# collette

2024 – 2025

# EXPLORATIONS

SMALL GROUPS. BIG EXPERIENCES.



Go Deeper... CRACK THE SURFACE.

Go Farther... FEEL CLOSER.

Go Extraordinary... FIND COMMON GROUND.





# Dear Traveller,

Do you ever grow tired of seeing new places? Or making new friends? Or learning about cultures and parts of the world that are totally different from your own? Me neither.

I'm constantly amazed at how travel has the power to shift our perspectives and enrich our lives. And how by taking us outside of our comfort zones, it helps us become more comfortable in the world at large.

Our small group Explorations tours were created for travellers like us: always curious, open-minded, and hungry for experiences that nurture the soul. Like spending the night at a Japanese monastery in the forest atop Mount Koya. Or watching an authentic tango performance in the streets of Buenos Aires. Or gazing up at the northern lights in Finland (where I am pictured, below), and feeling part of something bigger than ourselves.

Every tour on these pages was designed with the goal of getting you closer to the culture of your destination. Explorations travellers get to go places larger groups often can't, and they get to learn from experts who live there. And there's nothing like the camaraderie of a small group, where your fellow travellers and Tour Manager feel like close friends, along for your epic journey.

Here's to another year of travel — can't wait to see you out there.



Jaclyn J. Cofe

Jaclyn Leibl-Cote

President & CEO

"Travel far enough,
you meet yourself."
- DAVID MITCHELL

# BECAUSE YOU ARE A

# Traveller

#### No other reason needed.

Break away from the crowd...Dive deeper... Discover the world around you and more of yourself with every journey.

On a **small group Explorations tour**, the average group is made up of about **16 travellers** who'll share the road, a few meals, and many special moments throughout the journey. Travel in ways that are **authentic**, **connected**, **and extraordinary**.







#### INTRODUCTION

Experiences That Immerse You	6
Connections That Guide You	8
Adventures That Ignite You	10
Meals That Connect You	12
Stays That Transport You	13
Flexibility That Makes it "You"	14
Our Commitment to You	16
AFRICA	
The Plains of Africa	20
Exploring South Africa,	
Victoria Falls & Botswana	
African Safari: Kenya & Tanzania	24
Wilderness of Southern Africa: Safari by Land & Water <b>NEW!</b>	26
Colours of Morocco	
Journey through Egypt & Jordan	30
ASIA + THE SOUTH PACIFIC	
ASIA + THE SOUTH PACIFIC  Mysteries of India	34
Mysteries of India	36
Mysteries of India	36 38 40
Mysteries of India	36 38 40 42
Mysteries of India	36 38 40 42
Mysteries of India	36 38 40 42
Mysteries of India	36 48 42 44
Mysteries of India	36 40 42 44
Mysteries of India  Japan: Past & Present  Kingdoms of Southeast Asia  Australia & New Zealand Uncovered  Exploring New Zealand's Wonders  Wonders of Thailand NEW!  EUROPE  Majestic Cities of Central & Eastern Europe NEW!  Peaks of Europe: The Alps to the Dolomites	36 40 42 44 48
Mysteries of India	36 40 42 44 48 50



Essence of France	58
Treasures of Turkey <b>NEW!</b>	60
Italy's Treasures	62
Old World Sicily & Malta <b>NEW!</b>	64
Mediterranean Coastal Journey <b>NEW!</b>	66
Tuscan & Umbrian Countryside	68
Sicily & Its Isles	70
Italy: Amalfi Coast to Puglia	72
Best of Italy	74
Icelandic Adventure	76
The Northern Lights of Finland	
The Azores: Jewels of Portugal	80
Flavours of Portugal & Spain: featuring Douro & Rioja Wine Regions	82
Exploring Iberia: Southern Spain to Coastal Portugal	84
Countryside of the Emerald Isle	86
Scotland: Land of Lore & Legend	88
The Best of Ireland	90
Coasts & Countrysides of England	92
THE AMERICAS	
Costa Rica: A World of Nature	96
Patagonia: Edge of the World	98
Peru: Machu Picchu & Lake Titicaca	100
Machu Picchu & Galápagos Wonders featuring a 4-Night Cruise	102
Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country	104
Roaming Coastal Maine	106
Alaska's Northern Lights	108
OTHER	
Air Information	110
Reservation Information	111

## **ACTIVITY LEVELS**

Tour Activity Levels help to set expectations on tour. See the levels below and look for them in the upcoming itinerary pages.

#### **LEVEL 1** | LIGHT & LEISURELY







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.

#### **LEVEL 2** | MODERATE







You like a balanced approach to travel. Walking 3 to 5 kilometres over the course of a day is no problem. You can partake in a two-hour leisurely walking tour, covering up to two miles (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** | ACTIVE







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, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem. Walking six kilometres over the course of a day is very 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** | VERY ACTIVE







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. You can handle longer walking tours (more than 3 hours covering five kilometres at a steady clip) and activities that involve traversing 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.

# Experiences THAT IMMERSE YOU

Hard to replicate and impossible to forget, every experience is enhanced through the people you'll meet and unique perspective you'll gain into local culture. These are the connections that will shape your understanding of a destination.

## I loved seeing the Sahara desert,

camping, and riding a camel. Getting an understanding of the history and evolving culture of the country was exceptionally good [...] I enjoyed the Moroccan people, their friendliness and helpfulness.

