

collette

EXPLORATIONS

2023 - 2024 Vol. 1



**SMALL
GROUPS
BIG
EXPERIENCES**

MAXIMUM 24 TRAVELLERS ON ALL EXPLORATIONS TOURS



Welcome...

TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE

Every day, we have the privilege to connect travellers to this incredible world and we don't take that responsibility lightly. We've worked hard to earn your trust and we will always work hard to keep it. Because to us, **you're a part of the Collette family.**

YOUR STORY STARTS HERE

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

In these pages are experiences — like staying overnight in an Irish castle or a buddhist monastery in Japan, to trekking the Sahara Desert in a 4x4 — our team excitedly creates journeys because your happiness is our road map. Travel creates storytellers and the road is full of possibilities.

So... where will you go next?

ACTIVITY LEVELS

Our Tour Activity Levels help to set expectations on tour. Look for this rating on every tour and gauge your ideal speed.

LEVEL 1

You're a leisurely traveller. You like to discover the energy of a new place, but typically take it easy. You can handle at least one flight of stairs, board a coach, and walk for 15-30 minutes at a time with little difficulty.

LEVEL 2

You like a balanced approach to travel. You feel confident walking at least 30-45 minutes at a time over a variety of terrains — from cobblestone streets to easy straightaways to a couple hills or flights of stairs. You're comfortable walking a few city blocks at a time, but need some time to unwind and relax.

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TÜRKIYE

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LEVEL 3

You're an on-the-go traveller.

Walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. Expect some longer days balanced with free-time.

LEVEL 4

You're ready to seize the day, whatever it may bring.

You lead an active life at home (walking, biking, and hiking are things you may enjoy) and a few thousand steps a day isn't out of the norm. You can handle longer walking tours (more than 90 minutes), traversing dusty or uneven terrain, standing for periods of time, varying altitudes and temperatures, and don't mind being on the go with some early starts, late-night experiences, and full days. Unfortunately, this level is not appropriate for individuals who use wheelchairs or walkers.

Hard to replicate. Impossible to forget.

With Collette's **Small Group Explorations** tours, delve into engaging, immersive experiences. Settle into culturally reflective accommodation. Savour authentic, local cuisine. Absorb a destination's true culture with more built-in free time. With **a maximum of 24** and **an average of 16 travellers**, you won't feel lost amongst the crowd — you'll be an integral part of a cultural expedition.

On **Icelandic Adventure** (pages 48–49), bundle up and ascend Langjökull glacier via mountain truck and go “Into the Glacier” to experience the purest blue ice colour in the world's largest man-made tunnel.



Chobe river cruise. Experience this included excursion on **Wilderness of Southern Africa: Safari by Land & Water** — see pages 76-77



Collette Explorations

Small Groups, Big Experiences

DO MORE THAN JUST VISIT.

On a small group Explorations tour, dive deeper while really getting to know the pulse of a destination. **Access places you'll never forget** — like venues, accommodation, and destinations that larger groups can't always reach. Dip your toes outside the tour with built-in free time.

CANCELLATION WAIVER

Cancel for any reason. With Collette's **industry-leading cancellation waiver** you get a full money-back refund (minus the deposit) if you need to cancel — up to 24 hours before departure.

We're in this together. 24/7 customer support is here to support you wherever you are in the world.

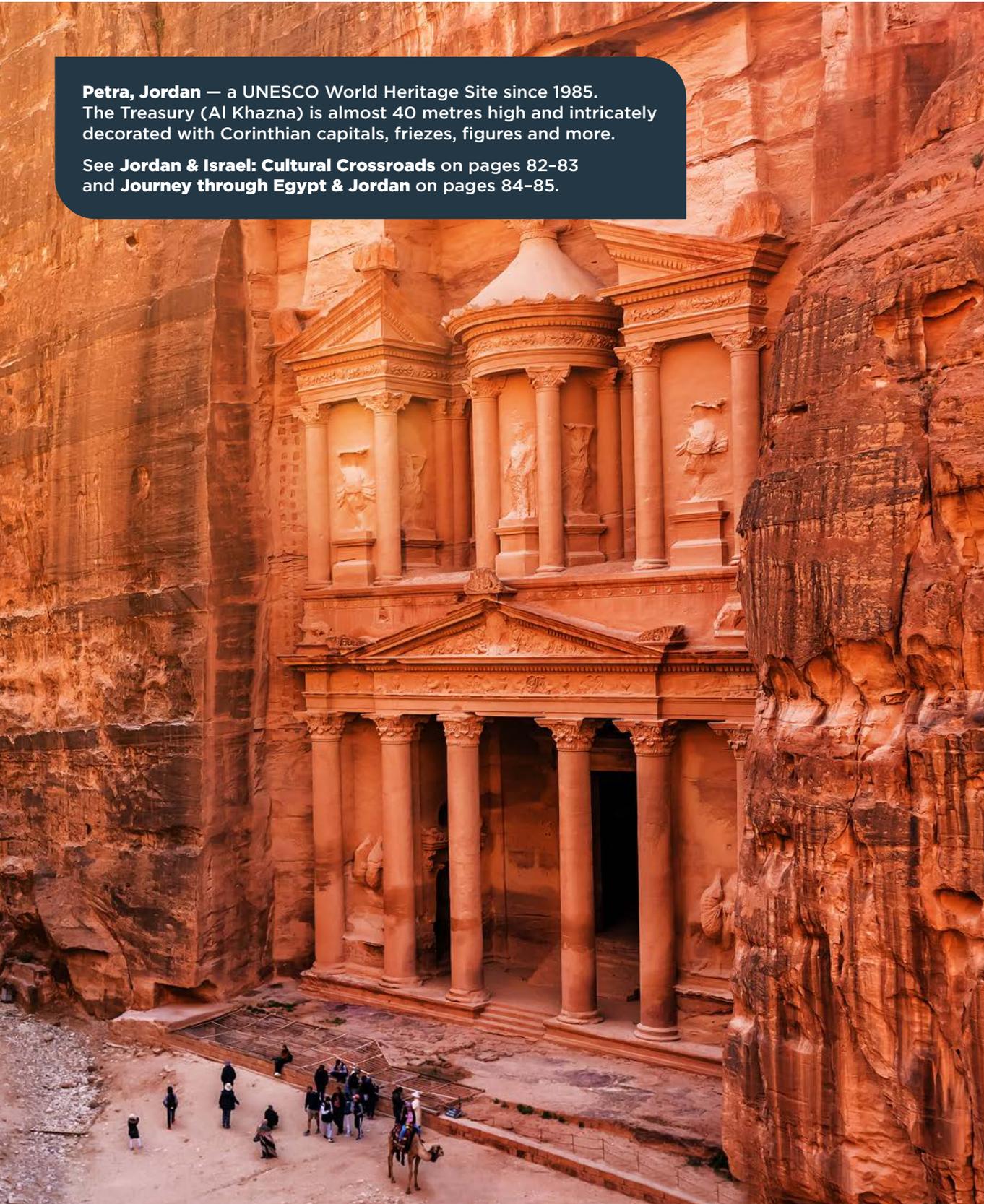
Travel that's good. Travel the world knowing your Explorations tours are carbon neutral.

Must-sees.

They're called "must-sees" for a reason. From the Eiffel Tower to the Cliffs of Moher and beyond, iconic destinations all over the world await your discovery. Whatever destination you've been dreaming of, we've seamlessly handled all the details to **make sure you don't miss a single must-see.**

Petra, Jordan — a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1985. The Treasury (Al Khazna) is almost 40 metres high and intricately decorated with Corinthian capitals, friezes, figures and more.

See **Jordan & Israel: Cultural Crossroads** on pages 82–83 and **Journey through Egypt & Jordan** on pages 84–85.





Traveller Suzanne with young ladies wearing traditional kimonos on Collette's Japan: Past and Present on pages 88-89.

Cultural experiences.

Our cultural experiences, hand-crafted by our experts, allow you to make meaningful connections, not only with the destination, but with the people who call it home.

Take a hands-on cooking class in a 12th century abbey in Tuscany. Stroll through the cobbled alleyways of ancient markets and medinas in Morocco and spend time with a nomadic family while in the Sahara Desert.

Venice, Italy. Included on the **Best of Italy** itinerary is a walking tour and gondola ride in Venice (see pages 14-15)



Culinary inclusions.

Culture and cuisine go hand in hand. Sip and savour the flavours of the world with Collette and become united by the universal language of food. Our tour designers and guides curate and research experiences that spotlight the unique culinary offerings of your destination.

Culturally Reflective Accommodation.

You'll stay in exactly the right spot. Whether it's the history of the place, or the central location, your accommodation is every bit as important as the destination itself. Our **4-star and above hotels** are hand-selected to reflect the culture of the itinerary, capture the destination and enrich your experience.



Journey through New Zealand's unspoiled wilderness and arrive in the Mt. Cook region. Immerse yourself in the heart of the Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park while staying at The Hermitage Hotel. **Exploring New Zealand's Wonders** (see pages 90-91)



Sahara desert. Travel into the Sahara Desert aboard adventurous 4x4 jeeps, before slowing your rhythm to a gentle bobbing gait as you traverse the dunes on camel back en route to your tented camp for a magical 2-night stay on **Colours of Morocco**, pages 80–81.

Five benefits of travelling with Collette.

1 Worry-Free Travel

- Private transfer service is included on international air-inclusive bookings (within 40km of international airports).
- Industry leading Cancellation Waiver: cancel for any reason until the day before departure (minus your deposit).
- Excellent tour leaders and local guides accompany your tour.
- Guaranteed departure dates are clearly identified at collette.com.au.

2 Ideal Pacing

- An average of 2 to 3 nights per hotel.
- More time in the destination, less time in transit.
- Well-balanced touring with free time.

3 Breadth of Choice

- 175+ tours to all 7 continents, with thousands of available departure dates.
- 5 distinct travel styles, including small group Explorations, Classic, Cruising, Spotlights, and Faith.

4 Back to Back

- Many Collette tours line up so you can combine two tours into one unforgettable trip!
- Make up for lost time, save time and money, with a \$400 per person** saving on your second tour and any subsequent tour.

5 Guests tell us they enjoy their Collette tour!

- 98% customer satisfaction rate.

Our full 2023-24 tour list

This is the full list of Collette itineraries reflecting all travel styles. Find departure dates, prices, itineraries and more at collette.com.au

TRAVEL STYLES

All tours are **Classic** (iconic sites, enriching experiences) tours — up to 44 guests, except those marked as follows:

E Small Group Explorations
— A connection to culture.
Maximum 24 guests.

C Cruising
— Explore the world's scenic waterways.
Up to 44 guests.

S Spotlights Single-Hotel Stays
— Go in depth, unpack just once.
Up to 44 guests.

F Faith
— Spiritual journeys.
Up to 44 guests.

NORTH AMERICA

- Canyon Country
- National Parks of America
- The Colorado Rockies
- America's Cowboy Country
- Painted Canyons of the West
- S** Spotlight on South Dakota
- S** Spotlight on Boston **NEW!**
- Islands of New England
- Colours of New England featuring Portland, Maine
- Boston & the Cape **NEW!**
- E** Roaming Coastal Maine
- Mackinac Island
- S** Spotlight on New York City
- S** Southern Charm
- Bluegrass Country & the Smoky Mountains
- America's Music Cities
- S** Spotlight on New Orleans
- S** Spotlight on Nashville
- S** Spotlight on San Antonio
- S** Spotlight on Santa Fe
- Pacific Northwest & California
- California Dreamin'
- Grand Hawaiian Adventure
- Hawaiian Adventure
- Alaska: America's Last Frontier
- E** Alaska's Northern Lights **NEW!**
- Canadian Rockies featuring Rocky Mountaineer
- Canadian Rockies by Train
- Canadian Rockies & Glacier National Park
- Western Canada's Rockies, Lakes, & Wine Country
- The Best of Eastern Canada
- Maritimes Coastal Wonders
- C** Alaska Discovery Land & Cruise
- America's National Parks & Denver
- Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta
- E** Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country **NEW!**
- Postcards from Vermont

EUROPE

- Reflections of Italy
- Italian Vistas
- Southern Italy & Sicily
- Rome & the Amalfi Coast
- E** Italy's Treasures
- E** Tuscan & Umbrian Countryside
- E** Italy: Amalfi Coast to Puglia
- E** Best of Italy **NEW!**
- British Landscapes
- Exploring Britain & Ireland
- Shades of Ireland
- Irish Splendour
- E** Countryside of the Emerald Isle
- E** The Best of Ireland

- Discover Scotland
- Exploring Scotland & Ireland
- E** Journey through Scotland & England
- London & Paris
- France Magnifique
- E** Essence of France
- S** Spotlight on Paris
- Spectacular Scandinavia
- Iceland: Land of Fire & Ice
- Iceland's Magical Northern Lights
- E** Icelandic Adventure
- E** The Northern Lights of Finland
- Sunny Portugal
- E** Flavours of Portugal & Spain featuring Barcelona **NEW!**
- Spain's Classics
- Spain's Classics & Portugal
- Spain's Costa del Sol & Madrid **NEW!**
- Exploring Greece & Its Islands
- Greece Island Hopper: Athens, Mykonos, & Santorini
- E** Treasures of Turkey **NEW!**
- E** A Taste of the Balkans
- C** Croatia & Its Islands: Small Ship Cruising on the Adriatic Coast
- Discover Croatia, Slovenia & the Adriatic Coast
- Imperial Cities
- Discover Switzerland, Austria & Bavaria
- E** Switzerland: Hidden Trails & Majestic Peaks
- Exploring the Alpine Countries
- European Christmas Markets **NEW!**
- E** Netherlands, Belgium & France
- E** Peaks of Europe: The Alps to the Dolomites
- Treasures of Europe
- Shades of Ireland featuring Northern Ireland
- E** Scotland: Isles of Lore & Legend
- S** Spotlight on London
- Alpine Lakes & Scenic Trains
- Classic Christmas Markets
- Magical Christmas Markets
- E** Majestic Cities of Central & Eastern Europe **NEW!**
- C** Holland & Belgium
- Springtime River Cruise
- C** Christmas on the Danube
- C** Magical Rhine & Moselle Rivers
- C** Cruising the Danube to the Black Sea **NEW!**
- C** National Parks of Croatia and Islands Cruise **NEW!**
- Discovering Poland
- Memorials of World War II **NEW!**
- S** Spotlight on the French Riviera
- Classical Greece
- Northern Italy & Its Lakes featuring Padua & Venice
- Tuscany & the Italian Riviera

- E** Sicily & Its Isles
- E** Old World Sicily & Malta
- F** Shrines of Italy
- S** Spotlight on Tuscany
- E** Mediterranean Coastal Journey: From Barcelona to Florence **NEW!**
- F** Greece: In the Footsteps of Paul the Apostle
- E** The Baltics Revealed
- Highlights of Norway
- Portugal & Its Islands
- E** Spain & Morocco
- E** The Azores: Jewels of Portugal
- E** Spain & Portugal: Costa Del Sol to the Portuguese Riviera
- F** Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes with Barcelona

THE MIDDLE EAST

- Iconic Israel
- E** Jordan & Israel: Cultural Crossroads
- E** Journey through Egypt & Jordan
- F** Israel: Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
- F** Israel: A Journey of Faith

AFRICA

- Treasures of Egypt
- E** The Plains of Africa
- E** African Safari: Kenya & Tanzania
- E** Exploring South Africa, Victoria Falls & Botswana
- E** Wilderness of Southern Africa: Safari by Land & Water **NEW!**
- E** Colours of Morocco
- Spectacular South Africa

CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA

- Tropical Costa Rica
- E** Costa Rica: A World of Nature
- C** **E** Patagonia: Edge of the World
- E** Peru: Machu Picchu & Lake Titicaca
- C** **E** Machu Picchu & Galápagos Wonders featuring a 4-Night Cruise
- C** Journey to Antarctica: The White Continent

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

- Australia's Outback to New Zealand's South Island
- The Complete South Pacific
- E** Australia and New Zealand Uncovered
- E** Exploring New Zealand's Wonders
- South Pacific Wonders
- South Pacific Wonders with North Island

ASIA

- E** Mysteries of India
- Cultural Treasures of Japan
- E** Japan: Past & Present **NEW!**
- Essence of Thailand **NEW!**
- E** Kingdoms of Southeast Asia

TUSCAN & UMBRIAN COUNTRYSIDE

10 DAYS • 15 MEALS

STARTING AT \$4,399

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Rome • Orvieto • Spoleto
- Olive Oil Mill • Cooking Class • Assisi
- Home-Hosted Lunch • Winery
- Pienza • Orcia Valley • Bagno Vignoni
- Pecorino Cheese Farm • Siena
- Florence • San Gimignano



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Take a hands-on cooking class in a 12th-century abbey.
- Behold the unique water-filled piazza in the village of Bagno Vignoni.
- Enjoy 3 nights in a restored Tuscan villa.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 9** — Join a local truffle hunter on a hunt for mushrooms and sample the goods yourself -**OR-** take to the countryside on an ATV adventure, followed with a taste of truffle bruschetta.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

9 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 4 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.



ACCOMMODATION

Day 1	Hotel Kolbe or Grand Hotel Palatino, Rome
Days 2-4	Hotel Antica Dimora Alla Rocca, Trevi, or Hotel Dei Duchi, Spoleto, Umbria
Days 5, 6	Hotel Corsignano, Pienza, Tuscany
Days 7-9	Villa San Lucchese Hotel, Northern Tuscany Countryside or Villa Casa Grande Hotel, Figline, Northern Tuscany, Tuscany

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Orcia Valley

On a journey through the less-travelled country roads of Umbria and Tuscany, discover another side to the Italy you love.

Day 1: 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 2: Rome – Orvieto – Umbria

Olive and cypress trees accent the Etruscan hill town of Orvieto. Stroll the historic streets with a local expert and visit the prominent Gothic cathedral to gaze at a remarkable Signorelli fresco. Continue to discover Orvieto on your own this afternoon. Eat, drink, and disappear into the local scene before taking in the splendours of country life in a pristine Umbrian hill town, your home for the next 3 nights. (B, D)

Day 3: Umbria – Spoleto – Olive Oil Mill – Umbria

Medieval palaces command the foreground of ancient Spoleto. In the shadow of the Apennines, embark on a walking tour to see centuries of architectural history, from the Ponte delle Torri aqueduct to the gilded elegance of the Duomo of Santa Maria Assunta. Explore more of Spoleto on your own before learning about olive oil at a family-run *frantoio* (olive presser). Venture into a local restaurant in the Nera Valley, where you'll enjoy a cooking class in a former 12th-century abbey. Dig in to your handcrafted meal for dinner. (B, D)

Day 4: Umbria – Assisi – Home-Hosted Lunch – 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 – Pecorino Cheese Farm – Orcia Valley – Pienza

Leave Umbria for the villages of Tuscany, nestled among the rolling hills and cypress trees of the Val d'Orcia region (UNESCO). Taste the flavours of the region at a local pecorino cheese farm. Snack on some of the cheesemaker's creations and take in the views of the sparse farmhouses and open fields on your way to Pienza (UNESCO), a Renaissance village where flowers and plants adorn the cobblestoned streets. (B, L)

Day 6: Pienza – Bagno Vignoni – Brunello di Montalcino Winery – Pienza

Traverse the Tuscan countryside to the unique hamlet of Bagno Vignoni, whose central piazza is filled with thermal water once used to cure pilgrims who stopped here on their way to Rome. Then explore hilltop Montalcino, namesake to one of Italy's great red wines, the Brunello. Tour a winery's estate and cellar before indulging in a multi-sensory tasting, pairing wine with music. Back in Pienza for the evening, maybe you'll explore the countryside along one of the many white roads that cut through the farmland. (B)



Day 7: 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 8: Chianti Region – Florence – Chianti Region

Explore Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance," with a local expert on foot. Wander along the glittering storefronts on the Ponte Vecchio, where gold shops adorn the only Florentine bridge to survive WWII. You'll also take in the Palazzo Vecchio, the Piazza della Signoria, and Santa Croce. Take some time on your own to explore the city's seemingly endless treasures, both historic and modern. Return to your Tuscan villa in the evening. (B)

Day 9: Chianti Region – San Gimignano – Chianti Region

Choose how to explore Tuscan landscape because **it's your choice!** Join a local truffle hunter in search of the elusive mushroom and sample the goods yourself **-OR-** take to the countryside on an ATV adventure along winding dirt roads, followed with a taste of truffle bruschetta. Spend your afternoon in San Gimignano, whose beautiful 13th-century medieval towers stand tall over the surrounding vineyards. As the sun begins to set, gather with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner of Tuscan specialities. (B, D)

Day 10: Chianti Region – Tour Ends

Your journey through Tuscany and Umbria comes to a close today in your restored Tuscan villa. (B)

Featured Pre-Tour Extension



EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED

Optional 2 Night Rome Pre-Tour Extension

Starting at \$1260 pp

Day 1: Rome, Italy – Tour Begins

Enjoy time to get settled into your hotel and acquaint yourself with the area on your own. Perhaps you'll explore the nearby neighbourhood of Trastevere, Rome's medieval heart.

Day 2: Rome – Market & Food Tour – Vatican Museums

Start your morning with a stroll in Rome's ultra-local Testaccio neighbourhood. Soak up the lively atmosphere—with home-makers stocking up in local delis, market workers stopping for a quick espresso at a corner café, retirees soaking up the sun on the benches of a nearby piazza. Taste your way through Rome's beloved Testaccio farmers' market before pausing at a local trattoria restaurant for a dish of pasta and a glass of wine. After some time to experience Rome on your own, you'll join special 'after hours' visit to the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel, including a welcome drink in the Vatican Museums. With significantly less crowds, this time of day allows for a far more relaxed and enjoyable experience. (B, L)

Day 3: Rome – Optional Excursion

Make the most of a free day in Italy's capital city. Consider strolling through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's streets all the way to the top of the Spanish Steps for a view over the rooftops. Perhaps you'll set out to delve into Rome's classical heritage with an optional tour to the Colosseum and Roman Forum, or wander around the city on your own and toss a good luck coin into the Trevi Fountain. In the early evening, meet with your fellow travellers to start off your exploration of the Tuscan and Umbrian countryside. (B)

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

UP TO 1 WEEK

STOPOVER – CHOOSE FROM:

Madrid, London, Amsterdam, Paris, Frankfurt, Munich
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Tuscan & Umbrian Countryside with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$4,399**
SOLO Starting at **\$5,349**

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

Price based on 29 October 2023 departure.



Departures available April 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Rome and depart from Florence or Pisa. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Villas and country estates in Tuscany are dotted throughout the region and we use different properties on this program. Some may be located in the countryside, removed from a city centre. Still others may be closer to the hustle and bustle of the region. Each one is unique, full of history, with many amenities, and brimming with true Tuscan flavour. Groups accommodated at Villa Casa Grande Hotel will tour the Chianti Countryside and the village of Greve in Chianti in place of the choice on tour activity and San Gimignano. Some of our hotels and most unique sightseeing can mean accessing smaller towns or country roads that limit or restrict motor coach access, especially in the historic areas of Orvieto, Assisi, Siena, San Gimignano and Florence which requires minimum 2.5 miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

The Optional 2 Night Rome Extension is Fully-Guided. Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert. Between March and October, you will visit the Vatican Museums in the evening of your second day in Rome. During the months of January, February, November and December, you will visit the Vatican Museums in the early morning of your second day in Rome. The Vatican Museums may operate on a different day/time on select departures due to availability of reservations and closure on Sundays and holidays. Due to tour scheduling, flights should arrive in Rome no later than 2:00 p.m.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

ITALY'S TREASURES

ART, FOOD & WINE OF ITALY

11 DAYS • 17 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,699

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Italian Lakes Region • Stresa
- Wine Tasting • Italian Riviera
- Cinque Terre • Carrara Marble Quarries
- Off-Road Excursion • Tuscan Countryside
- Italian Cooking Class • San Gimignano
- Siena • Florence • Bologna • Venice



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Explore Lake Orta, one of Italy's hidden treasures.
- Discover colourful Cinque Terre, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Explore the marble quarries of Carrara aboard off-road vehicles.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

10 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Journey by boat to Isola dei Pescatori for a lovely welcome dinner.
- Taste authentic Italian gelato from an award-winning ice cream parlour in San Gimignano.
- Learn the art behind Tuscan cuisine during a hands-on cooking lesson.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2 Regina Palace Hotel, Stresa

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:
Enhance your experience at the Regina Palace Hotel with an upgrade to a lake view room. CALL FOR DETAILS

Days 3, 4 Grand Hotel dei Castelli, Grande Albergo or Hotel Due Mari, Sestri Levante, Italian Riviera

Days 5-8 Villa Lecchi, Villa San Lucchese or Villa San Paolo, Tuscany

Days 9, 10 Hotel Ca' dei Conti, Venice

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



San Gimignano

Vineyards, olive groves, and cities that float.
Incredible history, indelible culture,
and unforgettable cuisine.
This is *l'Italia* at its most iconic.

Day 1: Stresa, Italy - Tour Begins

Begin on the arresting shores of Lake Maggiore, surrounded by the peaceful beauty of the Alpine lakes region. This evening, cruise to Isola dei Pescatori, the most picturesque of the Borromean Islands, where you'll engage with new friends at a dinner welcoming you to Italy. (D)

Day 2: 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. The remainder of the day in Stresa is at your leisure. Explore the piazzas, flower-lined cobblestone streets, and lakeside promenades. Or enjoy your breathtaking surroundings during an optional cruise to Isola Bella, known as the "beautiful island." Here an expert will guide you into the Borromeo Palace, a lakeside Baroque beauty adorned with an exotic garden. As the day draws to a close, visit a family-run wine shop and enjoy a cocktail party with some *antipasto* snacks. (B)

Day 3: Stresa - Orta - Italian Riviera

Witness picture-perfect views from Lake Orta, an ancient glacial lake in the Alpine foothills. A boat delivers you to the island of San Giulio, dominated by its working convent. Journey to the Italian Riviera and discover its immeasurable grandeur along the Liguria coast. (B, D)

Day 4: Italian Riviera - Cinque Terre - Italian Riviera

Travel by rail today as you discover the colourful Cinque Terre (UNESCO), a string of medieval villages perched on the edge of the sea. Feel like you have stepped back in time as you traverse the rugged coastal area dotted with terraced vineyards. Spend an afternoon independently exploring this awe-inspiring landscape. (B)

Day 5: 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 6: Tuscany – San Gimignano – Tuscany

This morning, journey into the heart of the Chianti countryside, where a family-owned villa welcomes you. After a tour of the house and grounds, you'll engage in a hands-on cooking lesson. Break bread during an authentic Tuscan lunch and toast to your host with local Chianti wine. Later, take in Tuscany's landscape, a spectrum of verdant vineyards and endless groves en route to San Gimignano. Nicknamed the Manhattan of the Middle Ages, San Gimignano's 14 towers soar distinctively over the landscape making this iconic hilltop village stand out against the rolling hills. Taste authentic Italian gelato from an award-winning ice cream parlour while you wander the cobbled streets and gaze up at the imposing towers during time at leisure in this Tuscan gem. (B, L)

Day 7: 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 8: 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 9: 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 speciality food shops and sample local delicacies such as Parmigiano cheese, mortadella – the Italian progenitor of baloney – and lasagna. Arrive later in Venice, the "Queen of the Adriatic," and settle in for a 2-night stay in one of the most romantic cities in the world. (B, L)

Day 10: Venice

Spend the day in Venezia, the floating city home to lavish art collections, wonders of architecture, and where marbled palaces tower over gondola-laden canals. Travel by boat to Murano for an expert glass-blowing demonstration, a renowned tradition on the island. Journey back to St. Mark's Square, Venice's iconic main square. A local guide takes you on a tour of its incredible sites, including the Bridge of Sighs, the Bell tower, and St. Mark's Basilica. Say *arrivederci* to Italy at a savoury farewell dinner. (B, D)

Day 11: Venice – Tour Ends

Wake up in Venice and depart for home. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE OR POST NIGHT
PRE: STRESA
POST: VENICE
CALL FOR DETAILS

UP TO 1 WEEK

STOPOVER
CHOOSE FROM:
Madrid, London,
Amsterdam, Paris,
Frankfurt, Rome
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EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Italy's Treasures with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$5,699
SOLO Starting at \$6,999

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

Price based on 21 May 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Milan and depart from Venice. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Most museums in Florence are closed on Mondays, including the Academy Gallery and the Uffizi, and require reservations to access. We suggest you book a ticket online if you plan to visit the Academy or the Uffizi during your free time in Florence. In the event of adverse weather conditions, the dinner at Isola dei Pescatori may be held at your hotel instead. Note that villas in Tuscany are dotted throughout the region and we use different properties on this program. Some may be located in the countryside, removed from a city centre. Still others may be closer to the hustle and bustle of the region. In order to fully experience the destination, some of our hotels on these programs are located in smaller towns or on country roads where access is limited to large coaches. In these cases, you will be dropped off as close as possible and there will be a short walk to access the hotel from the drop-off area. On occasion, due to inclement weather, your boat trip to Murano Island may be substituted with a visit to a local glass factory in Venice. Isola Bella and the Borromeo Palace are open from 1 April to 31 October. If you are travelling between 1 November and 31 March, you will enjoy a scenic cruise of the Borromeo Islands and a visit to Pallanza village instead. If you are in Lake Maggiore from 1-15 April, the Borromeo Palace might be closed mid-week. You should expect large crowds in the Cinque Terre, San Gimignano, Florence and Venice. For the Cinque Terre excursion, agility is required to board trains that require the ability to climb 3 one-foot-tall steps holding on to railings and agility boarding local ferry boats when available. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas such as the Cinque Terre villages, Siena, San Gimignano, Venice, and Florence which requires a minimum 2.5 miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

NEW TOUR

BEST OF ITALY

11 DAYS • 17 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,849

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Venice • Gondola Ride
- Classical Music Concert
- Po River Delta Wetlands Sailing
- Republic of San Marino
- Impact Moment: Culinary Arts & Agriculture Vocational School Visit
- Florence • Chiusi Etruscan Museum
- Labyrinth of Porsenna • Rome
- Trastevere Food Tour Dinner



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Discover the craftsmanship behind the Venetian gondolas during a visit to a local *Remèr* oar-making workshop.
- Enjoy classical music during a concert of Vivaldi's famous *Four Seasons*.
- Explore the Po River Delta during a pontoon boat sailing of this UNESCO wetland region.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 4** — Relax at your hotel with a wine-infused mud treatment **-OR-** spend the day in Ravenna for a guided tour of its mosaics (UNESCO).
- **Day 9** — Explore Rome on a walking tour of its Renaissance and Baroque masterpieces **-OR-** search for the vestiges of the Empire during a tour featuring the Catacombs.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

10 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Participate in a hands-on cooking class dedicated to Romagna's *garganelli* and *strozzapreti* pastas.
- Taste traditionally made Parmigiano cheese and Balsamic vinegar at a Culinary Arts vocational school.
- Experience the flavours of Trastevere — Rome's medieval district — during a food tour dinner.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1, 2** Maison Venezia UNA Esperienze or Hotel NH Venezia Rio Novo, Venice
- Days 3-5** Borgo Conde Wine Resort, Forlì, Romagna Countryside
- Days 6, 7** Grand Hotel Cavour, Florence
- Days 8-10** Ponte Sisto Hotel, Rome

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Be whisked away into the beauty and history of Italy when you journey to Venice, Florence, and Rome.

Day 1: Venice, Italy - Tour Begins

Welcome to enchanting Venice (UNESCO) with its 117 tiny islands surrounded by a latticework of 150 canals and 400 bridges. This evening, meet your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 2: Venice - Gondola Ride - Classical Music Concert

This morning, explore the traditional Venetian craftsmanship behind one of the city's symbols: the sleek, iconic gondola boats. Visit a local *Remèr* oar-making workshop, one of only a handful still active in the city. Then, join a local guide for a walking tour of 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. This evening, glide along the canals during a gondola ride before delving into Venice's classical music heritage while attending a live performance of the *Four Seasons* composed by the great Venetian Antonio Vivaldi. (B)

Day 3: Venice - Po River Sailing - Romagna Countryside

Say "*Ciao*" to Venice as you journey towards the Romagna region, famous for its epicurean lifestyle and its *joie de vivre*. Along the way, visit the Po Delta (UNESCO). Since ancient times, this delta has been the border between the Venice and the Ravenna regions, once two independent states. These wetlands will give you a glimpse into what Venice and Ravenna looked like to ancient Roman settlers making their way here from the south. You'll explore

the wetlands by pontoon boat, learning about how the ecosystem here actually aided the Romans in escaping the barbarians that harried them. You'll also learn about the lives of fisherman and farmers whose lives have changed very little over the last 1,000 years. Take in the tranquil scenery before stopping for lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, continue to your hotel nestled among vineyards in the Romagna countryside and settle in for your 3-night stay. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Romagna Countryside - Choice on Tour

Today, **it's your choice!** Bask in the bucolic landscape at your wine resort hotel and pamper yourself with an organic wine-infused mud treatment in the onsite spa **-OR-** spend the day exploring Ravenna (UNESCO). During the darkness that enveloped the last days of the Roman Empire, Ravenna emerged as a centre of power thanks to its strategic position. The city's rulers — the Byzantines, the Goths — adorned its churches with dazzling mosaics. During a guided walking tour, discover the city's most illustrious monuments including the mosaics that inspired Cole Porter's *Night and Day*. This evening, join the local chef for a hands-on cooking class centred on Romagna's most typical pasta dishes with colourful names such as *garganelli* or *strozzapreti* (priest-stranglers), and enjoy the results of your work for dinner. (B, D)

Day 5: Romagna Countryside - San Marino - Romagna Countryside

Grab your passport and journey to the landlocked Republic of San Marino,



the fifth-smallest country in the world. Perched at the top of Mount Titano, the old town of San Marino (UNESCO) gives visitors sweeping views over the Adriatic Riviera and the gentle rolling hills of the Romagna countryside. Explore the Old Town's intricate system of fortification towers, walls, gates and bastions during time at leisure. This evening, wrap up your stay in the Romagna Countryside with a wine-pairing dinner at your wine resort hotel. (B, D)

Day 6: Romagna Countryside – Emilia Food Valley – Florence
Today, travel to the Emilia region, Italy's foodie haven. Meet students and teachers at a vocational high school for an **Impact Moment** dedicated to the Culinary Arts and Agriculture. Here, Italy's future chefs and farmers learn how to make Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese according to traditional codes, dating back to the 1300s. Students also try their hand aging Balsamic vinegar, a generational process taking anything from 12 to 25 years. Enjoy a farm-to-table light lunch prepared by the culinary students using ingredients from the School's farm. Later, continue to Florence (UNESCO), the "Cradle of the Renaissance" and your home for the next 2 nights. (B, L)

Day 7: 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 one of the city's many museums, such as the Uffizi or Academy Gallery, where Michelangelo's *David* is kept. (B)

Day 8: Florence – Chiusi – Rome
This morning traverse southern Tuscany, the ancient land of the Etruscans. This mysterious civilisation predated the Romans, who assimilated them, erasing most of their way of life, even though many early kings of Rome were Etruscans. By all accounts, they were an advanced society and culture. On a guided walking tour of Chiusi, once part of the Etruscan Dodecapolis, you explore the town's underground water system — which has so many twists and turns that it was nicknamed Labyrinth of King Porsenna. You'll also visit the small archeological museum housing some of the most interesting artifacts archeologists found in the surrounding hills. Arrive in Rome (UNESCO) in the afternoon and settle in for a 3-night stay. (B)

Day 9: Rome 
This morning, **it's your choice!** Explore Rome your way: delve into Rome's second Golden Age on a walking tour exploring its Renaissance and Baroque heritage and featuring Caravaggio's paintings, alongside the Pantheon and Navona Square **-OR-** explore Rome's Christian heritage on a panoramic tour featuring the Catacombs and the medieval basilica of St. Sabina on the Aventine Hill. The afternoon is yours to explore more of Italy's capital city. Perhaps you'll join an optional tour for an in depth visit of the Colosseum and the Capitol Hill with its monumental piazza designed by Michelangelo. (B)

Day 10: Rome
Make the most of a free day in the Eternal City. Perhaps you'll stroll through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or join an early morning "Breakfast with Michelangelo" option to the Vatican Museums. Your visit begins with a buffet breakfast in the Pinecone Courtyard with views of Michelangelo's cupola — the dome sheltering St. Peter's Basilica. Then, 1 hour ahead of the Vatican Museums' opening to the general public, enjoy the ability to roam freely through one of the world's greatest art collections. With the aid of an audio guide, you'll be able to independently explore the Museums' highlights, including Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. Gather tonight to toast the end of your Italian adventure during a food tour in Rome's bohemian Trastevere district. (B, D)

Day 11: Rome – Tour Ends
Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many fond memories of incredible Italy. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
VENICE

CALL FOR DETAILS

POST NIGHT
ROME

CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Best of Italy with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$5,849**

SOLO Starting at **\$7,549**

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

Price based on 8 April 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Venice and depart from Rome. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The Breakfast with Michelangelo option must be purchased no later than 60 days prior to tour departure date. Once purchased any cancellation within 60 days of tour departure will be nonrefundable. Due to the very limited number of tickets available, this option is not available for purchase on tour. On occasion, due to inclement weather: your gondola boat ride in Venice may be substituted with a motorboat transfer; your pontoon boat ride on the Po Delta may be replaced with an enclosed motorboat ride or a tour of the local River Museum; and your farewell dinner in Rome may be served in a local restaurant instead. Exact concert program is confirmed 6 months ahead of your tour departure date and is subject to change. Occasionally the orchestra may be on tour and unavailable. During school holidays the visit to the culinary vocational school will be replaced by a visit to a local farm producing Parmigiano-Reggiano, and lunch will take place at a local Balsamic vinegar producer. Most state museums in Florence require reservations to access. In order to avoid standing in long lines, we suggest you reserve your ticket online prior to departure if you plan to visit the Academy Gallery or the Uffizi during your free time in Florence. The Colosseum and Vatican Museum optional tours must be purchased at a minimum of 60 days prior to departure. The Vatican Museums and Colosseum dates and times are all subject to change based on availability of reservations. Vatican Museums are not available on Sundays and Catholic holidays. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in the historic areas of Venice, Ravenna, San Marino, Florence and Rome. Agility is required for boarding the gondola boats in Venice and the pontoon boat in the Po Delta. The visits to the underground Labyrinth of Porsenna in Chiusi and to the Catacombs in Rome require negotiating 3 to 4 flights of steps and may not be suitable for people suffering from claustrophobia. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

SICILY AND ITS ISLES

13 DAYS • 19 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,499

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Palermo • Monreale • Impact Moment
- Trapani • Isle of Mozia • Marsala Winery Tour • Olive Oil Farm • Agrigento
 - Valley of the Temples • Ragusa
- Isle of Salina • Caper Farm • Taormina
 - Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Ascend the sides of Mount Etna (UNESCO) on off-road vehicles.
- Soak up the relaxed ambiance of the Aeolian Islands (UNESCO) with a 2-night stay on the Isle of Salina.
- Delve into the belly of Palermo on a walking food tour.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 2** — Explore the serene cloisters of Monreale's cathedral **-OR-** ascend the southern tower to the panoramic terraces for a bird's-eye view over Palermo.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

12 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Taste award-winning olive oil and learn about the Slow Food movement at a local farm.
- Enjoy world-renowned Marsala wine on a wine cellar tour.
- Savour capers and sweet Malvasia wine at a local producer on Salina island.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2 Hotel Porta Felice, Palermo
Days 3, 4 I Mulini Resort, Trapani
Day 5 Baia di Ulisse Hotel, Agrigento

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Enhance your experience at the Baia di Ulisse Hotel with an upgrade to a Sea View room. [CALL FOR DETAILS](#)

Days 6, 7 Poggio del Sole Hotel, Ragusa
Days 8, 9 Hotel La Salina Borgo Di Mare, Salina
Days 10-12 NH Collection Hotel, Taormina

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Enhance your experience at the NH Collection with an upgrade to a Premium Sea View room. [CALL FOR DETAILS](#)

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Stay two nights on the island of Salina

Explore Sicily — an island paradise nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean.

Day 1: Palermo, Italy - Tour Begins

Start your journey in Palermo (UNESCO), Sicily's capital city. Uncover the island's heritage, teeming with Arab-Norman architectural masterpieces and delicate Classical designs. Come to know your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 2: 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. 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 3: Palermo - Impact Moment - Trapani

Experience an **Impact Moment** with Addiopizzo, an anti-Mafia nonprofit that supports locals who refuse to pay the Mafia's protection fees. Visit Capaci and Cinisi, the site of two terrorist acts led by the Mafia, and pay tribute to fallen activists. Chat with locals for a personal perspective and learn how they overcame the Mafia's reign. As the day draws to a close, settle into Trapani for two nights and watch the sunset fade against the crashing waves and whirling windmills. (B)

Day 4: Trapani - Isle of Mozia - Marsala - Optional Excursion

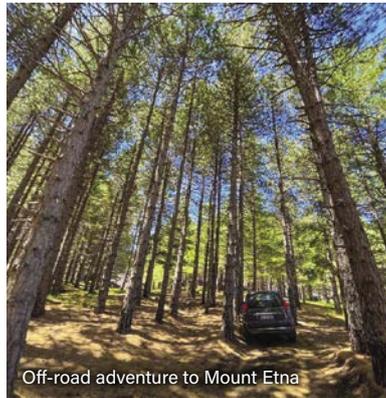
Venture to the isle of Mozia, once a great trading port for the Phoenician, Greek and Roman civilisations. On the way, sail next to a submerged Roman road, once traversed on foot. Explore Mozia with a guide, visiting the ruins of its ancient port, and a museum featuring impressive Greek statuary. Then continue to Marsala, heading down into a cellar for a sampling of its renowned wines. The remainder of the day is yours. Perhaps you will join an optional tour to Erice to visit Maria Grammatico's famous bakery for a pastry-making class. (B)

Day 5: Trapani - Agrigento - Valley of the Temples - Agrigento

Begin in Mazara del Vallo, a humble fisherman city with ties to Tunisia. Head to an award-winning olive grove and learn about the Slow Food movement, which supports local cultures and preserves traditions. Try their unique olive oil at lunch before departing for Agrigento, where ancient roots and medieval buildings blend into modernity. Wander through the Valley of the Temples (UNESCO) with a guide at dusk. (B, L, D)

Day 6: Agrigento - Ragusa

Make your way to Ragusa (UNESCO), an ancient city perched upon a hill. Meander through its Baroque neighbourhood with an expert guide, passing by winding lanes, cobblestone streets, and wrought iron balconies. Make the most of a



free afternoon to explore on your own. As the sun sets, retreat to your countryside resort just outside the city. (B, D)

Day 7: Ragusa - Optional Excursion

The entire day is yours. With free time, you might choose to relax in the countryside and enjoy the resort's amenities. Or, perhaps you will join an optional tour to the picture-perfect towns of Scicli and Modica, where you'll enjoy a savoury brunch at a ricotta farm before continuing to an Aztec chocolate shop for some sweet samples. (B, D)

Day 8: Ragusa - Milazzo - Ferry to Aeolian Islands - Isle of Salina - Lingua

Grab your bags and hop on a ferry in Milazzo. Sail by Vulcano and Lipari on your way to Salina, a far-flung isle surrounded by vibrant blue waters and dark volcanic rock. Somewhat off the beaten path, Salina is one of the less-travelled Aeolian Islands, preserved as a vacation getaway for Italians. Settle into the hamlet of Lingua for a 2-night stay. (B)

Day 9: Salina - Caper Farm - Optional Excursion

Dramatic landscapes of rocky cliffs and vibrant vineyards pass by on your way to nearby Pollara, famous for its traditional caper cultivation. Wander through the fields, tasting the salted flower buds accompanied by a glass of Malvasia, a locally produced dessert wine. The afternoon is yours to do as you please. Perhaps you'll take an optional

cruise to Stromboli, where you'll swim off your private boat and dine at sunset; relax and watch for the signature glow of the island's active volcano. (B)

Day 10: Salina - Ferry to Milazzo - Taormina

After a relaxing morning, ferry back to mainland Sicilia. Journey along the Ionian Coast to Taormina, a seaside hub of ancient Greek theatres and hilly walkways. Settle into your new home for the next three nights and enjoy a free evening to explore on your own. (B)

Day 11: Taormina

Discover Taormina with a local guide, leading you to the city's Duomo, public gardens, and the well-preserved Greek theatre. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean. Spend the afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs. (B)

Day 12: 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 13: Taormina - Tour Ends

Your journey through Sicily comes to a close today. Return home with memories of Italy's favourite island. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT PALERMO
CALL FOR DETAILS

POST NIGHT TAORMINA
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Sicily and Its Isles with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$5,499**
SOLO Starting at **\$6,449**

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

Price based on 17 April 2024 departure.



