

Welcome to Explorations. Traveller, these pages are filled with adventure and discovery. We started designing small group tours in 2008, curating programs that take you off the beaten path and give you access to places that bigger groups can't go. We call them experience-fueled tours for culturally curious travellers.

This past year, I set off with a small group to explore Umbria. We searched for the elusive truffle mushrooms with a local hunter and his dogs. We learned to make pasta with Francesca, a local (spoiler alert: it's better in l'Italia). From Peru to Finland, I've had the privilege to meet travellers like you on the road.

My next adventure will be to Africa to explore Kenya and Tanzania with my family. This photo is our inspiration and I can't wait to dive in.

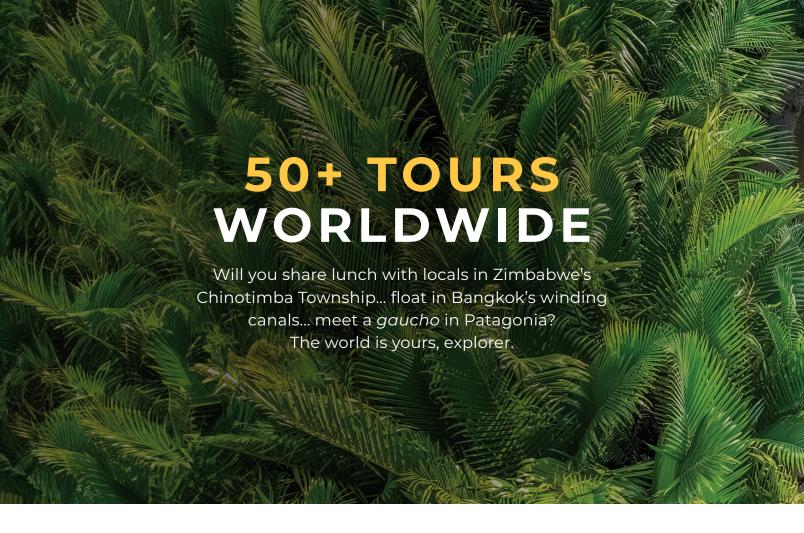
Dive in to the possibilities, traveller, for your own next adventure. I can't wait to see where the road takes you this year.



Jaclyn Leibl-Cote
Chief Executive Officer

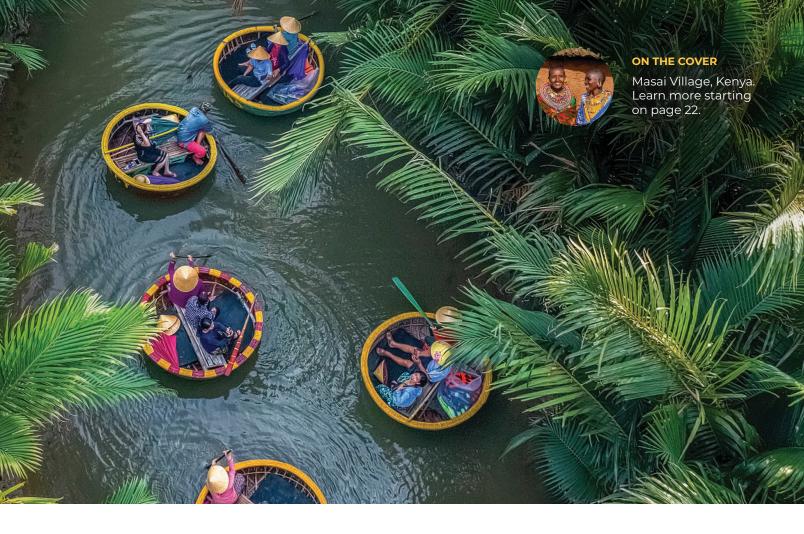






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# THE EXPLORATIONS TRAVELLER

- You're savvy, confident, and culturally curious.
- You want meaningful connections to local people.
- You're a lifelong learner, who isn't afraid to challenge the status quo.
- You're looking for every day to be new and different.

- You want free time to explore your way, paired with an expertly planned deep dive into a destination.
- You want specially-curated accommodations, and unique dining experiences.

Explorations tours are all about getting closer to culture.

Designed just for small groups, these tours help travellers dive deeper.

Access places that larger groups can't reach. Connect with locals.

Build camaraderie with like-minded travel companions.

Forge connections with local experts.









# EXPLORATIONS DIFFERENCE

Is your favourite part about travelling the people you meet?
Or is it the opportunity to get to know different cultures and learn new things about yourself? Maybe it's both. And maybe it's the chance to explore the world your own way.

#### More Time in the Destination

With the minimum amount of onenight stays, and perfected pacing that includes walking food tours and local modes of transport, you'll get more time in destinations. Because you didn't come all this way to drive between destinations.

#### Learning and Discovery

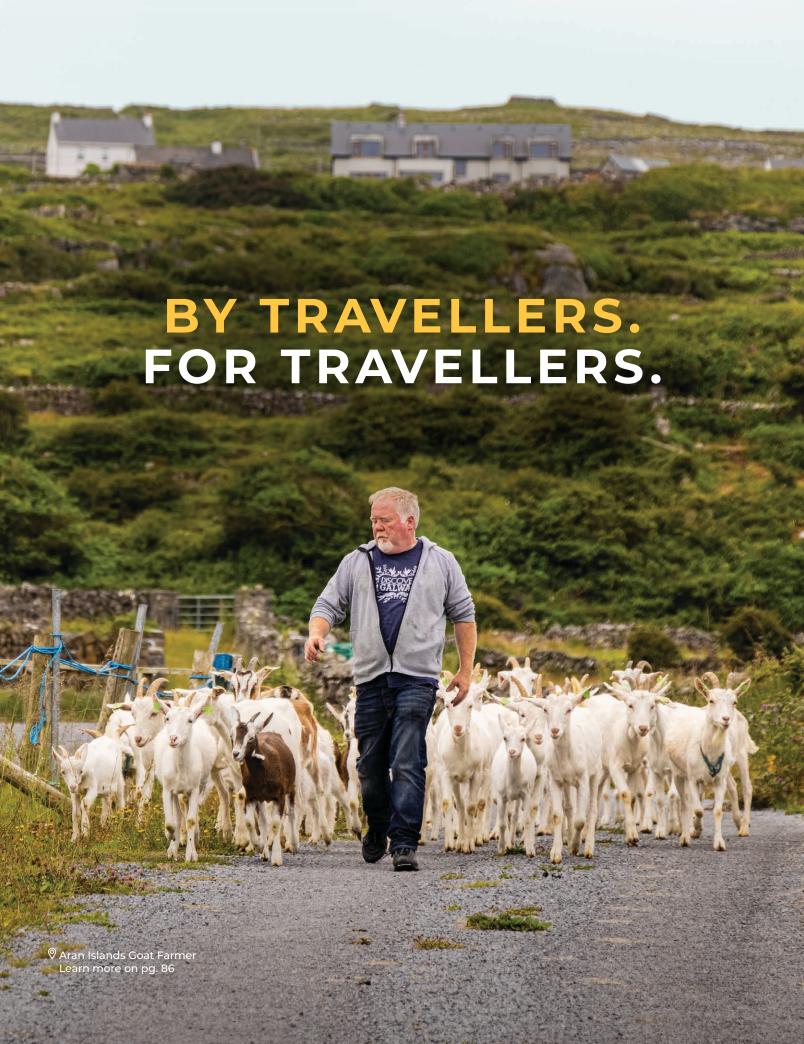
People-to-people moments like visiting a Zimbabwean township or in Montana, having a conversation with a member of the Kootenai tribe, can transform your experience. In South America, you won't just watch the tango; you'll learn how to tango in a private studio, picking up cultural nuances like how to ask someone for a dance without speaking. Then you'll go to a local Milongas social club. Every day on tour, meet new people who bring you closer to the world that you explore.

#### > A Regional Approach

Dive deep into destinations. In Italy, for example, you can explore Tuscany and Northern Italy, but you can also embark on a 14-day tour of only Sicily or explore Puglia, a quiet, less bustling slice of Italy. This regional approach takes savvy travellers closer to culture, and uncovers local experiences that truly venture off the well worn path.

#### Personalized and Curated

With Choice On Tour, you'll choose your favourite experience from two included excursions. Adding a day to the beginning or end, adding on optional excursions, or booking an extension all allow you to curate a personalized travel experience. Get the perfect mix of guided experiences and time on your own. Travellers have the opportunity to put their own mark on their tour, and do things their own way.



# **SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS**

# **EXPERTLY PLANNED. EXPERTLY LED.**

Imagine having a conversation with a Vietnamese war veteran. Or visiting the remote villages of Eastern Africa. Listening to a *seanchai* share Irish folklore in County Donegal.

Our in-region destination experts do not check boxes and create

cookie-cutter itineraries. Because they are travellers like you, and they're curious about culture. Every day, cultural experiences tell a story of the places you'll explore.

Must-sees are paired with the kinds of experiences only locals can find.











During small group Explorations tours, we partner with social enterprises and local nonprofits. Our goal? That our time together generates sustainable benefits for the community.

See what your impact looks like on an **Impact Moment** in Morocco.

100%

of Explorations Tours Are Carbon Neutral

Sheroes Hangout Learn more on pg. 38



#### **IMPACT MOMENTS**

Explorations tours include Impact Moments — visits to social enterprises, nonprofits, or organizations that directly benefit the local community. In Morocco, visit the Amal Training Center. "Set in the suburbs of Marrakech, this culinary training centre brings together women in difficult situations, to train them on everything related to food service," explains Collette Tour Manager Mohamed Merri.

In Agra, India, travellers visit the Sheroes' Hangout, a small café just a few blocks from the Taj Mahal. Here, a group of women inspire resilience, hope, and positive

change. Each employee at Sheroes' Hangout (a name created with "she" and "heroes") is a survivor of an acid attack. These attacks generally leave victims disfigured but not disabled. Sheroes is a place where these leaders can thrive without discrimination.

Impact Moments tell stories, spark conversation and preserve cultures. These moments stay with you long after you return home.



#### VOLUNTEERING

In late 2023, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck Morocco. While some of the ancient walls in Marrakech were damaged, the biggest impact was in the Middle Atlas Mountains.

Collette employees volunteered their time in Morocco, packing over 250 backpacks and 2.5 tonnes of vegetables to support impacted children and families during an on-site volunteer event.

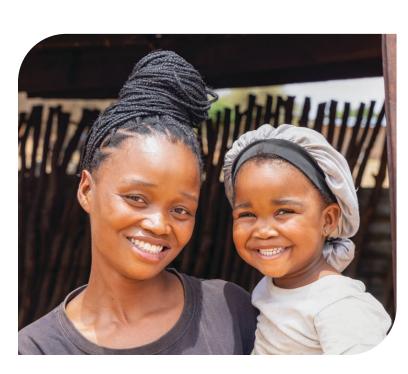


"Townships are not typically places that a tourist would visit," says Roger Clulow, a product design manager for Collette and expert on planning travel experiences in Africa.

Townships, generally on the outskirts of major cities and towns throughout Africa, are hubs of culture and community. While townships are typically underdeveloped, "they're normally a little bit more advanced and modern than an African tribal village," Roger explains.

At Collette, we go into townships because we want our travellers to see what life is like, then meet local residents. Take Chinotimba, a vibrant township in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The name, derived from the Nambya language meaning "the mighty roar," reflects the thundering sound of the area's namesake falls. With some 60,000 residents, it's where the majority of those who live in Victoria Falls call home. On a *Wilderness of Southern Africa* small group journey, a visit to Chinotimba offers an opportunity to connect with a local family during lunch hosted in their home. More than a meal, it's a chance to learn about Zimbabwean culture and gain a new perspective about township life.

Interactions like these are invaluable, offering a deep understanding of local life and fostering genuine connections. "It's a very rich learning experience for our travellers to see how these people live," says Roger. "It truly is something that is very memorable for our travellers and stays with them."





#### **NEW TOUR**

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

17 DAYS • 33 MEALS STARTING AT \$10289

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Sossusvlei Dunes - Swakopmund -Etosha National Park • 5 Wildlife Safaris Cape Town - Table Mountain - Cape of Good Hope • Kruger National Park



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Visit a local non-profit in Windhoek dedicated to empowering women through traditional craftwork and skill sharing.
- Join a local Capetonian family at home and learn about their daily life.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 15 Breakfasts (B) - 7 Lunches (L) - 11 Dinners (D)

- Experience an authentic South African Braii lunch inside Kruger National Park.
- · Enjoy a tasting and lunch at a winery set against Namibia's Erongo Mountains.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

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

Desert Grace Lodge, Days 3, 4 Sossusvlei

Days 5, 6 Strand Hotel, Swakopmund

Etosha Safari Lodge, Days 7 - 9

**Ftosha** Day 10 Weinberg Hotel, Windhoek

Days 11 - 13 The Cape Milner Hotel, Cape Town

Days 14 - 16 Kruger Gate Hotel, Kruger National Park

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

You're on your way to South Africa and Namibia, two nations with intertwined histories and some of the most incredible landscapes, wildlife, and cultural diversity in the world. Get ready for a truly unique experience, from the dunes of Sossusvlei to the coasts of Cape Town.

Day 2: Johannesburg, South Africa Arrive in Johannesburg after your overnight flight. Get settled at your airport hotel and rest before tomorrow's morning flight to Namibia.

#### Day 3: Johannesburg - Windhoek, Namibia - Sossusvlei

Today, fly to Windhoek, Namibia's capital city. One of Southern Africa's most fascinating destinations, Namibia is one of the youngest countries in Africa and one of the least populated in the world. With its recent independence from South Africa, this frontier nation is a surprise to most. After landing in Windhoek, travel to Sossusylei, one of Namibia's most stunning landmarks. Arrive at your lodge at the end of the day just in time to settle in and enjoy your first dinner with your travelling companions. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Sossusvlei

Embark on the experience of a lifetime. Start the day early to ensure the best experience at one of Namibia's most dramatic landscapes the red sand dunes of Deadvlei in the Namib desert. A landscape reminiscent of science

fiction movies, the Sossusvlei region is home to some of the world's tallest dunes. Climb one of these epic dunes to access Deadvlei, a salt pan famous for its ancient petrified trees. A paradise for photographers and scenery enthusiasts alike, the Namib desert will leave lasting memories. See firsthand how animals survive in this harsh environment, and look for its most famous resident - the oryx! (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: Sossusvlei - Swakopmund

Say farewell to the Namib desert and travel to the coastal town of Swakopmund. With its German colonial architecture, marine wildlife, and access to the Skeleton Coast, Swakopmund is a unique desert oasis. This afternoon, visit the Welwitschia Plains and Moon Valley for another look at what makes Namibia so unique - its hyper-arid landscape creates the perfect conditions for endemic species of plants seen nowhere else. (B, D)

#### Day 6: Swakopmund

This morning, drive to Walvis Bay and join a marine cruise to search for seals, pelicans, and dolphins. Learn from your cruise guides what makes this area so unique for these marine animals. Continue your exploration to Pelican Point for a glimpse of some pink feathered friends and a view of what makes this coastline so famous - its numerous ship wrecks. (B)

#### Day 7: Swakopmund - Etosha National Park

Leave this coastal beauty behind as we head to

your second Namibian National Park

- Etosha. On the way, stop for a tasting
and lunch at a winery paving the way for
Namibian wines and spirits. Later this
afternoon, check in to your rustic lodge
and settle in before dinner overlooking
the African bush. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 8: Etosha National Park**

Early this morning, depart for your first game drive. In open safari vehicles, search for rhino, giraffe, lions, elephants, and several types of antelopes. Ostriches will welcome you at every corner and wildebeest will greet you at watering holes. Return to your lodge for lunch before departing for your afternoon game drive. End the day with memories of salt flats and wild animals thriving in a surreal landscape. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 9: Etosha National Park**

Today, take a break from safari vehicles and join a full day game drive in an enclosed vehicle. If you wish, you may choose to upgrade to open vehicles (if your adventurous side has not yet been satiated!). (B, D)

# Day 10: Etosha National Park - Windkoek

Travel your last Namibian leg of this journey and arrive back in its capital city, Windhoek. Despite it being the capital, enjoy its calm atmosphere during your free afternoon before you join your fellow travellers at dinner to reminisce about your adventure in Namibia. (B, D)

# Day 11: Windhoek - Cape Town, South Africa

End your time in Namibia with a meaningful visit to Penduka during an **Impact Moment**. With its mission to support gender equality and empower women, learn how Penduka supports the local community through traditional craftwork and skill sharing. Then, travel to the airport for your flight to Cape

Town, South Africa, and end your day as a guest of honour 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 12: Cape Town

Get to see the natural side of Cape Town today. Travel to Cape Point, the southwestern tip of Africa. Marvel at the vibrant green foliage blanketing the rocky outcrops, contrasting the bright blue waves below. Visit the Cape of Good Hope and stop at Boulders Beach for the rarest of black-tie events – a rendezvous with endangered African penguins! Return to the city via Table Bay. (B, L)

#### Day 13: Cape Town

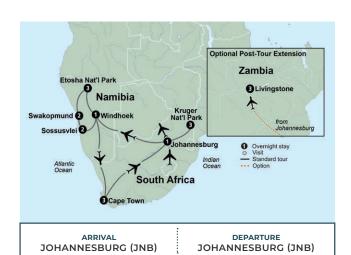
Today, explore South Africa's eclectic cultural mecca. Rise gently over the South African landscape in a cable car to Table Mountain, taking in views of Cape Town, Lions Head, and historic Robben Island. Then, view the city's heritage sites, historic landmarks, and bustling city centre during a city tour. Enjoy a free afternoon to relax at your hotel or to further explore this fascinating city as you wish. (B)

#### Day 14: Cape Town -Johannesburg - Kruger National Park

Say goodbye to city life and hello to South Africa's stunning natural beauty. Board your flight to Johannesburg as you make your way to Kruger National Park, the largest game reserve in South Africa. Check in to your hotel, ideally located at the entrance of the park on the banks of the Sabie River. (B, D)

#### **Day 15: Kruger National Park**

Pack your camera as you head off on a full day game drive! Search for the "Big 5" from your open-air vehicle and experience some iconic South African scenery. Relax with an authentic South





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



PRE-NIGHT: Johannesburg (1-2 NIGHTS)

African Braai lunch featuring local meats, before gathering again for your afternoon game drive. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 16: Kruger National Park**

Head out again on another full-day game drive for your last opportunity to see all the majestic scenery and animals you have come this far to experience. Tonight, join your fellow explorers for dinner and toast farewell to all the extraordinary places you've encountered during this epic African adventure. (B, L, D)

#### Day 17: Kruger National Park - Johannesburg - Tour Ends

Bid farewell to your fellow travellers when you leave Kruger for Johannesburg and head back home. (B)

#### ◆ Optional 3-Night Livingstone Post-Tour Extension Starting at \$1560<sup>†</sup> pp



Day 17: Kruger National Park -Mpumalanga - Livingstone, Zambia Travel to Kruger Mpumalanga International

Airport and board your flight to Livingstone, Zambia. Located on the banks of the mighty Zambezi River, Livingstone is the perfect access point to the extraordinary Victoria Falls — one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the world and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Check in to your lodge before heading out on a sunset sundowner cruise. Enjoy views of the river, its banks, and the animals that call it home. Look out for hippos and elephants as they may surprise you with an afternoon appearance.

#### Day 18: Livingstone

Experience the Falls! With your local expert, learn about the majestic Victoria Falls and

its surrounding areas. Experience the roar as you approach and see for yourself why this is one of the most visited sites in the world. After lunch, visit the Mukuni village where you'll be welcomed by its chief and where you may get a glimpse into the traditions and customs of the Leya people. Return to your lodge at the end of the day for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

#### **Day 19: Livingstone**

Experience local culture at its best with a visit to a local market. From animals and vegetables to curios and fabrics, observe how people barter for goods and maybe give it a try for yourself. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon on your own to further explore or relax at the lodge on your last day in Zambia. (B, D)

**Day 20: Livingstone - Johannesburg, South Africa - Tour Ends**Today, board your flight to Johannesburg, South Africa before continuing on to your flight home. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# THE PLAINS **OF AFRICA**

**KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI** 

14 DAYS • 33 MEALS STARTING AT \$6404

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Nairobi - Shaba National Reserve -Samburu National Reserve - Sundowner -Lake Nakuru • Masai Mara • Karen Blixen Home - Amboseli National Park -13 Game Drives • Africa's Big 5



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- · Visit Rothschild's giraffes at a sanctuary that serves to educate thousands of Kenyan school children
- · Learn the traditions of the Samburu people during a visit with a tribe member.
- Immerse 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 at Lake Nakuru.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Sarova Stanley Hotel, Day 2 Nairobi

Day 3 Sarova Maiyan, Mt. Kenya

Days 9, 10

Sarova Shaba Lodge, Days 4, 5 Shaba Reserve

Panari Resort Nyahururu, Day 6

Nyahururu Sarova Lion Hill Lodge,

Days 7, 8 Lake Nakuru

> Sarova Mara Camp, Masai Mara

Sarova Stanley Hotel, Day 11

Nairobi

Days 12, 13 Ol Tukai Lodge, Amboseli

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

Prepare to see the Africa of your dreams and one that's so much more than you could imagine. Explore Kenya's wildlife, up close and personal, against stunning vistas across the plains of Africa.

#### Day 2: Nairobi, Kenya

Adventure stirs the soul in Kenya. Arrive in the heart of safari country today.

#### Day 3: Nairobi - Mount Kenya

After breakfast, travel towards Mount Kenya, an extinct volcano where peaks reach as high as 5,200 meters. In the foothills, indigenous forests surround you on all sides, and red soil stirs under brilliant waterfalls. This afternoon, set out on your first game drive of the trip at OI Pejeta Conservancy, home to an astounding variety of animals. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Mount Kenya - 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 - Nyahururu

Journey to Nyahururu, its name derived from the Maasai word for waterfall, e-naiwurruwurr. Enjoy a free afternoon to relax in your luxury hideaway, a resort situated in the heart of 20 acres of tranquil forest. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Nyahururu - Lake Nakuru

Hit the road for a spectacular, mountain-kissed journey on the way from Nyahururu waterfalls to Lake Nakuru National Park. 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. Set out on a game drive this afternoon. (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. Tonight, indulge in a traditional bush dinner, complete with a Masai dance performance. (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 a full-day 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. 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 11: Masai Mara Game Reserve - Nairobi

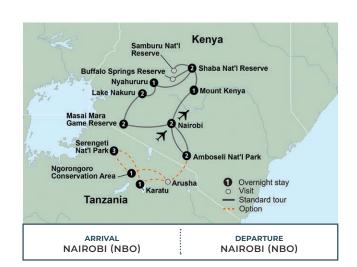
Return to Nairobi and visit the farmhouse of Karen Blixen for a true *Out of Africa* experience. Then, visit a giraffe sanctuary that also serves as an environmental education centre and get an up-close experience with majestic Rothschild's giraffes. (B, L)

#### 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 colourful 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 accompanied by 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 a sunrise game drive followed by breakfast back at the lodge. Then all of Amboseli is at your feet during a morning and afternoon game drive. Derived from the Masai word meaning "salty dust," this unique corner of Kenya is one of the best



DOUBLE Starting at \$6404 SOLO Starting at \$7554

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

Prices based on May 1, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

May 2025 - April 2026

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2025 - April 2026 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 OR POST-NIGHT: Nairobi (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **TOUR EXTENSION:**

5-Nights Post-Tour in **TANZANIA SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS!** 

66 The most enjoyable part of the tour was all of it. We had an amazing, fun tour manager, knowledgeable drivers, a wonderful group of people and had outstanding luck in what we were able to see on safari! 99

– Abbey I.

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 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)

# Tanzania post-tour extension • 6 days • 16 meals • starting at \$3770 pp

How do you make an incredible experience even more incredible? Complete your African adventure with a 5-night Tanzania Post Tour Extension.

Day 14: Amboseli - Arusha, Tanzania

#### **EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED**

You're accompanied by a Tour Manager throughout this extension, except for any time that's set aside for independent discovery.

#### **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**







See page 136 for details

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Day 14

Country Lodge, Karatu

Days 15-17 Arukore Simba Lodge, Serengeti Ngorongoro Coffee Lodge, Karatu - Karatu - Depart Amboseli for Arusha, Tanzania, the gateway to Mount Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti. After clearing border crossing formalities, enjoy lunch in Arusha. Then continue to your hotel in Karatu, located along the foothills of Ngorongoro. (L, D)

#### Day 15: Karatu - Serengeti National Park

After breakfast, depart for Serengeti National Park, undoubtedly the most famous wildlife sanctuary in the world and known to have the greatest concentration of Plains game anywhere. (B, L, D)

Day 16: Serengeti National Park - Today, enjoy a full day game drive in the park. Serengeti comes from the Masai language meaning "extended place" and is the most complex and least disturbed ecosystem on earth! (B, L, D)

#### Day 17: Serengeti National Park -

Synonymous with wildlife and classic African scenery, the Serengeti is ours to explore again today with more time spent looking for the Big Five. (B, L, D)



### THE PLAINS OF AFRICA

#### Day 18: Serengeti National Park - Ngorongoro Conservation Area

After breakfast, depart for the Ngorongoro Crater, the largest intact caldera in the world. Its enduring charm stems from its overwhelming beauty and the abundance of wildlife permanently residing on the crater floor. Enjoy a picnic lunch as you continue your journey to Ngorongoro Conservation Area. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 19: Masai Mara National Reserve**

- Nairobi - Drive through Arusha on the way to the Kilimanjaro International Airport for your departure flight home. (B, L)







# **AFRICAN SAFARI:** KENYA AND TANZANIA

**15 DAYS • 38 MEALS STARTING AT \$8749** 

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Nairobi - David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust • Out of Africa Farmhouse • Amboseli National Park • Shanga • Karatu • Ngorongoro Crater - Serengeti - Lake Eyasi • Tarangire National Park • 12 Game Drives



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- See how a local workshop, Shanga, empowers citizens with disabilitles.
- 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.



#### **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.



#### **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

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

Amboseli

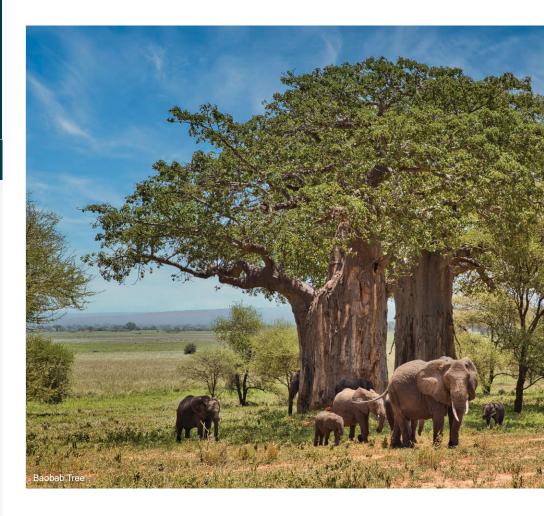
Days 6, 7 Country Lodge, Karatu

Days 8 - 10 ThornTree Camp, Serengeti

Days 11, 12 Lake Eyasi Safari Lodge, Lake Eyasi

Days 13, 14 Sangaiwe Tented Lodge, Tarangire National Park

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### **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

Arrive in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. Serving as the gateway to Africa's sought-out wildlife, Nairobi is the ideal place to get acclimated to the Kenyan lifestyle.

#### Day 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 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)

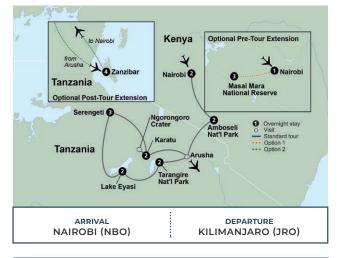
#### Day 7: Karatu - Ngorongoro Crater -Karatu

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









**DOUBLE** Starting at \$8749 SOLO Starting at \$9799

Prices based on November 17, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

May 2025 - April 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2025 - April 2026 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.

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 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 Eyasi

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

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

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

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

PRE-NIGHT: Nairobi (1-2 NIGHTS)

**TOUR EXTENSIONS:** 

4-Night Pre-Tour in KENYA'S MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE

4-Night Post-Tour in ZANZIBAR

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS!

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)

# ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY ON

# Masai Mara PRE-TOUR EXTENSION . 6 DAYS . 11 MEALS . STARTING AT \$2470 PP

Begin your African safari in Kenya's wild Masai Mara National Reserve, one of the most famous and important wildlife conservation and wilderness areas in Africa.







#### **EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED**

You're accompanied by a Tour Manager part of the time, for some guided excursions. The rest of the time, you're at leisure to explore the destination your way.

#### **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**







See page 136 for details

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Day 2 Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi Days 3-5 Mara Fig Tree Camp, Masai Mara

Day 1: Overnight Flight - Your tour begins with an overnight flight.

#### Day 2: Nairobi, Kenya - Extension **Begins**

Today you arrive in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya,

where you'll be met by a local representative and transferred to your hotel. This afternoon is at leisure to relax and get acquainted with the Kenyan lifestyle! Join your fellow travel companions this evening for dinner at your hotel. (D)

Day 3: Nairobi - Masai Mara National Reserve - Today, travel towards Kenya's fertile highlands on a road built by Italian prisoners of war during World War II. On the way, spot the charming chapel known as the "Traveller's Church" and the Longonot Satellite Station as you head across the Rift Valley to Narok. You'll arrive in the Masai Mara in time for lunch followed by a siesta and your first game drive! Return to camp as the sun sets. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 4: Masai Mara National Reserve**

After breakfast, depart on an early morning game drive, returning to camp mid-morning. The wildlife in the Mara is robust: hippo, lion, hyena,

zebra, wildebeest, elephant, and Cape buffalo all call this home. After lunch, you'll have some time to enjoy the grounds of the camp. The Talek River winds its way through the camp providing the perfect setting for birds, hippo, and other wildlife. Then, set off on another game drive, returning to camp as the sun sets. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 5: Masai Mara National Reserve**

By now, you've become an expert at spotting wildlife! After breakfast, depart on an early morning game drive, returning to camp midmorning. Perhaps you'll spend some time in one of the camp's treehouses, spotting giraffes in the distance or admiring the many bird species that thrive here. Then, set off on another game drive, returning to camp as the sun sets. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Masai Mara National Reserve -Nairobi - Depart after breakfast and drive to Nairobi, arriving midday to start the main tour. (B)

#### **AFRICAN SAFARI: KENYA & TANZANIA**

# Zanzibar post-tour extension . 5 days . 7 MEALS . STARTING AT \$2080\* PP

Extend your time in Tanzania with five days in Zanzibar. With its blend of cultural treasures and natural wonders, Zanzibar promises an unforgettable journey in paradise.







#### **EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED**

You're accompanied by a Tour Manager part of the time, for some guided excursions. The rest of the time, you're at leisure to explore the destination your way.

