic Sea ARRIVAL VENICE (VCE) Croatia from Split Dptional Post-Tour Extension Optional Post-Tour Extension Departure Split Adriatic Sea



#### Day 11: Zadar - Telašcica Nature Park - Kornati National Park - Vodice

Convene with nature this morning as you enjoy the opportunity to sun, swim and get an up-close look at the unrivaled beauty of Telašcica Nature Park on Telašcica Bay and the Kornati Archipelago. Made up of 140 islands, islets and reefs, the Kornati Archipelago's tranquil waters are lined with stunningly beautiful rugged terrain and abundant wildlife. This afternoon, soak in one of the most beautiful parts as your cruise travels through the Kornati National Park and relax during a peaceful trip to Vodice. This evening, enjoy a special Captain's Dinner with a glass of champagne, accompanied by traditional Klapa singing, a form of a cappella. (B, L, D)

#### Day 12: Vodice - Šibenik

Explore the resort town of Vodice independently or you may choose to disembark early for an optional morning tour to the breathtaking Krka National Park. Later, sail on to Šibenik, the last port of this journey. Don't miss this unforgettable sight as you sail into St. Anthony's channel and pass by tiny islands and St. Nicola's Fortress (UNESCO). This is one of the best-preserved works of defense, and a unique monument of the world's architectural heritage. Explore the city's historical centre on a locally-guided walking tour past medieval alleys, well-preserved fortresses, and the Cathedral of St. James, a stunning domed Catholic basilica and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Take the evening to find unexpected surprises around the ancient streets before returning to the ship. (B. L)

Day 13: Sibenik - Disembark Ship - Split - Tour Ends Disembark your ship this morning and transfer to Split for your flight home. Say goodbye to Croatia as your tour of the Adriatic Coast ends today. (B)

# Optional 3 Night Dubrovnik Post-Tour Extension Starting at \$1170 pp



#### Day 13: Šibenik - Disembark Ship -Dubrovnik - Extension Begins

Disembark your ship and start your day with a full morning transfer to Dubrovnik where you spend the next three nights. Our representative will meet you upon arrival at your hotel to help check you in and show you around. This evening, enjoy a buffet-style dinner at the hotel's restaurant. (D)

#### Day 14: Dubrovnik

This morning, head to Dubrovnik's Old Town with your local guide. Step into the shoes of a local and hop on a public bus for a short ride into town. Explore this beautifully preserved, medieval walled city with a local expert who'll entertain you with stories about Dubrovnik's past. The rest of the day is yours to wander on your own; perhaps you'll walk along the historic city walls, take a cable car up to the top of Mount Srdj, or hop on a ferry to the nearby island of Lokrum with its beautiful gardens and beaches. (B)

#### Day 15: Dubrovnik

Enjoy another day at leisure in the "Pearl of the Adriatic." Whether you choose to relax at a beautiful beach and take a dip in crystal-blue waters or continue exploring the Dubrovnik streets, savour your last full day here. (B)

**Day 16: Dubrovnik - Extension Ends**Say goodbye to Croatia as your tour ends today. (B)

# **DISCOVER** CROATIA, **SLOVENIA** & THE ADRIATIC **COAST**

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$4099

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









Ljubljana • Castle Dinner • Lake Bled • Opatija • Istrian Peninsula • Farm-to-Table Dinner • Plitvice Lakes National Park • Split - Countryside Lunch with Folklore Entertainment • Diocletian's Palace • Dubrovnik - Zagreb



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit Dubrovnik's Franciscan Monastery where Europe's oldest pharmacy lies.
- · Stroll through Split and see the famous Diocletian's Palace.
- · Explore romantic Ljubljana, exploring the riverfront dotted with cafes and bridges.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 10 - See the famous city walls of Dubrovnik, still standing from the Middle Ages -OR- hop into a cable car for incredible views of the city from above.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- Sample farm-to-table delicacies of the Istrian Peninsula during dinner at a local restaurant.
- · Dine in historic Ljubljana Castle.
- Visit a village outside Dubrovnik and share a meal at a local home.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 Grand Plaza Hotel, Liubliana

Liburnia Riviera Hotels: Days 4, 5 Palace Bellevue Hotel or Imperial Hotel, Opatija

Day 6 Lyra Hotel, Plitvice Lakes Atrium Hotel, Split Days 7, 8

Royal Hotel Ariston, Days 9 - 11 Dubrovnik

Sheraton Zagreb Hotel, Days 12, 13 Zagreb

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Dive into beauty and history as you explore the medieval cities, tranquil lakes, stunning coastlines and quaint villages of Croatia and Slovenia.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Explore Croatia and the countries of the Adriatic. a region filled with ancient cities, medieval architecture, intriguing cultures with a complex recent history, rolling hills and stunning coastal

#### Day 2: Zagreb, Croatia - Ljubljana, Slovenia - Tour Begins

Arrive in Zagreb, Croatia and meet your transfer to Ljubljana, Slovenia, a romantic capital city in the midst of a cultural renaissance. Get to know your fellow travellers during a welcome dinner in this fairy tale town. (D)

#### Day 3: Ljubljana

This morning a local expert introduces you to beautiful Ljubljana. Nestled gently along the banks of the Ljubljanica River, the city is dotted with green parks, picturesque bridges, sidewalk cafes and a lively central market. See Prešeren Square, the impressive City Hall, Ljubljana University and the many bridges that the city is known for, such as Dragon Bridge where this majestic symbol of the city is on full display representing courage and power. Enjoy some free time for lunch in this vibrant town. In the early afternoon, travel towards Lake Bled nestled between the Julian Alps. Visit

the centrepiece of Lake Bled, Bled Island, by a traditional wooden boat. Continue the afternoon in one of the most picturesque places in Slovenia. Perhaps you'll try the legendary Bled's cream cake before you return to Ljubljana. (B)

#### Day 4: Ljubljana - Novo Mesto - Opatija, Croatia

This morning, depart Ljubljana. Get to know more of Slovenia when you visit Novo Mesto, a small-town gem embraced by the Krka River and landscapes of gentle hills. View the town from a unique perspective as you drift along the famous river bend. Later, continue on a walking tour with your local guide. Enjoy your free time and lunch on own. Continue to Croatia and the lovely seaside resort of Opatija, known as "Croatia's Riviera." This fashionable region was once the summer retreat for Roman Caesars and Habsburg Monarchs. Get acquainted with this coastal town on a brief walking tour. Your evening is at leisure. (B)

#### Day 5: Opatija - Istrian Peninsula -Opatiia

Discover the richness of the Istrian Peninsula with its Italian and Croatian influences. Visit a local distillery, where the owners use regional plants, fruits, and herbs to produce brandies, snacks,



and other treats. Discover a picture-perfect example of a hilltop Istrian town. In the late afternoon, a delightful farm-to-table dinner at a local restaurant lets you sample the regional wines and culinary delicacies of the Istrian Peninsula. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Opatija - Plitvice Lakes

This morning, depart for Plitvice Lakes, one of the oldest, largest, and most beautiful national parks in Croatia. Inspiring scenery is one of the wonders you'll experience at this designated UNESCO World Heritage site. Travel among the park's dense forests and terraced lakes, where waterfalls and free-flowing cascades connect one lake to the other. Enjoy a short cruise that takes you into the heart of this natural wonder that extends over 73,000 acres. Tonight, you will stay at a hotel in the village near the National Park. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Plitvice Lakes - Split

From the forest landscapes of Plitvice Lakes travel through the Croatian countryside and stop in a traditional small village to meet the Perajica family. Croatia has a long history creating high quality, artisanal prosciuttos and this family makes one of the best. After a short tour to learn how the meat is produced, enjoy a light lunch of homemade specialties. Arrive in Split, a seaside city full of Roman ruins and natural splendours. This afternoon set out on a walking tour featuring the impressive Diocletian's Palace (UNESCO), one of the most significant late Roman historical monuments built by Emperor Diocletian when he left Rome at the turn of the 4th century. Explore its Peristyle and the Cathedral of St. Dominus. This evening enjoy typical Dalmatian cuisine during dinner at a cozy local restaurant. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Split

This day is yours to relax and explore Split's coastal charms independently or you might consider an optional trip to Trogir (UNESCO). This coastal gem is renowned for its

picturesque Venetian architecture, medieval walls, towering cathedrals, prominent stone houses and scenic charm. (B)

#### Day 9: Split - Dubrovnik

Savour stunning sea views as you travel the winding coastal road, hugging the sheer cliffs that drop dramatically into the aguamarine of the Adriatic Sea. Stop in a quaint village in the Dalmatian countryside where a local family hosts you for a delicious lunch made from ingredients produced from the valley near their home. Learn about village life and listen to Croatian folk music played on the "lijerica," a traditional instrument. Continue on to Dubrovnik, a city of twisting cobblestone streets and burnt-orange rooftops, rich in history and charm. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Dubrovnik 😯

Join a local guide on a tour of the "Old Dubrovnik," a UNESCO World Heritage site. Visit the Franciscan Monastery, where Europe's oldest pharmacy resides, and see Dubrovnik's many historical sites like the Rector's Palace, Sponza Palace, Dubrovnik Cathedral, and Old Town's famous main street, Stradun, This afternoon, it's vour choice! Ascend Mount Srd by cable car for breathtaking views of the Old City of Dubrovnik, the crystal clear Adriatic Sea. and the islands -OR- receive a ticket to access the walls that contain the old city of Dubrovnik and gain a different perspective on this remarkable place. (B)

#### Day 11: Dubrovnik

Spend today at leisure relaxing or independently exploring the marble streets and beautiful baroque buildings of Dubrovnik's breathtaking Old Town. Or, perhaps you'll embark on an optional tour to the culturally rich Konavle region, where you'll be welcomed at a familyowned vineyard for a discussion about their cultivation and production methods before indulging in a tasting of their wines. Then, experience lunch at a locally-owned restaurant that prepares culturally rich recipes prepared in traditional ways passed down for generations. (B)

#### Day 12: Dubrovnik - Zagreb, Croatia

This morning we depart Dubrovnik and travel to Cavtat, a coastal resort town. After a short tour reveals its highlights, enjoy free time to grab coffee or lunch at one of its seaside cafes. Continue to the airport for a short flight to Zagreb, the capital of Croatia. A late afternoon tour highlights the best of this fascinating city that has marked the intersection of Eastern and Central Europe for more than 1000 years. Ride one of the most beautiful funiculars in Europe to the charming upper town. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4099 SOLO Starting at \$4999 Prices based on February 27, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** October 2023 June 2024 - May 2025 February - May 2024 (featured itinerary) (different itinerary - see note\*)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.