Departures available August 2023 - May 2025.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

ALSO AVAILABLE



Old World Sicily & Malta

Discover how ancient traditions blend into modern society on a tour of timeless Sicily with 3 nights in Malta.

★ DATES AVAILABLE JUNE 2023 - MAY 2024

SEE PAGE 18 - FOR DETAILS

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Palermo depart from Catania. All of our return transfers will depart from Taormina to Catania airport. Airport transfers are available for purchase. In the case of adverse sea conditions, the ferry to the isle of Salina may be delayed or cancelled resulting in partial reduction of your time on the isle (or cancellation of the visit). In case of this event, there will be a replacement accommodation arranged and a comparable program on the mainland. Guests are responsible for handling their own luggage when getting on and off the ferry. Guests have the option of storing their larger suitcases on the bus for 3 days until they return to Sicily mainland, bringing a small carry-on with them on the island.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

OLD WORLD SICILY & MALTA

14 DAYS • 22 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,799

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Palermo • Monreale • Impact Moment
- Trapani • Isle of Mozia • Marsala Winery Tour • Olive Oil Farm • Agrigento
- Valley of the Temples • Taormina
- Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion
- Ragusa • Malta • Three Cities • Valletta



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Ascend the sides of Mount Etna (UNESCO) on off-road vehicles.
- Soak up the island ambiance of Malta with a 3-night stay in St. Julian's.
- Delve into the belly of Palermo on a walking food tour.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 2** — Explore the cloisters of Monreale's cathedral, taking in the serene atmosphere of the monastic complex **-OR-** ascend the southern tower to the panoramic terraces for a bird's-eye view over Palermo.
- **Day 13** — Visit the private home of a modern-day Knight of Malta **-OR-** tour the masterpieces of Valletta's Cathedral.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

13 Breakfasts (B) • 3 Lunches (L) • 6 Dinners (D)

- Taste award-winning olive oil and learn about the Slow Food movement at a local farm.
- Delve into the history of Marsala wine during a visit to a local cellar.
- Explore the flavours of Maltese cuisine during a family-style tasting dinner.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2 Hotel Porta Felice, Palermo

Days 3, 4 I Mulini Resort, Trapani

Day 5 Baia di Ulisse Hotel, Agrigento

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Enhance your stay at the Baia di Ulisse Hotel with an upgrade to a Sea View room. [CALL FOR DETAILS](#)

Days 6-8 NH Collection Hotel or Hotel Villa Diodoro, Taormina

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

During your stay in Taormina, you can choose to upgrade to a Sea View room. [CALL FOR DETAILS](#)

Days 9, 10 Poggio del Sole Hotel, Ragusa

Days 11-13 Land's End Boutique Hotel, Tas-Sliema

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

During your stay at the Land's End Boutique Hotel in Sliema, you can choose to upgrade to a Sea View room. [CALL FOR DETAILS](#)

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Three Cities, Malta

Explore Sicily and Malta —
two island paradises nestled amongst
the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean.

Day 1: Palermo, Italy - Tour Begins

Start your journey in Palermo (UNESCO), Sicily's welcoming capital city. Uncover the island's deeply rooted heritage, teeming with Arab-Norman architectural masterpieces and delicate Classical designs. Come to know your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 2: Palermo

Begin your adventure tasting your way through Palermo's lively markets on a walking tour unveiling the city's historical centre and introducing you to traditional Sicilian street food, which layers Oriental and Norman influences with local produce such as wild fennel, olives and spices. This afternoon, head to Monreale Cathedral, ascending on foot to see its majestic Byzantine mosaics. Then, **it's your choice!** Explore the cathedral's cloisters, taking in the 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 3: Palermo - Impact Moment - Trapani

Experience an **Impact Moment** with Addiopizzo, an anti-Mafia nonprofit that supports locals who refuse to pay the Mafia's protection fees. Visit Capaci and Cinisi, the site of two terrorist acts led by the Mafia, and pay tribute to fallen activists. Chat with locals for a personal perspective and learn how

they overcame the Mafia's reign. As the day draws to a close, settle into Trapani for two nights and watch the sunset fade against the crashing waves and whirling windmills. (B)

Day 4: Trapani - Isle of Mozia - Marsala - Optional Excursion

Venture to the isle of Mozia, once a great trading port for the Phoenician, Greek and Roman civilisations. On the way, sail next to a submerged Roman road, once traversed on foot. Explore Mozia with a guide, visiting the ruins of its ancient port, and a museum featuring impressive Greek statuary. Then continue to Marsala, heading down into a cellar for a sampling of its renowned wines paired with a tasting of locally produced foods. The remainder of the day is yours. Perhaps you will join an optional tour to Erice to visit Maria Grammatico's famous bakery for a pastry-making class. (B)

Day 5: Trapani - Agrigento - Valley of the Temples - Agrigento

Begin in Mazara del Vallo, a humble fishermen city with ties to Tunisia. Head to an award-winning olive grove and learn about the Slow Food movement, which supports local cultures and preserves traditions. Try their unique olive oil at lunch before departing for Agrigento, where ancient roots and medieval buildings blend into modernity. Wander through the Valley of the Temples (UNESCO) with a guide at dusk. (B, L, D)



Day 6: Agrigento – Piazza Armerina – Taormina

Venture deep into Sicily's countryside to Piazza Armerina, home of the ancient Villa Romana del Casale (UNESCO), and explore the site with an expert insider for a locally guided tour of its impressive mosaics. In the afternoon, journey along the Ionian Coast to Taormina, a seaside hub of ancient Greek theaters and hilly walkways. Settle into your new home for the next three nights before enjoying Sicilian food at dinner, surrounded by local musicians. (B, D)

Day 7: Taormina

Discover Taormina with a local guide, leading you to the city's Duomo, public gardens, and the well-preserved Greek theater. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean. Spend the afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs. (B)

Day 8: 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. (B)

Day 9: Taormina – Ragusa
Make your way to Ragusa (UNESCO), an ancient city perched upon a hill.

Meander through its Baroque neighbourhood with an expert guide, passing by winding lanes, cobblestone streets, and wrought iron balconies. Make the most of a free afternoon to explore on your own. As the sun sets, retreat to your countryside resort just outside the city. (B, D)

Day 10: Ragusa – Optional Excursion

The entire day is yours. With free time, you might choose to relax in the countryside and enjoy the resort's amenities. Or, perhaps you will join an optional tour to the picture-perfect towns of Scicli and Modica, where you'll enjoy a savoury brunch at a ricotta farm before continuing to an Aztec chocolate shop for some sweet samples. (B, D)

Day 11: Ragusa – Pozzallo – Ferry to Malta – Three Cities – Sliema

Grab your bags and hop on a ferry in Pozzallo. Say goodbye to Italy and venture to the island paradise of Malta, one of the smallest countries in the world. Start your exploration in Three Cities, a conglomeration of three fortified cities of medieval heritage. Once the setting of battles by the Knights of Malta, this area preserves endless layers of the past. Connect with the heart of the neighbourhood at a Band Club, where locals gather to learn music and marching for the local festivals. Your day ends in Sliema, your home for the next three nights. (B, L)

Day 12: Sliema – Optional Excursion

The day is yours to experience the island of Malta however you please. Soak up the sunshine, relax on the beach, or even explore the colourful harbour on foot. Perhaps you'll join an optional excursion to a temple complex older than Stonehenge, followed by an intimate look at Mdina – the "Silent City." (B)

Day 13: Sliema – Valletta – Sliema

Your adventure continues in Valletta, the capital of Malta. Discover this fortified city on a guided walking tour. You'll take in the picturesque Barrakka Gardens overlooking the harbour, featuring a charming blend of natural beauty and terraced arches. Then **it's your choice!** Visit the private home of a modern-day Knight of Malta **-OR-** tour the masterpieces of Valletta's Cathedral featuring Mattia Preti and Caravaggio. As the day draws to a close, enjoy a farewell dinner with your fellow travellers as you recount memories of the Mediterranean islands. (B, D)

Day 14: Sliema – Tour Ends
Say goodbye to Malta and the Mediterranean as your tour comes to a close today. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
PALERMO
CALL FOR DETAILS

POST NIGHT
MALTA
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Old World Sicily and Malta with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$5,799
SOLO Starting at \$6,899

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

Price based on 7 November 2023 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Palermo and depart from Malta. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Guests are responsible for handling their own luggage when getting on and off the ferry. In the case of adverse sea conditions, the ferry to the isle of Malta may be delayed or cancelled resulting in partial reduction of your time on the isle (or cancellation of the visit). In case of this event, there will be a replacement accommodation arranged and a comparable program on the mainland.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“What was most enjoyable was the friendships made within this small group. We all got along so well together and had so much fun and laughs with each other.”

— Collette Traveller



ITALY: AMALFI COAST TO PUGLIA

13 DAYS • 18 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,649

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Naples • Impact Moment • Pompeii
- Wine Tasting • Minori • Amalfi
- Positano • Ravello • Eboli • Matera
- Grottaglie • Lecce • Tarantella Folk Music & Dance Performance • Ostuni
- Ape Calessino Tour • Alberobello



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Zoom through Ostuni like a local - in the backseat of a 3-wheeled Ape Calessino car.
- In Matera, spend 2 nights in a unique cave-dwelling accommodation.
- **Impact Moment:** Discover traditional Neapolitan songs and music during a private performance at a local social enterprise.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 8** — Work with your hands at a bread-making class **-OR-** explore Matera's prehistoric heritage on a hike through the countryside and rock churches.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

12 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Sample wines just outside of Pompeii, created from the 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.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2 Royal Continental Hotel, Naples

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Enhance your experience at the Royal Continental Hotel with a frontal sea view room upgrade.

CALL FOR DETAILS

Days 3-6 Hotel Villa Romana, Minori, Amalfi Coast

Days 7, 8 Locanda di San Martino Hotel, Matera

Days 9, 10 Santa Chiara Suite Hotel, Lecce, Puglia

Days 11, 12 Trulli Holiday Albergo Diffuso, Alberobello, Puglia

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Stray off the beaten path and explore a new side to the Italy you know and love.

Day 1: Naples, Italy - Tour Begins

Begin in Naples, a vibrant mecca for locals and travellers alike. Settle into your new home for the next 2 nights and admire the view of crashing waves and bobbing boats. Toast to the start of your Italian getaway over dinner, looking out over the deep blue Bay of Naples to Mt. Vesuvius looming in the distance. (D)

Day 2: Naples

Explore Naples' exuberant historic city centre (UNESCO) and underground ancient ruins with a local guide. Visit the Sansevero Chapel, home to the Veiled Christ statue, rumoured to be created by alchemy due to its carved flowing cloth. During your afternoon at leisure, consider visiting the nearby National Archeological Museum and peruse relics from Pompeii. Tonight's **Impact Moment** comes in the form of a private concert, performed by the *Napulitanata* social enterprise, which supports Italian heritage and abates the city's high unemployment. (B)

Day 3: 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 4: Minori - Maiori - Minori

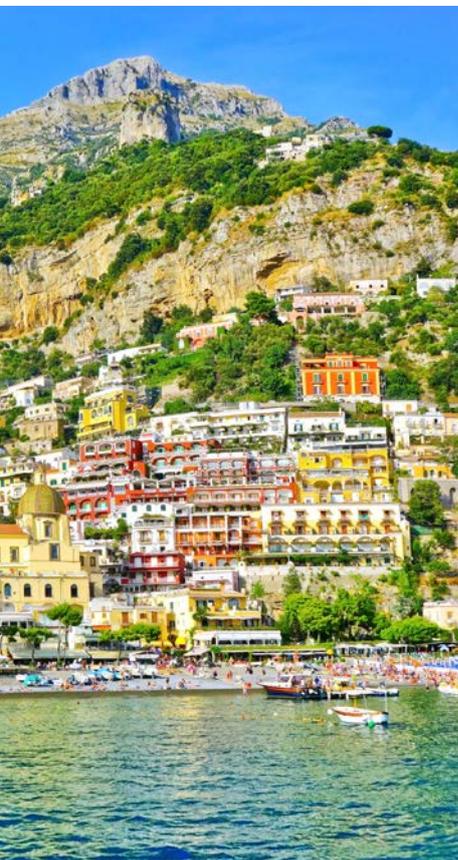
A fishing village of terraced lemon groves, Minori exudes the quintessential *Amalfitana* vibe. Start your morning in a garden and learn about *sfusato* lemons, used in *limoncello*. Sample this fragrant liqueur in a pastry shop before hiking along the coast. You'll trek the rugged Path of Lemons — an ancient, hilly route that links Minori with the nearby town Maiori. Explore on your own before returning by boat. The remainder of the day is yours. (B)

Day 5: 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 hubs, containing cobblestone piazzas and towering mosaicked cathedrals. After a few hours on your own, ferry past tumbling cliffs and pastel-coloured houses on your way to Positano. Enjoy a free afternoon in this resort town, perhaps browsing the posh boutiques or resting along the beach. Return to Minori by ferry. (B)

Day 6: Minori - Ravello - Minori

Look down upon the Amalfi Coast from Ravello, a picturesque village with the best vantage point of the winding coastline. Visit the gardens of Villa Rufolo, making your way through a latticework of hedges and flowers to gaze out at the azure waves below. Take advantage of free time on your own. Perhaps you'll hike the half-mile trail down to the gardens of Villa Cimbrone before returning to Minori in the afternoon. (B, D)



Day 7: Minori – Eboli – Matera
Start your morning in Eboli and glimpse into the area's war-stricken past at the Museum of Operation Avalanche. Continue south to Matera (UNESCO), whose inimitable scenery has been featured in blockbuster films. Walk in the footsteps of ancient ancestors and experience the town's cave dwellings, your home for the next 2 nights. Each cave is unique, half-excavated and half-carved from the land. In these unparalleled accommodation, connect with the Italian landscape like never before. (B)

Day 8: Matera
Hike into Matera's 9,000-year-old history on a guided walking tour along its hillside caves, known to locals as the *Sassi*. After some time to explore, **it's your choice!** Work with your hands at a bread-making class and learn about how the community comes together over food –**OR**– explore Matera's prehistoric and medieval heritage on a hike through the surrounding countryside and rock churches. The evening is yours. (B)

Day 9: Matera – Grottaglie – Lecce
Cross into the Puglia region and spend time in the town of Grottaglie, famous for its ceramic workshops. Stroll by the multicoloured artisan shops 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 10: Lecce
The day is yours. Lose yourself in the city's charismatic ambience — full of winding lanes, sun-kissed piazzas, and hidden cafes. Perhaps you'll join an optional excursion to Otranto and a nearby winery, featuring a tasting of wine from the region's dark-purple grapes. No matter how you spend the day, reconvene in the evening for a private folk music and dance performance, highlighting the traditional *pizzica e taranta*. According to legend, spider bites cause the women to dance with feverish energy. (B)

Day 11: Lecce – Ostuni – Alberobello
Stop in Ostuni, a whitewashed town surrounded by olive trees. Zoom through the town like a local in the backseat of an open-air Ape Calessino, a traditional 3-wheeled car. Enjoy time on your own before arriving in Alberobello. Make your way to your personal room, a converted house that will serve as your home for the next 2 nights. Make the most of a free evening to independently explore. (B)

Day 12: Alberobello
Say *buongiorno* to Alberobello (UNESCO), a whimsical city that hosts a collection of cone-shaped *trulli* homes. Meander through a labyrinth of these gnomish houses, sometimes featuring symbols with superstitious connotations. As the day draws to a close, wish Italy goodbye at a farewell dinner. (B, D)

Day 13: Alberobello – Tour Ends
Depart for home with treasured memories of rocky shores and cobblestone streets. (B)

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
NAPLES
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Italy: Amalfi Coast to Puglia with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$5,649**
SOLO Starting at **\$6,749**

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

Price based on 3 November 2023 departure.



Departures available July 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Naples and depart from Bari. All departure transfers will depart from Alberobello city center to the Bari airport. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The hike along the Path of Lemons and/or the boat trip to Maiori may be cancelled in case of inclement weather or adverse sea conditions. The hike is 3.8 kilometres long and involves multiple flights of stairs; a boat will be provided for travellers who prefer not to hike. The ferry boat service does not operate between November and March. During these months a substitute bus service will be provided. In case of adverse sea conditions, the ferry service may be suspended at any time, in which case a substitute bus service will be provided. On occasion, due to inclement weather, your hiking of the Rock Churches in Matera's countryside may be substituted with a visit to an underground cistern in Matera city centre. In order to fully experience the destination, some of our hotels on these programs are located in smaller towns or on country roads where access is limited to large coaches. In these cases, you will be dropped off as close as possible and there will be a short walk to access the hotel from the drop-off area. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas such as Naples, Positano, Amalfi, Eboli, Alberobello and Matera which requires ability to walk up and down hill on narrow, cobblestoned streets and negotiating stairs. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

NEW TOUR

MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL JOURNEY

FROM BARCELONA
TO FLORENCE

15 DAYS • 24 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,699

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Barcelona • La Sagrada Família
- Costa Brava • Winery Visit
- Impact Moment • Aix-en-Provence
- French Riviera • Monaco-Montecarlo
- Portofino • Cinque Terre • Florence
- Truffle Hunting • Tuscan Villa Stay



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Take in the Spanish coastline during a walk between the villages of Calella de Palafrugell and Llafranc.
- Impact Moment: dine at a *restaurant solidaire* (solidarity restaurant) in Marseille that uses its profits to give meals to the poor.
- Set out through the rolling hills of Tuscany in company of a truffle hunter and his truffle-sniffing dogs.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 3** — In Barcelona, visit Catalunya's National Museum of Art **-OR-** ascend the Montjuïc Castle for bird-eye views over the bustling port.
- **Day 7** — In Marseille, explore the Cosquer Cave replica, an outstanding example of primitive rock art **-OR-** discover the city's 600 year soap heritage during a visit to the museum of "Marseille" soap.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

- Dine on traditional Catalan specialties in a 17th-century farmhouse-restaurant.
- Visit an ancient abbey turned winery for a tour of the cellars and tasting.



ACCOMMODATION

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Days 1-3 | Hotel Catalonia Passeig de Gracia, Barcelona, Spain |
| Day 4, 5 | Park Hotel San Jorge, Calonge, Costa Brava, Spain |
| Days 6, 7 | NH Collection, Marseille, France |
| Days 8, 9 | Hotel Massena or Hotel Aston La Scala, Nice, French Riviera |
| Day 10-12 | NH Collection Genova Marina, Genoa, Italian Riviera |
| Days 13, 14 | Hotel Borgo di Cortefreda, Chianti Countryside, Tuscany |

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Costa Brava



Venture along the glittering Mediterranean coast on an immersive journey connecting the Spanish, French and Italian Rivieras.

Day 1: Barcelona, Spain - Tour Begins

Begin your journey in the spirited city of Barcelona, famed for its exceptional architecture and vibrant culinary scene. Settle in for a 3-night stay. Tonight, meet your fellow travellers over a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

Day 2: Barcelona

This morning, explore the Catalan capital as it was meant to be explored — on foot. Ramble along the bustling La Rambla boulevard, famous for its street artists and performers. Wander along the Gothic Quarter's labyrinthine streets and delve into one of Barcelona's lively food markets pausing to savour a traditional paella lunch. The afternoon is yours. Perhaps you'll venture Park Güell or join an optional food tour of the Eixample district, interlacing Modernist architecture with tasty tapas. (B, L)

Day 3: Barcelona

Gain a different perspective on Barcelona during a panoramic tour showcasing the expansive Plaça de Catalunya, the Columbus Monument, and Antoni Gaudí's Batlló House and Casa Milà building (UNESCO). Then, **it's your choice!** Visit Catalunya's National Museum of Art in company of a local guide **-OR-** hop on a cable car and ascend the Montjuïc Castle for bird-eye views over the bustling port. This afternoon, visit the awe-inspiring Sagrada Família (UNESCO). Work on Gaudí's visionary basilica began in 1882, and is scheduled to be completed in 2026, on the 100th anniversary of the architect's death. As the day draws to a close, dine on traditional Catalan specialties at a farmhouse turned restaurant. (B, D)

Day 4: Barcelona - Girona - Costa Brava

Set out for Girona, a medieval town known for its Old Quarter. Explore the Barri Vell in company of a local guide and enjoy some free time to stroll along its riverbanks. Admire Girona's colourful houses before heading to the Catalan coast for a 2-night stay at a seaside hotel. Costa Brava is an incredibly alluring place, and the perfect region to spend your days relaxing in your sea-view room or exploring its secluded coves and beaches. (B)

Day 5: Costa Brava - Figueres - Besalú

Take in the Spanish coastline during a coastal walk between the charming villages of Calella de Palafrugell and Llafranc. Then, travel to nearby Figueres, where the surreal outside architecture of the Dalí Theatre-Museum matches the artist's legendary works inside. After taking in the mind-boggling art of Salvador Dalí, you'll continue on to the medieval village of Besalú. This evening, relax over dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

Day 6: Costa Brava - Winery Visit - Marseille, France

Bid *adiós* to Spain this morning as you cross into France during a full-day transfer. Along the way, pause at an ancient abbey 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 Marseille. (B, L)

Day 7: Marseille Y

Founded over 26 centuries ago, Marseille is France's oldest city. In 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 –**OR**– hop on a local ferry and discover one of the city's heritage trades during a visit to the museum of "Marseille" soap, which has been crafted in the area for over 600 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 Calanques National Park. This evening's **Impact Moment** comes in the form of dinner at a socially responsible restaurant that uses its profits to provide meals to the impoverished for a symbolic cost. (B, D)

Day 8: Marseille – Aix-en-Provence – Nice, French Riviera

Let the colours and light of southern France captivate you as you explore Aix-en-Provence. Perhaps you'll visit the *atelier* (artist studio) of Paul Cézanne, frozen in time since the painter's death in 1906. Or acquaint yourself with the Provençal lifestyle browsing the town's food shops in search of the perfect olive tapenade. An afternoon transfer takes you to Nice, a coastal pearl known for its legendary opulence and balmy beaches. Join an orientation walk of the old town before setting off for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 9: Nice

The day is yours to explore Nice. Perhaps you'll stroll along the lively seafront Promenade des Anglais before finding your favourite café and soaking in the local life. Or join an optional tour to historic St. Paul de Vence. After exploring this charming walled medieval village, continue to Grasse, the capital of French perfume. Learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop led by an expert perfumer, affectionately referred to as *Nez* (Nose) before returning to Nice for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 10: 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. 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 11: Genoa – Portofino – Genoa

Taste your way across Genoa's old town during a walking tour of this ancient Maritime Republic. This afternoon, board a boat to visit glamorous Portofino. Spend time exploring the colourful harbour, dotted with fishing boats and yachts. This evening pause for a taste of the Italian Riviera at a local restaurant renowned for its cheese-filled focaccia and homemade pesto sauce. (B, D)

Day 12: 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 13: Genoa – Florence – Tuscan Countryside

A morning-long transfer takes you to Florence, the 'Cradle of the Renaissance'. Home to Italy's best art and architecture, Florence is a work of art all on its own. Marvel at Ghiberti's 'Gates of Paradise' and Brunelleschi's dome at the Santa Maria del Fiore cathedral. Take in the towering Palazzo Vecchio, 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 villa stay in the Tuscan countryside. (B, D)

Day 14: 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 olive groves in search of the elusive tuber-shaped fungi before sampling the results for lunch. Then spend time in San Gimignano, whose 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 15: Tuscan Countryside – Tour Ends

Say *arrivederci* to Italy as your journey along the Mediterranean coast comes to an end today. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR! Combine Mediterranean Coastal Journey with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$6,699**

SOLO Starting at **\$8,499**

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

Price based on 5 November 2023 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Barcelona and depart from Florence. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The cable car to Montjuïc is suspended at a height between 50 to 150 feet above ground; this activity may not be suitable for people with vertigo. On the rare occasion when the Sagrada Família in Barcelona should not be available, you will visit another top attraction instead. The Little Train tour operates from February to mid-November. In the other months, you will transfer to the Monte Carlo district by public bus. The boat ride to Portofino operates on a weather permitting basis between March and early November. When the weather is uncooperative, you will still visit Portofino, but you will travel there by public bus. Travelling to Cinque Terre requires the ability to climb 3 one-foot-tall steps holding on to 'pool-ladder' style railings in order to board the trains. The trains are crowded, and seating is not guaranteed. Trains are subject to delays and prone to public transportation strikes. In the event of a major strike, we may swap the days of the Portofino and Cinque Terre visits. Access to the Cinque Terre can be restricted by the local government in case of severe weather alerts. In the rare occasion of a multi-day strike or weather alert, we will replace Cinque Terre with another attraction. The truffle hunting activity takes place in the countryside on unpaved paths and in wooded areas. To participate you must wear comfortable, sturdy walking or hiking shoes. You should expect large crowds Barcelona, Portofino, the Cinque Terre and in Florence, which requires minimum 2.5 miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas such as Barcelona, Marseille, Aix-en-Provence, Monaco, Genoa, Portofino, Cinque Terre, Florence, and San Gimignano. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL: COSTA DEL SOL TO THE PORTUGUESE RIVIERA

11 DAYS • 16 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,349

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Málaga • White Villages of Andalusia
 - Ronda • Cordoba • La Mezquita
- Horse Ranch • Home Hosted Lunch
- Seville Cathedral • Estremoz • Cascais
- Lisbon • Sintra • Quinta da Regaleira



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- View Lisbon in a new way through the windows of your private tram.
- Experience Ronda, one of Spain's loveliest and most historic towns.
- Explore Sintra, the summer residence of Portuguese kings for centuries.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 7** — In Seville, walk along the quaint Santa Cruz Quarter **-OR-** see the city from a different perspective with a horse and carriage ride to Plaza de Espana and Maria Luisa Park.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

10 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

- Sample Málaga's delicacies during a tour of the city.
- Enjoy a farm-to-table home-hosted meal in Ronda.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1-3	NH Málaga, Malaga
Days 4, 5	H10 Palacio Colomera, Cordoba
Days 6, 7	H10 Casa de la Plata, Seville
Days 8-10	Pestana Cidadela, Cascais

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Frigiliana

From bustling cities to peaceful stays on the Mediterranean coast, get a true taste of the Iberian Peninsula.

Day 1: Málaga, Spain – Tour Begins

Welcome to Málaga, a city known for its Andalusian lifestyle and birthplace of artist Pablo Picasso. Later this afternoon, join your fellow travellers and your Tour Manager for a welcome reception.

Day 2: Málaga

Discover the port city of Málaga with a local guide. Walk through the colourful market stalls, sampling an almond snack or two, and learn about the history and culture of this seaside community. Stop at a local restaurant for *churros con chocolate*. Meet a local from the Sepulcro Brotherhood to learn about the importance of the brotherhoods to the local culture. Then, stop at a local bodega bar to sample the famous Malaga sweet fortified wine. Enjoy a guided visit of the Picasso Museum, viewing paintings by this iconic artist. (B, D)

Day 3: Málaga – Frigiliana – Nerja – Málaga

Today we will journey to the picturesque white villages of Andalusia. The village of Frigiliana, considered to be one of the most beautiful villages in Andalusia, will make you feel as though you have stepped back in time as you 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, the perfect way to say goodbye to Málaga. (B)

Day 4: Málaga – Ronda – Cordoba

Head to 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, hear about the often-debated topic of bullfighting in this city rich with bullfighting lore. Visit the stunning Casa don Bosco, a modernist mansion featuring Nazarite tiles, a beautiful garden, and breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains. Complete your tour of Ronda and be welcomed into a local's home for a farm-to-table home-hosted lunch. Arrive in Cordoba this evening. (B, L)

Day 5: Cordoba

Begin your day with a visit to a family run horse ranch. Then immerse yourself in the culture of Cordoba when you admire the rows of patios filled with colourful flowers and plants.

Plaza de Espana, Seville



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 the day with dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 6: Cordoba - Seville
Depart Cordoba for Seville, Spain's "cultural capital." Get to know Seville on a panoramic city tour featuring the famous Bull Ring, Torre de Oro, Plaza de Espana, and Maria Luisa Park. Then, visit the 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 along with the Giralda bell tower. This evening, take in sweeping views of Seville from atop the Mirador Setas viewpoint. (B, D)

Day 7: 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. Later this afternoon participate in a flamenco lesson at Fundacion Cristina Heeren de Arte Flamenco, a non-profit organisation dedicated to preserving the art of flamenco in Spain and internationally. After your lesson, enjoy a traditional flamenco performance. (B)

Day 8: Seville - Estremoz, Portugal - Cascais
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 flavours, continue on to Cascais, the picturesque resort town situated along the coast of the Portuguese Riviera. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 9: Cascais - Lisbon - Cascais
Your journey takes you to Lisbon, Europe's second oldest capital city. We will start in Belem, home to many of Lisbon's most iconic sites and its most famous pastry - *pasteis de Belem*. After viewing the sprawling Jeronimos Monastery (UNESCO), embark on a panoramic city tour on one of Lisbon's iconic trams taking you through the streets of this charming city! Return to Cascais, where the rest of the day is yours to explore independently. This evening, you may choose to join an optional experience to savour Portuguese cuisine and wine while local artists perform traditional Fado (UNESCO). (B)

Day 10: Cascais - Sintra - Cascais
Head to the town of Sintra (UNESCO), a favourite summer residence of Portuguese kings for six centuries. Explore the Quinta da Regaleira, a 20th-century palace with an elaborate gothic façade and beautiful gardens. Then stop at a local bakery and indulge in a local pastry before enjoying some time on your own to discover this storybook town. Tonight, toast to a wonderful trip with your fellow travellers during a farewell dinner featuring savoury Portuguese flavours. (B, D)

Day 11: Cascais - Tour Ends
Your tour comes to a close today. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

FEATURED PRE-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 3 NIGHTS IN MADRID



Starting at \$980 pp
Explore Madrid, Spain's lively capital and largest city. Enjoy a guided tour of the city's historic centre and visit the Prado Museum. Then, explore the city on your own using your metro card.
CALL FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
MALAGA
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Spain & Portugal: Costa del Sol to the Portuguese Riviera with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$5,349
SOLO Starting at \$6,899

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

Price based on 3 April 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 - May 2024.

**SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.**

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://etias.com/etias-requirements/etias-for-australian-citizens>. Our air passengers will arrive into Malaga and depart from Lisbon. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to local festivities, the order of your included visits in Cordoba may change.

The Optional 3 Night Madrid Extension is Hosted. During this extension, you can expect to have a hosted experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences. Guests are responsible for handling their own luggage when getting on and off the train.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

THE AZORES: JEWELS OF PORTUGAL

13 DAYS • 21 MEALS

STARTING AT \$4,789

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Off-Road Sete Cidades Experience
- Terra Nostra Botanical Garden & Thermal Pool
- Furnas Valley
 - Home-Hosted Dinner
- Angra do Heroismo
- Algar do Carvao
 - Natural Volcanic Pools
 - Volcanic Stone House Stay
 - Pico Wine Museum



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Traverse the entire rim of the Sete Cidades caldera and gaze upon the twin lakes.
- Swim in natural volcanic pools.
- Spend 3 nights in the eco-friendly lava stone houses of Aldeia da Fonte, Pico Island.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 3** — In Furnas, enjoy the thermal waters at the Terra Nostra local pool **-OR-** embark on a guided visit to the Terra Nostra Botanical Garden.
- **Day 8** — Visit the Horta Museum where ethnographic pieces paint a picture of the history of the island **-OR-** visit the Scrimshaw museum where the island's whaling past comes to life through a private whalebone carving collection.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

12 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 7 Dinners (D)

- Experience a truly unique *cozido das furnas* lunch in Furnas valley.
- Enjoy a home hosted meal at a village in the Sao Miguel Island.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1-4 The Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico, Sao Miguel, Azores

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Enhance your experience at the Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico with an upgrade to an ocean view room. CALL FOR DETAILS

Days 5, 6 Zenite Boutique Hotel & Spa, Terceira, Azores

Day 7, 8 Hotel do Canal, Faial, Azores

Days 9-11 Aldeia da Fonte Nature Hotel, Pico, Azores

Day 12 Iberostar Selection Lisboa, Lisbon

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Sete Cidades, Sao Miguel

Enter an untouched paradise on an adventure through the Azores, the archipelago gems of Portugal.

Day 1: São Miguel, Açores, Portugal – Tour Begins

This is the Azores. A set of islands virtually untouched by urban development. Your adventure begins on São Miguel, the largest of the nine volcanic islands. Relax and explore as you wish, perhaps sit along the seaside promenade and breathe in the mild air of the Atlantic.

Day 2: São Miguel

Get to know Ponta Delgada, the capital city of São Miguel, on a morning walking tour of the area. This afternoon, traverse the dirt paths to the Sete Cidades caldera's highest point on an off-road adventure. On your way, gaze down upon the blue lake (reflecting the sky) and the adjacent green lake (reflecting the lush vegetation). As you take in the greenery around you, an **Impact Moment** introduces how our partnership with a local company is supporting reforestation efforts on the island. Celebrate the beginning of your journey with a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 3: 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 on to the green fields of a nearby tea plantation where we will learn about this unique crop before an evening of leisure. (B, L)

Day 4: São Miguel

Today enjoy a full free day to explore Sao Miguel at your own pace. Or you may choose to join a Flavours of Sao Miguel optional tour where you will taste your way through some of the unique products this island has to offer. At a local *quinta*, taste Azorean gin, blended with botanicals and seaweed and learn how a local foundation supports local marine conservation. End this optional excursion with a light lunch of locally-sourced ingredients. Regardless of how you choose to spend your day, gather tonight for a home-hosted dinner at a local village. (B, D)

Day 5: São Miguel – Terceira

Say hello to the colourful island of Terceira. Stand along the edge of the crater at Serra do Cume viewpoint and take in the patchwork of infinite green. Learn about the Holy Ghost Chapels, known locally as Imperios, and customs surrounding this tradition. Get to know Angra do Heroismo (UNESCO) with a local guide. Restored in traditional style, the city features white facades and vibrant trims. Tonight, get a taste of the culture at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 6: Terceira

The morning is yours. Perhaps you will join a morning optional tour to the western side of the Terceira Island visiting coffee and banana plantations along the way and ending at a family owned cheese factory for a light lunch made up of local products. Gather later and head underground with an expert guide to Algar do Carvao, the "Cavern of Coal." Feel the quiet stillness as you descend into this ancient lava tube. End the day with a swim in the natural volcanic pools of Biscoitos. Enjoy a free evening or entice



your taste buds on an optional wine and tapas home experience. (B)

Day 7: Terceira - Faial

Say *bom dia* (good morning) to Faial, the "Blue Island" of the Azores. Encounter the volcanic vitality of Faial when you take in the rocky landscapes and the ash hills of the Capelinhos Volcano Interpretation Center. Mingle amongst the locals at a local market and sample another variety of locally produced cheese. (B, D)

Day 8: Faial

Have some time for yourself before joining a walking tour of Horta. Its marina and painted murals are a testament to the island's importance to sailing crews that visit the island during their voyages across the Atlantic. Then, **it's your choice!** Visit the Horta Museum where ethnographic pieces and Sacred Art paint a picture of the history of the island **-OR-** visit the Scrimshaw museum where the island's whaling past comes to life through a private whalebone carving collection at the famous Pete's Café. (B)

Day 9: Faial - Pico

Board a ferry to the nearby island of Pico. Enjoy a light lunch, sampling drinks paired with local cheeses and meats, snacking on different Azorean favourites. Make a stop at Lagoa do Capitao and spy Sao Jorge Island in the distance. End the day at the rustic lava stone houses of Aldeia da Fonte, an eco-sustainable hotel and your home for the next 3 nights. Enjoy dinner at this cliff-side abode. (B, L, D)

Day 10: Pico

Today visit the Pico Wine Museum before tasting these exclusive wines at a winery. Then, visit the whaling museum highlighting the historical ties of the industry to the culture of the islands. Learn about the importance of

whaling to Pico through the 1980s and the transition from hunting to protecting these giants of the oceans! (B)

Day 11: Pico

The day is yours. Perhaps you will take to the waves on an optional ocean excursion, where you will watch for whales and dolphins before enjoying lunch back on land. No matter how you choose to spend the day, join your fellow travellers for an included dinner tonight. "*Bom proveito!*" (B, D)

Day 12: Pico - Lisbon

Say farewell to the Azores Islands when we depart Pico for Lisbon. Enjoy some time at leisure for some last minute shopping or explore the capital city on your own. Tonight, toast to the end of your trip with 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)

Featured Post-Tour Extension



EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED

Optional 3 Night Lisbon Post-Tour Extension

Starting at \$840 pp

Day 13: Lisbon

Experience Lisbon, Portugal's capital city where old traditions intermingle with modern twists. See the city on a lively tuk-tuk tour, zooming through the city's neighbourhoods from the back seat of an open-air vehicle. After becoming acquainted with the area, enjoy the rest of your day at leisure to explore on your own.

Day 14: Lisbon

See the city from a different perspective — via tram! With a local guide, hop on and learn to navigate this widespread trolley system! Your guide will take you to Lisbon's famous sights, including Jeronimo's Monastery (UNESCO), the Monument to the Discoveries, and the Tower of Belem (UNESCO). Make the most of an afternoon to yourself, perhaps taking the historic tram to the vibrant Alfama district. Gather in the evening for dinner in a local restaurant, getting a taste of some of Portugal's favourite flavours. (B, D)

Day 15: Lisbon

The day is yours! Take advantage of your day at leisure; maybe stroll along Praça do Comércio, or visit São Jorge Castle for a sprawling panorama of the city. (B)

Day 16: Lisbon

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
PONTA DELGADA
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine The Azores: Jewels of Portugal with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$4,789
SOLO Starting at \$5,889

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

Price based on 13 April 2024 departure.



Departures available July 2023 - May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into São Miguel and depart from Lisbon. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to flight schedules, a post night may be required (at an additional cost). Please inquire at time of booking. The internal flights from São Miguel to Terceira (30 minutes), Terceira to Faial (30 minutes), and Pico to Lisbon (2 hours, 30 minutes) are included in the price of this tour. Bathing suits are required if partaking in the thermal water pools. The Whale and Dolphin Watching optional tour may not operate if either weather or sea conditions are adverse. This tour uses semi-rigid boats that may not be suitable for all individuals.

The Optional 3 Night Lisbon Extension is Hosted. During this extension, you can expect to have a hosted experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

NEW TOUR

FLAVOURS OF PORTUGAL AND SPAIN

FEATURING BARCELONA

18 DAYS • 25 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Lisbon • Tagus River Cruise • Coimbra
- Porto • Port Wine Tastings • Braga
- Douro River Valley • Douro River Cruise
- Salamanca • La Rioja • Pamplona
- Bullfighter's Home Experience
- San Sebastian • Cider House Dinner
- Bilbao • Guggenheim Museum
- Pintxos Tapas Pub Crawl • Barcelona



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Spend 2 nights in a picturesque *quinta* estate in the Douro River Valley.
- Visit a bullfighter's home in Pamplona and learn about this tradition.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 13** — Explore 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— enjoy time at leisure in San Sebastián.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

17 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 6 Dinners (D)

- Go on a "pub crawl" to taste *pintxo* tapas.
- Enjoy a *petiscos* cooking class in the Douro River Valley.
- Tour a cider house before savouring cider-infused cuisine in Spain's Basque region.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1-3** Iberostar Selection Hotel, Lisbon
- Days 4-6** Porto Royal Bridges Hotel, Porto
- Days 7, 8** The Wine House Hotel - Quinta da Pacheca, Douro River Valley

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Enhance your stay the Wine House Hotel - Quinta da Pacheca with an upgrade to a unique wine barrel room for 2 nights. CALL FOR DETAILS

- Day 9** NH Collection Palacio de Castellanos, Salamanca
- Days 10, 11** Eurostars Fuerte Ruavieja, La Rioja
- Days 12-14** NH Collection Aranzazu, San Sebastian
- Days 15-17** H10 Casanova, Barcelona

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Porto



Taste the essence of Portugal and Spain as you wander through historic cities with rich culture and vintage wines.

