# Shore Excursions 2008 WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN



Holland America Line

SE-802

A Signature of Excellence



Make Your Reservations Online

Now you can easily choose your tour times, book your tours and receive confirmation of your shore excursion reservations 24 hours a day. Visit us online at

### www.hollandamerica.com

Book online now, up until five days before sailing. Make your payment online via our secure website, and receive confirmation as well as your approximate tour departure times. You can also download the shore excursions, view tour prices, find answers to frequently asked questions and read general information.

Remember, online shore excursion reservations are processed prior to any requests made on board the ship and receive priority handling.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

At the time of making your reservations online, we will advise you whether or not your reservations are confirmed or whether you have been waitlisted. Your credit card will be charged immediately for all confirmed reservations. Should space become available for a waitlisted shore excursion request, we will e-mail or otherwise contact you at that time and either immediately charge your credit card if you have already given us your credit card information or ask you to provide us with that information for immediate charge processing. Shore excursion reservations are subject to cancellation by us at any time prior to the credit card charge being accepted by your bank. If you or Holland America cancel a tour more than 10 days prior to cruise departure, we will issue a credit on the credit card that you used to pay for the reservation. For any cancellation within 10 days of departure, a credit will not be given on your credit card. Instead, we will apply an ONBOARD CREDIT ONLY policy under which the refund (less any cancellation fee) will show up as a credit to the shipboard account of the person who was to take the shore excursion. If the credit is not fully utilized during the cruise, the balance will be paid to that guest by the ship's Purser.



Frequently Asked Questions

#### WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?

Comfortable walking shoes are recommended for all shore excursions. When you visit places of worship (cathedrals, churches, etc.), we recommend dressing conservatively (shorts and sleeveless sundresses should not be worn), but casual clothing is perfectly acceptable. Dress in layers and have a jacket along. Bring an umbrella or raincoat, a hat and sunscreen.

### WHAT ABOUT MEALS?

Most tour departures complement the ship's meal service hours. In-room dining is available on board.

### HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT TIME EACH TOUR DEPARTS?

The on-board Shore Excursion Order Form in your stateroom will show departure times. This information will also be printed on your shore excursion tickets, which you will receive on board. Approximate tour departure times are posted on our website at www.hollandamerica.com.

### I HAVE A DISABILITY. HOW DO I KNOW WHICH TOURS WILL BEST SUIT ME? WILL I HAVE A PROBLEM (DIS)EMBARKING THE SHIP?

Guests with disabilities should inquire in advance whether a shore excursion will be able to accommodate their needs. We have graded the Shore Excursions according to the relative level of activity they entail. The walking icons that appear at the beginning of each tour description provide a general idea of the level of activity to expect. Please refer to the "Choosing Your Tours" section in this brochure for specific information on the walking icons. It is important to keep in mind that shore excursion operators are subject to the laws of their own country including with respect to accommodating the needs of guests with disabilities. In most foreign countries, the laws are not as stringent as those in the United States. Please speak with the Shore Excursion Office as to whether you can expect to encounter difficulties (dis)embarking the ship in a particular port of call. In this regard, the decision whether or not to carry or provide other mobility assistance to a guest and their mobility assistance

device (wheelchair, walker, etc.) up or down a ship's gangway, or on or off a tender boat, is at the sole discretion of the Captain, made based on his evaluation of guest and crew safety. We encourage you to bring a collapsible wheelchair as space limitations may restrict the ability of some tour operators to accommodate motorized mobility aid devices.

## DO ALL THE PORTS AND TOURS IN THIS BROCHURE PERTAIN TO MY CRUISE?

Not necessarily, as this brochure may cover more than one sailing. Please refer to your cruise itinerary to determine which ports you will visit, then turn to those port sections to see the tours. Not all tours in each port are available on all ships or all cruises.

## ARE THERE ANY OTHER TOURS OFFERED THAT ARE NOT PUBLISHED IN THIS BROCHURE?

Yes, we often add tours to our program after the brochure is published. For additional tours that may now be available in the ports you are visiting, please check our website at www. hollandamerica.com.

### I AM TRAVELING WITH FRIENDS AND WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ON THE SAME MOTOR COACH

The departure location for each shore excursion is printed on your shore excursion tickets. If you wish to travel with friends, please arrive at the designated meeting place together. This will enable the staff to allocate space for you on the same vehicle.