#### Day 13: Zagreb

The day is yours to explore Zagreb however you wish! Explore old towns' two medieval settlements, stroll the many open squares and parks, or enjoy the Dolac Market. Or, perhaps you will choose to take an optional tour to Croatia's Zagorje region with visits to historic Kumrovec and the foodie favourite of Samobor. A farewell dinner at one of Zagreb's local restaurants celebrates the end of an unforgettable journey. (B, D)

#### Day 14: Zagreb - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to an end in Zagreb this morning. (B)

66 I enjoyed the variety and comprehensiveness of the tour. We went from the bottom to the top of Croatia and got a great sense of the country, coastal to inland. 99 - Alice P

#### **NEW TOUR**

# **MAJESTIC CITIES OF CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE**

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$4699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Berlin • Dresden • Prague • Prague Castle • Vienna • Schönbrunn Palace • Viennese Candy Workshop • Impact Moment • Budapest • Dinner with Locals • Matthias Church • Krakow • Auschwitz



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Learn from a Berliner their experiences living in East Germany prior to the fall of the Wall.
- Be whisked by train from Prague to "The City of Music" - Vienna, Austria.
- Take a poignant journey through history at the camps of Auschwitz.
- Discover the 2 sides of Hungary's capital, Buda and Pest, alongside a local expert.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 10 - Visit the House of Terror Museum to learn about Hungarian history -OR- indulge in the famous Thermal Baths of Budapest, one of the largest spa baths in Europe.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 6 Dinners (D)

- · Join local residents for a community hosted dinner in Dunaalmas.
- · Learn the secrets of Viennese confectionery during a candy-making demonstration.
- · Dine at the famous Marchfelderhof, an iconic restaurant with rich Viennese tradition.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 Arcotel John F. Hotel, Berlin

Majestic Plaza Hotel, Days 4, 5 Praque

Days 6, 7 Hotel Erzherzog Rainer or Grand Hotel Wien, Vienna

Days 8 - 10 Up Hotel, Budapest Mercure Krakow Old Days 11 - 13

Town, Krakow

SMALL GROUP **EXPLORATIONS** 

Explore a land where world history and fairy-tale charm come to life in the culturally rich, majestic cities of Central & Eastern Europe.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

**TRAVEL STYLE:** 

Set out to experience the very best of Europe's cultural capitals.

Day 2: Berlin, Germany - Tour Begins Arrive in Germany's capital city of Berlin, a blend of deep-rooted history, modern flare and multicultural influences. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

#### Day 3: Berlin

This morning, head out with your local guide and get to know Berlin's rich history by visiting the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, Schoenberg City Hall, Kurfürstendamm, and the Reichstag Building. Finish your morning city tour by meeting with a Berliner to learn about life in communist East Germany before the fall of the Berlin Wall. Later, enjoy some free time for lunch on your own in one of the neighbourhood's many restaurants. This afternoon, end your Berlin guided tour by visiting an area once known as "Checkpoint Charlie" where you will see the remains of the Berlin Wall and West Berlin. The rest of the day is yours to discover and explore at leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: Berlin - Dresden - Prague, Czech Republic

Depart for Prague this morning, the "City

of a Thousand Spires." En route, make a stop in Dresden, the capital of Saxony. Meet a local guide for a tour highlighting its' baroque splendor and architectural treasures such as Frauenkirche, the Cathedral of our Lady and the Royal Palace. Enjoy time on your own to explore this lovely town on the banks of the River Elbe. After arriving in Prague, enjoy your evening savouring classic Czech cuisine in a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Prague

Your introduction to this fairy-tale city opens with a visit to the remarkable Prague Castle and the haunting St. Vitus Cathedral. Home to kings and emperors, the complex at Prague Castle is one of the most important sites in the Czech Republic and is easily the highlight of the city. Enjoy some free time for lunch in the afternoon before continuing on a leisurely walking tour through the Old Town. Visit the unique Astronomical Clock and the statue-lined Charles Bridge. Learn about the poignant history held in Prague's Jewish Quarter when you pass the Old Jewish Cemetery and Synagogue. The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy Prague during your free time. (B)

#### Day 6: Prague - Vienna, Austria

This morning, hop on a train and depart for your next adventure to Vienna, the "musical city."





Upon arrival in Vienna, enjoy a short orientation drive through the city followed by an afternoon at leisure. Later, enjoy an evening in one of Vienna's most beloved restaurants, the Marchfelderhof – an iconic restaurant with rich Viennese tradition where dinner mixes with local cultural flavour to create an unforgettable night. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Vienna

This morning, experience the city of Vienna on a tour highlighting some of its architectural marvels, including the lavish Schönbrunn Palace, a summer retreat of the Habsburg dynasty. Learn more about Vienna's sweet confectionary history when you visit a candy workshop where candies are still being made according to traditional recipes dating back over 150 years. After time for lunch on your own in this beautiful city, join our Impact Moment at a Viennese coffee house. At this café, the baked goods are authentically made by real grandmas. This social enterprise aims to give local retirees a chance to connect with locals and travellers around the world. Finish your day by participating in one of Vienna's most treasured traditions during a Viennese Waltz lesson. (B)

# Day 8: Vienna - Bratislava, Slovakia - Budapest, Hungary

Sit back, relax and enjoy the picturesque

countryside enroute to Budapest. Make a stop in Bratislava, Slovakia, the former Imperial capital of the Habsburg Empire. Get to know the city's 4,000-year-old history during a short walking tour before taking time to enjoy lunch on your own. Continue through the Hungarian countryside to the Village of Dunaalmas. Connect with the villagers and learn all about traditional Hungarian goulash soup and how to make a traditional strudel before joining a community-hosted dinner. Continue on to lovely Budapest, a city divided by the Danube with historic Buda on one side and cosmopolitan Pest on the opposite bank. (B, D)

#### Day 9: Budapest

The beautiful city of Budapest is yours to discover. This morning a local expert provides an informative city tour featuring Fisherman's Bastion, Matthias Church, Old Buda, the New Parliament and Gellert Hill with a special stop at Heroes' Square, a unique monument to the many diverse leaders of Hungary. The rest of the afternoon is yours for free time. This evening, perhaps you'll take in the essence of the region during an optional dinner followed by a cruise to view Budapest's stunning night skyline. (B)

#### Day 10: Budapest 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Choose to visit the House of Terror Museum and Memorial and gain an important perspective of 20th-century Hungarian history -OR- indulge in the famous Thermal Baths of Budapest, one of the largest spa baths in Europe. This afternoon is yours to uncover "the Queen of the Danube" however you wish. (B)

#### Day 11: Budapest - Banská Bystrica, Slovakia - Krakow, Poland

Take in the picturesque landscapes en route to Poland. Make a stop for lunch in Banska Bystrica, a historic town nestled on the banks of the Hron River with architecture dating back to the middle ages. Your home for the next three nights is the lively city of Krakow, a historic city offering old world charm. This evening, get to know traditional Polish culture during a folklore show and dinner featuring local cuisine. (B, L, D)

# Day 12: Krakow - Auschwitz - Krakow

Discover Krakow's historic Old Town on a city tour complete with stops at the Market Square, St. Mary's Church, and the university. You'll also view Wawel Castle, a former residence of Polish kings. This afternoon, embark on a poignant journey through history as you travel to the





#### **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**



camps of Auschwitz. A local expert guides you through the former concentration camp, where you will learn about the sobering history and resilience of the human spirit. The evening is yours to spend it as you wish. (B)

#### Day 13: Krakow

The morning is yours to enjoy the city on your own. Consider joining an optional walking tour to discover stories related to Jewish Krakow. Enjoy free time in the afternoon before tonight's farewell dinner. Toast to the end of this memorable trip as you sit down with your fellow travellers at a Jewish restaurant, feeling connected to the cultures and traditions of Central & Eastern Europe. (B, D)

#### Day 14: Krakow - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today. (B)

## **IMPERIAL CITIES**

11 DAYS · 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$3299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Prague - Prague Castle - Cesky Krumlov • Vienna • Schönbrunn Palace • Classical Music Performance - Bratislava - Lunch with Locals • Budapest • Matthias Church

• Fisherman's Bastion • Visegrad • Renaissance Dinner



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- · Tour the majestic Prague Castle.
- Get a glimpse into Hungary's communist past during an exclusive talk with a local.
- Get to know Bratislava's 4,000-yearold history on a tour with a local expert.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 7 — Head to the medieval town of Durnstein and cruise to Melk Abbey -OR- join a local guide in the Belvedere Museum, home to The Kiss -OR- attend a Viennese Waltz lesson.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 9 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Join local residents for a community hosted lunch in Dunaalmas.
- Savour a Renaissance-style dinner at a medieval castle restaurant near Budapest.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 4 Grandior Hotel, Prague

Days 5 - 7 Intercontinental Hotel or Grand Hotel Wien, Vienna

Days 8 - 10 Up Hotel, Budapest

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## Bask in the splendour, history, and romance of Europe's regal capital cities of Prague, Vienna, and Budapest.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Set out on a grand cultural adventure through the Imperial Cities of Central Europe - Prague, Vienna and Budapest. Along the way, enjoy traditional entertainment, local cuisine, and a glimpse into this region's eminent history.