BEVERLY H. ON COLOURS OF MOROCCO



## BREEZE THROUGH THE STREETS OF BANGKOK...

...on a tuk tuk during a culinary tour featuring the city's world-renowned street food.

Wonders of Thailand, pg. 44





...by learning their weaving methods and listening to their music before sitting down for a farm-to-table dinner.

» Machu Picchu & Galápagos Wonders pg. 102



## LOSE YOURSELF JUST A LITTLE...

...in England's legendary Lake District, tracing the footsteps of William Wordsworth or on a guided hike through valleys and trails.

Coasts & Countrysides of England, pg. 92

# Connections THAT GUIDE YOU Explore together. The people you

meet will enrich the journey.

On Colours of Morocco (pg. 28), travellers meet and learn about a nomadic community in the Sahara Desert with their Tour Manager by their side.







#### **TOUR MANAGER**

From logistics to tips, consider the Tour Manager your go-to advisor, historian, in-the-know friend, and expert on fun.

#### **FELLOW TRAVELLERS**

Travelling in a deep and meaningful way matters to you. You'll be in good company with a small group of like-minded individuals.

#### **LOCAL GUIDES**

See the sights with our local experts, who know the lay of the land and share its spirit – ready with tidbits for curious explorers.

#### **IMPACT MOMENTS**

We partner with social enterprises, nonprofits and cultural or environmental conservation groups to ensure that our visit generates sustainable economic and social benefits for the community.



# Designed Differently Just. For. Small. Groups.

Explorations tours are uniquely designed by our team of destination experts just for small groups. What does this mean? We overnight in accommodations that are simply not suitable for large groups – like igloos and villas. We dine where the locals do, in venues that cannot accommodate larger crowds. It's truly big experiences designed just for small groups.

Food is an experience on an Explorations 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.



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: Small Group Style**

On Flavours of Portugal & Spain (pg. 82), climb aboard a private tram to discover Lisbon from its hills. Postcard worthy vistas greet you at every turn!"



PRODUCT DESIGN MANAGER, CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE



# © Ama Pearl Divers, Toba, Japan © Ama Hut SATOUMIAN

#### **Dining with Locals**

On the small group Japan: Past & Present (pg. 36) 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

#### **Unparalleled Accommodations**

Imagine staying in an Italian resort overlooking the vineyards of the Romagna Region. On **Best of Italy** (pg. 74), you can...and it's picture-perfect."



SHANNON PRODUCT DESIGN MANAGER, ITALY





Go beyond just a taste – savour authentic, meaningful meals, from home-hosted dinners to hands-on cooking classes and intimate local restaurants to street food.



and we were able to experience the food culture, the wines, and the Italians' way of life."

DEBORAH M. ITALY'S TREASURES





# GET A TASTE OF THE BALKANS...

...during a home-hosted dinner in Sarajevo.

» A Taste of the Balkans, pg. 56



# SMALL BITES IN A CULINARY CAPITAL...

...in San Sebastian, discover tasty *pintxos*, the Basque version of tapas.

>> Flavours of Portugal & Spain, pg. 82



# Stays THAT TRANSPORT YOU

Immerse yourself in a destination with stays in culturally reflective accommodations. Each hotel (4-star and above) ensures your exploration never stops, even when you're relaxing in your lodgings.

# Our cabin and iglo combo was over the top.

The northern lights were amazing. So glad we experienced another world beyond words."

DONNA H. THE NORTHERN LIGHTS OF FINLAND



©Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort

#### **BOUTIQUE HOTELS**

Settle in for cozy stays that can feel otherworldly and like home all at once.





#### **LODGES**

In environmentally focused lodges, you stay connected with your natural surroundings along with the comforts you seek. Experience this wonder in a tented camp in Zimbabwe, or from your rainforest lodge in Costa Rica's Tortuguero National Park.

# Flexibility THAT MAKES IT "YOU"

Explore your destination your way with built-in free time, optional experiences, and choices. No one traveller follows the same path—choose your own.

On **Wonders of Thailand** (pg. 44), visit sacred temples and immerse yourself in the experience by sitting down to chant with Buddhist monks.

#### **BALANCE & CHOICE ON TOUR**

#### **It's Your Choice**

Some days offer two included activities at the same time. You decide the one for you.

#### **Free Time**

Enjoy the perfect mix of guided experiences and time on your own. Truly explore a place when you set off independently.

#### **OPTIONAL ADDITIONS**

#### **Excursions**

Swap free time for more guided experiences in destination by adding optional excursions.

#### Add a Day (or two, or more!)

Stay awhile? Easily add extra time in the city where the tour begins or ends.

#### **Extensions**

Pre- and post-tour extensions offer a seamless connection to more adventures in another destination, including meals, hotels, transportation, and more.

#### **Back-to-Back**

Many Collette tours line up so you can combine two tours into one unforgettable trip!

# **OUR COMMITMENT**

# to you







#### The Collette Passport Club

Earn rewards for every trip you take with our loyalty program. As you continue checking tours off your bucket list, you can unlock even more perks along the journey.

#### **Travel Protection**

Book worry-free with our industry-leading travel protection plan.

#### Sustainability

Travel the world knowing your impact: **Explorations tours are carbon neutral.** 

#### **Airfare**

Add airfare to your booking and let us handle the rest – plus private transportation to and from the airport. See pg. 110 for details.