#### TOUR DURATIONS

This brochure is designed to help you select the excursions most suited to your interests. The individual tour descriptions include approximate durations. To allow our Shore Excursion Managers flexibility to coordinate your time in port with meals and activities on the ship, exact departure times are published in the Shore Excursion Order Form on board. For more information, please attend the Shore Excursion Presentation or visit the Shore Excursion Office.

#### TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

Tour descriptions may change after printing. Information that becomes available after this brochure is published will be posted in the Shore Excursions section of our website, which can be found online at www.hollandamerica.com. Significant changes will be noted on the Shore Excursion Order Form on board. Tour schedules are subject to change.



The Collections of Holland America Line

What fascinates you? A cooking class with a local chef? A private car, complete with driver and guide, so you can explore near or far? A chance to encounter wildlife or view natural wonders up close? The Collections of Holland America Line represent a small subset of the shore excursions you will find in this brochure. Each collection offers its own particular focus and is available only in select ports.



### Medallion Collection

A series of exclusive experiences designed to accommodate our most discerning guests, our Medallion Collection tours are each carefully chosen to provide an in-depth perspective.

They offer unparalleled access to events and sights not normally readily available. First-class style, smaller groups, multi-day Overland Adventures—elite activities for a privileged few.



### **Encore** Collection

Been there, done that? Think again. Our Encore Collection, designed especially for repeat guests, lets you discover what lies beyond the well-known attractions you've

already seen. Barbecue with Argentine gauchos, bike the treelined boulevards of Barcelona, ride an Icelandic pony across a windswept beach near Reykjavik. These tours showcase hidden gems, unusual angles and inside stories that will bring you back time and again.



### World Wonders Collection

Natural treasures, architectural marvels, technical wonders: to the Seven Wonders of the World we add our own nominations based

on decades of leadership in global travel—the sandstone city of Petra, the *moai* statues of Easter Island, and the Great Wall of China, among others. What they have in common is the ability to inspire awe.



### Signature Collection

This exclusive touring option for independentminded travelers lets you completely customize and maximize your time ashore by reserving private transportation (along with an English-

speaking driver and guide) in advance. Whether you travel by car or minivan, customized boat, classic floatplane or stretch SUV limousine, you choose the companions, sights and pace that perfectly suit you.

### TO WHOM IS THE SIGNATURE COLLECTION SUITED?

The Signature Collection is for solo travelers, couples, families, friends and special interest groups traveling together. This may also be an excellent choice for non-ambulatory guests. Value and flexibility are just two of the advantages of first-class touring and luxury transportation. Privacy, comfort, safety, and personalized guide service are also yours to enjoy.

### ABOUT THE TRANSPORTATION

Each type of transportation will be of the highest grade available in that port. Not all modes of transportation are available in all locations. For information about the transportation sizes and availability, please see our website at www.hollandamerica.com.

### ALSO INCLUDED

The cost includes the service of a driver and English-speaking guide, unlimited mileage, road tolls, parking fees and bottled water.

### NOT INCLUDED (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

Guests' entrance fees for attractions are not included in the price due to the wide range of attraction possibilities, uncertain number of attractions to be visited, and varying number of guests participating. We strongly recommend that you bring some local currency to cover such costs as credit cards are not readily accepted in some ports. Lunch will not be included on any tour as many guests prefer to select their own dining venue.

#### **ITINERARY PLANNING**

If you need help planning your personal itinerary, the Port Lecturer and/or Shore Excursions Manager can assist you and will gladly answer your questions. This can be very helpful in many destinations where travel time, location, holidays, and opening hours of attractions need to be taken into consideration in order to maximize the efficiency of your time ashore.

### PRICING

The cost of each type of transportation will be published online at www.hollandamerica.com.

### **ONLINE RESERVATIONS**

The fastest and easiest way for you to reserve and pay for your Signature Collection experience is on the Holland America Line website. Visit us online at www.hollandamerica.com. Please note the cost will be per mode of transportation (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to make the reservation. The price shown on the website is the total cost for the transportation, driver and guide (not a per-person price). In many ports, availability is extremely limited. We encourage you to reserve as early as possible.

### **PAYMENT & TOUR VOUCHERS**

Your credit card will be charged after your reservation is confirmed. Next, start planning what you'll do with your Signature Collection experience in each port. On board the ship, you will be given a tour voucher and a form to advise the Shore Excursions Office of the itinerary you have chosen.