#### Day 2: Prague, Czech Republic - Tour **Begins**

Arrive in Prague, the "City of 100 Spires." Behold ancient landmarks and medieval architecture. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

#### Day 3: Prague

Feel the magic and wonder of Prague. Your introduction to this fairy-tale city begins with a panoramic tour. Explore the "Castle District," including the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral, the majestic Prague Castle, and the Golden Lane. After, enjoy some time at leisure for lunch on your own until you meet with local guide later on to explore the best of Prague Old Town. Finish your day by taking in the iconic, statue-lined Charles Bridge - a picturesque structure stretching over the Vltava River. Spend the rest of the afternoon and evening with free time at leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: Prague

This morning, discover Prague on your own.

Consider shopping for Bohemian crystal or visiting the city's museums, such as the Lapidarium. Perhaps, you will join an optional excursion to Prague's Old Jewish Quarter to see its historic Jewish Museum and Europe's oldest Jewish cemetery, founded in 1478. Tonight, enjoy dinner and traditional folklore dances at a famous Prague restaurant where the menu is created based on original recipes from Czech grandmothers. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Prague - Cesky Krumlov -Vienna, Austria

Travel through the scenic countryside on your way to Vienna. En route, make a stop in the medieval town of Cesky Krumlov. Lined with towering Baroque architecture, explore the quaint preserved streets before continuing on to the grand city of Vienna. (B)

#### Day 6: Vienna

Join a local guide at the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace, the summer retreat of the Habsburg dynasty for more than 200 years. Continue on to Vienna's city centre and behold the beautiful architecture, scenic parks, and gothic spires that fill the city. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure where perhaps you'll partake in the city's famous café culture as you walk the streets, watching locals







take a moment out of their day for a hot coffee and bite of cake. Tonight, hear Vienna's past come alive and experience a classical performance featuring the works of Mozart and Strauss. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Vienna 😗

Choose how you spend your day because it's your choice! Venture down the Danube to the medieval town of Durnstein and cruise to the 11th-century Melk Abbey -OR-join a local guide in the Belvedere Museum, home to Gustav Klimt's iconic painting *The Kiss* -OR- enjoy a leisurely morning before attending a Viennese Waltz lesson in the afternoon. The rest of the day is yours. (B)

#### Day 8: Vienna - Bratislava, Slovakia - Budapest, Hungary

Say hello to Bratislava, the former Imperial capital of the Habsburg Empire. Get to know the city's 4,000-year-old history on a tour with a local expert. Connect with the villagers of Dunaalmas during a community-hosted lunch, learning how to make traditional strudel. Arrive in Budapest, the "Queen of the Danube," and your home for the next 3 nights. Enjoy the evening on your own. (B, L)

#### **Day 9: Budapest**

Join a local expert for a panoramic tour of the city, where you'll discover

the incredible Neo-Gothic marvel of Matthias Church atop Buda Castle Hill, the Fisherman's Bastion, the historic Old Buda and Gellert Hill, and the Parliament House. This afternoon, enjoy some free time to explore Budapest on your own. Perhaps you'll head to the city's famous thermal pools for an afternoon of relaxation, or maybe you'll join an optional excursion to discover Budapest by Night. (B)

# Day 10: Budapest - Visegrad - Budapest

This morning, talk with a local and listen to stories about his life during the former communist era. Enjoy the rest of the morning at leisure. This afternoon, head out of the city to the former Renaissance capital of Visegrad for a magnificent view of the Danube Bend and the Borzsony Mountains. Embrace the lifestyle of the 14th-century castle, a former residence of Hungarian kings, and enjoy an exclusive Renaissance-style dinner in the castle. (B, D)

#### **Day 11: Budapest - Tour Ends**

Say goodbye to these regal cities as your tour comes to a close today. (B)



DOUBLE Starting at \$3299 SOLO Starting at \$4499

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on August 7, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2024 - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### **ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR**

Pre-Night:

Prague (1-2 Nights)



Post-Night:
Budpest (1-2 Nights)





Excellent tour guide, personal, knowledgeable and dependable.

He clearly explained daily visit schedules and gave useful information for us to enjoy and learn more from each city.

## A TASTE OF THE BALKANS

16 DAYS · 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$5199

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Dubrovnik • Kotor • Mostar • Sarajevo ■ Home-Hosted Dinner ■ Etno Village Karanac • Osijek • Cooking with Locals • Wine Tasting • Zagreb • Museum of Naïve Art - Plitvice Lakes - Impact Moment -Novo Mesto • Ljubljana • Lake Bled



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Explore Mostar to witness a blend of Middle East and Europe influences.
- Impact Moment: At a Serbian community centre, meet the local women who sustain their community through their crafts.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 3 See the famous city walls of Dubrovnik, still standing from the Middle Ages -OR- hop into a cable car for incredible views of the city from above.
- Day 7 With a local siege survivor, visit the Sarajevo Tunnel Museum and the bobsled track on Olympic Mountain -OR- visit Gallery 11/07/95, which documents the city's conflict through photography.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

- Get to know the locals by preparing regional specialties and baking bread in Karanac.
- See why Mediterranean cuisine is world-famous in Dubrovnik.
- In Sarajevo, join a local family in their home for a meal of regional dishes.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Hotel Royal Ariston, Days 2, 3 Dubrovnik Days 4, 5 Hotel Cattaro, Kotor Days 6 - 8 Colors Inn, Sarajevo Family Hotel Baraniska Days 9 - 10 Kuća, etno village, Karanac, Days 11 - 12 Hotel Le Premier, Zagreb The Lyra Hotel or 16 Lakes Day 13

Days 14 - 15 Grand Plaza Hotel, Ljubljana

Hotel, Plitvice Lakes

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



### Uncover a region where rocky coastlines and towering mountains meet a complex history and medieval city walls.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Set off for an adventure to the Balkans, a region where rocky coastlines and towering mountains meet a complex history and medieval city walls. On your journey, generations of traditions come to life through local experiences amidst a stunning backdrop.

#### Day 2: Dubrovnik, Croatia - Tour Begins

Twisting cobblestone streets and burnt-orange rooftops reveal Dubrovnik, a city steeped in history and charm. Look out over the sparkling Adriatic Sea during your welcome dinner. Savour Mediterranean cuisine and new friendships. (D)

#### Day 3: Dubrovnik 😯

Dubrovnik's ancient streets share its history and timelessness with you during your tour. For the rest of the day, the city is yours to unfold personally because it's your choice! Perhaps you'll explore its famous city walls, still standing from the Middle Ages -OR- hop into a cable car for incredible views of the entire city from above. With the remainder of your day free, you do you -Croatia-style. (B)

# Day 4: Dubrovnik - Kotor, Montenegro

It's "Doviđenja" to Croatia as you head to Montenegro. Set sail on a private boat for the

islet of Our Lady of the Rocks. Visit the church before coasting through the breathtaking Kotor Bay towards the Old Town of Kotor (UNESCO). Your 18th-century hotel rises from the original city walls. With your free afternoon, explore this beautiful city on your own. Complete your day in a quiet corner of Old Town Kotor in a cozy family restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Kotor

Today, have fun exploring Kotor your way. Perhaps you'll go on an optional excursion to Njeguši, a quiet and peaceful village located on the slope of Mount Lovćen about 900 meters above sea level. Get a tasty local lesson on the tradition of prosciutto and homemade cheeses famously produced here - and, of course, sample these specialties. The remainder of the day is yours to explore the hidden corners of Kotor. (B)

#### Day 6: Kotor - Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo

Welcome to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Spend time in Mostar, home to the iconic arched Stari Most Bridge (UNESCO). Explore Mostar with your Tour Manager before lunching on your own at a traditional restaurant in the historic part of the city. Continue on to Sarajevo - Bosnia

and Herzegovina's capital city where East meets West - and your home for the next 3 nights. Reminiscent of a European Jerusalem, find an ever-evolving conglomeration of religious sects all living in harmony. Perhaps you'll take an evening stroll with your Tour Manager to get familiar with the area. (B)

#### Day 7: Sarajevo 😗

With a local expert, uncover the history of Sarajevo, the starting point of the first World War. Meander the storied roadways and take in its blend of religions and architectural styles. Free time means independent exploration of this historic city. Then, it's your choice! Uncover Sarajevo's past with a local siege survivor, spending time in the Sarajevo Tunnel Museum before visiting the bobsled track on Trebevic Olympic Mountain -OR- visit Gallery 11/07/95, which documents the city's 20th-century turmoil through photography. Tonight, locals welcome you to their homehosted dinner. Enjoy regional favourites such as klepe (meat dumplings) and burek (flaky filled pastries). Sip Bosnian coffee as a soundtrack of traditional folk music sets the tone of a truly memorable evening. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Sarajevo

Enjoy time on your own today. Consider an optional excursion to Lukomir Highland, hiking to a remote village and bond with locals over lunch. Or maybe embark on an optional tour of Tito's Bunker, exploring the former president's personal hideout. With the rest of your afternoon and evening at leisure, relax, reset, or explore even more.