#### **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**







See page 136 for details

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Days 15-18 Maru Maru Hotel, 7anzihar

#### Day 15: Arusha - Zanzibar - Extension **Begins**

Fly from Arusha to Zanzibar and transfer to the hotel, met by a local guide. Check in to your hotel and spend the rest of the afternoon relaxing.

#### Day 16: Zanzibar

Today you're in for a culturally enriching experience. In the morning, take a captivating tour of Stone Town, delving into this UNESCO

World Heritage Site's intricate blend of Arabic, Indian, Persian, and European influences, while exploring landmarks like the Darajani town market and the former slave market. After lunch, venture into the lush countryside for a spice tour, discovering why Zanzibar earned the nickname "Spice Island." Visit small spice farms, learning about the cultivation of cloves, vanilla, nutmeg, and more, while gaining insights into their culinary and medicinal uses, deeply rooted in Zanzibar's vibrant culture. (B, L)

#### Day 17: Zanzibar

Continue your discovery of Zanzibar as you embark on an unforgettable adventure in the vibrant marine world of the Indian Ocean. Taking a state-of-the-art semi-submarine, explore breathtaking coral reefs and encounter a kaleidoscope of colourful fish, all from the comfort of a "splash-free" underwater viewing deck. Following the underwater exploration, be whisked away to a nearby sandbank for a Zanzibar-style brunch, sunbathing, and swimming, for a perfect blend of excitement and relaxation against the stunning backdrop of the archipelago. (B, L, D)

#### Day 18: Zanzibar

On your final full day in Zanzibar, indulge in leisure time at your seaside hotel, basking in the serenity of the coastal surroundings. If you're still longing for more adventure, embark on an optional Jozani forest tour, immersing yourself in the natural beauty of the island's last remaining natural forest. Here you have the chance to encounter the rare and endangered red colobus monkey, known for its friendly demeanor and photographic appeal, while exploring diverse habitats such as coastal evergreen bushland, mangrove forest, and saline grassland under the guidance of knowledgeable local experts. (B)

#### Day 19: Zanzibar - Nairobi, Kenya -**Extension Ends**

On your final morning in Zanzibar, savour a tranguil start with a leisurely breakfast, soaking in breathtaking views of the sea. Then be transferred to Zanzibar Airport for the flight back to Nairobi, marking the beginning of your journey homeward. With memories of Zanzibar's captivating landscapes and warm hospitality, you depart, carrying cherished experiences of your time in this enchanting island paradise. (B)

\*Additional air segment purchase required.

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

15 DAYS • 33 MEALS STARTING AT \$9669

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Chobe National Park . 3 Cruises on the Chobe River - Hwange National Park -Private Lake Kariba Safari Boat . Victoria Falls • 6 Game Drives & Game Cruises • Home Hosted Meal



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Cruise 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.
- Immerse yourself in nature and seek out the elusive "Big 5" during land & water safari experiences.



#### **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.



#### **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!



#### **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

Iganyana Tented Camp, Days 6 - 8 Hwange National Park

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

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

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

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

Welcome to Johannesburg! This afternoon, transfer to your hotel and enjoy a relaxing evening before your adventure 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 gathering 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 be able to 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 to drive into the nearby town of Kasane. After lunch at the lodge, board your private boat and take to the waters of the Chobe River, in search of elephants and aquatic birds while sipping on cool beverages. (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 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 a leisurely final morning in Chobe National Park, 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 buffalo, elephants and other animals gathering in the park. Return to the lodge for dinner. (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 -Victoria Falls - Lake Kariba

Enjoy a final morning in the park before driving to Lake Kariba, the world's largest artificial lake. Board your private safari boat which will be your home for the next 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, to try your hand at fishing in Lake Kariba from a tender boat on an afternoon game cruise. 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 11: Lake Kariba

Start your day relaxed as you sail past the unspoiled wilderness and rugged scenery. Savour brunch later this morning and enjoy a trip and chance to fish on tender boats in the afternoon. 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 12: Lake Kariba - Victoria **Falls**

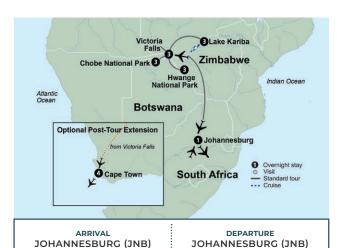
Your safari boat experience will come to a close this morning as you drive back to Victoria Falls. Upon arriving at the Ilala Lodge, enjoy lunch. Then grab your poncho because this afternoon you will visit the exhilarating natural wonder of Victoria Falls! At 5,600 feet wide and 354 feet tall, this waterfall 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 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, whose banks are frequented by the local animals. (B, L)

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

Your last full day on tour will bring you up close to elephants at a local sanctuary. Hear stories from these gentle giants' caretakers and learn about the efforts to understand, care for, and protect these intelligent and inspiring creatures, all while marvelling at the animals interacting and walking by their side. Continue learning about animal conservation and care during an Impact Moment visiting the Victoria



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$9669 SOLO Starting at \$11319 Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air and park fees.

Prices based on July 10, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2024 January - April 2025 May 2025 - April 2026

(featured itinerary)

(different itinerary - see note\*)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2025 - April 2026 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



PRE-NIGHT: Johannesburg (1-2 NIGHTS)

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 companions as you depart your African adventure and head home. (B)

#### Optional 4-Night Cape Town **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1820<sup>†</sup> pp



#### Day 15: Victoria Falls - Cape Town, South Africa

Fly from Victoria Falls and to Cape Town, the perfect way to extend your vacation.

#### Day 16: Cape Town

Today, set off for a half-day city tour of Cape Town, Climb aboard a cable car for a ride up Table Mountain, voted the 8th Wonder of the World. Then, explore Cape Town, known as the Mother City. Founded in 1652 by Dutch sailors, Cape Town boasts intricate, layered Cape Dutch architecture. (B)

#### Day 17: Cape Town

Today, enjoy a full-day Peninsula tour that explores the length and both sides of the Cape Peninsula. Visit Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope - the south-western most point of the African continent. Behold amazing and dramatic scenery as the road winds along steep cliffs overlooking the ocean far below. Visit the famous penguins that live on

Boulders Beach. Finally, get a true taste of the local culture during a home-hosted dinner in Cape Town. (B, L, D)

#### Day 18: Cape Town

With a full day at leisure, explore Cape Town in depth. This is the perfect location to end an epic tour of southern Africa. This vibrant, cosmopolitan city celebrates culture, beauty and charm, with its strong Euro-Africa blend, great sights, shopping, restaurants and entertainment. Visit the Victoria and Alfred waterfront - a mecca of shops, restaurants, bars, harbour rides and amazing views of Table Mountain. Sit down for a farewell dinner complete with a cultural performance and local dishes. It is the perfect finale to a truly unforgettable experience. (B, D)

#### Day 19: Cape Town - Extension Ends

Bid farewell to South Africa when you leave beautiful Cape Town! Depending on your departure flight time, you will have access to a day room. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.

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

**15 DAYS • 29 MEALS** STARTING AT \$8475

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- 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.



#### **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.



#### **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Southern Sun O.R. Tambo, Day 2 Johannesburg

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

Chobe Marina Lodge, Days 5, 6

Ivory Tree Game Lodge or Days 7 - 9 Bakubung Bush Lodge, Pilanesberg National Park

Days 10, 11 Lord Charles Hotel, Somerset West

Days 12 - 14 Southern Sun the Cullinan Hote or Commodore Hotel. Cape Town

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### **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 gold-mining 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, witness the awesome power of Victoria Falls. (B, D)

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

Embark on an experience of a lifetime. Greet African elephants and spend some quality time interacting with them in their own habitat. 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 vou'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

This morning transfer to Victoria Falls Airport and fly to Johannesburg. Upon arrival, 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. 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, 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. Fly from Johannesburg 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. (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 Pinotage, a local favourite. 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

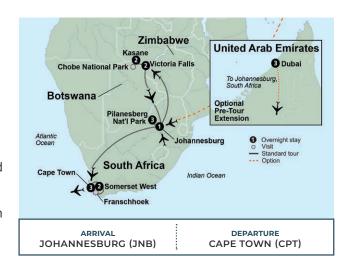
Say hello to Cape Town, South Africa's electric cultural mecca that captivates you at every turn. Explore Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, a Cape Town hotspot. With historic landmarks, markets, shops, and restaurants, the waterfront is one of South Africa's most compelling destinations. On arrival, rise 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. 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 guest 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



DOUBLE Starting at \$8475 SOLO Starting at \$9625 Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date, and includes on tour air.

Prices based on April 24, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

May 2025 – April 2026

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2025 - April 2026 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

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

PRE-NIGHT: Johannesburg (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Cape Town (1-2 NIGHTS)

# Optional 3-Night Dubai Pre-Tour Extension Starting at \$1300† pp



#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

Your tour begins with an overnight flight.

#### Day 2: Dubai, United Arab Emirates -Tour Begins

Today you arrive in exciting Dubai. The remainder of your day is at leisure to relax or explore this dynamic city independently. As one of the seven emirates of the United Arab Emirates, Dubai is considered the shopping capital of the Middle East. With its many world-famous man-made structures built in recent years, Dubai is a must-see destination for any traveller.

#### Day 3: Dubai

Today, take a 4x4 vehicle for a light dune

drive through the desert. Later, stop at a flamingo hide where you'll see wild flamingos mingle in their sanctuary. Then, visit the Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood where a local guide will take you on a walking tour to see the sites. Along the way, stop at the coffee museum before heading to Sheikh Mohammad Cultural Centre of Understanding (SMCCU). While visiting SMCCU, enjoy an Arabic lunch followed by a Q & A session hosted by a local. The rest of the day is yours at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 4: Dubai

This morning, visit the Dubai Museum – located in the oldest existing building in Dubai – then head to the Al Shindagha Museum located on the waterfront. After, venture across the creek in a private Abra and visit the Spice and Gold Souk to get a closer look at local life and culture found in Dubai. This afternoon, take an optional tour to visit Burj Khalifa – the world's tallest building. (B)

#### Day 5: Dubai - Johannesburg, South Africa

Today, board your flight to Johannesburg, South Africa. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.





# **Excursion:** Sunset Cruise on the Zambezi River

Experience 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 other wildlife. Be welcomed aboard with a glass of champagne and 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.

Visit our website and discover more optional excursions.

gathering with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner to taste the country's beloved flavours, 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. Depending on your departure flight time, you will have access to a day room. (B)

# **COLOURS OF MOROCCO**

15 DAYS • 27 MEALS STARTING AT \$4899

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 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 CONNECTIONS**

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



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- · Select your own ingredients for 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.



#### **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Flower Town Hotel & Spa,

Rabat

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

Days 8, 9 Sahara Desert Camp,

Merzouga

Hotel Valuea Dades Day 10 Boumalne du Dades

Days 11 - 13 Es Saadi Hotel, Marrakech Day 14 Barcelo Anfa, Casablanca

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

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

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

Welcome to Morocco! After you land in Casablanca you'll transfer to Rabat. Depending on your arrival time, 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'll share his knowledge of this city and its architectural gems. Visit the Chellah, a walled town containing both Roman ruins and a medieval necropolis. Explore the mausoleum of Mohammed V and see its ornate woodwork, marble, and bronze ornamentations. 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 for Fes this morning. En route, stop at a winery estate for a tour and tasting. Explore the grounds on a guided tour through the vineyard and cellar, and taste some of the vintages. End your tour with lunch at the estate. Then continue on to Fes, where you'll spend the next three nights at a 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 Al-Qarawiyyin University (UNESCO), the oldest continuously operating university in the world. On a walking tour of the ninth-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'll join an optional tour of Meknes and Volubilis. On this full-day tour, experience Meknes, one of four Imperial cities in Morocco, where you'll see the Bab Mansour gate. After an included lunch, travel to Volubilis, 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 the "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 about local life at El Maadid Ksar, a village surrounded by ancient fortified walls. Spend some time walking through town and get a 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 a Jeep 4x4 for a two-night stay in a luxury tented camp in the desert, under 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'll 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 for an eyeopening discussion before experiencing traditional sub-Saharan Gnawa music. Next, you'll meet a nomadic group and learn about this ancient way of living and how its 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 on day-today life. (B, L, D)

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

Return to the edge of the desert this morning and 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. Enjoy 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, palmeraies, and burnished mud-brick 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, enjoy a homemade meal, then continue along the Tizi n'Tichka Pass in the High Atlas Mountains, a scenic route through lush oasis valleys, imposing mountains, and Berber villages. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Marrakech 😯

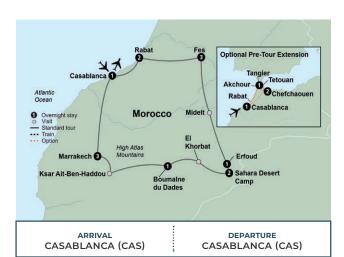
Among the mosques and palaces, souks, and riads, visit the Jardin Majorelle, an iconic site that showcases the beauty and ingenuity of Morocco's cultural heritage. Next, visit the ancient El Bahia palace, whose architecture is a distinct blend of both Islamic and Moroccan styles. Then it's your choice! Embark on a walking tour with a local guide, 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** at a local women's training centre for an interactive cooking class. Head to a garden on the property to source your herbs and vegetables and learn the secret to making the country's most celebrated dish: tagine. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure. This evening, perhaps you'll join an optional horse-drawn carriage ride 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 the ceramic tile and hand-carved stone of this architectural wonder. Then



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4899 SOLO Starting at \$5999

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

Prices based on November 30, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

May 2025 September 2025 - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2025 - May 2026 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: Rabat (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Casablanca (1-2 NIGHTS)

TOUR EXTENSION: 4-Nights Post-Tour in NORTHERN **MOROCCO: CHEFCHAOUEN & TANGIER** 

**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS!** 



say goodbye to your Tour Manager and fellow travellers during a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### **Day 15: Casablanca - Tour Ends**

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

# Northern Morocco: Chefchaouen & Tangier

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION • 6 DAYS • 6 MEALS • STARTING AT \$1820 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.

#### **EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED**

You're accompanied by a Tour Manager throughout this extension, except for any time that's set aside for independent discovery.

#### **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**







See page 136 for details

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Day 2 Barceló Anfa Casablanca,

Casablanca

Riad Dar Echchaoen, Days 3, 4

Chefchaoeun

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

Travel on your overnight flight to Casablanca, Morocco.

#### Day 2: Casablanca, Morocco

Arrive in Casablanca today! The best representation of modern Morocco, Casablanca's Moorish buildings meld French-colonial design with traditional Moroccan style. Get acquainted with this old pirates' lair at your centrally located hotel.

#### Day 3: Casablanca - Chefchaouen

Transfer to Chefchaouen today - "the blue city" situated in the Rif Mountains. A photographer's

paradise, Chefchaoeun's narrow, steep cobbled streets and red-walled Kasbah are remarkable sights. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Chefchaouen - Akchour -Chefchaouen

Explore Chefchaouen with your Tour Manager today. See the 15th-century Kasbah and the town's Grand Mosque. Explore the narrow lanes and walk by the many handicraft shops, where you can find the wool garments and woven blankets that are unique to this region. After your city tour, transfer to Akchour for lunch. Return to Chefchaouen for a free afternoon and night. (B, L)



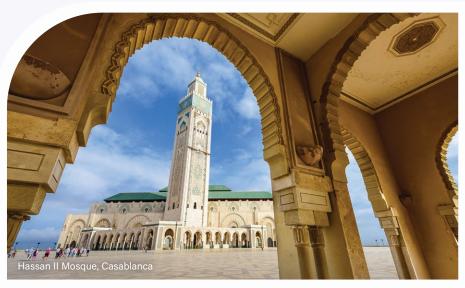
#### **COLOURS OF MOROCCO**

#### Day 5: Chefchaouen - Tetouan - Tangier

Say farewell to "the blue city" and head to Tangier today. Stop in Tetouan and learn about Spanish influence in northern Morocco during a city tour that includes a visit to the old medina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Arrive in Tangier in the early afternoon and get a glimpse of this port town before going to your hotel. (B)

#### Day 6: Tangier - Rabat

Start your day with a guided tour of Tangier, the main port city of northern Morocco and the gateway between Europe and Africa. Visit the old town and the American Legation Museum for a better understanding of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Morocco. Then, travel like a local aboard a train to Rabat to join the main tour and continue your Moroccan adventure. (B)









# **JOURNEY THROUGH EGYPT & JORDAN**

14 DAYS • 28 MEALS STARTING AT \$5919

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Amman - Petra - Impact Moment -Home-Hosted Lunch • Dead Sea • Giza Pyramids • Great Sphinx • 4-Night Nile River Cruise . Valley of the Kings . Kom Ombo • Aswan • Philae Temple



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Connect with locals during a homehosted lunch in Madaba.
- Discover the secrets of the Nile, the world's longest river, on a 4-night
- Dress up and join the fun at a traditional galabeya party.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Lunches (L) - 10 Dinners (D)

- Immerse yourself in Middle Eastern flavours during a 'small plates' meze lunch in the Jordanian capital.
- Prepare your meal and eat family-style at an Arabic cooking class in Petra.
- · Enjoy afternoon tea aboard your ship, while gazing upon the Nile's banks.



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

- Day 6 At the Dead Sea, visit Bethany Beyond the Jordan, believed to be where St. John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ -OR- enjoy a morning at leisure to experience the Dead Sea's natural buoyancy.
- Day 11 During your Nile River cruise, step off the boat in Edfu for an early morning visit to the temple of Horus -OR- stay on board, rising at your leisure and lingering over a relaxed breakfast.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Day 2 Amman Marriott Hotel, Amman Day 3, 4 Petra Marriott Hotel, Petra

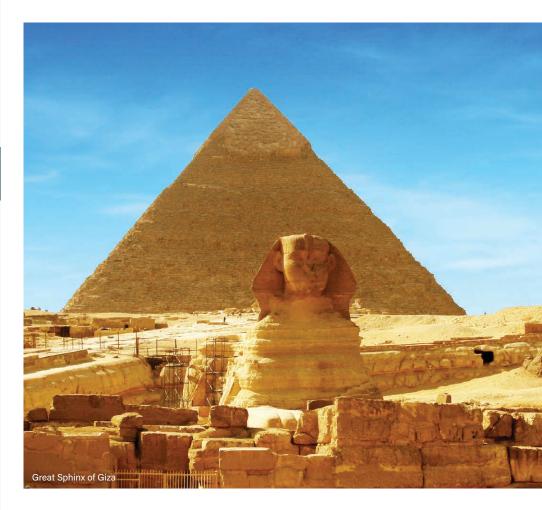
Days 5, 6 Dead Sea Marriott Resort & Spa, Dead Sea

Marriott Cairo Hotel & Casino. Day 7, 8 Cairo

Days 9 - 12 M/S Blue Shadow I,

Nile River Cruise Intercontinental Citystars Days 13 Hotel, Cairo

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### **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 Jordan and Egypt.

#### Day 2: Amman, Jordan

Your adventure starts in Amman, the capital of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Meet your Jordanian Tour Manager who will accompany you throughout your time in the Middle Eastern country.

#### Day 3: Amman - Petra

This morning, tour Amman, a city built on seven hills, with a rich history spanning nearly 10,000 years. Pause for lunch at a local restaurant, indulging in meze - a large variety of small sharing plates showcasing the exotic flavours of the Levant. This afternoon, take in Jordan's rocky landscape during your four-hour journey to Petra, the fabled "Rose Red City." At your hotel, connect with your fellow adventurers at a welcome dinner. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Petra

At daybreak, weave along sandstone carvings as you tour the vast archeological site of Petra. Serving as a crossroads between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea, Petra contains ages of hidden wonders just waiting to be explored.

Take advantage of an afternoon at leisure to adventure further on your own. Perhaps you'll trek up the 850 steps to the "Monastery," one of Petra's legendary monuments. In the evening, roll up your sleeves and join an authentic Arabic cooking class in a local home. During this Impact **Moment**, learn about the evolving role of women in Jordanian society as you chat about Bedouin traditions, ingredients and recipes from your host. Dig into dinner, family-style before returning to your hotel for the night. (B, D)

#### Day 5: Petra - Dead Sea

A full morning transfer takes you to the oncefertile basin of the Jordan Valley. In Madaba, view its famous 6th-century mosaic map of the Holy Land and engage with the local community during a home hosted lunch. Experience proverbial Jordanian hospitality and authentic home cooking as you share stories and connect with your hosts over a traditional meal. This afternoon, like Moses long before you, gaze upon the Promised Land at Mount Nebo. Then, descend to the lowest point on earth, the Dead Sea for a two-night stay at a hotel featuring direct access to the legendary sea. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Dead Sea 😯

This morning, it's your choice! Travel the short distance between your hotel and the Jordan River to Bethany Beyond the Jordan, the UNESCO-recognized site believed to be where St. John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ



-OR- take advantage of your hotel's private access to the beach and enjoy a morning at leisure to experience the Dead Sea's natural buoyancy. Wrap up your afternoon at leisure with a scenic sunset overlooking the Dead Sea, before gathering for dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Dead Sea - Fly to Cairo, Egypt

Pre-dawn this morning, say goodbye to your Jordanian Tour Manager before boarding a 90-minute flight to Cairo, the capital of Egypt. Arrive in the land of the Pharaohs and meet your Egyptian Tour Manager, who will accompany you for the rest of the trip. Feel Cairo's constant thrum of energy wrap around you as you transfer to the hotel for a two-night stay. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Cairo - Pyramids of Giza

This morning, get a glimpse into ancient Egypt's Pharaohs, power struggles, and dynasties during a visit to the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities. Be prepared for a dose of Cairo's legendary traffic as you head to Giza. Embrace the Egypt you always imagined as you stand in awe before the iconic Pyramids of Giza, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, Marvel at the stoicism of the Great Sphinx, a colossal structure jutting out of the desert sand, full of mystery and intrigue. Return to your hotel in the late afternoon. (B)

#### Day 9: Cairo - Fly to Luxor -**Board Ship**

Pre-dawn this morning, transfer to the Cairo airport for your 75-minute flight to Luxor. Upon arrival, visit the expansive ruins of Karnak Temple. Wander through this 4,000-year-old complex of pylons and obelisks, often of near-mythic proportions. Then, board your cruise ship and settle in for the next four nights. After lunch on board, enjoy an afternoon at leisure. This evening, take in the views from the sundeck, before joining your fellow travellers for your first dinner aboard. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Luxor - Valley of the **Kings - Afternoon Sailing**

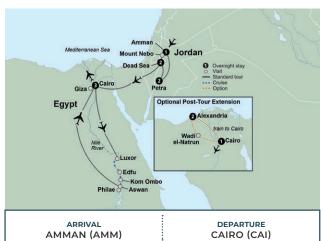
As dawn breaks, venture to Luxor's West Bank, trekking along the elaborate tombs of the Valley of the Kings. Delve even further into Egyptian legends with an included viewing of the tombs of King Tutankhamun and Ramses VI. Visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut as well as the Colossi of Memnon before returning to the ship for a late lunch. In the early afternoon, set sail to Edfu, where you'll arrive early tomorrow morning. As you sail upstream, glimpse the small farms scattered along the Nile's banks, and appreciate the simple, modest livings of local farmers, (B, L, D)

#### Day 11: Edfu - Kom Ombo 😯

In Edfu, pick between an early or a late start to your day, because it's your choice! Head out at daybreak for a guided visit of the mesmerizing Temple of Horus, returning for a late breakfast aboard -OR- raise at your leisure and linger over a relaxed breakfast, as you take in views of a place where daily life has changed little over the centuries. This afternoon, coast along to Kom Ombo and visit a rare double temple. Then, watch the Egyptian landscape slowly drift by as you sail on to Aswan. This evening, don a traditional Egyptian gown and join a festive galabeya party for a fun evening on board. (B, L, D)

#### Day 12: Aswan

Your morning opens in Aswan, the Nubian city. 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. 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),



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5919 SOLO Starting at \$7219

Pricing is per person, land only,

Prices based on January 16, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

January - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*)

October 2025 - May 2026

(featured itinerary)

\* Itinerary featured is for October 2025 - May 2026 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: Amman (1-2 NIGHTS)

TOUR EXTENSION

#### Cairo & Alexandria:

3 Night Post-Tour | Starting at \$1300 pp



**CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/651** 

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 13: Aswan - Disembark Ship - Fly to Cairo

Early this morning, return to Cairo. Head towards the old town and enjoy some free time to shop in the world-famous Khan el-Khalili bazaar. Peruse colourful trinkets, hand-painted crafts, polished pendants, and more. Check into your hotel in the late afternoon. This evening, celebrate the end of your Middle Eastern journey during a farewell dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

#### Day 14: Cairo - Tour Ends

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















"At first, it can be an overwhelming experience," shares Mohammed Iliyas, Collette's Product Design Manager and destination expert on Asia. "You see these women who have been through unimaginable trauma, and it's shocking."

"

Within minutes, as they start sharing their stories, it becomes a very easy conversation. Our travellers leave not just with souvenirs, but with a renewed sense of hope and belief in humanity.

Sheroes Hangout isn't just a café; it's a refuge where women who have survived life-altering attacks are reclaiming their futures. There are no prices on the menu—patrons pay what they wish, underscoring the café's ethos of generosity and shared humanity. And it's not just about the food; Sheroes Hangout doubles as an art gallery, a workshop, and a cultural hub, where personal growth and community spirit are served alongside every cup of chai.

"The women are full of life and smiles," Iliyas continues. "They have no hate in their hearts. They've moved on from the past and are focused on building a future. It's a very humbling experience for our travellers." For many, the visit to Sheroes Hangout is the moment that defines their journey through India, offering a deep connection to the country's more complex and poignant stories.

Supporting Sheroes Hangout means more than just buying a meal; it's about standing behind a broader movement against acid attacks across India. This isn't just a café visit; it's an encounter with resilience, forgiveness, and the indomitable human spirit.

Travellers can experience this profound moment on our Mysteries of India tour.

# **MYSTERIES OF INDIA**

15 DAYS • 26 MEALS STARTING AT \$4289

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- 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.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

 Learn the secrets to preparing incredible Indian food at a homehosted dinner.



# **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.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2 - 4 The Survaa Hotel, Delhi Days 5 - 7 Radisson Jaipur City Center, Jaipur Days 8, 9 Juna Mahal, Ranthambore Days 10, 11 Grand Mercure, Agra Day 12 Radisson Jass Hotel, Khaiuraho

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

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# **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







marble mausoleums, Agra features a lively culture and picture-perfect architecture. (B, L)

# Day 11: Agra

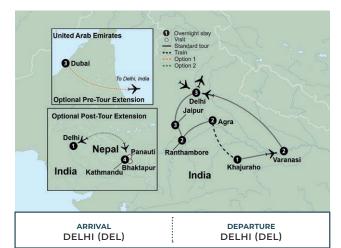
The Taj Mahal, a stunning vision in white marble and sandstone, was built as an expression of love by Emperor Shah Jahan. Experience the romantic spirit of the Taj Mahal in the early morning, when the colours of the sky dance on the bright facade and shimmer in its reflective pool. Visit Agra Fort, the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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4289 SOLO Starting at \$5489 Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date, and includes on tour air.

Prices based on April 3, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2024 - April 2025 September 2025 - April 2026 (different itinerary - see note\*) (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for September 2025 - April 2026 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)

TOUR EXTENSIONS: 3-Nights Pre-Tour in **DUBAI** 

5-Nights Post-Tour in **NEPAL** 

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS!

architecture 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)

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

# ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY ON

# Dubai PRE-TOUR EXTENSION • 5 DAYS • 4 MEALS • STARTING AT \$1300\* PP

Start your journey to India with a pre-tour Dubai extension and explore one of the world's fastest growing and most intriguing cities.







#### **EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED**

You're accompanied by a Tour Manager part of the time, for some guided excursions. The rest of the time, you're at leisure to explore the destination your way.

### **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**







See page 136 for details

# **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Day 1

Overnight Flight

Days 2-4

Hyatt Regency Dubai Creek Heights, Dubai

Day 1: Overnight Flight - Your tour begins with an overnight flight to Dubai.

Day 2: Dubai, United Arab Emirates -

Tour Begins - Arrive in Dubai, one of the world's most exciting destinations. Your day is at leisure to relax or explore this dynamic and cosmopolitan city independently. As one of the seven emirates of the United Arab Emirates, Dubai is considered the shopping capital of the Middle East. With its many world-famous man-made structures built in recent years, Dubai is a must-see destination for any traveller and will surely be an experience you will always remember.

Day 3: Dubai - Today, take a private 4x4 vehicle for a light dune drive through the desert. Later in the morning, stop at a flamingo hide where you'll see wild flamingos mingle in their sanctuary. Then, visit the Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood where a local guide will take you on a walking tour to see the sites. Along the way, stop at the coffee museum before heading to Sheikh

Mohammad Cultural Centre of Understanding (SMCCU). While visiting SMCCU, enjoy a cultural Arabic lunch followed by a Q & A session hosted by a local. The rest of the day is yours at leisure. (B, L)

Day 4: Dubai - This morning, visit the Dubai Museum - located in the oldest existing building in Dubai - then head to the Al Shindagha Museum located on the waterfront, After, venture across the creek in a private Abra and visit the Spice and Gold Souk to get a closer look at local life and culture found in Dubai. Next, make photo stops at two of Dubai's landmark buildings - the Burj Al Arab and the Jumeirah Mosque. This afternoon, take an optional tour to visit Burj Khalifa - the world's tallest building. (B)

Day 5: Dubai - Delhi, India - Board your flight to Delhi to begin your main tour. (B)

\*Additional air segment purchase required.

# Nepal POST-TOUR EXTENSION • 6 DAYS • 10 MEALS • STARTING AT \$1495\* PP

Bustling streets. Dynamic cultures. Living Goddesses. The Top of the World. This is Nepal – a vibrant mix of serene lakes, energetic cities, and iconic mountains.





#### **EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED**

You're accompanied by a Tour Manager throughout this extension, except for any time that's set aside for independent discovery.

# **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**







See page 136 for details

### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Lemon Tree Premier, Delhi Day 15 Days 16-19 Gokarna Forest Resort, Kathmandu

Day 15: Varanasi - Delhi - After your return to Delhi, bid farewell to your fellow travellers who are returning home. This evening you will overnight in Delhi before getting a fresh start on your Nepalese adventure tomorrow morning.