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

14 DAYS · 33 MEALS STARTING AT \$6044

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS** 









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, Nairobi 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, mountainkissed 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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6044 SOLO Starting at \$6944

Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on April 24, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2023 January - April 2024

May 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

(different itinerary - see note\*)

\*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)



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.

66 I loved seeing all the animals, learning about the culture, and meeting new people in a small group. 🤊

- Joan H.

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

15 DAYS · 29 MEALS STARTING AT \$7440

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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. (B, L, D)

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

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)

#### **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.



ARRIVAL JOHANNESBURG (JNB)

DEPARTURE CAPE TOWN (CPT)

**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



**Pre-Night:** 

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.

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

15 DAYS · 38 MEALS STARTING AT \$7594

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4

SEE PAGE 5 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 Days 4, 5 Kilima Safari Camp, 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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$7594

SOLO Starting at \$8494

Pricing is per person, land only,

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

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

(different itinerary - see note\*)

November 2023 - April 2024 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: Nairobi (1-2 NIGHTS)



a local craftsman who will show you current 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

#### **NEW TOUR**

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

15 DAYS · 33 MEALS STARTING AT \$9359

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: SEE PAGE 5 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**

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

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

Days 6 - 8 Iganyana Tented Camp, **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. With an expert ranger, venture onto the land for a game drive into the Matusadona National Park, an unspoiled wildlife and wilderness gem with rugged scenery. 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.



DOUBLE Starting at \$9359 SOLO Starting at \$10109 Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

Prices based on April 24, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 - April 2024 May 2024 - April 2025 (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.

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)



# FEATURED TOUR EXTENSION ADD 4 NIGHTS IN CAPE TOWN



#### 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.

#### **COLOURS OF MOROCCO**

15 DAYS · 27 MEALS STARTING AT \$4599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 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 Days 8, 9

Sahara Desert Camp,

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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4599 SOLO Starting at \$5649

Pricing is per person, land only,

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

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

May 2024 Sept 2024 - April 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024 & Septmber 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



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

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

14 DAYS · 26 MEALS STARTING AT \$5979

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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 Vallev 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

Pricing is per person, land only includes on tour air.

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)









#### **MYSTERIES OF INDIA**

15 DAYS · 26 MEALS STARTING AT \$3689

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS** 









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

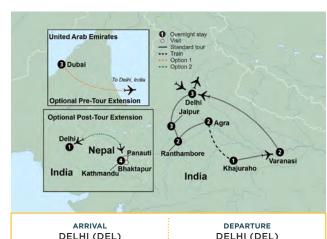
The Tai Mahal, a stunning vision in white marble and sandstone, was built as an expression of love by Emperor Shah Jahan. Experience the romantic spirit of the Tai Mahal in the early morning, when the colours of the sky dance on the bright façade and shimmer in its reflective pool. Visit Agra Fort, the 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

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

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)



CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/292

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



† Additional air segment purchase required.

#### **NEPAL** 5-NIGHT POST TOUR STARTING AT: \$1365† PP



† Additional air segment purchase required.

#### **JAPAN: PAST & PRESENT**

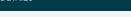
14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$7699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 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)





#### 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)



# KINGDOMS OF **SOUTHEAST ASIA**

19 DAYS · 31 MEALS STARTING AT \$4759

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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 &

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

**Day 18** 

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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4759 SOLO Starting at \$5809 Pricing is per person, land only. varies by departure date, and includes on tour air.

Prices based on May 16, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

May 2024 September 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**



Pre-Night: Hanoi (1-2 NIGHTS)



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

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

22 DAYS · 32 MEALS STARTING AT \$10679

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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



# 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

**TRAVEL STYLE:** 

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

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)

as you peruse an ever-evolving library of Kiwi

### 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





\*Itinerary featured is for May 2024, September 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:** 

Post-Night:
Cairns (1-2 Nights)



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 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

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# **EXPLORING** ZEALAND'S **WONDERS**

19 DAYS · 26 MEALS STARTING AT \$6499

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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

Novotel, Wellington Davs 9, 10 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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6499 SOLO Starting at \$7999 Pricing is per person, land only,

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

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

September 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.

 $\bigoplus$  See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



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



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.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/675

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# **NEW TOUR**

# **WONDERS OF THAILAND**

16 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$4449

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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



# Delve into a land where bustling modern cities, ornate ancient temples, and stunning jungle beaches coexist.

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

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)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4449 SOLO Starting at \$5499 varies by departure date Prices based on October 10, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars. **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** 

# June 2024

September 2024 - April 2025

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

## ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

Pre-Night: Bangkok (1-2 NIGHTS)

#### **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



#### 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.

† Additional air segment purchase required.





# **NEW TOUR**

# **MAJESTIC CITIES OF CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE**

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$4699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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



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**

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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4699 Pricing is per person, land only, SOLO Starting at \$5749 Prices based on December 1, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** 

October 2023 March - May 2024

(different itinerary - see note\*)

June - December 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



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)

# **PEAKS OF EUROPE:** THE ALPS TO THE DOLOMITES

13 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$6299

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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



# 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 ski-

hub 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 Mont Blanc - the birthplace of mountaineering because it's your choice! Ascend the Aiguille du

Midi by cable car to an elevation of over 12,600 feet (3,842 meters). This is the closest you can get to the summit of Europe's tallest peak -OR- relax aboard the Tramway du Mont Blanc rack-railway taking in its vintage charm and the impressive views from the Eagle's Nest, located 7,782 feet above sea level (2,372 meters). This afternoon, enjoy a stroll through the woods in the bottom of the valley. (B)

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





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)



# **SWITZERLAND: HIDDEN TRAILS & MAJESTIC PEAKS**

12 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$6799

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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 Days 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







ZURICH (ZRH) ZURICH (ZRH) **DOUBLE** Starting at \$6799 Pricing is per person, land only, 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.