#### Day 9: Sarajevo - Karanac, Croatia

Wind through Bosnia into Croatia's northeast corner for a lunch that highlights authentic Bosnian cuisine. Travel off the beaten path toward the rural village of Karanac, nestled at the confluence of the Drava and Danube Rivers. Tonight, your host delights you with dinner and folklore entertainment. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Karanac - Osijek - Karanac

This morning, immerse yourself in country life. Perhaps you'll join your hosts in preparing breakfast. A local guide shares Osijek's history of the Romans and Ottomans with you, before some free time to explore the town. Learn how wine is made in this region, enjoying a glass, Alongside locals, prepare traditional dishes and bread for dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 11: Karanac - Zagreb

This morning, say goodbye to the beautiful Baranja region and continue your journey to Zagreb - Croatia's fascinating capital city. A local guide introduces you to one of the most unique Croatian museums - the Museum of Naïve Art. Enjoy some free time to explore it on your own. The evening is yours - perhaps join your Tour Manager for an evening stroll - and then take in Zagreb at night however you'd like. (B)

#### Day 12: Zagreb

You have an entire day to soak up Zagreb at leisure! Explore its Old Town, medieval settlements, open squares, museums, or the Dolac Market. Perhaps you'll choose to

of Yugoslavia. Tonight, dine in a traditional Serbian restaurant. (D)

#### Day 17: Belgrade

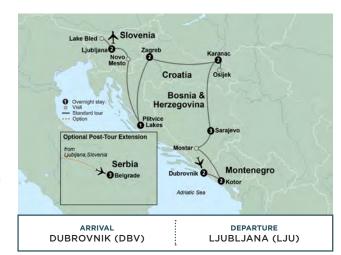
The first half of your day is yours to explore Belgrade. Later, you'll join your guide and hop on Belgrade's public transportation to dine at a local restaurant on the banks of the Danube River. (B, D)

#### Day 18: Belgrade

Today, journey to the unique and beautiful city of Novi Sad. Take a city tour before having some free time to explore on your own. Perhaps you'll want to take in the views of the city from atop the impressive Petrovaradin Fortress or explore the charm of the nearby Stari Grad neighbourhood with its monuments, cafes, and shops. Tonight, you'll have a farewell dinner and traditional music in Skadarlija, the bohemian area of Belgrade. (B, D)

#### Day 19: Belgrade - Extension Ends

Say farewell to the captivating city of Belgrade, and depart with fond memories of Serbia and its incredible culture. (B)





take an optional tour to Croatia's Zagorje region, visiting the historic Kumrovec and Samobor, set in a picturesque countryside. (B)

#### Day 13: Zagreb - Plitvice Lakes

It's off to northern Croatia. A local guide takes you past the forested landscapes of Plitvice Lakes National Park (UNESCO). Walk along the cascading lakes and the free-falling waterfalls. Cruise through a portion of the park by boat before enjoying some free time and lunch on your own. This afternoon, an Impact Moment reveals how local women are sustaining their community through their crafts. Tonight, an authentic "under the bell" dinner is yours to savour, complete with slow roasted lamb and vegetables. (B, D)

#### Day 14: Plitvice Lakes - Novo Mesto, Slovenia -Ljubljana

Today, cross into Slovenia, a country that has the word "love" in its name. Travel off the beaten path and discover Novo Mesto – a unique experience in one of the most beautiful Slovenian cities. Enjoy a scenic boat ride under the bridges in the Krka River before joining your local guide for a walking tour. Finish your visit with a Slovenian lunch in a local restaurant. Later, arrive in Ljubljana's city centre, your home for the next two nights. Acquaint yourself with this incredible city before having an evening of free time to explore it on your own. (B, L)

#### Day 15: Ljubljana - Bled - Ljubljana

This morning, head to beautiful Lake Bled nestled under the Julian Alps. Board a Pletna Boat to the isle of Bled to discover the nature and natural scenery of Slovenia. Take a walk around the lake or relax in the beautiful scenery. This evening, toast to the end of your adventure during a farewell dinner at a local restaurant, complete with folklore performances. (B, D)

#### Day 16: Ljubljana - Tour Ends

Wish Slovenia goodbye as you depart for home. (B)

#### Optional 3 Night Belgrade **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1560 pp



#### Day 16: Ljubljana, Slovenia - Belgrade, Serbia

Journey from Ljubljana to Belgrade, the aweinspiring capital of Serbia. Once you stop to settle into your hotel, take a guided walking tour around this historic city, where Roman, Byzantine, Austrian, and Serbian empires have left their marks on the landscape. Later, head to the Museum of Yugoslavia to learn about the region's history. On the museum grounds, visit the House of Flowers, the resting place of Josip Broz Tito, President

# **DISCOVERING POLAND**

12 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$2999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Warsaw • Malbork Castle • Gdansk • Solidarity Shipyards • Wroclaw • Jasna Góra Monastery • Black Madonna • Kraków • Auschwitz • Folklore Show & Dinner



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit the Jasna Góra monastery to witness the world-famous Black Madonna.
- · Explore the poignant history of Auschwitz.



#### **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 5 - In Gdansk, take an independent boat ride down the Motlawa River, experiencing the historic city of Gdansk from the water side -OR- take a short afternoon tour of the seaside town of Sopot enjoying free time for lunch and exploration.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 10 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

• Immerse yourself in Polish culture during a folklore show and dinner.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Hotel Mercure Warszawa

Grand, Warsaw

Radisson Blu Hotel, Old Days 4, 5

Town, Gdansk

Days 6 - 8 The Bridge Wroclaw MGallery, Wroclaw

Mercure Krakow Old Town, Davs 9 - 11

Krakow

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## On an all-encompassing tour of Poland, uncover the country's poignant past and engaging present.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

You're on your way to Poland, a land of amazing castles, poignant history and a welcoming culture.

#### Day 2: Warsaw, Poland - Tour Begins

Welcome to Warsaw! This city features a blend of old-world charm and modern energy. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner in a traditional Polish restaurant. (D)

#### Day 3: Warsaw

This morning, embark on a Warsaw city tour with your local guide and embrace the city's moving history as you discover the main sights and the Old Town. Gain a different perspective of Warsaw's past by learning about the city's communist history during a scenic bus tour. Continue on by foot and marvel at the cobblestone alleys and medieval buildings throughout the Old Town. After, you can dive deeper into the history of Warsaw by joining a Jewish heritage walking tour. The afternoon is at leisure to take in the alleyways, visit a quaint café in Warsaw's Old Town, explore a museum, or simply relax. (B)

#### Day 4: Warsaw - Malbork Castle -Gdansk

Depart Warsaw and stop in the town of Malbork, home to Malbork Castle, one of the largest castles in the world. On a guided tour of this 700-year-old

structure, gain an introduction to the world of the Knights of the Teutonic Order. Later, continue to Gdansk, a port city on the Baltic coast of Poland. This evening, enjoy traditional Polish cuisine. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Gdansk 😯

Start your morning with a local expert in Gdansk. Get to know this port city's history stopping at the Gdansk Shipyards, site of the creation of the anti-Communist Solidarity movement in 1980 that helped liberate Poland from Soviet rule. Continue on a tour highlighting City Hall and St. Mary's Church. Peek into Poland's age-old culture of amber, which dates back to the Neolithic period. Later, it's your choice! Embark on an excursion to the seaside resort town of Sopot -OR- remain in Gdansk and enjoy a boat ride on the Motlawa River and see this important city from a different perspective. The evening is yours to stroll through a city square, shop for local handicrafts, or soak in the seaside atmosphere. (B)

#### Day 6: Gdansk - Wroclaw

Enjoy a morning at leisure before you hop on a train and discover Poland's countryside from a different perspective. After, depart to Wroclaw - one of the oldest and most beautiful cities in Poland, Crisscrossed by numerous tributaries and channels, it is an exceptional city of 12 islands







Poland ARRIVAL DEPARTURE WARSAW (WAW) KRAKOW (KRK)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2999 SOLO Starting at \$3949

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on November 30, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 March - May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2024 March - May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2024 - May 2025 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

and more than 100 bridges. Get a taste of the culture when you join your fellow travellers for some locally-brewed beer and a traditional "home-style" dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Wroclaw

Start your morning on a tour of Wroclaw, bringing this 1,000-year-old city to life. In the Old Town, discover a diverse blend of ethnicities and religions all coexisting within a unified Polish mindset. In the afternoon, enjoy lunch in a local restaurant. The remainder of the day is yours. You can visit idyllic parks, immerse yourself in the captivating culture, or even search for the many dwarf statues hidden on the streets of the city. (B, L)

#### **Day 8: Wroclaw**

The day is yours. Take a stroll along Wroclaw's cobblestone streets, people watch at the square or relax at one of the parks. The Market Square is a beautiful place to take a stroll and soak up the atmosphere. Perhaps you'll join a full-day optional tour to Poland's countryside. (B)

#### Day 9: Wroclaw - Czestochowa -Kraków

Leave Wroclaw for Czestochowa, the spiritual capital of Poland. Every year, over 5 million pilgrims journey to pay their respects to the famous Black Madonna in the Jasna Góra monastery. Venture inside

for an up-close look at this miraculous image. Depart for Kraków, an enchanting city famous for its well-preserved town centre. Get acquainted with the city during an evening at leisure. (B)

#### Day 10: Kraków

Join a local expert on a panoramic tour of Kraków, including Market Square, St. Mary's Church and the university. You will also see the famous Wawel Castle, the former residence of Polish kings. The rest of your day is at leisure. Perhaps you'll stroll the quaint side streets of Kraków's famous Old Town, have coffee in one of the largest squares in Europe, or visit the Schindler Museum. Consider taking an optional excursion to discover the history of Jewish Kraków as you visit Kazimierz and Podgórze. (B)

#### Day 11: Kraków - Auschwitz -Kraków

Embark on a poignant journey through history as you travel to Auschwitz. A local expert guides you through the former concentration camp, where you will learn about the sobering history as well as the resilience of the human spirit. This evening, celebrate traditional Polish culture during a folklore show and dinner, complete with wine and beer. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Krakow - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today. (B)

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Warsaw (1-2 NIGHTS)





66 We loved seeing Poland! Such a fabulous trip. We loved seeing all the cathedrals and Malbork Castle and all the city tours. 🤊

.....