Day 16: Delhi - Kathmandu, Nepal - Step into a world of dynamic locals and bustling streets as you feel the energy of Kathmandu - Nepal's vibrant capital that will ensnare the senses. With an expert local guide, discover the beloved Thamel neighbourhood, mingling amongst locals and mountain climbers alike. Perhaps you'll chat with a street vendor or pop

into an inviting shop, perusing the goods for the perfect souvenir. End your day with a discussion with a local Everest climber. Finally, get a taste of the local flavours and enjoy dinner in a nearby restaurant. (B, D)

Day 17: Kathmandu - Perhaps you will take an early morning optional flightseeing tour of iconic Mount Everest, getting an up-close look at the world's highest peak. Today, stand in awe before Swayambhunath, the Buddhist temple that is home to holy monkeys. Stop for lunch at a local restaurant before continuing to Patan Darbar Square (UNESCO), a famous temple complex that was restored after the devastating earthquake of 2015. Make your way through the square and visit with Kumari, a local girl who is worshipped as the living incarnation of a goddess. Attend a private audience with the revered girl in her temple and take part in a blessing ceremony. Later, spend time at Bodhnath Stupa, an iconic Himalayan temple. (B, L)

# Day 18: Kathmandu - Panauti - Dhulikhel - Kathmandu - Today, travel to Panauti,

the gateway to the Thrangu Tashi Yangtse Monastery. After we arrive in Panauti, embark on a moderate one-hour hike, enjoying the views of the mountains before arriving at this Buddhist monastery, one of the most important religious sites in Nepal. With a history connected to the legend of the Sacrifice for the Tigress, the monastery is one of the most important pilgrimage sites for both Buddhists and Hindus today. Here, we will meet with the high Lama and partake in an offering ceremony. After your experience at the monastery, continue to a local restaurant for lunch and then transfer to Kathmandu where the rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy. (B, L)

Day 19: Kathmandu - Bhaktapur -Kathmandu - Travel to Bhaktapur today, the former stronghold of the Malla Dynasty. Having remained virtually unchanged since the 17th century, Bhaktapur's Durbar Square received the title of UNESCO historical site and is one of the most intact ancient cities in Nepal. See famous temples such as the Nyatapola Temple and stroll through the city's narrow streets to explore its many historical sites. After a guided visit, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before heading back to Kathmandu. This evening, join a local family for a home-hosted meal and celebrate the end of your adventure in the Himalayan nation of Nepal. (B, L, D)

# Day 20: Kathmandu - Delhi - Tour Ends Today, board your flight to Delhi where a room has been reserved for you to freshen up before your flight home. (B)

\*Additional air segment purchase required.

# **NEW TOUR**

# **JAPAN & SOUTH KOREA: FROM TOKYO TO SEOUL**

16 DAYS • 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$9799

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Tokyo • Asakusa • Tea Ceremony • Tokyo National Museum • Bullet Train • Ise Grand Shrine . Kaiseki Dinner . Mikimoto Pearl Museum • Ama Pearl Divers Dinner • Hiroshima • Okonomiyaki Cooking Class & Dinner • Peace Memorial Park & Museum

- Discussion with an A-Bomb Survivor
- Kyoto Fushimi Inari Taisha Gion Arashiyama Bamboo Forest • Golden Pavilion • Women's Association of Kvoto
- Seoul Korean Demilitarized Zone North Korean Defector Talk . Home-Hosted Lunch • Gyeongbok Palace



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- 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.
- · Join a North Korean defector for a private and emotional discussion about their escape and new life.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- Dive deep into the culture and social norms of Japan over a homestyle cooking class with the Women's Association of Kyoto.
- Make delicious okonomiyaki, savoury pancakes that are a Japanese favourite.
- Outside the bustle of Seoul, experience a home-hosted traditional lunch with a Korean family.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 4 Aloft Tokyo Ginza, Tokyo

Nemu Resort, Ise-Shima Days 5, 6 or Hotel Altia Toba, Toba

Days 7, 8 ANA Crowne Plaza,

Hiroshima

Days 9 - 11 Hotel Monterey, Kyoto

Days 12 - 15 Courtyard Marriott Namdaemun, Seoul

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# **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. Travel through the Land of the Rising Sun on an unforgettable journey and finally take another step farther to explore Seoul, South Korea.

# Day 2: Tokyo, Japan

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. 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

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. Set out on a walk to 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 centre of Japanese Buddhism in the region, and the resting place of the royal Tokugawa family, Next, take in views of the city from the top of Tokyo Tower. Later this afternoon, make your way back to your hotel located in the popular Ginza district of Tokyo, a perfect location for spending an afternoon at leisure before

getting to know your fellow travellers during a welcome dinner. (B, D)

# Day 4: Tokyo

Feel the excitement start to build as you head to Asakusa, passing by the grounds of the Imperial Palace and seeing the Nijubashi Bridge. Next, witness the subtle art of preparing green tea in a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. Enjoy free time exploring the Nakamise shopping street, where you can stroll between the stalls leading to the Sensoii 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. This evening, you are free to explore on your own. (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 honour 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 - Nara - Hiroshima

Today, travel to Nara Park and Todaiji Temple. Venture inside the massive temple 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. Then, you'll once again board the shinkansen bullet train and be whisked away to Hiroshima. Enjoy dinner at a local cooking studio, where you'll learn how to make the famous Japanese okonomiyaki, or savoury pancake, a favourite of Hiroshima residents. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Hiroshima

A short walk from your hotel takes you to the Peace Memorial Park, 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 before a powerful **Impact Moment** connects you 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 preserve the memory of those who were lost. After, board a ferry for the short trip to Miyajima Island, or "Shrine Island" (UNESCO), famous for the Itsukushima Shrine and its mythic 0-torii Gate standing proudly in the water. (B)

# Day 9: Hiroshima - Kyoto

Kyoto awaits! Journey to Japan's former capital city via *shinkansen* bullet train. Your first stop takes you to 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. Later this afternoon, head to Gion, Kyoto's famous geisha district. As you walk through Gion's narrow cobblestone

streets, if you're lucky, you may see a woman in full traditional geisha regalia headed to one of the hidden, exclusive tea houses. Tonight is at leisure. (B)

# Day 10: Kyoto

Today, visit the Arashiyama bamboo forest and walk among the towering bamboo stalks that shade the forest paths and gently sway in the breeze. Continue to Kinkaku-ii Temple (UNESCO), known as the Golden Pavilion for its top two floors that are completely covered in gold leaf. Once the lavish retirement home of a shogun, it was converted to a Zen temple in the 1400s. 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 Kyoto town house. Here, delve into a wide array of enlightening Japanese activities, guided by your knowledgeable hostess. Try your hand at making traditional Japanese food items, fold intricate origami shapes, and speak to your hostess about Japan, its culture, and women's roles in this complex society. (B, D)

# Day 11: Kyoto

This morning, make your way to Nishiki Market with your Tour Manager, where colourful stalls are filled with fresh foods and local specialties, like pickles, dried seafood, and sushi. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore how you want. Perhaps you'll take another visit to the Gion district to wander among its temples, and shops, visit a museum, or spend time in the park and grounds of the Kyoto Imperial Palace. (B)

# Day 12: Kyoto - Seoul, South Korea

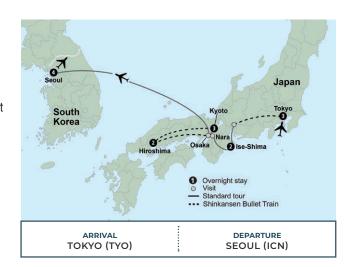
Today, jump on a flight and journey to your final destination: Seoul, the energetic capital city of South Korea. (B, D)

# Day 13: Seoul

Head to the Korean Demilitarized Zone, or the DMZ, this morning. This conflict-ridden stretch of 150 miles between North and South Korea has been sealed tight for the last 68 years, and the struggles of the Korean War have yet to be resolved. Take an exclusive tour of this storied border, seeing Imjingak Park, the Bridge of Freedom, the DMZ Theater and Exhibition Hall, the Dora Observatory, the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, and more. This is a rare opportunity to see the "Hermit Kingdom" of North Korea up close, and the long cold war between the two countries. Tonight, your evening is at leisure. (B, L)

# Day 14: Seoul

This morning, learn about the struggles in





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

PRE-NIGHT: Tokyo (1-2 NIGHTS)

# **ALSO AVAILABLE**



#### Japan: Past & Present

From busy neon-lit streets to silent shrines, come face-to-face with a culture thousands of years in the making.

★ DATES AVAILABLE: NOVEMBER 2024 - MAY 2025

North Korea firsthand when you gather for a private talk with a North Korean defector. During this **Impact Moment**, learn about their life in North Korea, how they escaped to the south and are adjusting to their new life, and the struggles they face in a new country. After, leave the city and sit down for a home-hosted traditional Korean lunch with a local family, and get insight into the daily lives of a South Korean family. (B, L)

#### Day 15: Seoul

Start your day by hopping on the subway and heading to the awe-inspiring Gyeongbok Palace. Take a tour of the sprawling grounds and watch the elaborate and ceremonial changing of the guard. Next, visit Insadong Street, Seoul's charming and colourful shopping area. Tour the narrow maze of alleys that hold tea shops, boutiques, galleries and cafes. You have the afternoon at leisure to explore the area, perhaps heading to the Museum of Contemporary History with its multimedia exhibitions, or the National Museum of Korea with its statues, paintings, and artifacts. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 16: Seoul - Tour Ends

Say goodbye to the energy and splendour of Seoul as you depart for home. (B)

# KINGDOMS OF **SOUTHEAST ASIA**

VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, **LAOS AND THAILAND** 

19 DAYS • 31 MEALS STARTING AT \$5919

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 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 • Pak Ou Buddha Cave • Monk Alms Offering - Bangkok



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- · 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.



#### **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.



#### **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.



Day 5

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2 - 4 Mercure Hanoi la Gare. Hanoi

Bhaya Classic Days 6 - 8 Little Oasis Hotel & Spa, Hoi An

Days 9 - 11 Novotel Saigon Centre, Ho Chi Minh City

Days 12 - 14 Borei Angkor Resort & Spa, Siem Reap

Days 15 - 17 Souphattra Hotel, Luang Prabana

Pullman Bangkok Hotel G, Day 18

Bangkok

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# **Day 1: Overnight Flight**

Set out on a journey 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

Arrive today 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. (B)

#### 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 lull you to sleep. (B, L, D)

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

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)

#### Day 7: Hoi An

Start your day with a walking tour of the old town, stroll by the ornate Chinesestyle temple Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, the famous 400-year-old Japanese covered bridge and the vibrant market. Finish with an introduction to the local tailoring culture in Hoi An, a tradition dating back to the days of the silk route. See the process of making cotton and silk cloth, and you may even choose to have some tailor-made clothes made. Enjoy a free afternoon to 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, before joining the group for a local dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Hoi An

Explore the flavours of Hoi An. Board a basket boat and journey along the Co Co River for an immersive cooking class. Learn how to catch seafood in the river and grind rice into flour. Use your ingredients to cook four classic local dishes which you'll enjoy for lunch. Soak up the local atmosphere with a free afternoon and evening. (B, L)

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

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 guide 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 centre 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 travel to the city centre, including a visit to the National Museum - the former Royal Palace. Continue to Wat Xieng Thong monastery, decorated in 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 with a home-hosted dinner and traditional Baci ceremony - celebrating a significant event in someone's life. (B, L, D)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5919 **SOLO** Starting at **\$7219**  Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date, and includes on tour air.

Prices based on April 23, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

(different itinerary - see note\*)

October 2024 - May 2025 September 2025 - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for September 2025 - May 2026 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**

TOUR EXTENSION

Bangkok: 3-Night Post-Tour | Starting at \$1040 pp



CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/425

# 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 a hike through lush jungle and panoramic mountain scenery to the incredible Kuang Si Waterfall. Return to Luang Prabang for lunch in a local restaurant. (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)

# **WONDERS OF THAILAND**

16 DAYS • 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$4649

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









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 CONNECTIONS**

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



# **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.



# **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

- Day 5 Choose between a visit to the Suan Pakkad Palace Museum in Bangkok, known for its Thai antiques -OR- take the coach to 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.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

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

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

Days 9 - 11 Kantary Hills Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai

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



# Day 1: Overnight Flight

Explore Thailand on a journey featuring lavish temples, cultural discoveries, and its stunning natural beauty.

# Day 2: Bangkok, Thailand

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 winding canals in Bangkok's Old Town on a private boat trip. On Rattanakosin Island, visit Wat Po, the famous Buddhist temple complex and see the world-renowned Reclining Buddha. Enjoy some free time before sitting down with your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner at the 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. 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 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 ioin 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 as well as the famous site of Wat Si Chum, a landmark temple boasting a 49-foot Buddha. (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. (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 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 their products. 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, where elaborate Buddhist temples reflect a 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! 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. 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 about their customs and religion, and see their herb garden. 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

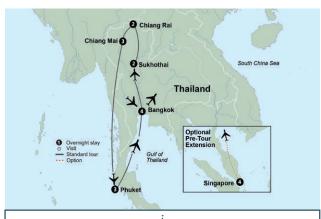
Fly to Phuket this morning and head to your resort, set on a private tropical beach. Relax for the rest of the day as the salty sea breeze rolls in. (B)

# Day 13: Phuket

Travel to Phuket's Old Town, adorned with brightly painted, historic Sino-Portuguese townhouses, stores and cafes. Explore 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 saltwater vibes and laid-back tropical lifestyle for the day. (B)

# Day 14: Phuket

It's a completely free day today. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a



ARRIVAL BANGKOK (BKK)

DEPARTURE BANGKOK (BKK)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4649 SOLO Starting at \$5649

Prices based on October 16, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

(different itinerary - see note\*)

October 2024 - April 2025 September 2025 - April 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for September 2025 - April 2026 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: Bangkok (1-2 NIGHTS)

**TOUR EXTENSION:** 

4 Nights Pre-Tour in SINGAPORE

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS!



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)



# Singapore pre-tour extension • 6 DAYS • 5 MEALS • STARTING AT \$2080\* PP

Start your tour of Asia early and explore Singapore with local guide. Visit several of the heritage neighbourhoods and learn about what makes this country so unique.

#### **EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED**

You're accompanied by a Tour Manager throughout this extension, except for any time that's set aside for independent discovery.

#### **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**







See page 136 for details

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Day 1

Overnight Flight

**Days 2-5** 

Capri by Fraser China Square, Singapore Day 1: Overnight Flight - Set out on a journey that introduces you to a mix of cultures in this impressive, vibrant city-state by the sea.

Day 2: Singapore - In Singapore, traditional beliefs and novel experiences come together in an extraordinary blend. Self-described as the city that never sleeps, Singapore combines old and new seamlessly, with impressive sights regardless of where you look - from atop skyscrapers that soar above colonial buildings to age-old places of worship.

Day 3: Singapore - Start your day by getting to know your surroundings on a tour through Chinatown and the Hawker Centre. With your quide, explore places like the Telok Aver area. Thian Hock Keng Temple, Ann Siang Hill, and Club Street by foot. After working up an appetite, your city tour will end at Maxwell Food Centre where you'll get a tasting of local snacks and coffee. Not sure what to get? Don't worry - your guide will share with you tips as you walk through the market. Then, return to your hotel and spend the afternoon at leisure, exploring how you like. (B)

Day 4: Singapore - Today starts with discovery as you learn the history of the 19th century Peranakan houses. Explore the area around Neil and Pertain Road and visit the restored homes. with your guide. After your visit to the homes, continue the afternoon with a visit to a Chinatown shop to see traditional enamel, also known as "tingkat" sets, and hand drawn porcelain rooster bowls. Satisfy your appetite this afternoon with a



# **WONDERS OF THAILAND**

delicious Peranakan lunch at the local Blue Ginger restaurant. Return to your hotel after lunch and spend the rest of the day at leisure. (B, L)

Day 5: Singapore - Say "good morning" how you like and start with some free time to recharge for the day. Explore Singapore and visit that shop down the street you've been hearing all about. Later this afternoon, visit the Gardens by the Bay. Get ready to step into two climate conservatories: Flower Dome and Cloud Forest. Flower Dome is the largest glass greenhouse and boasts a variety of changing flowers and plants from the Mediterranean regions. At Cloud Forest, take in breathtaking mountain views surrounded by a diverse collection of vegetation and hidden floral gems. End your visit with a local meal. (B, D)

Day 6: Singapore - Bangkok, Thailand Bid farewell to Singapore as you head to Bangkok. Your journey has only just begun.

\*Additional air segment purchase required.











After centuries of assimilation and homogenization efforts, Māori activists rose up in the 1970s. Their aim was not only to preserve, but reinvigorate their cultural presence. Their efforts paved the way for the country's Māori renaissance and set the stage for New Zealand to rise as a truly bicultural nation.

At one point the te reo Māori language was banned. But as of 1987, it earned the status of being an official language of New Zealand.

Collette Product Design Manager Roger Clulow said that a huge part of keeping this cultural heritage alive and thriving comes through supporting tourism. He cited *manaakitanga*, a Māori word that means "showing respect."

"New Zealanders pride themselves on their hospitality," he said. "This concept (of manaakitanga) is all about making guests feel welcomed. And our travellers often say that the people are their favourite part of New Zealand."

Roger identified the *Exploring New Zealand's Wonders* tour as having a significant focus on Māori culture.

"Travellers on this tour visit Whakarewarewa, which is a living Māori village in Rotorua," he said.

Roger explained that in this village, people use natural geothermal resources to cook, bathe and heat their homes as they have done for centuries. Travellers get a taste of this geothermal cooking here during a community-focused hāngi dinner, a culinary technique where food is cooked underground.

Aside from Whakarewarewa, Roger said that Maori cultural experiences are weaved throughout this journey.

"From a pōwhiri welcoming ceremony, to haka ceremonial dance, and a traditional canoe (waka) ride, you'll get closer to indigenous culture on this tour," Roger said.







They get to witness history and see how geothermal energy has been significant to Māori culture throughout time.



# **AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND UNCOVERED**

22 DAYS • 32 MEALS STARTING AT \$11479

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









Maori Culture in Wellington - Cook Strait

- Nelson Abel Tasman National Park
- Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks
   Franz

Josef • New Zealand's Wild West Coast • Queenstown • Milford Sound • Sydney Opera House - Adelaide - Barossa Valley

Great Barrier Reef



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Connect with New Zealand's landscape as you explore pristine wilderness and coastlines on several easy walks.
- · Walk amongst the history and heritage of Maori culture.
- Spend a day at the Great Barrier Reef, with included options to snorkel, hike, or join a marine biologist on a glass-bottom boat.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

19 Breakfasts (B) - 6 Lunches (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- · Witness Uluru (Ayers Rock) at sunset while enjoying drinks and canapés.
- Sample local and native produce at the Adelaide Central Market.
- Taste Maori culture at a Hangi lunch.



### **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Overnight Flight Days 3, 4 Rydges Wellington, Wellington Days 5, 6 The Hotel Nelson, Nelson

Day 7 Beachfront Hotel, Hokitika Scenic Franz Josef Glacier Days 8, 9 Hotel, Franz Josef

Days 10 - 12 Heritage, Queenstown

Park Royal Darling Days 13 - 15 Harbour, Sydney

Days 16, 17 Peppers Waymouth,

Adelaide

Desert Gardens Hotel, **Day 18** 

Ayers Rock

Days 19 - 21 Flynn Crystalbrook

Collection Hotel, Cairns



### Day 1 - Day 2: Overnight Flight

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

# Day 3: Wellington, New Zealand

Arrive in New Zealand and feel the ever-present heartbeat of Maori culture. Comprised of natural beauty and striking contrasts, live the Kiwi lifestyle for the next 10 days. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

# Day 4: Wellington

Jump right into Maori culture with an Impact Moment, as you experience a traditional powhiri, an elaborate welcome ceremony. Marvel at the carved waka, sleek canoes of intricate design, at a Maori culture center. 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 during lunch and discover the roots of the culture at the Te Papa Museum. Explore the city of Wellington during your free afternoon and evening. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Wellington - Picton - Nelson

Surrounded by green slopes and rolling mountains, the Cook Strait will offer a picturesque landscape as you cruise over the stunning waters on your way to the South Island. Visit Nelson, the oldest city on the island. Enjoy an evening at leisure to experience this coastal hub, full of local works and a trending foodie scene. This local art hub highlights works from the area, artisan food markets, and sparkling waters. (B)

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

Today, venture out to Kaiteriteri, a coastal paradise where you'll set sail through the graceful natural beauty of Abel Tasman National Park, Coast over the crystal-clear waters and pass reaching trees huddled along the shore. A picnic lunch awaits at the Anchorage, a scenic bay set amongst gentle waves and sandy coasts. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Nelson - Hokitika

See the natural phenomenon of Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks as you travel further south to Hokitika. 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 for a taste of New Zealand's beloved West Coast nature. Return to town for a tour, ending with a walk along the beach and some free time to explore on your own. Make your way to Franz Josef, New Zealand's glacier country. Discover the area's rugged allure by combing the creek bed in search of New Zealand jade or perhaps you'll explore some of the many walking trails or eateries in town. (B)

### Day 9: Franz Josef 😯

Choose how to start your day because 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. Finish your day with dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

# Day 10: Franz Josef - Queenstown

Journey through the thick rainforest and emerge on the "wild" west coast. With cliffs and beaches on your right and the snowcapped Alps on your left, the landscape is riveting. Pause in Wanaka, a slice of tranquility nestled along a mountain-lined lake. Continue to Queenstown, the adventure capital of the world, and settle into your home for the next three 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) for spectacular views of New Zealand's Southern Alps. (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 head to Sydney, Australia, the country's largest city. (B)

### Day 14: Sydney

During a city tour get a glimpse at all the highlights Sydney has to offer. Explore the historic Rocks neighbourhood, situated along the edge of Sydney Harbour. Continue along to Circular Quay before strolling through the Royal Botanical Gardens. Here, 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 on Sydney Harbour passing by 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! You could take the bus out to Bondi Beach for the surf culture or visit a local museum. (B)

#### Day 16: Sydney - Adelaide

Set off on a short flight to Adelaide, the cosmopolitan hub of South Australia. Experience the famous food and drink this region is known for at the Adelaide Central Market, one of the one of the largest undercover fresh produce markets in the Southern Hemisphere. Indulge in tastings of Australia's multicultural cuisine as you stroll the market stalls alongside a local guide. Afterward, explore more of Adelaide on foot with a walking tour passing Rundle Mall and down Peel Street, an iconic laneway known for its restaurants. Later tonight, gather for dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

# Day 17: Adelaide - Barossa Valley - Adelaide

Treat your taste buds to a full-day exploration of the Barossa Valley's fine food and wine. Visit one of the local farmsteads, famed for its produce and enjoy a private interactive cooking demonstration. Continue with a tour and tasting at the famous Seppeltsfield Winery, one of the oldest in the Barossa Valley, followed by lunch. (B, L)

# Day 18: Adelaide - Uluru (Ayers Rock)

Your adventure continues with a flight from Adelaide to Uluru (Ayers Rock). Arrive in Uluru and get a taste of the local indigenous flavours as you enjoy a native high tea. Then, travel into Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park to get a close look at the iconic, massive red rock. On a guided tour of Uluru's base, discover the heritage of Australia's Aboriginal people in this spiritual place before gathering for a spectacular sunset view of the iconic rock formation. While having drinks and canapés, watch the colours of Uluru change as the sun sets over Australia's greatest natural wonder. (B, L)

# Day 19: Uluru (Ayers Rock) - Cairns

Say goodbye to the outback and hello to the tropics, as you fly to Cairns and enjoy an evening at leisure. (B)

# Day 20: Cairns - Great Barrier Reef - Cairns

Board a high-speed catamaran and sail to Green Island to discover the Great Barrier Reef. Spend the day however you





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

PRE-NIGHT: Wellington (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Cairns (1-2 NIGHTS)

TOUR EXTENSION:
3-Nights Post-Tour in Fiji
SEE PAGE 56 FOR DETAILS!

please, perhaps choosing from a selection of included activities. Maybe you'll soak up the sun on the beach or by the pool. Or consider snorkeling in the rolling waves, uncovering a pod of vibrant sea life. You can also join a marine biologist onboard a glass-bottom boat, (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 artifacts. 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)

# **EXPLORING NEW ZEALAND'S WONDERS**

**FEATURING THE NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS** 

**19 DAYS • 25 MEALS** STARTING AT \$7699

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 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 CONNECTIONS**

- Visit the Waitangi Treaty Grounds and experience a traditional Maori Welcome Ceremony.
- · 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.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

16 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 8 Dinners (D)

- . Enjoy a BBQ on the western shore of Lake Wakatipu.
- · Experience an authentic Hangi dinner and learn about Maori culture.



# **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 16 - 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.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Overnight Flight Rydges Auckland, Days 3, 4 Auckland Days 5, 6 Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands, Bay of Islands Sudima Lake Rotorua Days 7, 8 Hotel, Rotorua Days 9, 10 Novotel, Wellington Days 11, 12 Distinction, Christchurch

Day 13 The Hermitage Hotel, Mount Cook

Days 14, 15 Scenic Hotel Southern Cross, Dunedin

Days 16 - 18 Novotel Queenstown Lakeside, Queenstown



# 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

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 full afternoon is yours to explore New Zealand's largest city on your own. (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 sun-soaked 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, to enjoy a traditional Welcome Ceremony and tour. (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 - New Zealand's capital city, known as the "Windy City", a coastal city nestled against the mountains. (B, D)

#### Day 10: Wellington

Embark on a city tour of Wellington. 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. 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 and continue along the breathtaking east coast to the largest city on the South Island, 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. Learn about the local indigenous culture of the Maori, with a paddle on the Avon River in a traditional canoe or 'waka'. (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. Visit Baldwin Street - the world's steepest public road as awarded by the Guinness World Records. (B)

#### Day 15: Dunedin

Start your morning with a panoramic tour visiting Larnach Castle 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. Enjoy a free afternoon before dinner at a local Ale House. (B, D)

#### Day 16: Dunedin - Queenstown 😯

Drive past vineyards, amazing landscapes and the charming towns of Central Otago as you head to Queenstown, Dubbed the "adventure capital of the world," it's a mountainside town set against the shores of Lake Wakatipu. In the afternoon, 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. (B)

# Day 17: Queenstown - Milford **Sound - Queenstown**

During a cruise of the beautiful Milford Sound, you will see why this fjord is



Prices based on April 22, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** October 2024 - May 2025 September 2025 - April 2026 (different itinerary - see note\*) (featured itinerary) \*Itinerary featured is for September 2025 - April 2026 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.

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

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$7699

SOLO Starting at \$9899

PRE-NIGHT: Auckland (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Queenstown (1-2 NIGHTS)

TOUR EXTENSION: 3-Nights Post-Tour in Fiji **SEE PAGE 56 FOR DETAILS!** 

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

Enjoy a relaxed start to your day or head out to explore. Try an optional tour taking you through the stunning Queenstown countryside showcasing many of the locations where blockbuster movies have been filmed and learn about the gold rush that first brought travellers to the region. This evening, cruise Lake Wakatipu surrounded by Queenstown's stunning landscape aboard an iconic coal-fired steamship. Then, enjoy a BBQ dinner lakeside followed by a sheepdog demonstration before cruising back. (B, D)

#### Day 19: Queenstown - Tour Ends

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

# ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY ON

# FIJI POST-TOUR EXTENSION • 4 DAYS • 4 MEALS • STARTING AT \$1300\* 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.

#### **EXTENSION STYLE: INDEPENDENT**

Explore a destination on your own. Your accommodations, daily breakfast, and any transfers to connect with your main tour are included - the rest is whatever you decide! On an independent extension, there won't be a Tour Manager or local representative present.

#### **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**

1 2 3 4

See page 136 for details

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Extension Days 1-3 Crowne Plaza Fiji Nadi Bay Resort and Spa

# Extension Day 1: Queenstown - Nadi, Fiji

Arrive in the beautiful tropical paradise of Fiji. Fijians are warm and friendly, with a welcoming, vibrant culture. The expansive sandy beaches and clear ocean waters draw visitors from around the world. Now's your time to sit back and recharge from your South Pacific journey.

# **Extension Day 2: Fiji**

Your day is free to discover everything that your

resort has to offer. Relax by the beach and pool, or choose one of the many fun, adventurous activities available to you from the hotel activities desk. The friendly concierge will help you get the most out of your time. Tonight, enjoy a lovely dinner. (B, D)

# **Extension Day 3: Fiji**

Enjoy another day of rest and relaxation. Today is your final day in Fiji to unwind before returning home.



# **AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND UNCOVERED & EXPLORING NEW ZEALAND'S WONDERS**

# **Extension Day 4: Fiji - Extension Ends**

Your time in Fiji comes to an end today. Enjoy your day room until 6:00 pm before you board your flight back home. (B)

\*Additional air segment purchase required.











"Travellers go to Patagonia for the nature, but to actually visit and talk to somebody who's from there is a really cool experience," says Sam Kern, Collette product design manager.

Meet Gonzalo, a true South American *gaucho*. His charismatic and lively personality brings the ranch to life. As a sheep farmer whose family has tended to this area for generations, it's safe to say that he has a deep rooted respect for the land. Greet his hard working dogs at his estancia and witness an impressive sheep herding and shearing demonstration.

The hospitality extends into his home where a traditional barbecue is served. A lamb, slow roasted over an open fire since morning, takes centre stage, complemented by fresh salads, homemade empanadas, and, naturally, a glass of fine local wine.

"In my role as a Product Design Manager at Collette, I have the challenging but highly rewarding task of creating dream tours for our travellers," says Sam. "As a lifelong adventure seeker myself, I am passionate about connecting people and cultures in impactful ways and this experience does just that."

Travellers can say cheers to this afternoon experience on our Patagonia: Edge of the World tour.



The highlight for me was watching an expert shear a sheep in under five minutes. It's insanely impressive and always leaves his audience in awe. And then if you'd like, you can take pictures or you can shear a sheep if you're comfortable enough to try.



# **NEW TOUR**

# **ESSENTIAL SOUTH AMERICA**

**FEATURING CHILE, THE** MENDOZA WINE REGION **& BUENOS AIRES** 

10 DAYS • 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$5119

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Santiago - Central Market & Cooking Class • Mendoza • Vinevard Tour & Tasting • Wine-Paired Lunch • Buenos Aires • Tango Lesson • San Antonio de Areco • Draghi Silversmith Museum • Estancia Visit with Traditional Asado Lunch



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- In Buenos Aires, learn to tango with a professional dancer before mingling with the locals at a social club.
- Discover Argentina's verba mate tea, a drink steeped in tradition.
- · Learn about families tragically separated during Argentina's dictatorship and an organization that works to reunite them.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- Experience Santiago's Central Market with a chef before preparing a seafood lunch with your finds.
- · Enjoy wine tastings at two of Mendoza's breathtaking vineyards.
- · Savour an asado barbeque on a sprawling ranch.