#### **BOOKING ON BOARD**

The Signature Collection may be available for booking once you are on the ship, but this cannot be guaranteed. Please check with the Shore Excursions Office on board.

### DISEMBARKING THE SHIP

In some disembarkation ports, a private vehicle, driver and guide can be used for sightseeing en route to the airport. When booking, please advise the total amount of luggage for your party. Vehicle size and luggage space may limit the number of guests in the vehicle.



### How to Choose Your Tours

Choose the shore excursions that interest you by using the icons as a general guide to the level of activity involved, and select the shore excursions best suited to your physical capabilities. These icons will help you interpret this brochure.



**EASY ACTIVITY:** Very light activity including short distances to walk; may include some steps.

**MODERATE ACTIVITY:** Requires intermittent effort throughout, including walking medium distances over uneven surfaces and/or steps.



**STRENUOUS ACTIVITY:** Requires active participation, walking long distances over uneven and steep terrain or on steps. In certain instances, paddling or other non-walking activity is required and guests must be able to participate without discomfort or difficulty breathing.

- PANORAMIC TOURS: Specially designed for guests who enjoy a slower pace, these excursions offer sightseeing mainly from the transportation vehicle, with few or no stops, and no mandatory disembarkation from the vehicle during the tour. As vehicles outside the United States are rarely lift-equipped and ramps are seldom available, a very small amount of walking will be necessary. The pace will be gentle and taking your time is encouraged.
- LIM

**LIMITED CAPACITY:** The number of people able to participate in this tour is strictly limited. Reasons for limiting capacity may include the number of transportation seats available, or the need to maintain a safe ratio of guides for hikes, fishing and water activities. Tours require a minimum number of participants in order to operate.



**MEAL:** This tour includes a meal—lunch on daytime tours, or dinner on evening tours.



**SNACK:** This tour includes a small snack or tasting of local specialties. The snack is not a meal.



Shore Excursion Prices

Prices can be found on our website at www.hollandamerica.com and are quoted in U.S. funds. Prices are subject to change without notice. Prices for children 12 years of age and under are available on some, but not all, tours. If no child's price is published online, the tour may be available to children at the adult rate; however, all children under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult aged 21 or older, regardless of rate. A general guideline to pricing is found under each tour listing with symbols as follows:

\$ - up to \$50USD \$\$ - \$51USD to \$100USD \$\$\$ - \$101USD to \$150USD \$\$\$\$ - more than \$150USD



How to Book More Than One Tour in Each Port

Make the most of your time in each port by combining different half-day tours to complete a full day of sightseeing. You might want to consider a morning cooking class with an afternoon walking tour; a morning stroll through a mosaic-lined church and an afternoon of sampling local wine at a vineyard; or even a bike ride and an evening cultural performance—all in one day! Whatever your interests, and whichever pace suits you best, there's a huge variety of tours to mix and match in this brochure. To make combining easy, for tour departure times and durations, visit our website at www.hollandamerica.com.



The Benefits of Booking With Us

When you book your shore excursions with Holland America Line, you can count on our Signature of Excellence<sup>®</sup> to consistently offer a superior experience ashore:

#### QUALITY

Clean and comfortable transportation equipment; we engage professional independent tour operators dedicated to customer satisfaction.

#### SAFETY

Tour operators have contractually agreed to comply with local government requirements and to carry liability insurance in amounts consistent with local standards to address personal injury and property damage claims.

#### CONVENIENCE

English-speaking guides; tour departure times set to coincide with the ship's schedule as well as with that of other tours so that guests desiring to do so can take multiple tours.

#### PEACE OF MIND

If a tour that you have purchased through Holland America Line returns late to the ship, we will almost never leave without you. In the very rare event that the ship must leave, we will arrange at our expense to get you to the next port of call (with independently booked tours, you are responsible for rejoining the ship at the next port of call).

#### VARIETY

Around the globe, our programs include "A Taste of...", Off the Beaten Track, Panoramic, Medallion, flightseeing and motor coach tours, with such adventures as camel rides, kayaking, diving, rock-climbing, glacier hiking and private vehicle/vessel touring.

#### VALUE

Our award-winning shore excursions offer superior quality and competitive pricing; our guests consistently rate their shore excursion experience as excellent.