Day 1: Lisbon, Portugal - Tour Begins

Arrive in Lisbon, the trendy capital of Portugal. Lisbon glistens like a treasure perched on seven hills and enchants travellers with its laid-back charm. At a local restaurant, meet your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner to officially kick off an experience-rich adventure. (D)

Day 2: Lisbon

Set off for a walking tour that takes you to the Praça do Comercio in downtown Lisbon, one of the biggest squares in Europe. This gorgeous square flaunts colourful artwork and sculptures. Climb aboard a private tram to discover Lisbon from its hills. Postcard-worthy vistas greet you at every turn. Travel through historic neighbourhoods hearing the kinds of stories that bring the city — and its meandering, colourful neighbourhoods to life. Walk to the Chiado neighbourhood and embrace its elegant flair and bohemian vibe or return back to the hotel by subway. (B)

Day 3: Lisbon

Explore Lisbon today at your own pace. With plenty of free time in the capital city, you may wish to check out its famous culinary scene or venture downtown to do some shopping. If you'd prefer to tour today, choose an optional excursion to Ericeira and Sintra; from wind swept cliffs in Ericeira to the quaint palaces and villas of Sintra you will learn a thousand fascinating tales. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a private cruise on the Tagus River for a truly unique way to experience Lisbon. Sail by the Monument to the Discoveries and the Tower of Belem (UNESCO) before crossing the river to see "Christ the King" statue. (B)

Day 4: Lisbon - Coimbra - Porto

Depart Portugal's capital city and head to its former capital — Coimbra, home to the famous University of Coimbra, built in the 14th century. Embark on a panoramic tour of this famed city. Step off the bus as you walk the

preserved historic old town. Finally, arrive in the stunning coastal city of Porto. (B, D)

Day 5: Porto

Today, a city tour of Porto reveals all of its many charms. See the São Bento Railway Station, which opened in 1916 and remains one of Portugal's most striking stations. Visit the Bolsa Palace (UNESCO), otherwise known as the Stock Exchange Palace — a 19th century Neoclassical masterpiece. Tonight, relax with dinner on your own... or perhaps you may opt to visit Vila Nova de Gaia and get a taste for the port wine production scene with a tour and tasting before enjoying a market dinner with all the local flavour you could ask for! (B)

Day 6: Porto - Braga - Porto

Today, travel to Braga and behold the "Bom Jesus do Monte" (UNESCO) — a sanctuary and Christian pilgrimage site in Tenões that boasts stunning Baroque architecture. After an included lunch, walk the narrow streets of the historic downtown. Many of Braga's locals place great importance on religion and the city has one of the highest concentrations of churches in Portugal. After, explore on your own with built-in free time. With so many shops and its quaint charm, you will find plenty of ways to pass the time in Braga. (B, L)

Day 7: Porto - Amarante - Douro

Today, say "tchau" to Porto and set out for the Douro wine region where you'll indulge in two nights on the grounds of a traditional winery. En route to Douro, stop in Amarante, a quaint town set on a bend in the Rio Tamega. From its balconied houses to its willow-lined riverbanks, this town is full of surprises. Finally, step into your home for the next two nights in the heart of the Douro River Valley. Later, wander down to the cellar for a tasting before enjoying a dinner complete with locally sourced, traditional Portuguese cuisine. (B, D)

Day 8: Douro

Enjoy a relaxed morning at Quinta da Pacheca. Then, roll up your sleeves and join a cooking class (of course you'll dine on your creations with a light lunch of *petiscos*, or Portuguese tapas). This afternoon, join your fellow travellers for a cruise down the Douro River on a traditional wooden *rabelo* boat. Marvel at the rows of twisting vines, lush trees, and colourful houses from a different perspective. (B)

Day 9: Douro – Salamanca, Spain

Depart the lush Douro wine region and cross the border into Spain! In Salamanca, feel like you've stepped back in time as you take a short walking tour and learn more about this ancient city. With over two thousand years of history and its sandstone architecture, Salamanca is a little gem waiting to be discovered. (B)

Day 10: Salamanca – Burgos – La Rioja

Today, leave for the famous Rioja wine region! On your way, stop in Burgos where you will get to know the city during a walking tour. From its pedestrian-friendly riverside to the historic Plaza Mayor, Burgos delivers a traditional Spanish experience. Enjoy free time for lunch on your own. Finally, arrive in La Rioja, your home for the next two nights. During your stay at a winery hotel, take in the mountainous vistas. Tonight, enjoy a wine tasting before savouring a farm-to-table tasting menu that highlights the local cuisine. (B, D)

Day 11: La Rioja – Pamplona – La Rioja

Today, it's off to Pamplona, the capital of the Navarre province and home to the legendary Feast of San Fermin – the Running of the Bulls. Once every year, bulls are led through the city's streets by daredevil runners and today, a local guide takes you on a city tour of Pamplona where you can hear all about its colourful, unique history before visiting the family home of a bullfighter. The bullfighter's family greets you in the traditional way – with light tapas and drinks – truly welcoming you into their world for a little while. During your visit, learn firsthand about bullfighting traditions, controversies and enjoy the chance to ask your own questions. As you make your way back to stunning Rioja, stop at the Marques de Riscal Winery nestled in the center 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 12: La Rioja – San Sebastian
Are your shoes made for walking? Today, set off for an extensive walking tour of San Sebastian, a coastal city that runs

along the Bay of Biscay. With its strong regional character, quaint old town and beachfront life, you will feel like a local as you meander through charming neighbourhoods boasting with traditional architecture. Enjoy free time for lunch on your own before rejoining your fellow travellers for a panoramic tour along the coastal road, finding picture-perfect views that will take your breath away. (B)

Day 13: San Sebastian

Today, it's your choice! You can choose a guided tour of the coastal villages of Zumaia and Getaria for a special opportunity to explore the glimmering Spanish coastline and enjoy a tasting of Txakoli wine –OR– take a leisurely hike along the "Camino of Saint James" and make your way back to the city centre, enjoying a healthy, scenic experience in this beautiful destination –OR– you can choose to stay in San Sebastian to relax or further explore on your own! A great spot for shoppers and foodies alike, there is plenty to do to pass the time. Later, travel with your fellow travellers to Astigarraga – famous for its hard cider – for a truly special dinner inside of a *sagardotegi*, a cider house. Tour the *sagardotegi* learning all about the importance of cider in Basque cuisine, before savouring a traditional meal. (B, D)

Day 14: San Sebastian – Bilbao – San Sebastian

Head to Bilbao to visit the world-renowned Guggenheim Museum, set along the Nervion River and hailed as a true icon of architectural culture, with its contemporary design. See some of the modern art housed inside its fascinating walls. Then take a walking tour of Bilbao's old town where you can find historic old churches, festive markets and quintessential Spanish squares. After all this walking, it's time for a "pub crawl" – tapas style! Experience tasty *pintxos* – the Basque version of tapas at various local spots for a truly unique lunch experience. End the day with some free time in the historic Bilbao downtown before returning to San Sebastian. (B, L)

Day 15: San Sebastian – Zaragoza – Barcelona

We bid farewell to the Basque Country and head to another region of Spain – Catalonia! During our transfer, stop in Zaragoza to break the drive and explore the traffic free historic centre during some free time on your own. We will arrive in Barcelona in the late afternoon and have the rest of the evening free. (B)

Day 16: Barcelona

Experience Barcelona like a local! Using the subway and with the insight of a local guide, explore the vibrant and beautiful capital of the Catalonia, home to artistic architecture and that unmistakable Spanish "spark" of culture. Our morning starts with a walking tour of the Gothic



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

quarter where winding alleyways and rustic buildings immerse you in European charm. Then, visit the awe-inspiring La Sagrada Familia (UNESCO), considered to be the most famous of Gaudi's works. With a free afternoon, you may choose to wonder Barcelona and visit more of its famous sights on your own. (B)

Day 17: Barcelona

Enjoy a full free day in Barcelona and explore its many museums and street corners as you choose. Regardless of how you spend your day, gather tonight with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner where you will toast to your time in Portugal and Spain! (B, D)

Day 18: Barcelona – Tour Ends

Today, your tour comes to a close – all of the wonderful memories will truly be the best souvenirs. (B)

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
LISBON
CALL FOR DETAILS

UP TO 1 WEEK

STOPOVER
CHOOSE FROM:
Madrid, Amsterdam,
Paris, Frankfurt, Munich
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Flavours of Portugal and Spain with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$6,999

SOLO Starting at \$8,799

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

Price based on 26 February 2024 departure.



Departures available August 2023 – May 2024.

**SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.**

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Lisbon and depart from Barcelona. Airport transfers are available for purchase. River cruises are weather dependent and will be replaced with another experience if weather conditions prevent the cruise from operating. Porto is a compact city with many hills, cobblestone streets and uneven ground. Our walking city tour on day 6 will take approximately 3 hours and you should be prepared to stand for longer periods of time. On the rare occasion that the Sagrada Familia is not available, you will instead visit another top Spanish attraction. The order of inclusions on this day may change based on the timing of the Sagrada Familia tickets.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

NEW TOUR

TREASURES OF TURKEY

15 DAYS • 24 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,639

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Istanbul • Hagia Sophia
- Topkapı Palace • Grand Bazaar
- Spice Market • Food Tour
- Bosphorus Cruise • Gallipoli • Pergamon
- Ephesus • Aegean Coast Boat Ride
- Impact Moment • Konya • Cappadocia



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Cruise the Dalyan River to the Aegean Coast.
- Explore the towering rock formations of Cappadocia.
- Experience a transcendent Whirling Dervishes ceremony.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 7** — Bathe in the thermal spring waters of the Cleopatra Antique Pools **-OR-** take a guided golf-cart tour of Pamukkale's Roman ruins.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

14 Breakfasts (B) • 5 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Taste your way around Istanbul's Golden Horn district and Spice Market.
- Savour organic wines at a vineyard on the Dardanelles Strait.
- Learn family recipes during a hands-on cooking class at a restaurant in Cappadocia.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1-3	Port Bosphorus Hotel, Istanbul
Day 4	Hotel Cura, Çanakkale
Days 5, 6	Izmir Marriott Hotel, Izmir
Day 7	Doga Thermal Hotel, Pamukkale
Days 8, 9	Arp Hotel, Dalyan
Day 10	Hilton Garden Inn, Konya
Days 11-13	Exedra Hotel, Cappadocia
Day 14	Port Bosphorus Hotel, Istanbul

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Explore ancient ruins and legendary architecture, otherworldly landscapes and underground cities in the country that bridges the gap between east and west.

Day 1: Istanbul, Türkiye – Tour Begins

Welcome to Istanbul, the bridge between East and West. Settle in to your hotel for the next three nights, and then meet your fellow travellers at a welcome briefing before taking the rest of the evening to relax as you please.

Day 2: Istanbul – Blue Mosque – Hagia Sophia – Topkapı Palace

Today, sample some of Istanbul's most iconic sites, like the 17th century Blue Mosque, followed by the Hippodrome, the former sporting and social centre of the Roman Empire. Then continue on to Hagia Sophia (UNESCO), a church-turned-mosque and a true embodiment of Byzantine architecture, followed by Topkapı Palace and Harem. While we explore the city's legendary history and architecture, please know that Istanbul is also known for its legendary traffic, which is an iconic experience that requires great patience! This evening gather at a local restaurant where the chef will delight you with Ottoman-inspired cuisine. (B, D)

Day 3: Istanbul – Spice Market – Bosphorus Cruise

Explore Türkiye's culinary heritage as you taste your way around Istanbul's Golden Horn

district during a walking to 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 the high-rises and minarets of Istanbul's majestic skyline as you cruise the Bosphorus Strait. The rest of the afternoon is yours to explore. Perhaps you'll choose to go on an optional excursion to an historic Hammam, to enjoy an authentic Turkish scrub and foam bath. (B, L)

Day 4: Istanbul – Gallipoli – Çanakkale

Early this morning leave Istanbul behind and ride along the sparkling Sea of Marmara during your full-day transfer to Türkiye's Mediterranean coast. Head to a local organic winery for a tasting. Finally, cross the Dardanelles Strait to Çanakkale, a small coastal city and your home for the night. The evening is yours to enjoy. (B)

Day 5: Çanakkale – Carpet Weaving Experience – Ancient Pergamon – Izmir

Another long but rewarding day of travel begins with a transfer to the countryside of Pergamon, where you'll learn about the traditional Turkish craft of carpet

weaving. This afternoon, visit the Ancient City of Pergamon (UNESCO), where you'll take a short cable car ride up to the acropolis and tour the Greek ruins. End the day in Izmir (known as Smyrna in antiquity), your home for the next two nights. Enjoy free time this evening to explore the seafront promenade. (B, L)

Day 6: İzmir – Ancient Ephesus – Şirince – İzmir

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. Walk the paths that Paul the Apostle once walked. Conclude the morning with a visit to the Archeological Museum where most of the artifacts from the excavations are exhibited. This afternoon, travel to charming Şirince, a hilltop village once inhabited by the Greek community. Here, relax at a café, taste a traditional Turkish coffee, and meet with locals who offer Turkish coffee grounds readings for those who want to get their fortunes told! Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own. (B)

Day 7: İzmir – Pamukkale

Start the day by learning about the folklore of the *nazar boncuk* (evil eye) at a workshop. Next, continue your journey inland to Pamukkale (UNESCO) to visit the famous Cotton Castle. While here, **it's your choice!** Visit the Cleopatra Antique Pools and bathe in thermal spring water surrounded by columns from the ancient city –**OR**– take a guided tour of the archeological site via golf cart and visit the local museum. Whichever you choose, all will have free time to visit the site's "Cotton Candy" pools as well. Tonight, enjoy a relaxed buffet dinner. (B, D)

Day 8: Pamukkale – Ancient Kaunos – Dalyan

Today, return to the coast after a full-morning transfer to the quaint riverbank town of Dalyan. In the early afternoon, tour the ruins of Ancient Kaunos. The evening is yours. (B)

Day 9: Dalyan – Coastal Boat Ride – Impact Moment – Dalyan

After breakfast, sail along the river connecting Dalyan to the Mediterranean Sea. After lunch in a local restaurant, get ready for your **Impact Moment** at a loggerhead turtle rescue and conservation centre. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 10: Dalyan – Isparta – Konya

Prepare for a full day of travel, beginning early and following the path of the ancient Silk Road trading route. Your first stop is in Isparta where the landscape and climate have proven ideal for the cultivation of aromatic plants.

Visit an eco-centre that uses sustainable practices to cultivate their organic crops. After a light lunch of Turkish pancakes, continue on to Konya, pausing for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 11: Konya – Sultanhanı Caravanserai – Cappadocia

This morning, visit the Mevlana Museum, the world centre of the Whirling Dervishes. Next, visit Sultanhanı, one of the largest surviving caravanserais along the Silk Road. Arrive 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 onto your hotel, take in the ethereal scenery and mesmerising rock formations created by thousands of years of volcanic activity and erosion. This evening, check into your home for the next three nights – a cave hotel with rooms carved out of the soft stone of the natural landscape. (B)

Day 12: Cappadocia – Göreme Open-Air Museum

Get an early start with an optional balloon ride that takes you soaring above the "fairy chimneys" and rock dwellings dotting the hills and valleys below you. After reconvening with your fellow travellers, immerse yourself in Cappadocia's lunar landscape. Visit Göreme's Open-Air Museum (UNESCO), a vast site comprising 11 early Christian rock-cut churches and monasteries often adorned with colourful frescoes. For lunch, join a local family at their home for a taste of homecooked *burek* (a savoury pastry filled with cheese or potatoes), accompanied by tea. This evening, come together for a Whirling Dervishes ceremony. (B, L)

Day 13: Cappadocia – Love Valley – Cooking Class

Start the day with a countryside walk in Love Valley. Then, visit a pottery workshop and learn how locals make use of the area's natural resources by extracting clay from the 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, and enjoy the results for dinner. (B, D)

Day 14: Cappadocia – Istanbul – Grand Bazaar

This morning, take a short flight back to Istanbul. Stop at the colourful Grand Bazaar, an intricate complex of covered streets and shops. Enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant along the waterfront. (B, D)

Day 15: Istanbul – Tour Ends

Your exploration of Türkiye comes to a close today. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR! Combine Treasures of Turkey with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$5,639**
SOLO Starting at **\$7,039**

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

Price based on 5 November 2023 departure.



Departures available August 2023 – May 2024.

**SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.**

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Istanbul. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The internal flight between Kayseri and Istanbul is included in the cost of your tour. The exact flight time may vary from early morning to mid-afternoon. In some cases, your visit to the Grand Bazaar may be moved to Day 3. Some of our hotels on these programs are located in smaller towns or on country roads where access is limited to large coaches, in which case you will be dropped off as close as possible and there will be a short walk to access the hotel from the drop-off area. If travelling during the month of Ramadan, please note that the order of some features may vary and that some meal experiences may be replaced with meals in the hotel instead of local restaurants/venues. Ramadan observances are from 10 March – 10 April 2024. Modest attire is required for visiting religious sites. Mosque visits require removing your shoes. We recommend wearing or bringing a pair of socks to use during the Mosque visits. Women will have to cover their heads with a scarf and wear long skirts or trousers, while men will need to wear trousers or shorts that fall below the knee. The natural pools of Pamukkale's "Cotton Castle" are visible from a viewpoint. Due to the reduction in the strength of the natural water spring, only about 15% of the pools have water in them. Accessing the pools requires the ability to walk barefoot on wet, slippery limestone. Due to the fragile nature of the limestone, the use of any kind of shoes is forbidden. We suggest bringing a towel with you if you plan to access the pools. Bathing in the pools is not allowed. If you choose the Cleopatra Antique Pools, please note that the admission includes access to changing rooms with lockers and showers. You are responsible for bringing your own towel and bathing suit. Swimming stops will be made weather permitting. Swimming stops from the boat require the use of a pool ladder to enter and exit the water. If joining the optional hot air balloon ride you will depart the hotel around 5AM and return in time for breakfast, prior to joining the tour group for your included activities. Agility is required for climbing into and out of the balloon's basket. The balloon ride is subject to wind and weather conditions. The option is available for sale only prior to the tour and must be purchased no later than 30 days prior to departure. When demand exceeds availability the hot air balloon operators retain the right to cancelling reservations even when previously confirmed. If this situation should occur, you will be refunded. This tour is not exclusive to Collette travellers and therefore you may be with passengers from other tour companies. Please note the Whirling Dervishes ceremony is a religious ceremony (not a performance) and photography will not be permitted, though the Dervishes may linger for pictures afterwards. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas. In particular, the sightseeing in Istanbul requires a minimum of 2 miles of walking per day. You will be walking over cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks, at time uphill. At the archeological sites of Pergamon, Ephesus, and Kaunos and in Cappadocia, many activities require walking on uneven, unpaved terrain, often with loose stones. Visiting sites such as the Underground City and the Göreme Open-Air Museum require climbing and descending steep staircases and/or ramps with limited to no help from handrails. Some of these visits may not be suitable for people suffering from claustrophobia. Agility is required for boarding the boats for your included tours. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you will not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

ESSENCE OF FRANCE

11 DAYS • 16 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,499

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Paris • Seine River Cruise
- High-speed TGV train
- Aix-en-Provence • Truffle Hunting
- Cassis • Grasse • Perfume Workshop
- Nice • Villa Rothschild



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Hunt for truffles with a local chef and his truffle-sniffing dogs.
- Zoom through the French countryside at 186 mph aboard a TGV high-speed train.
- Learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 6** — In Cassis, explore the coves and inlets of the Calanques National Park by land or sea. You can relax on a scenic cruise for views of the towering cliffs **-OR-** challenge yourself on a hike through the Mediterranean shrub to view the rugged landscape from above.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

10 Breakfasts (B) • 3 Lunches (L) • 3 Dinners (D)

- Taste locally made cheese during a visit to a goat farm in the Provençal countryside.
- Enjoy a typical French lunch in the tearoom of the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1-3** Renaissance Paris
Republique Hotel, Paris
- Days 4-7** Boutique Hotel Cezanne
or Grand Hotel Roi Rene
M-Gallery, Aix-en-Provence
- Days 8-10** Splendid Hotel & Spa or
Hotel Apollinaire, Nice

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Truffle Hunting

The wine, cuisine, art and landscapes of France ignite the senses on a journey to romantic Paris, chromatic Provence and the sparkling French Riviera.

Day 1: Paris, France - Tour Begins

Welcome to Paris, the brilliant capital of France. A 3-night stay in the "City of Light" showcases its vibrant atmosphere, cuisine and history. Meet your fellow explorers this evening over dinner as you toast "santé" to the beginning of a grand adventure. (D)

Day 2: Paris - Île de la Cité - Seine River Cruise

Do as the locals do as you step aboard Le Métro — your main mode of transport 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 cosy 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)

Day 3: Paris

Experience Paris at your own pace today. Perhaps you'll venture to bohemian Montmartre, pausing to observe modern artists at work in Place du Tertre. Or journey to Versailles on an optional visit to the Royal Palace of King Louis XIV, the "Sun King." Tour the State Apartments and Hall of Mirrors with an expert

guide before exploring its famous gardens that took over 40 years to complete. This evening, choose to explore more of the culinary scene of the "City of Light" with a gourmet dinner before spinning the wheels of time from the backseat of a retro Citroën 2CV car. (B)

Day 4: Paris - High-Speed Train to Provence - 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 Aix in the late afternoon and make yourself at home for the next 4 nights. This evening savour the flavours of Provence during a tasting dinner in a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 5: Aix-en-Provence - Truffle Hunting

Let a memorable epicurean adventure commence with a truffle hunt led by a local chef and trained, truffle-sniffing dogs. *Avant la chasse* (the hunt), visit a goat farm nestled among rich landscapes that inspired van Gogh, Picasso, and Renoir to learn secrets of regional cheese production and sample the results. Then savour a lunch featuring freshly prepared Provençal specialties whipped up by your chef. Back in Aix, the balance of the afternoon is yours. Perhaps you'll take a stroll along Le Cours Mirabeau. This tree-lined, pedestrianised avenue is dotted by fountains and cafés cherished by locals and visitors alike. (B, L)



Day 6: Aix-en-Provence - Cassis - Choice on Tour

Journey to the fishing village of Cassis. Sheltered by the Calanques National Park on one side and the mighty Cap Canaille on the other, Cassis charms with its multicoloured houses and array of small fishing boats, yachts and sailboats quietly bobbing in the town's harbour. Then, explore the National Park's coves and inlets by land or sea because **it's your choice!** Relax on a scenic cruise for views of the towering cliffs -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 7: Aix-en-Provence

The day is yours to explore Aix-en-Provence at leisure. Perhaps you'll visit the *atelier* (artist studio) of Aix's most renowned citizen, Paul Cézanne, frozen in time since the painter's death in 1906. Or you may choose a full day optional tour exploring the historic village of Saint-Rémy with its bustling weekly market and the

cobbled streets of Les Baux-de-Provence, a picture perfect hilltop village. Before returning to Aix, experience an impressive multimedia presentation at the Carrières de Lumières. Making use of a former quarry, iconic works of art are projected onto the surrounding rock, accompanied by stirring music. (B)

Day 8: Aix-en-Provence - Grasse - Nice

This morning, traverse southern France en route to the French Riviera. Pause in Grasse to learn the secrets of perfume making during a hands-on workshop led by an expert perfumer, affectionately referred to as "Nez" (Nose). Arrive in Nice in the late afternoon, and settle in for a 3-night stay in the leading resort town of the Côte d'Azur. This evening taste Mediterranean-inspired French cuisine during dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 9: Nice - Saint Paul de Vence - Nice

This morning, discover Nice's famed flower market and be enchanted by the brightly coloured blooms before journeying to historic St. Paul de Vence, situated atop a hill overlooking the beautiful countryside. Explore this charming walled medieval village, soaking in its distinctive light said to have inspired artists such as Matisse and poet Jacques Prévert. Back in Nice this afternoon, bask in the sunshine at a local café or perhaps take in an artist's perspective at the Chagall National Museum. (B)

Day 10: Nice - Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat - Villa Rothschild

Head to Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, the crown jewel of the French Riviera, where you'll visit the impressive Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. Uncover the lush gardens replete with lovely views of the Mediterranean Sea. Your visit to the villa is complete with a celebratory lunch served in the Villa's charming tearoom. Gaze over the Bay of Villefranche as you compare notes and experiences with fellow travellers as you say "*au revoir*" to the magic of France. (B, L)

Day 11: Nice - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many fond memories of the essence of France. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

POST NIGHT
PARIS

CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Essence Of France with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$6,499**
SOLO Starting at **\$8,349**

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

Price based on 18 April 2024 departure.



Departures available July 2023 - May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Paris and depart from Nice. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The truffle hunting activity takes place in the countryside on unpaved paths and in wooded areas. To participate you must wear comfortable, sturdy walking or hiking shoes. Waterproof shoes are recommended as mud and puddles are common in the area. Using the Paris underground system requires the ability to negotiate 2 to 3 flights of stairs and agility to step on and off moving escalators. Seating is not guaranteed in the Métro as it's available on a first come, first served basis. In case seats are not available, the ability to stand in a moving vehicle is required (handrails are available). Only 3% of the underground stations are wheelchair accessible. The hiking in the Calanques National Park (part of the Choice on Tour) is ranked as "moderately strenuous" according to the US National Park Service guidelines. Moderately strenuous hikes will generally be challenging for an unconditioned person. The terrain can involve a steady and often steep incline. The hike, comprising of 1 to 2 calanques, will be an approximate duration of 2 hours in length over rough, unpaved terrain - constantly up/down hills. In case of adverse weather conditions, the hike might be replaced with a walk along a paved, 1.1 miles scenic path. The Louvre and Versailles optional tours must be purchased no later than 60 days prior to departure. Space is limited on some dates. Once purchased any cancellation within 60 days of tour departure will be nonrefundable. Portage is not available in French train stations, therefore you must be prepared to handle your own luggage from the motorcoach to the platform and lift it aboard the train. Luggage space is limited, so you may have to store your bags in the overhead racks as there is no checked luggage service available on French trains. Please be advised that high-speed trains in France are double-deckers and you may be assigned a seat in the upper deck, requiring you to lift your luggage up the steps. In France some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in the historic areas of Paris, Aix-en-Provence, Cassis, Grasse, St. Paul de Vence and Nice. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our tour counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

The 3-night Monaco & Italian Riviera Extension is Hosted. During this extension, you can expect to have a hosted experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences. Travel to Cinque Terre requires agility as you will board trains with three (approximately 1-foot tall) steps with the help of handrails. The boat ride to Portofino operates on a weather permitting basis between March and early November. When the weather is uncooperative, you will still visit Portofino, but you will travel there by local bus.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 3 NIGHTS IN MONACO & ITALIAN RIVIERA



EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED

Starting at \$1,240 pp

Extend your stay with visit to Santa Margherita Ligure, on the Italian Riviera. Stop in Monaco and see the famous Casino. Travel by train to colourful Cinque Terre and tour glamorous Portofino.

CALL FOR DETAILS

NEW TOUR

NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM & FRANCE

11 DAYS • 16 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,849

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Amsterdam • Canal Cruise • Kinderdijk
- Bruges • Reims • Route du Champagne
 - Paris • Parisian Retro Cars
- Montmartre • The Louvre Museum
 - Seine River Cruise



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Spend 2 nights in the storybook Belgian town of Bruges (UNESCO).
- Immerse yourself in France's countryside during an exploration of its *Route du Champagne* (UNESCO).
- Ride through the "City of Light" in an open-roof retro car.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 7** — Stroll through the vineyards for a visit to the eco-museum of Verzenay **-OR-** climb the 101 steps to the top of the museum's lighthouse for unencumbered views of the Champagne countryside.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

10 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

- Taste Dutch specialties on a food tour of Amsterdam's Jordaan district.
- Tour a traditional brewery in Bruges and sample some legendary Belgian beers.
- Meet local cheese enthusiasts in Meaux and sample their famous Brie.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1-3 Swissôtel, Amsterdam
Days 4, 5 Hotel Aragon, Bruges
Days 6, 7 Continental Hotel, Reims
Days 8-10 La Maison Favart, Paris

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Amsterdam

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

Day 1: Amsterdam, Netherlands – Tour Begins

Narrow canals, stone bridges, and bike-brimmed lanes — this is Amsterdam, the lively starting point of your journey. Check into your hotel, located in the heart of the city centre and your home for the next 3 nights. Get a taste of the local flavours and meet your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 2: Amsterdam

See the city the way it's meant to be seen — by canal. On your private boat, cruise under sloping bridges and pass by quintessential Dutch houses. Then, discover Amsterdam's rich culinary heritage on a locally-led food tour of the multicultural Jordaan district. During your walk, you will get to experience a historic *proeflokaal* (tasting room) and partake in a tasting of genever, local Dutch gin. As the day draws to a close, meet with a local for a chat about the city's progressive and often controversial culture. The evening is yours. (B, L)

Day 3: Amsterdam – Optional Excursion

Make the most of a free day in Amsterdam. You could visit the Van Gogh Museum and explore the Anne Frank House. Or opt to spend the day in Royal Delft. This picture-perfect town has changed little since the times of Johannes Vermeer, who captured its charm in the most iconic paintings of the Dutch Golden Age. Your guided tour concludes with a visit to the Royal Delft porcelain factory which has been producing the renowned hand-painted, blue motives since the 16th century.

Try your hand at painting a tile before returning to Amsterdam for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 4: Amsterdam – Kinderdijk – Bruges, Belgium

Cross the Dutch countryside to Kinderdijk (UNESCO), where iconic Dutch windmills spin slowly over the marshy landscape. Experience the story of wind, water, and of the Dutch willpower that harnessed the elements during a guided tour of the Nederwaard Museum Mill built in 1738. This evening, step into a storybook when you end your day in Bruges, settling in for the next 2 nights. (B, D)

Day 5: Bruges

This morning, wander the cobblestone streets of Bruges during an orientation walk. Cruise through fairytale canals before connecting with local traditions — tasting Belgian chocolate and learning about the intricate craft of lace making. After an afternoon at leisure, conclude the day with a visit to a local brewery, tasting Belgium's most quintessential beverage. (B)

Day 6: Bruges – World War I Battlefields – Reims, France

Today, traverse the Flanders, a major battle theatre on the Western Front during the First World War between 1914–18. A local expert recounts the area's eventful history as you pause to see the stars and stripes raised over the graves of the valiant soldiers who gave their lives in the same battlefields that inspired John McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields". Early this evening, trade your waffles for wine as you enter Reims, set in the heart of France's illustrious Champagne region.



Settle into your city-centric boutique hotel before dining your way through French cuisine with a 5-course tasting menu and glass of champagne. (B, D)

Day 7: Reims – Champagne Winery – Reims V

Discover Reims, uncovering the city's Celtic roots and Gothic architecture during a guided walking tour. Step into the cathedral of Notre-Dame de Reims, gazing up at a sea of colourful stained glass. Cityscapes give way to vineyard rows as you make your way along the *Route du Champagne*, learning about this world-famous artisan production during a tour and tasting at a nearby *maison du champagne*. Then immerse yourself in the countryside because **it's your choice!** Stroll through the vineyards for a visit to the eco-museum of Verzenay **-OR-** climb the 101 steps to the top of the museum's lighthouse for unencumbered views over the rolling hills of the Champagne countryside. (B)

Day 8: Reims – Meaux – Paris
Make your way to Paris this morning. Pause in Meaux, the capital of brie cheese — one of France's famous soft cheeses. Learn about the artisanal production methods and aging process from a local cheese enthusiast before

sampling some product for yourself. This afternoon say *bonjour* to Paris, your home for the next 3 nights. Explore your new neighbourhood until the sun fades and the "City of Light" debuts its sparkling grandeur. Then, spin the wheels of time from the backseat of a retro car, cruising through the chic boulevards to the Montmartre neighbourhood, where hip bohemia meets heaven-seeking basilicas. (B, L)

Day 9: Paris – Optional Excursion

This morning, the ethereal glass pyramid at the Louvre's entrance serves as your gateway into another realm, where ancient sculptures lead to 19th-century canvases. In company of an expert guide-lecturer, marvel at masterpieces such as the *Venus de Milo* and Delacroix's *Liberty Leading the People* before making your way to da Vinci's renowned *Mona Lisa*. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore Paris as you please. Perhaps you'll take a leisurely stroll through the Tuileries Garden or elegant Place Vendôme with its glittering vitrines displaying jewelry and high-fashion designs. This evening, experience Paris' nightlife during an optional dinner at the dynamic Paradis Latin cabaret show, featuring champagne, can-can dancers, and endless excitement. (B)

Day 10: Paris – Optional Excursion

Be romanced by Paris — today is yours for the taking. Perhaps you'll visit the Orsay Museum, a former railway station that now houses the world's best impressionist art. Or channel your inner royal on an optional excursion to the magnificent Royal Palace of Versailles. Relive history as you wind your way through sprawling green gardens and palace halls with a local guide. From the prominent Hall of Mirrors to the opulent bedchamber of the queen, take in the palace's most famous sights before returning to Paris. Tonight, enjoy a romantic dinner cruise along the Seine River. Set against Paris' glittering skyline, dine on French specialties while peering up at the Eiffel Tower and gently gliding under romantic bridges. (B, D)

Day 11: Paris – Tour Ends
Say *au revoir* to Europe as you depart for home. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

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ALSO AVAILABLE



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featuring Keukenhof Gardens
Peruse the world's largest flower garden.

★ **DATES AVAILABLE: MARCH – APRIL 2024**

SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$6,849**
SOLO Starting at **\$8,699**

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

Price based on 15 October 2023 departure.



Departures available July 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com>. Our air passengers will arrive into Amsterdam and depart from Paris. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The Van Gogh Museum and the Anne Frank House are the two most popular sites in Amsterdam. Tickets are in high demand and are difficult to obtain on the day, or close to the day of visit. If you are interested, we recommend that you purchase tickets online in advance through the museums' official websites. Tickets should be purchased for the afternoon of your second day in Amsterdam or any time during your third day in Amsterdam. The optional tour 'A Day in Royal Delft' must be purchased at a minimum of 45 days prior to departure. The champagne cellars are only accessible via several flights of steep steps. The cellars are located underground and there are 120 steps down and 120 to exit the cellars. There is no elevator on the premises. Please note that the timing of the Louvre included visit is indicative. Due to the high demand the exact time of the visit is variable and will be confirmed on site by your Tour Manager. Paradis Latin may be considered unsuitable for children - consult your Tour Manager. The Versailles optional tour must be purchased at a minimum of 60 days prior to departure. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in the historic areas of Amsterdam, Bruges, Reims and Paris. Because of these restrictions, some of your touring in Amsterdam and Paris will take place via public transportation (trams, city busses, subway) which require the ability to stand in moving vehicles using handrails and handles for support as seating cannot be guaranteed. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

The 3 night London extension is Hosted. During this extension, you can expect to have a hosted experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences. Portage is not available in Paris and London train stations. To make your train ride hassle-free your checked-luggage will be transferred by courier from the Paris to the London hotel the day prior to your train ride to London. For this reason, we recommend travelling with a cabin-sized trolley in addition to your checked-luggage. You'll be responsible for handling your own bags from the vehicle drop off point to the train in Paris and in London from the train to the vehicle that will transfer you to the Hotel. You must be able to lift your luggage from the platform on to the carriage and off the carriage upon your arrival in London.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 3 NIGHTS IN LONDON



EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED

Starting at \$1,400 pp
Extend your stay in London. Ride the Tube with a local expert and zoom to the city's beloved attractions. Visit Kensington Palace. Visit the Tower of London independently with your included pass and enjoy free time to explore.

CALL FOR DETAILS

THE BALTICS REVEALED

10 DAYS • 14 MEALS

STARTING AT \$3,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Vilnius • KGB Museum
- Trakai Island Castle • Hill of Crosses
- Riga • Art Nouveau Museum
- Latvian Cooking Class
- Pärnu • Bogging Adventure
- Tallinn • Medieval Dinner
- Estonian Open Air Museum



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Embark on a bogging adventure with a local naturalist.
- Walk into a snapshot of the rural past at the Estonian Open Air Museum.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 2** — Stroll through Vilnius with a local expert **-OR-** explore the neighbourhoods by bike with a local guide.
- **Day 7** — Wander through the wetland with a pair of bog shoes **-OR-** walk above the shrubs on a boardwalk.
- **Day 9** — Experience Tallinn's age-old tradition of Marzipan and paint your own sculpture **-OR-** visit Raeapteek, Europe's oldest continuously working apothecary.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

9 Breakfasts (B) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Prepare traditional ingredients with a modern twist in a Latvian cooking class.
- Dig into authentic medieval cuisine at a candlelit dinner in a merchant's home.
- Toast to the end of your journey during a farewell dinner in a historical house restaurant in the heart of Tallinn's Old Town.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1-3 Artagonist Hotel, Vilnius
Days 4-6 Neiburgs Hotel, Riga
Days 7-9 Hotel Palace, Tallinn

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Experience the kaleidoscope of influences in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia from the Middle Ages to recent historical events that shaped the fascinating Baltics.

Day 1: Vilnius, Lithuania - Tour Begins

Step into another time in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania. Stay in the heart of medieval Old Town (UNESCO) — a relic of a bygone era, where cobblestone streets lead through a seamless mosaic of cultures. The city's Baroque arches, neoclassical siding, and 300-year-old frescoes create an indescribable charm. Joining new friends tonight, get a taste of the culture at a local restaurant where you will excite your palate with warm and hearty comfort food. (D)

Day 2: Vilnius

Discover Vilnius University, the oldest in the Baltic states. Decide how to see the city because **it's your choice!** Stroll the winding streets with a local expert and peek into Vilnius's Jewish heritage, Bohemian lifestyle, and budding art district **-OR-** explore by bike with a local guide, passing the vibrant colours of imaginative street murals. Then, uncover the nation's dark past at the Museum of Occupations and Freedom Fights, better known as the KGB Museum. Located in the former Nazi and Soviet headquarters, the museum hosts personal accounts from the victims and their families. (B)

Day 3: Vilnius - Trakai - Vilnius

Embrace the fairy-tale aura around you at the Trakai Island Castle. Surrounded by curving coastlines and towering pines, the burnt orange walls of the fortress appear to rise directly out of the gentle waves of Lake Galve. Enjoy free time to explore the castle grounds and village. Make sure to stop in one of the cozy restaurants for a bite of a *kybyn* — a traditional Karaim dumpling. The remainder of the day is yours to explore Vilnius on your own. (B)

Day 4: Vilnius - Riga, Latvia

Depart Vilnius and make your way to the Hill of Crosses, a mystical shrine from the 1800s that has been rebuilt and expanded continuously over time. Cross over the Latvian border to Riga, the country's capital and the largest city in the Baltic region. Take advantage of your centrally located Art Nouveau hotel before an interactive cooking class, where you'll use traditional ingredients with a modern twist. Enjoy the fruits of your labour as you dig into the flavourful feast. (B, D)

Day 5: Riga

Discover the capital's hidden secrets with an expert guide, venturing along historic squares reflective of German and Russian tastes. Take a ride through the Art Nouveau district, where you'll see stately apartments and elegant



Trakai Island Castle



Bogging Shoes



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
VILNIUS
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine The Baltics Revealed with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

façades. Visit the Art Nouveau museum, located inside the former home of Latvian architect K. Pekšens. Marvel at the iconic spiral staircase, adorned with unexpected artistic touches. Explore Riga's famous central market, where flowers, fruit, and pastries overflow the stalls of this converted airplane hangar. Tonight, get a taste of local flavours in the historical centre of Riga. (B, D)

Day 6: Riga

The day is yours. Bask in the charm of Riga, one of the oldest Baltic cities. Stroll along its narrow cobblestone streets, colourful squares and Medieval era buildings. Explore Riga's old town architectural treasures. Perhaps you'll join a full-day optional excursion into the Latvian countryside and the town of Sigulda, travelling through beautiful natural scenery, to then visit the Olympian training grounds and the largest cave in the Baltics country before enjoying an included lunch at a local restaurant. (B)

Day 7: Riga - Pärnu, Estonia - Tallinn

Head to Pärnu, Estonia's seaside resort town. Wander on your own before joining a local naturalist for an Estonian tradition — bogging. Choose how you explore because **it's your choice!** Traipse through the wetland with a pair of bog shoes, trekking over the sodden moss and tasting berries from the water **-OR-** walk above the shrubs on a boardwalk, winding your way across the bog. Continue on to Tallinn — the country's capital — and

settle into Hotel Palace, built in 1937 and located next to the city's main square. Dine at a medieval restaurant, lit by candles and set in a wealthy merchant's house. Enjoy authentic food and traditional music as you are transported back to a night in the 15th century. (B, D)

Day 8: Tallinn

Visit the Estonian Open Air Museum which you can explore on foot or by horse and carriage. Delve into the rural history, wandering by preserved houses and timeworn windmills. Discover Tallinn's twisting cobblestone streets with an expert guide, feeling as if the Middle Ages live on. The rest of the afternoon is yours to explore at leisure. (B)

Day 9: Tallinn

This morning, choose how you connect with the city's culture because **it's your choice!** Experience Tallinn's age old tradition of Marzipan, painting your own edible sculpture to take home as a tasty souvenir **-OR-** visit Raeapteek, Europe's oldest continuously working apothecary, where you can learn about an intriguing range of herbal remedies. Spend the afternoon on your own, exploring Tallinn, one of the most beautiful Eastern Europe cities. This evening, toast the end of your whirlwind adventure as you reflect on your excursion through the Baltics. (B, D)

Day 10: Tallinn - Tour Ends

As your tour draws to a close, say goodbye to winding medieval villages and three Baltic beauties. (B)

DOUBLE Starting at **\$3,999**
SOLO Starting at **\$4,949**

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

Price based on 7 May 2024 departure.



Departures available August 2023 - May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Vilnius and depart from Tallinn. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Bog shoes are not permitted certain times of the year (typically mid-April to mid-June) during bird-nesting season. During this period, all guests will have to utilise the wooden boardwalk but will have the added benefit of seeing 4-5 times more bird species than in other seasons.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

NEW TOUR

MAJESTIC CITIES OF CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

13 DAYS • 19 MEALS

STARTING AT \$4,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Berlin • Dresden • Prague
- Diner's Choice • Prague Castle
- Vienna • Schönbrunn Palace
- Viennese Candy Workshop
- Budapest • Dinner with Locals
- Matthias Church • Krakow • Auschwitz



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Learn from a Berliner their experiences living in East Germany prior to the fall of the Wall.
- Be whisked by train from Prague to "The City of Music" – Vienna, Austria.
- Take a poignant journey through history at the camps of Auschwitz.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 9** – Visit the House of Terror Museum to learn about Hungarian history **-OR-** indulge in the famous Thermal Baths of Budapest, one of the largest spa baths in Europe.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

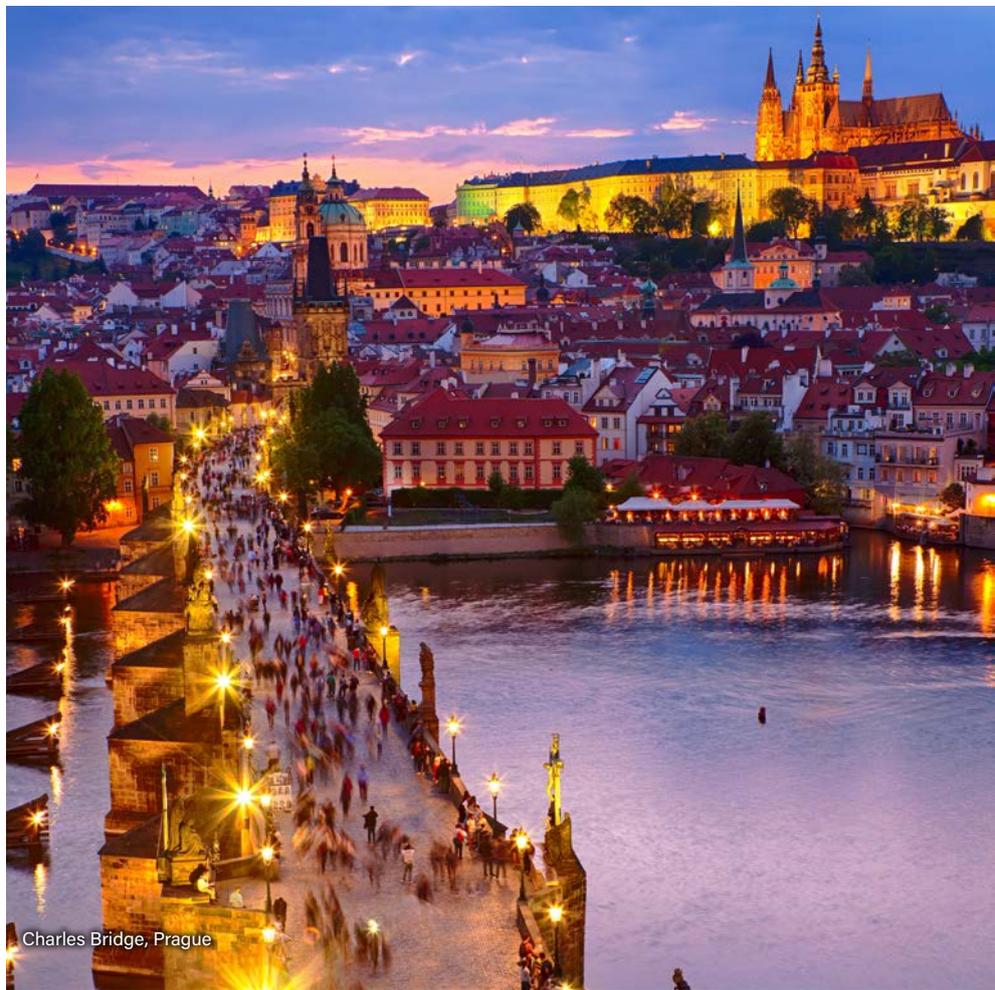
- Join local residents for a community hosted dinner in Dunaalmas.
- Learn the secrets of Viennese confectionery during a candy-making demonstration.
- Dine at the famous Marchfelderhof, an iconic restaurant with rich Viennese tradition.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1, 2** Arcotel John F. Hotel, Berlin
Days 3, 4 Majestic Plaza Hotel, Prague
Days 5, 6 Hotel Erzherzog Rainer, Vienna
Days 7-9 Up Hotel, Budapest
Days 10-12 Holiday Inn City Center, Krakow

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Charles Bridge, Prague

Explore a land where world history and fairy-tale charm come to life in the culturally rich, majestic cities of Central and Eastern Europe.