ARRIVAL

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)



See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

ALucerne

Switzerland

DEPARTURE

# Day 12: Lucerne - Tour Ends

Depart for home, dreaming of snowy Alps and captivating cultures. (B)



# NETHERLANDS, **BELGIUM & FRANCE**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$6149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Amsterdam • Canal Cruise • Impact Moment • Kinderdijk • Bruges • Reims • Route du Champagne • Paris • Parisian Bakery Workspace • Parfum workshop • Le Marais • Eiffel Tower Dinner



# **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- 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).
- · Learn the secrets of perfume making in Paris



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

Day 5— Take the opportunity to walk along the winding paths and venture inside of a working windmill at Kinderdijk -OR- spend the morning on a bike with a local guide pedaling through Kinderdijk landscapes full of wind, water, and canals.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

10 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Be united by food during an Impact Moment at "A Beautiful Mess" restaurant in Amsterdam.
- Tour a traditional brewery in Bruges and sample some legendary Belgian
- · Meet local cheese enthusiasts in Meaux and sample their famous Brie.
- Enjoy an exclusive dinner at the Eiffel Tower with unparalleled views of the "City of Light."



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 Swissôtel, Amsterdam NH Hotel, Bruges Days 5, 6 Days 7, 8 Continental Hotel, Reims Days 9 - 11 Courtyard Marriott Paris Gare de Lyon, Paris

On some dates alternate hoels may be used.



Dutch windmills, cozy streets, bubbling champagne, and the "City of Light" - experience the essence of 3 must-visit European countries.

## **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

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 bike-brimmed 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 three 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 a private boat. Cruise under sloping bridges and pass by classic Dutch houses. Continue discovering Amsterdam on a walking tour with a local guide. Complete your day with an **Impact Moment** at a "A Beautiful Mess" - a restaurant that helps refugees find independence in the Dutch community. Be united by food and enjoy locally sourced, environmentally conscious ingredients over dinner with your inspiring hosts. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Amsterdam

Make the most of a free day in Amsterdam. Perhaps you'll visit the Van Gogh Museum and explore the Anne Frank House. Maybe you'll opt to spend the day in Royal Delft. This pictureperfect town has mostly stayed the same since the times of Johannes Vermeer's iconic paintings of the Dutch Golden Age. Conclude your guided tour with a visit to the Royal Delft porcelain manufacturer which has been producing hand-painted blue motives since the 16th century. Try your hand at painting a tile before returning to Amsterdam. Spend the late afternoon chatting with a local about the city's progressive (and often controversial) culture. Enjoy an evening at leisure to spend time in the city how you choose. (B)

# Day 5: Amsterdam - Kinderdijk -Bruges, Belgium 😯

Today, it's your choice as you visit Holland's storied windmills. Perhaps you'll stroll along the winding paths and venture inside of a working windmill -OR- bike alongside a local guide through Dutch landscapes. No matter what you choose, take in the wind, water, and open spaces that make Dutch history come to life in Kinderdijk (UNESCO). End your day in









SOLO Starting at \$7849

Pricing is per person, land only,

The Netherlands

Prices based on November 2, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

May 2024 (different itinerary - see note\*) June - November 2024 May 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June - November 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.

# storybook Bruges, your home for the next two nights. (B, D)

## Day 6: Bruges

Wander the cobblestone streets of Bruges and get familiar with this cozy Belgian town on a walking tour with a local guide this morning. Then, cruise through fairytale canals before connecting with local traditions. Taste Belgian chocolate and learn about the intricate craft of lace making. After an afternoon at leisure, cheers to the day with a visit to a local brewery where you'll taste Belgium's most classic beverage. Continue tasting your way across local cuisines and enjoy dinner on your own. (B)

# Day 7: Bruges - World War I **Battlefields - Reims, France**

Traverse Flanders with a local expert. Witness the stars and stripes raised over the graves of the valiant soldiers who gave their lives on the Western Front during the First World War inspiring John McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields." Take time to unwind with a glass of wine as you enter the heart of France's illustrious Champagne region - Reims. Settle into your city-centric boutique hotel before tasting your way through French cuisines during a five-course tasting paired with a glass of champagne. (B, D)

# **Day 8: Reims - Champagne Winery** - Reims

Uncover the city's Celtic roots and Gothic architecture during a guided walking tour in Reims. Step into the cathedral of Notre-Dame de Reims and gaze up at a sea of colorful stained glass. Cityscapes give way to vineyard rows as you make your way along the Route du Champagne. Learn all about this world-famous artisan production during a tour and tasting at a nearby maison du champagne. Enjoy your afternoon and evening at leisure. (B)

# Day 9: Reims - Meaux - Paris

Make your way to the French capital this morning. Pause in Meaux - the capital of the famous brie cheese. Learn about the artisanal production methods and aging process from a local cheese enthusiast before sampling some for yourself. Say bonjour to Paris this afternoon and learn the secrets of perfume making during a handson workshop led by an expert perfumer, affectionately referred to as "Nez" (Nose). Explore your new neighbourhood - your new home for the next three nights - until the sun fades and the "City of Light" debuts its sparkling grandeur. Enjoy your evening at leisure. (B, L)

## Day 10: Paris

Start your day alongside your Tour

#### ALSO AVAILABLE



#### Netherlands, Belgium & France featuring Keukenhof Gardens

Peruse the world's largest flower garden.