#### **NEW TOUR**

# **EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS MARKETS**

9 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$2999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Prague's Christmas Markets - Prague Castle - Train Ride to Dresden -Dresden's Christmas Markets • Vienna's Christmas Markets - Schönbrunn Palace • Viennese Candy Workshop • Bratislava - Locally-Hosted Dinner -Budapest's Christmas Markets • Matthias Church • Fisherman's Bastion



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Tour the majestic Prague Castle.
- Be whisked by train from Prague to the "Florence on the Elbe" -Dresden, Germany.
- · Visit 5 different countries filled with the holiday spirit.



#### IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Day 3 - Learn about Prague's Jewish history on a heritage tour -OR- experience a different side of Prague on a Vltava river cruise.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 7 Breakfasts (B) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Join local Hungarian residents for a community-hosted dinner in Dunaalmas.
- · Learn the secrets of Viennese confectionery during a candy making demonstration.
- Dine at the famous Marchfelderhof, an iconic restaurant with a rich Viennese tradition.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight

K+K Central Hotel, Grandior Days 2 - 4 Hotel, Majestic Plaza Hotel, or Grandium Hotel, Prague

Days 5, 6 InterContinental Hotel, Vienna

Days 7, 8 Up Hotel, Budapest

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Set out on a grand holiday adventure through the winter wonderland of the Imperial Cities of Central Europe - Prague, Vienna and Budapest.

#### **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Set out on a grand holiday adventure through the winter wonderland of the Imperial Cities of Central Europe - Prague, Vienna and Budapest. Along the way, immerse yourself in festive Christmas markets, enjoy traditional entertainment, sample local cuisine, and glimpse this region's rich history.

#### Day 2: Prague, Czech Republic - Tour **Beains**

Arrive in Prague, the "City of 100 Spires." Behold ancient landmarks and medieval architecture. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

#### Day 3: Prague 😯

Feel the magic and wonder of Prague dressed up for the holiday season. Your introduction to this fairy-tale city begins with a panoramic tour. Explore the "Castle District," including the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral and the majestic Prague Castle. Next, take in the iconic, statue-lined Charles Bridge, a picturesque structure stretching over the Vltava River. You decide how to further explore Prague because it's your choice! Learn more about the city's Jewish heritage and visit Europe's oldest active Synagogue on a heritage tour -OR- let a boat reveal a different side of Prague on a Vltava river cruise. The remainder of your

afternoon and evening is at leisure for you to take in the best Prague has to offer independently - don't miss the famous Christmas market in Prague's Old Town Square where brightly decorated wooden huts are filled with the work of local artisans, and traditional food and drink is prepared right in front of you. (B)

#### Day 4: Prague - Dresden, Germany -**Prague, Czech Republic**

Hop aboard a train for Dresden, Germany, known as "Florence on the Elbe." Meet a local guide for a tour highlighting its baroque splendour and architectural treasures such as Frauenkirche, the Cathedral of our Lady and the Royal Palace. Visit the world's oldest Christmas market - the Striezelmarkt - which has been delighting travellers and locals alike since 1434. Take time to explore the stalls overflowing with ornaments, sample local sweets and have time for lunch on your own before returning to Prague. (B)

#### Day 5: Prague - Cesky Krumlov -Vienna, Austria

Depart Prague and travel through the scenic countryside on your way to Vienna, Austria. En route, make a stop in the medieval town of Cesky-Krumlov. Lined with towering Baroque architecture, explore the quaint-preserved streets







Germany Czech Republic Slovakia Austria Hungary ARRIVAL **DEPARTURE** PRAGUE (PRG) BUDAPEST (BUD)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$2999 SOLO Starting at \$3799

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on December 9, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

**November - December 2023** (different itinerary - see note\*)

December 2024 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for December 2024 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

independently and have time for lunch on vour own. Continue to the one-of-a-kind Marchfelderhof Restaurant, a favourite since the 1800s of locals, visitors and the famous alike. Indulge in dinner at this iconic spot rich with Viennese tradition. Arrive in the grand city of Vienna, capital of Austria, aglow with holiday lights. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Vienna

This morning, meet your local guide and visit the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace, the summer retreat of the Habsburg dynasty for more than 200 years. Continue on to Vienna's city centre and behold the beautiful architecture, scenic parks, and gothic spires that fill the city. Learn more about Vienna's sweet confectionery history when you visit a candy workshop where candies are still being made according to traditional recipes dating back over 150 vears. An afternoon at leisure allows time to visit the Christkindlmarkt, perhaps the biggest and most famous in the city, at the neo-gothic Rathaus City Hall. Tonight, you may choose an option to hear Vienna's past come alive and experience a classical music performance featuring the works of Mozart and Strauss. (B)

#### Day 7: Vienna - Bratislava, Slovakia - Budapest, Hungary

Say hello to Bratislava, the former Imperial capital of the Habsburg Empire, Enjoy

free time to have lunch and explore some of the city's 4,000-year-old history independently - don't miss the charming Christmas markets! Continue to the village of Dunaalmas in the Hungarian countryside and immerse yourself in typical country life of the village. Learn how to make traditional strudel before enjoying a community-hosted dinner. Arrive in Budapest, the "Queen of the Danube" and your home for the next 2 nights. Enjoy the evening on your own. (B, D)

#### **Day 8: Budapest**

Join a local expert for a panoramic tour of the city, where you'll discover the incredible neo-gothic marvel of Matthias Church atop Buda Castle Hill, the Fisherman's Bastion, the historic Old Buda and Gellert Hill, and the Parliament House. This afternoon, enjoy some free time to explore Budapest on your own. Perhaps you will visit the cozy Christmas market at St. Stephen's Basilica with its ice rink and gorgeous tree, or head to the city's largest market at Vörösmarty Square brimming with food and crafts stalls where local musicians often perform. This evening join your fellow travellers to toast the end of a festive trip at a farewell dinner. (B, D)

#### **Day 9: Budapest - Tour Ends**

Say goodbye to these regal cities as your tour comes to a close today. (B)

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Post-Night: Budapest (1-2 NIGHTS)





# EXPLORE EVEN MORE IN



Explore Christmas markets alive with festive cheer and cultural treasures. Uncover the history and tastes of Austria and Germany.

#### highlights

- Experience the 600-yearold holiday tradition of the Christkindlesmarkt.
- Unwind and shop for handmade crafts in the heart of the Alps.
- Venture by train to Seefeld for a horse-drawn carriage ride and a taste of schnapps.

#### stays

5 Nights Innsbruck1 Night Munich



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/559 FOR MORE DETAILS.



CHRISTMAS ON THE DANUBE
9 DAYS / FROM \$3649\* PP
Price based on December 7, 2024 departure

On a river cruise along the Danube, see Europe dressed in its holiday best.

#### highlights

- Browse the famous Christmas markets along the Danube.
- Join a local expert as you discover Würzburg, Nuremberg, Regensburg and Vienna.
- Explore the 900-year-old Benedictine Melk Abbey.

#### stays

1 Night Wurzburg 6 Nights MS Amadeus Brilliant



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/211 FOR MORE DETAILS.



# EUROPE



Savour springtime in Holland and Belgium with a cruise that features blooming tulip fields and iconic windmills.

#### highlights

- Step back in time on a guided walking tour of medieval Bruges, then embark on a canal cruise.
- Relax as you're transported through Holland and Belgium on a 7-night cruise.
- Stand in awe before the iconic windmills of Kinderdijk, the largest collection in all of Holland.

#### stays

7 Nights MS Amadeus Brilliant



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/209
FOR MORE DETAILS.



Glide along the enchanting Rhine and Moselle rivers on a leisurely journey to the Netherlands, Germany and France.

#### highlights

- Set out on a 7-night cruise along the Rhine.
- Discover lovely Strasbourg on a guided tour and cruise its canals.
- Experience Moselle Valley on a trip from Zell to Bernkastel.

#### stays

8 Nights MS Amadeus Brilliant



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/569 FOR MORE DETAILS.



Commemorate the 80th Anniversary of D-Day on an iconic journey of remembrance of what the world lost – and gained – from the Second World War.

#### highlights

- Retrace historic preparation efforts at The D-Day Story Museum, dedicated to Operation Overlord.
- Navigate the path of the D-Day Landings as you cross the English Channel by ferry.
- Set foot on the hallowed grounds of the Normandy landing beaches.

#### stays

2 Nights London 1 Night Portsmouth 3 nights Caen 2 Nights Paris



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/502 FOR MORE DETAILS.

# EXPLORE THESE SPECIALLY



Follow the path of Paul the Apostle as you discover natural beauty and ancient history on this Grecian sojourn.

#### spiritual highlights

- Pause for a moment of devotion in the Cave of the Apocalypse, where John the Evangelist wrote the Book of Revelation.
- See the Bema where Paul was brought before the tribunal in Corinth, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles.
- In Athens, see Mars Hill where Paul delivered his "Men of Athens" speech.

#### stays

- 2 Nights Athens3 Nights MS *Olympia*
- 1 Night Kalambaka
- 2 Nights Thessaloniki
- 1 Night Athens



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/346 FOR MORE DETAILS.