Day 1: Berlin, Germany – Tour Begins

Arrive in Germany's capital city of Berlin, a blend of deep-rooted history, modern flare and multi-cultural influences. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 2: Berlin

This morning, meet with a Berliner to learn about life in communist East Germany before the fall of Berlin Wall. Later, see many of the sights discussed when you explore with your local guide. Come to know Berlin's rich history through the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, Schoenberg City Hall, Kurfürstendamm and the Reichstag Building. Finish your city tour by walking through the area that was once "Checkpoint Charlie" and see what remains of the Berlin Wall. This afternoon complete your Berlin guided tour by visiting West Berlin. (B)

Day 3: 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, personalise your evening with **Diner's Choice**, choosing from a selection of different venues. Perhaps you'll enjoy traditional cuisine at a folklore show, discover the city through its craft beer and food scene, or opt for classic Czech cuisine in a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 4: Prague

Your introduction to this fairy-tale city opens with a visit to the remarkable Prague Castle and the haunting St. Vitus Cathedral. Continue with a leisurely walking tour through the Old Town, showcasing the Golden Lane, 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 afternoon is yours to enjoy Prague as you wish! (B)

Day 5: Prague – Vienna, Austria

This morning, hop on a train and depart for your next adventure to Vienna, the "musical city." After a short orientation drive through the city, your afternoon is at leisure. Later, enjoy an evening in one of Vienna's most beloved restaurants, the



Fisherman's Bastion



Schönbrunn Palace

Marchfelderhof, an iconic restaurant with rich Viennese tradition where dinner mixes with local cultural flavour to create an unforgettable night. (B, D)

Day 6: Vienna

This morning, experience the city of Vienna on a tour highlighting its architectural marvels, including the lavish Schönbrunn Palace, a summer retreat of the Habsburg dynasty. Learn more about Vienna's sweet confectionary history when you visit a candy workshop where candies are still being made according to traditional recipes dating back over 150 years. After time for lunch on your own in this beautiful city, participate in one of its most treasured traditions during a Viennese Waltz lesson before sampling coffee and cake in a Viennese café. (B)

Day 7: Vienna – Bratislava, Slovakia – Budapest, Hungary
Sit back, relax and enjoy the picturesque countryside enroute to Budapest. Make a stop in Bratislava, Slovakia, the former Imperial capital of the Habsburg Empire. Get to know the city's 4,000-year-old history during a short walking tour before taking time to enjoy lunch on your own. Continue through the Hungarian countryside to the Village of Dunaalmas. Connect with the villagers and learn how to make a traditional strudel before joining a community-hosted dinner.

Continue on to lovely Budapest, a city divided by the Danube with historic Buda on one side and cosmopolitan Pest on the opposite bank. (B, D)

Day 8: Budapest

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. 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 9: 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 10: 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 11: Krakow – Auschwitz – Krakow

Discover Krakow's historic Old Town on a city tour complete with stops at the Market Square, St. Mary's Church, and the university. You'll also view Wawel Castle, a former residence of Polish kings. This afternoon, embark on a poignant journey through history as you travel to the 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 as you wish. (B)

Day 12: Krakow

The morning is yours to enjoy the city on your own. Consider joining an optional excursion to the Wieliczka Salt Mines, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Tonight, toast to the end of this memorable trip as you sit down for your farewell dinner at a Jewish restaurant, feeling connected to the cultures and traditions of Central & Eastern Europe. (B, D)

Day 13: Krakow – Tour Ends
Your tour comes to a close today. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

**PRE NIGHT
BERLIN**
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Majestic Cities of Central & Eastern Europe with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$4,999**
SOLO Starting at **\$6,149**

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.
Price based on 20 May 2024 departure.



Departures available July 2023 – May 2024.

**SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.**

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Berlin and depart from Krakow. Airport transfers are available for purchase. If you plan to partake in the Thermal Baths of Budapest for your choice on tour selection, bathing suits are required in order to participate. On occasion, Auschwitz may not be available for guests who purchase this tour within 30 days of departure as space is limited at Auschwitz. While visas are not required for USA, Australian, UK or Canadian citizens for a stay of up to 90-days, we recommend you enquire with your Consulate for further information. Visitors are required to show proof of travel medical insurance to travel to the Czech Republic. The health insurance must cover medical services abroad with specific coverages.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

A TASTE OF THE BALKANS

15 DAYS • 23 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,799

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dubrovnik • Kotor • Mostar
- Sarajevo • Home-Hosted Dinner
- Plitvice Lakes • Impact Moment
- Motovun • Rovinj • Truffle Hunt
- Ljubljana • Lake Bled • Zagreb



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Meet the famous Lipizzan horses and take a carriage ride to a picnic lunch in the meadows.
- **Impact Moment:** Visit a Serbian community centre, and learn how the local women are keeping the community alive through their traditions and crafts.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 2** — See the famous city walls of Dubrovnik, still standing from the Middle Ages **-OR-** hop into a cable car for incredible views of the city from above.
- **Day 6** — With a local siege survivor, visit the Sarajevo Tunnel Museum and the bobsled track on Olympic Mountain **-OR-** visit Gallery 11/07/95, which documents the city's conflict through photography.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

14 Breakfasts (B) • 3 Lunches (L) • 6 Dinners (D)

- Follow friendly dogs on a quest for coveted mushrooms, followed with a tasty truffle-inspired lunch.
- Feel like a local and taste regional specialties during a hosted-meal in Sarajevo.
- Enjoy local fresh fish in Dubrovnik.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1, 2** Hotel More, Dubrovnik
Days 3, 4 Hotel Cattaro, Kotor
Days 5-7 Colors Inn, Sarajevo
Day 8 The Lyra Hotel, Plitvice Lakes
Days 9-11 Roxanich Wine & Heritage Hotel, Motovun
Days 12, 13 Grand Plaza Hotel, Ljubljana
Day 14 Hotel Le Premier, Zagreb

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Uncover a region where rocky coastlines and towering mountains meet a complex history and medieval city walls.

Day 1: Dubrovnik, Croatia - Tour Begins

Discover the twisting cobblestone streets and burnt-orange rooftops of Dubrovnik, a city rich in history and charm. Meet your fellow travellers and look out over the sparkling Adriatic Sea during dinner, featuring local seafood dishes. (D)

Day 2: Dubrovnik

Tour ancient streets of Dubrovnik, and feel the history and timelessness of the city. Then, **it's your choice!** See the famous city walls, still standing from the Middle Ages **-OR-** hop into a cable car for incredible views of the entire city from above. The remainder of the day is yours to do as you please. (B)

Day 3: Dubrovnik - Kotor, Montenegro

Leave Croatia and make your way into Montenegro. Sail on a private boat to the islet of Our Lady of the Rocks. Visit the church before continuing on to the Kotor's Old Town (UNESCO). Settle into your historic hotel — an 18th-century building that is part of the original city walls. Then, explore this beautiful city on your own. (B, D)

Day 4: Kotor

Today is at your leisure to explore Kotor. Perhaps you'll go on an optional excursion to Njegos, a quiet and peaceful village located on the slope of Mount Lovcen about 900 metres above sea level. Learn about the tradition of prosciutto and

homemade cheeses famously produced here and sample these specialties. (B)

Day 5: Kotor - Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo

Cross into Bosnia and Herzegovina and spend time in Mostar, home to the iconic arched Stari Most Bridge (UNESCO). Explore Mostar with your guide before having lunch in a traditional restaurant in the old part of the city. Continue on to Sarajevo. Perhaps you'll take an evening stroll with your Tour Manager to get familiar with the area. (B, L)

Day 6: Sarajevo

With an expert guide, discover Sarajevo, perhaps most famous as the starting point of WWI. As you make your way along the storied roadways, admire the significant blend of religions and architectural styles. Take advantage of free time before **it's your choice!** Meet a local siege survivor, spending time in the Sarajevo Tunnel Museum and the bobsled track on Trebević Olympic Mountain **-OR-** visit Gallery 11/07/95, which documents the city's turmoil through photography. (B)

Day 7: Sarajevo

Enjoy time on your own today. Consider an optional excursion to Lukomir Highland, where you'll hike to a remote village and bond with locals over lunch. Or maybe you'll embark on an optional tour of Tito's Bunker, exploring the former president's



personal hideout. Later, connect with locals at a home-hosted dinner. Enjoy regional favourites such as *klepe* (meat dumplings) and *burek* (flaky filled pastries). Drink Bosnian coffee as you listen to traditional folk music. (B, D)

Day 8: Sarajevo – Plitvice, Croatia

Your hotel in Plitvice supports a Serbian community centre. Experience an **Impact Moment** when you learn how the local women are keeping the community alive through their traditions and crafts. As the day ends, enjoy an authentic “under the bell” dinner, where lamb and vegetables are slow-roasted under a giant iron bell for hours. (B, D)

Day 9: Plitvice Lakes – Motovun

Take in the forested landscape of Plitvice Lakes National Park (UNESCO) with a guide. Walk along the cascading lakes and the free-flowing waterfalls before cruising through the park by boat. Head to the Istrian Peninsula. Settle into the Roxanich Wine and Heritage Hotel, your home for the next 3 nights. (B)

Day 10: Motovun – Rovinj – Motovun

Travel off the beaten path to the fishing village of Rovinj. After getting acquainted with the humble port town, take advantage of some free time to explore on your own. Return back to Motovun and enjoy dinner in a family owned restaurant. (B, D)

Day 11: Motovun

Feel like a local and join a family on their forested property for a truffle-hunting

adventure. Follow their friendly dogs on your quest for the coveted mushrooms, then sit down for a tasty truffle-inspired lunch. Head back to town for an evening on your own. Consider joining your Tour Manager on a leisurely walk to the top of the village for views of the surrounding area. (B, L)

Day 12: Motovun – Ljubljana, Slovenia

Cross into Slovenia and spend time at Lipica Stud Farm, the famous breed of the Habsburg Empire. Meet purebred Lipizzan horses, dating back to the 16th century, and take a horse-drawn carriage ride and enjoy lunch. Arrive in Ljubljana’s city centre, your home for the next two nights. Embark on a city tour to acquaint yourself with this incredible city. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 13: Ljubljana – Bled – Ljubljana

Today, ride in a Pletna Boat to the isle of Bled, and then get a chance to sample delicious *kremšnita* (cream cake). Return to Ljubljana to enjoy the remainder of your day on your own. (B)

Day 14: Ljubljana – Zagreb, Croatia

Continue your journey to Zagreb, the storied capital of Croatia. After discovering the city with local guide, toast to the end of your adventure at a farewell dinner. (B, D)

Day 15: Zagreb – Tour Ends

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 3 NIGHTS IN BELGRADE



EXTENSION STYLE:
FULLY-GUIDED

Starting at \$1,400 pp

Day 15: Zagreb, Croatia – Belgrade, Serbia

Journey from Zagreb to Belgrade, the awe-inspiring capital of Serbia. Take a guided walking tour around

this historic city, where Roman, Byzantine, Austrian, and Serbian empires have left their marks on the landscape. Later, head to the Museum of Yugoslavia to learn about the region's history, then visit the House of Flowers, the resting place of Josip Broz Tito, President of Yugoslavia. Tonight, dine in a traditional Serbian restaurant. (D)

Day 16: Belgrade

The first half of your day is yours to explore Belgrade. Later, you'll join your guide and hop on Belgrade's public transportation to dine at a local restaurant on the banks of the Danube River. (B, D)

Day 17: Belgrade

Today, journey to the unique and beautiful city of Novi Sad. Take a city tour before having some free time to explore on your own. Perhaps you'll want to take in the views of the city from atop the impressive Petrovaradin Fortress or explore the charm of the nearby Stari Grad neighbourhood. Tonight, you'll have a farewell dinner and traditional music in Skadarlija, the bohemian area of Belgrade. (B, D)

Day 18: Belgrade - Extension Ends

Say farewell to the captivating city of Belgrade, and depart with fond memories of Serbia and its incredible culture. (B)

DOUBLE Starting at **\$5,799**
SOLO Starting at **\$6,999**

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

Price based on 15 October 2024 departure.



Departures available August 2023 – May 2024.

**SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.**

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Dubrovnik and depart from Zagreb. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Rovinj visit is weather dependent. In case of the bad weather your Tour Manager can decide to take you to Pula instead.

The Optional Belgrade Extension is Fully-Guided. Fully guided extensions feature all the great inclusions of a full tour. Daily breakfast, some lunches and dinners, sightseeing, and a local experience are all included and led by a local guide. Your overnight accommodation and transfers to/from the airport are included. This is a great way to fully experience a new destination before or after your tour. The transfer from Zagreb to Belgrade, Serbia, will be done by an English-speaking driver. Your Serbian local guide will meet you at the hotel upon arrival.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

PEAKS OF EUROPE: THE ALPS TO THE DOLOMITES

12 DAYS • 17 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,749

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Chamonix • Mont Blanc
- GoldenPass Train • Gstaad
- Jungfrau • Lucerne • Alpine Walks & Nature Experiences • Innsbruck
- Dolomites • Cortina • Prosecco Region
- Venetian Villa Stay



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Inhale fresh alpine air with 4 unique mountaintop experiences.
- Discover the local flora and fauna during a nature walk with a local alpinist.
- Meet the pups of Barryland, a foundation that protects Switzerland's national dog — the St. Bernard.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 3** — Ascend the Aiguille du Midi via cable car **-OR-** take in the views aboard the Tramway du Mont Blanc.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

11 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

- Savour the flavours of Switzerland during a *raclette* brunch at a dairy farm.
- Taste the fruits of Italy's Prosecco region, with a vineyard visit and tasting.
- Toast to the end of your journey at a farewell dinner in a Venetian Villa.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1-3** La Folie Douce Hotel, Chamonix
- Day 4** Golf Hotel Le Hauts de Gstaad, Gstaad
- Days 5, 6** Sunstar Alpine Hotel, Grindelwald
- Days 7, 8** Seelos Hotel NIKO, Seefeld
- Days 9, 10** Hotel Bellevue Suites & Spa, Cortina D'Ampezzo

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Enhance your experience at the Bellevue Hotel by upgrading your accommodation to a mountain view suite. [CALL FOR DETAILS](#)

- Day 11** Hotel Villa Condulmer, Mogliano Veneto, Venice Mainland

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Jungfrauoch, Switzerland

Embark on an invigorating journey through Europe's towering Alps and charming towns.

Day 1: Chamonix, France - Tour Begins

Say *bonjour* to Chamonix — the perennial ski-hub nestled at the foot of Mont Blanc. Take the afternoon to wander the pedestrian-friendly streets of this quaint town steeped in hundreds of years of history. Tonight, join with new friends and toast to the beginning of your alpine adventure. (D)

Day 2: Chamonix - Annecy - Chamonix

Journey to one of France's most picturesque cities, Annecy — often called the "Venice of the Alps" due to its storybook charm. Join a local guide on a walking tour through an old medieval town featuring canals, crisscrossing bridges, and pastel colored houses. Take advantage of some free time to explore the town's vibrant outdoor market. This afternoon, return to Chamonix where the rest of the evening is yours to enjoy at leisure. (B)

Day 3: Chamonix

Today, decide how to explore the legendary Mont Blanc — the birthplace of mountaineering — because **it's your choice!** Ascend the Aiguille du Midi by cable car to an elevation of over 12,600 feet (3,842 metres). This is the closest you can get to the summit of Europe's tallest peak **-OR-** relax aboard the Tramway du Mont Blanc rack-railway taking in its vintage charm and the impressive views from the Eagle's Nest, located 7,782 feet above sea level (2,372 metres).

This afternoon, enjoy a stroll through the woods in the bottom of the valley. (B)

Day 4: Chamonix - Montreux - Gstaad, Switzerland

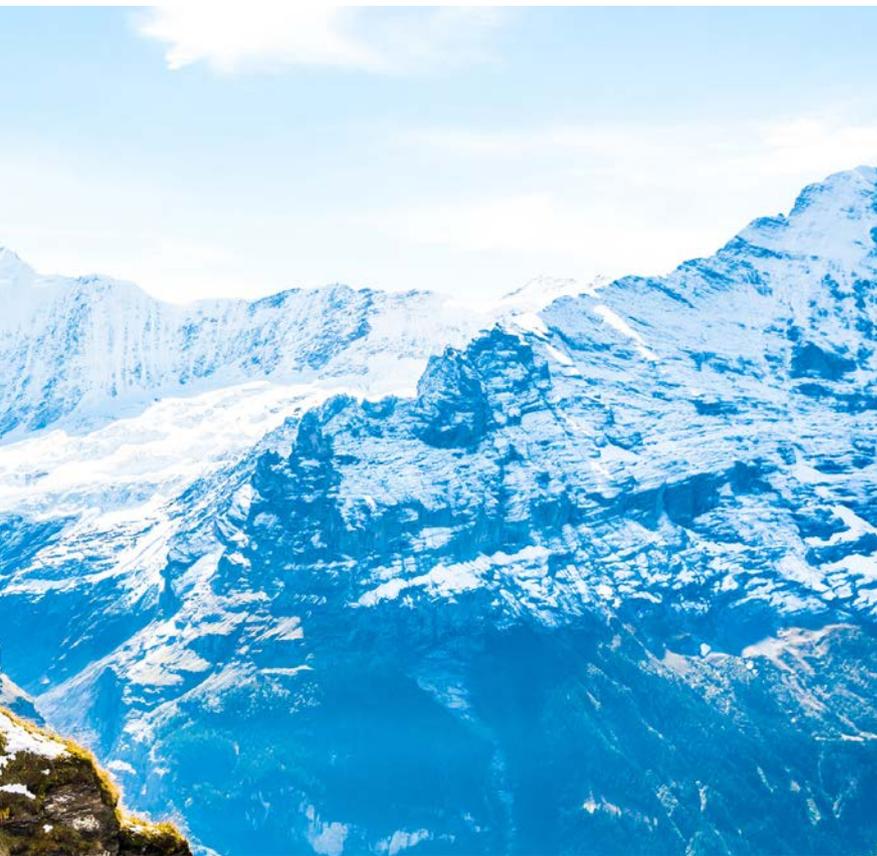
Bid Chamonix and France *adieu* and set out for Switzerland. During today's **Impact Moment**, get to know the pups of Barryland, a local foundation that promotes and protects the heritage of the St. Bernard, the official dog of Switzerland. An afternoon train ride on the GoldenPass whisks you through the pastoral Swiss landscape en route to Gstaad. Check in to your home for the evening before relaxing over dinner. (B, D)

Day 5: 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 a brunch on the farm. Continue on to Trümmelbach, a complex of waterfalls located inside a cavern in the Lauterbrunnen Valley. This afternoon, head on to Grindelwald, nestled at the base of legendary Mount Eiger. Settle in for a 2-night stay in this charming alpine village. (B, L)

Day 6: Grindelwald - Jungfrauoch - Grindelwald

A short cogwheel train ride brings you to Jungfrauoch (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 7: 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 8: Seefeld

This morning explore the idyllic town of Seefeld in a horse-drawn carriage, pausing to take in the unspoiled beauty of the Tyrolean mountains and forests. This afternoon cross into Germany on an optional tour of Oberammergau, the 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 9: Seefeld – Innsbruck – Cortina, 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 Cortina, the Queen of the Dolomites (UNESCO), and your home for the next 2 nights. (B)

Day 10: Cortina

Explore more of the dolomites today during an excursion to the Badia valley where you will discover natural beauty and local traditions. Visit a traditional mountain hamlet and learn about the centuries old Ladin culture before stopping at a nearby *maso* – an alpine farm – for a taste of local Ladin fare. After, a cable car ride brings you to Rifugio Lagazuoi for a feast of stunning views of the sky-skimming peaks. Head back to Cortina this afternoon and return to the charm of this legendary mountain resort. Stroll along its main street and take in the views surrounding the Dolomite peaks. (B)

Day 11: Cortina – Mogliano Veneto

Journey south this morning and into the rolling hills of Italy's Prosecco region. Visit a local vineyard where you'll taste the region's sparkling specialty combined with assorted local cheeses and cold cuts during a light lunch. 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 12: Mogliano Veneto – Tour Ends

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR! Combine Peaks of Europe with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION
ADD 2 NIGHTS IN VENICE



Starting at \$980 pp
Continue your exploration of Italy with a 2-night stay in Venice. Join a local guide for an immersive walking tour, see a glassblowing demonstration, and have time at leisure to discover this iconic city independently. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$6,749
SOLO Starting at \$7,999

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

Price based on 27 April 2024 departure.



Departures available September 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into Geneva and depart from Venice. Airport transfers are available for purchase. In addition to the high altitude, the Aiguille du Midi choice requires the ability to negotiate 200 steps up/down at the altitude of over 12,600 feet (3,842 metres) above sea level where oxygen levels are scarce. Due to limited availability, this optional tour must be purchased no later than 15 days prior to departure. The Glacier 3000 cable car will be closed for maintenance between 9 October and 3 November, 2023. If travelling during that period, an alternative optional tour to Thun Castle & Lake Cruise will be offered, which must also be purchased no later than 15 days prior to departure. Both optional tours include lunch. The next Passion Play performance will take place in the year 2030. The Lagazuoi cable car is closed for annual maintenance between 15 April and 30 May. During this time, you will enjoy a scenic drive of the Fassa and Badia valleys instead. This itinerary features 4 ascents above 9,500 feet which are not suitable in case of certain heart conditions. We recommend you consult your physician before booking this tour. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of the areas visited and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

The 2-night Venice extension is Hosted. During this extension, you can expect to have a hosted experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

SWITZERLAND: HIDDEN TRAILS & MAJESTIC PEAKS

11 DAYS • 15 MEALS

STARTING AT \$7,399

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Swiss Travel Pass • Neuchâtel
- Walking Tour of Neuchâtel's Historic Quarter • Museum of Vine and Wine
- Bern • Zermatt • Lake Geneva
- Vevey • Lavaux Terraced Vineyards
 - Wine Tastings • Lucerne
 - Mount Stanserhorn



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Discover Neuchâtel's historic quarter and the treasures of the Belle Époque period.
- Visit the 13th-century Château de Boudry, where you'll tour the Museum of Vine and Wine with a tasting.
- Use your Swiss Travel Pass as an all-access entry to museums and more.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 8** — Enjoy a day of leisure in Vevey **–OR–** discover Montreux and Chateau de Chillon before ferrying back to Vevey on Lake Geneva.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

10 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 3 Dinners (D)

- Savour lunch at a family-owned restaurant followed by a wine tasting at a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Dine at the top of Mount Stanserhorn, taking in 360-degree views of the Swiss Alps.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1-3** Best Western Premier Hotel Beaulac, Neuchâtel
- Days 4, 5** Hotel Monte Rosa, Hotel Alex, or Hotel National, Zermatt
- Days 6-8** Astra Hotel, Vevey
- Days 9, 10** Hotel Astoria, Lucerne

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



From the soaring Alps to the picturesque Swiss Riviera — set your sights on an active journey across Switzerland by train.

Day 1: Neuchâtel, Switzerland - Tour Begins

Willkommen! After you collect your luggage at the airport, board a Swiss Rail train to Neuchâtel, where Gothic landmarks and sandstone grandeur beckon you to discover the abundant history of this medieval waterfront city. This evening, look out over Lake Neuchâtel at dinner with your fellow travellers before retiring to your lakefront room. (D)

Day 2: Neuchâtel - Boudry - Neuchâtel

Start your morning on a walking tour and discover the treasures of Neuchâtel's historic quarter, taking in its unique architecture and structures from the Belle Époque period. Your day continues at Château de Boudry, a 13th-century castle home to the Museum of Vine and Wine. Wander through the museum with an expert insider, ending with a taste of the local favourites and a sample of four different wines. (B)

Day 3: Neuchâtel

Enjoy a day at leisure in Neuchâtel to explore as you please, taking full advantage of your Swiss Travel Pass. Perhaps you'll stroll along Lake Neuchâtel and enjoy the views from a waterfront café or travel to the walled town of Morat by boat. (B)

Day 4: Neuchâtel - Bern - Zermatt

From Neuchâtel, travel via train to Bern, the Swiss capital city. Enjoy time at leisure to discover Bern's enthralling blend of influences — old and new. Then it's on to the resort village of Zermatt, nestled against the backdrop of the Matterhorn. This evening, join a resident expert for a discussion on what villages like Zermatt and its cableways are doing to create a sustainable future. (B, D)

Day 5: Zermatt

This morning, scale the Alps on a funicular ride to the mountain paradise of Sunnegga to take in breathtaking views of the famed Matterhorn. The remainder of the day is yours to explore all that Zermatt has to offer. Consider joining an optional tour with a local



Alpinist and ascend more than 10,000 feet on Europe's highest mountain railway – the Gornergrat. Set out on a leisurely hike and learn about the flora and fauna that inhabit the mountain landscape. (B)

Day 6: Zermatt - Vevey
Head to the north shore of Lake Geneva to Vevey, one of the "Pearls of the Swiss Riviera," with awe-inspiring views of the Alps. Enjoy a walking tour before exploring the sights and sounds independently during an afternoon at leisure. (B)

Day 7: Vevey - Lavaux - Vevey
A relaxed morning in Vevey precludes your journey to the terraced vineyards of Lavaux. Begin with lunch at a family-owned restaurant before visiting with our friends, Jacques and Aurelia, for a wine tasting nestled amongst the vines. Traipse the Lavaux vineyards (UNESCO) on foot before enjoying another tasting of the region's finest varieties. (B, L)

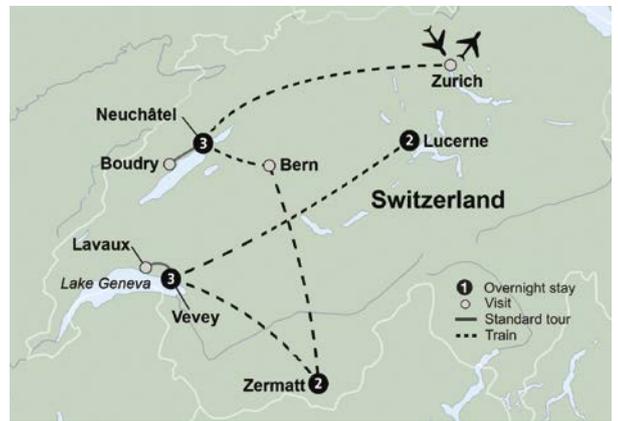
Day 8: Vevey 
Today, **it's your choice!** Enjoy free time, perhaps taking advantage of your Swiss Travel Pass to discover the city's museums, including the Swiss Camera Museum, Charlie Chaplin Museum, and the Nestle Foundation's

Nest **-OR-** discover Montreux and Château de Chillon, before ferrying back to Vevey on Lake Geneva. Join your travel companions for dinner this evening. (B, D)

Day 9: Vevey - Lucerne
Travel by train to Lucerne, known as the "Swiss Paradise on the Lake." Amble through *Altstadt* (Old Town) with your guide, uncovering the town's 800-year-old secrets and history. You'll walk along the famous covered Chapel Bridge, built in the early 14th century and stretching its way across the River Reuss. The remainder of the day is yours to explore however you'd like. (B)

Day 10: Lucerne
Make the most of a relaxing morning on your own. Wish Switzerland goodbye at a farewell lunch, taking an open-air cable car to the top of Mount Stanserhorn and dining at its revolving restaurant. Enjoy your meal as you take in stunning 360-degree views, the perfect ending to your Swiss sojourn. The evening is yours to soak up the last of Lucerne's inviting ambience. (B, L)

Day 11: Lucerne - Tour Ends
Depart for home, dreaming of snowy Alps and captivating cultures. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Unfortunately, this tour isn't appropriate for guests who use wheelchairs or walkers as it requires walking on uneven terrain.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

**PRE NIGHT
LUCERNE**
CALL FOR DETAILS

UP TO 1 WEEK

**STOPOVER
CHOOSE FROM:
Madrid, London,
Amsterdam, Paris,
Frankfurt, Munich**
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Switzerland: Hidden Trails & Majestic Peaks with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$7,399**
SOLO Starting at **\$9,099**

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

Price based on 20 April 2024 departure.



Departures available July 2023 - May 2024.

**SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.**

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Zurich. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Flights should arrive prior to 12:00 p.m. If your flight arrives after 12:00 p.m., you will need to independently make your way to the hotel in Neuchâtel, using the Swiss Travel System. Detailed instructions will be provided in your pre-tour documents. Alternatively, you may arrange ground transportation through us at an additional cost. Return flights must not be booked prior to 9:30 a.m. Upon arrival, a representative will meet you at the Zurich airport to secure luggage transfer; and direct you to your train to Neuchâtel. For departure transfers, you will independently make your way to the Zurich airport with your luggage using the Swiss Travel System. Your Tour Manager will provide you with train schedules for the most convenient routing and timing. Your Swiss Travel Pass will be needed for ALL transportation on this tour, utilising the Swiss Travel System. Portage service for luggage is included between hotels. During grape-picking season, or due to special events, certain wineries and vineyards may not accept guests for wine tasting. If this is the case, guests will be re-accommodated for tastings at another winery. On select May and October departures the Sunnegga funicular is closed for maintenance. Guests will ascend Furi cable car instead.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“ I loved travelling by train. Staying at the same hotel for 2 to 3 days gave us time to rest and explore the area. ”

— Collette Traveller

THE NORTHERN LIGHTS OF FINLAND

7 DAYS • 11 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,099

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Introduce yourself to majestic Lappish reindeer and meet Santa Claus himself.
- Lead your very own dog sled team.
- Spend the night in a glass igloo amid the Lappish wilderness.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

6 Breakfasts (B) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Indulge in Finnish cuisine at Helsinki's local restaurants.
- Sip warm berry juice, a Finnish winter tradition.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2 Lilla Roberts Hotel, Helsinki

Days 3-5 Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort - West Village, Kakslauttanen

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Upgrade your stay to a Kelo glass igloo for all 3 nights at the Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort.

CALL FOR DETAILS

Day 6 Lilla Roberts Hotel, Helsinki

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



©Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort, Lapland, Finland

Hunt for the elusive northern lights and discover fascinating Finland, “Daughter of the Baltic.”

Day 1: Helsinki, Finland - Tour Begins

Hei Helsinki! Finland's vibrant capital, where history converges with architectural style and combines with a laid-back vibe across beautiful islands and pristine public parks, welcomes you. This evening, gather with new friends for a welcome dinner in the city centre. *Hyvää ruokahalua!* (Bon appetit!) (D)

Day 2: Helsinki

Join a local expert for an engaging city tour. If Finland's heart beats in Helsinki, then Helsinki's core is in Senate Square, home of Helsinki Cathedral, the city's most iconic building. Walk the streets of empiric-designed Tori Quarters before enjoying some free time in Market Square, the city's most famous international market. See the steel

monument dedicated to the composer Sibelius. During your leisure time, explore more of Helsinki independently. (B)

Day 3: Helsinki - Kakslauttanen - Northern Lights Search

Escape to northernmost Finland's winter wonderland on board a flight to Ivalo and magical Lapland. Like a storybook come to life, Lapland's culture is steeped in myth and legend. Relish encounters with reindeer and unspoiled views of the northern lights. At the breathtaking Kakslauttanen Resort, spend two nights in your very own Finnish log cabin indulging in your personal Finnish sauna and other unique fixtures. Trek north toward Inari on a chase for the northern lights. Stops along the pursuit allow you the chance for a front-row seat at nature's dazzling, electric light show. (B, D)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Unfortunately, this tour isn't appropriate for guests who use wheelchairs or walkers as it requires walking on uneven terrain.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

POST NIGHT
HELSINKI

CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine The Northern Lights of Finland with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$6,099**
SOLO Starting at **\$7,349**

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

Price based on 17 November 2024 departure.



Departures available November 2023 – March 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

Day 4: Kakslauttanen – Santa Claus' Home – Reindeer Safari – Northern Lights

Hit the snow and mush to breakfast aboard an authentic Finnish sleigh. From Kakslauttanen, head to the home of Santa Claus, an epicentre of Christmas cheer. Among prancing reindeer, learn about Santa's origins during a meet and greet at his house. Under the Arctic moonlight, a reindeer farmer introduces you to some friendly Lappish reindeer that will escort you on an exhilarating reindeer safari through remote Kakslauttanen. Gain insight into the importance of reindeer herding to the Sámi indigenous culture. Sip warm berry juice, a Finnish tradition, under the cover of blankets surrounded by northern Finland's unspoiled wilderness as you continue the search for the elusive northern lights. (B, D)

Day 5: 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 private — glass igloo. You may even see the northern lights dancing overhead. (B, D)

Day 6: 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 7: Helsinki – Tour Ends
Set out for home with incredible memories and a longing to return. (B)

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Helsinki. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The internal flights on this program are included in the land price of your tour. The northern lights are in the Northern Hemisphere from September through April and are only visible when the sky is clear and free of clouds. As this tour is weather dependent, sightings of the northern lights are not guaranteed. Because the northern lights are a winter event, you will be walking and waiting outdoors while looking for them. It is recommended that you wear sturdy non-slip snow footwear and warm clothing including thermals, hat, scarf and gloves. This tour is not wheelchair accessible due to Arctic terrain. Outdoor activities and structures are weather dependent and may be unavailable or rescheduled. Outdoor activities in early November or April may vary depending on snowfall. If there is not enough snowfall, the husky safari will be substituted for a husky meet and greet and hike experience. The reindeer safari will be substituted with a horse drawn carriage northern lights search. Glass igloos are equipped with only a private sink and toilet. A privacy curtain lines the base of the bedroom inside the igloo. Guests will have access to a public sauna house to use the shower in the morning. Overnights in igloos may be on the first night or last night at the Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort. Finnish log cabins (small cabins) are equipped with 1 double bed, 1 bunk bed, a dining space, two bathrooms (inclusive of sink, toilet and shower), private sauna and private fireplace (firewood not included).

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“The most enjoyable thing was the flawless ease with which the entire trip was planned and executed, seeing the northern lights, the meals, the fun activities. In one word: PERFECTION!”

— Collette Traveller

ICELANDIC ADVENTURE

9 DAYS • 15 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,149

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Reykjavík • Golden Circle
- Thingvellir National Park
- Gullfoss Waterfall • Lake Mývatn
- Húsavík • Whale Watching
 - Goðafoss Waterfall
- Akureyri • Horse Farm Visit
- Snæfellsnes Peninsula • Impact Moment
- Langjökull Glacier • Blue Lagoon



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 3** — Soak in the Lake Mývatn Nature Baths, a favourite local spot **-OR-** hike through Dimmuborgir and pass by lava pinnacles and mystical caves.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

8 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 6 Dinners (D)

- Indulge in Icelandic-inspired cuisine at a local restaurant.
- Taste homemade specialties during an **Impact Moment** visit to Jóhanna's goat farm.
- Taste a piece of lava bread and learn how locals use geothermal energy to cook food.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2 Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik

Days 3, 4 Fosshotel, Mývatn

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

During your stay at the Fosshotel Mývatn, you may choose to upgrade to a Lake View Room. [CALL FOR DETAILS](#)

Day 5 Laugarbakki Hotel, Laugarbakki

Days 6, 7 Hotel Hamar, Borgarnes

Day 8 Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Encounter a world of untamed beauty as you discover Iceland's adventurous landscapes and rich cultural heritage.

Day 1: Reykjavík, Iceland – Tour Begins

Discover culture and history in Reykjavík — Iceland's capital. Explore the old section on a walking tour featuring the Parliament, harbour, city hall, and the city's oldest building. Gaze up at the famous glass façade of the Harpa Concert Hall, a true marvel of modern architecture. Tonight, enjoy a traditional Icelandic dinner at a distinctive local restaurant. (D)

Day 2: Reykjavík – Golden Circle – Reykjavík

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. (B)

Day 3: Reykjavík – Lake Mývatn

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. (B, D)

Day 4: Lake Mývatn – Húsavík – Whale Watching – Lake Mývatn

Venture into the town of Húsavík, where legend claims the Norse first settled in Iceland. Gear up in thermal wear to join expert whale watchers on a cruise on Skjálfandi Bay. Aboard specialised 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. End your day with a visit to Grenjaðarstaður and peruse Icelandic turf settlement homes. (B)

Day 5: Lake Mývatn – 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. Later this afternoon, travel to the village of Laugarbakki. (B, D)

Day 6: 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



Featured Post-Tour Extension



Optional 4 Night Greenland Post-Tour Extension

Starting at \$4,200+ pp

Day 9: Reykjavik - Ilulissat, Greenland - Post-Tour Extension Begins

Fly from Iceland to the picturesque coastal town of Ilulissat, Greenland. Ilulissat is the Kalaallisut word for "icebergs," and the Ilulissat Icefjord (UNESCO) offers unforgettable views of colossal fast-moving icebergs. Once you arrive, meet with your local guide before transferring to your nearby hotel. Embark on a walking tour with your guide who will review everything you need to know about navigating the town and point out local landmarks, restaurants, and more. Return to the hotel this evening for a 2-course meal crafted with slow-grown local produce and other ingredients, all sourced from Greenland and other Nordic nations. (D)

Day 10: Ilulissat - Eqi Glacier - Disko Bay - Ilulissat

This morning you'll embark on a full day excursion to the Eqi Glacier! Listen to the thundering sound of ice breaking from the active glacier, disrupting the otherwise peaceful stillness. Savour a buffet lunch on board the ship and take in the stunning views until evening, when you will return to the hotel for another fresh, locally sourced dinner. After, enjoy an evening cruise among the icebergs and see these natural wonders as the sun lingers into the night. (B, L, D)

Day 11: Ilulissat - Sermermiut - Ilulissat

Today, head to Sermermiut for a private guided hike through history and culture. Sermermiut, part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was an Inuit settlement at least 4,000 years ago. Due to the climate and permafrost, this site along Disko Bay offers a remarkably well-preserved look at life here before European settlers came to Greenland. Next, visit the Ilulissat Icefjord Centre and learn about the history of ice, see how it has impacted culture, and how climate change is impacting the ice. After, return to Ilulissat for an afternoon at leisure to explore how you wish. Later, connect with your fellow travellers for dinner at the hotel. (B, D)

Day 12: Ilulissat - Reykjavik, Iceland
Return to Iceland today, and enjoy some free time to explore Reykjavik however you choose. (B)

Day 13: Reykjavik - Extension Ends
Today you depart with lasting memories from this trip across Nordic nations. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.

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 7: Borgarnes - Húsafell - Langjökull Glacier Experience - Borgarnes

This morning, journey inland to Húsafell and look out at the misty waterfalls cascading over lava rocks. Then, experience an **Impact Moment** with a visit to Jóhanna's goat farm. Here, she has helped to bring this unique breed, dating back to the time of Iceland's settlement, back from the brink of extinction. After visiting with the friendly goats, enjoy a simple meal of homemade specialities 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 the world's largest man-made tunnel. (B, L, D)

Day 8: Borgarnes - Blue Lagoon - Reykjavik

Visit the Settlement Museum and dive into the origins of Icelandic heritage, including the works of the famous Viking poet Egill Skallagrímsson. Drive to the Reykjanes Peninsula, home to the famous Blue Lagoon. Take a dip in the warm, mineral-rich waters of this iconic geothermal pool, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field. Come together this evening for a farewell dinner at a restaurant featuring Icelandic cuisine. (B, D)

Day 9: Reykjavik - Tour Ends

Head home having uncovered Iceland's adventurous side. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Unfortunately, this tour isn't appropriate for guests who use wheelchairs or walkers as it requires walking on uneven terrain.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE OR POST NIGHT
REYKJAVIK
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Icelandic Adventure with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience.
CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$6,149**
SOLO Starting at **\$7,549**

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

Price based on 17 May 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 - June 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Reykjavik. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to tour scheduling, arrival flights should arrive prior to 10:00 a.m. The internal flight is included in the land cost of your tour. Scheduled activities may vary in time due to the flight schedule from Reykjavik to Akureyri. Due to flight schedules, a pre or post night may be required in some Icelandic gateway cities (at an additional cost). Please inquire at time of reservation. The "Into the Glacier" visit is not exclusive to us and you may share the experience with other visitors. The Langjökull Glacier Experience is weather permitting. Cold weather clothing is required to join the activities of your Langjökull Glacier Experience.

The Optional Greenland Extension is Fully Guided. Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“ Brilliant tour of Iceland. Ticked all my boxes. Went to all the important sites at the right pace. ”

— Collette Traveller

SCOTLAND: ISLES OF LORE AND LEGEND

11 DAYS • 17 MEALS

STARTING AT \$4,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Glasgow • Sheepdog Demonstration
- Auchindrain • Scottish Highlands
- Loch Melfort • Oban • Isle of Mull
 - Isle of Iona • Urquhart Castle
 - Moray Firth Cruise • Culloden
- Blair Castle • Dundee • Whisky Distillery
 - Invisible Cities Walking Tour



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Wander the ruins of a 13th-century medieval fortress.
- See border collies in action during a traditional sheepdog demonstration at a family-run farm.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 2** — In Glasgow, visit the Kelvingrove Art Gallery with its iconic art collection **-OR-** explore the Riverside Museum, dedicated to transport.
- **Day 9** — In Dundee, see the ship RRS Discovery that transported Shackleton to Antarctica **-OR-** explore the Victoria & Albert Design Museum.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

10 Breakfasts (B) • 7 Dinners (D)

- Sip the famous "water of life" in a local whisky distillery.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1, 2** Hilton Glasgow, Glasgow
- Days 3-5** Loch Melfort Hotel, Arduaine, Oban
- Days 6, 7** Craigmonie Hotel, Inverness
- Day 8** The Landmark Hotel, Dundee
- Days 9, 10** Voco Edinburgh - Haymarket, Edinburgh

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Iona Abbey

Discover the mystical side of Scotland, with its legends, whisky, clans and historical cities.

Day 1: Glasgow, Scotland - Tour Begins

Welcome to Glasgow, a cultural trove of art, music, and history. Get ready to experience the eclectic architecture, friendly locals (Glaswegians), and rich traditions that make this city such a fascinating place. Settle into your hotel before joining your fellow travellers this evening for dinner. (D)

Day 2: 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, **it's your choice!** View one of Europe's great art collections at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery **-OR-** see the city's fabulous technology and transport collections at the Riverside Museum, situated on the banks of the River Clyde. (B)

Day 3: Glasgow - Loch Lomond - Auchindrain - Loch Melfort

Leave the city behind, travelling along sloping fields and rolling clouds to arrive in 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 before departing for Luss. Explore this quaint lakeside village of stone cottages and bright flowers, then enjoy lunch on your own before jumping back on the bus to Auchindrain. Learn about Scotland's rural history during a guided tour of this well-preserved farm township that dates back to the 16th century. Continue to Loch Melfort and settle into your hotel for the next three nights. Take in a stunning view of the ocean from your room before wandering the grounds, home to friendly Highland cows and neighbouring the National Trust's Arduaine Gardens. (B, D)

Day 4: Loch Melfort - Oban - Loch Melfort

This morning, put on your comfy shoes and embark on a guided walking tour of historic Oban. Learn why the town is considered the



"Gateway to the Isles," uncover the history of the iconic McCaig's Tower, and find out what's buried under the North Pier as you traverse the scenic harbourside town with a local expert. Afterwards, enjoy some free time, perhaps exploring Oban's food stalls and seeing for yourself why it's considered the seafood capital of Scotland. Return to your hotel in Loch Melfort to relax and spend the remainder of the day as you please. (B, D)

Day 5: Loch Melfort - Isle of Mull - Isle of Iona - Loch Melfort
It's time to island hop. Take the ferry from Oban to the Isle of Mull, a picturesque island that is the largest of the Inner Hebridean Islands. Continue to the Isle of Iona, one of Western Europe's oldest Christian religious centres. Journey to Iona Abbey on foot and enjoy free time to explore the tranquility of the grounds on your own before returning to Mull and back to your hotel in Loch Melfort. (B, D)

Day 6: Loch Melfort - Glencoe - Loch Ness - Inverness
Geological wonders await you in the Highlands. Head to the National Nature Reserve in Glencoe and stop at the visitor centre to learn about the spectacular Glencoe mountain range, then walk the trails and experience this unique

landscape for yourself. After lunch, continue on to Loch Ness. Wander the ruins of the legendary Urquhart 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 in to your hotel for the night. (B, D)

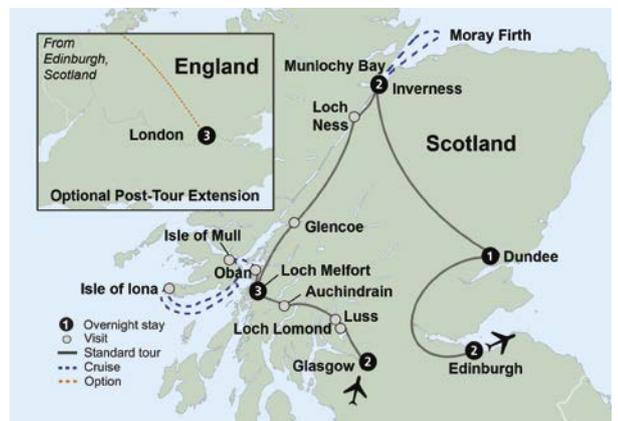
Day 7: Inverness
Head out on the water and cruise Moray Firth, travelling up the Beaulieu Firth to the Caledonian Canal and then back out as far as Munlochy Bay. Keep your eyes peeled for otters, porpoises, seals, and numerous shore birds along the way. Continue to Culloden Battlefield, where in 1746, a half hour battle changed the course of Scotland's history. Experience the 360° battle-immersion theater at the visitor centre, and see artifacts from the conflict. Later this afternoon, return to Inverness, and have some time at leisure to explore. (B)

Day 8: Inverness - Blair Atholl - Dundee
Immerse yourself in history today at Blair Castle & Gardens, the ancestral home of Clan Murray. Explore the ornate 18th century interiors and wander the nine acres of walled gardens where you may spot a peacock roaming free. After lunch, continue to Bamff Ecotourism. Meet the owners of this tranquil estate and learn why they're helping to reintroduce the wild beaver population to Scotland. Continue on to Dundee, an up-and-coming city on the banks of the River Tay. (B, D)

Day 9: Dundee - Edinburgh 🟢
This morning, **it's your choice!** Visit Discovery Point, home to the *RRS Discovery*, the ship that took Scott and Shackleton to Antarctica in 1901 -OR- get inspired at the V&A Dundee, Scotland's highly acclaimed design museum. This afternoon, enjoy a whisky tasting tour at a distillery built on an old monastery. Your day ends in Scotland's capital city, Edinburgh. (B)

Day 10: Edinburgh
Start the morning with an **Impact Moment** and get a local's perspective with a guide from Invisible Cities, a social enterprise that trains people affected by homelessness to become tour guides of their own city. After your tour, visit Edinburgh Castle, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels. The rest of the day is yours. Perhaps you'll take a stroll among the Georgian architecture of the New Town or journey to Leith for a visit to the Royal Yacht *Britannia*. Gather in the evening for a whisky-inspired farewell dinner highlighting the flavours of Scotland and toast to your Scottish explorations. (B, D)

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 3 NIGHTS IN LONDON



EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED

Starting at \$910 pp
Extend your stay in London. Ride the Tube with a local expert and zoom to the city's beloved attractions. Visit Kensington Palace. Visit the Tower of London independently with your included pass and enjoy free time to explore. CALL FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS	
PRE NIGHT GLASGOW CALL FOR DETAILS	POST NIGHT EDINBURGH CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Scotland: Isles of Lore & Legend with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$4,999
SOLO Starting at \$6,299

Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.
Price based on 7 April 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 - May 2024.

**SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.**

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into Glasgow and depart from Edinburgh. Airport transfers are available for purchase. If you choose to arrange your own air, please note you must arrive into Glasgow airport no later than 4:00 p.m. If your flight arrives into Edinburgh airport, you must arrive no later than 2:00 p.m. In order to fully experience the destination, some of our hotels on these programs are located in smaller towns or on country roads where access is limited to large coaches. In these cases, you will be dropped off as close as possible and there will be a short walk to access the hotel from the drop-off area. Travellers arriving in Edinburgh from 4-26 August, 2023 will receive tickets to Edinburgh's famous Military Tattoo show. Please inquire at time of reservation.

The 3 night London extension is Hosted. During this extension, you can expect to have a hosted experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

JOURNEY THROUGH SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND

13 DAYS • 19 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,349

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Edinburgh Castle • Lake District
- Liverpool • Cotswolds • Bath
- Glastonbury Abbey • Cornwall
- Great Western Railway • London



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Overnight in a 16th-century Elizabethan manor house.
- Relax as you journey through the countryside by train from Cornwall to London.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 4** — In the Lake District, visit Rydal Mount, home of poet William Wordsworth **-OR-** embark on a guided hike through valleys and trails.
- **Day 5** — In Liverpool, explore the strawberry fields that inspired John Lennon **-OR-** tour Albert Dock and visit the Merseyside Maritime Museum.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

- Personalise your evening with Diner's Choice in Bath.
- Enjoy lunch at the historic Bell Inn nestled in the charming village of Willersey.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2 VOCCO, Edinburgh
Days 3, 4 Low Wood Bay Resort and Spa, Lake Windermere

ROOM UPGRADE AVAILABLE:

Enhance your experience at the Low Wood Bay Resort and Spa with an upgrade to a Lake View Room. CALL FOR DETAILS

Day 5 Hotel Indigo, Liverpool
Day 6 The Greenway Hotel & Spa, Cotswolds
Days 7, 8 The Francis Hotel, Bath
Days 9, 10 The Cornwall Hotel and Spa, Cornwall
Days 11, 12 Clayton Hotel City of London, London

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Lake District

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

Day 1: Edinburgh, Scotland - Tour Begins

Your journey begins in Scotland, where age-old legends intersect with scenic beauty. Start in Edinburgh, the country's capital, and enjoy time to settle in for your stay. Delve into Scottish culture with a locally inspired dinner. (D)

Day 2: Edinburgh

See the city like a local during a walking tour of the Old Town, passing by Victorian houses and cobblestone streets. Explore the Royal Mile, ending at Edinburgh Castle, where you'll enjoy a guided tour of this historic fortress. The rest of the day is yours. Take advantage of free time to experience the city however you please. (B)

Day 3: Edinburgh - Lake Windermere, England

Say goodbye to Scotland and travel to the scenic Lake District, eternalised through the works of Scott and Wordsworth. Along the way, pause at the Pan Am Memorial at Lockerbie Cemetery and Gretna Green, where runaway lovers would marry in secret. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon on the shores of Lake Windermere, your home for the next 2 nights. Breathe in the crisp air and admire the rolling hills nestled against the water. (B, D)

Day 4: 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. Personalise your afternoon because **it's your choice!** Soak up the romance of the Lake District with a visit to Rydal Mount, the home of poet William Wordsworth **-OR-** embark on a guided hike through glacial valleys and along lakeside trails. (B)

Day 5: Lake Windermere - Liverpool

Head to Liverpool, England's popular port city. After some free time to explore, **it's your choice!** Perhaps you will visit Strawberry Field, the site where John Lennon came to play as a child, which he later immortalised in the song, 'Strawberry Fields Forever'. Here you will experience an **Impact Moment** and learn about the work the Salvation Army does at Strawberry Field to give young people with learning difficulties the opportunity for work experience **-OR-** embark on a walking tour of Albert Dock and learn about Liverpool's rich industrial history, connection to the American Civil War, as well as explore the Merseyside Maritime Museum. This evening, perhaps you'll join your Tour Manager at the Cavern Club, where The Beatles used to perform. (B)

Day 6: Liverpool - Cotswolds

Delve into the English's love of horticulture with a visit to a traditional garden. Your glimpse into the quintessential English lifestyle continues as you make your way to the Cotswolds. A region of hilly fields and stone houses, the Cotswolds is a charming collection of storybook villages.



Settle into a 16th-century Elizabethan manor house for the night, situated among 8 acres of verdant countryside. (B, D)

Day 7: Cotswolds – Bath

This morning explore the Cotswolds, taking in the rolling hills and honey-coloured stone homes that make this one of England’s most beautiful areas. Visit the quaint village of Broadway, and enjoy lunch at the historic Bell Inn located in the village of Willersey. Your day continues in the ancient Roman town of Bath, a beloved getaway for Jane Austen, Thomas Gainsborough, and Charles Dickens. Venture into the Roman Bath Museum to see the elaborate spas that have been prized since Roman times for their curative properties. The evening is yours to enjoy. (B, L)

Day 8: Bath

Enjoy a day at leisure. Perhaps you’ll visit the Jane Austen Museum, shop in the quaint boutiques, or simply stroll through Bath’s stunning Georgian streets. No matter how you spend your day, this evening is **Diner’s Choice!** Choose where you eat dinner from a selection of different included restaurants. (B, D)

Day 9: Bath – Glastonbury – Cornwall

Visit the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey, which legend claims is the home of storied King Arthur. Then travel on to Cornwall, England’s remote southwestern peninsula. Cornwall has always danced to its own tune. Passing through rugged moors and lush valleys, it becomes clear why this far-reaching corner of the earth has been a source of

inspiration for so many. This evening, enjoy dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

Day 10: Cornwall

This morning, visit the Eden Project. Dubbed the Eighth Wonder of the World, it is a dramatic global garden housed in some of the world’s largest biodomes. This afternoon, explore the idyllic fishing village of Mevagissey, and meet a local fisherman to learn about the history of fishing and tourism in Cornwall. (B)

Day 11: Cornwall – Great Western Railway – London

Wish the countryside goodbye and travel on the Great Western Railway to London, England’s lively capital. Upon arriving in London, get the lay of the land on a panoramic tour with a local expert. Take in London’s iconic sites, such as Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, and Buckingham Palace. The rest of the day is yours to explore independently. (B)

Day 12: London

Spend the day discovering London on your own. Perhaps you’ll grab a pint with the locals, wander through one of the many museums, or see the city from a different perspective at the London Eye. You may choose to join an optional excursion to the Tower of London followed by lunch at a traditional pub. This evening, gather with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner and toast the end of an incredible adventure. (B, D)

Day 13: London – Tour Ends

Your journey through Great Britain comes to a close today. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn’t a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE “ACTIVITY LEVELS” ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:



PRE NIGHT
EDINBURGH
CALL FOR DETAILS

POST NIGHT
LONDON
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Journey through Scotland and England with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

ALSO AVAILABLE



Journey through Scotland & England
featuring the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Enjoy tickets to Edinburgh’s famous Military Tattoo Show.

★ **DATES AVAILABLE AUGUST 2023**

SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$6,349**
SOLO Starting at **\$7,749**

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

Price based on 18 April 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Air passengers will arrive into Edinburgh Airport and depart from London airports.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“I enjoyed the scenic beauty and the small group.”

— Collette Traveller

NEW TOUR

THE BEST OF IRELAND

14 DAYS · 21 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dublin • Belfast • Pearse Lyons Distillery
 - Giant's Causeway • Derry
- Seanchaí Experience • Galway
 - Cliffs of Moher • Dingle
 - Ring of Kerry • Kilkenny



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- With a traditional *seanchaí* (Irish storyteller), listen to folklore and legends that have been passed down through generations.
- Travel back in time when you explore the thatched cottages of Glencolmcille.
- Enjoy a traditional Irish game of hurling.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 13** — Enjoy a leisurely morning in Kilkenny and visit the iconic castle —**OR—** explore Jerpoint Abbey and attend a captivating glass-blowing demonstration.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

13 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 7 Dinners (D)

- Savour new Irish cuisine during dinner in Dublin.
- Taste the local whiskey at Pearse Lyons Distillery.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1, 2** Hyatt Centric The Liberties, Dublin
- Days 3, 4** Europa Hotel, Belfast
- Days 5, 6** Mill Park Hotel, Donegal
- Day 7** Lough Erne Resort, Enniskillen
- Days 8, 9** The House Hotel, Galway
- Days 10, 11** Dingle Harbour Lodge, Dingle
- Days 12, 13** Kilkenny River Court Hotel, Kilkenny

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Wild Atlantic Way

It's time to experience the beauty and culture of Ireland, passed down through generations and reborn in the modern era.

Day 1: Dublin, Ireland – Tour Begins

Your Irish adventure starts in Dublin, built upon layered history and featuring a lively local culture. This evening, toast the start of your journey with dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

Day 2: Dublin

Start your morning with an **Impact Moment** and walk with an expert from Secret Street Tours, a non-profit that teaches citizens formerly affected by homelessness to be guides in their own city. See the city through their eyes and gain insight into their life story as you discover Dublin's Liberties district. Visit the Pearse Lyons distillery in Dublin, located in a church. The remainder of the day is yours to explore on your own. Later you may join an optional tour to the Guinness Storehouse, followed by dinner at a traditional pub. (B)

Day 3: Dublin – Belfast, Northern Ireland

This morning, cross the border into Northern Ireland and arrive in Belfast. Cruise through town in a traditional black taxicab with a guide, taking in different murals along the way. Pause at the Peace Wall, which separates the Catholic and Protestant communities, adorned with political graffiti. This afternoon, enjoy time at leisure in Belfast before joining your fellow travellers for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 4: Belfast – Giants Causeway – Belfast

Today visit the ethereal Giant's Causeway, walking in the footsteps of mystical

legends. Take in the hexagonal basalt slabs, formed by gargantuan beasts crossing the crashing waves according to legend. (B)

Day 5: Belfast – Derry – Donegal, Ireland

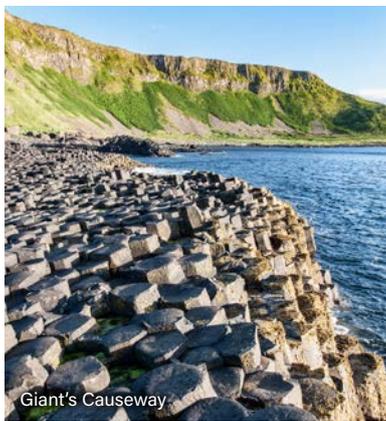
Make your way to Derry, a growing artistic and cultural hub, and site of the infamous Bloody Sunday massacre. Delve into the city's local history on a guided tour before continuing on to Glenveagh National Park. Embark on an expert-led tour of park's 19th-century Glenveagh Castle, nestled along the shore of Lough Veagh. End your day in County Donegal. Connect with an age-old heritage when an esteemed *seanchaí* — a traditional Gaelic storyteller — joins you for dinner. (B, D)

Day 6: 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 eighteenth century Ireland when you visit the thatched cottages of Glencolmcille, a folk village maintained by the local community of southeast Donegal. Continue on to Donegal Town and enjoy time to shop and explore at your leisure. (B)

Day 7: Donegal – Enniskillen, Northern Ireland

Enjoy a leisurely morning before departing Donegal for Fermanagh, a county blanketed



Giant's Causeway



Belfast Peace Wall



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
DUBLIN
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine The Best of Ireland with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$5,999**
SOLO Starting at **\$7,549**

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

Price based on 10 April 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 - May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Dublin. Our return transfers will depart from Kilkenny for Dublin airport. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to transfer scheduling, flights on the last day of your tour should be scheduled after 11:00 a.m. Travel time between Kilkenny and Dublin airport is approximately 90 minutes. Cruise operates seasonally. When not available, you will instead visit Enniskillen Castle and Fermanagh County Museum.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

by lakes and waterways. Take in pastoral surroundings as you cruise towards Devenish Island, a 6th century monastic site. Explore the ruins of this picturesque island, including one of the finest high towers in Ireland. This afternoon, arrive at your beautiful resort on the banks of Lough Erne. (B, D)

Day 8: Enniskillen - Galway, Ireland

Arrive in Galway, a lively city of medieval relics and modern flare. This afternoon, explore the city with a local guide, with stories about city, from being a major trading city in the medieval period, through to the present day. Tonight dinner is at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 9: 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 even 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 10: Galway - Cliffs of Moher - Dingle

Peek into Irish culture at a sheep farm, where you'll watch a dog-herding demonstration and meet the friendly canine workers. Experience the Ireland you've always imagined at the Cliffs of Moher, where mossy cliffs plunge 700 feet into the ocean. After visiting one of the country's most beloved sites, arrive in the colourful town of Dingle, located on the Dingle Peninsula. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a pub. (B, D)

Day 11: Dingle - Dingle Peninsula - Dingle

This morning, explore the spectacular scenery of the Dingle Peninsula, visiting Sleat Head, where the locals will remind you that beyond the water, "the next parish over is Boston." After returning to Dingle, the rest of the day is yours to explore how you choose. (B)

Day 12: Dingle - Kilkenny

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

Day 13: Kilkenny

This morning, **it's your choice!** Enjoy a leisurely day to explore the town and Kilkenny Castle on your own **-OR-** travel just outside of town to the ruins of Jerpoint Abbey, a Cistercian abbey founded in the 12th century. You will also attend a captivating demonstration at a 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 14: Kilkenny - Tour Ends

Wish the Emerald Isle goodbye as you depart for home. Today (B)

COUNTRYSIDE OF THE EMERALD ISLE

9 DAYS • 13 MEALS

STARTING AT \$3,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Overnight on the enchanting Aran Islands and jump head-first into Irish culture.
- Enjoy an after-hours private tour and reception at Christ Church Cathedral.
- Discover a hidden garden island nestled in Bantry Bay.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 6** — Take a walk along the coast from Dunquin Pier **-OR-** visit the Blasket Centre.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

8 Breakfasts (B) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Explore the Old Middleton Distillery, home of Jameson Irish Whiskey.
- Savour traditional Irish cuisine at a popular local restaurant.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1, 2** Hampton Hotel or Hotel Riu Plaza The Gresham, Dublin
- Days 3, 4** Garryvoe Hotel, East Cork, Cork
- Days 5, 6** Dingle Harbour Lodge, Dingle
- Day 7** Aran Islands Hotel, Aran Islands
- Day 8** Old Ground Hotel, Ennis

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Embrace the pure tranquility found in Ireland's quaint villages, less-travelled roads and storybook castles.

Day 1: Dublin, Ireland – Tour Begins

Fáilte and welcome to Dublin, Ireland's cosmopolitan capital. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome reception in the crypt of Christ Church Cathedral. Within the medieval walls of the city's oldest structure, surrounded by nearly 1,000 years of Irish myths and legends, toast the start of an incredible adventure.

Day 2: Dublin

A local expert escorts you through Dublin's magnificent sights. Exalt in the culture and colour of Ireland's world-famous shopping thoroughfare, Grafton Street. Get lost inside the gardens of St. Stephen's Green, and marvel at the electric green expanse of the largest enclosed city park in all of Europe, Phoenix Park. This afternoon you may join an optional tour to a traditional pub for lunch, followed by a visit to the Guinness Storehouse. This evening, enjoy authentic Irish cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 3: Dublin – Irish National Stud – Cashel – East Cork

Take to Ireland's country roads. Tour the Irish National Stud, an area of incredible 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 4: East Cork – Kinsale – Middleton – East Cork

This morning head to the coastal town of Kinsale. Enjoy time to peruse the charming shops, galleries and cafes before joining a local expert for a leisurely walking tour. Later this afternoon, visit the Old Middleton Distillery, home of Jameson Irish Whiskey. Give it a go with a tasting of the distillery's production. (B)

Day 5: East Cork – Garnish Island – Dingle

Travel through forty shades of green before arriving in the charming village of Glengarriff. Board a ferry and sail to a place that must be seen to be believed, Garnish Island. Sheltered in the Glengarriff harbour of Bantry Bay, this hidden island is home to one of Ireland's most beautiful gardens. Continue over the Cork and Kerry mountains onto the colourful town of Dingle, located on the Dingle Peninsula. Tonight, settle into a charming seaside lodge — your home for two nights. (B)



Stay on the remote Aran Islands



Dublin



Kinsale



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
DUBLIN
CALL FOR DETAILS

UP TO 1 WEEK

STOPOVER
CHOOSE FROM:
**London, Amsterdam,
Paris, Frankfurt, Munich**
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Countryside of the Emerald Isle with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

Day 6: Dingle – Dingle Peninsula – Dingle

This morning explore the spectacular scenery of the Dingle Peninsula, with a drive along Slea Head, with its enchanting hills and weather-worn bluffs. The locals will remind you that beyond the water "the next parish over is Boston." Then, **it's your choice!** Take a walk along the coast from Dunquin Pier, a secluded bay surrounded by cliffs -OR- visit the Blasket Centre, which shares the story of the people of the Blasket Islands, highlighting their struggles with the elements and the tenacity of their community. The rest of the day is free for you to explore the colourful streets and harbour of Dingle. This evening dinner will be at a pub located in a nearby village. (B, D)

Day 7: Dingle – Aran Islands (Inishmore)

Leave the rugged southern coast behind and embark on an adventure, the likes of which you've never seen. 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 cosy island chalet. The humble accommodation in the heart of Inishmore allow the striking, rocky coast to be the star of your stay. (B, D)

Day 8: 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. After, you'll meet a family who harvests seaweed, and taste the unique flavour of this nutrient-rich food that supported Ireland's people during times of famine. Nearby, get a glimpse at a colony of seals on your way to visit another family-run enterprise: a goat farm. Savour the flavours of their locally-produced cheese during a sampling. Later, enjoy time in Kiltonan village to explore and see the famous Aran sweaters. After, take in unrivalled views while sailing beneath the iconic Cliffs of Moher. This evening, after ferrying back to the mainland, toast the end of an incredible adventure! (B, D)

Day 9: 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 **\$3,999**
SOLO Starting at **\$4,999**

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

Price based on 15 April 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – May 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into Dublin and depart from Shannon. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Christ Church Cathedral is a working cathedral, so closure may occur unexpectedly. Ferry crossings and overnights on the Aran Islands are subject to weather conditions. If weather conditions prohibit crossing to the Aran Islands, alternative arrangements will be made for accommodation and activities. The overnight accommodation on Aran Island require that you bring an overnight bag only. Your large luggage will be stored on the bus in a secure location. Due to the remoteness of Dingle and the Aran Islands, hotels are carefully chosen, yet also reflective of the rustic nature of the landscape and are 3-star properties.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

ROAMING COASTAL MAINE

7 DAYS • 9 MEALS

STARTING AT \$4,349

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Portland • Oyster Farm • Bar Harbor
- Acadia National Park • Lobster Trap Pull Demonstration • Wine Tasting
- Camden • Freeport • Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens • Boothbay



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Lose yourself in the natural beauty of Acadia National Park.
- Watch as traps are hauled from the ocean onto a working lobster boat.
- Sample the vintages during a wine tasting.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 2** — Visit the Portland Museum of Art, Maine's oldest and largest public art institution **-OR-** join a locally-guided walking tour through Portland's oldest neighbourhood and learn about its diverse beginnings.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

6 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 2 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a rustic New England lunch at a traditional Maine lobster shack.
- Tour an oyster farm before digging into the local delicacies.
- Savour a Maine inspired welcome dinner.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1, 2** AC Hotel Portland Downtown Waterfront, Portland, ME
- Days 3, 4** Bar Harbor Grand Hotel, Bar Harbor, ME
- Days 5, 6** Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, ME

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Portland Head Lighthouse

This is Maine, where rocky shores, infinite nature, and endless lobster forge a coastal New England classic.

Day 1: Portland, Maine - Tour Begins

Welcome to Maine, a "Vacationland" of intricate coastlines and all-encompassing natural beauty that serves as the perfect getaway. From charming towns and scenic ocean overlooks to oyster shucking and lobster hauling, experience the best of this New England retreat.

Day 2: Portland

Discover the essence of this vibrant harbour city by means of a true New England classic — a trolley. From the opulent Victoria Mansion to the hum of the Old Port, your guide will introduce you to Portland's hidden gems. Trade in the charming streets of the city for the rugged coastline, stopping at the picturesque Portland Head Light. This afternoon, **it's your choice!** Visit the Portland Museum of Art, Maine's

oldest and largest public art institution whose collection includes pieces from Andy Warhol and Claude Monet **-OR-** join a locally-guided walking tour through Portland's oldest neighbourhood and learn about its diverse beginnings. Get a chance to delve into the culture of Portland with free time to explore this seafaring city on your own. (B, D)

Day 3: Portland - Bar Harbor

This morning, get an intimate look at a working oyster farm and learn how to dig into these local delicacies with an oyster shucking demonstration. Later, arrive in Bar Harbor, an iconic vacation spot featuring rich blue waters and home to Acadia National Park. With an evening at leisure, explore the bustling downtown, full of cozy cafes and indulgent ice cream shops just steps from your hotel. (B)



Acadia National Park



Oyster Farmer

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. (B)

Day 5: Bar Harbor – Camden – Freeport

Sip some regional wine during a tasting at a local vineyard. Your scenic journey continues with a stop at a lobster shack to indulge in a must-try local favourite, the Maine lobster roll. Head to Camden for some time at leisure, giving you the perfect opportunity to explore this quintessential Maine town. Later, arrive

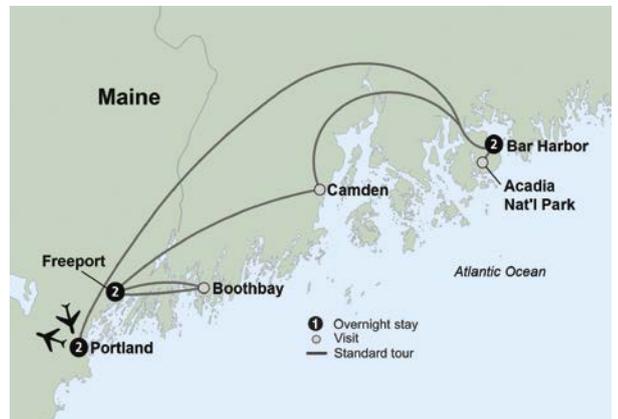
in Freeport, your home for the next two nights. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 6: Freeport – Boothbay – Freeport

Today, enter the natural wonderland of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, nearly 300 acres of grassy fields and woodland trails overflowing with floral hues. Enjoy some free time in Boothbay browsing this quaint, seaside town's cute shops and restaurants. Return to Freeport where you will visit the Maine Beer Company for an **Impact Moment**. Enjoy a guided tasting and learn all about the brewery's "Do What's Right" program in which they commit to employee wellness, minimising their carbon footprint, and donating proceeds to environmental nonprofits. Tonight, toast to the end of your trip and bid Maine farewell over dinner. (B, D)

Day 7: Freeport – Portland – Tour Ends

Your tour of coastal Maine comes to a close today. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



You're confident walking 30-45 minutes at a time over a variety of terrains – from cobblestone streets to a few flights of stairs.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
PORTLAND
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Roaming Coastal Maine with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$4,349
SOLO Starting at \$6,149

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

Price based on 26 May 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – October 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. An ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) visa is required for all Australian passport holders travelling to or via the USA, at your own expense. This visa may apply due to your airline scheduling. Most other passport holders will also require an ESTA visa to travel to or via the US, to check please go to <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/> or contact CIBT at www.cibtvisas.com.au/collette, alternatively check with your consulate for more information. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Portland. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to tour scheduling, return flights should not be booked prior to 12:00 noon. The Portland Museum of Art is closed on Mondays. If your choice activity falls on a Monday, you will instead enjoy a guided walking tour of Portland. The lobster shack lunch is seasonal and may be replaced on departures prior to late May and after 30 September.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“The restaurants were wonderful as well as the planned events such as the oyster farm and wine tasting.”

— Collette Traveller

NEW TOUR

ALASKA'S NORTHERN LIGHTS

7 DAYS • 11 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,449

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Anchorage • Northern Light Excursions
 - Winter Glacier Cruise
 - Prince William Sound
- Talkeetna • Alaska Railroad
- Fairbanks • Dog Mushing



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Search for the northern lights in Fairbanks' star-filled sky.
- Hop in a sled and experience dog mushing like a local.
- Visit Musk Ox Farm and learn about the sustainable domestication project.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

6 Breakfasts (B) • 1 Lunch (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

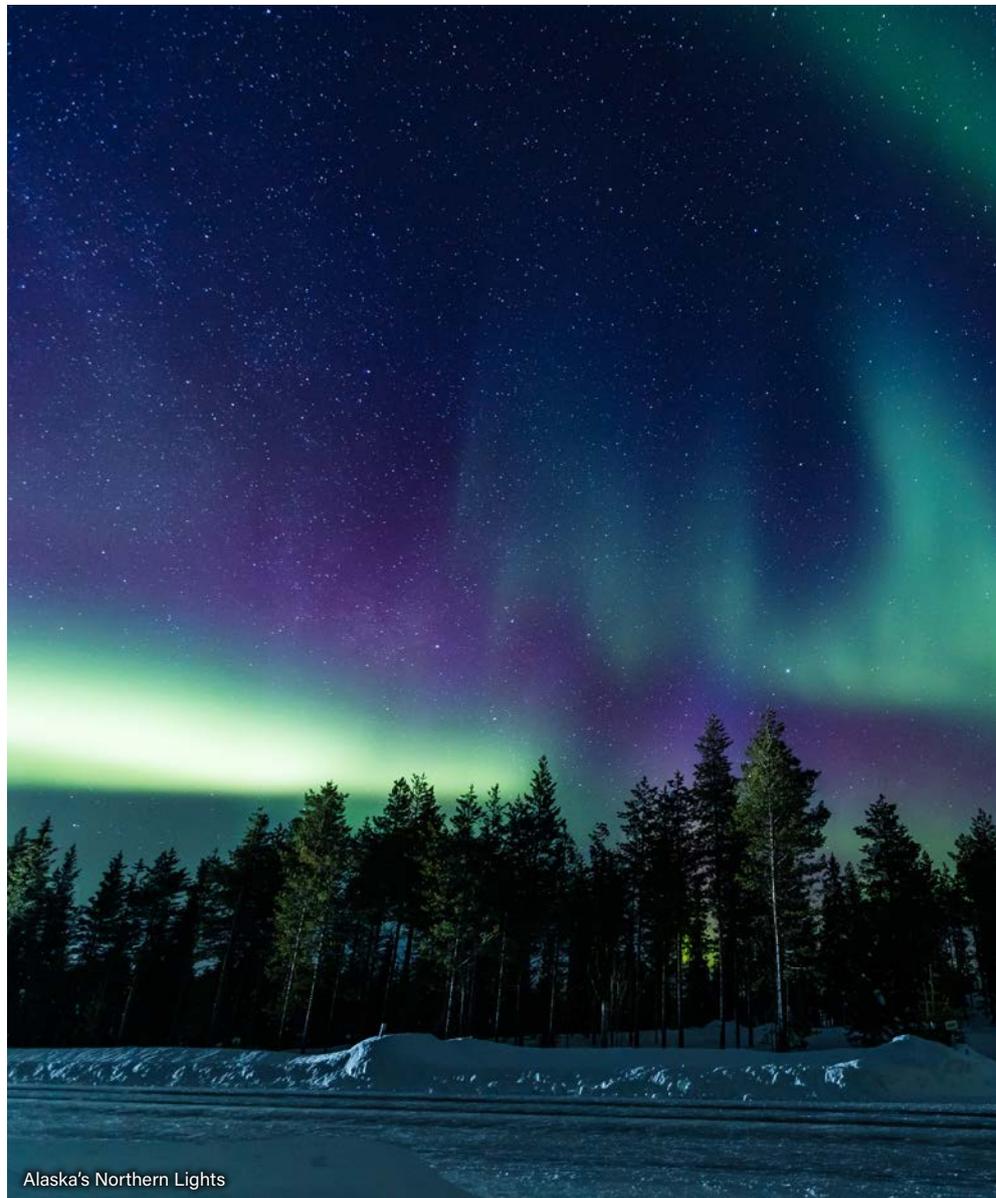
- Enjoy a taste of wild Alaskan salmon.
- Learn all about the Iditarod as you dine on the property of a legendary racing kennel.



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1, 2** Hilton, Anchorage, AK
Day 3 Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge, Talkeetna, AK
Days 4-6 Pike's Waterfront Lodge, Fairbanks, AK

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Alaska's Northern Lights

Take a snowy peek into Alaska.
Visit the friendly local towns of the last
frontier and bond with energetic sled dogs.

Day 1: Anchorage, Alaska - Tour Begins

Your journey starts in Anchorage, a city on the edge of the snowcapped Chugach Mountains and 60 sparkling glaciers. This is your gateway to wilderness and adventure.

Day 2: Anchorage - Winter Glacier Cruise - Anchorage

Head to Whittier and embark on an incomparable glacier cruise of Prince William Sound, narrated by an expert guide. Blue skies collide with stark white glaciers, and playful otters dip in and out of the calm waters. Embrace the sheer magnitude of Alaska's natural beauty as you venture through a geological wonderland. Feel like a true explorer during a beach landing. In the evening, gather with new friends for a welcome dinner in a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 3: Anchorage - Palmer - Talkeetna

Take a step into the past when you visit Musk Ox Farm. Learn about the Musk Ox project — a sustainable domestication effort that has worked to preserve, protect, and increase awareness for these woolly 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. Tonight, enjoy dinner at your hotel. 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)



Dog Mushing



Aurora Winter Train

Day 4: Talkeetna - Alaska Railroad - Fairbanks

Begin your day with a lecture on the down-to-earth Alaskan lifestyle before hopping on Alaska Railroad's Aurora Winter Train for a full-day journey to Fairbanks. Sit back and relax as you are whisked away, through 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 civilisation. 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)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Unfortunately, this tour isn't appropriate for guests who use wheelchairs or walkers as it requires walking on uneven terrain.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
ANCHORAGE
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Alaska's Northern Lights with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$5,449**
SOLO Starting at **\$6,549**

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

Price based on 23 March 2024 departure.



Departures available February - March 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. An ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) visa is required for all Australian passport holders travelling to or via the USA, at your own expense. This visa may apply due to your airline scheduling. Most other passport holders will also require an ESTA visa to travel to or via the US, to check please go to <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/> or contact CIBT at www.cibtvisas.com.au/collette, alternatively check with your consulate for more information. Our air passengers will arrive into Anchorage and depart from Fairbanks. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to tour scheduling, return flights should not be scheduled prior to 3:00 p.m. The lunch on Day 2 will be a boxed lunch so you can enjoy it on your Glacier Cruise. Temperatures in February and March can be quite cold. Anchorage averages a high of -7 degrees Celsius / low of -12 degrees Celsius. Talkeetna and Fairbanks average a high of -12 degrees Celsius / low of -25 degrees Celsius. It is strongly recommended that guests dress appropriately for Arctic weather. The best time to see the northern lights is from late August through April and this itinerary was designed with a multiple-night stay in Fairbanks to enhance this opportunity. However, this is weather dependent, and sightings of the northern lights are not guaranteed. Beach landings are weather dependent. On some dates, this tour operates in reverse. Travellers should expect temperatures from -3° to -18°C and plan on being outdoors for a number of included activities. You should be prepared to navigate cities with heavy snow on the ground. Suitable outdoor gear will be available for rental prior to your tour departure at an additional cost. On the last day of your tour, your room has been extended for use until it is time for your airport transfer.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“The tour guide was fantastic—very organised, knowledgeable, and eager to help in way she could! Loved the small size of the group which allowed us to really get to know each other.”

— Collette Traveller

NEW TOUR

MONTANA: EXPLORING BIG SKY COUNTRY

11 DAYS • 16 MEALS

STARTING AT \$7,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Bozeman • Yellowstone
- Old Faithful • Mammoth Hot Springs
 - Yellowstone • Grand Canyon
- Helena • Gates of the Mountains
- Great Falls • Glacier National Park
 - Going-to-the-Sun Road
- Whitefish • White Water Rafting
- Flathead Lake • Kootenai Traditions
- Historic Museum at Fort Missoula
 - Smokejumper Visitor's Center



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Explore both the Northern and Southern Loops of Yellowstone National Park.
- Learn about native culture at the Flathead Reservation.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 6** — Visit the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center **-OR-** explore the exhibits of the C.M. Russell Art Museum.
- **Day 8** — Grab a paddle and get ready for a white-water rafting adventure **-OR-** take the calmer, scenic route on a float down the Flathead River.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

- Dig into a mouth-watering barbecue dinner.
- Sample traditional food of the Kootenai people.



ACCOMMODATION

Day 1	AC Hotel Downtown, Bozeman
Days 2, 3	The Ridgeline Hotel at Yellowstone, Gardiner
Days 4, 5	DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown, Helena
Day 6	Great Bear Lodge at St. Mary Village, St. Mary
Days 7, 8	The Firebrand Hotel or Lodge at Whitefish Lake, Whitefish
Days 9, 10	DoubleTree by Hilton Edgewater, Missoula

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Glacier National Park

Step outside, take a deep breath in, and look towards the mountains — you're in the big sky country of Montana.

Day 1: Bozeman, Montana - Tour Begins

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 - Gardiner

This morning, pass through Yellowstone's western gate and venture into the Lower Loop. Your first stop will be at the Grand Prismatic Spring, where steaming blue waters clash brilliantly with the bright orange of the clay earth surrounding it. 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. No drive through Yellowstone is that quiet, though — bison, elk, bears, eagles, wolves, and antelope call this incredible slice of wilderness their home, and you might spot them at any time. (B, D)

Day 3: Gardiner - Yellowstone Northern Loop - Gardiner

Today, explore Yellowstone's northern loop. Your first stop will be Mammoth Hot Springs. Here, bubbling pots of geothermal water trickle down the step-like terraces, creating incredible shapes and colours. Next, head to the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone lookout, where you'll find yourself standing over the massive, 20-mile-long canyon. Its craggy walls are streaked with brilliant whites, pinks, and oranges from the volcanic minerals contained in the rocks. The Yellowstone River roars along at the bottom over three different waterfalls. Later today, return to your hotel in Gardiner. (B)

Day 4: Gardiner - Paradise Valley - Helena

This morning, head through the sweeping vistas of Montana's Paradise Valley. You'll arrive in the capital of Montana, Helena, a city with rich gold rush history and beautiful Victorian era architecture. These days, the "Queen City of the Rockies" is less known for gold and more known for its great local restaurants and microbreweries, as well as a stunning trail system in the surrounding landscape. (B, D)

Day 5: Helena - Gates of the Mountains - Helena

Start your day today with a local guide showing you around the beautiful and welcoming mountain city of Helena on a narrated, train trolley tour. See the opulent mansion district, marvel at the Cathedral of St. Helena, and roll by governors' 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 Lewis and Clark. Climb aboard a boat and follow the path they took on their legendary journey across this vast wilderness. Meriwether Lewis himself named this stunning canyon the Gates of the Mountains. 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. 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, as well as his original home and log studio. Afterwards, continue to St. Mary. (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. Next, head to 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. 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 barbecue dinner. (B, D)

Day 9: Whitefish - Flathead Lake - Missoula

Depart Whitefish and drive south, journeying along the western edge of beautiful Flathead Lake. Carved by the ancient glaciers that give Glacier National Park its name, Flathead Lake stretches almost 200 square miles. Quaint, small towns dot the shores here, built with the beautiful backdrop of nature behind them. You might even spot some orchards, growing Flathead cherries. Encompassing most of the lake is the Flathead Reservation, home to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation. At one point, these tribes had territories that stretched out of Montana and into Idaho, British Columbia, and Wyoming. The Hellgate Treaty of 1855 set aside Flathead Lake for the tribes, reducing their lands to a fraction of what it once was. Tribal land was once again shrunk in 1904 by over half a million acres. Despite all of this, the Tribal way of life continues on to this day, passed down from elders to children through a rich oral and spiritual tradition. Get a glimpse into these traditions when you meet a descendant of the last Kootenai chief, and learn about the importance of the land in native life. Afterwards, head to the final stay on your journey, the eclectic city of Missoula, where you can enjoy a relaxing evening at leisure. (B)

Day 10: Missoula

Your day in Missoula starts off with a visit to the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula, a 32-acre site with over 20 structures including a collection of nearly 50,000 artifacts that tell the fascinating history of Missoula County. Next, visit the Smokejumper Visitor Center and learn how and why these legendary firefighters do what they do — jump out of planes and parachute into dangerous wildfires. Missoula is home to the largest smokejumper base in the United States, and you'll visit the ready room, smokejumper loft, the National Smokejumper Memorial, and a fire lookout tower originally built in 1930. 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)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS



Mammoth Hot Springs

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
BOZEMAN
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Montana: Exploring Big Sky Country with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$7,999**
SOLO Starting at **\$10,499**

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

Price based on 19 September 2023 departure.



Departures available June - September 2023.

**SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.**

This trip requires a passport. An ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) visa is required for all Australian passport holders travelling to or via the USA, at your own expense. This visa may apply due to your airline scheduling. Most other passport holders will also require an ESTA visa to travel to or via the US, to check please go to <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/> or contact CIBT at www.cibtvisas.com.au/collette, alternatively check with your consulate for more information. Our air passengers will arrive into Bozeman and depart from Missoula. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Going-to-the-Sun-Road may not be open due to weather conditions and typically opens the last week of June. In this case, an alternate tour of Glacier National Park will be provided.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

COSTA RICA: A WORLD OF NATURE

FEATURING TORTUGUERO
NATIONAL PARK,
ARENAL VOLCANO
& MANUEL ANTONIO
NATIONAL PARK

12 DAYS • 23 MEALS

STARTING AT \$3,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Learn about Costa Rica's ecosystem and local culture.
- Visit the world's first sea turtle research station in Tortuguero National Park.
- Explore Arenal during a captivating 3-night stay.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 7** — Embark on one of Costa Rica's most thrilling zip lining experiences and take in views of the Arenal rainforest —**OR**— enjoy a moderate hike along the trails of Arenal Volcano National Park; cross lava fields and pause to enjoy spectacular views of the volcano.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

11 Breakfasts (B) • 4 Lunches (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

- Taste for yourself why cacao is called "the food of the gods" and observe the process of converting this seed from bean to bar.
- Enjoy a traditional Costa Rican dinner.
- Learn how to cook using a coconut before making some delicious local candy.



ACCOMMODATION

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	Mountain Paradise Resort & Spa, Arenal
Days 9, 10	Marriott Los Suenos, Playa Herradura
Day 11	Doubletree by Hilton Cariari Hotel, San Jose

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Nature Cruise



From thrilling water journeys to ethereal jungle expeditions, discover what *pura vida* means to you when you explore the essence of Costa Rica.

Day 1: San Jose, Costa Rica - Tour Begins

Pura vida. In English, it translates to "the simple life." But pura vida is so much more: it's an attitude; a celebration of life in the moment. It's time to experience what pura vida means to you. You're on your way to explore a place that's unlike anywhere else in the world, where pura vida is an unofficial motto and a way of life. Welcome to the emerald of Central America: Costa Rica.

Day 2: San Jose - Tortuguero National Park

Seemingly endless mountain horizons. Complex evergreen forests. These are the wonders of Tortuguero National Park. Travel by boat to your hotel before heading further down the rivers and canals to the world's first sea turtle research station. Later, have time to explore Tortuguero town with your Tour Manager. Get away from it all and relax at your lodge set in the middle of the jungle, your home

for the next two nights. From the morning calls of the monkeys to the gentle chatter of the birds, listen to the active sounds of the rainforest around you. (B, L, D)

Day 3: Tortuguero National Park

Begin the day on an excursion to search for the elusive green macaw and other unique winged creatures that flock to Tortuguero. Embark on a nature cruise, getting a glimpse into the life of jaguars, manatees, ocelots, and more. The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy your Tortuguero resort. Tonight, a local will teach you all about his village and its previous history as a coconut plantation. Watch as he demonstrates how they use coconuts before trying your hand at making a local favourite: coconut candy. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Tortuguero National Park - Sarapiquí - San Carlos

Take a boat back to the mainland and make your way towards Sarapiquí and Tirimbina



Ziplining



Hanging Bridges

Rainforest Center. Spend time at a cacao plantation and see the process of converting the seed from bean to bar, tasting for yourself why cacao is called "the food of the gods." Later, arrive at your secluded nature resort, nestled on the edge of the San Carlos River. Stroll the butterfly and botanical gardens lined with fruit trees, including lemon, soursop, guava, mango and tangerine. (B, L, D)

Day 5: San Carlos

Explore the beauty of your surroundings on a Peñas Blancas River Safari. Paddle and float down the river on a peaceful adventure, taking in the sights and sounds of the rainforest as your naturalist guide describes the intricacies of the wildlife around you. Visit the finca of a local family and try specialty snacks such as banana bread, gourmet Costa Rican coffee and more. End your day with a guided walk through a private, primary forest reserve for a look at the various flora and fauna. (B, D)

Day 6: San Carlos - Hanging Bridges - Arenal

Today, suspended over the rainforest floor, relish a bird's-eye view of the jungle on a guided tour of Arenal's famous

hanging bridges. High above the jungle canopies, marvel at a cloud forest taking shape around you. Settle into your resort where you'll be surrounded by striking views of Arenal's famous volcano for the next 3 nights. (B, D)

Day 7: Arenal

Today, **it's your choice!** Since Costa Rica is the birthplace of zip lining, glide over the canopies on a mind-blowing rip through the jungle **-OR-** make your way across lava fields for an up-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. Perhaps you'll discover the town of La Fortuna or relax in the hotel's naturally heated pools. Also consider an optional excursion to a family-owned finca with an included farm to table lunch. (B, D)

Day 8: Arenal

In the shadow of Arenal Volcano, the day is yours to enjoy at leisure. Perhaps, if you're feeling adventurous, you'll opt for an exhilarating white water rafting experience. Or simply hang back at the resort, choose a spa service, explore the grounds, and soak in one of Arenal's famous hot springs. (B)

Day 9: Arenal Volcano - Coffee Plantation - Playa Herradura

This morning, wake up and smell the coffee at a local farm that produces some of Costa Rica's well-known beans. Take a tour with local plantation workers and have a chance to discuss what life is like for these coffee farmers. In the afternoon, head to Playa Herradura and settle into your resort for the next 2 nights. As the day draws to a close, watch the sun set over the Pacific alongside birds in every colour of the rainbow. (B, D)

Day 10: Playa Herradura - Manuel Antonio National Park - Playa Herradura

Welcome to Manuel Antonio National Park, home to verdant rainforests and white sand beaches. In this natural wonderland, traverse the trails where the wild things are, or go for a swim in the turquoise waters as wildlife rummages in the canopies. (B)

Day 11: Playa Herradura - Tárcoles - San Jose

See wild crocodiles among the mangroves of Tárcoles' Rio Grande. On this exhilarating jungle crocodile safari, you'll boat beneath the towering jungle, looking along the river banks for a glimpse of these incredible creatures. Then say goodbye to the coast and hello to San Jose. Toast to the pura vida of Costa Rica tonight over a farewell dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 12: San Jose - Tour Ends

Bid Costa Rica farewell as your tour comes to an end today. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
SAN JOSE
CALL FOR DETAILS

UP TO 1 WEEK

POST NIGHT
SAN JOSE
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Costa Rica: A World of Nature with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$3,999**
SOLO Starting at **\$4,999**

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

Price based on 20 April 2024 departure.