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

- Day 3 In Santiago, visit the Chilean Museum of Pre-Columbian Art -OR- the Memory and Human Rights Museum, which commemorates the victims of human rights violations during the last Chilean military dictatorship.
- Day 7 Choose between two walking tours in Buenos Aires, either exploring the captivating Recoleta Cemetery -OR- discovering the colourful murals of the Palermo neighbourhood.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Renaissance Santiago Hotel, Days 2, 3 Santiago

Days 4, 5 Diplomatic Hotel, Mendoza

Palladio Hotel Buenos Aires Days 6 - 9

MGallery, Buenos Aires



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

Set out to experience the sights, flavours, and rhythms of Chile and Argentina as you explore two countries, from bustling cities to sprawling ranches, vineyards, and natural landscapes. It all begins in Chile's cultural hub, Santiago.

#### Day 2: Santiago, Chile

Arrive early this morning in Santiago, the vibrant capital city of Chile nestled in a valley of the Andes Mountains. Settle in at your hotel where you'll enjoy early access to your room to recoup after your flight. This afternoon, meet your fellow travellers and head out on a panoramic tour of Santiago, getting a look at the city's blend of modern and colonial architecture and learning about its diverse history. Tonight, toast to the beginning of your South American adventure at a local restaurant. (D)

# Day 3: Santiago 😯

Follow your curiosity about Chilean history and culture to a museum because it's vour choice! Choose between the Chilean Museum of Pre-Columbian Art, dedicated to the study and display of pre-Columbian artworks and artifacts from Central and South America -OR- the Memory and Human Rights Museum, which commemorates the victims of human rights violations during the last Chilean military dictatorship. After, set out to discover marketfresh Chilean food with a visit to the Mercado Central de Santiago. Joined by a local chef, walk

through the fish market, stopping along the way to learn about the local seafood and pick up some ingredients. Then join a hands-on cooking experience at the chef's restaurant and sit down to a fresh feast for lunch. Take the rest of day to enjoy Santiago as you please. (B, L)

#### Day 4: Santiago - Mendoza, Argentina

An early morning flight brings you to the desert region of Mendoza, known for its vineyards and Malbec wine, and the stunning views of the Andes Mountains. Upon arriving to a vineyard, a pick-me-up comes with a taste of yerba mate tea, a traditional South American caffeinated drink. As your guide demonstrates how to make a cup, learn about the cultural significance of this beverage that brings many Argentinean families together for daily "mate breaks." Enjoy a tour of the vineyard followed by a wine tasting and chef-prepared lunch. Later, settle into your hotel in the city of Mendoza for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Mendoza

Enjoy a leisurely morning before continuing your taste of the region's renowned wines with a visit to a family winery. Sample wines selected to show the richness of the terroirs and come to appreciate the unique qualities of the Luján de Cuyo wine-producing sub-region with its dry, almost desert-like climate and irrigation from the Mendoza River's pure Andean meltwater. The rest of the day is yours to enjoy the laid-back city





of Mendoza with its inviting restaurants and atmospheric plazas. (B)

### Day 6: Mendoza - Buenos Aires

Say so long to Mendoza as you fly to Buenos Aires, a city that radiates Latininfused rhythm mixed with European heritage. Set out on a guided tour of Buenos Aires, sampling the local eats along the way and exploring the fusion of flavours that comes with the city's Spanish, Italian, and Jewish influences. During a panoramic tour, discover the San Telmo, Puerto Madero, La Boca, and Recoleta neighbourhoods. Then settle in at your hotel in the elegant Recoleta neighbourhood, full of historical and

architectural charm. This evening, come together for dinner and indulge in savoury Argentine flavours. (B, D)

### Day 7: Buenos Aires 😯

Today begins with an **Impact Moment** focused on the work of the Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo, a human rights organization that has helped to restore the identities of children taken during Argentina's military coup from 1976 to 1983. Meet with someone who was personally impacted and learn about los desaparecidos ("the disappeared") and this time in Argentina's history. This afternoon, it's your choice how you see more of the city. Choose between two walking tours, either exploring the captivating Recoleta Cemetery -OR- discovering the colourful murals of the Palermo neighbourhood. This evening, it's time to live like the locals! Take a lesson from a professional tango dancer, and then take your moves to the dance floor at a local milongas social club. (B)

# **Day 8: Buenos Aires**

Today is yours to explore Buenos Aires as you wish, taking your time to wander through neighbourhoods, savour Argentine cuisine, or maybe visit the city's fantastic opera house. Consider a full day optional excursion to Uruguay. Take an early morning ferry across the Rio de Plata to Colonia del Sacramento. Travel into the Uruguayan countryside to a family-run cheese farm for a tour and lunch, followed by free time to explore the city's charming Historic Quarter before returning to Buenos Aires by ferry. Tonight, perhaps you'll decide to join an optional tango show and dinner at a popular tango house.

Day 9: Buenos Aires - San Antonio de Areco - Buenos Aires Set out into the countryside to explore Argentina's Pampas region. In San



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5119 Pricing is per person, land only, ries by departure date nd includes on-tour air **SOLO** Starting at \$6419 Prices based on December 4, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** September 2025 - May 2026 See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

Antonio de Areco, discover the small town's strong connection with silversmithing and gaucho culture. A visit to Museo Draghi offers the chance to see silversmiths at work and admire a private collection of silverware. Then it's on to experience a true taste of gaucho life by spending the rest of the day on a traditional estancia, following a bumpy, unpaved road to the gates of the ranch's sprawling land and inviting, rustic house. You may decide to explore the property by horse drawn carriage or head inside the main house to relax and take in views from the porch. Gather for a traditional asado lunch, with flame-cooked meats served at the table along with sides and wine. Later, sit back and enjoy a folk performance of gaucho traditions with singing, dancing, and displays of horsemanship topping off an unforgettable encounter with this South American way of life. This evening back in Buenos Aires, gather for dinner at a local restaurant and toast to the end of a grand adventure. (B, L, D)

# Day 10: Buenos Aires - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to an end today. Transfer to the airport for your flight home later today. (B)

# Optional 3-Night Iguaçu **Falls Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1300† pp



#### Day 10: Buenos Aires - Iguaçu Falls, Brazil

Fly to Iguaçu Falls - located at the crossroads of Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay - hailed as the most beautiful waterfalls in the world and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Board the Rainforest Ecological Train inside the national park on the Argentine side and walk to the platform overlooking powerful Devil's Throat. Discover unparalleled views of five waterfalls as they plummet into the Iguaçu River. Cross to the Brazilian side and check into your resort. Cap off your day with a relaxing dinner. (D)

#### Day 11: Iquaçu Falls

Soak up the breathtaking views of the waterfalls from the Brazilian side. Join your local guide as you discover how Brazil and Argentina have both fought to protect the beauty and raw power of the falls by making each side a national park. You will see first-hand why Eleanor Roosevelt, upon seeing Iguaçu Falls, exclaimed "Poor Niagara." The afternoon is yours to relax and enjoy the many amenities at your resort. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Iguaçu Falls - Buenos Aires

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires. (B)

#### Day 13: Buenos Aires - Tour Ends

Transfer to the airport and depart for home. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.

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

12 DAYS · 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$3849

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Tortuguero National Park - Cooking Demonstration - Sarapiquí - Tirimbina Rainforest Center - Chocolate-Making Demonstration & Tasting • River Safari • Forest Reserve Guided Walk . Hanging Bridges - Arenal Volcano - Manuel Antonio National Park - Jungle Crocodile Safari & Bird Watching



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Learn about Costa Rica's ecosystem and local culture.
- · Visit the world's first sea turtle research station.
- Stay in Tortuguero National Park and find yourself surrounded by wildlife.



### **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 tasting some delicious local candy.



#### **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 DoubleTree by Hilton Cariari Hotel, San Jose Days 2, 3 Evergreen Lodge,

Tortuguero Days 4, 5 Tilajari Hotel Resort, San

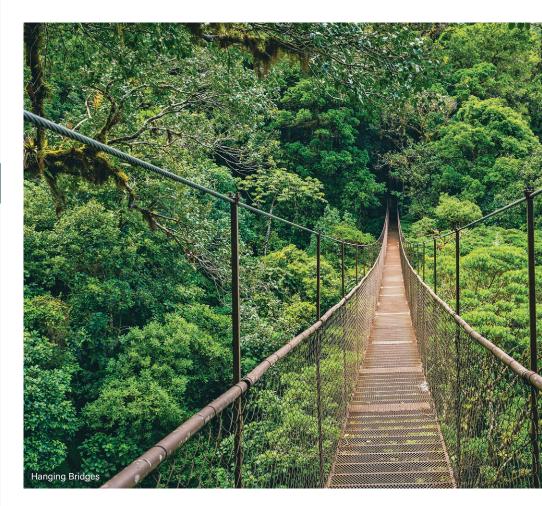
Carlos

Days 6 - 8 Hotel Lomas del Volcán, Arenal

Days 9, 10 Marriott Los Suenos, Playa

Herradura DoubleTree by Hilton Day 11

Cariari Hotel, San Jose



# Day 1: San Jose, Costa Rica - Tour **Beains**

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 habitat of jaguars, manatees, ocelots, and more. The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy your Tortuguero resort. Tonight, a local will teach you about his village and share stories about life in Tortuguero's remote town. Watch as he demonstrates how to harvest and prepare coconuts before sampling a local favorite: 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 homemade snacks such as banana bread, local 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 the natural world around you. Later, settle into your resort where you'll be surrounded by striking views of Arenal's famous volcano for the next three 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 mindblowing rip through the jungle -ORmake your way across lava fields for an up-close-and-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 by the hotel's pool. Also consider an optional excursion to a familyowned 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 two nights. As the day draws to a close, watch the sun set over the Pacific alongside birds in every color 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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3849 SOLO Starting at \$5159

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

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

May 2025 - April 2026

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2025 - April 2026 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- 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.

the turquoise waters as wildlife rummages in the canopies. This evening is at leisure. (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)

# **PERU: MACHU PICCHU AND** LAKE TITICACA

10 DAYS • 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$4489

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 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 CONNECTIONS**

- Explore the colourful markets of Peru, including the famous Pisac village market.
- · Discover the artist's techniques and designs at Pablo Seminario Ceramic Studio.



#### **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 farmto-table lunch at a local Quechua community.



# **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Hilton Garden Inn Lima Days 1, 2 Miraflores, Lima

Casa Andina Premium Days 3, 4 Sacred Valley, Yucay

Sumaq Machu Picchu Day 5 Hotel, Aguas Calientes Hilton Garden Inn, Cuzco Days 6, 7

GHL Lago Titicaca, Puno Davs 8, 9

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### Day 1: Lima, Peru

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 semitropical 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

#### Day 6: Machu Picchu - Cuzco

featuring a Peruvian menu. (B, D)

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 your choice! Travel above the city to discover the important sacred Incan ruins of Sacsayhuamán Fortress -ORembark 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, (B)

# **Day 9: Uros Floating Islands** - Lake Titicaca - Chullpas de Sillustani - 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 homehosted meal and swap stories with Peruvian families before visiting the mystical Chullpas de Sillustani - an archaeological area boasting 13thcentury funerary monuments. (B, L)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4489 SOLO Starting at \$5289

Prices based on April 19, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

May 2025 - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May 2025 - May 2026 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)

**TOUR EXTENSION:** 

4-Nights Post-Tour on a **PERUVIAN AMAZON CRUISE** 

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS!



# 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)

# **Peruvian Amazon Cruise**

POST-TOUR EXTENSION • 5 DAYS • 10 MEALS • STARTING AT \$2080\* PP

Extend your tour 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.

#### **EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED**

You're accompanied by a Tour Manager part of the time, for some guided excursions. The rest of the time, you're at leisure to explore the destination your

#### **ACTIVITY LEVEL:**







See page 136 for details

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Day 10

Hilton Garden Inn Miraflores,

I ima

Days 11 - 13 La Perla Ship

#### Day 10: Lima

This evening, enjoy an additional night in Lima as you settle into your hotel. Make

sure to get some quality rest to prepare for your very early morning flight.

# Day 11: Lima - Iquitos - Nauta - Amazon **River - Yacapana Creek**

Rise and shine for an early morning flight to Iquitos. A local guide will briefly give an orientation on the city before taking private transportation to Nauta. Settle into your new home aboard La Perla as you sail down the Marañón River with a local naturalist guiding the way. This evening, get ready for a night excursion to look for animals that can only be seen when the sun goes down. Return to the ship for dinner and a night of rest. (B, L, D)

# Day 12: Ucayali River - Vista Alegre -Yarapa - Ucayali River

Board the skiffs this morning to visit the banks

and take in a variety of wildlife found on the Ucayali River. Back on the boat, enjoy a delicious breakfast buffet filled with Peruvian specialties and homemade goods. Journey down the Yarapa River and marvel at the array of wildlife before enjoying lunch and some time at leisure. Be welcomed into the town of Vista Alegre this afternoon where you'll meet the locals and learn about their customs. This evening, enjoy live music and dinner. (B, L, D)

# Day 13: Ucamara - Confluence - Cocha Piranha - Casual - Maranon River

Learn about the Pacaya Samiria Reserve this morning during a lecture from a knowledgeable local guide. In the afternoon, embark on a boat expedition and discover where the Amazon River is born. Be on the lookout for more wildlife as you



# PERU: MACHU PICCHU AND LAKE TITICACA

explore the Piraña Cocha region. After lunch and a moment of rest, take a stroll through the winding jungle trails in Casual and observe a variety of giant trees known by the locals as "Avatar." This evening, watch the majestic Amazon sunset before savouring a farewell dinner with your fellow travellers. (B, L, D)

# Day 14: Nauta - Iquitos - Lima - Extension Ends

Start your morning with a quiet breakfast on board before visiting Nauta – the second largest city in the region. Once you disembark, visit the city's market where you'll get to know the local Amazonians through traditional foods, drinks, and craft stalls. On your way to the airport, visit Amazon Forever Bio Park where biologists and volunteers care for manatees, an endangered species. Continue your transfer to the airport where you will connect in Lima for your flight home. (B)

\*Additional air segment purchase required.









# **MACHU PICCHU & GALAPAGOS WONDERS**

**FEATURING A 4-NIGHT CRUISE** 

14 DAYS • 27 MEALS STARTING AT \$11499

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 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 CONNECTIONS**

- Discover centuries-old Andean textile methods in the Peruvian Andes.
- Stand tall in the "Middle of the World" at the Equatorial Line Monument and Museum.
- Wind through the Andes in a train to Machu Picchu.



### **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.



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

 Day 7 — While in Cuzco, choose to visit the Incan ruins of Sacsayhuamán Fortress -ORexplore the neighbourhood of San Blas' charming cobblestone streets.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Casa Andina Premium 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.



#### Day 1: Lima, Peru

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 centuries-old 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 into 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 Sacsayhuamán 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, paintbilled 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 dingly ride along the coast to observe a great diversity of sea and coastal birds; Nazca and blue-footed 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 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 vellow-crowned night heron and marine wildlife such as lobster, starfish and marine iguanas that graze on algae alongside Sally Lightfoot 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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$11499 SOLO Starting at \$16799

Prices based on October 27, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

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

August – November 2025 January - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for August 2025 - May 2026 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

**TOUR EXTENSION** 

PRE-NIGHT: Lima (1-2 NIGHTS)

**Peruvian Amazon:** 

3 Night Pre-Tour | Starting at \$780† pp



† Additional air segment purchase required.

CALL FOR DETAILS OR VISIT COLLETTE.COM/664

on the north side of Santa Cruz at Bachas Beach where ponds entice Galápagos Flamingos 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)

# **PATAGONIA: EDGE OF** THE WORLD

FEATURING ARGENTINA, CHILE, & A 4-NIGHT PATAGONIA CRUISE

15 DAYS • 29 MEALS STARTING AT \$11499

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Buenos Aires • Tango Show • Perito Moreno Glacier • Patagonian Estancia • Torres del Paine National Park • 4-Night Fjord Cruise • Ainsworth Bay • Tucker Islets • Pia Glacier • Glacier Allev • Cape Horn • Wulaia Bay • Ushuaia



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Get a glimpse into Argentine culture at a lively tango performance.
- Meet a local gaucho (cowboy) and learn all about life on the ranch.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- · Spend the afternoon at a familyowned Patagonian estancia and enjoy a traditional lamb roast.
- Enjoy unlimited wine and beer with dinner while onboard your cruise ship.



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

- Day 11 In Ainsworth Forest, learn causes of glacier recession and explore a beaver habitat -OR- venture off on an active hike along a glacial moraine.
- Day 12 At Pia Glacier, traverse the Pia Boulders on a medium level hike for panoramic views -OR- venture on an easy walk towards the Pia Lookout for panoramic views of the glacier.
- Day 13 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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONSS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Sofitel Buenos Aires Days 2 - 4 Recoleta or Recoleta Grand Hotel, Buenos Aires

Mirador del Lago Hotel, Days 5, 6 El Calafate

Rio Serrano Hotel & Spa, Davs 7, 8 Torres del Paine

Day 9 Remota Patagonia Lodge, Puerto Natales

Days 10 - 13 Ventus Australis

Day 14 Sofitel Buenos Aires Recoleta or Recoleta Grand

Hotel, Buenos Aires



# **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

Arrive in Buenos Aires, a city that radiates Latin-infused rhythm mixed with 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. Tonight, get into the Argentinian spirit with a tango show and dinner. (B, D)

#### **Day 4: Buenos Aires**

Today is yours to spend in Buenos Aires as you please. Perhaps you'll take a tour of the

Teatro Colon or meander your way through the San Telmo Market. (B)

#### Day 5: Buenos Aires - El Calafate

Fly to El Calafate, the gateway to Patagonia's natural splendour, known as the "National Capital of the Glaciers." Enjoy some free time this afternoon in this charming town. Gather this evening for dinner with your fellow travellers. (B, D)

# Day 6: 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 wonder of the natural world. Then, catch many views of the glacier from a series of walkways. Gaze off the shoreline in search of floating icebergs as you listen for the resounding cracks of ice sheets breaking free. (B)

# Day 7: El Calafate - Torres del Paine **National Park, Chile**

Today, take in the vast landscape and learn more about Patagonian wildlife while travelling to the border and crossing into Chile. Arrive in Torres del Paine National Park, one of the most remote, unspoiled places in the world, designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Soak the dramatic beauty of jagged mountains, expansive grasslands, and ethereal teal waters and marvel at cascading waterfalls on a panoramic tour through one of South America's most incredible

national parks. Along the way, you may spot soaring condors, inquisitive *guanacos* (llamas), and independent felines. After, check into your hotel for a two-night stay beside stunning views of the Serrano River and Paine mountain range. (B, L, D)

# Day 8: Torres del Paine National Park

Set out to spend a full day exploring the wonders of Torres del Paine. Stretch your legs on a morning hike to the Salto Grande waterfall. Your guide will make sure you don't miss a thing, from this landscape's stunning features to the flora and fauna all around you. Following lunch, the adventure continues with a scenic hike around Lago Grey, leading to spectacular views of the Grey Glacier. (B, L, D)

# Day 9: Torres del Paine - Puerto Natales, Chile

Enjoy a leisurely morning at your hotel, taking in those final views of the park or perhaps joining your guide for a nature walk. After lunch, head south to Puerto Natales. This evening is yours to enjoy at leisure. (B)

# Day 10: Puerto Natales - Punta Arenas - Board Ship - Chilean Waters

Today, make your way to the coastal metropolis of Punta Arenas. Along the way, stop to spend time at a family-owned Patagonian *estancia*. Enjoy a traditional lamb roast lunch as you chat and learn about the culture. Later in Punta Arenas, 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, L, D)

# Day 11: 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 12: 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 -ORventure 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 13: 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



DOUBLE Starting at \$11499 SOLO Starting at \$15549 Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air.

Prices based on October 7, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2024 – March 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) September 2025 – March 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for September 2025 - March 2026 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 OR POST-NIGHT: Buenos Aires (1-2 NIGHTS)

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 14: Disembark Boat - Ushuaia - Buenos Aires

Your cruise through Patagonia comes to an end as you enter Argentine waters, docking at Ushuaia. Disembark in Ushuaia before flying to Buenos Aires. Tonight, gather for a farewell dinner and share a toast with your fellow travel companions. (B, D)

# **Day 15: Buenos Aires - Tour Ends**

Say *adios* to Argentina as your tour draws to a close this morning. (B)

# Optional 3-Night Iguaçu Falls Post-Tour Extension Starting at \$1300† pp



#### Day 16: Buenos Aires - Iguaçu Falls, Brazil

Fly to Iguaçu Falls – located at the crossroads of Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay – one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Board the Rainforest Ecological Train inside the national park on the Argentine side and walk to the platform overlooking powerful Devil's Throat. Discover unparalleled views of five waterfalls as they plummet into the Iguaçu River. Cross to the Brazilian side and check into your resort. Cap off your day with a relaxing dinner. (D)

#### Day 17: Iquaçu Falls

Soak up the breathtaking views of the waterfalls from the Brazilian side. Join your local guide as you discover how Brazil and Argentina have both fought to protect the beauty and raw power of the falls by making each side a national park. You will see first-hand why Eleanor Roosevelt, upon seeing Iguaçu Falls, exclaimed "Poor Niagara." The afternoon is yours to relax and enjoy the many amenities at your resort. (B, D)

#### Day 18: Iguaçu - Buenos Aires

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires. (B)

### Day 19: Buenos Aires - Tour Ends

Transfer to the airport and depart for home. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.

# **NEW TOUR**

# **ANTARCTICA:** THE WHITE CONTINENT

12 DAYS • 27 MEALS STARTING AT \$10234

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Buenos Aires • Ushuaia • Tierra del Fuego • The Drake Passage • Zodiac Safaris • Penguin Colony Close-Ups - Polar Plunge • Expedition Landings • On-Board Educational Sessions



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Discover multitudes of Antarctic wildlife including seals, whales, albatrosses, and chinstrap, gentoo and Adelie penguins.
- · Experience nearly 24 hours of sunlight as you absorb your surroundings ashore and from the expedition ship's many observatory decks.
- Take the opportunity, if you wish, for a thrilling polar plunge off the yacht.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

10 Breakfasts (B) - 8 Lunches (L) - 9 Dinners (D)

· Sayour fresh and varied meals aboard the expedition ship while admiring the scenery around you.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Hilton Buenos Aires, Day 2

**Buenos Aires** 

Days 3 - 11 Atlas World Voyager or

Atlas World Traveller

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

An overnight flight takes you to Buenos Aires, the launching point for your adventure into Antarctica.

#### Day 2: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Arrive in cosmopolitan Buenos Aires, birthplace of the tango and the "Paris of South America." Stretching along the banks of the Rio de la Plata, the city is a mosaic of European-style architecture and South American spirit. Spend the day however you wish before setting out to begin your voyage tomorrow.

### Day 3: Fly to Ushuaia - Embark Ship -At Sea

This morning we fly over Patagonia before landing in Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world, surrounded by spectacular mountain scenery. Set out on a panoramic tour of Tierra del Fuego National Park and soak in this dramatic landscape on the southern tip of South America featuring glaciers, lakes, mountains, and waterfalls. From Ushuaia, embark the expedition ship that will be your home for the next nine days during a cruise into Antarctica. (B, D)

#### Day 4: The Drake Passage - At Sea

Cruise south through the fabled Drake Passage, named after the explorer Sir Frances Drake. Set between Cape Horn and the Antarctic Peninsula. crossing the legendary Drake Passage is unforgettable - a milestone for any adventurer! Warmer waters of the north meet colder. denser waters of the south here in the Antarctic Convergence, making the area rich in marine life like humpback whales and hourglass dolphins. (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: The Drake Passage - Antarctica

During the 48-hour journey through the Drake Passage, the soundtrack includes the crash of waves against the ship and cry of petrels, skuas, and gulls overhead. While the waterway is famous for its challenging navigation, on some occasions, the channel is calm and tranquil - this unpredictable nature is part of the adventure. As you emerge from the Drake Passage, reaching the northern point of The White Continent, the mammoth, icy peaks of the South Shetland Islands greet you. (B, L, D)

# Day 6: Antarctica

Part of the greater Antarctica region, the South







Shetland Islands hold a bounty of wildlife, scenic landscapes, hiking opportunities, and magnificent views that inspire a sense of discovery. According to sea and weather conditions, there are several possible shore landing opportunities. A possible landing on Elephant Island, named for the shape of its cliffside and the elephant seals that call it home, sets you on the same path as the famous Shackleton Expedition. Another possible landing is Deception Island, a volcanic caldera with heated springs and black sands. Other possible stops include Half Moon Island, Yankee Harbor, Point Wild, and Barrientos Island with its gentoo penguin rookeries. (B, L, D)

# Day 7: Antarctica

Your days are filled with discovering Antarctica, the last great wilderness stretching across ice-covered desert and mountains for over five million square miles. The ethereal beauty and immense scale of the continent are

like nowhere else on the planet. The voyage keeps a flexible schedule as your captain expertly navigates ice floes, icebergs, and changing sea and weather conditions to ensure you experience the most from your expedition. (B, L, D)

### **Day 8: Antarctica**

Nicknamed "The White Continent" for its vast expanse of icebergs, snow and glaciers, Antarctica is often a final frontier for experienced explorers to conquer. As you navigate Antarctic waters, you may set foot on sites like Beak Island, Brown Bluff, Cierva Cove, Hidden Bay, and many more. Each landing throughout the continent offers its own unique landscape, from expansive tundra to rugged mountain peaks, all beckoning you to follow the paths that few explorers have trekked before. (B, L, D)

# **Day 9: Antarctica**

Each day is a new adventure filled with a spontaneous sense of exploration. Your captain works with the expedition



ARRIVAL **BUENOS AIRES (BUE)** 

DEPARTURE **BUENOS AIRES (BUE)** 

DOUBLE Starting at \$10234 SOLO Starting at \$14284

Prices based on March 17, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

November 2025 - March 2026

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.



team to determine possible shore landings and Zodiac safaris. You may take a Zodiac foray among towering icebergs or hike along the shoreline near penguin colonies. On one day of the cruise, you can even take the chance to experience a polar plunge by jumping in with a harness from the side of the ship! (B, L, D)

### Day 10: The Drake Passage - At Sea

Antarctica falls into your wake as you begin sailing back towards Ushuaia today, crossing the southern waters of the Drake Passage. As you make your return through this famed channel, stay on the lookout for the incredible wildlife around you in the sea and sky. (B, L, D)

### Day 11: The Drake Passage - At Sea

On your final day of sailing the channel, enjoy the time to relax on the ship and reflect on all you have seen and learned along the journey. (B, L, D)

# Day 12: Ushuaia - Disembark Ship - Fly to Buenos **Aires - Tour Ends**

After breakfast, disembark in Ushuaia and proceed to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires before flying home. (B)





Senior Product Design Manager Shannon Levi explained that the Mafia asks farmers for protection money, or *pizzo*. Those who do not pay the fee face consequences, ranging from property damage, to crop destruction, or worse.

Enter Nicola Clemenza and Azienda Agricola Futura. Nicola's farm set in the Trapani area of Sicily is dedicated not only to sustainable farming practices and authentic, quality oils, but also displays a firm and public stance against the Mafia. His principles haven't gone unnoticed.

"Nicola Clemenza is a hero," Elena Delzanno, a fellow Collette product design manager said. "He does not obey the 'rules' that the Mafia try to impose on farmers. So, they burned down part of his house."

Shannon explained that Nicola created a consortia of farmers who refused to pay the protection fees or work with the Mafia. He also works with Adiopozzo, a group of broader business owners who refuse to pay the pizzo.

"This is one of the things I admire the most about Nicola Clemenza, that he faced the risk of losing everything, not just his farm and his olive trees, but his family, his own personal health. And he still stood up against these people." It's easy to be brave when you're not afraid of the consequences...



Shannon stressed that it's important for travellers to learn about a destination's culture and taboo situations from local people.

"What really makes a destination come alive is the relationships we build with local people," Shannon said. "It's the opportunity to meet and chat and ask questions and break bread together, laugh about things and discover that as different as we may be, fundamentally as human beings, we share the same concerns and the same cares. That's possible when we take the time to stop at a place like Nicola's olive grove and really take a moment to be human-to-human, ask questions, and share our experiences."

Travellers can get a taste of this unique farm and support Nicola on our Sicily and Its Isles tour.

# **NEW TOUR**

# THE BALKANS

FROM COASTAL CROATIA TO LEGENDARY GREECE

16 DAYS · 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$6649

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Zagreb • Karanac Farm Stay • Osijek Cooking Class - Sarajevo - Impact Moment: Tunnel of Hope - Mostar -Dubrovnik • Our Lady of the Rocks • Boka Bay Scenic Sailing - Kotor - Shkodër -Tirana • Gjirokastra • Kalambaka • Meteora • Icon-Painting Workshop • Athens



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Impact Moment: Uncover Sarajevo's wartime history with a siege survivor.
- Discover Gjirokastra's Old Town, bazaar and castle.
- · Visit a traditional icon-painting workshop in Kalambaka.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 8 Dinners (D)

- Prepare local specialties and bread with the locals in Karanac.
- · Experience Bosnian hospitality and regional dishes, joining a local family for a meal in a Sarajevo home.
- Enjoy traditional Albanian food and folk entertainment in Tirana.



# **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 8 — Take a harbour cruise for views of Dubrovnik's medieval city walls and visit Lokrum Island -ORget a bird's-eye view of the city by cable car, riding up to Srd Hill, a breathtaking vantage point to look over the Old Town below.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Le Premier Boutique Hotel, Day 2 Zagreb Baraniska Kuca Hotel and Etno Days 3, 4 Restaurant, Karanac Days 5, 6 Hotel Colors Inn, Sarajevo Royal Ariston Hotel, Dubrovnik Days 7, 8 Days 9, 10 Hotel Cattaro, Kotor Days 11, 12 Hotel Rogner, Tirana Day 13 Divani Meteora Hotel,

Kalambaka Days 14, 15 NYX Esperia Palace Hotel, Athens

Day 4: Karanac - Osijek - Karanac Immerse yourself in country life this morning, perhaps joining your hosts in preparing breakfast. Then join your local guide in the nearby city of Osijek, learning about its Roman

and Ottoman history. Take free time to have lunch and explore the city centre on your own, marveling at the architecture, museums, historic buildings, city parks, and monuments. This afternoon, find out how wine is made in this region - while enjoying a glass. Then, roll up your sleeves alongside locals to prepare traditional dishes and bread for dinner. (B, D)

Day 5: Karanac - Sarajevo, Bosnia and

This morning, continue to Sarajevo - Bosnia

meets West, and your home for the next two

nights. Reminiscent of a European Jerusalem,

and the coexistence of various religious sects.

Perhaps you'll join a guided stroll this evening to

experience a city shaped by its rich history

get acquainted with the area. (B, L)

and Herzegovina's capital city, where East



# **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 cities, On your journey, generations of traditions come to life through local experiences amid stunning backdrops.