From the hallowed Basilica of St. Francis to the glorious Sistine Chapel, discover why Italy is a bastion of Catholicism.

#### spiritual highlights

- Walk in the footsteps of St. Pio of Pietrelcina and reflect on his life, credited with more than 1,000 miracles.
- Pause for a moment of devotion over the tomb of St. Matthew the Apostle in the Cathedral of Salerno.
- See where the Franciscan Order started and visit the Porziuncola, a small church located within the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels.

#### stays

- 1 Night Rome
- 2 Nights Assisi
- 2 Nights San Giovanni Rotondo
- 1 Night Cava de Tirreni
- 3 Nights Rome



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/24 FOR MORE DETAILS.



The centuries-old jubilean tradition continues with you making a pilgrimage to Rome during the Holy Year 2025.

#### spiritual highlights

- Attend the weekly Papal Audience in the Vatican City and feel the blessing as you attend the Sunday Angelus prayer with the Holy Father in Saint Peter's Square.
- Glimpse the 7 Holy Doors, only opened during the Jubilee year and take time to cross in reverence through the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica.

#### stays

7 Nights Rome



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/708 FOR MORE DETAILS.

# DESIGNED FAITH TOURS



Travel to two of the world's most revered pilgrimage centres and experience the wonderful cultures and beauty of Portugal, France, and Spain.

#### spiritual highlights

- Visit sites associated with the revered Saint Bernadette, including her birthplace and baptismal font.
- Celebrate Mass on nearly every day of your journey.
- Connect with your faith on a candlelight procession in Lourdes.

#### stays

2 Nights Fatima2 Nights Burgos2 Nights Lourdes2 Nights Barcelona



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/53 FOR MORE DETAILS.



Walk in the hallowed footsteps of Jesus Christ and see some of the world's ancient cities on this spirited sojourn to Israel.

#### spiritual highlights

- Gaze out to into the Mediterranean Sea from Caesarea, where Paul began his voyage to Rome and ultimate martyrdom.
- Reflect on Jesus' teachings during a visit to the synagogue in Capernaum.
- In Bethlehem reflect on the words of Luke, "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

#### stays

- 1 Night Tel Aviv2 Nights Tibereias
- 4 Nights Jerusalem



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/596 FOR MORE DETAILS.



On an inspirational journey through Israel, strengthen your faith and feel closer to God.

#### spiritual highlights

- Pause for a moment of devotion atop Mount Tabor, the site of Jesus' Transfiguration.
- Reflect over the ministry of Saint John the Baptist during a visit to the Grotto of his birthplace.
- Follow in the footsteps of Our Lord along the Via Dolorosa, walked by Our Lord on the way to his crucifixion.

#### stays

- 1 Night Tel Aviv
- 2 Nights Tibereias
- 4 Nights Jerusalem



VISIT COLLETTE.COM/378 FOR MORE DETAILS.

# **AIR** INFORMATION

#### THE CHOICE IS YOURS

# three great air options

Enjoy the benefits of air-inclusive bookings. Allow us to be your liaison with the airlines and to handle all the details. Choose Flex Airfare, Instant Purchase, or Elite Airfare.	Flex Airfare	Instant Purchase Airfare <sup>3</sup>	Elite Airfare
Receive roundtrip home to airport sedan service – your journey begins at home!	•	•	•
Roundtrip airport to hotel transfers included <sup>2</sup>	•	•	•
Dedicated Concierge Service			•
Lounge Passes <sup>5</sup>			•
Express Check-In <sup>5</sup>			•
Eligible for Collette's Travel Protection Plan	•	part b	<ul><li>part b</li></ul>
Benefit from our flexible change and refund policies	•		<i>(i)</i>
Deposit now, pay the balance later	•		<b>(</b> )
Eliminates future surcharges by locking in price		•	
All the perks of upgraded air (more leg room, comfort, and space)			•

treat yourself & enjoy

Whether you select Elite, Flex, or Instant Purchase Airfare, you'll enjoy the ease and security that comes with reserving your air with Collette.









































































This roundtrip home to airport sedan service is included when you reside within a 100 km radius of most major Canadian gateways and purchase an air-inclusive tour. One transfer per room booking. Additional stops not permitted on route. Not valid on group travel. 2These transfers are available on the first and last day of the actual tour dates and when you are travelling on select flights. Land only clients may purchase transfers on the first and last day of the actual tour dates for an additional cost of \$100 per person, roundtrip (some restrictions may apply). Instant Purchase Airfare is offered on select dates; consult your booking agent. 4Elite Airfare status is only included with the purchase of a First Class, Business Class or Premium Economy ticket with either Flex or Instant Purchase air; only on the international/long-haul portion of your journey. 5Lounge Passes & Express Check-In are based on airline and airport availability for Business Class passengers only; Premium Economy tickets do not qualify. Lounge passes are not available for travel from North America to destinations within North America or the Caribbean. 

Not applicable with Instant Purchase Airfare.

# TERMS & CONDITIONS

#### **Important Reservation Information**

#### Land Rates

Land rates are per person, double occupancy unless otherwise noted. Availability of departures at the prices noted in the brochure is limited. Government taxes and fees are additional. For current prices, please see our website at www.gocollette.com. Land rates are guaranteed at the time that the deposit is received by Collette. The land price includes those land based items delineated as included in the package itinerary and does not include any other items such as air travel, airline fees, airport or departure taxes, transfers, visas, customary end of trip gratuities for your Tour Manager, driver, local guides, hotel housekeepers, cruise ship waitstaff, and any incidental charges.

#### **Payments**

#### Land Package Deposit

- A \$349 non-refundable deposit is due with your land only reservation.
- For Antarctica and Cruises only reservations, a non-refundable \$549 deposit is required. An additional \$1,000 is due 180 days prior to departure for Antarctica.

#### Air Inclusive Package Deposit

- · A \$698 non-refundable deposit is due with your air inclusive reservation.
- Antarctica and Cruise air inclusive reservations, a non-refundable \$898 deposit is required. An additional \$1,000 is due 180 days prior to departure for Antarctica.

#### Instant Purchase Air

• If you have selected Instant Purchase air, the deposit required is the full cost of the airfare plus the land package deposits noted above; all of which is non-refundable.

Should you decide to purchase our Travel Protection Plan, you must do so at the time of booking. Payment of this Plan includes the Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver which protects you from penalties in the event you have to cancel your entire tour package for any reason up to the day prior to departure (see Part A for more details). If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, Part B of the Travel Protection Plan may provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes, or fees in the event of a cancellation for a covered reason (see Part B for more details).

#### Final Payment

Unless otherwise noted, the balance is due 60 days before departure on all tours, except cruises, Antarctica and Galapagos of which the balance is due 120 days before departure. Payment may be made by charging to clients' Mastercard, Visa or American Express (card imprint and signature required) or by sending a check or money order. All land rates are guaranteed upon deposit. Payment may also be made online at https://reservations.gocollette.com/payment.aspx?co=CAD

#### TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS PLEASE CONTACT:

Collette: 1-800-468-5955 reservations@gocollette.com

#### PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO:

Collette, 40 Queen Street South, Mississauga, ON L5M 1K3 Attn: Accounts Receivable

#### **Revision Fees**

Upon receipt of your itinerary, you must review it and report any discrepancies to Collette immediately in order to avoid any supplier incurred penalties. A handling fee of \$25.00 per transaction will be assessed for any change or revision made to a reservation. A change of departure date within 11 months of the departure date will be treated as a cancellation, and cancellation charges will apply.

#### **Cancellation Charges**

Cancellations of confirmed bookings and transfers to new travel dates will result in penalties and fees assessed by travel suppliers. If you need to transfer or cancel for any reason prior to tour departure, the following cancellation fees will be assessed on your land or cruise product. Air is 100% nonrefundable once paid in full. If cancelled prior to being paid in full, the following cancellation fees will also apply to air.

- More than 60 days prior to departure: a nonrefundable deposit will be retained.
- 60 16 days prior to departure: 40% of total price
- 15 1 day prior to departure: 75% of total price
- Day of departure and after: 100% of total price

#### **Exceptions:**

#### Ocean Cruises:

- More than 90 days prior to departure, the nonrefundable deposit will be retained.
- 90 61 days prior to departure: 35% of total price
- 60 31 days prior to departure: 60% of total price
- 30 0 days prior to departure: 100% of total price

#### **River Cruises:**

- More than 90 days prior to departure, the nonrefundable deposit will be retained.
- 90 61 days prior to departure: 50% of total price
- 60 31 days prior to departure: 85% of total price
- 30 0 days prior to departure: 100% of total price

#### Galapagos & Antarctica:

- More than 120 days prior to departure: nonrefundable deposits will be retained.
- 120 90 days prior to departure: 60% of total price

- 89 0 days prior to departure: 100% of total price
- \* Instant Purchase air and its associated taxes, fees and surcharges are 100% nonrefundable at time of reservation.

Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the client, are not at fault and have not cancelled in violation of these terms and conditions, you will be refunded 100%.

#### Airfare

For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all tour packages. If you purchase an air-inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted exclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your rates are subject to change until paid in full. Seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date.

Instant Purchase nonrefundable airfare includes roundtrip airport/hotel transfers (excluding pre- or post-days and extensions). If you have selected Instant Purchase nonrefundable air, you are required to pay the full air cost in addition to the \$300 deposit at time of booking (all of which is nonrefundable). Tickets will be issued immediately and once issued are nonrefundable; you may only be changed for a fee up to \$300 plus any difference in airfare for travel in the following 12 months; specific fees and policies may vary by airline. These tickets include an administration fee and roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers, of which both hold no airline reissue value. Once issued, there can be no fluctuation in price due to an increase in government taxes or in airline fuel surcharges. Therefore, any such fees or airport-to-hotel transfers are not refundable under any circumstances.