Departures available August 2023 - April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from San Jose. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to luggage size and weight restrictions on the boats, please bring an overnight bag for the 2-night stay in Tortuguero National Park. Your main luggage stays in San Jose and joins you upon your return to the mainland. White water rafting is subject to the operator's safety restrictions. We want you to enjoy your tour with us; therefore, it is important that you know this tour is an adventure! You will view spectacular scenery while experiencing the culture and heritage of the region. We have selected small, comfortable hotels and eco-lodges for their locations and they may be considered rustic. Air conditioning and elevators are not available in all properties used on this tour. Travellers must be in good health as sightseeing requires walking on uneven terrain; wheelchairs and walkers cannot be accommodated on this tour.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“Everything about our tour was excellent. Our guide had a real passion for the nature of Costa Rica and provided a great experience.”

— Collette Traveller

NEW TOUR

PERU: MACHU PICCHU & LAKE TITICACA

11 DAYS • 16 MEALS

STARTING AT \$4,539

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Lima • Sacred Valley of the Incas
 - Local Andean Cultures
 - Ollantaytambo Ruins
 - Home-Hosted Lunches
- Machu Picchu • Cuzco • Lake Titicaca
 - Uros Floating Islands



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 7** — Travel above the city of Cuzco to discover the important sacred Inca ruins of Sacsayhuaman Fortress —OR— embark on a walking tour of San Blas, the traditional old quarter of Cuzco.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

10 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 4 Dinners (D)

- Enjoy a culinary demonstration at your hotel at the base of Machu Picchu.
- Delight in a home hosted farm-to-table lunch at a local Quechua community.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2	Hilton Garden Inn Lima Miraflores, Lima
Days 3, 4	Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley, Yucay
Day 5	Sumaq Machu Picchu Hotel, Aguas Calientes
Days 6, 7	Hilton Garden Inn, Cuzco
Days 8, 9	GHL Lago Titicaca, Puno
Day 10	Hilton Garden Inn Lima Milaflores, Lima

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Machu Picchu

From the sacred citadel of Machu Picchu to the floating islands of Lake Titicaca, the magical wonders of Peru are waiting behind every corner.

Day 1: Lima, Peru – Tour Begins

Welcome to Peru, one of the treasures of South America. Travel through this intriguing land visiting some of the world's most legendary sites, including Machu Picchu, the "Lost City of the Incas." Arrive late this evening in Lima, the "City of Kings."

Day 2: Lima

Discover Lima's fascinating history during a colonial tour through the historic city centre, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Admire the artwork at San Francisco Monastery and enter the catacombs. View the elegant Cathedral at Plaza de Armas and visit the Casa de Aliaga — former house of the conquistador Jeronimo de Aliaga y Ramirez — where the energy of colonial and republican Lima comes to life. Get to know your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner featuring artfully crafted Peruvian dishes. (B, D)

Day 3: Lima – Cuzco – Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco, in the heart of the Inca civilization. Journey through the Andes to the majestic Sacred Valley of the Incas, the agricultural centre of their grand empire. While en route to your hotel, explore different towns in the valley, each a representation of the region's unique culture. After a short lesson on the local language, stop in Pisac village to browse the colourful handicraft market. Settle into your hotel nestled in the heart of the Sacred Valley. (B)

Day 4: Sacred Valley – Ollantaytambo – Sacred Valley

This morning, visit the spectacular Ollantaytambo ruins, the only Inca settlement that has been continually inhabited since its inception. A uniquely terraced complex topped with carved stone panels, these ruins reflect ancient Inca 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. Experience the lifestyle of the modern Andean people and delve into their culture when you travel to a nearby Quechua community and interact with the locals. 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 of the Incas – Machu Picchu

Climb aboard your train to Machu Picchu for breathtaking views through panoramic windows as you ride through the Andes to the "Lost City of the Incas". Hidden by mountains and semi-tropical jungle, Machu Picchu is considered the most spectacular sight in South America. Spend the afternoon with your guide uncovering the mysteries of these majestic ruins. Tonight, stay at the base of Machu Picchu

for a chance to further soak up its atmosphere. Enjoy an exclusive culinary demonstration and learn how to craft the perfect *ceviche* and *pisco* sour before your dinner featuring a Peruvian menu. (B, D)

Day 6: Machu Picchu – Cuzco

This morning, take advantage of free time and explore the local markets in Aguas Calientes on your own, or you may choose to visit Machu Picchu at sunrise. Return to the Sacred Valley by train. Upon arriving in Cuzco, take time to explore the captivating city at your leisure. (B)

Day 7: Cuzco

Start your morning with a local guide 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 Sacsayhuaman Fortress –**OR**– embark on a walking tour of San Blas, the traditional old quarter of Cuzco, lined with restaurants and artisan shops. The rest of the afternoon is yours. This evening, dine at your leisure at a local restaurant featuring the local flavours of Cuzco. (B, D)

Day 8: Cuzco – Puno

This morning, fly to Puno, hugging the shores of Lake Titicaca. Known as the birthplace of the Inca Empire, ancient legends say that life began here. Have time to meet the locals and discover the history of this region as you explore the village centre before checking into your lakeside hotel. Tonight, enjoy an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 9: Puno – Uros Floating Islands – Lake Titicaca – Chullpas de Sillustan – Puno

The Titicaca area, steeped in tradition and folklore, is the centre of Incan legends. Enjoy a morning cruise to the floating islands of the Uros people of Lake Titicaca; experience walking on the island's spongy surface made from compacted beds of totora reeds and meet the locals, learning about their history and lifestyle. Later, cruise to a local rustic village for a home-hosted meal and swap stories with Peruvian families before visiting the mystical Chullpas de Sillustani – an archaeological area boasting 13th-century funerary monuments. (B, L)

Day 10: Puno – Lima

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. (B, D)

Day 11: Lima – Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today. (B)

Featured Post-Tour Extension



EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED

Optional 3-Night Peruvian Post-Tour Extension

Starting at \$840+ pp

Day 11: Lima - Puerto Maldonado - Peruvian Amazon Basin

Fly from Lima to the Puerto Maldonado airport where you meet your naturalist guide. Board a canoe and transfer up the Madre de Dios River to the Inkaterria Hacienda Concepcion Lodge. After a welcome lunch, take a walk through the Concepcion trails and learn about the rainforest's composition, its uses, the human impact and its relevance to the world climate. At dusk, once again take to the water on a motorised canoe. Your evening excursion will teach you about the river's ecosystem, Amazonian creeks, nocturnal animals' behaviour and the southern sky's constellations. Then, you'll enjoy a delightful dinner in the Casa Grande's dining room. (L, D)

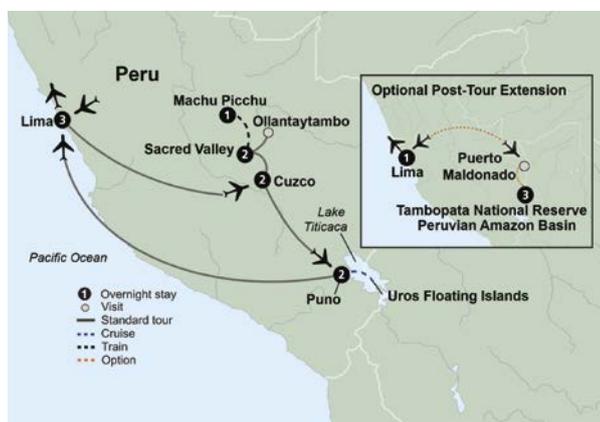
Day 12: Tambopata National Reserve - Lake Sandoval

After an early breakfast, your naturalist guide will lead you on a trek through Tambopata National Reserve. Arrive at pristine Lake Sandoval and board a dugout canoe. Glide along taking in your peaceful surroundings. Keep an eye out for the endangered giant river otter, blue and yellow macaw, red howler monkey, black caiman, and one of the world's biggest fresh water scaled fish, the paiche. After lunch, the Inkaterria canopy walkway awaits. Begin at the Interpretation Center to learn about the project. Then ascend 98 feet in the air and cross a series of hanging bridges that connect the treetops, taking in the breathtaking panoramas and discovering the wildlife that surrounds you. This evening, explore the Amazon rainforest by moonlight and listen to the unique nocturnal sounds of the rainforest. Your day concludes with a wonderful dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 13: Puerto Maldonado - Lima - Tour Ends

After breakfast, take a scenic boat ride back to Puerto Maldonado. Arrive at the Inkaterria Lounge (Butterfly House) where you may wait for your flight back to Lima. Later, depart Lima for your overnight flight home. (B)

† Additional air segment purchase required.



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Unfortunately, this tour isn't appropriate for guests who use wheelchairs or walkers as it requires walking on uneven terrain.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

POST NIGHT
LIMA

CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Peru: Machu Picchu and Lake Titicaca with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$4,539**

SOLO Starting at **\$5,389**

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

Price based on 10 February 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Complete passport information is required 60 days prior to departure to book train tickets to Machu Picchu. If passport information is incomplete or inaccurate within 60 days, there is a strong possibility that we will be unable to confirm you on the same travel schedule as the rest of your group. You will be subject to any additional charges incurred from failing to provide passport information within the designated time frame. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Lima. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The internal flights on this program are included in the land price of your tour. Due to tour scheduling, return flights on the last day of your tour should be booked after 10:00 p.m. The highest elevation is approximately 3,810 metres (Puno). During this tour you will spend 4 consecutive days at altitudes over 3,353 metres. Please be advised that backpacks brought into Machu Picchu cannot exceed 40x35x20cms or have a capacity larger than 20 liters. Backpacks that exceed the indicated measurements can be left in storage, at an approximate cost of 2 US Dollars. Also, please take notice that bringing in single-use plastic bottles, plastic bags, plastic straws or Styrofoam containers has been forbidden. We suggest bringing reusable water bottles. In general, hotels outside of Lima are small with one or two levels and do not have elevators, which may require you to climb 10-15 steps to get to/from the room. Each guest is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from.

The 3 night Peruvian Amazon Extension is Hosted. During this extension, you can expect to have a hosted experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences. When travelling in the Amazon you will encounter full days of sightseeing, frequently in warm temperatures. The lodge does not have air conditioning. Wi-Fi is free in the main area when electricity is running. Electricity will only be available between 4:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. You will be travelling by small river boats to reach the lodge and by canoe during some excursions and should be reasonably fit in order to board comfortably. You will be walking on nature trails which may be muddy and over one mile in length. To experience the Amazon fully, we recommend that all travellers be in reasonably good health and prepare properly. Unfortunately, this tour is not appropriate for individuals who use either walkers or wheelchairs. In addition, guests who require assistance walking or who travel with oxygen tanks will not fully enjoy this trip and we strongly recommend a different tour. The Hacienda Concepcion has fully screened cabanas, mosquito net protection and private bathrooms in each room. Snacks and beverages are available 24 hours. This extension is not a Collette exclusive program. There may be non-Collette passengers joining you on included features.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

PATAGONIA: EDGE OF THE WORLD

13 DAYS • 24 MEALS

STARTING AT \$9,859

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Get a glimpse into Argentine culture at a lively tango performance.
- Meet and swap stories with local *gauchos* (cowboys).
- Embark on a 4-night cruise through the fjords and ethereal wilderness of Patagonia.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

12 Breakfasts (B) • 4 Lunches (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

- Spend the day at a Patagonian *estancia* and connect with the locals at a traditional lamb roast.
- Enjoy unlimited wine and beer with every dinner while onboard your cruise ship.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2	Sofitel Buenos Aires Recoleta or Palladio Hotel Buenos Aires MGallery, Buenos Aires
Days 3, 4	Esplendor by Wyndham El Calafate, El Calafate
Days 5, 6	Remota Patagonia Lodge, Puerto Natales
Days 7-10	<i>Ventus Australis</i>
Day 11	Los Acebos, Ushuaia
Day 12	Palladio Hotel Buenos Aires MGallery, Buenos Aires

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Perito Moreno Glacier

Step into a world of pure nature in Patagonia, where crystal-clear waters meet mountainside glaciers.

Day 1: Buenos Aires, Argentina - Tour Begins

Your journey starts in Buenos Aires. The city radiates a Latin-infused rhythm interwoven with its European heritage. Meet your fellow travellers for a cocktail reception at your hotel, located in the heart of the chic and stylish Recoleta neighbourhood. Head to a local restaurant with your new friends and indulge in savoury Argentine flavours. (D)

Day 2: Buenos Aires

Embark on a panoramic city tour and coast down the famous Avenida 9 de Julio, where Parisian architecture and verdant trees line the world's widest avenue. Discover the city's most well-known sites and stop at the famous Recoleta Cemetery, the final resting place of Eva Peron. Enjoy free time to explore San Telmo, where street performers tango on the sidewalks and vibrant street murals dance along the walls. Return to Recoleta for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 3: Buenos Aires - El Calafate

Fly to El Calafate, gateway to Patagonia's natural splendour and known as the "National Capital of the Glaciers." Get acquainted with the city on a brief walking tour before enjoying free time to explore on your own. Gather in the evening for dinner with your fellow travellers. (B, D)

Day 4: El Calafate - Perito Moreno Glacier - El Calafate

In Los Glaciares National Park, allow the wonder of Perito Moreno Glacier to take hold of your senses. This gigantic tower of vibrant ice rests against blue-green waters — an awe-inspiring blanket to the natural world. Gaze off the shoreline in search of floating icebergs, listening to the resounding crack of ice sheets breaking free. (B)

Day 5: El Calafate - Puerto Natales, Chile

Make your way into Chile at Puerto Natales. En route, stop to spend time with some local *gauchos* at a typical Patagonian *estancia*. Enjoy a traditional lamb roast lunch as you chat and learn about the culture. Venture through the edge of the Patagonian countryside before settling into your hotel, featuring unparalleled views of lakes and mountains. (B, L)

Day 6: Puerto Natales - Torres del Paine - Puerto Natales

Venture into Torres Del Paine National Park, a UNESCO biosphere reserve. Among the jagged mountains, ethereal teal waters, and expansive grasslands, you may spot soaring condors, inquisitive guanacos (llamas), and independent felines. Marvel at the cascading waterfalls as you make your way through what is considered to be one of South America's most incredible national parks. (B, D)



Guanacos



Port of Ushuaia

Day 7: Puerto Natales – Punta Arenas – Board Ship – Chilean Waters

Discover this coastal metropolis city of Punta Arenas with an expert guide, where brightly coloured houses meet modern skyscrapers. As the day draws to a close, leave the mainland on the Ventus Australis, your home for the next four nights. Head for one of the most remote corners of the world as you sail through Chilean waters. (B, D)

Day 8: 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. Spend your day with a choice of two guided excursions: you may explore a peat bog and beaver habitat or embark on an active hike along a glacial moraine. 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 9: 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, followed by a choice between two hikes. 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 10: Cape Horn – Wulaia Bay

Disembark at Cape Horn National Park, home to an archipelago of islands 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. Choose how you explore the area with an expert guide, selecting between three different hikes of varying difficulty. Each choice will offer sprawling vistas of the gentle bay. (B, L, D)

Day 11: Disembark Boat – Tierra del Fuego National Park – Ushuaia

Embark on your final sail through Patagonia as you enter Argentine waters, docking at Ushuaia. End your Patagonian adventure at Tierra del Fuego National Park. With the wind in your hair and fresh air in your lungs, breathe in the peace and serenity around you, intensified by the dramatic landscape of waterfalls, glaciers, and forests. (B)

Day 12: Ushuaia – Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires and make the most of some time at leisure. Gather for a farewell dinner at La Ventana Tango House, where you'll savour Argentine cuisine before viewing an authentic tango performance. (B, D)

Day 13: Buenos Aires – Tour Ends

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE OR POST NIGHT
BUENOS AIRES
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Patagonia: Edge of the World with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$9,859**
SOLO Starting at **\$13,009**
Pricing is per person, land only, and varies by departure date.
Price based on 5 March 2024 departure.



Departures available September 2023 – March 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Buenos Aires. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to flight schedules, a pre/post night may be required in some gateway cities (at an additional cost). Please inquire at time of reservation. The internal flights on this program are included in the land price of your tour. Port taxes and fees (subject to change without advance notice), quoted at time of printing, per guest are included in the land only tour cost. Hikes of varying difficulty will be offered during each of the landings. Details of the length, terrain and difficulty will be provided by the ship's crew. Cape Horn landing is strongly dependent on weather and sea conditions. All shore landings are dependent on weather and sea conditions, and at the discretion of the cruise line. Due to unpredictable sailing conditions or National Park directives, all of the timing and landing details featured in the cruise portion of your itinerary are subject to change. Wildlife sightings are not guaranteed. Travel with a maximum of 210 people while cruising on the Ventus Australis. While you will be joined by other travellers on the ship, your dedicated Tour Manager will be with your group for the entire journey. Cruise ships have a limited quantity of cabins available in each category. Every effort will be made to accommodate your cabin choice at time of booking. If the preferred cabin category is not available at time of booking, the next closest category will be offered and a surcharge may apply. Cabin category choices are: Cabin B (second deck), Cabin A (second deck), Cabin AA (third deck), Cabin AAA (fourth deck), or Cabin AAA Superior (fourth deck with larger room). Cabin availability is first come, first served and upgrade pricing will apply. Onboard gratuities are not included in the price of your tour. Suggested tipping on board the cruise is 15 US Dollars per person, per day for the staff and crew, handed in at the reception desk on the last day of the cruise. Accepted currencies for tipping include: US Dollars, Euro, Argentinian or Chilean pesos. Upon entry into and exit from Argentina, all passengers, regardless of their citizenship, are submitted to biometrics checks, such as digital fingerprints and a digital photograph, at the immigration counter. Each guest is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from. All shore landings excursions to/from the ship are by small boats called "Zodiacs," which requires a level of fitness to board and disembark these inflatable crafts. At all times you are accompanied by expedition staff. In some cases, the terrain can be a little strenuous. Passengers should consult their physician should they have any concerns regarding their physical condition. It is recommended that you bring hiking boots for specific excursions.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

MACHU PICCHU & GALAPAGOS WONDERS

FEATURING
A 4-NIGHT CRUISE
14 DAYS · 27 MEALS

STARTING AT \$11,119

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Lima • Sacred Valley of the Incas
- Cooking Class • Pablo Seminario Ceramic Studio • Home-Hosted Meal
 - Machu Picchu • Cuzco
- Colonial Quito • "Middle of the World"
 - 4-Night Galápagos Cruise



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 7** — Visit the Incan ruins of Sacsayhuaman Fortress **-OR-** explore the neighbourhood of San Blas' charming cobblestone streets.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

- Master two of South America's classics, ceviche and pisco sours, at an interactive cooking class.
- Indulge in a farm-to-table meal in a local community.



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2	Casa Andina Premium Miraflores, Lima
Days 3, 4	Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley, Yucay
Day 5	Casa Andina Standard Machu Picchu, Aguas Calientes
Days 6, 7	Casa Andina Premium, Cuzco
Days 8, 9	Mercure Hotel Alameda, Quito
Days 10-13	M/Y Coral II

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Machu Picchu

Journey from the Land of the Incas to the Galápagos archipelago, enjoying a 4-night cruise aboard a personal yacht.

Day 1: Lima, Peru – Tour Begins
Touch down in Lima, the "City of Kings." Across ancient lands and earthly legends, experience the mysticism of the Peruvian Andes.

Day 2: Lima
Become fascinated by Lima's history on a tour through the historic centre, a designated UNESCO World Heritage site, where the elegant Cathedral at Plaza de Armas stands out among the colonial architecture. Visit the former home of a conquistador. Get to know new friends over a menu of artful Peruvian dishes at a welcome dinner. (B, D)

Day 3: Lima – Cuzco – Sacred Valley of the Incas
Fly to Cuzco — the heart of the Inca civilisation. Follow the trails 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 in to your hotel nestled in the heart of the Sacred Valley. (B, D)

Day 4: Sacred Valley of the Incas – Ollantaytambo – Sacred Valley of the Incas
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 utilises the techniques inspired by ancient Peruvian cultures. Visit a nearby community and 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 of the Incas – 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." Wrapped inside a semi-tropical jungle and hidden by mountains, Machu Picchu or La Ciudadela (the Citadel), is one of the world's most spectacular archaeological sites. (B)

Day 6: Machu Picchu – Cuzco
Enjoy some leisure time this morning. You may choose an optional excursion to Machu Picchu at sunrise, or maybe you'll explore the local markets before boarding your train back to the Sacred Valley. Continue to Cuzco and feel the local culture at a special community dining experience. (B, D)

Day 7: Cuzco 
Start your morning with a local guide on your tour of Cuzco, visiting the San Pedro Market, the Koricancha Temple, the central Plaza de Armas, and the Cuzco Cathedral. Later, **it's your choice!** Travel above the city to discover the Incan ruins of Sacsayhuaman Fortress **-OR-** embark on a walking tour of San Blas, the traditional old quarter of Cuzco, lined with restaurants and artisan shops. The rest of the afternoon is yours. This evening, enjoy flexible dining at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 8: Cuzco – Quito, Ecuador
This morning, fly to Ecuador's stunning capital city — Quito, your home for the next two nights. (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, vermilion flycatchers, paint-billed crakes, yellow warblers, and cattle egrets. (B, L, D)

Day 11: Isabela Island - Fernandina Island

On Isabela Island enjoy deep-water snorkeling at the Bolivar Channel. Then, take a dinghy ride along the coast to observe a great diversity of sea and

coastal birds; Nazca and blue-footed boobies, brown pelicans, penguins, and flightless cormorants. Continue on to make a dry landing on Fernandina Island, where the large marine iguanas mingle with sea lions and Sally Lightfoot crabs. (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 more. Enjoy time to snorkel, possibly swimming alongside with sea turtles, sea lions, and tropical fish. Travel from Urbina to Tagus Cove for a dry landing. Take the trail that leads to Darwin's salt-water crater lake, offering views of lava fields and volcanic formations. A dinghy ride along the shoreline highlights a variety of seabirds, such as Bluefooted Booby, Brown Noddy, terns, and — depending on the season — a large number of Galápagos Penguins, the only penguin species to live in the tropics. (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. Take a unique trail formed of volcanic ash that transitions halfway to uneven terrain of volcanic basaltic rock. The unique, truly striking layered terrain of Santiago is home to the bizarre, yellow-crowned night heron. Colonies of fur seals swim in volcanic rock pools. After landing in Sullivan's Bay on southeastern Santiago Island, walk through the otherworldly landscape of solidified pa-hoe-hoe lava flows, formed during the last quarter of the 19th century. (B, L, D)

Day 14: Santa Cruz - Disembark Ship - Quito - Tour Ends

Your last landing in the Galápagos is on the north side of Santa Cruz at Bachas Beach where ponds entice Galápagos Flamingos to visit and iguanas to sunbathe. 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)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Unfortunately, this tour isn't appropriate for guests who use wheelchairs or walkers as it requires walking on uneven terrain.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
LIMA

CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Machu Picchu & Galapagos Wonders with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$11,119**
SOLO Starting at **\$15,619**

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

Price based on 30 October 2023 departure.



Departures available August 2023 - April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into Lima and depart from Quito. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The internal flights on this program in Peru and Ecuador are included in the land price of your tour. Internal flights that are purchased will be ticketed and distributed on tour by your Tour Manager. For guests wishing only to purchase internal flights from us, your international air must be arranged into Lima and out of Quito. Due to tour scheduling, return flights should not be booked prior to 8:00 p.m. on the last day. Galapagos National Park entrance fees and INGALA Transit Control Card (total of approximately \$170) are included in the land price of your tour. These fees are government driven and may change due to the unique nature of the government restrictions on the Galapagos Islands. Onboard gratuities are not included in the price of your tour. Suggested tipping on board cruise: 15 - 20 US dollars per person, per day, for the on-board crew and 10 - 15 US dollars per person, per day, for the naturalist guides. Gratuities should be paid in US dollars. Please be advised that backpacks brought into Machu Picchu cannot exceed 40x35x20cms or have a capacity larger than 20 liters. Backpacks that exceed the indicated measurements can be left in storage, at an approximate cost of 2 US Dollars. Also, please take notice that bringing in single-use plastic bottles, plastic bags, plastic straws or Styrofoam containers has been forbidden. We suggest bringing canteens or reusable water bottles. In general, hotels in Peru (outside of Lima) are small with one or two levels and do not have elevators which may require you to climb 10-15 steps to get to/from the room. While cruising the Galapagos, our ship's program is subject to change due to weather conditions or national park directives, as well as seasonality which may influence animal behaviors. The captain may deviate from the published itinerary for any reason he deems advisable. Each guest is responsible for proper medical documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from. This tour may require a certificate of Yellow Fever inoculation if you have travelled to Brazil, Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo or Uganda prior to arrival in Ecuador. These fees are at your own expense. Visitors are required to have valid travel/health insurance to travel to Ecuador. The health insurance must cover medical services abroad. Cabins available are Lower (Standard) Cabins, located on the Lower (Sea) Deck. Upgrades may be available for Junior Cabins located on the Main (Earth) or Upper (Sky) Decks. Please inquire at time of booking. This sailing will have a maximum of 16 passengers; however, if we are unable to fill the minimum capacity of 9 on the yacht, inventory will be opened to the general public. In some cases, the terrain can be a little strenuous. Complete passport information is required 60 days prior to departure to book train tickets to Machu Picchu and to confirm flights to the Galapagos Islands. If passport information is incomplete or inaccurate within 60 days, there is a strong possibility that we will be unable to confirm you on the same travel schedule as the rest of your group.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.



FEATURED PRE-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 2 NIGHTS IN THE PERUVIAN AMAZON



EXTENSION STYLE: HOSTED

Starting at \$840 pp
Begin your trip with 2 nights at a rainforest lodge. Your naturalist guide will lead you on a trek through Tambopata National Reserve. Explore by canoe in search of giant otters and caimans; keep an eye out for howler and capuchin monkeys, agoutis, toucans; venture out for a nocturnal walk to see what animals and insects are active at night; and enjoy the unforgettable atmosphere. The Inkaterra canopy walkway awaits as you ascend 98-feet in the air and cross a series of hanging bridges that connect the treetops.

CALL FOR DETAILS

THE PLAINS OF AFRICA KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI

13 DAYS • 33 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,264

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

12 Breakfasts (B) • 11 Lunches (L) • 10 Dinners (D)

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



ACCOMMODATION

Day 1	Sarova Stanley Hotel, Nairobi
Day 2	Aberdare Country Club, Nyeri
Days 3, 4	Sarova Shaba Lodge, Shaba Reserve
Day 5	The Ark Hotel, Nyeri
Days 6, 7	Sarova Lion Hill Lodge, Lake Nakuru
Days 8, 9	Sarova Mara Camp, Masai Mara
Day 10	Sarova Stanley Hotel, Nairobi
Days 11, 12	Oi Tukai Lodge, Amboseli

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

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

Day 1: Nairobi, Kenya – Tour Begins

A continent of adventure stirs the soul in Kenya, the heart of safari country. Your adventure begins today!

Day 2: Nairobi – Aberdare National Park

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

Day 3: Aberdare National Park – Buffalo Springs Reserve – Shaba Reserve

Discover the magic of the Shaba, Samburu and Buffalo Springs reserves — home to some of Africa's most exotic wildlife — particularly two species you can only find north of the Equator: Grevy's zebra and the reticulated giraffe. Arrive at peaceful Shaba National Reserve, your home for the next two nights. This afternoon, head for Buffalo Springs — a starkly beautiful semi-desert. 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 4: 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 5: Shaba Reserve – Aberdare National Park

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

Day 6: Aberdare National Park – Lake Nakuru

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

Day 7: 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 8: Lake Nakuru – Masai Mara Game Reserve

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

Day 9: Masai Mara Game Reserve

Ernest Hemingway said, "I never knew a morning in Africa when I woke up and was not happy." During our early morning game drive, enjoy the grassy plains and rolling hills of the Masai Mara. This is truly nature's greatest theater, where savanna,

cloud shadows and amazing wildlife spot the horizon. Tonight, indulge in a traditional bush dinner, complete with a Masai dance performance. (B, L, D)

Day 10: Masai Mara Game Reserve – Nairobi

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

Day 11: 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 in the breathtaking aura of snowcapped Mt. Kilimanjaro. Complement your journey with an opportunity to give back to nature with a "seedball."

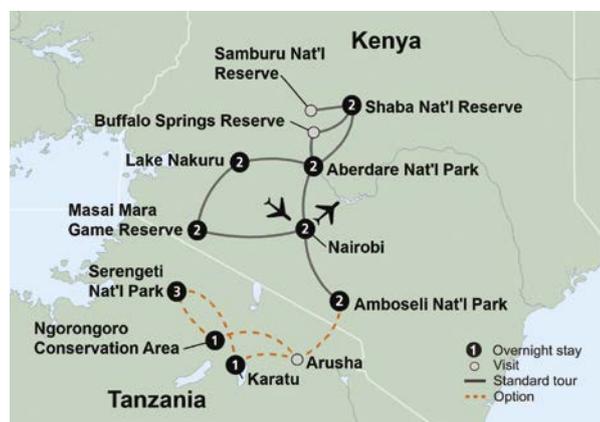
The compact balls of seed limit the cost of planting indigenous trees around the world. A moment of impact can grow into a lifetime of change, so toss your seedball out the window anytime during your stay in Amboseli. (B, L, D)

Day 12: Amboseli National Park

Today will start with an early morning game drive followed by breakfast back at the lodge. All of Amboseli is at your feet during morning and afternoon game drives. This unique corner of Kenya is one of the best places in Africa to see hundreds of elephants up close. Wildebeests and zebras are ever-present, plus there's a good chance you'll see 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 13: 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)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:



EVEN MORE TIME? Combine The Plains of Africa with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$6,264
SOLO Starting at \$7,664

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

Price based on 26 April 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. A Kenya visa is required for this tour and must be obtained in advance. To apply for your visa in advance, please go to www.ecitizen.go.ke to submit an application and register yourself as a visitor. You will need a scanned copy of your passport as well as a passport photo to apply for the visa. Please allow for ample time as it may take up to a week or more to process. Bring a printed copy of your visa to present upon arrival in Kenya. The current cost of the single entry visa through this website is \$51 USD. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. Should you wish to use an alternate visa service provider, additional processing fees may apply. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Nairobi. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to tour scheduling, return flights should not be scheduled prior to 2:00 p.m. Park fees are included in the land price of your tour. Fees are subject to change and are payable at time of final payment. Soft duffel bag luggage is required for this tour with maximum weight of 15 kgs. Each guest is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from.

The 5-night Tanzania extension is Fully Guided. Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert. The approximate cost of a single entry tourist visa is \$50 US Dollars. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. This requires a second blank page in your passport in addition to the required blank page for your Kenya visa. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. Soft duffel bag luggage is required for this tour with maximum weight of 15 kgs. (Approximately 33 pounds). Park fees and concession fees in Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti National Park are included in the land price of your extension. Fees are subject to change and are payable at time of final payment.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

**FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION
ADD 5 NIGHTS IN TANZANIA**



EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED

Starting at \$2,520[†] pp
Extend your adventure with an optional 5 night tour of Tanzania. Witness even more wildlife and spot the Big 5 with game drives in Serengeti National Park.

CALL FOR DETAILS
[†] Additional air segment purchase required.

EXPLORING SOUTH AFRICA, VICTORIA FALLS & BOTSWANA

14 DAYS • 29 MEALS

STARTING AT \$8,049

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 8** — Continue the wildlife search by land on an afternoon game drive —**OR**— venture down the river for a different perspective on a safari cruise.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

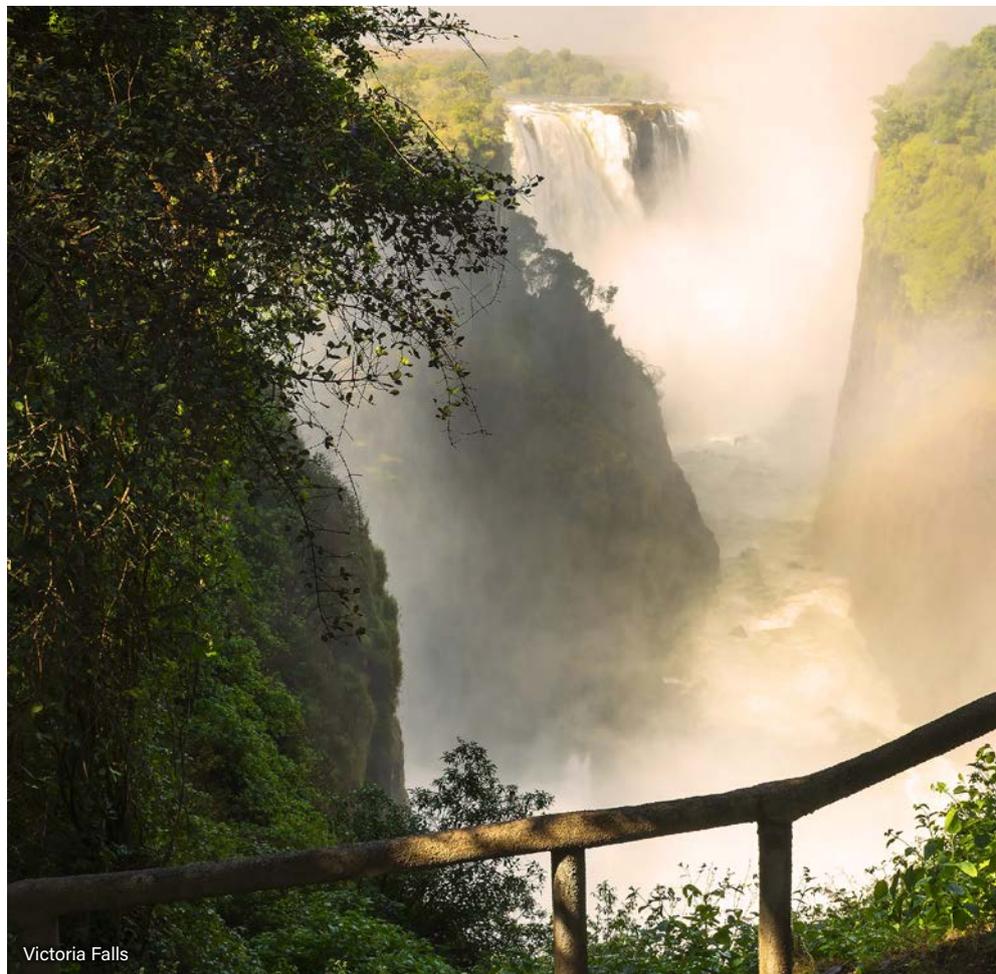
- Experience an authentic bush dinner under the stars in Pilanesberg National Park.
- Sample South African wines at a vineyard tasting.
- Get to know a Capetonian family over dinner in their home.



ACCOMMODATION

Day 1	Southern Sun O.R. Tambo, Johannesburg
Days 2-4	Ivory Tree Game Lodge or Black Rhino Game Lodge, Pilanesberg National Park
Days 5, 6	The Wallow, The Elephant Camp, or Old Drift Lodge, Victoria Falls
Days 7, 8	Chobe Marina Lodge, Kasane
Days 9, 10	Spier Hotel, Stellenbosch
Days 11-13	Southern Sun the Cullinan Hotel or The Portwood Hotel, Cape Town

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Victoria Falls

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

Day 1: 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 getting settled on your own before tomorrow's exploration into the wild.

Day 2: Johannesburg - Pilanesberg National Park

Leave the city behind and head to Pilanesberg National Park, a game reserve set within an ancient crater and where lions reign as kings. This is the wild Africa you've always dreamt of — now laid out before you just waiting to be discovered. Venture out in a 4x4 in search of the "Big 5" across vast marshlands and craggy landscapes. Enjoy a traditional African sundowner cocktail and watch as the sun disappears behind the mountain. (B, D)

Day 3: Pilanesberg National Park

Before sunrise, in the open expanse of Pilanesberg, drive out in your 4x4 on a search for the elusive "Big 5." Enjoy coffee and tea amongst the wildlife prior to your return. In the afternoon, drive past the big cats preparing for the hunt

before you indulge in a bush dinner under the stars. Allow your mind to wander as you stare up at the sky in awe, marvelling at the parade of stars and constellations only seen in the Southern Hemisphere. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Pilanesberg National Park

Discover more wildlife with another full day in Pilanesberg. On morning and afternoon game drives, continue your search for the "Big 5." (B, L, D)

Day 5: Pilanesberg National Park - 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 of the amenities of a luxury resort. This afternoon, when rainbows are at their best, witness the awesome power of Victoria Falls. As the sun sets and animals gather around the watering hole, toast the stunning African landscape with a sundowner followed by dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

Day 6: Victoria Falls

Embark on an experience of a lifetime. Greet African elephants, spend some quality time interacting with them in their own habitat, and witness some of their unique behaviours.



Then, experience an **Impact Moment** during our visit to the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust and learn how their programs are having a positive impact in the local communities and animals. After you've worked up an appetite, travel to a township where you will join a local family for a simple home-hosted lunch. Your evening continues with dinner on the shores of the Zambezi River overlooking Victoria Falls. (B, L, D)

Day 7: Victoria Falls – Chobe, Botswana

Start your day with a visit to a traditional rural homestead where we will meet the village chief and learn about their traditional ways of living. 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 lingering along the shores, and crocodiles basking in the sun. (B, L, D)

Day 8: 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 9: Chobe – Cape Town, South Africa – Stellenbosch

The winelands of the Western Cape await. See for yourself why this area boasts a reputation as one of the world's most beautiful wine countries. Head to Victoria Falls and board your flight to Cape Town, South Africa. A short drive takes you to the idyllic town of Stellenbosch – one of South Africa's most famous wine regions. Settle in for a two-night stay among rolling vineyards and historic Cape Dutch architecture. (B)

Day 10: Stellenbosch – Franschhoek – Stellenbosch

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. 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 11: Stellenbosch – Cape Town

Say hello to Cape Town, South Africa's electric cultural mecca. Explore Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, a Cape Town hotspot. From heritage sites to historic landmarks, markets and restaurants, the waterfront is one of South Africa's most compelling destinations. On arrival, rise 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 12: Cape Town

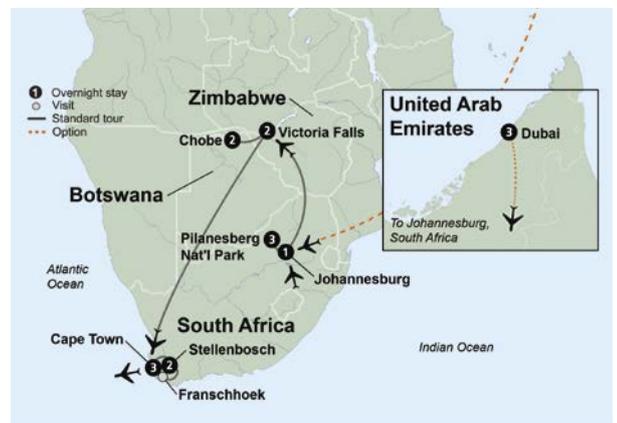
Travel to Cape Point, the southwestern tip of Africa. Marvel at the vibrant green foliage blanketing the rocky outcrops, set as a contrast to the bright blue waves below. Set out on an easy hike down the mountain. Stop at Boulders Beach for the rarest of black-tie events – a rendezvous with endangered 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 13: Cape Town

Enjoy your final day at leisure before gathering with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner, starring a host of South African specialties and delicacies. (B, D)

Day 14: Cape Town – Tour Ends

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
JOHANNESBURG
CALL FOR DETAILS

POST NIGHT
CAPE TOWN
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Exploring South Africa, Victoria Falls & Botswana with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. [CALL FOR DETAILS](#)

DOUBLE Starting at **\$8,049**
SOLO Starting at **\$9,349**

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

Price based on 11 April 2024 departure.



Departures available July 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

Important Passport Information: You must have at least 4 blank pages (with visa hologram) remaining in your passport to allow for the entry stamps issued for South Africa and Botswana as well as the visa for Zimbabwe. The 2 pages for South Africa **MUST** be facing each other. Failure to comply with this law will result in denied boarding of your international flight. If you have questions please see your travel professional or call us.*Nationals of Australia are eligible to obtain a visa on arrival to Zimbabwe at any major entry point for a stay of up to 30 days. The fee is approximately AUD70 for single entry and AUD115 for a double entry. You must hold sufficient funds to cover the stay and hold proof of onward travel to a third destination. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. All nationalities should check with their nearest Zimbabwe Embassy for up to date information. Payments at Ports of Entry for visa can be done in USD. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. Our air passengers will arrive into Johannesburg and depart from Cape Town. Airport transfers are available for purchase. The internal flights on this program are included in the land price of your tour. Park fees are included in the land price of your tour. Fees are subject to change and are payable at time of final payment. Table Mountain Cableway is subject to weather conditions. Due to economic difficulty in Zimbabwe, local shops only accept payment in local currency or credit card. Australian dollars and South African rand are no longer accepted for local payment. Foreign credit cards continue to be accepted at hotels, shops, and restaurants. For tipping, US dollars are acceptable, and we advise all our guests to carry smaller denominations, as change is not always available. Each guest is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from. Malaria pills are recommended when visiting Zimbabwe and Botswana. Consult your physician 2-3 weeks prior to departure. In order to most fully experience the wildlife, you will be travelling by custom built safari vehicle which requires climbing in and out frequently and travel on bumpy roads. To experience Africa fully, we recommend that all guests be in reasonably good health and prepare properly. Unfortunately, wheelchairs cannot be accommodated on this trip. In addition, passengers who require assistance walking or who travel with oxygen tanks will not fully enjoy this trip and we strongly recommend a different tour.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

NEW TOUR

WILDERNESS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA: SAFARI BY LAND & WATER

14 DAYS · 33 MEALS

STARTING AT \$9,834

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 7** — While at Hwange National Park choose to join a morning game drive **-OR-** a morning game walk with a specialised ranger. A privilege few people ever get to experience!



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

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



ACCOMMODATION

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Day 1 | Radisson Hotel & Convention Centre, O.R. Tambo, Johannesburg |
| Days 2-4 | Chobe Bush Lodge, Chobe National Park, Kasane |
| Days 5-7 | Iganyana Tented Camp, Hwange National Park |
| Days 8-10 | Lake Kariba Safari Boat |
| Days 11-13 | Ilala Lodge, Victoria Falls |

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Chobe Safari by Boat

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

Day 1: Johannesburg, South Africa - Tour Begins

Welcome to Johannesburg, South Africa's largest city! This afternoon, transfer to your hotel and enjoy a relaxing evening before your adventure begins.