# Day 2: Zagreb, Croatia

Arrive in Croatia's fascinating capital city, Zagreb. Get ready to discover this modern metropolis with its Old Town, medieval settlements, open squares, museums, and cobbled streets meant for strolling. Your day is free until tonight, when you gather with your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

# Day 3: Zagreb - Karanac

This morning, join a local guide on a walking tour of Zagreb's highlights, from the main square to Upper Town. Enjoy some free time to explore and have lunch on your own before the journey continues to the northeast corner of Croatia. Travel off the beaten path toward the rural village of Karanac, nestled at the confluence of the Drava and Danube Rivers. Tonight, meet your local hosts for a delightful dinner accompanied by folk entertainment. (B, D)

# Day 6: Sarajevo

Herzegovina

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. During an **Impact Moment**, meet with a local siege survivor, who will uncover more of Sarajevo's past. Spend time in the Sarajevo Tunnel Museum, the site of the "Tunnel of Hope" that connected the besieged city to the outside world. The rest of the afternoon is yours to explore Sarajevo on your own. Tonight, locals welcome you to their home for 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 for a truly memorable evening. (B, D)

# Day 7: Sarajevo - Mostar - Dubrovnik, Croatia

This morning, on your way to Croatia, spend time in Mostar, home to the iconic arched Stari Most Bridge (UNESCO). Explore Mostar on a guided walk before lunching on your own in the historic part of the city. This afternoon, be greeted by views of the Adriatic Sea when you arrive in Dubrovnik. (B)

### Day 8: Dubrovnik 😗

Dubrovnik's ancient streets share their history and timeless appeal during a tour of the city. Then, let the city continue to reveal itself to you because **it's your choice!** Take a harbour cruise for magnificent views of Dubrovnik's medieval city walls and visit Lokrum Island **-OR-** get a bird's-eye view of the city by cable car, riding up to Srd Hill, a breathtaking vantage point to look over the Old Town below and the Adriatic Sea. With the remainder of your day free, you do you – Croatia-style. (B)

# Day 9: Dubrovnik - Kotor, Montenegro

It's "Dovidenja" 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). Complete your visit to Kotor with a locally guided tour before you settle into your hotel located within the historic walls of Kotor town. (B, D)

### Day 10: 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 Lovcen about 900 meters above sea level. Soak in the views from a cable car and get a tasty local lesson on the traditions of prosciutto and homemade cheeses famously produced here – and, of course, sample these specialties. Learn more about Montenegrin history while visiting the royal town of Cetinje. Upon return, the remainder of the day is yours to explore the hidden corners of Kotor. (B)

# Day 11: Kotor - Shkodër, Albania - Tirana

Cross another border today and arrive in Albania! Get to know Shkodër, one of the most historic cities in the country.

Admire mosques and churches on a guided stroll along the main pedestrian street and try some of the local cuisine. Continue your travel day on your way to Tirana, the capital city of Albania. Explore its history and architecture on a locally guided tour while learning more about Albania's intriguing past. Visit a former top-secret nuclear bunker, now a museum dedicated to the victims of one of most controlling communist regimes in Europe. (B)

### Day 12: Tirana

Today, explore Tirana as you wish. Perhaps you'll decide to join an optional excursion to the coastal ancient city of Durrës, where the Roman Amphitheater of Emperor Hadrian stands as the city's most prominent attraction. Join a local guide to see the historic city's ruins, and later, get an introduction to the viticulture in the region while enjoying a wine tasting paired with local specialties at a prominent winery. No matter how you fill your day, experience the best of the local cuisine and a show of rich folk traditions during dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

# Day 13: Tirana - Gjirokastra - Kalambaka, Greece

Soak in the beauty of the countryside with its winding roads and stretches of green on your way to Gjirokastra in southern Albania. Perhaps one of the steepest cities in the world, explore its unique architecture and glorious history. After having some free time in this fascinating town join your local guide on a tour of Gjirokastra's dominant castle on the hill. Cross into Greece, your last border on this travel journey. Arrive in Kalambaka in the late afternoon in time to freshen up for dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

# Day 14: Kalambaka - Metéora -Athens

This morning, explore Metéora. Visit one of the remote monasteries situated in a unique landscape, where limestone rock "towers" extend nearly 900 feet into the air. Over 600 years ago, Byzantine monks built their monastic community perched atop these rocks. Later, learn how Byzantine icons are created by visiting an icon-painting workshop in Kalambaka. Watch some of the process at this atelier, where icons are made using traditional methods. Spend some time on your own in this enchanting town before continuing your journey to Athens. (B)

### Day 15: Athens

Later this morning explore the sights of Athens on a locally-guided walking



DOUBLE Starting at \$6649 SOLO Starting at \$7549 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on September 29, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

TOUR DATES AVAILABLE

June – October 2025

April – May 2026

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

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

PRE-NIGHT: Zagreb (1 NIGHT)

POST-NIGHT: Athens (1 NIGHT)



tour. From Syntagma Square and the Monument to the Unknown Soldier, wander through the streets, soaking in the essence of this iconic city and savouring its charm and energy. Visit the new Acropolis Museum, considered one of the most important museums in the world, to trace the story of the ancient city. Located within a short walking distance of the Acropolis, the museum houses archeological treasures from the Acropolis and offers wonderful views on the ancient site. The rest of the day is yours to explore more of Athens on your own before joining your fellow travellers for dinner and to toast to the end of your journey. (B, D)

# Day 16: Athens - Tour Ends

Your tour ends today. (B)

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

FEATURING BERLIN, PRAGUE, VIENNA, **BUDAPEST & KRAKOW** 

14 DAYS • 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$4999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Berlin • Dresden • Praque • Praque Castle • Vienna • Impact Moment • Viennese Candy Workshop - Budapest -Matthias Church • Krakow • Auschwitz



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- 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.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- · Enjoy traditional Czech cuisine and folklore performance.
- · Learn the secrets of Viennese confectionery during a candy-making demonstration.
- Experience Viennese coffee house culture during an Impact Moment.



### **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.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Arcotel John F. Hotel, Berlin

Majestic Plaza Hotel, Days 4, 5

Prague

Days 6, 7 Hotel Erzherzog Rainer,

Vienna

Days 8 - 10 Up Hotel or Courtyard by Marriott Budapest City

Center, Budapest

Days 11 - 13 Mercure Krakow Old Town,

Krakow



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

Set out to experience the very best of Europe's cultural capitals.

## Day 2: Berlin, Germany

Arrive in Germany's capital city of Berlin, a blend of deep-rooted history, modern flair 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 splendour 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 together with a folklore performance. (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 taking 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 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. Later, eniov an evening in one of Vienna's most beloved restaurants with rich Viennese tradition where dinner mixes with local cultural flavour to create an unforgettable night. (B, D)

# Day 7: Vienna

This morning, meet your local guide on a scenic walking tour to Vienna's city centre and behold the beautiful architecture, scenic parks, and gothic spires that fill the city. Learn more about Vienna's sweet confectionary history when you visit a candy workshop where candies are still being made according to traditional recipes dating back over 150 years. Finish your day by participating in one of Vienna's most treasured traditions during a Viennese Waltz lesson, Tonight, you may choose to explore the interiors at the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace and listen to a musical performance at the famous Orangerie where the past comes alive. (B)

# Day 8: Vienna - Bratislava, Slovakia - Budapest, Hungary

Sit back, relax, and enjoy the picturesque countryside en route 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 an orientation walking tour with your Tour Manager before taking time to enjoy lunch on your own. After lunch, head towards a true historical gem and UNESCO site - Pannonhalma, Get to know more about the history dating back a thousand years and present life in the Archabbev from one of the monks. The succession of history can be seen clearly in the various architectural styles of the monastic buildings. Top off your day in this region with a delicious meal in a local restaurant. Continue 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 to explore how you like. 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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4999 SOLO Starting at \$5899

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

June - December 2025

Prices based on March 15, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - December 2024 March - May 2025

(different itinerary - see note\*)

March - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 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: Berlin (1-2 NIGHTS)

**POST-NIGHT:** Krakow (1-2 NIGHTS)

a city tour complete with stops at the Market Square, St. Mary's Church, and the university. In Market Square, marvel at the Gothic city hall tower and the beautiful palaces that surround you. You'll also get an inside look at Wawel Castle, a former residence of Polish kings. This afternoon, embark on a poignant journey through history as you travel to the 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

This morning, join a local guide and discover Krakow's most known city district, Kazimierz. On a walking tour, you'll visit many synagogues along with one of the most prominent ones - the Remuh Synogogue and Cemetery. Walk the former Jewish Market with your guide and connect with the Jewish history, culture, and religion along the way. The rest of the day is yours to explore the town on your own. 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 and Eastern Europe. (B, D)

### Day 14: Krakow - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today. (B)

# **MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL JOURNEY**

16 DAYS • 24 MEALS STARTING AT \$6449

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Barcelona • La Casa Batlló • Parc Güell • Costa Brava • Impact Moment • Aix-en-Provence • French Riviera • Monaco-Montecarlo • Portofino • Cinque Terre • Florence - Truffle Hunting -San Gimignano



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Soak up the views from the medieval city walls of Girona.
- 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 and of Tuscany in the company of a truffle hunter and his truffle-sniffing dogs.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 14 Breakfasts (B) • 3 Lunches (L) • 7 Dinners (D)

- · Visit an ancient abbey turned winery
- for a tour and a tasting. In Italy, dine at a restaurant renowned
- for its cheese-filled focaccia and home-made pesto sauce.
- Dine on traditional Catalan specialties in a 17th-century farmhouse transformed into a local restaurant.



# **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 8 - In Marseille, explore the Cosquer Cave replica, an outstanding example of primitive rock art -OR- discover the city's 600 years soap heritage during a visit to the museum of "Marseille" soap.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2 - 4 H10 Art Gallery, Barcelona

Park Hotel San Jorge, Costa Days 5, 6

NH Collection, Marseille Davs 7, 8

Days 9, 10 Hotel Apollinaire, Nice

Days 11 - 13 NH Collection Genova Marina or NH Genova Centro, Genoa, Italian Riviera

Days 14, 15 Hotel Borgo di Cortefreda, Chianti Countryside or Park Hotel Chianti, Barberino Tavarnelle, Tuscany

# **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

Welcome to the Mediterranean coast. Begin your journey in 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. This afternoon, gain a different perspective on Barcelona during a panoramic tour showcasing the expansive Plaça de Catalunya and the Columbus Monument, End at the hilltop Parc Güell (UNESCO), an enormous garden with stunning and distinct architectural elements designed by the renowned Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí. (B)

### Day 4: Barcelona

The day is yours to explore the city. You may want to visit Gaudi's most famous work at La Sagrada Familia. Perhaps visit Palau de la Musica Catalana, one of the most emblematic works of Catalan modernism right in the heart of Barcelona? Or walk through Poble Espayol, where you will find representative examples of popular Spanish architecture and some great local food! However you choose to spend your day, gather in the afternoon to visit Casa Batlló. Locally known as the House of Bones, this is one of Gaudi's masterpieces. As the day draws to a close, dine on traditional Catalan specialties at a farmhouse turned restaurant. (B, D)

# Day 5: Barcelona - Girona - Costa Brava

Set out for Girona, a medieval town known for its atmospheric Old Quarter. Explore the Barri Vell in the 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. This evening, relax over dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

### Day 6: Costa Brava - Figueres

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. (B)

# Day 7: Costa Brava - 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. Tonight, gather for an **Impact Moment** that 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, L, D)

# Day 8: Marseille 😯

Founded over 26 centuries ago. Marseille is France's oldest city. In the company of an expert guide, 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 -ORhop 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 years. 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, or maybe you'll join an optional excursion to a winery to learn about local production and sample their vintages. (B)

# Day 9: Marseille - Aix-en-Provence - Nice, French Riviera

Let the colours and light of southern France captivate you as you explore Aix-en-Provence. Acquaint yourself with the Provençale lifestyle by 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 favorite café and soaking in the local life. Or join an optional tour of 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 a nez (nose) before returning to Nice for an evening at leisure. This evening, savour a tasting menu highlighting the delights of the South of France. (B, D)

# 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

Make your way across Genoa's old town during a walking tour of this ancient Maritime Republic, once so affluent that it rivalled Venice. For lunch, savour flavours of the Italian Riviera at a local restaurant renowned for its cheese-filled focaccia and homemade pesto sauce. Later this afternoon, board a boat to one of the most glamorous spots on the Italian Riviera. Spend time in Portofino. Take in its colourful harbour, dotted with fishing boats and yachts set against a backdrop of pastel-coloured buildings. (B, L)

# Day 13: Genoa - Cinque Terre - Genoa

Spend the day exploring the colourful cliff-side 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



Prices based on November 8, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

TOUR DATES AVAILABLE

March – May 2025
(different itinerary - see note\*)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 – May 2026 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.

Dune – November 2025
March – May 2026
(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 – May 2026 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary, Please confirm at time of reservation.

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



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)

# THE NORTHERN **LIGHTS OF FINLAND**

8 DAYS • 12 MEALS STARTING AT \$6399

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Helsinki - Helsinki Cathedral - Lapland Region • Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort • Meet & Greet with Santa - Reindeer Safari • Northern Lights Searches • Husky Safari - Glass Igloo Accommodation



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Introduce yourself to majestic Lappish reindeer and take an evening sled ride.
- · Lead your very own dog sled team.
- Spend the night in a glass igloo amid the Lappish wilderness.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- · Indulge in Finnish and Lappish cuisine.
- Sip warm berry juice, a Finnish winter tradition.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Lilla Roberts Hotel,

Days 4 - 6 Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort - West Village,

Kakslauttanen

**ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** 

See next page for details.

Day 7 Lilla Roberts Hotel,

Helsinki

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



# **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

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, taking a 20-minute stroll to a local restaurant. 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, Take a 90-minute walking tour 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 free time, explore more of Helsinki independently. (B)

# Day 4: Helsinki - Kakslauttanen -**Northern Lights Search**

Escape to northernmost Finland's winter wonderland onboard a flight to Ivalo and magical Lapland. Like a storybook come to life, Lapland's culture is steeped in myth and legend. Relish a sled ride with reindeer and unspoiled views of the northern lights. At the remote Kakslauttanen Resort, spend two nights in your very own Finnish log cabin indulging in your own personal Finnish sauna. Take the motor coach north toward Inari on a chase for the northern lights. Stops along the pursuit allow you the chance to witness nature's dazzling, electric light show.

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

Hit the snow and mush yourself to breakfast aboard your own authentic Finnish sleigh. After a leisurely breakfast, meet Santa's Elves who will escort you to meet Santa Claus in his own home. Learn about Santa's origins during a warm and friendly conversation at his house. After dinner, under the Arctic moonlight, a reindeer







farmer introduces you to some friendly Lappish reindeer that will escort you on an exhilarating safari through remote Kakslauttanen. Gain insight into the importance of reindeer herding to the Sámi indigenous culture. Sip warm berry juice, a Finnish tradition, around an open fire, inside a Lappish Tepee 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 incredible and unique glass igloo. You may even see the northern lights dancing overhead from the comfort of your own bed. (B, D)

### Day 7: Kakslauttanen - Helsinki

Say goodbye to enchanting Lapland and fly back to Helsinki. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Explore the city's central squares and get in tune with the latest Finnish trends at a collection of charming shops. Tonight, in downtown Helsinki, toast to grand adventures and new friends. (B, D)

Day 8: Helsinki - Tour Ends Set out for home with incredible memories and a longing to return. (B)



HELSINKI (HEL)

HELSINKI (HEL)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6399 SOLO Starting at \$7849

Prices based on March 17, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

November 2024 - March 2025 November 2025 - March 2026 (different itinerary - see note\*) (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for November 2025 - March 2026 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 OR POST-NIGHT: Helsinki (1-2 NIGHTS)



# **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



### Day 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. Guests must upgrade for all 3 nights. Accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Please inquire about upgrade at time of booking.

# **ICELANDIC ADVENTURE**

10 DAYS • 15 MEALS **STARTING AT \$7719** 

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 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 - Sky Lagoon



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Go whale watching in Skjálfandi Bay with specialized RIB Zodiac boats.
- · Ascend the massive Langiökull glacier via mountain truck.
- · Learn about the 300 years of fishing history during a visit to a maritime museum.



### **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.



# **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.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Hotel Centrum or Days 2, 3 Fosshotel, Reykjavik Fosshotel, Husavik Days 4, 5 Day 6 Laugarbakki Hotel, Laugarbakki

Days 7, 8 Icelandair Hotel Hamar or Borgarnes Hotel,

Borgarnes

Hotel Centrum or Fosshotel, Reykjavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



### **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 **Beains**

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 facade 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 -Húsavík 😱

This morning, fly to Akureyri and take in the unique volcanic landscape that surrounds Lake Mývatn. You will have a chance to explore the Hverir geothermal area, where bubbling mud pools resemble a Martian terrain. Next, it's your choice! Dip into the warm water and steam of the Lake Mývatn Nature Baths, frequented by Icelanders and visitors alike -OR- hike through Dimmuborgir and pass by irregular lava formations and mystical caves that inspire your imagination. End your day in Husavik, one of the first settlements on the island. (B, D)

# Day 5: Húsavík - Whale Watching -Grenjaðarstaður - Húsavík

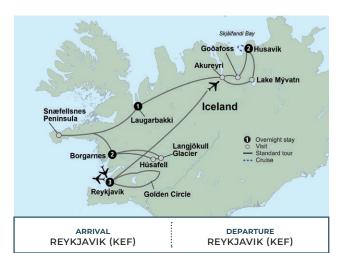
Gear up in thermal wear to join expert whale watchers on a cruise on Skjálfandi Bay. Aboard specialized Zodiacs, you'll get as close as you can to whales in northern Iceland. You may see humpback, minke, fin or harbour porpoise, and possibly the orca or giant blue whales that frequent these waters. After free time for lunch, travel to Grenjaðarstaður where you will visit and learn about the traditional Icelandic turf settlement homes. Return to Húsavík in the late afternoon, where the remainder of the day is yours, or perhaps join your Tour Manager for an evening walk. (B)

Day 9









**DOUBLE** Starting at \$7719 **SOLO** Starting at \$9019

Prices based on May 15, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

May 2025

(different itinerary - see note\*)

June – September 2025 May 2026

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June - September 2025 and May 2026 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

# Day 6: Husavik - Goðafoss -Akureyri - Laugarbakki

En route to Akureyri, stop at one of Iceland's most historic waterfalls. Goðafoss, where Iceland was converted to Christianity in A.D. 1000. Enjoy time at leisure in Akureyri to explore Iceland's second largest city. Perhaps you'll peruse its botanical garden, a public park positioned just 30 miles south of the Arctic Circle and dedicated to finding and testing foreign plants to grow in Iceland. Next, head to the scenic Norðurland Vestra region, famous for its horse breeding. On a family-owned farm, grab your camera for a photo tour of the stables and interact with these friendly animals and their care takers. Later this afternoon, travel to the village of Laugarbakki for an overnight stay. (B, D)

# Day 7: Laugarbakki -Snæfellsnes Peninsula -**Borgarnes**

This morning, journey to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, with its camera-ready black sand beaches, mountain peaks, volcanic craters, rocky coastlines, and tiny fishing villages. Connect with the local culture during a visit to a maritime museum illustrating fishing techniques, such as the century-old tradition of catching and preserving the Greenland shark; you'll also taste hákarl - cured shark meat. End the day in Borgarnes, your home for the next 2 nights. (B, D)

# Day 8: Húsafell - Langjökull **Glacier - 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 Reykjanes Peninsula, home to scenic geothermal Sky Lagoon. Experience the Icelandic culture with the tradition of geothermal bathing. Take a dip in the

# ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR







warm, mineral-rich waters and enjoy sweeping ocean views. 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)

# **COUNTRYSIDE OF THE EMERALD ISLE**

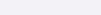
11 DAYS • 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$4999

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









Dublin • Irish National Stud • Rock of Cashel • Distillery Tour • Kinsale • Garnish Island - Dingle Peninsula -Aran Islands - Cliffs of Moher

**HIGHLIGHTS** 



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- 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.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 9 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Dinners (D)

- · Explore the Old Midleton Distillery, home of Jameson Irish Whiskey.
- · Savour traditional Irish cuisine at a popular local pub.
- · Enjoy a cheese tasting at an award-winning goat farm.



# **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 7 — Take a walk along the coast from Dunquin Pier -OR- visit the Blasket Centre.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Days 2, 3 Trinity City Hotel, Dublin

Garryvoe Hotel, East Cork, Days 4, 5 Cork

Dingle Skellig Hotel, Dingle Days 6, 7 Aran Islands Hotel, Aran Day 8

Islands Old Ground Hotel, The Inn Days 9, 10 at Dromoland, or Temple

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Gate Hotel, Ennis



# 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 any).

### Day 2: Dublin, Ireland

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 streets on a walking tour, taking you through the history and culture of this eclectic city. Get up close and personal with Dublin as you discover the vibrancy of the capital and its evolution over the centuries. This afternoon, experience an Impact Moment as you immerse yourself in Irish culture with Experience Gaelic Games. This social enterprise benefits the wider community, giving local youth opportunities to engage in community-based sport and cultural activities. Learn why these national sports are so important to many Irish people - and if you're feeling sporty, have a go yourself! This evening, gather for dinner and enjoy authentic Irish cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

### Day 4: Dublin - 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

This morning, 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. Next, head to the pretty coastal town of Kinsale for the afternoon, Enjoy free time to peruse the charming shops, galleries, and cafés. (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 harbor of Bantry Bay, this hidden island is home to one of Ireland's most beautiful gardens. Continue over the Cork and Kerry mountains to the colourful town of Dingle, located on the Dingle Peninsula - your home for two nights. (B)

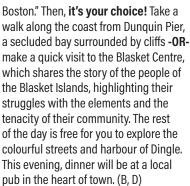
## Day 7: Dingle - Dingle Peninsula -Dingle 😗

This morning, explore the spectacular scenery of the Dingle Peninsula with a drive along Slea Head, with its enchanting hills and weatherworn bluffs. The locals will remind you that beyond the water, "the next parish over is









# 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. (B)

### Day 10: Ennis

This morning, join a local historian on a walking tour of the town of Ennis. Your walk ends at the site of the medieval Franciscan friary, where you can tour the ruins and grounds at leisure. The afternoon is yours with free time to shop for those last-minute souvenirs before joining your fellow travellers this evening to toast the end of an incredible adventure, (B, D)

# Day 11: 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 \$4999 SOLO Starting at \$6549

Prices based on April 19, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2024 March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) June - October 2025 March - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June - October 2025 and March - May 2026 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.

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# THE BEST **OF IRELAND**

15 DAYS • 22 MEALS STARTING AT \$6449

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Dublin • Jeanie Johnston Famine Ship ■ EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum ■ Hillsborough Castle • Belfast • Culinary Walking Tour • Giant's Causeway • Derry Blessingbourne Estate
 Boatyard Distillery • Cork • Galway • Cliffs of Moher Kilkenny - Hurling Experience



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Be immersed in stories of Irish emigration at the Jeanie Johnston famine ship and EPIC Museum in Dublin.
- Explore Cork's Nano Nagle Place and its dedication to empowering people through education and spirituality.
- Meet the owners of Blessingbourne Estate and learn the fascinating history of their family home.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

13 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 7 Dinners (D)

- Taste new Irish cuisine on a culinary walking tour in Belfast.
- · Savour the traditional flavours of Ireland in a local pub.



### **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.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Hyatt Centric The Liberties, Days 2, 3 Dublin Days 4, 5 Europa Hotel, Belfast Mill Park Hotel, Donegal Days 6, 7 Day 8 Lough Erne Resort, Enniskillen Days 9, 10 The Connacht Hotel,

Galway Days 11, 12 River Lee Hotel, Cork Days 13, 14 Lyrath Estate, Kilkenny

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## **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

Arrive in Dublin, a city rich with layered history and lively culture. With no planned activities today, the time is yours to explore independently. This evening, meet your fellow travellers and toast the start of your journey with dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

### Day 3: Dublin

Join a local expert on a walk through Dublin's lively streets, gaining insight into the historic places and modern culture of this eclectic city. After free time for lunch, delve into stories of Irish emigration. Follow in the footsteps of those who fled the famine as you board the Jeanie Johnston, a replica museum ship. At EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, trace the history of how more than 10 million people left Ireland over the centuries and its influence on the world. The evening is yours to explore on your own. (B)

# Day 4: Dublin - Belfast, Northern Ireland

This morning, cross the border into Northern

Ireland and enjoy a visit to Hillsborough Castle and Gardens, Northern Ireland's royal residence. Afterward, it's on to Belfast, a buzzing capital city. Kick it off by meeting up with local foodies for a culinary walking tour, enjoying Belfast's flavours as you explore the city. After checking into your hotel, the rest of the evening is yours to further immerse yourself into Belfast's vibrant scene. (B, L)

### Day 5: Belfast

Start your day with a visit to the Ulster Museum. home to rich collections of art, history, and natural sciences, and located at Belfast's Botanic Gardens, Spend the rest of the day discovering more treasures of this fascinating city on your own. This evening, join your fellow travellers for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

# Day 6: Belfast - Giant's Causeway -Derry - Donegal

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. Next, make your way to Derry, a growing artistic and cultural hub. On a guided walking tour, delve into the complex history of this city once gripped by the conflict known as the Troubles. Later on, arrive in the pretty town of Donegal and gather for dinner tonight. (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 the evening at your leisure. (B)

# Day 8: Donegal - Enniskillen, Northern Ireland

This morning, meet the Lowry family, owners of the Blessingbourne Estate. Get a peek inside the private living quarters of Blessingbourne House and hear how this wonderful property has been passed through generations of the same family, all whilst enjoying their Irish hospitality. Enjoy free time for lunch upon arriving in Enniskillen, a charming island town. This afternoon, visit a local gin distillery on the banks of Lough Erne and discover how this family business has grown into an integral part of the local community. (B, D)

# Day 9: Enniskillen - Sligo, Ireland - Galway

Arrive in Sligo, the place that inspired poet W.B. Yeats. Visit the 13th century abbey and take some time to explore the local shops and eateries. Continue the journey to Galway, a lively city of medieval relics and modern flair. Enjoy meandering Galway's bohemian streets at your leisure, and tonight, dinner is at a local pub. (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 - Cork

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 vibrant city of Cork, with its riverside walks and 18th century food market. (B, D)

### Day 12: Cork

This morning, meet a local guide to explore Cork, Ireland's second city, on a three-hour walking tour followed by free time for lunch. Then, experience an Impact Moment with a visit to Nano Nagle Place. During a guided tour, learn about how this important school empowers people through education, inclusion, and spiritual engagement, and wander the site's walled gardens and award-winning museum. (B)

# Day 13: Cork - Kilkenny

Today, enjoy a lunch at a traditional Irish pub, owned by the same family for 200 years. Listen to stories about the family ancestors, and the social role that pubs play within rural communities. Afterwards, watch a hurling demonstration, a traditional sport of Ireland, with the opportunity to participate yourself! Continue to Kilkenny, one of Ireland's most charming cities. (B, L)

### Day 14: Kilkenny 😯

This morning, **it's your choice!** Enjoy a leisurely day to explore the town



DOUBLE Starting at \$6449 SOLO Starting at \$7999

Pricing is per person, land only

Prices based on March 10, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October – November 2024 March – May 2025 June – November 2025 March – May 2026 (featured itinerary)

(different itinerary – see note\*) (featured itine

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

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

PRE-NIGHT: Dublin (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Lyrath Estate (1-2 NIGHTS)



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 family-owned 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)

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

11 DAYS • 14 MEALS STARTING AT \$5499

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Glasgow - Sheepdog Demonstration -Scottish Highlands • Loch Melfort • Oban • Isle of Mull • Isle of Iona • Urquhart Castle • Moray Firth Cruise • Culloden • Blair Castle - Impact Moment - Whisky Tasting • Edinburgh Castle



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Immerse yourself in the history of Blair Castle.
- · See border collies in action during a traditional sheepdog demonstration at a family-run farm.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 9 Breakfasts (B) - 5 Dinners (D)

· Sip the famous "water of life" at a local whisky tasting.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 Hilton Glasgow, Glasgow Days 4, 5 Loch Melfort Hotel, Arduaine, Oban

Best Western Palace Hotel. Davs 6, 7 Inverness

Days 8 - 10 voco Edinburgh -Haymarket, Edinburgh

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



### **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

### Day 2: Glasgow, Scotland

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 futuristic-looking Science Centre. After lunch on your own in central Glasgow, enjoy some free time to discover the city how you like. (B)

# Day 4: Glasgow - 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 self-guided tour of this well preserved open-air farm township dating back to the 16th century. Continue to Loch Melfort and settle into your hotel for the next two 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 - Isle of Mull - Isle of Iona - Loch Melfort

It's time to island hop! Setting off from Loch Melfort, 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 centres. 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.

### Day 6: Loch Melfort - 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 undulating ruins of 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 7: 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 an afternoon at leisure to explore. (B)

## Day 8: Inverness - Edinburgh

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. Your day ends in Scotland's capital city, Edinburgh. (B)

### Day 9: Edinburgh

This morning, join a local expert for a two-hour walking tour of Edinburgh's hilly Old Town and discover more about the lore and legends of the capital city.

After your tour, visit Edinburgh Castle, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels. Tonight, you may wish to join an optional Scottish cultural show for a night of food, song, and dance. (B)

# Day 10: Edinburgh

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. Or you might take advantage of the optional excursion to Stirling Castle, an iconic landmark in Scotland's history, followed by a brief stop at the Kelpies, the world's largest equine sculptures. Gather in the evening for a whiskyinspired farewell dinner highlighting the flavours of Scotland and toast to your Scottish explorations. (B, D)

**Day 11: Edinburgh - Tour Ends** Wish Scotland a fond farewell as you depart for home. (B)

 Optional 3 Night London **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1690 pp



# Day 11: Edinburgh - London, England -**Extension Begins**

Today, travel by train to experience London, the esteemed capital of the United Kingdom. Often described as a world within a city, London is a sophisticated metropolis with a timeless style all its own.

# Day 12: London

Navigate the city with a local expert. Using your included Oyster card, hop on the famous London Underground the Tube. Take a walking tour around Westminster and see the exteriors of Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, and Buckingham Palace. Your tour ends in Trafalgar Square, one of London's bustling iconic landmarks. Enjoy the afternoon to further explore the city. (B)

### Day 13: London

See London your way today! Your free day gives you the opportunity to see the sites and soak in the city at your leisure.

Day 14: London - Extension Ends Wish London goodbye as your visit ends today. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5499 SOLO Starting at \$6649

Prices based on July 13, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2024 March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) June - October 2025 April - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

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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 on certain dates in August 2025 will receive tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo show.

★ DATES AVAILABLE: JULY - AUGUST 2025

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. 99

- Wendie W.