★ DATES AVAILABLE: MARCH - APRIL 2024 MARCH - APRIL 2025

Manager wandering through one of the most popular quarters of Paris - Le Marais. This neighbourhood is famous for old-world charm, narrow cobblestone streets, hidden courtyards, and tranquil gardens among a vibrant Jewish community. Enter the kitchen of an authentic Parisian bakery to see the workspace and learn the history behind how these bakers make their delicious bread. Explore Paris as you please this afternoon. Perhaps you'll take a stroll through the Tuileries Garden or elegant Place Vendôme displaying jewelry and high fashion. 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

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. Perhaps you'd rather witness authentic royalty on an optional excursion to the Royal Palace of Versailles. From the prominent Hall of Mirrors to the opulent bedchamber of the queen, take in the palace's most famous sights with your local guide before returning to Paris. End the day with an exclusive dinner at the Eiffel Tower, featuring French cuisine and breathtaking views. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Paris - Tour Ends

Say au revoir to Europe as you depart for home. (B)

# A TASTE OF THE BALKANS

16 DAYS · 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$5199

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 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) - 7 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 Days 9 - 10 Family Hotel Baraniska Kuća, etno village, Karanac, Days 11 - 12 Hotel Le Premier, Zagreb

The Lyra Hotel or 16 Lakes Day 13 Hotel, Plitvice Lakes

Days 14 - 15 Grand Plaza Hotel, Ljubljana

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. (B)

# 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 Vugoslavia Tonight, ding in a traditional

# 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 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)

# **ESSENCE OF FRANCE**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$5149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 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.



#### **CCOMMODATIONS**

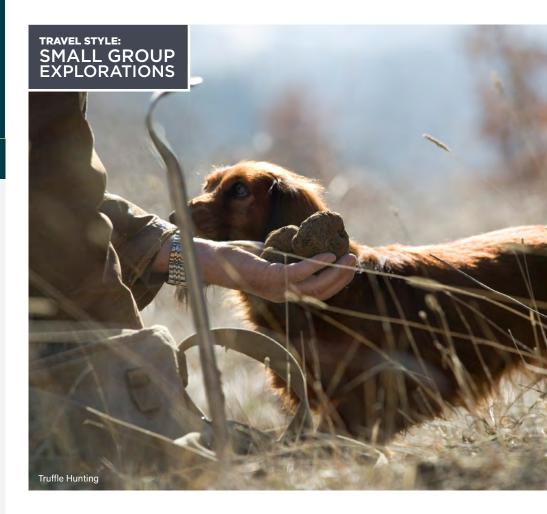
Day 1 Overnight Flight

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 Calangues 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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5149 SOLO Starting at \$6549

Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on November 6, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2023 February - 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: Paris (1-2 NIGHTS)



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 Liqure, on the Italian Riviera. Stop in Monaco and see the famous Casino. Travel by train to colourful Cinque Terre and tour glamorous Portofino.

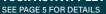
CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/568 Additional air segment purchase required.

**NEW TOUR** 

# **TREASURES OF TURKEY**

16 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$6029

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4











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 Bayir Diamond Hotel, Day 11

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.





# 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)

# **ITALY'S TREASURES**

12 DAYS · 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$5099

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 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,

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 this upgrade at time of booking.

**NEW TOUR** 

# **OLD WORLD SICILY & MALTA**

12 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$4049

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4









#### **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.

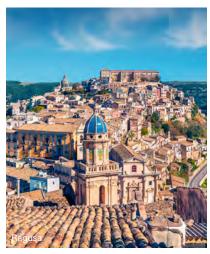
Then, enjoy some free time to explore on your own. This afternoon, visit the private home of a modern-day Knight of Malta before hopping on the local ferry back to Sliema for an evening at leisure. (B)

# 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,

Prices based on November 3, 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.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Malta (1-2 Nights)





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

# **NEW TOUR**

# **MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL JOURNEY**

16 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$6949

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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**

Overnight Flight Hotel Catalonia Passeig Davs 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

Davs 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. (B)

# 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



Prices based on March 22, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

TOUR DATES AVAILABLE

October - November 2023
March - May 2024
(different itinerary - see note\*)

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

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

June - November 2024
March - May 2025
(featured itinerary)

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)

# **TUSCAN & UMBRIAN COUNTRYSIDE**

11 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$3799

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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

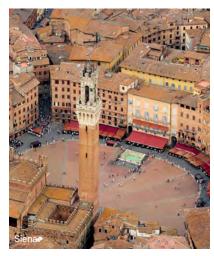
quest. Share stories and make an Umbrian friend (or two). (B, L)

## 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,

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.

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. 99 - Kim B.

# (9) 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)

# **SICILY & ITS ISLES**

14 DAYS · 21 MEALS STARTING AT \$4749

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 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

Hotel Mamma Santina or Days 9, 10 Hotel La Salina Borgo Di Mare, Salina

Ragusa

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,

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.