Day 2: Johannesburg - Victoria Falls, ZW - Chobe National Park, Botswana

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

Day 3: 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 by driving into the nearby town of Kasane. After lunch at the lodge, return to your private boat and take to the waters of the Chobe River once more in search of elephants and aquatic birds. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Chobe National Park

Start your day early with a private game cruise on the Chobe River and see the animals visiting the water. 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 5: Chobe National Park - Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe - Hwange National Park

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

Day 6: Hwange National Park

Today you'll 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 maximise your chances to spot buffalo, elephants and more. Return to the lodge for dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 7: 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 8: Hwange National Park – Binga – Lake Kariba

After breakfast, depart Hwange and venture to the town of Binga. The drive provides views of the local countryside seldom seen by travellers. Upon arrival, you will embark on a private safari boat on Lake Kariba, which will be your home for three nights. With limited access to technology, revel in the experience of floating along the still waters, seeing breathtaking sunsets, and searching for local wildlife in the water. (B, L, D)

Day 9: Lake Kariba

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

Day 10: Lake Kariba

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

Day 11: Lake Kariba – Binga – Victoria Falls

Your safari boat experience will come to a close this morning as you return to Binga and begin the trek for Victoria Falls. Upon arriving at the Ilala Lodge, take time to have lunch and relax after your journey. The rest of the day is yours. Enjoy the lodge's amenities or explore the area around the awe-inspiring waterfall located just minutes away. (B, L)

Day 12: Victoria Falls

Bring your ponchos because this morning your day begins with an exhilarating visit to Victoria Falls. At 5,600 feet wide and 354 feet tall, this waterfall is one of the world's largest. Walk along the edge of the falls beside the powerful, rushing water. Next, take a short drive to Chinotimba township. Visit a local market, where you can barter for goods. After, you will visit the modest home of a local family for lunch. Your host will prepare an authentic, simple meal with you and share what life is like in around Victoria Falls. Following your home visit, return to the hotel for an evening at leisure. Perhaps you will join an optional tour taking a relaxing cruise on the Zambezi River. (B, L)

Day 13: 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 the while marvelling, interacting and walking by their side. Continue learning about animal conservation and care with a visit to the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust. The staff at the VFWT will review some of the incredible work they do, ranging from wildlife rehabilitation to community outreach and disease research. You will have the afternoon free to do as you wish. This evening, you will join your fellow travellers for a 3-course farewell dinner under the stars on the bank of the Zambezi River. (B, D)

Day 14: Victoria Falls – Johannesburg, South Africa – Tour Ends

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



You can handle longer walking tours (more than 90 minutes), traversing dusty or uneven terrain, standing for periods of time, and varying altitudes and temperatures.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR! Combine Wilderness of Southern Africa with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$9,834**
SOLO Starting at **\$10,684**

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

Price based on 12 April 2024 departure.



Departures available August 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. You must have at least 4 blank pages (with visa hologram) remaining in your passport to allow for the entry stamps issued for South Africa and Botswana as well as the visa for Zimbabwe. The 2 pages for South Africa **MUST** be facing each other. Failure to comply with this law will result in denied boarding of your international flight. A valid multiple entry visa is required for Zimbabwe. The visa may be purchased upon arrival, in cash only. Payments at Ports of Entry for visa can be done in USD. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Johannesburg. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Once you arrive at Johannesburg airport, you will be met by a local host that will transfer you to your hotel. This host will also accompany you during the transfer from the hotel back to the Johannesburg airport on the following day. You will meet your Tour Manager at the Victoria Falls airport before travelling to Botswana. The internal flights on this program are included in the land price of your tour. Park fees are included in the land price of your tour. Fees are subject to change and are payable at time of final payment. Farewell Dinner location is weather dependent and will be moved indoors as needed. Wildlife sightings cannot be guaranteed and vary depending on seasons. Due to economic difficulty in Zimbabwe, local shops only accept payment in local currency or credit card. US dollars, Canadian dollars, British pounds, Australian dollars and South African rand are no longer accepted for local payment. Foreign credit cards continue to be accepted at hotels, shops, and restaurants. For tipping, US dollars are acceptable, and we advise all our guests to carry smaller denominations, as change is not always available. Each guest is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from. Malaria pills are recommended when visiting Zimbabwe and Botswana. Consult your physician 2-3 weeks prior to departure. This tour includes several early morning game drives with departures at 6 AM. When travelling in Africa you will encounter full days of sightseeing, frequently in warm temperatures. In order to fully experience the wildlife, you will be travelling by safari vehicle which requires climbing in and out frequently and travel on bumpy roads. You will also use tender boats to better access wildlife viewing while in Lake Kariba. To experience Africa fully, we recommend that all guests be in reasonably good health and prepare properly. Unfortunately, wheelchairs cannot be accommodated on this trip. In addition, passengers who require assistance walking or who travel with oxygen tanks will not fully enjoy this trip and we strongly recommend considering a different tour.

The 4-night Cape Town Extension is Fully Guided. Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 4 NIGHTS IN CAPE TOWN



EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED

Starting at \$1,400[†] pp
Extend your journey and explore Cape Town! Take a ride up Table Mountain by cable car; visit the Cape of Good Hope; visit the famous penguins on Boulders Beach and more!

CALL FOR DETAILS

[†] Additional air segment purchase required.

AFRICAN SAFARI: KENYA & TANZANIA

15 DAYS • 41 MEALS

STARTING AT \$8,639

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 12** — Chat with a local fruit vendor in Mto Wa Mbu village **-OR-** spend time with a local craftsman who will show you current projects at African Galleria.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

14 Breakfasts (B) • 14 Lunches (L) • 13 Dinners (D)

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



ACCOMMODATION

Day 1, 2	Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi
Days 3, 4	Kilima Safari Camp, Amboseli
Days 5, 6	Country Lodge, Karatu
Days 7-9	ThornTree Camp, Serengeti
Days 10, 11	Lake Eyasi Safari Lodge, Lake Eyasi
Days 12, 13	Sangaiwe Tented Lodge, Tarangire National Park
Day 14	Kibo Palace Hotel, Arusha

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Mt. Kilimanjaro

In the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro, embark on 12 lively safaris to seek out the elusive “Big 5” — Africa’s “bucket list” of animals.

Day 1: Nairobi, Kenya – Tour Begins

Your journey begins 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 2: 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 jewellery artisans. In the evening, toast to the start of your African adventure at a savoury welcome dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 3: Nairobi – Amboseli National Park

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

Day 4: 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 5: 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 jewellery 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 6: Karatu – Ngorongoro Crater – Karatu

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

Day 7: Karatu – Serengeti

Your path continues to the renowned Serengeti, a Masai word meaning “endless plains.” Enjoy lunch and venture out on your first Serengeti adventure on an afternoon game drive,



returning to camp at dusk. Relax in your exclusive safari abode, your home for the next three nights. The camp includes all of the deluxe amenities of a lodge but allows you to remain immersed in nature. (B, L, D)

Day 8: 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 9: 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 10: 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 11: 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 12: Lake Eyasi - Tarangire National Park

Decide how you spend the morning because **it's your choice!** Learn from a local fruit vendor in Mto Wa Mbu village about their trade —OR— spend time with a local craftsman who will show you current 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 13: 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 14: Tarangire National Park - Arusha

Return to Arusha and settle in to relax before lunch. (B, L, D)

Day 15: Arusha - Tour Ends

Depart for home with memories of the endless plains and unparalleled wildlife. (B, L)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
NAIROBI
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine African Safari: Kenya & Tanzania with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$8,639**
SOLO Starting at **\$10,489**

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

Price based on 2 April 2024 departure.



Departures available June 2023 - April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Important Passport Information: You must have three blank pages in your passport to allow for entry stamps and visas for entry.

A Kenya visa is required for this tour and must be obtained in advance. To apply for your visa in advance, please go to www.ecitizen.go.ke to submit an application and register yourself as a visitor. You will need a scanned copy of your passport as well as a passport photo to apply for the visa. Please allow for ample time as it may take up to a week or more to process. Bring a printed copy of your visa to present upon arrival in Kenya. The current cost of the single entry visa through this website is approximately \$51 USD. Should you wish to use an alternate visa service provider, additional processing fees may apply.

A Tanzania visa is required for this tour and can be obtained on arrival or in advance via Tanzania Electronic Visa Application system (eVisa). We highly recommend obtaining in advance. To apply for eVisa, please go to <https://eservices.immigration.go.tz/visa>. The approximate cost of a single entry tourist visa is 50 US Dollars. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. You will need a scanned copy of your passport and return ticket of your flight. Please allow for ample time as it may take up to 10 days or more to process. Bring a printed copy of your visa to present upon arrival in Tanzania. Should you wish to use an alternate visa service provider additional processing fees may apply. Our air passengers will arrive into Nairobi and depart from Kilimanjaro. Upon departure from Kenya, you will need a Yellow Fever certificate to enter Tanzania. Park fees are included in the land price of your tour. Fees are subject to change and are payable at time of final payment. Soft duffel bag luggage is required for this tour with maximum weight of 15 kgs. Wildlife sightings cannot be guaranteed.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

COLOURS OF MOROCCO

14 DAYS • 24 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,349

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 11** — Visit the Jardin Majorelle and the Berber Museum, two iconic sites that showcase the beauty and ingenuity of Morocco's cultural heritage -OR- explore the Musée Yves Saint Laurent and discover how the colours and textures of Morocco inspired this iconic designer.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

13 Breakfasts (B) • 3 Lunches (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

- Select your own ingredients before a culinary workshop at a local women's cooperative.
- Indulge in a tour and tasting at a winery estate.



ACCOMMODATION

Day 1, 2	Flower Town Hotel & Spa, Rabat
Days 3-5	Palais Sheherazade & Spa, Fes or Riad Yacout, Fes
Day 6	Kasbah Xaluca, Erfoud
Days 7, 8	Sahara Desert camp, Merzouga
Day 9	Hotel Xaluca Dades, Boumalne du Dades
Days 10-12	Es Saadi Hotel, Marrakech
Day 13	Barcelo Anfa, Casablanca

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Sahara Desert

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

Day 1: Casablanca, Morocco - Rabat - Tour Begins

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

Day 2: Rabat

Come to know Rabat on an in-depth tour with a local guide who will share his knowledge of this city and its architectural gems. Visit the Chellah Necropolis, a walled town containing both Roman ruins and a medieval necropolis. Explore the Mausoleum of Mohammed V, the epitome of modern Moroccan design. The mausoleum's ornate woodwork, marble, and bronze ornamentations make this a tomb truly fit for a king. See the Kasbah de Oudaia 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 3: Rabat - Fes

Depart Rabat for Fes this morning. En route, stop at a winery estate for a tour, tasting and lunch. Explore the winery's lovely grounds on a guided tour through the vineyard and cellar, tasting some of the vintages. End your tour with a lunch in the estate.

Then continue on to Fes where you will spend the next three nights at your riad. (B, L)

Day 4: Fes

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

Day 5: Fes

Enjoy your day at leisure in Fes. Explore the city further, strolling through marketplaces or visiting a museum. Perhaps you will join an optional tour to Meknes and Volubilis. On this full-day tour, experience Meknes, one of four Imperial cities in Morocco where you will see the Bab Mansour gate. After an included lunch, travel to Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage site, with its impressive and well-preserved Roman ruins. (B)

Day 6: Fes - Midelt - Erfoud

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



and Muslim architecture and artifacts. Learn more about Berber culture while visiting the museum within the village. Later, arrive in Boumalne du Dades, where a golden sun lights up the gorge's river valleys, palmeries and burnished mud-brick homes. (B, D)

Day 10: Boumalne 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, continue along the Tizi n'Tichka Pass in the High Atlas Mountains, a scenic route through lush oasis valleys, imposing mountains and several Berber villages. (B)

Day 11: Marrakech

Among the mosques and palaces, souks and riads, visit the ancient El Bahia Palace, whose architecture is a distinct blend of both Islamic and Moroccan styles. Embark on a walking tour with a local guide, stopping at shops along the way, or perhaps walk into the Jemaa El Fna Square, Marrakech's main square. Then **it's your choice!** Visit the Jardin Majorelle and the Berber Museum, two iconic sites that showcase the beauty and ingenuity of Morocco's cultural heritage –OR– explore the Musée Yves Saint Laurent and discover how the colours and textures of Morocco inspired this iconic designer. (B, D)

Day 12: Marrakech

Today experience an **Impact Moment** and join a local women's training centre in an interactive cooking class. Head to *le jardin* to source your own herbs and vegetables and learn the secret to making the country's most celebrated dish: the tagine. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure. This evening, perhaps you will join an optional horse-drawn carriage through Marrakech, followed by dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L)

Day 13: Marrakech – Casablanca

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

Day 14: Casablanca – Tour Ends

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

Day 7: Erfoud – Sahara Desert

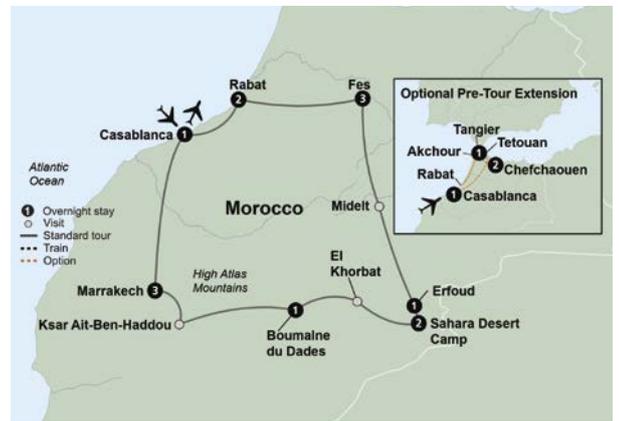
Enjoy your morning at leisure in Erfoud, taking in the peaceful desert landscape. Later in the day, visit a local date farm. Here, you will have the opportunity to interact with the farmer and learn about the process of farming in the desert. This evening, make your way into the Sahara Desert aboard adventurous 4x4 jeeps, before slowing your rhythm to a gentle bobbing gait as you traverse the dunes on camel back en route to your tented camp for a magical 2-night stay. (B, D)

Day 8: Sahara Desert

Rise early to watch the sun illuminate the Sahara in stunning hues of orange, yellow and red. Then, continue your day by travelling to the village of Khamlia. Meet with locals to have an eye-opening and meaningful discussion before experiencing traditional sub-Saharan Gnawa music. Continue on your desert expedition and meet a nomadic community where you'll learn more about this ancient way of living and how their traditions have changed. Return to your camp as the sun sets over the dunes. (B, L, D)

Day 9: Sahara Desert – El Khorbate – Boumalne du Dades

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



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FEATURED PRE-TOUR EXTENSION
ADD 4 NIGHTS IN CHEFCHAOEN & TANGIER



Starting at \$1,820+ pp Start your trip with 3 nights in Northern Morocco. Visit Chefchaouen, "the Blue City," a photographer's paradise, and Tangier, Europe's gateway to Africa.

CALL FOR DETAILS
† Additional air segment purchase required.

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

POST NIGHT CASABLANCA
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Colours of Morocco with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$5,349
SOLO Starting at \$6,599

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

Price based on 4 December 2023 departure.



Departures available September 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Casablanca. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to tour scheduling, flights must arrive into Casablanca prior to 4pm. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counsellors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you. The fully equipped Berber-style tents offer beds, linens, pillows, flush toilet, running water, shower and solar lighting to make for an authentic and enjoyable stay in the desert. Due to luggage size and weight restrictions, please bring an overnight bag for the 2-night stay in the Sahara. Your main luggage will be stored during this stay. The Rabat city tour may change due to Royal or Government official events. Museum visits and shopping may be affected by observance of religious or local holidays. If travelling during the month of Ramadan, please note that the order of some features may vary and that some meal experiences may be replaced with meals in the hotel instead of local restaurants/venues. Ramadan observances are from 10 March – 10 April 2024.

The Optional 4-Night Chefchaouen & Tangier Extension is Fully-Guided. Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

JORDAN & ISRAEL: CULTURAL CROSSROADS

14 DAYS • 24 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,649

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Head into the desert on a 4x4 and see the striking landscape of Wadi Rum.
- Engage in a discussion with a Holocaust Survivor at Yad Vashem.
- **Impact Moment:** Visit a non-profit community centre and learn a traditional craft from local women.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 2** — Reflect at Bethany Beyond the Jordan, the site of Jesus Christ's baptism **-OR-** enjoy time on your own to float in the Dead Sea.
- **Day 6** — Snorkel in the crystalline waters of the Red Sea **-OR-** relax aboard a glass bottom boat cruise in search of marine life.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

13 Breakfasts (B) • 6 Lunches (L) • 5 Dinners (D)

- Dine with a local Jewish family during a home-hosted dinner.
- Try your hand at Arabic culinary techniques during an authentic cooking class.
- Visit an unconventional bookstore to enjoy a lunch cooked by locals.



ACCOMMODATION

Day 1, 2	Dead Sea Marriott Resort, Dead Sea, Jordan
Days 3, 4	Petra Marriott, Petra
Days 5, 6	Dan Panorama or Dan Neptune Eilat Hotel, Eilat, Israel
Days 7-9	Atlas Arthur Hotel, Jerusalem
Days 10, 11	Ruth Zefat Hotel, Safed
Days 12, 13	Atlas Artist Hotel, Tel Aviv

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Petra

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

Day 1: Amman, Jordan - Dead Sea - Tour Begins

Start your journey in Amman, the capital of Jordan. Make your way to the Dead Sea. As the sun sets on the turquoise tides, get to know your fellow travellers over dinner at your hotel. (D)

Day 2: Dead Sea - Madaba - Dead Sea

Visit Mount Nebo, where Moses shared his vision of the elusive Promised Land. In Madaba, visit St. George's Church, whose Byzantine mosaics illustrate a glimpse into ancient history. Connect with an inspiring entrepreneur at his progressive bookstore. After enjoying lunch cooked by locals, **it's your choice!** Reflect at Bethany Beyond the Jordan (UNESCO), the site of Jesus Christ's baptism **-OR-** enjoy time on your own to float in the Dead Sea's ethereal waters. (B, L)

Day 3: Dead Sea - Petra

Start your morning with an **Impact Moment** at Bani Hamida, a women's rug weaving cooperative, where you'll participate in a hands-on lesson before lunch. Continue on to Petra, a red sandstone city. Enjoy an authentic Arabic cooking class.

After you prepare your meal, discover the unique blend of flavours for dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Petra

Beat the crowds and the heat of the sun with an early-morning tour of Petra's archaeological remains (UNESCO). Delve into this ancient crossroad with a local guide. The remainder of the day is yours. (B)

Day 5: Petra - Wadi Rum - Border Crossing - Eilat, Israel

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

Day 6: Eilat

Today, **it's your choice!** Spend a morning at the Coral Beach Nature Reserve, snorkeling in the crystalline waters of the Red Sea **-OR-** relax aboard a glass bottom boat cruise of the Gulf of Aqaba in search of marine life. With a free afternoon, perhaps you'll go on an optional excursion to the Eilat Mountains,

where you'll be able to take in the sun as it sets over four countries: Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel and Egypt. Gather around a bonfire and gaze over the Sinai. (B, D)

Day 7: Eilat - Masada - Jerusalem

Visit the Desert Agriculture Research Center in the Arava Valley, where you'll learn about drip irrigation and other innovative techniques that allow crops to flourish in the desert. Travel to Masada (UNESCO), perched upon a cliff next to the Dead Sea. With a guide, explore Herod's Palace and the Roman Camp. Descend the ancient walls by cable car before continuing on to Jerusalem. (B)

Day 8: Jerusalem - Mount of Olives - Old City

Today, head to the Mount of Olives, where you'll marvel at the panoramic view of the Holy City. Get ready to see Jerusalem on foot and embark on a comprehensive tour of the old city. Pause at the Western (Wailing) Wall, follow the Stations of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa, and walk in the footsteps of millions before you. With the remainder of your day at leisure, delve into Jerusalem's Shuk (the Bazaars of the Old City), with each narrow street dedicated to different trades passed down through generations. (B)

Day 9: Jerusalem

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

Day 10: Jerusalem - Sea of Galilee - Safed

Head to Magdala, regarded to be the hometown of Mary Magdalene. Sail in a historic replica boat before continuing on to the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus gave his famous Sermon of the Mount. (B, D)

Day 11: Safed - Golan Heights - Safed

Wander along rumbling waterfalls, quiet ponds, and temple ruins in Caesarea Philippi National Park. Travel by apple orchards and green groves on your way to Majdal Shams, a town in Golan Heights. Meet with a member of the Druze community to learn more about this mysterious and secretive sect of Islam. Return to Safed for a walking tour led by an expert. Learn about Kabbalah's mystical beliefs and connect with one of the town's Orthodox Jewish families over a home-hosted dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 12: Safed - Nazareth - Tel Aviv

Explore Nazareth, the childhood town of Jesus. Nazareth's culinary scene and

growing businesses brought the city into the 21st century. After visiting the Basilica of the Annunciation, experience an **Impact Moment** at a non-profit community centre where local women lead a lesson on traditional crafts. Discover the nearby open-air market before enjoying a home-hosted lunch in a historic house, featuring Arab-Israeli favorites such as hummus, baba ghanoush, pastries, and more. Head to Tel Aviv and enjoy a day at leisure. (B, L)

Day 13: Tel Aviv

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

Day 14: Tel Aviv - Tour Ends

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

Featured Pre-Tour Extension



EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED

Optional 3-Night Cairo Pre-Tour Extension

Starting at \$1,260* pp

Day 1: Cairo, Egypt

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

Day 2: Cairo

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

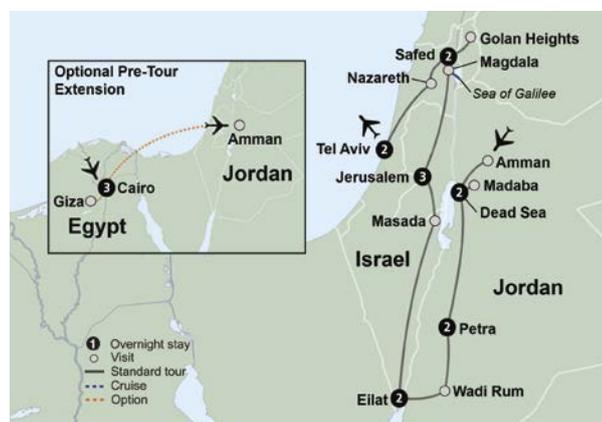
Day 3: Cairo - Giza - Cairo

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

Day 4: Cairo - Extension Ends - Amman, Jordan

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

* Additional air segment purchase required.



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
DEAD SEA
CALL FOR DETAILS

POST NIGHT
TEL AVIV
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Jordan & Israel: Cultural Crossroads with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$6,649**
SOLO Starting at **\$8,999**

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

Price based on 10 March 2024 departure.



Departures available September 2023 - April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into Jordan and depart from Tel Aviv. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Border crossing between Jordan and Israel will take place on foot. You will be dropped off by your Jordan Tour Manager at the Jordanian border, proceed through customs patrol and baggage security, and pay the Jordan departure tax in local currency, approximately 8 Jordanian Dinar (\$13 US Dollars) per person, subject to change without advance notice. You will be picked up at the Israeli border where you will meet the Tour Manager for the Israel portion of your tour. Your Tour Managers cannot assist with border crossing and all guests are responsible for handling their own luggage. Total walking distance is approximately 750 feet. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. Snorkeling gear is provided at the Coral Beach Nature Reserve. A towel is recommended for laying on the beach. Modest dress is required when visiting religious sites, sanctuaries, basilicas, etc. If travelling during the month of Ramadan, please note that the order of some features may vary and that some meal experiences may be replaced with meals in the hotel instead of local restaurants/venues. Ramadan observances are from 10 March - 10 April 2024. Each guest is responsible for proper medical documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. In this destination, temperatures may exceed over 40° Celsius during the day, with cooler evenings, especially while in Petra, the Eilat and Jerusalem. You should bring adequate sun protection, appropriate layers and sturdy walking shoes to be prepared to walk and stand in the heat with limited to no shade. In particular, while touring in Petra and Jerusalem, you will be required to walk over cobblestones and up/down steep roads for an extended amount of time.

The Optional Cairo Extension is Fully-Guided. Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert. During your free time at the Pyramids in Giza, you may wish to visit the inner chamber of the Great Pyramid of Pharaoh Cheops. Accessing the Great Pyramid requires agility as you will have to climb up steep, narrow steps (approximately 1-1 1/2 feet tall) on the side of the Pyramid without the help of handrails. From there, you may access the inner chamber and will need to crouch and at times to crawl up the narrow shaft with minimal help of handrails. This activity is not suitable for guests who have claustrophobia. Access to the interior of the Great Pyramid requires a separate ticket, for an additional cost of approximately \$35 US Dollars. The ticket can only be purchased on site and your Tour Manager will assist you with this request. An Egyptian visa is required for this tour and costs approximately \$34 AUS Dollars. You must obtain your own visa upon your arrival in Egypt. Visas can be obtained at the airport and payment should be made in cash. Rates are subject to change at any time based on governing authority.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

JOURNEY THROUGH EGYPT & JORDAN

13 DAYS • 26 MEALS

STARTING AT \$6,489

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cairo • Egyptian Museum
- Giza Pyramids & Sphinx • Historic Cairo
- Aswan • 3-Night Nile River Cruise
- Kom Ombo • Edfu • Luxor
- Valley of the Kings • Amman
- Wadi Rum • Petra • Impact Moment at Bani Hamida Cooperative • Dead Sea
- Arabic Literature Discussion



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Discover the secrets of the Nile on a 3-night cruise.
- View of the tombs of King Tut and Ramses VI.
- Connect with locals at a women's rug weaving cooperative.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 7** — In Luxor, visit a farm and learn about rural life between sips of freshly brewed tea **-OR-** admire views of the Nile while you enjoy high tea at the Old Winter Palace.
- **Day 10** — In Petra, spend the afternoon exploring its vast archeological site on your own **-OR-** join a local family at their home for tea and conversation about life in their Bedouin community **-OR-** visit Little Petra, located a few miles from its famous big sister.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

- Taste your way through street food culture during dinner in Amman.
- Enjoy a traditional Bedouin lunch baked in the sand of Wadi Rum's desert.
- Prepare your meal and eat family-style at an Arabic cooking class.



ACCOMMODATION

Day 1-3	Sheraton Cairo Hotel & Casino, Cairo
Day 4	Anakato Wadi Kiki Nubian Houses, Aswan
Days 5-7	Sonesta St. George 1
Day 8	Amman Marriott Hotel, Amman
Days 9, 10	Movenpick Resort, Wadi Musa, Petra
Days 11, 12	Movenpick Resort and Spa, Dead Sea

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Felucca, Nile River

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

Day 1: Cairo, Egypt - Tour Begins

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

Day 2: Cairo

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

Day 3: Cairo - Giza -

Khan el-Khalili Bazaar - Cairo
Venture to nearby Giza and embrace the Egypt you have always imagined at the iconic Pyramids. Stand in awe before the Pyramids of Giza, one of the seven ancient wonders of the world. Marvel at the Great Sphinx's stoicism, a colossal structure jutting out of the desert sand, full of mystery and intrigue. This afternoon, walk along el-Moez Street, admiring the elegant Islamic architecture of Historic Cairo (UNESCO) and enjoy some free time to shop in the world-famous souk of Khan el-Khalili.

Peruse colourful trinkets, hand-painted crafts, polished pendants, and more. (B)

Day 4: Cairo - Aswan

A 2-hour flight brings you to Aswan, a breathtaking port city up the Nile. You may choose to partake in an optional tour to Abu Simbel and see the extraordinary temples of Ramses II relocated there during the construction of the High Dam. Experience the Nubian culture of Upper Egypt as you transfer by motorboat to your riverside lodge, with its colourful decorations and naïve architectural style. This afternoon, learn more about the Nubian people, their ancestral heritage and language during a walk in the nearby village, before relaxing over dinner at your lodge. (B, D)

Day 5: Aswan - Philae Temple - Board Ship

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



Day 6: Kom Ombo - Edfu

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

Day 7: Luxor - Valley of the Kings - Luxor

Start the day on Luxor's West Bank, trekking along elaborate tombs in the Valley of the Kings. Delve even further into Egyptian legends with an included viewing of the tombs of King Tutankhamun and Ramses VI. Visit the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut as well as the Colossi of Memnon before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon, **it's your choice!** Visit a local farm nestled along the banks of the Nile, where you will learn about rural life in Upper Egypt between sips of freshly brewed tea **-OR-** admire expansive views of the Nile while you enjoy high tea at the Old Winter Palace which hosted esteemed guests such as Agatha Christie, Winston Churchill and the great Egyptologist Howard Carter. (B, L, D)

Day 8: Luxor - Disembark Ship - Amman, Jordan

Early this morning, say goodbye to the land of the pyramids as you fly from Luxor to Amman, the capital of Jordan. Get a peek into this innovative city housing both modern technologies and ancient relics. Tonight's street food dinner includes local specialties of hummus, falafels and kunafa. (B, D)

Day 9: Amman - Wadi Rum - Petra

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

Day 10: Petra

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

Day 11: Petra

Connect with the local community during an **Impact Moment** at a women's rug weaving cooperative, where you'll be able to peruse the rugs designed in traditional styles. Then, arrive at your hotel in the Dead Sea and take advantage of the luxuries and direct access to the legendary sea. (B, L)

Day 12: Dead Sea - Madaba - Mount Nebo - Dead Sea

Get a glimpse into the foundation of Christian reverence at Bethany Beyond the Jordan, the venerated site of Jesus Christ's baptism. In Madaba, delve deep into St. George's Church and its famous Byzantine mosaics. Then, connect with an inspiring native who encourages literacy through his bookstore. At the store, you'll enjoy a traditional farewell lunch cooked by locals as you chat with the philanthropic entrepreneur, discussing Arabic literature and culture. Before returning to your hotel, gaze upon the Promised Land at Mount Nebo, like Moses long before you. This evening, celebrate the end of your Middle Eastern journey during a farewell dinner at your hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 13: Dead Sea - Tour Ends

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$6,489
SOLO Starting at \$7,839

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

Price based on 1 January 2024 departure.



Departures available September 2023 - March 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. A visa is required for Egypt and Jordan. An Egyptian visa must be obtained at your own expense upon arrival in Egypt, at the approximate cost of \$25 US Dollars, paid in cash. You need to purchase the visa before getting in line for immigration. For US, Canadian, UK, EU and Australian citizens, a Jordanian visa is arranged by our local Jordanian agent in advance. The Jordan exit fee is approximately \$25 AUD per person, paid in local currency. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details or specific entry requirements for this tour. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time without notice, based on governing authority. Our air passengers will arrive into Cairo and depart from Amman. The internal flights on this program are included in the land price of your tour. Internal flights will be ticketed and distributed on tour by your Tour Manager. The Egyptian Government charges a camera and/or video fee of approximately \$30 AUD for taking photos inside of the Valley of the Kings. There is an additional cost to enter special tombs and sites in the Valley of the Kings and at the Pyramids of Giza. Your Tour Manager will collect these fees at the beginning of the tour day and pay the government accordingly. During your free time at the Pyramids in Giza, you may wish to visit the inner chamber of the Great Pyramid of Pharaoh Cheops. Accessing the Great Pyramid requires agility as you will have to climb up steep, narrow steps (approximately 1-1 1/2 feet tall) on the side of the Pyramid without the help of handrails. From there, you may access the inner chamber and will need to crouch and at times to crawl up the 300-foot (100-metre) narrow shaft with minimal help of handrails. This activity is not suitable for guests who have claustrophobia. Access to the interior of the Great Pyramid requires a separate ticket, for an additional cost of approximately \$50 AUD. The ticket can only be purchased on site and your Tour Manager will assist you with this request. Due to flight schedules, the Abu Simbel option must be purchased at time of booking. We do our utmost to schedule the option on the same day of your flight to Aswan in order to reduce the number of early-morning starts. Please be aware that the airline schedule is subject to change and that, on select dates, the option may take place on the early morning of embarkation day. Visiting the Valley of the Kings requires walking on sand and mostly unpaved paths. In addition, visiting the tombs requires navigating through multiple steep staircases and/or ramps with limited help from handrails. Each guest is responsible for proper medical documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal doctor for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from. If travelling during the month of Ramadan, please note that the order of some features may vary and that some meal experiences may be replaced with meals in the hotel instead of local restaurants/venues. Ramadan observances are from 10 March - 10 April 2024. Your itinerary includes many activities that require walking on uneven terrain and sand. Visiting tombs, temples and pyramids requires climbing and descending steep staircases and/or ramps with limited help from handrails. Some of these visits may not be suitable for people suffering from claustrophobia. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas and archeological sites. Temperatures can reach over 40.5° C, particularly in Aswan, Luxor, Wadi Rum and Petra. This program includes many early-morning departures. Whilst in Cairo, Aswan and Luxor, you may depart sometime between 3:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. to transfer to the airport for your internal flights. On days visiting Giza, Edfu, Valley of the Kings and Petra, expect early morning departures from your hotel and ship between 5:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. to ensure you profit from the cooler hours of the day and reach the sites ahead of the larger crowds. Whilst in Jordan, your program includes many long drives. In particular, your transfer from Amman to Petra via Wadi Rum involves 8 hours of driving, and your transfer from Petra to the Dead Sea involves 5 hours of driving.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

MYSTERIES OF INDIA

14 DAYS • 26 MEALS

STARTING AT \$4,419

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 8** — Return to your hotel to simply relax while in Ranthambore **-OR-** visit Dastkar Ranthambore, a social enterprise dedicated to providing employment and training for local artisans.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

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

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



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1-3	The Park New Delhi, Delhi
Days 4-6	Radisson Jaipur City Center, Jaipur
Days 7, 8	Sawai Vilas, Ranthambore
Days 9, 10	Crystal Sarovar Premiere, Agra
Day 11	Radisson Jass Hotel, Khajuraho
Days 12, 13	Radisson Hotel, Varanasi
Day 14	Lemon Tree Premier, Delhi

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



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

Day 1: 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 2: 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 specialities. (B, D)

Day 3: Delhi

Cut through Old Delhi's buzzing streets on a rickshaw — your mode of transport 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 4: 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 5: 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 6: 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 7: Jaipur – Ranthambore National Park

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

Day 8: 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 9: Ranthambore - Agra
Today we depart early as we make our way to Agra, a city rich with the splendours of the past. Along the way, visit the impressive Abhaneri step well. Built over 1,000 years ago it is an architectural marvel hidden from visitors until recently. Then stop for lunch and get another taste of local flavours. Home to stone forts and marble mausoleums, Agra features a lively culture and picture-perfect architecture. (B, L)

Day 10: Agra
The Taj Mahal, a stunning vision in white marble and sandstone, was built as an expression of love by

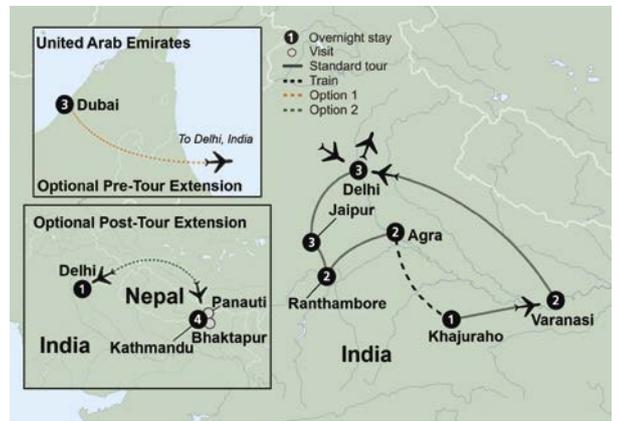
Emperor Shah Jahan. Experience the romantic spirit of the Taj Mahal in the early morning, when the colours of the sky dance on the bright façade and shimmer in its reflective pool. Visit Agra Fort, the seat of the Mughal Empire. During a second **Impact Moment**, enjoy lunch at Sheroes' Hangout — a café that empowers female survivors of violence, allowing them to reclaim their lives through employment and sisterhood. (B, L)

Day 11: Agra - Khajuraho
Start your morning with a train ride to Jhansi where you will connect with your coach and make your way to Khajuraho. In the shadow of the Vindhya mountain range, find a city of stone temples and mystifying sculptures. Make the most of time at leisure this afternoon to explore the area on your own. (B, L, D)

Day 12: Khajuraho - Varanasi
Take in the Chandela Temple complex, home to unparalleled temple 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 13: 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 14: 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)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
DELHI
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Mysteries of India with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$4,419
SOLO Starting at \$5,819

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

Price based on 12 March 2024 departure.



Departures available September 2023 - April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. A visa is required for this tour at your expense. The approximate visa cost is \$185 AUD. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. Passport information is required in advance. Please provide at time of booking. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Delhi. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Due to flight schedules, flights arriving into Delhi may arrive very late in the evening on Day 1 or just after midnight the morning of Day 2. A pre-night may be required (at an additional cost). Due to tour scheduling, return flights should not be booked prior to 8:00 p.m. on the last day. The internal flights on this program are included in the land price. Internal flights that are purchased will be ticketed and distributed on tour by your Tour Manager. Each guest is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from.

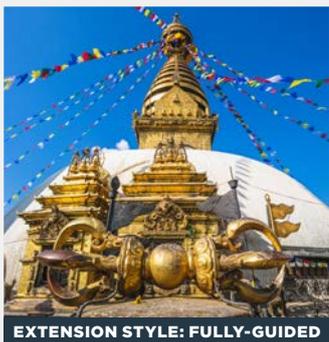
The 5-night Nepal extension is Fully Guided. Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

“Our tour guide was the best! He took good care of us — answered all our questions — went out of his way to make sure we understood — he was the best tour guide I've ever had — very accommodating — pleasant- always had a smile on his face ... everyone in our group loved him!”

— Collette Traveller

FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 5 NIGHTS IN NEPAL



EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED

Starting at \$1,400+ pp
Continue your tour with a 5-night extension in Nepal. Here, you'll spend time with an expert local guide as you wander through the beloved Thamel neighbourhood and visit 2 UNESCO sites over the next few days. Speak with a local Everest climber, get a taste of the local flavours, visit the living incarnation of a goddess — Kumari, see a Buddhist monastery, and explore famous temples like Nyatapola. To celebrate the end of your adventures in Nepal, sit down with a local family for a delicious home-hosted meal.

CALL FOR DETAILS

† Additional air segment purchase required.

NEW TOUR

JAPAN: PAST & PRESENT

13 DAYS • 20 MEALS

STARTING AT \$7,999

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Tokyo • Ginza • Asakusa • Tea Ceremony
 - Tokyo National Museum • Bullet Train • Ise Grand Shrine • Toba
- Kaiseki Dinner • Mikimoto Pearl Museum
 - Ama Pearl Divers Dinner
 - Kyoto • Golden Pavilion
 - Arashiyama Bamboo Forest
- Women's Association of Kyoto • Gion
- Okunoin Cemetery • Monastery Stay
- Hiroshima • Okonomiyaki Cooking Class & Lunch • Peace Memorial Park & Museum • Discussion with an A-Bomb Survivor • Osaka



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

12 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 6 Dinners (D)

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



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1-3** Hotel the Celestine Tokyo Shiba or Grand Nikko Tokyo Daiba, Tokyo
- Days 4, 5** Hotel Altia Toba or Shimo Kanko Hotel, Toba
- Days 6-8** Hotel Granvia, Kyoto
- Day 9** Sekishoin, Mt. Koya
- Days 10, 11** ANA Crowne Plaza, Hiroshima
- Day 12** ANA Crowne Plaza, Osaka

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Ama Hut Dining Experience ©Ama Hut SATOUMIAN



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

Day 1: Tokyo, Japan – Tour Begins

Say “*Konnichiwa!*” to the incredible, eclectic city of Tokyo. 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 2: Tokyo

This morning, start your first day in Tokyo like a true local – by hopping on the subway. Clean, efficient, fast, and easy to use, the Tokyo subway system is one of the best in the world. Follow your Tour Manager on a walk through Ginza, one of the most elegant and luxurious streets in the world. Shop at some of the most renowned “department stores” in Japan. This afternoon, visit Zojoji Temple, standing in the shadow of Tokyo Tower. Zojoji is the centre of Japanese Buddhism in the region. Head back to the hotel through the lush and beautiful Shiba park. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner. (B, D)

Day 3: Tokyo

Head to Asakusa, passing by the grounds of the Imperial Palace and see the Nijubashi Bridge and Sakurada Gate. Experience a green tea ceremony and learn about the ancient

practice during the ceremony. Enjoy free time exploring Nakamise shopping street to buy local souvenirs and sweets. Then, head to Tokyo National Museum to learn about the fascinating history and culture of the city. (B)

Day 4: Tokyo – Toba

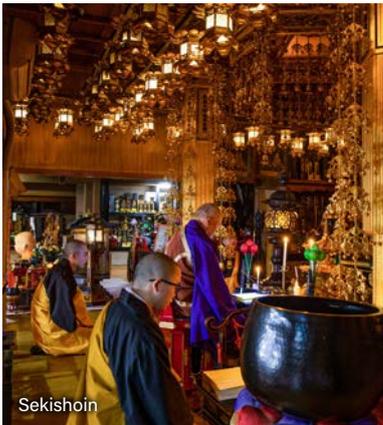
Climb aboard the high-speed *shinkansen*, or bullet train, which flashes through the Japanese countryside at 200 miles per hour. Keep an eye peeled for Mt. Fuji in the distance. Arrive at one of the most important shrines in Japan – Ise Shrine. This grand shrine is built to honour the Shinto sun goddess Amaterasu. Tonight, enjoy a Japanese *kaiseki* dinner, a delicious multi-course meal. (B, D)

Day 5: Toba

Today, 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 afternoon, visit an *ama* hut for an incredible dining experience. (B, L, D)



Arashiyama Bamboo Forest



Sekishoin

Day 6: Toba – Kyoto

En route to Kyoto, stop at Nara Park and Todaiji Temple. Venture inside the massive building to take some time in this sacred place. Next, it's off to Kyoto, one of the nation's top cosmopolitan cities. (B)

Day 7: Kyoto

Begin your day at Kinkakuji (UNESCO), the Golden Pavilion, a Zen temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Depart for the Arashiyama bamboo forest. Set out among the towering bamboo stalks that gently sway in the breeze. Later, visit the Women's Association of Kyoto in a traditional Kyoto town house. With your hostesses, sip different *sakes*, try your hand at making sushi, fold intricate origami shapes,

and speak about Japan, and women's roles in this complex society. (B, D)

Day 8: Kyoto

Head to Gion, Kyoto's famous geisha district. Here, your Tour Manager leads you through the narrow cobblestone streets. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure to explore at leisure. (B)

Day 9: Kyoto – Mt. Koya

Today, head for the mountain village atop Mount Koya, filled with shrines, temples, and monasteries. Walk into the heart of the Okunion Cemetery, and make your way to the mausoleum of Kobo Daishi. Settle into your accommodation for the night – a traditional Japanese monastery, complete with sliding paper doors and tatami mats. Meet with one of the monks of the temple before sitting down for dinner. (B, D)

Day 10: Mt. Koya – Hiroshima

If you so choose, rise in the early morning to join the Buddhist monks in prayer. Then, you'll once again board the *shinkansen* bullet train to Hiroshima. Enjoy lunch at a local cooking studio, and learn how to make the famous Japanese *okonomiyaki*, or savoury pancake. After, visit the Peace Memorial Park, and see the ruined Atomic Dome (UNESCO), reflecting the devastation caused by the dropping of the atomic bomb during World War II. Visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. (B, L)

Day 11: Hiroshima

At the Peace Park and Memorial Museum this morning meet with someone who experienced the devastating effects of the Atomic bomb firsthand. After, board a ferry for the short trip to Miyajima Island, or "Shrine Island" (UNESCO), famous for the Itsukushima Shrine and its mythic O-torii Gate. (B)

Day 12: Hiroshima – Osaka

Today, journey to Osaka. Enjoy a walking tour through the famous Dotonbori district. From shopping, to dining, to nightlife, Dotonbori has it all. Sample its famous and delicious street food. Tonight, at your farewell dinner raise a cup of sake and toast to the adventures you've had. (B, D)

Day 13: Osaka – Tour Ends (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



You can handle longer walking tours (more than 3 hours covering 3+ miles at a steady clip) and activities that involve traversing uneven terrain, steep slopes, standing for periods of time, and varying altitudes and temperatures.