# **COASTS & COUNTRYSIDES OF ENGLAND**

FEATURING EDINBURGH, **LIVERPOOL & LONDON** 

14 DAYS • 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$6449

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Edinburgh Castle • Lake District • Liverpool • Strawberry Fields • Maritime History Walking Tour • Ferry Across the Mersey - Blenheim Palace - Cotswolds -Bath • Cornwall • Sea Shanty Performance • Cornish Cream Tea • London



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Continue the legacy of Strawberry Fields following the footsteps of John Lennon.
- Travel like a local taking a ferry across the Mersey.
- Enjoy a lively performance by a Cornish Sea Shanty Band.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- · Savour traditional Scottish fare with a modern twist.
- Enjoy a traditional Cornish Cream Tea.



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

 Day 5 — In the Lake District, visit Rydal Mount, home of poet William Wordsworth -OR- embark on a guided hike through valleys and trails.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2, 3 VOCO, Edinburgh

Low Wood Bay Resort and Days 4, 5 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 - 11 The Cornwall Hotel and

Spa, Cornwall

Days 12, 13 Tower Suites Hilton,

London



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

From bustling capitals to poetic countrysides, experience the many distinctive sides of Great Britain. Encounter the history, connect with the locals, and see what life is like in the towns and cities.

### Day 2: Edinburgh, Scotland

Arrive in Scotland, where age-old legends intersect with scenic beauty. In Edinburgh, the country's capital, you can enjoy time on your own to discover this eclectic and vibrant city. 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 two-hour walking tour of the Old Town, passing by Victorian houses and cobblestone streets. Explore the Royal Mile, ending at the top of the hill at Edinburgh Castle, where you'll enjoy exploring 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 towards the scenic Lake District, eternalized through the works of Scott and Wordsworth. Along the way, visit the UNESCO site of Vindolanda and discover the gritty past of Hadrian's Wall. This sixtyminute guided tour of the working archeological site will bring the Roman fortress and garrison

to life. This afternoon stop for a quick break at England's most famous service station, Tebay. Enjoy a relaxing evening 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 vour 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 two-hour guided hike through glacial valleys and along lakeside trails. (B)

# Day 6: Lake Windermere - Liverpool

Head to Liverpool, England's popular port city. You will visit Strawberry Fields, 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 Fields to give young people with learning difficulties the opportunity for work experience. This afternoon, join a local expert and embark on a two-hour walking tour of Albert Dock and learn about Liverpool's rich industrial history and connection to the American Civil War, as well as exploring Merseyside's maritime past. (B)





### **Day 7: Liverpool - Cotswolds**

This morning take a ferry across the Mersey. This public commuter ferry gives you the most spectacular views of the iconic city scape. Continue your journey by motor coach to Shrewsbury, the birthplace of Charles Darwin. Set amidst the glorious Shropshire countryside close to the Welsh border, Shrewsbury is one of England's finest medieval market towns. Take time to meander the streets or walk along the river and have lunch. Tonight settle into an 18th-century modern boutique hotel, in the heart of a charming Cotswolds town. (B, D)

### **Day 8: Cotswolds**

This morning visit Blenheim Palace. Over 300 years old, this World Heritage site was the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill and still remains his ancestral home. This afternoon spend time in Stow. At nearly 800 feet, Stow is the highest of the Cotswolds towns. The impressive Market Square testifies to the town's former importance. It is surrounded by town houses, independent shops, antique centres, cozy cafes, and inns all built in the mellow local stone. (B, L)

# 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 journey will continue to Poldark's Cornwall. Tonight, after dinner, join your fellow travellers for an evening of song and discovery with a local Sea Shanty Band. (B, D)

# Day 10: Cornwall

Today will be a full day tour of Cornwall's dramatic north coast. With a combination of walking and travelling by motor coach, 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 on foot and a visit to a typical Cornish town. (B, D)

### 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 on foot 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 walking tour with a local expert. Take in the exterior of London's iconic sites on foot, such as Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, and Buckingham Palace. The rest of the evening 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 on 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 at a local restaurant 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)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6449 SOLO Starting at \$8399

Prices based on October 15, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2024 March - May 2025

(different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2025 March - May 2026

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 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)

#### **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 4-5: Low Wood Bay Resort & Spa

During your stay at the Low Wood Bay Resort and Spa, you may choose to enjoy views of Lake Windermere by upgrading your accommodations to a Lake Front Room.

Please inquire about upgrade at time of booking

# ALSO AVAILABLE



### Coasts & Countrysides of England featuring The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Travellers arriving in Edinburgh on certain dates in August 2025 will receive tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo show.

★ DATES AVAILABLE: AUGUST 2025

# **EXPLORING IBERIA:**

# SOUTHERN SPAIN TO **COASTAL PORTUGAL**

13 DAYS • 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$5249

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Málaga • White Villages of Andalusia • The Alhambra - Ronda - Cordoba -La Mezquita • Home-Hosted Meal • Seville Cathedral . Estremoz . Portuguese Riviera • Lisbon • Sintra • Quinta da Regaleira



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- · Experience Ronda, one of Spain's loveliest and most historic towns.
- Venture to a bull ranch to learn about the animals' care and life on the farm.
- Visit a family-owned olive grove and taste the award-winning local product.



# **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.



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

- Day 3 Venture into the Alcazaba and get to know the fortified palace -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



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 5 NH Hotel, Malaga Days 6, 7 H10 Palacio Colomera,

Cordoba H10 Casa de la Plata, Days 8, 9 Seville

Days 10 - 12 Vila Gale Collection Palácio Dos Arcos, Oeiras, Portuguese Riviera, Lisbon

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

Enjoy a true taste of the Iberian Peninsula. Your tour begins with an overnight flight.

## Day 2: Málaga, Spain

Welcome to Málaga, a city known for its Andalusian lifestyle and the birthplace of artist Pablo Picasso. This evening, join your fellow travellers 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 religious brotherhoods to the local culture. Then, stop at a local bodega bar to sample some tapas. Then it's your choice! Venture into the Alcazaba and get to know the fortified palace -OR- enter the Picasso Museum, where you'll see paintings by this iconic artist who called Málaga his first home. (B, D)

# Day 4: Málaga - Granada - Málaga

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, 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 Nerja 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 on the oftendebated topic of bullfighting in this city rich with the history surrounding these contests. Complete your tour of Ronda and be welcomed into a

local's home for a home-hosted lunch. Arrive in Cordoba and end your day with a walk as sunset arrives. (B, L)

# 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. End your afternoon with a visit to a family-run bull ranch to see life on the farm and learn about the care of these animals. (B, D)

# Day 8: Cordoba - Seville

Your taste of the local culture continues today. Head to an award-winning olive grove and learn about this family-owned business. Try their unique olive oil during lunch before departing for 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**

Olá Lisboa! It's time to get to know Europe's second oldest capital city, Start in Belém, 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 and enjoy the rest of the day 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 facade 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)

# Optional 3 Night Madrid **Pre-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1820 pp



Day 1: Overnight Flight

Your tour begins with an overnight flight to Madrid.

### Day 2: Madrid, Spain

Welcome to Madrid, Spain's lively capital and largest city. Meet your local guide to get oriented with the area surrounding your hotel and get the best tips to begin exploring the city. Later, gather with your fellow travellers and enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)

# Day 3: Madrid

Start the day exploring the city like a true local - by Metro. During the walking tour of Madrid's historic centre, see iconic sites such as Plaza Mayor, where events have been held since the 17th century. Later, visit Madrid's Royal Palace, which was built in the 18th century by the order of Philip V on the site of the old Alcázar fortress, a former Moorish castle, and is still the official residence of the Spanish royal family. Then,

you are free to explore the city on your own using your metro card. Tonight, you might choose to experience Madrid with a walk in Puerta del Sol followed by dinner with traditional entertainment at a local restaurant. (B)

# Day 4: Madrid

This morning, get to know a different side of Madrid among the city's universities. Ascend the 92-meter-high Faro de Moncloa, and along the way you may have the opportunity to talk to a student! After getting to know this area and some of the museums nearby, such as the America Museum, it's time to get back on the Metro and take a short walk to the Temple of Debod. The temple was donated to Spain by Egypt and dates back to the 2nd century BC. The rest of the day is yours to explore this magnificent city, discovering Madrid's elegant boulevards and rich culture. (B)

#### Day 5: Madrid - Málaga

Board your train to Málaga where you will join your fellow travellers for your main tour. (B)

# **FLAVOURS OF PORTUGAL** & SPAIN

**FEATURING THE DOURO AND RIOJA WINE REGIONS** 

16 DAYS • 23 MEALS STARTING AT \$6399

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Lisbon • Tomar • Porto • Port Wine Tastings • Douro River Valley • Douro River Cruise • Salamanca • La Rioja • Pamplona • Bullfighter's Home Experience - San Sebastián -Bilbao • Guggenheim Museum



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Call a picturesque quinta estate in the Douro River Valley your home for 2 nights.
- Immerse yourself in the lively, vibrant city of Salamanca.
- · Visit a bullfighter's family home in Pamplona and learn about this iconic Iberian tradition.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 14 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 6 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.



# **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

Day 14 - See a different side of Spain on the coastline of Basque Country during a visit to 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 vou choose.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 - 4	Turim Boulevard Hotel, Lisbon
Days 5, 6	Turim Oporto Hotel, Porto
Days 7, 8	Vila Galé Douro Vineyards,

**Douro River Valley** NH Collection Palacio de Days 9, 10 Castellanos, Salamanca

Eurostars Fuerte Ruavieja, Days 11, 12 La Rioja

Days 13 - 15 NH Collection Aránzazu, San Sebastian

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## **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

Arrive in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal. Perched on seven hills, Lisbon glistens like a treasure 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

Good morning, Lisboa! Start your day with a walk to the public funicular to hop on and ride to the upper side of the downtown area. Meander through historic neighbourhoods, hearing stories that bring the city - and its colourful neighbourhoods - to life. Walk to the Chiado neighbourhood, embracing its bohemian vibe en route to a local cafe and a tasting of typical Portuguese foods with a light *petiscos* lunch. After, your journey takes you to the best view of Praca do Comercio in downtown Lisbon, one of the biggest squares in Europe. This gorgeous square boasts colourful artwork and sculptures. Enjoy time to explore on your own and return to the hotel by subway. Tonight, you may choose to join an optional tour to listen to local artists perform traditional fado music, a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage highlight. (B, L)

### Day 4: Lisbon

Explore the city today at your own pace. With plenty of free time, you may wish to check out Lisbon's famed culinary scene or venture downtown to do some shopping. Or you may also choose an optional excursion to explore the beach town of Ericeira and then Sintra with its enchanting palaces and villas. This evening, dinner is accompanied by an Impact Moment as you learn how the restaurant supports people experiencing homelessness through catering training. (B, D)

### Day 5: Lisbon - Tomar - Porto

Depart Portugal's capital city and head to Tomar, home to some of the country's historical jewels, including the Templar Castle and Convent of Christ (UNESCO). Explore the octagonal Templar's rotunda and imagine the day-to-day life of a warrior monk. Next stop: Porto! Take in the landscape of wild pine trees as you leave Tomar and embark on a two-and-a-half-hour drive to Portugal's second largest city. (B, D)

### Day 6: Porto

Today, an extensive walking tour of Porto reveals its many charms. See the São Bento railway station, which opened in 1916 and is one of Portugal's most striking architectural gems. Visit the Bolsa Palace (UNESCO) - known as the Stock Exchange Palace - a 19th-century neoclassical masterpiece, and finish your morning crossing the river to Vila Nova de Gaia for a visit and a taste of the port wine production scene. Enjoy



free time for lunch on your own. This evening you may want to join in an optional experience and feel like a local in their cozy, inviting home to savour a homemade meal. (B)

# Day 7: Porto - Douro Valley

Today, say tchau to Porto and set out for the Douro wine region. Visiting the Douro combines natural beauty, cultural and historical richness, and of course, the region's famed gastronomy, On the way, visit one of the most famous wineries in Portugal for a tasting of its wines and a visit their stunning baroque palace. This afternoon, embark on a relaxing boat trip along the Douro River and sail past the stunning landscapes, vineyard slopes, and famous terraces. Then settle into your home for the next two nights at a winery hotel in the heart of the Douro River Valley. Later, enjoy a dinner of traditional Portuguese cuisine paired with delicious local wine. (B, D)

### Day 8: Douro

Spend a relaxed morning enjoying the grounds of the winery. Then, roll up your sleeves for a cooking class – and of course, dine on your creations: a light lunch of *petiscos*, or Portuguese *tapas*. After, visit the Douro Museum to learn about the history, culture, and flavours found in the Douro wine region. Return to your hotel and enjoy the end of the day on your own. (B, L)

# Day 9: Douro - Salamanca, Spain

Depart the Douro wine region and cross the border into Spain! Head to an olive grove and learn about this family-owned business. Try their unique olive oil during a light lunch before departing for Salamanca. End your day with an orientation walk to help you find your preferred spot for dinner on your own. (B, L)

# Day 10: Salamanca

In Salamanca, feel like you've stepped

back in time during a walking tour with your local guide and learn more about this ancient city. Visit the Cathedral of Salamanca, which is in fact two churches joined together from the 12th-13th centuries and 16th century. Imagine the life of a student from medieval times to present as you stroll around the oldest university in Spain, the University of Salamanca. Afterward, the rest of the day is yours to explore Salamanca at your own pace. 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. (B, D)

# Day 12: La Rioja - Pamplona -La Rioja

Today, it's off to Pamplona, 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 traditionally - with light tapas and drinks - truly welcoming you into their world for a little while. During your visit, learn firsthand about bullfighting traditions and controversies, and enjoy the chance to ask your 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 avant-garde design. Taste some of the wines and walk the vineyards before heading back to your hotel. (B)

# Day 13: La Rioja - Bilbao - San Sebastián

Head to Bilbao and take a walking tour of its old town where you can find historic old churches, festive markets, and quintessential Spanish squares. Then visit the world-renowned Guggenheim Museum, set along the Nervion River and hailed as an icon of architectural culture with its contemporary design. See some of the modern art housed inside its





### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



fascinating walls. Enjoy some free time before continuing to San Sebastián. (B)

### Day 14: San Sebastián 😯

Are your shoes made for walking? Today, set off for an extensive walking tour of San Sebastián, 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. Then 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 Sebastián to relax or further explore on your own! (B)

### Day 15: San Sebastián

The day is yours to explore! San Sebastián is a great spot for shoppers and foodies alike, and there is plenty to see and do in this coastal city. Or perhaps you will join an optional day trip and say bonjour to France, exploring the medieval charm of Bayonne and the eclectic summer village of Biarritz. Tonight, toast to a wonderful trip with your fellow travellers during a farewell dinner featuring savoury Spanish flavours. (B, D)

## Day 16: San Sebastián - 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)

# **NEW TOUR**

# **PORTUGAL'S OLD-WORLD CHARMS**

FEATURING DOURO VALLEY, **ALENTEJO & LISBON** 

> 11 DAYS • 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$4499

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Douro Valley - Porto - Amarante -Douro River Cruise • Market Visit and Home-Hosted Lunch - Aveiro - Alenteio Lusitano Stud Farm - Olive Press Experience • Winery Visit • Évora • Lisbon - Belem - Alfama Walking Tour -Fado Performance



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Venture to Alter do Chão, a small village with ties to the Lusitano horse breed.
- Experience a night of fado and learn about this traditional art form.
- Explore an old oil press in Marvão and learn about traditional olive oil production.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

### 9 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Taste the wines of the Alentejo region during a locally sourced dinner at a winery.
- Savour the cuisine of Portugal during a home-hosted lunch full of local flavours.



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

Day 7 - Enjoy more time in the picturesque Portuguese village of Estremoz to visit a local museum -OR- venture farther for a walk along the Serra d'Ossa walkway in Redondo.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Monverde Wine Experience Days 2 - 4 Hotel, Amarante, Douro

Vila Galé Collection Alter Days 5 - 7 Real, Alter do Chão, Alenteio

Turim Boulevard Hotel, Day 8 - 10 Lisbon

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

Ancient castles, historic cityscapes, groves of olive trees, quiet whitewashed villages, delightful cuisine, fragrant wine, and welcoming locals - Portugal awaits with open arms.

### Day 2: Porto, Portugal - Amarante

Arrive in Porto today and continue directly to the starting point of your tour in the Douro Valley. Soon you'll find yourself surrounded by the natural beauty of vineyards in tranquil Amarante - your home for the next three nights. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

### Day 3: Amarante - Douro Valley -**Amarante**

Explore the charming town of Amarante, famous for its sweets, set on the banks of the Rio Tâmega. Walk across the Sao Goncalo bridge, a symbol of the town's heroic defense against Napoleon's troops. Then, travel to Regua and embark on a cruise of the Douro River, taking in the incredible scenery of the Douro Valley. Follow the river along the Port Wine Route, admiring the terraced vineyards (UNESCO) and enjoying lunch onboard. Disembark in Pinhao and travel back to Amarante for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 4: Amarante - Porto - Amarante Set out to explore the local flavours as well

as the captivating city of Porto today. Begin with a stop at a local market to pick up some fresh ingredients alongside your hosts for the day. Explore the local produce, considering how it shapes Portugal's regional identities, traditions, and gastronomy. Next, arrive at your host family's home and join them in preparing a market-fresh lunch together. Then it's on to Porto, where vou'll join a local expert to discover the hilly city on a walking tour. Take in the sights and sounds of the lively Ribeira neighbourhood in the heart of the old town along the riverfront. Return to Amarante for a free evening. (B, L)

### Day 5: Amarante - Aveiro - Alentejo

This morning, say goodbye to the Douro region. On the way to the Alentejo, visit the enchanting city of Aveiro, known for its much-loved egg-yolk desserts as well as its colourful canal boats, traditionally used for harvesting seaweed. Explore Aveiro's rich history and heritage, defined by its canals and coastline. Continue along the rolling hills of Portugal to the village of Alter do Chão for a three-night stay. (B, D)

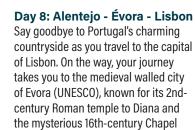
### Day 6: Alter do Chão - Marvão - Alter do Chão

Start the day by exploring your equestrian boutique hotel on a guided tour of the Alter Stud Farm, founded in 1748 and home of the Lusitano purebred horse. Then, venture to the hilly village of Marvão and pause to take in dramatic vistas of the plain - on a clear day, you may see all









of Bones. Arrive in Lisbon in the late

### Day 9: Lisbon

afternoon. (B)

Travel to Belem to see the iconic Belem Tower (UNESCO) and the façade of the 16th-century Jeronimos Monastery (UNESCO). Learn about the importance of this iconic monastery and then continue on for a guided visit to the Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology (MAAT). After some time for lunch on your own, explore the lively Alfama district of Lisbon, where there are many stories and mysteries to be unravelled. Are we all descendants of Ulysses? How many hills can you climb in Lisbon? Uncover the city's hidden corners and dark courtyards with a local expert before returning to your hotel for a free night. (B)

### Day 10: Lisbon

It's your day to experience Lisbon at your own pace. With plenty of free time



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4499 SOLO Starting at \$5649

**ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR** 

Prices based on November 30, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

June 2025 September 2025 - May 2026

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

PRE-NIGHT: Amarante, Douro Valley (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Lisbon (1-2 NIGHTS)



in the capital city, you may wish to check out its famous culinary scene or venture downtown to do some shopping. If you'd prefer a guided experience today, you may choose to join an optional excursion to Ericeira and Sintra. From the windswept cliffs in Ericeira to the quaint palaces and villas of Sintra, you'll hear many fascinating tales. This evening, join your fellow travellers for an unforgettable farewell dinner over Portuguese cuisine and wine, and listen to local artists perform the traditional fado (UNESCO). (B, D)

# **Day 11: Lisbon - Tour Ends**

Your tour ends today. (B)

the way to Spain! Your taste of local culture continues today at an olive grove. Learn about traditional olive oil production as you visit the old olive press and enjoy a tasting of the unique oil with lunch. Return to your hotel for an afternoon at leisure. Later this afternoon, you may choose to join an optional sunset excursion to see the region by horseback on a relaxing trot in the countryside. (B, L)

# Day 7: Alter do Chão -Estremoz - Portalegre - Alter do Chão 😗

Start the day like a true local at the Estremoz city market, an exciting place to be on a Saturday, when the countryside comes to town with baskets full of fruit, vegetables, grains, olive oil, cheeses, olives, and livestock. Peruse the adjacent flea market where browsing can feel like travelling back in time. This afternoon, it's your choice! Enjoy more time in the picturesque Portuguese village of Estremoz to visit a local museum -OR- venture farther for a walk along the Serra d'Ossa walkway in Redondo. End your day by indulging in full-bodied wines from the Alentejo region during a winery tour and tasting. (B, D)



# THE AZORES: **JEWELS OF PORTUGAL**

13 DAYS · 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$4459

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

São Miguel Island - Sete Cidades -Furnas Valley - Home-Hosted Dinner Faial Island - Capelinhos Volcano Interpretation Centre • Terceira Island • Angra do Heroismo • Algar do Carvao • Natural Volcanic Pools • Lisbon



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Explore colourful Horta Marina and its importance to sailors crossing the Atlantic.
- On São Miguel, learn about traditional basket weaving from local artisans.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

11 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 6 Dinners (D)

- Experience a truly unique cozido das furnas lunch in Furnas valley.
- Enjoy a home-hosted meal at a village in the São Miguel Island.



## **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.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Vila Gale Collection São Days 2 - 5 Miguel, Sao Miguel, Azores

Days 6, 7 Hotel do Canal, Faial, Azores

Days 8 - 10 Zenite Boutique Hotel & Spa, Terceira, Azores

Days 11, 12 Bessa Hotel Liberdade,

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



### **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: Ponta Delgada, São Miguel, Acores

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, take a ride up to Sete Cidades caldera's highest point and discover some of Mother Nature's finest work: the twin blue and green lakes that make up this caldera and are explained by local legend: They are apparently the tears of star-crossed lovers, a green-eyed princess and a blue-eyed shepherd. This evening, 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 -OR- embark 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 to the green fields of a nearby tea plantation to 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 São Miguel at your own pace. Perhaps you will take to the waves on an optional ocean excursion to watch for whales and dolphins, followed by a lunch at a local restaurant. Regardless of how you choose to spend your day, gather tonight for a homehosted dinner at a local village. (B, D)

### Day 6: São Miguel - Horta, Faial

Say bom dia (good morning) to Faial with a walking tour of Horta, Its marina and painted murals are a testament to the island's importance to the sailors who have visited the island on voyages crossing the Atlantic. Later, encounter the volcanic vitality of Faial when you take in the surrounding rocky landscape and ash hills with a fascinating visit to the Capelinhos Volcano Interpretation Centre. (B. D)





### Day 7: Faial

The day is yours to enjoy on your own and relax on Faial Island! You may also consider joining an optional tour to Pico to encounter the Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture (UNESCO) and explore this scarcely populated island's scenery, a sublime mixture of lava rock and exotic vegetation, during a walk along Lagoa do Capitao. (B)

# Day 8: Faial - 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 exploring Angra do Heroismo as you wish. (B)

### Day 10: Terceira

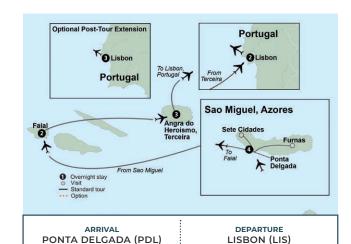
Today, the day is yours to enjoy at your own pace. You may choose to join an optional tour to the western side of Terceira in the morning, sipping coffee at an organic coffee plantation and tasting locally grown bananas along the way and ending at a family-owned cheese factory for a light lunch made up of local products. End the day at a petiscos 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. (B)

# Day 12: Lisbon

Start your morning with a panoramic tour of Belem. See the imposing 16th century Jeronimos Monastery and the



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4459 SOLO Starting at \$5509

Pricing is per person, land only,

LISBON (LIS)

Prices based on March 26, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) June - October 2025 March - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 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: Sao Miguel (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Lisbon (1-2 NIGHTS)

Belem Tower, a fortress built to protect Lisbon and later used as a prison. Join a special tour exploring the grandeur of the Ajuda National Palace, once a royal residence of King Luís I. Then return to downtown Lisbon and enjoy some free time before you gather for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

## Day 13: Lisbon - Tour Ends

Say adeus (goodbye) to Portugal and the Azores as you depart this coastal paradise. (B)

Optional 3-Night Lisbon **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$2080 pp



### Day 13: Lisbon

Extend your time in 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, bite into a typical bifana sandwich at an authentic tasca restaurant and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure to explore on your own.

# Day 14: Lisbon - Mafra - Ericeira - Obidos -

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, a fishing village turned surfing mecca and end in the picture-perfect city of Obidos, where white-washed houses sit snug within medieval city walls. Tonight, you may choose to join an optional tour to listen to local artists perform traditional fado music, a UNESCO intangible cultural heritage highlight. (B)

### Day 15: Lisbon

The day is yours! Take advantage of your day at leisure; maybe stroll along Praca do Comercio, or even make your way up 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 in a small restaurant full of history. (B, D)

## Day 16: Lisbon - Extension Ends

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

# **ESSENCE OF FRANCE**

**PARIS, PROVENCE &** THE FRENCH RIVIERA

12 DAYS • 17 MEALS STARTING AT \$5799

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









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 CONNECTIONS**

- Hunt for truffles with a local chef and his truffle-sniffing dogs.
- · Explore the charming walled medieval village of Saint Paul de
- Learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop.



### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

10 Breakfasts (B) - 3 Lunches (L) - 4 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a typical French lunch in the tearoom of the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild.
- 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.



# **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.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Courtvard Marriott Paris Days 2 - 4 Gare de Lyon, Paris

Grand Hotel Roi René Days 5 - 8 or Boutique Hotel Cezanne, Aix-en-Provence

Days 9 - 11 Hotel Massena, Nice

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

Allons-y! Ignite the senses on a journey to romantic Paris, colourful 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

Arrive in Paris, the brilliant capital of France. A three-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 when 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. (B, L)

### Day 4: Paris

The day is totally yours, so 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 maybe you'll stroll along the grand Champs-Élysées or venture to the Louvre Museum. You may want to experience Paris' nightlife during an optional dinner at the dynamic Paradis Latin cabaret show, featuring champagne, can-can dancers, and endless excitement. (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 four 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 - Aix-en-Provence**

Let a memorable epicurean adventure commence with a truffle hunt led by a local chef and trained, truffle-sniffing dogs. Avant la chasse (before the hunt), visit a goat farm nestled among rich landscapes that inspired van Gogh, Picasso, and Renoir to learn the 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 its 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 -OR- challenge 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's 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 pictureperfect 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 three-night stay in the leading resort town of the Côte d'Azur. This evening taste Mediterraneaninspired French cuisine during dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

# Day 10: Nice - Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat - Villa Rothschild

Head to Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, the crown jewel of the French Riviera, and 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. (B, L)

### Day 11: 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 Saint Paul de Vence, situated atop 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. 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, D)

### Day 12: Nice - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many fond memories of the essence of France. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5799 SOLO Starting at \$7349

Prices based on January 28, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2024 March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) June 2025 - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 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 We most enjoyed the unique experiences that are outside of normal tour experiences, like visits to Goat Farmer, lunch at a Truffle farm and we always like the special surprises/advice the tour guides provide. 99

- Mark S.

# CANALS, **CHAMPAGNE** & CULTURE:

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE NETHERLANDS. **BELGIUM & FRANCE** 

12 DAYS • 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$6599

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Amsterdam • Canal Cruise • Impact Moments - Kinderdijk - Bruges - Reims • Route du Champagne • Paris • Parisian Bakery Workspace • Parfum Workshop Le Marais • Île de la Cité • Seine River Cruise . Eiffel Tower Dinner



### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Connect with local traditions 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



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- Be connected by food during Impact Moments at Amsterdam's A Beautiful Mess and at L'ExtrA restaurant in
- Tour a traditional brewery in Bruges and sample some legendary Belgian
- · Meet local cheese enthusiasts in Meaux and sample their famous Brie.



### **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.



# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1 The Manor, Amsterdam Days 2 - 4 Days 5, 6 Hotel Aragon, Bruges Days 7, 8 Continental Hôtel, Reims Days 9 - 11 Renaissance Paris République Hotel, Paris



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

From iconic Dutch windmills and cozy Belgian streets to the world-renowned Champagne region and the "City of Light," experience the essence of three European countries. Connect with deeply rooted cultures as you make your way through the Netherlands, Belgium, and France.

# Day 2: Amsterdam, Netherlands

Narrow canals, stone bridges, and bike-brimmed lanes - this is Amsterdam, the lively starting point of your journey. Check into your hotel, an impressive historic building with rich history 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. 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 however you wish. (B)

### 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 handpainted blue motives since the 16th century. Try your hand at painting a tile before returning to Amsterdam. Complete your day with an Impact Moment at 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 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 storybook Bruges, your home for the next two nights, and join for an evening stroll in the city. (B, D)

### Day 6: Bruges

Wander the cobblestone streets of Bruges and get familiar with this cozy Belgian city 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 hotel before tasting your way through French cuisines 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 colourful stained glass. Enjoy an extraordinary culinary experience during a lunch and **Impact Moment** at L'ExtrA, an inclusive, ecoresponsible restaurant. This afternoon, 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, L)

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 hands-on 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)

### Day 10: Paris

Start your day alongside your Tour 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. Join a guided walk to discover the city's oldest settlement, Île de la Cité. Sparkling with history, it is home to iconic Notre Dame and the beautiful bridges that straddle the Seine. Enjoy essential Paris views during a cruise on the Seine before continuing to legendary Saint-Germain-des-Prés with free time to explore one of the city's most beautiful areas on your own. End the day with an exclusive



DOUBLE Starting at \$6599 SOLO Starting at \$7749 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on August 9, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars.

### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

March – May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) June – November 2025 March – May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 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:
Amsterdam (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT:
Paris (1-2 NIGHTS)





### **ALSO AVAILABLE**



Canals, Champagne & Culture: A Journey through the Netherlands, Belgium & France featuring the Keukenhof Tulip Gardens

Dutch windmills, cozy streets, bubbling champagne, and the "City of Light" – experience the essence of three European countries and the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens.

★ DATES AVAILABLE: MARCH - APRIL 2026

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)

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

13 DAYS • 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$6399

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 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 CONNECTIONS**

- Inhale fresh alpine air with 3 unique mountaintop experiences.
- · Discover the local flora and fauna during a nature walk with a local alpinist.
- · Visit Barryland, a foundation that protects the heritage of Switzerland's national dog - the St. Bernard.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- Taste the fruits of Italy's Prosecco region, with a vineyard visit and tasting.
- Toast to the end of your scenic journey during a farewell dinner in a Venetian villa.
- · Savour the flavours of Switzerland during a raclette brunch at a dairy



# **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!**

 Day 4 — Ascend the Aiguille du Midi via cable car -OR- take in the views aboard the Tramway du Mont Blanc.