 $\bigoplus$  See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Palermo (1-2 Nights)



# 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.

# **ITALY: AMALFI COAST TO PUGLIA**

14 DAYS · 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$4999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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 Davs 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

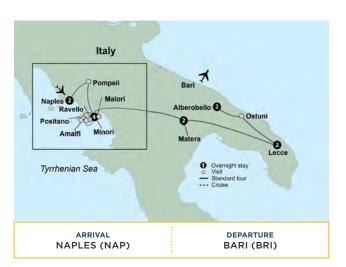
Stop in Ostuni, a whitewashed town surrounded by olive trees. Zoom through the town like a local in the backseat of an open-air Ape Calessino, a traditional 3-wheeled car. Enjoy time on your own before arriving in Alberobello. Make your way to your personal room, a converted house that will serve as 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,

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.

# **OF ITALY**

12 DAYS · 17 MEALS STARTING AT \$4599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS** 









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 stay. (B)

#### Day 10: Rome 👽

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)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4599 SOLO Starting at \$4999

Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on December 1, 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:** 

Venice (1-2 Nights)

Post-Night: Rome (1-2 Nights)





### **ICELANDIC ADVENTURE**

10 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$6224

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 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 - 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 \$6224 varies by departure date and SOLO Starting at \$7474 includes on-tour air. 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)

Pricing is per person, land only.

\*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 - 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 Akurevri 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 -**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 - Reykjavík

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 Revkianes 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. "

## THE NORTHERN **LIGHTS OF FINLAND**

8 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$5649

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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

Helsinki

Lilla Roberts Hotel,

Days 4 - 6

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)









### Day 5: Kakslauttanen - Santa Claus' Home - Reindeer Safari -**Northern Lights**

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)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5649 SOLO Starting at \$6649 varies by departure date and

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 NIGHTS)



#### **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.

# **AZORES JEWELS OF PORTUGAL**

13 DAYS · 20 MEALS STARTING AT \$4354

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS









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)



PONTA DELGADA (PDL)

LISBON (LIS)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4354 SOLO Starting at \$5354

varies by departure date

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)



#### Optional 3 Night Lisbon **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1560 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)





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.

### **FLAVOURS OF PORTUGAL** & SPAIN

16 DAYS · 22 MEALS STARTING AT \$5649

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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



#### **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.

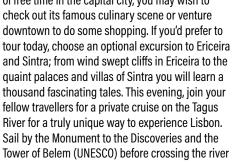
La Rioia

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 to see "Christ the King" statue. (B)



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

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

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



ARRIVAL LISBON (LIS)

BILBAO (BIO)

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 (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: 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)

### **EXPLORING IBERIA**

### **SOUTHERN SPAIN TO COASTAL PORTUGAL**

13 DAYS · 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$4649

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS









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**

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** 



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4649 SOLO Starting at \$6199

Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on January 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:** Malaga (1-2 Nights)



Post-Night:



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)





### PRE TOUR EXTENSION STARTING AT \$1560 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.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/672

### COUNTRYSIDE **OF THE EMERALD ISLE**

10 DAYS · 13 MEALS STARTING AT \$3699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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.



#### **CCOMMODATIONS**

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 -Dinale 🕜

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,

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.

### **SCOTLAND: LAND OF LORE** & LEGEND

12 DAYS · 17 MEALS STARTING AT \$4849

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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)



GLASGOW (GLA)

EDINBURGH (EDI)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4849

SOLO Starting at \$5749

Pricing is per person, land only,

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

**Pre-Night:** 

Glasgow (1-2 Nights)



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.

### THE BEST **OF IRELAND**

15 DAYS · 21 MEALS STARTING AT \$5399

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 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 Day 8 Lough Erne Resort, 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 lrish 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 SOLO Starting at \$6699

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

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







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.
79
— Trudy M.

- Iruay i

## **COASTS & COUNTRYSIDES OF ENGLAND**

WITH EDINBURGH, **LIVERPOOL & LONDON** 

14 DAYS · 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$5649

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 **SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS** 









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Edinburgh Castle • Lake District • Liverpool - Strawberry Field -Cotswolds • Bath • Cornwall • Sea Shanty Performance • Great Western Railway - London



#### **CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**

- Continue the legacy of Strawberry Field in the footsteps of John Lennon.
- · Relax as you journey through the countryside by train from Cornwall to London.
- · Enjoy the musical delights of a Cornish Sea Shanty Band.



#### **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
- Day 6 In Liverpool, visit the Tate Gallery -OR- tour Albert Dock and visit the Merseyside Maritime's past.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

12 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Dinners (D)

• Enjoy a traditional Cornish Cream Tea.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Davs 2, 3 VOCO, Edinburah Low Wood Bay Days 4, 5 Resort and Spa, Lake Windermere

> **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** See next page for details.