#### Aircraft Cabin Disinsection Disclaimer

Some countries may require aircraft cabin insecticide treatment for inbound foreign flights. Information about aircraft disinsection requirements and a list of countries requiring such disinsection are available online at http://www.dot.gov/office-policy/aviation-policy/aircraft-disinsection-requirements.

#### Currenc

Unless specified otherwise, all statements of or references to dollar amounts in these terms and conditions are to lawful money of Canada.

#### **Proof of Citizenship: Passports & Visas**

Documentation is required by foreign governments for all trips outside Canada. Clients/passengers should check with the appropriate foreign consulate/embassy for entry requirements, including whether you need to obtain a visa before entering your destination country and, if you do need to get a visa, its cost and timing. Please remember that the possession of valid passports and necessary visas are the responsibility of each client/passenger. If you would like assistance in ensuring you have the proper visa(s) for your trip outside of Canada, we would be happy to refer you to a company that can assist you.

#### **Travel Conditions**

There may be different living standards and practices and different standards and conditions with respect to the provision of services and accommodations outside of Canada.

#### **Door to Door Transfer Service**

Return door to door transfers are offered up to 100 kilometers from most major Canadian gateways with the purchase of an air-inclusive tour.

#### Travellers Requiring Accommodations or Special Assistance

Guests must advise Collette, at the time of booking, of any physical, medical, or other special needs that require an accommodation or special assistance. If and when necessary, Collette will make reasonable modifications to its policies, practices, and procedures unless doing so will fundamentally alter the nature of the tour or services.\* Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance. None of Collette, personnel, suppliers, or its other guests, may physically lift or assist other guests into transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call Collette to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities and motorized scooters are not permitted. Collette may exclude an individual from participating in a tour or an activity if the individual's participation poses a threat to the health or safety of the individual or others or causes an unacceptable disruption to the tour. This decision to exclude an individual, made by Collette in its sole discretion, will be based on an individualized assessment using reasonable judgment that relies on current medical evidence or on the best available objective evidence to determine the nature, duration and severity of the risk, the probability that potential injury will occur, and whether reasonable modifications of policies, practices, or procedures will mitigate the risk or will cause an unacceptable disruption of the tour. No refunds will be given if the decision is made to exclude a guest. In purchasing your tour, you attest that you are physically fit to participate on it. If you have concerns, please request additional details about your trip from your travel agent or Collette.

\*To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveler or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom.

#### **Holiday and Museum Closures**

Museum visits and personal shopping time may be disrupted due to unforeseen circumstances or many religious, state and local holidays observed throughout the world.

#### **Motorcoach Washrooms**

Most motorcoaches used on our tours are equipped with washrooms except safari vehicles, exotic locations, and some of our Explorations tours. These are typically for emergency use, as we make plepty<sub>2</sub>

# TERMS & CONDITIONS

of comfort stops, allowing you the opportunity to use public restrooms and/or stretch your legs.

#### Seat Rotation

Seats are rotated onboard the coach for all Collette tours under the direction of the Tour Manager. So that we do not show partiality among passengers, exceptions cannot be made.

#### Maps and Photos

Maps shown on tour pages are current at the time of printing and may not reflect actual tour routing should the tour change. Photos shown on tour pages are reflective of the area(s) visited, but may not be included in the actual tour itinerary and the conditions you experience may be different than depicted in the photograph(s).

#### **Baggage Disclaimer**

Although every effort is made to handle passengers' luggage as carefully as possible, Collette is not responsible for and does not assume liability or accept claims for loss of or damage to luggage due to breakage, theft or wear and tear through airline/airport, hotel and group carrier handling. It is recommended for your own self-interest and protection that you have adequate insurance to cover these eventualities. Check with your sales agent for low-cost insurance to cover these risks. Collette is not responsible for submitting your insurance claim.

There are limitations by coach and air carrier as to the number and size of bags which can be carried onboard and in bulk storage. Be sure to ask your travel professional about such restrictions before departing for your tour.

**Checked Baggage Charges:** Some airlines impose additional charges if you choose to check baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies. Please be advised baggage fees may apply on most trans-border flights. This is a fee levied by the airlines, not Collette, and may be subject to change.

#### **Explanation of Responsibilities and Tour Conditions for Collette**

Each client is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from. If you decide to make a reservation, you acknowledge and agree that you are physically well enough to travel and understand that medical facilities may not be similar to what you are accustomed to at home. You must bring enough medication with you for the trip.

Any person reserving or purchasing any Collette product accepts the condition that Collette reserves to itself the exclusive right to cancel, re-schedule or make other adjustments to any guided vacation departure in any circumstances deemed necessary, including in accordance with operating requirements or circumstances beyond its control, including for tours designated as "guaranteed departures." If cancellation is made by Collette any time prior to the departure date of the guided vacation, except when a customer fails to pay the final balance on time, Collette, at its sole discretion, will offer a comparable vacation on an alternate departure date, or reserves the right to offer a future travel credit. Collette will refund any difference in price if the alternative date is of a lower price, however the guest will be responsible for additional costs if the alternative is priced higher. Collette will not be liable for cancellation, delay, rescheduling or other adjustment or impact to a departure or itinerary or other aspect of the vacation brought about due to force majeure or other circumstance beyond its control that prevents or interferes with any aspect of the tour, also including governmental and administrative actions. Collette is not responsible for other travel arrangements affected due to our cancelations or change costs or penalties incurred on other travel arrangements, including air tickets.

Published times on itineraries are as accurate as possible but subject to change due to traffic, weather, mechanical and any other conditions beyond Collette's control that prevent Collette from operating as scheduled. Collette expressly disclaims any liability for any damages that may be incurred for any changes, cancellations or delays on any itinerary on any Collette tour.

All rates on foreign tours are subject to fluctuations of currency and may be changed when necessary without advance notice prior to deposit.

All rates published are per person as indicated and are based on double occupancy when only one rate is shown. Reservations will be accepted subject to availability at the time of request and will be considered confirmed only upon receipt of a minimum deposit. Child land rates are available and are valid for ages 5-12, sharing a room with two full-paying adults. For Tour Products that include Safari or Game Drive components, the minimum age for travelers to participate is 13.

Collette does not accept liability in the case of any passenger being denied boarding by any airline carrier due to the carrier's overbooking of a flight. All cancellation charges, fees and refunds for any tour within this brochure are in effect as of the effective date as indicated on page 275 and supersede any other previously printed policies relating to these same charges.

#### GENERAL DISCLAIMER

Collette monitors security situations around the world as well as government travel advisories. Conditions may require Collette to change or even cancel trips. You accept the risks involved in travel, both foreign and domestic, and accept responsibility for your own travel decisions. Guests may be required to review and sign a participation agreement prior to engaging in certain activities on the trip.

Neither Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Collette"), own or operate any person or entity which is to or does provide goods or services for these trips. You agree to be bound by the conditions of carriage for all transportation providers. Collette does not maintain control or operate the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers it uses and as such Collette assumes no

responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful or negligent act or omission on the part of any other party.

Client shall indemnify and hold harmless Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, agents, shareholders, officers, successors and assigns (collectively "Collette"), from all suits, actions, losses, damages, claims or liability for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience or irregularity which is occasioned by any negligent acts or omissions of Collette arising out of any goods or services provided for this or these trips.

Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism, computer problems, or other such causes. Other risks may arise such as, but not limited to, hazards of travelling in foreign countries including undeveloped areas, the hazards of travel by aircraft, bus, van, train, automobile or other motorized vehicle, differing safety standards, sickness, criminal acts committed by others, allergic reactions, and/or animal encounters. You are voluntarily participating in the tour and Collette, and as lawful consideration for the agreement to travel with Collette, you agree not to make a claim against Collette, its related companies, officers and employees for injuries, death, or any other claim and agree to release Collette, its related companies, officers and employees from any such claim. This release is binding on all members of your travelling party, as well as your Estate and heirs and this provision shall be enforceable even after your trip has ended. If you make your own air reservations, Collette is not responsible and shall provide no refund if your flight schedule changes so that you are not able to enjoy the entirety of your tour. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Collette reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if Collette deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour. Collette reserves the right to withdraw any tour announced. Collette reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of the tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by the Tour Manager to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. If you are travelling with children, you are solely responsible for their behaviour and monitoring them throughout the tour. Neither does Collette accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline or other ticket to the tour departure city and return or otherwise. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times.

Collette is not responsible, and will not be bound by, representations made by third party representatives, travel agents, unaffiliated websites, or any other party.

Participants may be photographed for the promotional purposes of Collette. In addition, any comments that you submit as a review or your social media posts may be used for Collette's promotional purposes. Payment of the deposit to Collette constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Collette reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time, without notice.

#### FORUM SELECTION AND CHOICE OF LAW

THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED AND INTERPRETED PURSUANT TO THE LAWS OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF THE PARTIES HERETO AND THE FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL COURTS IN ONTARIO SHALL HAVE EXCLUSIVE AND SOLE JURISDICTION OVER ANY DISPUTE, CONTROVERSY OR SUIT ARISING RELATIVE TO THIS AGREEMENT.