Day 5

# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight Days 2 - 4 La Folie Douce Hotel, Chamonix

Gstaad, Gstaad Sunstar Alpine Hotel, Davs 6, 7

Grindelwald

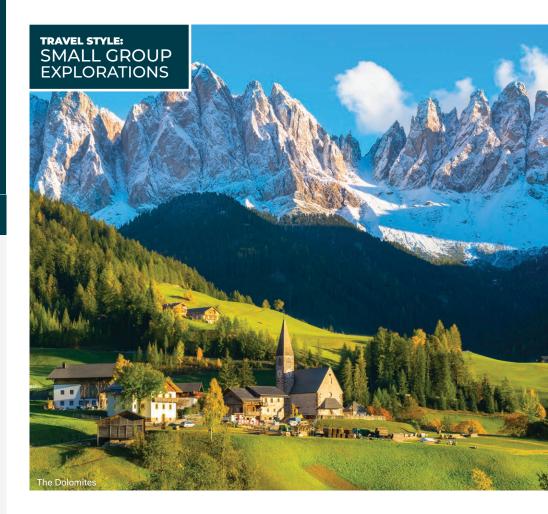
Days 8, 9 Seelos Hotel NIKO, Seefeld

Days 10, 11 Hotel Ander, Brunico Hotel Villa Condulmer, Day 12

Mogliano Veneto, Venice

Golf Hotel Le Hauts de

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



## **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 an invigorating journey through France, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria and Italy.

# Day 2: Chamonix, France

Say bonjour to Chamonix - the perennial skihub nestled at the foot of Mont Blanc. Take the afternoon to wander the pedestrian-friendly streets of this quaint town steeped in hundreds of years of history. Tonight, join with new friends and toast to the beginning of your alpine adventure, (D)

Day 3: Chamonix - Annecy - Chamonix

Journey to one of France's most picturesque cities, Annecy - often called the "Venice of the Alps" due to its storybook charm. Join a local quide on a walking tour through an old medieval town featuring canals, crisscrossing bridges, and pastel coloured 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 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 2,372 meters above sea level. 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, learn all about 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. 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. This evening is at leisure. (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

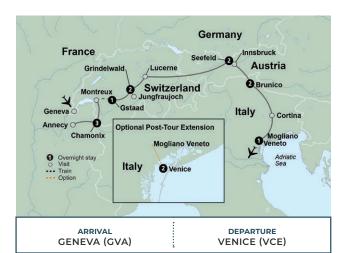
This morning explore the idyllic town of Seefeld in a horse-drawn carriage, pausing to take in the unspoiled beauty of the Tyrolean mountains and forests. Enjoy a free afternoon or elect to cross into Germany on an optional tour of Oberammergau, the world-renowned home of the Passion Play. This Bavarian 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)

### Day 11: Brunico - Dolomites -**Brunico**

Journey into the Dolomites (UNESCO) mountain range and discover natural



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6399 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date. SOLO Starting at \$7549 Prices based on October 10, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** October 2024 June - October 2025 **April - May 2025** April - May 2026 (different itinerary - see note\*) (featured itinerary) \*Itinerary featured is for June - October 2025 and April - May 2026 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.

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)

# Optional 2-Night Venice **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1170 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

Say arrivederci to Italy as your tour comes to a close. (B)

# **OF ITALY**

12 DAYS • 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$4999

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL: SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS







### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Venice - Gondola Ride - Classical Music Concert • Ravenna • Republic of San Marino • Winery Tour & Cooking Class - Florence - Orvieto - Rome -Trastevere Food Tour Dinner



# **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Enjoy a classical music concert of Vivaldi's famous Four Seasons.
- Discover the craftsmanship behind Venetian gondolas during a visit to a local Remèr oar-making workshop.
- Be dazzled by medieval mosaics in Ravenna that gave inspiration to the poetry of Lord Byron and to Cole Porter's romantic song, Night and Day.



# **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- · Participate in a hands-on cooking class dedicated to Romagna's piadina flatbread and tagliatelle pasta.
- Taste traditionally made Parmigiano cheese and balsamic vinegar at a vocational school dedicated to culinary arts and agriculture.
- Experience the flavours of *Trastevere* - Rome's medieval district - during a food tour dinner.



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

- Day 9 In Orvieto, join an expert local guide for an in-depth walking tour of the city -OR- enjoy free time to eat, drink, and dive into the local scene.
- Day 11 In Rome, peruse the collection of antique Greek and Roman statuary of the Palazzo Altemps museum at your own pace -OR- extend your walking tour with a challenging visit to the Castel Sant'Angelo fortress.



### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Maison Venezia UNA Days 2 - 4 Esperienze or Hotel Santa Marina, Venice

Days 5, 6 Borgo Conde Wine Resort, Romagna Countryside, Forli

Days 7, 8 Grand Hotel Cavour, Florence

Days 9 - 11 Ponte Sisto Hotel or UNAHOTELS Trastevere, 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 two-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

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, join a local guide for a walking tour of 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 glass-blowing demonstration, a renowned tradition on the island, Following an afternoon at leisure, delve 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

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, glide along

the canals during a gondola ride. The afternoon is yours to explore more of the floating city. Perhaps you'll head out for your own treasure hunt in search of the city's hidden gems such as the whimsical Scala Contarini del Bovolo or the imposing Arsenal where the Republic of Venice built its merchant fleet and its commercial fortune. fortune. (B)

# Day 5: Venice - Romagna Countryside

Say "ciao" to Venice as you journey towards the Romagna region, famous for its epicurean lifestyle and its joie de vivre. Spend the afternoon 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. In the late afternoon, continue to your hotel nestled among vineyards in the Romagna countryside and settle in for your two-night stay. This evening, be immersed in this bucolic setting during a wine-paired dinner at your wine resort hotel. (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 tour of your resort's own winery, before joining the local chef for a handson cooking class centred on Romagna's typical piadina flatbread, and pasta staples such as handmade tagliatelle. Then, sit back and enjoy the results of your work for dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 7: Romagna Countryside -**Florence**

Today, travel to the Emilia region, Italy's foodie haven. During an Impact **Moment**, meet students and teachers at a vocational high school dedicated to the culinary arts and agriculture. Here, Italy's future chefs and farmers learn how to make Parmigiano Reggiano cheese according to traditional standards, dating back to the 1300s. Students also try their hand at 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 two 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 - Orvieto -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. One of the Etruscans' most important cities was hilltop Orvieto. Here, it's vour choice! Join an expert local guide for an in-depth walking tour of the city -OR- enjoy free time to eat, drink, and dive into the local scene. Arrive in Rome (UNESCO) in the late afternoon and settle in for a three-night stay. (B)

#### Day 10: Rome

This morning, your extensive walking tour winds its way through Rome's medieval district, which developed organically from the ruins of the ancient city. This neighbourhood is a charming combination of narrow cobbled streets, dark tufa stone, and repurposed Roman ruins. Ascend to the panoramic terrace of the Vittoriano with a combination of stairs and elevator to take in one of the city's most impressive views. Gaze upon the vestiges of the Roman Empire, from the Forum to the majestic Colosseum before making the most of a free afternoon in the Eternal City. This evening, explore Rome's dynamic dining scene during a food tour in the bohemian *Trastevere* district. (B, D)

#### Day 11: Rome 😯

Delve into Rome's second Golden Age on a walking tour exploring the city's Renaissance and Baroque heritage, alongside views of the Pantheon and the oval-shaped Navona Square. Then, it's your choice! At your own pace, peruse the remarkable collection of antique Greek and Roman statuary of the Palazzo Altemps museum -OR- extend your walking tour with a challenging visit to



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4999 **SOLO** Starting at \$6199

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

Prices based on December 6, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2024 March - May 2025

June 2025 - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

(different itinerary - see note\*)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 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)

the Castel Sant'Angelo fortress. Standing tall above the river Tiber, this imposing castle sheltered Popes and became the setting for Puccini's beloved Opera, *Tosca*. The afternoon is yours. Perhaps you'll indulge in some shopping along Rome's Cola di Rienzo street or make your way to the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel and Saint Peter's Basilica. Gather tonight to toast the end of your Italian adventure during a farewell dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 12: Rome - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many fond memories of incredible Italy. (B)

#### Optional 2-Night Venice **Pre-Tour Extension** Starting at \$910 pp



Day 1: Overnight Flight Give yourself the luxury of extra time in

Venice, the "Queen of the Adriatic." Start your trip early with a pre-tour extension and make the most of your time in Italy's most romantic city.

#### Day 2: Venice

Arrive in Venice, the floating city home to lavish art collections, wonders of architecture, and where marbled palaces tower over gondola-laden canals. Your hospitality desk representative will be present in the hotel's lobby for two hours this evening, providing you with suggestions for your time at leisure.

#### Day 3: Venice

This morning, join an expert local guide for a walking tour of the 500-year-old Rialto Bridge and San Polo's district. Rialto is the oldest among only four bridges spanning the Grand Canal. Pause at the top, taking in the views of the city's prime waterway, flanked by the ornate facades of Venice's noble palaces. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. 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. (B)

Enjoy a whole day to explore Venice at your leisure. You can meander amongst the historic streets, taking in the city's unique architecture and gondola-laden canals. Perhaps you'll visit the Venetian Ghetto, the oldest Jewish quarter in Europe. 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. This evening, join your fellow travellers arriving for the main tour. (B)

# **TUSCAN** & UMBRIAN **COUNTRYSIDE**

11 DAYS • 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$4599

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Rome - Spoleto - Olive Oil Mill - Assisi -Home-Hosted Lunch • Truffle Hunting • Pecorino Cheese Farm • Pienza • Orcia Valley - Pasta Factory Visit - Bagno Vignoni • Brunello Wine Tasting • Siena - Florence - San Gimignano



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Hunt for truffles with a local expert and his truffle-sniffing dogs.
- Behold the unique water-filled piazza in the village of Bagno Vignoni.
- Enjoy 3 nights in a restored Tuscan



#### **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**

Overnight Flight Day 1 Day 2 Kolbe Hotel, 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.



#### **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 Umbrian hill town of Spoleto. Stroll the historic streets with a local expert and see centuries of architectural history, from the ruins of the Rocca Albornoz castle to the gilded elegance of the Duomo of Santa Maria Assunta. Pause at a family-owned 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 EVOO produced at the mill. 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

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

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

#### Day 5: Umbria

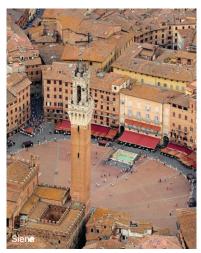
In the shadow of the Apennines, experience Umbria's epicurean side. Join a local truffle hunter in search of the elusive fungi in the company of his trained, truffle-sniffing dogs. Sample the goods yourself during a rustic, home-cooked lunch before returning to your hotel in the late afternoon, (B, L)

#### 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 dairy farm producing prized sheep-milk pecorino cheese. 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. The evening is yours to eat. drink, and explore the local scene. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Pienza

Embark on a culinary journey through the undulating landscape of the Orcia Valley. Begin your day with a visit to an artisanal pasta factory, producing the local specialty - pici - with its organically-grown wheat. Pause in 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 Signoria Square and its imposing Palazzo Vecchio, where, for over 300 vears, 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**

Spend your morning in San Gimignano, whose 13th-century medieval towers stand tall over the surrounding vineyards. Nicknamed "the Manhattan of the Middle Ages," San Gimignano's towers soar over the landscape making its distinctive skyline stand out against the rolling hills. Taste authentic Italian gelato from an award-winning ice cream parlour while you wander the cobbled

#### Optional 2 Night Rome **Pre-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1300 pp



#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

You are on your way to the eternal city of Rome.

#### Day 2: Rome, Italy

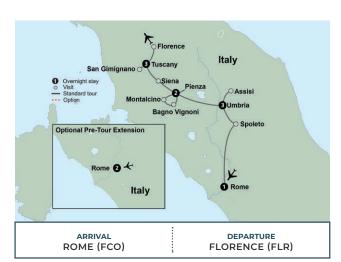
Arrive in Rome, enjoy time to get settled into your hotel and acquaint yourself with the area on your own. Perhaps you'll explore the nearby neighbourhood of Trastevere, Rome's medieval heart.

#### Day 3: Rome

Delve into Rome's classical heritage during a walking tour of the Colosseum and Roman Forum in company of an expert guide. Make the most of a free afternoon in Italy's capital city before tasting your way through Rome's beloved Monti district during an evening tour of its favourite pizza parlours. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Rome

Start your morning with a stroll in Rome's Renaissance and Baroque gems. Meander through Rome's streets all the way to the top of the Spanish Steps for a view over the rooftops and pause to toss a good luck coin into the Trevi Fountain. Conclude your extensive walking tour in the oval-shaped Piazza Navona before enjoying an afternoon at leisure. In the early evening, meet with your fellow travellers to start off your exploration of the Tuscan and Umbrian countryside. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4599 SOLO Starting at \$5349

Prices based on March 21, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2024 March - May 2025

(different itinerary - see note\*)

June - November 2025 March - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 tour departures. Departures prior to this

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

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

date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

PRE-NIGHT: Rome (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Siena (1-2 NIGHTS)



66 Being a new traveller, I enjoyed having each day mapped out. I trusted that our guide would show us the must-sees and that is exactly what happened. It was wonderful. 99

streets and gaze up at the imposing towers during time at leisure in this Tuscan gem. Return to your hotel mid-afternoon. As the sun begins to set, gather with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner of Tuscan specialties. (B, D)

#### **Day 11: Chianti Region - Tour Ends**

Your journey through Tuscany and Umbria comes to a close today in your restored Tuscan villa. (B)

# **ITALY'S TREASURES**

ART, FOOD & WINE OF ITALY

12 DAYS • 18 MEALS STARTING AT \$5149

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Italian Lakes Region - Stresa - Wine Tasting • Impact Moment • Italian Riviera - Portofino - Cinque Terre -Carrara Marble Quarries Off-Road Excursion • Tuscan Countryside • Italian Cooking Class - San Gimignano -Siena • Florence • Bologna • Venice



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Get a glimpse into life on a small, family-run Alpine farm while being hosted by the owner.
- · Discover the cultural landscape of traditional terraced olive groves in Cinque Terre, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Go off-roading in the famous marble quarries of Carrara and visit the old town, exploring how the precious stone shaped this region.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

10 Breakfasts (B) - 2 Lunches (L) - 6 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**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Regina Palace Hotel, Stresa Days 2, 3 ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE See next page for details.

Grand Hotel Torre Fara, Days 4, 5 Chiavari, Italian Riviera

Days 6 - 9 Villa Lecchi, Tuscany

Davs 10, 11 Hotel Ca' dei Conti, Venice

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### **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

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 quide you into the Borromeo Palace, a lakeside Baroque beauty adorned with an exotic garden. As the day draws

to a close, visit a family-run wine shop and enjoy a cocktail party with some antipasto snacks. (B, L)

#### Day 4: Stresa - Portofino - Italian Riviera

Journey to the Italian Riviera and discover its immeasurable grandeur along the Liguria coast. Spend some free time in the famous village of Portofino, known for its picturesque harbour and vibrant colours, and as a glamorous getaway spot and retreat for the jet set. (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. (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 - 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 8: Tuscany - San **Gimignano - Tuscany**

This morning, 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 parlor while you wander the cobbled streets and gaze up at the imposing towers during time at leisure in this Tuscan gem. Later, journey into the heart of the Chianti countryside, where a family-owned villa welcomes you. After a tour of the house and grounds, engage in a hands-on cooking lesson. Break bread during an authentic Tuscan dinner and toast to your host with local Chianti wine. (B, D)

#### Day 9: 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 centred around the colourful Palio horse race. Retreat to your Tuscan villa for a relaxing afternoon. (B, D)

#### 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 two-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 gondolaladen 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)

#### Optional 2-Night Venice **Post-Tour Extension** Starting at \$780 pp



#### Day 12: Venice

Continue your exploration of Italy with a two-night stay in Venice. From your centrally located hotel, start an in-depth visit of the vibrant centre of this city with your local guide. The afternoon and evening are yours to enjoy independently.

#### Day 13: Venice

Enjoy a full day to explore Venice at your leisure. You can meander through the historic streets, taking in the city's unique architecture and gondola-filled canals. Maybe you'll decide to sample the local cuisine at a typical bacaro (a small wine bar), where locals stop for a glass of wine - traditionally called ombra - and small bites, which 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 14: Venice

Say arrivederci to Venice as your extension comes to an end today. You may arrange for your transfer to the airport through the hotel. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5149 SOLO Starting at \$5899

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

Prices based on March 9, 2026 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2024 March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) June - October 2025 March - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June - October 2025 and March - May 2026 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: 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 upgrade at time of booking.

66 The small quaint farm and vineyard visits and the cooking class were special and beautiful. 99

- Steven B.

# **ITALY: AMALFI COAST TO PUGLIA**

14 DAYS • 19 MEALS STARTING AT \$5749

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Naples - Pompeii - Wine Tasting - Minori • Amalfi • Positano • Ravello • Matera • Lecce - Tarantella Folk Music & Dance Performance - Ostuni - Ape Calessino Tour - Alberobello



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- · 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.



#### **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.



#### **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2, 3 Royal Continental Hotel, Naples

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

or Hotel La Suite, Matera

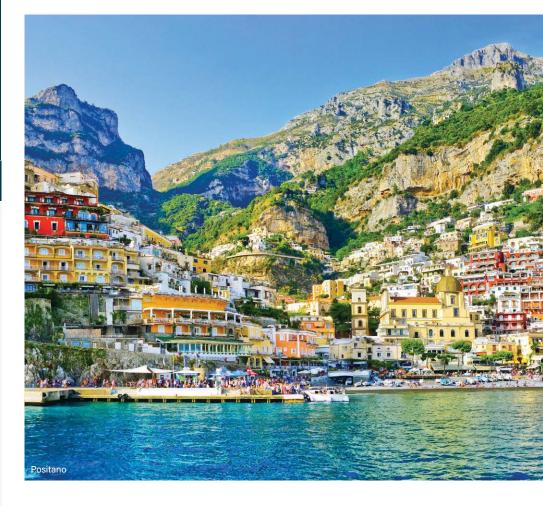
Days 4 - 7 Hotel Villa Romana,

Minori, Amalfi Coast Days 8, 9 Locanda di San Martino Hotel

Days 10, 11 Santa Chiara Suite Hotel or Risorgimento Resort, Leece

Days 12, 13 Trulli Holiday Albergo Diffuso, Alberobello, Puglia

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

In a country of renowned cuisine, iconic coastlines, and ancient roots, 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

Arrive 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 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. 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: Minori - 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 of Maiori. Explore on your own before returning by boat. The remainder of the day is yours. (B)

#### Day 6: Minori - 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 hub, containing cobblestone piazzas and towering 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: Minori - 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, halfexcavated 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 - Otranto - Lecce

Today enjoy an excursion to the picturesque village of Otranto and enjoy its characteristic winding lanes and hidden cafes. Take your time for a relaxing lunch along the sea and enjoy your time at leisure in one of the pearls of Salento. 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 in Ostuni before continuing to Alberobello, (UNESCO), a whimsical city known for its trulli, stone huts with cone-shaped roofs. Meander with your guide through a labyrinth of these gnomish houses, some adorned with symbols carrying religious or astrological meanings. Make your way to your personal room in one of these peculiar houses that will be your home for the next two nights. (B)

#### Optional 2-Night Naples **Pre-Tour Extension** Starting at \$1170 pp



#### Day 1: Overnight Flight

Give yourself the luxury of extra time in Naples by starting your trip early with a pre-tour extension.

#### Day 2: Amalfi Coast - Naples, Italy

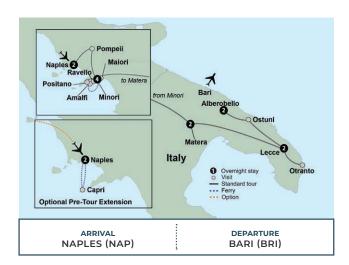
Welcome to Naples. Your hospitality desk representative will be present in the hotel's lobby, providing you with suggestions for your time at leisure. After checking in to your hotel in the mid-afternoon, explore the neighbourhood, perhaps in quest for Naples most iconic food: pizza!

#### Day 3: Naples - Isle of Capri - Naples

Today, sail to the enchanting Isle of Capri aboard a high speed ferry. Upon arrival, admire the island's iconic scenery and famous Faraglioni rocks, jutting out of the water. Enjoy free time to explore this island paradise of chic boutiques, lush vegetation, and outdoor cafés. Return to Naples in the late afternoon for an evening at leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: Naples

This morning, join an expert guide for a walking tour of Naples' lively Pignasecca market. Taste your way around the old town, exploring the city's' exciting street food scene. Wind your way through this maze-like section of town and discover its ebullient atmosphere. The afternoon is yours to explore more of Naples on your own. Perhaps you will visit the Capodimonte Museum or stroll along the Chiaia waterfront and take in views of the Castel dell'Ovo castle, picturesquely perched by the water. (B)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5749 SOLO Starting at \$6799 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on November 7, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2024 March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June - December 2025 March - May 2026

(featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 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: Royal Continental Hotel

For your 2-night stay in Naples you may choose to upgrade your room at the Royal Continental Hotel to a frontal sea-view room. Wake up to admire the sparkling waters of the Bay of Naples

Please inquire about upgrade at time of booking.

#### Day 13: Alberobello

Today, take a tour of an olive oil mill and taste a variety of extra virgin olive oils. Back in Alberobello, enjoy free time to further explore the city on your own. As the day draws to a close, gather to 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)

# **SICILY AND ITS ISLES**

14 DAYS • 20 MEALS STARTING AT \$5199

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Palermo • Monreale • Cooking Class and Wine-Pairing Lunch • Marsala • Stagnone Salt Pans & Lagoon Sailing • Impact Moment • Olive Oil Farm • Agrigento • Valley of the Temples . Cefalù . Isle of Salina - Caper Farm - Taormina -Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Delve into the belly of Palermo on a walking food tour of the lively markets.
- · Soak up the relaxed ambiance of the Aeolian Islands (UNESCO) with a 2-night stay on the Isle of Salina.
- Ascend the sides of Mount Etna (UNESCO) in off-road vehicles.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- Meet a winemaker and engage in a hands-on cooking class in the countryside.
- Savour salty capers and sweet Malvasia wine at a local producer on Salina Island
- During an Impact Moment, visit an olive grove for a taste of their sustainably produced oil and learn how their ethical production methods help combat the Mafia.



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

Day 3 — Explore the cloisters of Monreale's cathedral, enjoying the serene atmosphere -OR- ascend the southern tower to the panoramic terraces for a bird's-eye view over Palermo.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Days 2, 3 Hotel Porta Felice or Quintocanto Hotel, Palermo

Days 4 - 6 Hotel Stella D'Italia or Grand Hotel Palace, Marsala, Sicily

Day 7 Baia di Ulisse Hotel, Agrigento ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE See next page for details.

Mangia's Pollina Resort, Days 8, 9 Cefalu

Days 10, 11 Hotel La Salina Borgo Di Mare, Salina

Days 12, 13 Excelsior Palace Hotel, **Taormina** 

Make your way to Alcamo, a hilltop town deeply



#### **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 vou know and see how this coastal farmland balances ancient traditions and modern comforts.

#### Day 2: Palermo, Italy

Arrive 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. Palermo's culinary heritage layers Arab 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 - Marsala

nestled in Sicily's largest wine-producing region. Venture off the beaten path and meet a local winemaker. Learn about the local types of grapes and production techniques, before joining a hands-on cooking class. Share the meal you prepared for lunch, paired with the farm's own wines. Late this afternoon, settle into your hotel in coastal Marsala for a three-night stay, Perhaps you'll take a sunset walk along the waterfront before heading out for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Marsala

Discover the ancient craft of sea-salt harvesting during a guided visit to the salt pans of the Stagnone Lagoon, once at the confluence of Phoenician, Greek and Roman civilizations. Hop on a local boat and take in the views of the lagoon and surrounding, low-laying islands before returning to Marsala for an afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 6: Marsala

The day is yours to explore Marsala as you please. Perhaps you'll visit one of the city's numerous wineries, noted for producing the eponymous fortified wine. Or, you may join a full day optional excursion to Favignana. A short waterjet ride from Sicily's mainland, Favignana island is part of the Egadi archipelago. Once famous for its tuna fish production, this small island boasts crystal clear waters and enchanting gardens. (B)

#### Day 7: Marsala - Agrigento

This morning, experience an Impact Moment





when you visit an olive oil maker who uses ethical farming methods to produce EV00. Hear this local man's story, his dedication to sustainable farming, and how he stands up against the rules that the Mafia tries to impose on local farmers. Explore the olive groves on foot and pause for a rustic picnic-style lunch before continuing to Agrigento's seaside. Settle in for a one-night stay and dinner at your hotel. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Agrigento - Cefalù Coast

In the company of an expert guide, wander through the imposing Greek ruins of Agrigento's Valley of the Temples (UNESCO). Discover the myths enshrouding the foundation of ancient Akragas, and watch history come alive. Then, relax aboard your motorcoach during a full afternoon transfer to Sicily's northern coast. As the sun sets, acquaint yourself with the extensive grounds of your cliffside resort. (B, D)

#### Day 9: Cefalù Coast

Today, set off for the seaside town of Cefalù on Sicily's northern coast. Stroll the medieval streets and enjoy ample free time to explore on your own. Perhaps you'll peek into the city's impressive cathedral showcasing

Norman architecture, or take in Sicilian medieval art at the Mandralisca museum. Return to your coastal resort midafternoon. You will have time to venture down to the resort's private beach and dip your feet in the Mediterranean, if you choose. (B, D)

#### Day 10: Cefalù Coast - Ferry to **Aeolian Islands - Isle of Salina**

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 lesstraveled Aeolian Islands, preserved as a vacation getaway for Italians. Start your 2-night stay and slow your rhythm to the gentle pace of this small island. (B)

#### Day 11: Salina

Dramatic landscapes of rocky cliffs and vibrant vineyards pass you 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 find a café by the sea and soak in the local life while sampling their every flavour of granita ice-slush. (B)

#### Day 12: Salina - Ferry to Sicily -**Taormina**

Early this morning, ferry back to mainland Sicilia. Journey along the Ionian Coast to Taormina, a seaside hub of ancient Greek theaters and hilly walkways. Discover its well-preserved Greek theatre in company of a local guide. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent sea. Spend the evening 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)



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5199 SOLO Starting at \$5949 Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.

Prices based on July 17, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October 2024 **April - May 2025** (different itinerary - see note\*) June - October 2025 April - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June 2025 - May 2026 tour departures. Departures prior to this date may vary. Please confirm at time of reservation.

See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

**PRE-NIGHT:** Palermo (1-2 NIGHTS)







## **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



#### Day 7: Baia di Ulisse Hotel, Agrigento

During your stay at the Baia di Ulisse Hotel in Agrigento, you can choose to upgrade to a frontal Sea View room, for breathtaking views of Le Dune seaside.

Please inquire about upgrade at time of booking.

#### **NEW TOUR**

# **OLD WORLD SICILY & MALTA**

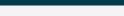
12 DAYS • 15 MEALS STARTING AT \$4699

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Malta - Grand Harbour Cruise -Valletta - Impact Moment - Ferry to Sicily

- Aromatic Herb Farm Tour Ragusa-Ibla
- Siracusa Taormina's Greek Theatre -Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- 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.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

10 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 4 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."
- · Visit a family-owned organic herb farm and enjoy a lunch flavoured with delicious aromatic plants.



#### **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 - 5 Land's End Boutique Hotel, Tas-Sliema **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE** See next page for details.

Days 6 - 8 Hotel Villa Carlotta or San Giorgio Palace Hotel, Ragusa

Days 9 - 11 Excelsior Palace Hotel, **Taormina** 

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### **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 leas 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 Dahaisa 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 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 day 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. As in most of Italy, breakfast in Sicily is a simple but tasty affair, traditionally consisting of a pastry and cappuccino. Continue your culinary exploration of the Sicilian countryside with a visit to a family-owned herb farm to learn about their production of organic aromatic plants. Then, during lunch, enjoy dishes enlivened with herbs grown on the farm. A delightful way to experience the region's unique and delicious flavours. 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 neighborhood 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 featuring fresh ricotta at a countryside restaurant before venturing to an Aztec chocolate shop for some sweet samples. (B)

#### 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 free afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs.

#### 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)



MALTA (MLA)

CATANIA (CTA)

**DOUBLE** Starting at \$4699 SOLO Starting at \$5649

Prices based on November 5, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

October - November 2024 March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*)

June 2025 September - November 2025

March - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for June, September - November 2025 and March - May 2026 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: Malta (1-2 NIGHTS)

POST-NIGHT: Taormina (1-2 NIGHTS)

# **ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE**



Days 2-5: Land's End Boutique, Sliema Enhance your experience with an upgrade to a sea view

Please inquire about upgrade at time of booking.

# **TREASURES OF TURKEY**

FEATURING ISTANBUL. **ANCIENT EPHESUS** & CAPPADOCIA

14 DAYS • 22 MEALS STARTING AT \$5179

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Istanbul • Hagia Sophia • Topkapi Palace • Spice Market • Food Tour • Bosphorus Straight Cruise • Ephesus • Pamukkale Archeological Site - Aegean Coast Boat Ride • Impact Moment • Konya • Cappadocia - Grand Bazaar



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Cruise the Dalyan River to the Aegean Coast.
- Explore the towering rock formations of Cappadocia and underground cities of past civilizations.
- Experience a transcendent Whirling Dervishes ceremony.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) • 5 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- · Taste your way around Istanbul's Golden Horn district and Spice
- Learn family recipes during a handson cooking class at a restaurant in Cappadocia.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Overnight Flight Day 1

Days 2 - 4 Elite World Hotel, Istanbul

Days 5, 6 En Hotel, Izmir Days 7, 8 Arp Hotel, Dalyan Day 9 Bayir Diamond Hotel,

Konya

Days 10 - 12 Vigor Hotel, Cappadocia Day 13 Elite World Hotel, Istanbul

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### **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. From the vast Greek and Roman archeological sites dotting the countryside to the modern cultural hub and historic city of Istanbul, Turkey is a confluence of past, present, and future and its customs. traditions, and values, Born out of the Silk Road trade and its nomadic path, Turkey's heritage is layered like an intricately woven carpet.