SEE "ACTIVITY LEVELS" ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR? Combine Japan: Past and Present with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$7,999**
SOLO Starting at **\$9,399**

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

Price based on 17 April 2024 departure.



Departures available August 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into Tokyo and depart from Osaka. Airport transfers are available for purchase. Some venues, such as temples and shrines, require guests to remove their shoes in order to enter. We recommend wearing footwear that is easily removed for sightseeing on these days. Mt. Fuji is only visible from train on a clear day and cannot be guaranteed based on weather conditions. In the event that an atomic bomb survivor is unavailable, a legacy successor (relative or friend of a survivor) will meet the group and share their relative's experiences and stories. This tour features a one-night experiential stay at a traditional monastery. During this stay, portage is not available and rolling luggage is not allowed inside. An overnight bag is required and your main luggage will stay on the coach. You will not be able to access your main luggage until we check-in at our Hiroshima Hotel (approx. 5pm following day.) Accommodation at the monastery are traditional. All guests will sleep on tatami mats that are placed on the floor. Western-style beds are not available. Therefore, this tour is not recommended for those with mobility restrictions. Shoes are not permitted inside the monastery. Socks are highly recommended for use during your time here. Meals are also traditional and served on trays that you eat from while sitting on the floor on a cushion. All meals served at the monastery are vegetarian. This tour provides authentic Japanese dining experiences. Any special meal requests, including vegan, vegetarian, or gluten-free may not be able to be accommodated as these are not widely catered to. If you have any dietary restrictions, please notify us at time of booking so we can accommodate you as best as possible. Each guest is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

FEATURED TOUR EXTENSIONS



EXTENSION STYLE: INDEPENDENT

TOKYO 2-NIGHT PRE-TOUR

Starting at \$630 pp

CALL FOR DETAILS



EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED

SEOUL 4-NIGHT POST-TOUR

Starting at \$1,960[†] pp

CALL FOR DETAILS

[†] Additional air segment purchase required.

EXPLORING NEW ZEALAND'S WONDERS

17 DAYS • 26 MEALS

STARTING AT \$7,899

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Auckland • Bay of Islands • Rotorua
- Maori Cultural Experience • Wellington
 - Christchurch • Mt. Cook Region
 - Dunedin • Milford Sound
- Queenstown • Lake Wakatipu Cruise & Sheepdog Demonstration



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Cruise through the Bay of Islands' famous "Hole in the Rock."
- Overnight in the spectacular Mt. Cook region where permanent ice fields and glaciers blanket the ragged peaks.
- Visit Walter Peak High Country farm for a sheepdog demonstration.



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **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.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

16 Breakfasts (B) • 2 Lunches (L) • 8 Dinners (D)

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



ACCOMMODATION

Days 1, 2	Stamford Plaza Hotel, Auckland
Days 3, 4	Copthorne Hotel and Resort, Waitangi, Bay of Islands
Days 5, 6	Millennium Hotel, Rotorua
Days 7, 8	Novotel, Wellington
Days 9, 10	Distinction, Christchurch
Day 11	The Hermitage Hotel, Mount Cook
Days 12, 13	Scenic Hotel Southern Cross, Dunedin
Days 14-16	Novotel Queenstown Lakeside, Queenstown

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Bay of Islands

From geothermal springs and ice fields to stunning fjords and Maori culture, experience New Zealand at its best.

Day 1: Auckland, New Zealand - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Auckland, the "City of Sails." This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 2: Auckland

Today, your panoramic city tour features the America's Cup Village, the War Memorial, bustling Queen Street, and the Auckland Harbour Bridge. The afternoon is yours to explore on your own. Perhaps you will choose to go on an optional America's Cup sailing experience. (B)

Day 3: 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. (B, D)

Day 4: 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 5: Bay of Islands - Matakohē - Rotorua

Leave the sparkling waters of the Bay of Islands behind and head to Matakohē 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 6: 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 7: Rotorua - Wellington

Today we travel to Wellington, a coastal city nestled against the mountains. Embark on a tour of New Zealand's capital city and see the Beehive — New Zealand's Parliament; historic St. Paul's Church;



and the Old Government Building, the largest wooden building in the Southern Hemisphere. (B, D)

Day 8: Wellington

Explore the Te Papa Tongawera Museum, a fascinating centre dedicated to art, history, and the Maori culture before enjoying the rest of the day at leisure to explore on your own. (B)

Day 9: Wellington – Picton – Christchurch

Board a ferry and sail across Cook Strait. Experience what is considered to be one of the most beautiful ferry rides in the world. Arrive in Picton on the South Island where you will have free time for lunch. Continue along the breathtaking east coast to Christchurch. (B)

Day 10: Christchurch

Christchurch, the “Garden City,” is recreating itself after a devastating earthquake in 2011. See firsthand how this city is evolving on a sightseeing tour that highlights the city’s magnificent gardens and elegant park district. Pay a visit to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve, a leader in the conservation of New Zealand species. Here, you’ll have the chance to view New Zealand’s “Big 5” — kiwi, kaka, tuatara, kea, and takahe — up close and personal. (B)

Day 11: 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 12: Mt. Cook Region – Dunedin

Travel to Dunedin, situated on the southeast coast of New Zealand. One of the earliest European settlements on the islands, Dunedin holds proudly to its Scottish heritage and traditions. Enjoy time to explore this cultural city on your own. (B)

Day 13: Dunedin

Start your morning with a panoramic tour, visiting Larnach Castle and Baldwin Street — the world’s steepest public road. Later, spend time at the Royal Albatross Centre, the only mainland breeding location in the world for these otherworldly birds. Albatrosses are the focus in many seafaring myths, and their epic wingspan can reach nearly 10 feet. (B, D)

Day 14: Dunedin – Queenstown

Enjoy the rugged grandeur of the Hollyford Valley and the Homer Tunnel as you head to Queenstown, a mountainside town set against the shores of Lake Wakatipu. The rest of your day is yours to explore the city dubbed the “adventure capital of the world.” (B)

Day 15: Queenstown – Milford Sound – Queenstown

During a cruise of the beautiful Milford Sound, you will see why this fjord is one of the most visited sites on the South Island. With rock faces that rise nearly 4,000 feet on either side, the scenery will take your breath away. On your return to Queenstown, perhaps you will consider an optional scenic flight, allowing you to see the landscape from an entirely new perspective. (B, L)

Day 16: Queenstown

Cruise Lake Wakatipu surrounded by Queenstown’s stunning landscape aboard an iconic coal-fired steamship. Then, enjoy a BBQ lunch lakeside followed by a sheepdog demonstration before sailing back. Later, **it’s your choice!** Go bird watching at the Kiwi Birdlife Park **-OR-** take a gondola to Bob’s Peak for stunning views of the area. Gather for a farewell dinner and enjoy a locally sourced meal. (B, L, D)

Day 17: Queenstown – Tour Ends

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



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



Walking for longer periods of time isn’t a big deal for you. You can navigate uneven ground and climb into various modes of transportation. SEE “ACTIVITY LEVELS” ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER & PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TOUR

Choose to add more time to your trip:

1-2 NIGHTS

PRE NIGHT
AUKLAND
CALL FOR DETAILS

POST NIGHT
QUEENSTOWN
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Exploring New Zealand’s Wonders with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at **\$7,899**
SOLO Starting at **\$9,849**

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

Price based on 29 March 2024 departure.



Departures available September 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Our air passengers will arrive into Auckland and depart from Queenstown. Airport transfers are available for purchase.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

KINGDOMS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

18 DAYS • 31 MEALS

STARTING AT \$5,609

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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



CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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



IT'S YOUR CHOICE!

Be sure to choose your option before departure.

- **Day 14** — In Luang Prabang, venture into the lively outdoor markets at night **-OR-** return to the hotel for an evening at leisure.



CULINARY INCLUSIONS

17 Breakfasts (B) • 7 Lunches (L) • 7 Dinners (D)

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



ACCOMMODATION

- Days 1-3** Mercure La Gare, Hanoi
- Day 4** Bhaya Classic
- Days 5-7** Allegro Hoi An Hotel & Spa, Hoi An
- Days 8-10** Novotel Saigon Centre, Ho Chi Minh City
- Days 11-13** Tara Angkor Hotel, Siem Reap
- Days 14-16** Souphattra Hotel, Luang Prabang
- Day 17** Rembrandt Hotel & Suites, Bangkok

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.



Siem Reap, Cambodia

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

Day 1: Hanoi, Vietnam – Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Hanoi. 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 2: Hanoi

Start your morning with a city tour of Hanoi and the Old Quarter. Visit Ba Dinh Square and the Temple of Literature. 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 3: 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, 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 4: Hanoi – Ha Long Bay

Journey to Ha Long Bay and board a charming junk boat for an overnight cruise. 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 5: Ha Long Bay – Hanoi – Da Nang – Hoi An

Your day begins with a Tai Chi lesson. 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 site that is Halong Bay. Then cruise back to the mainland. Fly to Da Nang and travel to Hoi An (UNESCO), an ancient trading port. (B, D)

Day 6: Hoi An

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

Day 7: Hoi An

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

Day 8: Hoi An – Ho Chi Minh City

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

Day 9: 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. Enjoy lunch featuring southern Vietnamese cuisine before travelling back to Ho Chi Minh City. (B, L)

Day 10: 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 11: Ho Chi Minh City – Siem Reap, Cambodia

This afternoon, board your flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia's gateway to the wonders of Angkor. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant accompanied by a traditional Khmer dance performance. (B, D)

Day 12: Siem Reap – Angkor Wat – Siem Reap

Depart for a sunrise at Angkor Wat, a perfect example of classic Khmer architecture. 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 13: Siem Reap – Preah Dak – Siem Reap

Start your day at the Visitor Center of APOPO, where "hero rats" are trained to navigate minefields and save lives. 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. 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 14: Siem Reap – Luang Prabang, Laos

Connect with locals at the JWOC Community Center and learn about their ongoing projects. Your day continues with 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 15: Luang Prabang

Hop into a tuk tuk with a guide and make your way to the city centre, including a visit to the National Museum – the former Royal Palace. Continue to Wat Xieng Thong monastery. Meander along the Nam Khan River to Wat Khili. 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)

Day 16: 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, journey to a traditional Hmong hill tribe village in Ban Long Lao. Set out on an easy hike through lush jungle and panoramic mountain scenery to the Kuang Si Waterfall. After a picnic lunch, return to Luang Prabang. This afternoon you may choose to join an optional tour to visit with Laotian weavers. (B, L)

Day 17: Luang Prabang – Bangkok, Thailand

Board your flight to Bangkok, the capital of Thailand. Tonight, join your fellow travellers and toast to the end of your adventure on a Klong dinner cruise. (B, D)

Day 18: Bangkok – Tour Ends
Return home with memories of your travels through the kingdoms of Southeast Asia. (B)



TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



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Choose to add more time to your trip:

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PRE NIGHT
HANOI
CALL FOR DETAILS

EVEN MORE TIME? Combine Kingdoms of Southeast Asia with another tour for one seamless, non-stop travel experience. CALL FOR DETAILS

DOUBLE Starting at \$5,609
SOLO Starting at \$6,759

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

Price based on 19 April 2024 departure.



Departures available September 2023 – April 2024.

SEE THIS TOUR ONLINE FOR
ADDITIONAL DATES AND PRICING.

This trip requires a passport. Visas are required for this tour at your expense. The approximate cost for a one month single entry Vietnam visa is \$55 AUD and must be obtained prior to departure. To enter Vietnam you will need 1 blank page in your passport. You can obtain the visa for Cambodia at the airport upon arrival. The cost is approximately \$40 AUD and two complete blank pages are required in your passport along with one passport photo. A Laos visa is required for this tour at your expense. This can be purchased upon arrival in Luang Prabang, Laos. The approximate cost is \$48 AUD. One blank page is required in your passport. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from the date of return home. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority. Our air passengers will arrive into and depart from Bangkok. Due to flight schedules, a pre and/or post night stay may be required in some gateway cities (at an additional cost). Please enquire at time of reservation. The internal flights on this program are included in the land price of your tour. Internal flights will be ticketed and distributed on tour by your Tour Manager. It is recommended that you bring an overnight bag (rather than your large luggage) on the overnight Ha Long Bay cruise. This will afford you more room to move about your cruise cabin. Your large luggage will be stored on the bus in a secure location. Saigon's Notre Dame Cathedral will be viewed from the exterior. If you would prefer not to hike on Day 16, a vehicle is available to bring you to the falls. Not all vendors accept credit cards or travellers cheques; therefore, it is recommended you bring small amounts of US dollars which are widely accepted for personal use.

The Optional Bangkok Extension is Fully-Guided. Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

Please note: there might be slight changes in the itinerary depending on the departure date.

FEATURED POST-TOUR EXTENSION ADD 3 NIGHTS IN BANGKOK



EXTENSION STYLE: FULLY-GUIDED

Starting at \$910 pp
Set out on a journey that introduces you to Bangkok, the capital of Thailand. Marvel at ancient monuments, explore local culinary treasures, shop for unique souvenirs or just soak in the energy of the city.

CALL FOR DETAILS

Frequently Asked Questions

Accommodation

What is the difference between a twin room and a double room? A double room is designed to accommodate two people, but may not have two separate beds. A twin bedded room has two separate beds of any size, and is the type most commonly utilised.

What size is a triple room? A triple room is the same size as a twin bedded room and beds will accommodate three people, but we cannot guarantee three separate beds. If there are only two beds, a rollaway may be requested but cannot be guaranteed due to size of room and fire codes. Please inquire at time of reservation.

Can my children travel on tour? Children over the age of 5 may travel on a Collette tour accompanied by an adult. Child land rates are valid for ages 5-12, sharing a room with two full-paying adults on certain tours only. If you are travelling with a child, it is your sole responsibility to ensure the child follows all safety rules of the tour.

Are single and triple rooms always available? Triple rooms are *not* always an option on every tour. Single rooms are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Be advised that single rooms are often smaller.

When can I check into my hotel? Normal check-in time is late afternoon. If you do have an early arrival, rooms may not always be available for immediate check-in.

Flights

Can Collette book our airline reservations? Collette is happy to assist you in accommodating your flight needs. Due to tour scheduling and limited availability, you are strongly encouraged to take advantage of Collette's air packages. We are not responsible for air arrangements you have made on your own. On occasion, it is necessary to change tour dates. In this case, we can only protect air reservations booked through Collette. For all air reservations, it is strongly recommended to reconfirm flights before departure, in the event that the airline has an unexpected schedule change. We cannot assume responsibility for schedule changes, routings or flight cancellations involving the airlines.

Attractions and Sightseeing

Are attractions always available? Access to some attractions or Collette Foundation sites may be affected by local holidays, weather conditions or other circumstances. As a result, the days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilise your time on tour. Boat rides are weather permitting. Some attractions may not be available during the "off-season" months. When attractions are unavailable, other similar attractions will be substituted. Wildlife sightings are not guaranteed.

Is there a lot of walking on tour? Our itineraries include many activities and some may consist of walking on uneven terrain or significant walking at times. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict coaches. Some hotels/lodges in remote locations may not have elevators. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes. See our "Activity Levels" section on the inside front cover and page 1, and "Tour Pacing" beolv.

Can you tell me more about the safaris? For a fuller wildlife experience you will be traveling by custom-built safari vehicles which requires frequently climbing in and out of jeeps and sometimes traversing bumpy roads. We recommend a good fitness level and to prepare properly.

How can I plan for shore landings? Special clothing is required for the shore landings (Antarctica, Galapagos); please refer to your predeparture documents for important details.

Are all theatre performances suitable for children? Some theatre performances may be unsuitable for children — please consult your tour manager.

Documentation

Do I need a passport? A valid passport is required for all trips. All passengers should check with the appropriate foreign consulate for entry and validity requirements as well as other laws that may affect your ability to travel. We recommend that your passport has six months validity, and at least three blank pages. Passports and visas are the responsibility of each traveller.

Extending your Stay

Can I extend my tour to see more of a region? Yes! You may enhance your tour by purchasing either an extension or pre/post hotel stays when offered. Extensions may be "hosted" rather than escorted. When hosted, passengers will be greeted upon arrival by a local tour manager who will be available on-call during the duration of the stay. A minimum number of passengers may be required to operate some extensions. Extensions not purchased at time of deposit are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

Collette also offers pre and post hotel nights before and/or after a tour. Should you purchase additional nights, your tour manager will not be available during this time.

Extras

What is not included in the tour price? The land price does not include international air travel from Australia, travel insurance, 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, government quarantine fees, and any incidental charges.

Gratuities

Are gratuities included? Collette offers a pre-paid tipping option for guests. This allows guests to purchase the package up to 45 days prior to departure and know that all tipping is covered.

Gratuities are not included in the tour price and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Customary gratuities have not been included for hotel housekeeping staff, local sightseeing guides, transfer drivers, motor coach drivers and tour managers. Gratuities should be given in direct proportion to the level of professionalism and personal service extended to you. With this in mind, we have created a guide for you:

- Tour Manager: \$5-8 US Dollars (or equivalent in local currency) per person for each travel day
- Local Guide: \$2-3 US Dollars (or equivalent in local currency) per person
- Motor Coach Driver: \$3-5 US Dollars (or equivalent in local currency) per person for each travel day
- Hotel Housekeeping Staff: \$2-3 US Dollars (or equivalent in local currency) per room per day
- Applicable gratuities for bellmen, doormen and dining room staff for group meals have been included.

Late Bookings

Do you accept late bookings? Yes, tour sales normally close 7 days prior to departure. Late bookings are on request and must be guaranteed with full payment if within 60 days prior for standard departures and 120 days prior for cruises.

On-tour Experience

Where do I meet my tour manager? Our tour manager will make contact with you at your first hotel. The hotel's address and phone number will be included in your documents.

Can I pre purchase optional excursions/activities? Yes, the majority of optional excursions and activities are available for advance purchase provided that you make your options purchase 15 days or more prior to the tour start date. Collette makes it convenient to reserve presold options by visiting our website for a full listing of activities and excursions or when your reservation is made with our team. In addition, there are benefits to pre-purchasing options including a price guarantee once your tour is paid in full, so once payment is received in full, your preselected options are guaranteed by Collette. Although you can still purchase options while on tour, reserving them ahead of time ensures you a spot in the event that the activity sells out. Collette will provide a refund if you cancel a presold option prior to tour departure. Any presold options cancelled while on tour are non-refundable.

Revisions/changes

Would my tour date ever be changed? While it is unlikely, Collette does reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. Should this happen, Collette will make every effort to put you on another departure date. If an alternate cannot be found, a **full refund will be made**. Flights booked through Collette will be protected. We cannot be held responsible for penalties incurred if you secured your own flights.

Can I make changes to my reservation? Should you decide to change your reservation after initial booking and 45 days or more prior to tour start date, a handling fee of \$25 per transaction will be charged. A change of tour date or tour itinerary within the guidelines of the cancellation policy will be treated as a cancellation and regular cancellation fees may apply.

Revisions to air tickets are subject to the rules and regulations of the airline. See our Cancellation Policy for more details.

Tour Pacing

How can I be best prepared for the pacing and physical requirements on a Collette tour? Tour pacing varies by itinerary, and each destination's sightseeing and activities are unique. Pacing is subject to personal interpretation. At Collette, we do include the best a destination has to offer, enhancing your overall tour experience. For overnight pacing of a tour, as well as day-by-day descriptions of the tour, please refer to our website.

The **Tour Activity Level Ranking** is featured in a circle on each tour itinerary in this brochure and on our webpage. The definition of each activity level is listed here. If you have additional questions regarding a specific tour, please enquire at time of reservation. For your comfort, we recommend packing comfortable walking shoes so you can fully enjoy every aspect of your tour.

Level 1: You're a leisurely traveller. You like to discover the energy of a new place, but typically take it easy. You can handle at least one flight of stairs, board a coach, and walk for 15-30 minutes at a time with little difficulty.

Level 2: You like a balanced approach to travel. You feel confident walking at least 30-45 minutes at a time over a variety of terrains — from cobblestone streets to easy straightaways to a couple hills or flights of stairs. You're comfortable walking a few city blocks at a time, but need some time to unwind and relax.

Level 3: You're an on-the-go traveller. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure.

Level 4: You're ready to seize the day, whatever it may bring. You lead an active life at home (walking, biking, and hiking are things you may enjoy) and few thousand steps a day isn't out of the norm. You can handle longer walking tours (more than 90 minutes), traversing dusty or uneven terrain, standing for periods of time, varying altitudes and temperatures, and don't mind being on the go with some early starts, late-night experiences, and full days. Unfortunately, this level is not appropriate for individuals who use wheelchairs or walkers.

Transfers

Are airport and hotel transfers available? Roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers are provided for all passengers who purchase airfare through Collette. These transfers also apply to pre- and post-night stays. Passengers who do not purchase airfare through Collette can purchase transfers (for the first and last day of the tour) at an additional cost from \$120 per person, roundtrip. Some restrictions may apply. All transfers leave at prescheduled times.

What is the private chauffeur service? It's your ticket to and from the airport if you purchase international air through Collette. This personalised service is included within a 40km radius from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Canberra, Darwin, Cairns and Hobart airport gateways.* Service is available between 41-70 kms for a small fee. Not valid on group travel.

* One transfer per room booking. Additional stops are not permitted on route.

Visit gocollette.com.au/chauffeur for a video and more details on this amazing service!

Travel Loyalty

What is the Collette Passport Club? Collette Passport Club members receive a \$150 travel credit for each trip they take* along with various other benefits.

* Full credit is valid for your next tour when you travel within 12 months of the original trip. \$100 of the credit remains valid for travel within 13-24 months, and the entire credit expires 24 months after the original trip.

Reservation Information

1. Booking Conditions

These booking conditions, together with our privacy policy, and any other written information we brought to your attention before we confirmed your booking, form the basis of your contract with Collette Pty Ltd (ACN 600 161 671) of Level 16, 175 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000 ('we' or 'us'). Please read them carefully as they set out your respective rights and obligations. References to 'you' and 'your' include the first named person on the booking and all persons on whose behalf a booking is made or any other person to whom a booking is transferred.

By making a booking, the first named person on the booking agrees on behalf of all persons detailed on the booking that:

- he/she has read these terms and conditions and has the authority to and does agree to be bound by them;
- he/she consents to our use of information in accordance with our privacy policy; and
- he/she is over 18 years of age and resident in Australia and where placing an order for services with age restrictions declares that he/she and all members of the party are of the appropriate age to purchase those services.

2. Making a Booking and Paying for Your Holiday

When you confirm your booking you must pay the applicable deposit or full payment detailed in the table below. If the arrangements you wish to book are available we will issue a confirmation invoice and send this to you or your travel agent. **A binding contract will come into existence between you and us as soon as we have issued you with this confirmation invoice.** Upon receipt, if you believe that any details on the confirmation invoice (or any other document) are wrong, you must advise us immediately as changes cannot be made later and it may harm your rights if we are not notified of any inaccuracies in any document within 10 days of us sending it out (5 days for tickets).

The balance of the cost of your arrangements is due in accordance with the table in section 3 below. If we do not receive all payments in full and on time, we reserve the right to treat your booking as cancelled by you in which case the cancellation charges set out in the tables in section 7 below will become payable.

In the case of international payments you must ensure that the full Australian dollars amount is received by us after all bank charges have been levied.

3. Deposits and Balances

Further to section 2, in order to confirm your chosen arrangements, you must pay a deposit. The deposit payable and the time that the balance of the cost of your arrangements (including any surcharge where applicable) will become due will vary depending on the holiday you book.

Land Package Deposit

- A \$395 non-refundable deposit is due with your land only reservation.
- For Antarctica and Cruises, a non-refundable \$695 deposit is required.
- An additional \$1000 is due 180 days prior to departure for Antarctica.

Internal Air Inclusive Package Deposit

- A \$895 non-refundable deposit is due with your internal air inclusive reservation.
- For Antarctica and Cruises, internal air inclusive reservations, a non-refundable \$750 deposit is required. An additional \$1000 is due 180 days prior to departure for Antarctica.

International Instant Purchase Air

- If you have selected International Instant Purchase Air, the deposit required is the full cost of the airfare plus the land package deposit noted above, all of which is non-refundable.
- For Antarctica and Cruises, International Instant Purchase Air reservations, the full cost of the airfare plus a \$995 deposit is required all of which is non-refundable. An additional \$1,000 is due 180 days prior to departure for Antarctica.
- International Instant Purchase Non-refundable Airfare includes round trip airport/hotel transfers. International Instant Purchase, Non-refundable Airfare requires full payment at the time of booking. If you purchase the waiver it does not provide a refund for the airline tickets in the event of a cancellation. Tickets will be issued immediately and, once issued are non-refundable, 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 round trip 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.

The balance is due 60 days before departure on all tours, except cruises, Antarctica and Galapagos. The balance is due 120 days before departure for cruises, Antarctica and Galapagos. Payment may be made by Direct Credit, bank account details on invoice, charging to clients' MasterCard, Visa, or by sending a cheque or bank transfer. All land rates are guaranteed upon deposit.

The Price of your Holiday

The price of your travel arrangements has been calculated using exchange rates as at the date of advertisement of the holiday.

We reserve the right to amend the price of unsold holidays at any time and correct errors in the prices of confirmed holidays.

The price of your confirmed holiday is subject at all times to changes in transport costs such as fuel, scheduled airfares and any other airline cost changes which are part of our contracts with airlines (and their agents), cruise ship operators and any other transport provider; to cost changes arising from government action such as changes in GST or any other government imposed changes; and to changes in currency exchange rates and to dues, taxes or fees chargeable for services such as landing taxes or embarkation or disembarkation fees at ports and airports any or all of which may result in a variation of your holiday price. We will absorb and you will not be charged for any increase equivalent to 2% of the price of your travel arrangements, which excludes insurance premiums and any amendment charges and/or additional services or travel arrangements. You will be charged for the amount over and above that, plus an administration charge of \$25 per person together with an amount to cover agents' commission. If this means that you have to pay an increase of more than 10% of the price of your travel arrangements (excluding any insurance premiums, amendment charges and/or additional services or travel arrangements), you will have the options set out in section 9 below. There will be no change made to the price of your holiday within 30 days of your departure nor will refunds be paid during this period.

4. Cutting Your Holiday Short

If you are forced to return home early, we cannot refund the cost of any services you have not used. If you cut short your holiday and return home early in circumstances where you have no reasonable cause for complaint about the standard of accommodation and services provided, we will not offer you any refund for that part of your holiday not completed, or be liable for

any associated costs you may incur. Depending on the circumstances, your travel insurance may offer cover for curtailment and we suggest that any claim is made directly with your insurer.

5. Changes By You

If you wish to alter your booking after your holiday has been confirmed, we will try to make the necessary arrangements provided we receive written confirmation of the change from before the date on which the final balance of the cost of your holiday is due. If you are prevented from travelling it may be possible to transfer your booking to another suitable person provided that written notice is given no later than 28 days before you are due to depart.

Whilst we will do our best to assist, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to meet your requested change. Changes and transfers will be subject to an administrative fee as well as any applicable rate changes or extra costs incurred by ourselves and any costs or charges incurred or imposed by any of our suppliers. You should be aware that these costs could increase the closer to the departure date that changes are made and you should contact us as soon as possible. Where we are unable to assist you and you do not wish to proceed with the original booking we will treat this as a cancellation by you. A cancellation fee may be payable.

Note: Certain arrangements may not be amended after they have been confirmed and any alteration could incur a cancellation charge of up to 100% of that part of the arrangements.

6. Cancellation Waiver Policy

To assist you to avoid cancellation fees, we include a cancellation waiver policy for your Collette tour (land arrangements). The Collette waiver policy guarantees a full refund of all Collette tour payments (excluding deposit), in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. Exception: If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, the cancellation waiver fee does not provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes or fees, in the event of a cancellation. 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.

The cancellation waiver protects you from forfeiting payments made in advance if you cancel your entire inclusive holiday package up to the day prior to departure. The cancellation waiver does not indemnify you from penalties if you chose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you elect to partially cancel your holiday, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation.

The cancellation waiver does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's travelling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. In this case, the single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. Division of this charge between the two passengers involved is solely their responsibility. If insufficient funds are deducted from the cancelling client, the travelling client will be charged the remaining portion of the single supplement.

7. If You Cancel

If you or any other member of your party decides to cancel your confirmed booking you must notify us in writing. Your notice of cancellation will only take effect when it is received in writing or by email by us at our offices. If cancellation is confirmed prior to 24 hours before date of departure, your non-refundable deposit will be retained. **If cancellation is confirmed within 24 hours of date of departure full payment will be retained.**

* Instant Purchase air and its associated taxes, fees and surcharges are 100% non-refundable at time of reservation.

Upon cancellation of transport or travel services where you, the customer, are not at fault and have not cancelled in violation of the terms and conditions above, you will be refunded 100%.

Note: Certain arrangements may not be amended after they have been confirmed and any alteration or cancellation could incur a cancellation charge of up to 100% of that part of the arrangements in addition to the charge above.

You may be able to reclaim these charges (less any applicable excess) under the terms of your insurance policy. We will deduct the cancellation charge(s) from any monies you have already paid to us. If some, but not all party members cancel, additional charges may be payable by the remaining members, e.g. under occupancy charges or single supplements. No allowance or refund can be made for your meals, rooms, excursions etc., included in the price of your tour but not taken, nor can any refund be made for lost, mislaid, or destroyed travel tickets or vouchers.

If any member of your party is prevented from travelling, that person(s) may transfer their place to someone else (introduced by you and satisfying all the conditions applicable to the arrangements) providing we are notified not less than 28 days before departure and you pay an amendment fee of \$25 per person transferring, meet all costs and charges incurred by us and/or incurred or imposed by any of our suppliers and the transferee agrees to these booking conditions and all other terms of the contract between us. If you are unable to find a replacement, cancellation charges as set out will apply in order to cover our estimated costs. Otherwise, no refunds will be given for passengers not travelling or for unused services.

8. Alterations and Cancellations By Us

Occasionally, we may have to make changes to or cancel your holiday arrangements and we reserve the right to do so at any time. Most of these changes will be minor and we will advise you or your travel agent of them at the earliest possible date. We also reserve the right in any circumstances to cancel your travel arrangements. For example, if the minimum number of clients required for a particular travel arrangement is not reached, we may have to cancel it. However, we will not cancel your travel arrangements less than 60 days before your departure date, except for reasons of force majeure (as defined in Section 14) or failure by you to pay your final balance. Most changes will be minor and we will advise you or your travel agent of them at the earliest opportunity. Your rights vary depending on whether we make a 'minor' or 'major' change.

Examples of "minor changes" include the following when made before departure. Any change in the identity of the carrier(s), flight timings, and/or aircraft type is deemed to be a minor change. Other examples of minor changes include alteration of your outward/return flights by less than 12 hours, changes to aircraft type, change of accommodation to another of the same standard. Examples of "major changes" include the following when made before departure; a change of accommodation area for the whole or a major part of your holiday, a change of accommodation to that of a lower official classification for the whole or a major part of your holiday, a change of outward departure time or overall length of your holiday of 12 or more hours, the closure of the only or all advertised swimming pool(s) at your accommodation for an extended period and, in the case of tours, a significant change of itinerary missing out one or more major destination substantially or altogether.

If we have to make a major change or cancel, we will tell you as soon as possible and if there is time to do so before departure, we will offer you the choice of i) (for major changes) accepting the changed arrangements ii) having a refund of all monies paid or iii) accepting an offer of alternative travel arrangements of comparable standard from us, if available (we will refund any price difference if the alternative is of a lower value). You must notify us of your choice within 7 days of our offer. If you fail to do so we will assume that you have chosen to accept the change or alternative booking arrangements.

If we make a major change or cancel, less than 60 days before departure, we will also pay compensation as detailed in section 9 below.

9. Compensation for Major Changes and Cancellations

We reserve the right to cancel or reschedule any holiday departure in accordance with operational requirements or circumstances beyond our control. If a holiday is cancelled prior to the scheduled departure date, our only responsibility will be to refund the amount received for the reservation. Wherever possible, we will offer the same holiday with a different departure date, or an alternative similar holiday. If there is a difference in cost, it will be your expense. For air-inclusive holidays, we will try to confirm air schedules for the selected new dates, subject to availability. We are not responsible for any additional costs or fees relating to the issuance and/or cancellation of air tickets or other travel arrangements not made through us.

The compensation that we offer does not exclude you from claiming more if you are entitled to do so. We will not pay you compensation where we make a major change or cancel more than 60 days before departure or in the event that we are forced to make a change or cancel as a result of unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control, the consequences of which we could not have avoided even with all due care. All holidays operate subject to a minimum number of bookings.

Very rarely, we may be forced by "force majeure" (see section 14) to change or terminate your arrangements after departure. If this situation does occur, we regret we will be unable to make any refunds (unless we obtain any from our suppliers), pay you compensation or meet any costs or expenses you incur as a result.

10. Passports, Visas & Health Requirements

Passport and visa requirements vary depending on your destination. The information which we provide is for guidance only, and we cannot accept any liability. We recommend that you contact the relevant consulate to check any restrictions that may apply. Requirements do change and you must check the up to date position in good time before departure. Please contact your doctor for advice on health requirements. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have a proper passport and visa and that no personal circumstances such as a criminal offence or travel to another country will affect your individual visa requirements, and that you have the required vaccinations to gain entry to any country which you are visiting.

Most countries now require passports to be valid for at least 6 months after your return date. If your passport is in its final year, you should check with the Embassy of the country you are visiting. For further information contact the Australian Passport Office (www.passports.gov.au).

Up to date travel advice can be obtained from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, visit www.dfat.gov.au or www.smarttraveller.gov.au.

If you fail to take the necessary steps, we have no liability to you and you will have to pay us any costs which we incur through helping you because of such failure on your part. Further, we are not liable to you for any illness or discomfort you suffer through failure to have required vaccinations or to follow medical advice.

11. Single Traveller Occupancy

We levy a single traveller supplement for those travelling on their own because our contract with hotels is based on a price per room, while our holidays are sold per person including flights and other elements. Therefore, the per person price for a single traveller includes the entire room cost. It is not our intention to penalise anyone who is under occupying the accommodation we provide and we certainly do not make additional or excessive profits from these sales: the price we charge merely reflects the real cost to us. If a hotel is able to offer accommodation designed for single occupancy only, we will normally charge a reduced

supplement, considerably smaller than the one we apply when a single traveller occupies a double room. Allocation of rooms is at the discretion of each individual hotel and not something that we can influence.

12. Dealing with Complaints

We will make every effort to make your holiday as enjoyable and trouble free as possible. Most problems can be sorted out straight away if we know about them. If you have a complaint, you must advise our representatives straight away and the supplier of the service(s) in question. Any verbal notification must be confirmed in writing as soon as possible. You may also contact us directly using the emergency telephone number enclosed with your travel documents. That number will put you in touch with one of our employees who will take all reasonable steps to help you.

If you feel that a complaint has not been dealt with satisfactorily, you must write within 28 days of your return from holiday to: Customer Services Department, PO Box 7327, Alexandria, NSW, 2015, Australia, quoting your booking reference number. We will need to investigate your complaint. An acknowledgement shall be sent no later than 14 days from the date of receipt of correspondence. A detailed reply, or a reply containing a detailed explanation for any delay, shall be sent no later than 28 days from the date of receipt of correspondence. The final date for dealing in full with such correspondence shall be 56 days from the date of receipt of that correspondence. Failure to follow the procedure set out in this section may reduce or even extinguish any right which you may have to compensation.

13. Behaviour

You must not behave in a way which may cause distress or annoyance to others. If, in our opinion or the opinion of any airline personnel, accommodation manager or other person in authority, you are behaving in such a way as to cause danger, distress or annoyance to others or damage to property, your holiday arrangements may be terminated by us or the supplier concerned. In this situation, our liability to you and/or your party will cease and you and/or your party will be required to leave your accommodation or other service immediately. We will not be responsible for making any refunds, paying any compensation or meeting any costs or expenses you incur as a result. You and/or your party may also be required to pay for loss and/or damage caused by your actions and we will hold you and each member of your party jointly and individually liable for any damage or losses caused by you or any member of your party. Full payment for any such damage or losses must be paid directly to the hotel manager or other supplier prior to departure from the hotel. If you fail to make payment, you will be responsible for meeting any claims (including legal costs) subsequently made against us as a result of your actions together with all costs we incur in pursuing any claim against you. We cannot be held responsible for the actions or behaviour of other guests or individuals who have no connection with your booking arrangements or with us.

14. Force Majeure

Except where otherwise expressly stated in these booking conditions we will not be liable or pay you compensation if our contractual obligations to you are affected by any event which we or the supplier(s) of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. These events can include, but are not limited to war, threat of war, civil strife, terrorist activity and its consequences or the threat of such activity, riot, the act of any government or other national or local authority including port or river authorities, industrial dispute, lock closure, natural or nuclear disaster, fire, chemical or biological disaster and adverse weather, sea, ice and river conditions and all similar events outside our or the relevant supplier(s) control. Advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to avoid or leave a particular country may constitute Force Majeure. We will follow the advice given by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

15. Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, we exclude any liability for any loss, death, injury or damage which you may suffer (directly or indirectly) in connection with or arising out of your participation in a holiday that is caused or contributed by:

- the act(s) and/or omission(s) of the person(s) affected;
- the act(s) and/or omission(s) of a third party unconnected with the provision of the services contracted for and which were unforeseeable or unavoidable;
- unusual or unforeseeable circumstances beyond ours or our supplier(s) control, the consequences of which could not have been avoided even if all due care had been exercised; or
- an event which either ourselves, our employees, agents or suppliers and subcontractors could not, even with all due care, have foreseen or forestalled.

You release us and our officers, employees, agents and representatives from any liability and expressly waive any claims you may have against us arising out of or in connection with your participation in a holiday.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, any condition or warranty which would otherwise be implied by law into these booking conditions (Implied Warranty), is excluded. Our liability in respect of an Implied Warranty is limited to (in our absolute discretion): (i) providing you with credit for a holiday of an equivalent value; or (ii) a refund of the total amount received by us from you in connection with your booking.

16. Prompt Assistance In Resort

If the contract we have with you is not performed or is improperly performed as a result of failures attributable to a third party unconnected with the provision of the services, or as a result of failures due to unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control, the consequences of which could not have been avoided even if all due care had been exercised, or an event which we or our suppliers, even with all due care, could not foresee or forestall, and you suffer an injury or other material loss, we will offer you such prompt assistance as is reasonable in the circumstances.

17. Conditions of Suppliers

Many of the services which make up your holiday are provided by independent suppliers. Those suppliers provide these services in accordance with their own terms and conditions which will form part of your contract with us. Some of these terms and conditions may limit or exclude the supplier's liability to you, usually in accordance with applicable International Conventions. Copies of the relevant parts of these terms and conditions are available on request from ourselves or the supplier concerned.

18. Delays and Other Travel Information

If you or any member of your party miss your flight or other transport arrangement, it is cancelled or you are subject to a delay of over 3 hours for any reason, you must contact us and the airline or other transport supplier concerned immediately.

Where you experience a delay which is not owing to any failure by us, we will use reasonable endeavours to assist in locating refreshments, accommodation and communications but we will not pay for them on your behalf. Any airline or other transport supplier may however pay for or provide refreshments and/or appropriate accommodation and you should make a claim directly to them.

Subject to the other terms of these conditions, we will not be liable for any costs, fees or charges you incur in the above circumstances, if you fail to obtain our prior authorisation before making your own travel arrangements.

We cannot accept liability for any delay which is due to any of the reasons set out in section 14 of these booking conditions (which includes the behaviour of any passenger(s) on any flight who, for example, fails to check in or board on time).

The carrier(s), flight timings and types of aircraft shown in this brochure or on our website and detailed on your confirmation invoice are for guidance only and are subject to alteration and confirmation. We shall inform you of the identity of the actual carrier(s) as soon as we become aware of it. The latest flight timings will be shown on your tickets which will be despatched to you approximately two weeks before departure. You should check your tickets very carefully immediately on receipt to ensure you have the correct flight times. If flight times change after tickets have been despatched we will contact you as soon as we can to let you know.

This brochure is our responsibility, as your tour operator. It is not issued on behalf of, and does not commit the airlines mentioned herein or any airline whose services are used in the course of your travel arrangements.

19. Special Requests

Any special requests must be advised to us at the time of booking e.g. diet, room location, a particular facility at a hotel etc. You should then confirm your requests in writing. Whilst every effort will be made by us to try and arrange your reasonable special requests, we cannot guarantee that they will be fulfilled. We will inform the relevant supplier of such request. The fact that a special request has been noted on your confirmation invoice or any other documentation or that it has been passed on to the supplier is not confirmation that the request will be met. Failure to meet any special request will not be a breach of contract on our part unless the request has been specifically confirmed. We do not accept bookings that are conditional upon any special request being met.

20. Disabilities and Medical Problems

We are not a specialist disabled holiday company, but we will do our utmost to cater for any special requirements you may have. If you or any member of your party has any medical problem or disability which may affect your stay, please provide us with full details before we confirm your booking so that we can try to advise you as to the suitability of your chosen arrangements. We may require you to produce a doctor's certificate certifying that you are fit to participate in the tour. Acting reasonably, if we are unable to properly accommodate the needs of the person(s) concerned, we will not confirm your booking or if you did not give us full details at the time of booking, we will cancel it and impose applicable cancellation charges when we become aware of these details.

21. Advance Passenger Information

A number of governments are introducing new requirements for air carriers to provide personal information about all travellers on their aircraft before the aircraft leaves the country of origin. The data will be collected either at the airport when you check in or in some circumstances when, or after, you make your booking. Accordingly, you are advised to allow extra time to check in for international flights.

22. DFAT Advice

You are responsible for making yourself aware of warnings issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in regard to the safety of the countries and areas in which you will be travelling and to make your decisions accordingly. Advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to avoid or leave a particular country may constitute Force Majeure (see section 14).

23. Law & Jurisdiction

These booking conditions and any agreement to which they apply are governed in all respects by the laws of New South Wales, Australia. We both agree that any dispute, claim or other matter which arises between us out of or in connection with your contract or booking will be dealt with by the Courts of New South Wales only.

24. Accuracy of Prices & Information

We endeavour to ensure that all the information and prices both on our website and in our brochures are accurate. However, occasionally changes and errors occur and we reserve the right to correct prices and other details in such circumstances. You must check the current price and all other details relating to the arrangements that you wish to book before your booking is confirmed.

25. Insurance

It is a condition of your contract with us that you have adequate insurance in place. You must be satisfied that your insurance fully covers all your personal requirements including medical expenses, repatriation, helicopter rescue and air ambulance in the event of accident or illness. The insurance cover should extend for the planned duration of the holiday and at least an additional day. If you choose to travel without adequate insurance cover, we will not be liable for any losses howsoever arising, in respect of which insurance cover would otherwise have been available.

The insurance policy and the receipt of premiums paid there under should be provided to us prior to departure. If you join the holiday without adequate insurance you may not be allowed to continue on the holiday, with no right to refund. If circumstances give rise to a claim the client will forthwith pursue his remedies under such policy(ies).

We will also ask you for details of the name, address and telephone numbers of their next of kin or persons to be notified in the event of an emergency.

26. 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 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.

27. Checked Baggage Charges

Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

28. 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.

29. Motorcoach Washrooms

Most motorcoaches used on our tours are equipped with washrooms (except safari vehicles, exotic locations, and on 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.

Travel Professionals please contact:

Retail phone: 1300 792 195

Email: AUSales@collette.com

Groups phone: 1300 062 731

Email: AUGroups@collette.com

Private touring

ANY TOUR, ALL YOURS

Choose any tour and build your guest list of 10 or more travellers — we'll handle the rest. Led by expert Tour Managers — who are highly trained, private touring with Collette is ideal for your own personal group to have enriching experiences, visit must-see sights, and enjoy delicious local flavour.

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1300 552 032



collette

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