Day 6 Hotel Indigo, Liverpool The Queens Hotel, Days 7, 8 Cotswolds

Days 9, 10, 11 The Cornwall Hotel and Spa, Cornwall

Double Tree Hilton, West Days 12, 13

End, London



### From poetic countrysides to bustling capitals, experience the different sides of Scotland and England.

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

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 with a modern-day twist. (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, stop for a break at England's most famous motorway station. Tebay. 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 3

Head to Liverpool, England's popular port city. 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. This afternoon, it's your choice! Visit the Tate Liverpool, home to an eclectic range of art from the 16th century to modern day -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 Merseyside's Maritime Past. (B)

#### Day 7: Liverpool - Cotswolds

Delve into the English's love of stately homes





with a visit to a Dorfold Hall. 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 an 18th-century modern boutique hotel, in the heart of a charming Cotswold town. (B, D)

#### **Day 8: Cotswolds**

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 villages and enjoy free time for lunch in this picturesque town. Take the afternoon to relax and enjoy the Cotswolds at your own leisurely pace. (B)

#### Day 9: Cotswolds - Bath - Cornwall

The morning will be spent in the city of Bath, where centuries-old history is told with a visit to the Roman Baths. Learn about the indulgence and opulence of a bygone time and see how Bath developed over centuries. After lunch on your own, the iourney will continue to Poldarks Cornwall. Tonight, after dinner join your fellow travellers for an evening of song by a local Sea Shanty Band. (B, D)

#### Day 10: Cornwall

Today will be a full day coach tour of Cornwall's dramatic North Coast, Hear tales of Cornwall's tin mining past and learn how this shaped the Cornish landscape we see today. The day will bring opportunities to capture the beauty of the rugged north coast and a visit to a typical Cornish town.

#### Day 11: Cornwall

This morning, visit the Lost Gardens of Heligan, the largest garden restoration in Europe and home to a National Collection of camellias and rhododendrons and bursting with romance and intrigue around every pathway and corner. Explore Cornwall's idyllic south coast with a local guide and discover what makes this pretty peninsula so special, followed by a traditional Cornish Cream Tea. (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 Abbey, 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 Windsor Castle, the largest and oldest occupied castle in the world. 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



ARRIVAL EDINBURGH (EDI)

DEPARTURE LONDON (LON)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5649 SOLO Starting at \$7299

Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on November 6, 2024 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

April - 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:

Edinburgh (1-2 Nights)



Post-Night: London (1-2 Nights)

#### **ALSO AVAILABLE**

#### Journey through Scotland & England

★ DATES AVAILABLE: APRIL - MAY 2024

**CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/681** 

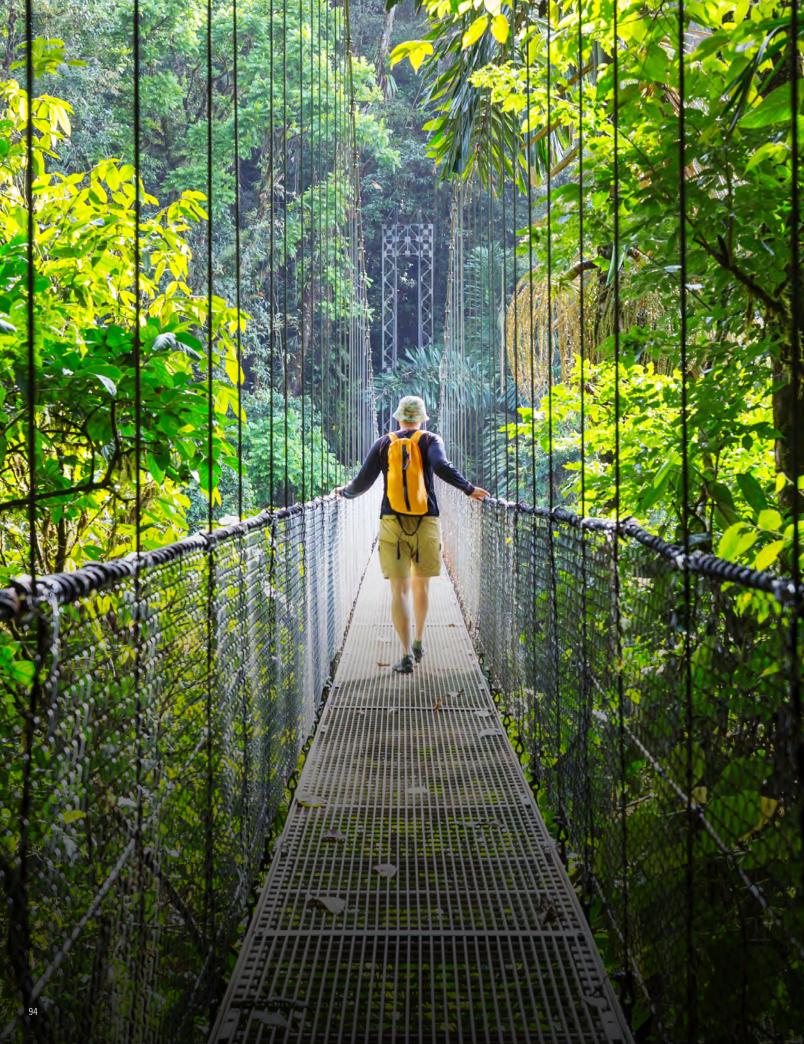
#### **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Day 4-5: Low Wood Bay Resort and Spa

Enjoy views of Lake Windermere, England's largest lake, by upgrading your accommodations to a Lake Front Room a the Low Wood Bay Resort and Spa

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.





## **COSTA RICA:** A WORLD **OF NATURE**

12 DAYS · 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$3749

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS









TRAVEL STYLE:

SMALL GROUP

#### **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.



#### **CCOMMODATIONS**

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

Nature C 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

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 botanical garden 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)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3749 SOLO Starting at \$4649

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**

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 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.

### **PATAGONIA: EDGE OF THE** WORLD

12 DAYS · 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$9389

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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



### 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 quanacos (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\*) (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 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.

# PERU: MACHU PICCHU AND LAKE TITICACA

10 DAYS · 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$4259

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4

SEE PAGE 5 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.