#### Day 2: Istanbul, Turkey

Welcome to Istanbul, the bridge between east and west, and a hub of intermingling cultures, complex history, and legendary architecture. Settle into 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

Today, sample some of Istanbul's most iconic sites, which connect Greek-Roman heritage with Ottoman-Islamic Art. First is the 17th-century Blue Mosque with its impressive domes and minarets, followed by Hippodrome, the former sporting and social centre of the Roman Empire. Visit Hagia Sophia (UNESCO), a church-turnedmosque and a true embodiment of Byzantine Architecture, and then Topkapi Palace and Harem, former home to the Ottoman Sultans. While exploring the city's legendary history and architecture, please know that 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 Ottoman-inspired cuisine. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Istanbul

Explore Turkey's culinary heritage as you 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 multiple 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 you'll visit the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art, home to rare artifacts, sculptures, and one of the most important collections of woven carpets in the world, some dating back to the Ottoman Empire. Or, choose to go on an optional excursion to a historic Hammam, where you'll enjoy an authentic Turkish scrub and foam bath. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Istanbul - Izmir

Early this morning, leave the bustle of Istanbul behind and take a flight to Izmir (known as Smyrna in antiquity), Turkey's third most populous city and your home for the next two nights. Enjoy free time this evening to explore the seafront promenade with its shops and restaurants, just a short walk from your centrally located hotel. (B, L)

#### Day 6: 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 of these impressive residential villas. See the imposing 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 and abandoned during the population exchange between Turkey and Greece in 1923. The village today is a rare and protected example of Ottoman Christian architecture, known for its locally produced olive oil, wine, and peaches. Here, 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, return to your hotel for some time to relax, and this evening, sample the cuisine of Izmir with Diner's Choice - choosing from a variety of local restaurants for an included dinner, (B, D)

#### Day 7: Izmir - Pamukkale -**Dalyan**

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, take a guided tour of the archeological site via golf cart and visit the local museum followed by some free time to visit the site's "Cotton Candy" pools. This evening, arrive in the quaint riverbank town of Dalyan and check into your home for the next two nights at a small, family-run bed & breakfast with simple accommodations and a deck overlooking the river. The evening is yours. Perhaps you'll stroll the streets of Dalyan browsing the local shops or find your favourite café and soak in the local life. (B)

#### Day 8: Dalyan

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast this morning before setting off for a relaxing boat trip along the river that connects Dalyan to the Mediterranean Sea. Enjoy the unique environment as you pass through the marshland that is home to birds, fish, and turtles. 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 9: Dalyan - Burdur - Konya

Prepare for a full day of travel, beginning early and following the path of the ancient Silk Road trading route that once led from China all the way to Istanbul. Take some time to explore the downtown of Burdur during a quick lunch stop. Continue on to Konya, arriving in the early evening, where dinner is included at the hotel. (B, L, D)

#### Day 10: Konya - Sultanhani Caravanserai - Cappadocia

Begin the morning in Konya 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. After viewing the soaring vaults of this fortified road stop, 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 and invasions. As you head towards your hotel, take in the ethereal scenery and mesmerizing rock formations created by thousands of years of volcanic activity and erosion. This evening, check in to your home for the next three nights. (B)

#### Day 11: Cappadocia

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 home-cooked burek (a savoury pastry filled with cheese or potatoes), accompanied by tea. This evening, come together for a Whirling Dervishes ceremony. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Cappadocia

Start the day with a countryside walk in Love Valley, famous for its conspicuous rock formations. Follow the winding path among the fairy chimneys and contemplate the otherworldly view. Then, visit a pottery workshop and learn how locals make use of the area's natural resources by extracting clay from the



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$5179 SOLO Starting at \$6329 Pricing is per person, land only, varies by departure date and includes on-tour air

Prices based on August 23, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

November 2024 March - May 2025 (different itinerary - see note\*) June - November 2025 March - May 2026 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for August 2025 - May 2026 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 OR POST-NIGHT: Istanbul (1-2 NIGHTS)



#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSION**



#### **Excursion:** 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.

surrounding soil and developing pottery into an art form. 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 13: Cappadocia - Istanbul

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 14: Istanbul - Tour Ends

Your exploration of Turkey comes to a close today. (B)

#### **NEW TOUR**

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

14 DAYS • 21 MEALS STARTING AT \$6769

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Acropolis Site & Museum - Impact Moment: Shedia Home - Naxos & Lesser Cyclades Day Cruise • Kitron Distillery & Tasting • Knossos Palace • Cooking Class - Pottery Demonstration -Olive Oil & Wine Tasting . Cretan Folk Dancing & Dinner



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Connect with the mission of Shedia Home, a café and artists' workshop in Athens that supports its community.
- Explore the culture and traditions of Naxos, the largest of the Cyclades islands, where families go back generations and one of the few Greek islands full of year-round residents.
- In Archanes, get a local cooking lesson at co-op café preserving traditional Cretan recipes.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 12 Breakfasts (B) • 4 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Sample the local Kitron, a liqueur only produced on the Greek island of Naxos.
- Taste Cretan olive oils and wines at a family-run olive mill and winery.
- Immerse yourself in Greek folk traditions during a Cretan taverna dinner with dancing.



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

Day 12 — In Chania, it's your choice! Visit the Archaeological Museum of Chania and explore its treasures on your own -OR- join a guided tour of Aptera's archaeological site.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Holiday Suites Boutique Days 2 - 4

Hotel, Athens

Days 5 - 7 Galaxy Hotel or

Naxos Resort, Naxos Days 8, 9 Olive Green Hotel, Heraklion

Days 10 - 12 Samaria Hotel, Chania, Crete

Day 13 Holiday Suites, Athens

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

You're on your way to Greece! Get ready to soak in the Mediterranean lifestyle as you explore Greece's beauty, ancient wonders, and lively culture from the capital to the isles.

#### Day 2: Athens, Greece

Arrive in Athens, the capital of Greece and "the cradle of democracy." Settle in as you prepare to be a part of this immortalized city, home to the famous Parthenon and ancient monuments as well as to inviting neighbourhoods where you can explore the heart of Greek culture.

#### Day 3: Athens

Begin your day in Athens on a panoramic tour through the city, taking in the history of Athens' many landmarks. Next, get to know Plaka, the lively neighbourhood at the foot of the Acropolis, brimming with welcoming restaurants and shops. Here, take time to explore and find a spot for lunch on your own, soaking in your surroundings while indulging in delicious Greek cuisine. Later, explore artifacts recovered from the Acropolis archeological site with a guided visit to the Acropolis Museum, Just steps from where ancient relics were recovered, the "new museum" (as the locals still call it) offers incredible views of the Acropolis. Later this evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 4: Athens

Today, get an up-close look at the iconic

Acropolis and its monuments - universal symbols of classical antiquity. Marvel at the ancient history all around as you stroll beside the Parthenon on a guided tour of the incredible archeological complex. Next, experience an Impact Moment during a stop at a communityminded café and workshop. This café with a mission shines a light on stories of people from the community who have overcome homelessness through work and support of the unique art made onsite. After a light lunch at the café, the rest of the afternoon and evening are yours to explore more of Athens independently. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Athens - Naxos

Get an early start today to set out for the island of Naxos! The journey begins by boarding the ferry with your luggage in hand. Once you've set your luggage down, settle in for views of the sea as the ferry stops at islands along the way. Arrive in Naxos, the prosperous, self-sustaining island and the largest of the Cyclades in the Aegean Sea. After getting off the ferry, your first stop is to see the island's emblem, the giant marble gate at the unfinished Temple of Apollo - Portara. Take free time for lunch on your own before settling in at your hotel. Tonight, gather for dinner at a nearby restaurant in the Chora (Naxos Town), (B, D)

## Day 6: Naxos - Lesser Cyclades - Naxos

This morning, board a sailboat for a full-day cruise to take in the beauty of Naxos and the



nearby Lesser Cyclades islands of Koufonisia. After sailing along the eastern shore of Naxos, step off the boat onto the island of Kato Koufonisi with some time to explore. Enjoy a Greek barbeque lunch with local wines as well as the chance to take a dip in the Aegean Sea's turquoise waters. Next, sail to Ano Koufonisi and take time to stroll along the island's beautiful beaches and visit the small village. Sail on, back towards Naxos to Rina Cave, where you may wish to dive in and explore. Arrive back at your Naxos hotel this evening. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Naxos

Today, trade the seaside bustle of the Chora for the mountain villages of Naxos. First, visit the peaceful village of Halki, the former capital of the island, and feel like you've stepped back in time as you stroll its alleys. In the picturesque hilltop village of Apiranthos, take time to explore and slow down among the locals, Later, return to your hotel for some downtime. This evening, sample the local spirits, including Kitron (a liqueur exclusively made on Naxos), served with delicious bites at a third-generation familyowned distillery. Learn about the machinery and distillation process and gain an appreciation for the unique liqueurs made here, (B)

#### Day 8: Naxos - Heraklion, Crete

Enjoy the morning at leisure. Later this afternoon with your suitcase in tow, board the ferry to Heraklion, Crete. After a ferry trip of approximately three hours, arrive to Crete, the largest of the Greek islands. (B, D)

#### Day 9: Heraklion

This morning, take a walk around Lion's Square - the heart of Heraklion. Next, head to Knossos Palace for a guided tour of the site, a major centre of Minoan civilization. Among these remarkably preserved ruins, imagine the everyday lives of ancient Minoans and recall legend, as this is considered the mythic place where King Minos kept the Minotaur in his labyrinth. As you travel through the Cretan countryside, take in the sprawling olive groves that have shaped Crete ever since olive cultivation began in Minoan times. In Archanes. visit a women's cooperative café to learn about traditional Cretan dishes and enjoy a hands-on cooking class followed by lunch. Afterward, return to your hotel for an afternoon and evening at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Heraklion - Rethymnon -Chania

Leaving Heraklion, head toward Chania today with a couple of stops along the way. Visit Margarites, a pottery village. Among the more than 20 pottery workshops in this village, visit the only one that uses both new and old (wood-fired) baking techniques. After watching a pottery demonstration, you can take the opportunity to shop for unique wares. Continue to Rethymnon with its beautiful old town and enjoy free time for lunch. Later, arrive in the city of Chania and gather for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

#### Day 11: Chania - Vouves -Anoskeli - Chania

Set out to explore Chania's old Venetian Harbor, the port city's vibrant hub, built in the 14th century. As you stroll along the narrow streets, you may enjoy sips of Greek coffee or try a local pastry. Then, set out for Vouves to see the world's oldest olive tree, estimated to be an astonishing 2,000-4,000 years old.



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$6769 Pricing is per person, land only, SOLO Starting at \$8219 Prices based on August 23, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE** June - October 2025 April - May 2026 See this tour online for available departure dates and pricing.

#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR



Continue to a family-run olive mill and winery for a tasting of the oils and wines paired with a light charcuterie lunch. Back in Chania, enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Chania 😗

Today, it's your choice! Visit the Archaeological Museum of Chania and explore its treasures on your own -OR- join a guided tour of Aptera's archaeological site. Spend the afternoon in Chania any way you wish. Tonight, gather with your fellow travellers and celebrate the journey. Enjoy dinner and a performance of traditional Cretan folk dances - and join in during a dance lesson! (B, D)

#### Day 13: Chania - Athens

This morning, a short flight takes you back to Athens. Take the afternoon to soak in the city's energy or do some last-minute souvenir shopping. Tonight, gather for a drink and light fare, toasting to the end of your journey through Greece. Look out over the city and soak in the incredible sight of the Acropolis once more, aglow at night. (B)

#### Day 14: Athens - Tour Ends

Your tour of Greece's gems ends today. (B)



# AT CAMP KAPAPA

By Amy Barone, poet and Collette traveller

A four-year-old descendant of the last Chief vies for the mic while we eat bison and elk tacos

at Camp Kapapa on Flathead Reservation—home of the Salish and Kootenai Nations,

mountain and water people who revere what remains of their sacred land on Flathead Lake.

Land of cherries, wheat, wine, honey, and a burgeoning campground,

where Aunt Keya sings traditional songs, two cousins in native skirts twirl to a ritual dance.

Named "strong warrior" at birth, Uncle Louie Camel speaks of ancestors, like his grandmother, a welder

who lived near Wild Horse Island, and plans to expand the camp outside bear season, keep alive his people's rich oral traditions and spirit.





Just ask Keya Birdsbill. She is a Montana woman who plays many roles. Mother. Wife. Aunt. Educator. Business owner. Direct descendant of the last Kootenai chief.

Montana is home to 12 tribal nations, including the Kootenai tribe, and the First Nations' presence has played a huge role in the state's culture and history. Collette Product Design Manager Vinette Digregorio said it was critical that indigenous people had a presence on this tour. After exploring Montana, Keya's new campground was the perfect fit.

During a visit to Camp Kapapa, travellers witness the rich oral tradition of Keya's people, get a taste of homemade local food, and get close to the lake that gave the Kootenai the moniker of the "Water People." Camp Kapapa was founded in 2017. It's set on sacred land on Flathead Lake, passed down through generations of Kootenai people despite all odds: Tribal lands were reduced to a fraction of their previous state in the 1800s, and shrunk by an additional half million acres in 1904.

"Travellers have a great chance to learn about this culture, and also the way generations before Keya lived," Vinette said. "Travellers walk away having learned the importance of family and passing down the culture, and respect for the land to the next generation from the Kootenai perspective."

Travellers meet Keya and her family, and learn about their history and heritage on our Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country tour.

# **MONTANA: EXPLORING BIG SKY COUNTRY**

11 DAYS • 16 MEALS STARTING AT \$7799

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Bozeman • Yellowstone • Old Faithful Mammoth Hot Springs - Yellowstone Grand Canyon • Helena • Gates of the Mountains • Glacier National Park • Going-to-the-Sun Road • Whitefish • Flathead Lake • Kootenai Traditions • Impact Moment • Museum of Mountain Flying • Holt Heritage Museum



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Learn about native culture at the Flathead Reservation.
- Explore both the Northern and Southern Loops of Yellowstone National Park.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

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

- · Sample traditional food of the Kootenai people.
- Dig into a mouth-watering barbeque dinner.



#### **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.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

AC Hotel Downtown, Bozeman Holiday Inn, West Days 2, 3 Yellowstone Days 4, 5 DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown, Helena Day 6 Great Bear Lodge at St. Mary Village, St. Mary

Days 7, 8 Grouse Mountain Lodge,

Whitefish

Days 9, 10 Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown, Missoula

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### Day 1: Bozeman, Montana

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, there's a good chance you're going to come across roaming bison, roaring geysers, and more.

#### Day 2: Bozeman - Yellowstone **Southern Loop - West Yellowstone**

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 you'll see steaming azure-blue waters. 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 and walk the boardwalk trails surrounding Old Faithful. As you drive through Yellowstone, perhaps you'll catch sight of the bison, elk, bears, eagles, wolves, or antelope who call this incredible slice of wilderness their home. (B, D)

#### Day 3: West Yellowstone - Yellowstone **Northern Loop - West Yellowstone** 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 West Yellowstone. (B)

#### **Day 4: West Yellowstone - 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. (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 awe-inspiring 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. 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, enjoy 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, and 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. Then, experience an Impact Moment at the Smokejumper Visitor Center to learn about the heroes who fight fires in North America. Afterwards, enjoy a relaxing evening at leisure in Missoula.

#### Day 10: Missoula

Your day in Missoula starts off with





#### ADD MORE TO YOUR TOUR

PRE-NIGHT: Bozeman (1-2 NIGHTS)



a visit to the Museum of Mountain Flying, where aircraft and interactive displays 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:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Portland • Oyster Farm • Bar Harbor • Acadia National Park - Lobster Trap Pull Demonstration - Camden -Freeport - Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens - Boothbay



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- Lose yourself in the natural beauty of Acadia National Park.
- · Watch as traps are hauled from the ocean onto a working lobster boat.



#### **CULINARY INCLUSIONS**

#### 6 Breakfasts (B) - 1 Lunch (L) - 2 Dinners (D)

- · Tour an oyster farm before digging into the local delicacies.
- Learn about the people behind some of Maine's specialties during a fun and informative tasting.
- Enjoy a rustic New England lunch at a traditional Maine lobster shack.



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

Day 2 - Stroll through Portland's historic Old Port District with a local guide and learn how this maritime hub transformed into modern restaurants and shops today -ORtake a tour of Portland's Victoria Mansion, known as one of the most important historic homes of the 19th century.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Hyatt Place Portland Old Days 1, 2 Port, Portland

Bar Harbor Grand Hotel. Davs 3, 4 Bar Harbor

Days 5, 6 Harraseeket Inn, Freeport

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### 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 quide 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. Get ready to explore more of Portland how you like because it's your choice! Stroll through Portland's historic Old Port District to learn how this maritime hub transformed into modern restaurants and shops today -OR- take a tour of Portland's Victoria Mansion, known as one of the most important historic homes of the 19th century. Get a chance to delve into the culture of Portland with free time to explore this seafaring city on your own. (B, D)

#### Day 3: Portland - Bar Harbor

This morning, get an intimate look at a working oyster farm and learn how to dig into these local delicacies with an oyster shucking

demonstration. Later, arrive in Bar Harbor, an iconic vacation spot featuring rich blue waters and home to Acadia National Park. With an evening at leisure, explore the bustling downtown, full of cozy cafes and indulgent ice cream shops just steps from your hotel. (B)

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

This is Acadia National Park, Breathe in the crisp, fresh air and allow the nature around you to captivate your senses. Admire the striking mountains, towering forests, and rocky shorelines as you drive scenic Park Loop Road with a local guide. Take in the sweeping views from the summit of Cadillac Mountain. Then, dive into the cuisine and culture of Maine when you join a local lobsterman on a lobster boat. See how lobster traps are retrieved from the ocean and watch the cages get pulled to the surface. Tonight is yours to explore Bar Harbor on your own. (B)

#### Day 5: Bar Harbor - Camden - Freeport

Head to Camden for some time at leisure. This quintessential town is home to the annual National Toboggan Championships and boasts many storefronts and 19th-century homes. Your scenic journey continues with a stop at a lobster shack to indulge in a must-try local favourite, the Maine lobster roll. Then, treat your palate again during an Impact Moment! Visit the Maine









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. Tonight, toast to the end of your trip and bid Maine farewell over dinner. (B. D)

#### **Day 7: Freeport - Tour Ends** Your tour of coastal Maine comes to a close today. (B)

nights. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L) Day 6: Freeport - Boothbay -Freeport Today, enter the natural wonderland of

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, nearly

Tasting Center to try a variety of Maine's

iconic foods such as: blueberries, seaweed, potatoes, and more. Learn

more about the hardworking locals

behind these specialties. Later, arrive

in Freeport, your home for the next two

 Optional 2-Night Boston **Post-Tour Extension** 



#### Day 7: Freeport - Boston, Massachusetts

Extend your stay in New England with 2 nights in Boston - Massachusetts's historic capital city. As the site of the

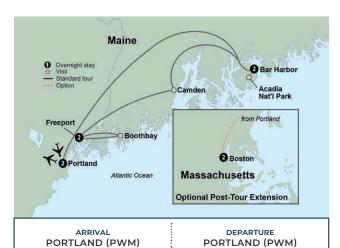
famous "tea party," Boston has a long history of fighting for independence since the time of the Revolutionary War. Explore the city on your own, perhaps grabbing a bite of some renowned seafood or a cup of famous clam chowder. Consider venturing to the North End for some authentic Italian food, keeping an eye out for a fresh cannoli.

#### Day 8: Boston

The day is yours. Consider a quick walk from your hotel to the Museum of Science or take a famous Duck Boat tour. As the home of 35 different colleges, Boston features a perfect blend of history and modern innovations. (B)

#### Day 9: Boston - Tour Ends

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



**DOUBLE** Starting at \$3899 SOLO Starting at \$5199

Prices based on May 30, 2025 departure. All rates in Canadian dollars

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

May - October 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for May - October 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 OR POST-NIGHT: Portland (1-2 NIGHTS)



66 The hotels were great. We loved the oyster farm and the lobster boat tour, the scenery and harbours, and Acadia National Park! 🤊

.....

- Frederick R.

# **ALASKA'S NORTHERN LIGHTS**

7 DAYS • 11 MEALS STARTING AT \$5149

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL:** SEE PAGE 136 FOR DETAILS







#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Anchorage • Northern Light Excursions • Winter Glacier Cruise • Prince William Sound • Talkeetna • Alaska Railroad • Fairbanks • Dog Mushing



#### **CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**

- 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.



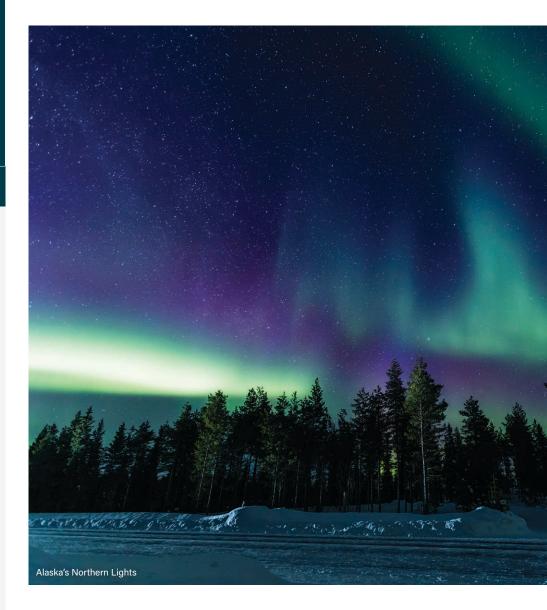
#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Days 1, 2 Hilton Anchorage, Anchorage

Day 3 Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge, Talkeetna

Pikes Waterfront Lodge, Days 4 - 6 Fairbanks

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



#### 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 down-toearth 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 snow-covered 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 SOLO Starting at \$6199

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

#### **TOUR DATES AVAILABLE**

March 2025 (featured itinerary)

\*Itinerary featured is for March 2025 tour departures. Departures after 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)





66 Our Tour Manger did such a great job of filling our days with spectacular and memorable moments! I could not pick a favourite thing - they were all my favourites and memories I will remember forever! "

- Cathy G.

# **AIR** INFORMATION

#### THE CHOICE IS YOURS

# three great air options

Enjoy the benefits of air-inclusive bookings. Allow us to be your liaison with the airlines and to handle all the details. Choose Flex Airfare, Instant Purchase, or Elite Airfare.	Flex Airfare	Instant Purchase Airfare <sup>3</sup>	Elite Airfare
Receive roundtrip home to airport sedan service – your journey begins at home!	•	•	•
Roundtrip airport to hotel transfers included <sup>2</sup>	•	•	•
Dedicated Concierge Service			•
Lounge Passes <sup>5</sup>			•
Express Check-In <sup>5</sup>			•
Eligible for Collette's Travel Protection Plan	•	<ul><li>part b</li></ul>	<ul><li>part b</li></ul>
Benefit from our flexible change and refund policies	•		<i>(i)</i>
Deposit now, pay the balance later	•		<b>(</b> )
Eliminates future surcharges by locking in price		•	
All the perks of upgraded air (more leg room, comfort, and space)			•

treat yourself & enjoy

Whether you select Elite, Flex, or Instant Purchase Airfare, you'll enjoy the ease and security that comes with reserving your air with Collette.









































































This roundtrip home to airport sedan service is included when you reside within a 100 km radius of most major Canadian gateways and purchase an air-inclusive tour. One transfer per room booking. Additional stops not permitted on route. Not valid on group travel. 2These transfers are available on the first and last day of the actual tour dates and when you are travelling on select flights. Land only clients may purchase transfers on the first and last day of the actual tour dates for an additional cost of \$100 per person, roundtrip (some restrictions may apply). Instant Purchase Airfare is offered on select dates; consult your booking agent. 4Elite Airfare status is only included with the purchase of a First Class, Business Class or Premium Economy ticket with either Flex or Instant Purchase air; only on the international/long-haul portion of your journey. 5Lounge Passes & Express Check-In are based on airline and airport availability for Business Class passengers only; Premium Economy tickets do not qualify. Lounge passes are not available for travel from North America to destinations within North America or the Caribbean. 

Not applicable with Instant Purchase Airfare.

# TERMS & CONDITIONS

## Important Reservation Information

#### **Land Rates**

Land rates are per person, double occupancy unless otherwise noted. Availability of departures at the prices noted in the brochure is limited. Government taxes and fees are additional. For current prices, please see our website. Rates are guaranteed once deposit is received and booking is confirmed by Collette except for charges resulting from increases in Government taxes and fees. 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 90 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 90 days prior to departure: a nonrefundable deposit will be retained.
- 90 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: 40% 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 135 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

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\*)

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 Cancellation insurance day of departure maximum limit per insured \$2,500. Trip Interruption insurance after departure maximum limit per insured \$5,000.

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.

#### **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
 Personal Effects
 \$25,000

 - Baggage Delay
 \$500\*\*

\*Some benefits within this coverage have their own limits. Refer to the policy wording for details.

\*\* This limit is subject to the overall maximum limit for baggage coverage.

#### **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:

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:

Outside North America & Mexico (global toll-free).....\*800-663-0399
Worldwide (collect)......604-278-4108

\*Visit tugo.com/claims for international access codes.

Email claims@tugo.com

When you call, please be ready to provide:

The partner code listed on your policy declaration

#### Collette's Travel Protection Plan Pricing (per person)

The Cost below of the Travel Protection Plan includes both the optional Part A Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver Provided By Collette Travel Service, Inc. and the Part B insurance benefits underwritten by TuGo, as well as non-insurance assistance services. Pricing is available for either Part A or Part B on a stand alone basis, please contact Collette for more information.

#### Rates Apply for all bookings - Air Inclusive, Land Only, Adults and Children

- \$299 adult/child for all North America tours under 6 days
- \$479 adult/child for all North America tours of 6 days or more
- \$599 adult/child for all international tours (not otherwise listed below)
- \$649 adult/child for all Canadian Rockies train tours
- \$749 adult/child for all cruises, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, South Africa & Egypt tours
- \$749 adult/child for Galapagos tours
- \$1699 adult/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.

Collette's Travel Protection Plan only provides air inclusive travel protection for individuals who have purchased Collette Flex Airfare or Instant Purchase nonrefundable air through Collette. Instant Purchase air and its associated taxes, fees and surcharges require full payment at time of reservation and are 100% nonrefundable. Tickets may only be changed for a fee up to \$300 plus any difference in airfare for travel in the following 12 months; specific fees and policies may vary by airline.

To review full plan details, see our travel protection plan info on the terms and conditions pages of our website.

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# **ACTIVITY LEVELS**

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

## 1 2 3 4 LEVEL 1 LIGHT & LEISURELY

**You're a leisurely traveller.** You typically take it easy and discover the energy of a new place by people-watching 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.

## 1 2 3 4 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-anda-half-hour walking tour, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking six kilometres over the course of a day is doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 1828 and 2743 metres. Expect some longer days balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travellers who require mobility assistance devices.

## 1 2 3 4 LEVEL 2 MODERATE

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

## 1 2 3 4 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 for you. You can handle longer walking tours (more than 3 hours covering five kilometres at a steady pace) and activities that involve uneven terrain, steep slopes, standing for periods of time, and varying altitudes and temperatures. You don't mind being on the go with some early starts, latenights, 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.



# LET'S GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for the real inside scoop.

Traveller, we know you love to stay connected, get inspired for your next adventure, and feed your curiosity.

#### Here are some of the things you'll find when you connect with Collette:

- Deals: Want the scoop on upcoming sales? Social media is the place to be.
- Traveller photos: See what our travellers are sharing from their tours.
- New tour alerts: Get sneak peeks and info on when new tours become available.
- Virtual events: Hear from destination experts and ask them questions.
- Blogs and videos: Get closer to your dream trip from home with articles and in-destination videos.

- Games: Quizzes. Puzzles. Fill-inthe blanks. Play, and see how your fellow travellers respond in the comments, too.
- Podcast updates: #DYK about our podcast, Travel Unpacked? Our social media followers hear it first when new episodes drop!

### See you online, traveller.



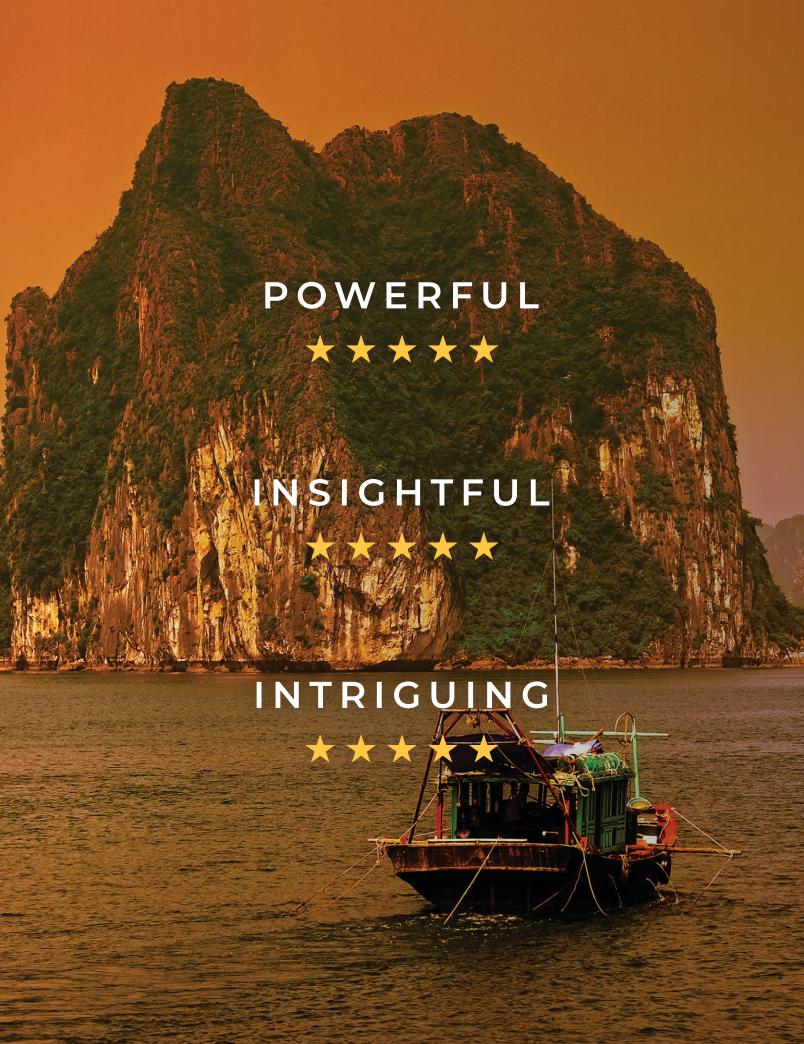






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# COMING SOON NEW SMALL GROUP TOURS

Picture this.
You and a small cast of fellow travellers are...

- Tracing history in Northern Vietnam and watching the sun rise over Ha Long Bay.
- Coming face-to-face with the red rock wonders of **New Mexico** & **Arizona**.
- Exploring Africa, on a journey from Cape Town to Cairo.
- Embracing your inner Viking and exploring Scandinavia by land and sea.
- Chasing the northern lights on a winter trip through the Canadian
   Rockies & The Yukon.

From the expert team who brought your favourite small group tours come five new tours in 2026, designed just for curious travellers.

**4JJ40** 



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

Visit collette.com/offers for special savings



Industry-Leading Travel Protection Plan • Private Chauffeur Service Included (See website for details.)





# Become part of the culture, not just a visitor.