#### **DISPUTES/CLASS ACTION WAIVER**

YOU AGREE THAT YOU WILL ONLY BRING CLAIMS AGAINST COLLETTE IN YOUR INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AND NOT AS A PLAINTIFF OR CLASS MEMBER IN ANY PURPORTED CLASS ACTION OR REPRESENTATIVE PROCEEDING. COLLETTE SHALL NOT IN ANY CASE BE LIABLE FOR OTHER THAN COMPENSATORY DAMAGES, AND YOUR PAYMENT OF A DEPOSIT ON A TOUR MEANS THAT YOU AGREE TO THESE CONDITIONS OF SALE AND EXPRESSLY WAIVE ANY RIGHT TO PUNITIVE DAMAGES.

#### **ERRORS AND OMISSIONS**

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information in our brochures, on our website or communicated by our reservation staff, errors or omissions are possible and Collette is not responsible for such error. If a mistake is made in billing, we reserve the right to correct the invoice and you will be responsible for proper payment.

#### **SEVERABILITY**

In the event that any clause in this agreement is determined to be invalid, the remaining provisions are valid and enforceable. The invalid provision shall be replaced by Collette by a clause as similar as practicable.

#### **Consumer Protection Plans**

Collette is a member of the following organizations: the National Tour Association, the United States Tour Operators Association, and the Travel Industry Council of Ontario. These associations operate a consumer protection plan to cover deposits placed with any tour operator member. Full details are available from these organizations or Collette. Collette is pleased to provide this additional protection to our clients.

#### Collette's Travel Protection Plan (for Canadian citizens or residents only\*)

Collette's Travel Protection Plan (for Canadian citizens or residents only\*)

For all Canadian Residents who purchased a Travel Protection Plan, the Post Departure coverage and

benefits are administered by TuGo and underwritten by Industrial Alliance. TuGo will provide your specific policy document and an individual policy number that will be sent directly to you as confirmation of your enrollment. The policy will be emailed from: donotreply@tugo.com. If you have further questions about your policy, please call TuGo at 1-855-929-8846 or email info@tugo.com.

Following is an outline of the Non-Insurance Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver, Insurance Benefits and non-insurance assistance services that make up the Travel Protection Plan.

Part A Waiver Only provided by Collette Tours Canada, Ltd: The Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver is provided by Collette and is not an insurance benefit underwritten by Industrial Alliance of Canada. Payment of a per person Travel Protection Plan fee to Collette at the time of booking guarantees a full refund of all payments (including deposits), except the Travel Protection Plan fee itself, for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. The Travel Protection Plan fee with air only covers airline tickets that you purchase from Collette.

Exception: If you originally purchased Instant Purchase Nonrefundable airline tickets, this Part A Travel Protection Plan does not provide a refund for any such nonrefundable airline tickets in the event of a cancellation.

The Part A Waiver portion of Collette's Travel Protection Plan protects you from penalties in the event you have a need to cancel your entire inclusive tour package up to the day prior to departure. The Part A Waiver portion of the Travel Protection Plan does not indemnify you from penalties if you choose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you choose to partially cancel your tour, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation

Collette's Part A Waiver portion of the Travel Protection Plan does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's travelling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The individual travelling will be required to pay the single supplement to Collette and any eligible claims will be through TuGo.

The Travel Protection Plan fee is nontransferable and valid for each applicant (paying client) only. Collette assumes no responsibility for and cannot and will not be held liable for any wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized acts or omissions of any travel agent or travel agency other than that of Collette Tours Canada, Ltd. and its own employees, directors and officers.

#### Where to Present Part A Claims

To request a refund under the Part A Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver portion of the Travel Protection Plan, please call Collette and send any unused airline tickets to:

Collette, ATTN: Customer Service Department

40 Queen Street South, Mississauga, ON L5M 1K3

If cancellation occurs prior to departure, contact the Collette Reservations Department. When a client cancels prior to departure, any refunds are processed through the booking agent.

PART A - Provided By Collette

Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee & Unused Services Waiver up to Trip Cost

The Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver is provided by Collette and is not an insurance benefit underwritten by Industrial Alliance of Canada.

Part B Insurance Benefits is administered by North American Air Travel Insurance Agents Ltd. doing business as TuGo® (\*NOT AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS OF QUEBEC).

Please Note: Trip interruption / Cancellation Sum Insured After Departure maximum limits per insured \$2,500.

TuGo will provide your specific policy form and an individual policy number that will be sent directly to you as confirmation of your enrollment. The policy will be emailed from: donotreply@tugo.com. If you have further questions about your policy, please call TuGo at 1-855-929-8846 or email info@tugo.com.

#### **Schedule of Benefits**

The following plans are included in your insurance package:

COVERAGE		MAXIMUM LIMITS PER INSURED
Emergency	Medical	\$1,000,000*
Accidental I	Death & Dismemberment	\$25,000
Baggage	-Baggage & Personal Effects	\$25,000
	-Baggage Delay	\$500**

\*Some benefits within this coverage have their own limits. Refer to the policy wording for details.

#### **Non-Insurance Services**

OneWorld Assist Inc. doing business as Claims at TuGo is our claims and assistance provider and performs all assistance services and administers claims on our behalf under this policy. Claims at TuGo provides ISO 9001:2015 certified service.

For hospitalizations, contact Claims at TuGo immediately:

From Canada & USA......1-800-663-0399

From Mexico.......001-800-514-9976 or 800-681-8070

Outside North America & Mexico (global toll-free) ......\*800-663-0399

Worldwide (collect)......604-278-4108

When you call, please be ready to provide:

• The partner code listed on your policy declaration

Generali Global Assistance Concierge Services

To speak with Generali Global Assistance (GGA) for concierge services only, simply call:

When you call, please be ready to provide:

- The partner code listed on your policy declaration
- A phone number where Generali Global Assistance may reach you

**Please Note:** Plan cost is based upon the cost of your trip. Benefits are described on a general basis only. The information noted here is only an outline of the coverage available, and is subject to the terms, conditions and exclusions of the policy. Please refer to the individual policy documents for complete details. Plan benefits, limits and provisions may vary by province jurisdiction. You will receive a policy and a Description of 24-Hour Emergency Assistance Services which describe the benefits and limitations in detail.

Payment for the plan(s) is required at time of purchase and is non-refundable outside of the 10-day free look period. Prices and coverage are subject to change. For full plan details, please call TuGo at 1-855-929-8846 or email info@tugo.com (except for the Part A: Cancel for Any Reason Waiver).

Any notices of claim or correspondence concerning a claim should be promptly sent to:

Claims Contact Information

For hospitalizations, contact Claims at TuGo immediately:

Outside North America & Mexico (global toll-free) ......\*800-663-0399

Worldwide (collect) ......604-278-4108

\*Visit tugo.com/claims for international access codes.

Email claims@tugo.com

When you call, please be ready to provide:

The partner code listed on your policy declaration

#### Collette's Travel Protection Plan Pricing (per person)

The Cost below of the Travel Protection Plan includes both the optional Part A Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver Provided By Collette Travel Service, Inc. and the Part B insurance benefits underwritten by TuGo, as well as non-insurance assistance services. Pricing is available for either Part A or Part B on a stand alone basis, please contact Collette for more information.

#### **Land Only Clients:**

- \$199 adult/\$199 child for all North America escorted tours under 6 days
- \$349 adult/\$249 child for all North America escorted tours of 6 days or more
- \$449 adult/\$299 child for all international tours (not otherwise listed below)
- \$499 adult/\$349 child for all Canadian Rockies train tours
- \$549 adult/\$399 child for all cruises, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, South Africa & Egypt tours
- \$549 adult/\$399 child for Galapagos tours
- \$999 adult/\$549 child for Antarctica tours

When purchasing pre- and post-night accommodations, including optional extensions, the number of days will be added to the total number of tour days, and may subsequently alter your Travel Protection Plan fees. Please confirm with your reservation agent at time of booking.

#### Air-Inclusive Clients (Flex Airfare is purchased through Collette)

- \$249 adult/child for all North America tours under 6 days
- \$399 adult/child for all North America tours of 6 days or more
- \$499 adult/child for all international tours (not otherwise listed below)
- \$549 adult/child for all Canadian Rockies train tours
- \$649 adult/child for all cruises, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, South Africa & Egypt tours
- \$649 adult/child for Galapagos tours
- \$1099 adult/child for Antarctica tours

Collette's Travel Protection Plan for air-inclusive clients can only be purchased by individuals who have purchased Collette Flex Airfare or Instant Purchase nonrefundable air through Collette. Instant Purchase air and its associated taxes, fees and surcharges require full payment at time of reservation and are 100% nonrefundable. Tickets may only be changed for a fee up to \$300 plus any difference in airfare for travel in the following 12 months; specific fees and policies may vary by airline.

To review full plan details, see our travel protection plan info on the terms and conditions pages of our website.

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<sup>\*\*</sup> This limit is subject to the overall maximum limit for baggage coverage.



# For reservations, contact your Travel Professional or call Collette at 800.468.5955.

Visit collette.com/offers for special savings.



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The Best Travel Protection Plan in Guided Travel! • Private Sedan Service Included (See inside for details.)



Our Passport Club loyalty program has been revamped to reward you every time you travel with us. Scan the code to learn more and join the club today!





#### **LEVEL ONE: ADVENTURER**

(1 - 2 completed tours)

- ✓ Travellers receive a 5% Loyalty
  Credit on their next Collette tour
  when it's completed within 12
  months of the most recent tour
  departure date.
- ✓ Travellers receive a 3% Loyalty Credit on tours completed within 13-24 months of the most recent tour departure date.



#### **LEVEL TWO: EXPLORER**

(3+ completed tours)

In addition to the perks of Level 1, after travellers return from their third tour and all subsequent tours, they'll receive the following additional benefit:

✓ \$100 of credit towards purchasing optional tour components or upgrades when travel is completed within 24 months of the most recent tour departure date.