Days 8, 9

#### **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

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)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4259 SOLO Starting at \$5059 Pricing is per person, land only. varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

Prices based on April 26, 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: 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 PAGE 5 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

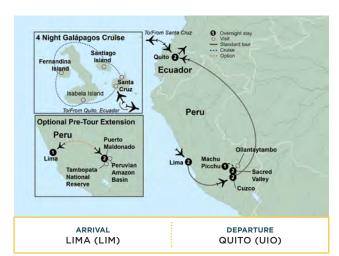
On Isabela Island soak in the wonders of one of the richest marine havens on earth during deep-water snorkeling at the Bolivar Channel. Then, take a dinghy ride along the coast to observe a great diversity of sea and coastal birds; Nazca and bluefooted boobies, noddies, brown pelicans, penguins, and 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

varies by departure date

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)





### 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.

### **MONTANA: EXPLORING BIG SKY COUNTRY**

11 DAYS · 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$7699

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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







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)

## **ROAMING** COASTAL MAINE

7 DAYS · 9 MEALS STARTING AT \$3899

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS









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)

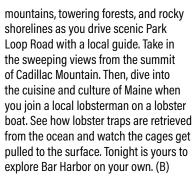
#### Day 4: Bar Harbor - Acadia National Park - Bar Harbor

This is Acadia National Park. Breathe in the crisp, fresh air and allow the nature around you to captivate your senses. Admire the striking









#### 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.

### **ALASKA'S NORTHERN** LIGHTS

7 DAYS · 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$5149

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1 2 3 4 SEE PAGE 5 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 \$5149

Pricing is per person, land only,

SOLO Starting at \$6199 Prices based on March 24, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

March 2024

(different itinerary - see note\*)

February - March 2025

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for February - 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: Anchorage (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Day 3: Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge

During your stay at the Talkeetna Lodge, upgrade to a Mountain Side room and enjoy north-facing views towards Denali and the Alaska Range.

Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

# **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-In⁵			•
Eligible for Collette's Travel Protection Plan	•	part b	<ul><li>part b</li></ul>
Benefit from our flexible change and refund policies	•		<b>(</b> )
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.

#### Currency

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

# TERMS & CONDITIONS

locations, and some of our Explorations tours. These are typically for emergency use, as we make plenty 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 113 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	Death & Dismemberment	\$25,000
Baggage	-Baggage & Personal Effects	\$25,000
	-Baggage Delay	\$500**

<sup>\*</sup>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

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:
From Canada & USA.....1-833-430-3653
Worldwide (collect).....954-308-3925

ops@gga-usa.com

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:

\*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.

Copyright 2023 Collette Tours Canada, Ltd. doing business as Collette, 40 Queen Street South, Mississauga, ON L5M 1K3. Effective dates October 1, 2023 - May 31, 2025. Collette Tours Canada Ltd. is a member of the Travel Industry Council of Ontario, Registration #3206405; B.C. Registration #23337. The material contained herein (including photos) is copyright and cannot be scanned, copied or duplicated.

<sup>\*\*</sup> This limit is subject to the overall maximum limit for baggage coverage.



#### There's nothing quite like the excitement and anticipation of upcoming adventures.

Perhaps no one knows this better than our product designers, who always have one foot in the future as they craft new tours and seek out new experiences to share with our travellers — experiences you'd be hard-pressed to find on your own.

Because our designers and Tour Managers are often regionally based, it's sort of like travelling with a friend who knows the area and can show you all the secret spots and hidden gems. And when you travel with a small group you get access to accommodations and experiences that larger groups can't always reach.

Read on for a sneak peek of what's coming in 2025.





### NAMIBIA & SOUTH AFRICA: EPIC LANDSCAPES & WILDLIFE

featuring Etosha & Kruger National Parks & Cape Town

Experience Africa's largest national park where game sightings are all but guaranteed. Travel through the otherworldly Namib desert, home to some of the largest sand dunes on earth. Soak in the culture of Cape Town, South Africa's oldest city, and more.



### GEMS OF GREECE: ATHENS, NAXOS, CRETE

Discover some of Greece's best-kept secrets on this Mediterranean island-hopping adventure, from the ancient civilizations and temples of Athens to the stunning architecture and sandy beaches of Crete and Naxos.



#### PORTUGAL'S OLD WORLD CHARMS

featuring Douro Valley, Alentejo & Lisbon

Seek out Portugal's hidden treasures while checking three different UNESCO World Heritage sites off your list: Tour the Douro Valley, one of the oldest wine regions. Explore Alentejo's cork forests, olive groves, and medieval architecture. Discover the hilltop villages and outdoor cafés of Old Town in Lisbon, and more.



# THE BALKANS: FROM COASTAL CROATIA TO LEGENDARY GREECE

Croatia's stunning national parks, Sarajevo's wartime history, and Thessaloniki's ancient architecture are all part of this highly immersive tour spanning six countries: Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, North Macedonia, and Greece.



### **ESSENTIAL SOUTH AMERICA**

featuring Chile, Mendoza Wine Region & Buenos Aires

Taste the wines in the sunny vineyards of Argentina, explore Pre-Columbian artwork in Chile, and take a tango lesson in the city where it all began on this tour brimming with South American flavour.

#### 3A0LX



# For reservations, contact your Travel Professional or call Collette at 800.468.5955.

Visit collette.com/offers for special savings.



3A0LX\_0124

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.