Approximately 4 hours • \$\$



For a general introduction to the history of Barcelona, your coach travels through the Barceloneta fishing quarter, up Colon Avenue, and past the Columbus monument. You will enter the upper Eixample area where the Sagrada Familia (Holy Family) Church is located. Take photos of this marvelous structure, unique in both artistic and architectural form. Outside and inside, your guide will show you the church-the most famous of all Gaudí's creations. The tour continues to Güell Park, just 15 minutes away. The park is a unique representation of Gaudí's imagination and work. Return to the city along the Passeig de Gracia, Barcelona's widest avenue, with many Modernist buildings designed by Gaudí and other important architects of the time. A stop will be made at La Pedrera, also known as Casa Milá, to enjoy from outside one of the masterpieces of Gaudí's art. End your tour with an understanding of the special relationship between Gaudí, the architect, and the city.

### Panoramic Barcelona



#### Approximately 2 - 21/2 hours • \$

This panoramic drive-through is an ideal overview of Barcelona. From your motor coach you'll head to the scenic viewpoint of Montjuïc Mountain for photos, then continue through the city, along Passeig de Gracia—the wide boulevard that connects the Gothic Quarter to the district of Gracia. Watch for the Spanish Village, the Olympic Stadium, the Columbus Monument and the modernist church of La Sagrada Familia.

# Picasso & the Gothic Quarter

#### Approximately 31/2 hours • \$\$

Embark on a journey through the narrow streets of Barcelona's Gothic Quarter. See St. James' Square—home to the Town Hall and the buildings of the Catalán government. In the Gothic Quarter, you will stroll to the Gothic church of Santa Maria del Mar. Continue to the Picasso Museum, only a five-minute walk away, situated in beautifully preserved Gothic palaces. The collection of Picasso's work features some of his schoolbook sketches and works from his early days in Barcelona and Paris. *Please note: Not available on Sunday afternoons or Mondays.* 

# Girona, Figueres & the Dalí Museum



A 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-hour drive north from Barcelona brings you to Girona the "immortal city" full of rich historic treasures. Visit the Jewish Quarter and walk to the Isaac el Cec Jewish Center and the Municipal Cultural Center. Step inside at the Arab Baths with their beautiful arches. Your motor coach will take you to Figueres for lunch before you stop at the Dalí Museum. The Theatre-Museum at Figueres was built by Dalí himself, and is where his first exhibition was held. Inside, you will find a huge collection of art, including the *Rainy Taxi*, as well as the crypt where Dalí is buried, the Sala Mae West (a scenography of a living room, which turns into the face of Mae West through an optical illusion), and a portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

## A Discovery Walk in Barcelona

Approximately 21/2 hours (varies slightly) • \$

The best way to get acquainted with any historic city is on foot. With lightweight audio players and a detailed map, this program offers an easy walking tour of the ancient cobblestone streets and historic sights of Barcelona's famous Gothic Quarter. The audio player is yours for the day, so you can spend as much time as you'd like, or as little, at each spot. And since there are no schedules to keep, you are free to have a meal, take a break for refreshments, or spend time shopping whenever you want. A stereo i-pod that is worn comfortably around your neck as you explore Barcelona's historic sights. The player's headsets or earpieces allow you to listen to all the facts and history of this memorable city while walking through the streets at your own pace. Simply consult the customized map to find each location and then go to the indicated number on the player for a detailed description of the site and its history. Follow the suggested route or set out on your own adventure, moving about the city with ease thanks to your map and audio directions. There are more

than 30 points of interest programmed into the player, so your exploration of Barcelona's ancient Gothic Quarter is limited only by your personal wishes. From the city's most famous promenade, the lively Las Ramblas, to the beauty and majesty of Barcelona's Cathedral and its cloisters, your stroll through the Gothic Quarter will be the highlight of your visit to this vibrant and historic city.

Please note: Present photo ID (such as a driver's license) when picking up your i-pod. Duration of tour depends on personal preference. Transportation to the starting point is at your own expense.

# Barcelona Sights & Flamenco Show

Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Enjoy a driving tour of Barcelona and a spicy flamenco dance demonstration. Your guide will point out the main highlights of this charming city, beginning with the old Gothic Quarter. From there, you will be driven up the Passeig de Gracia. This street showcases many of the city's Modernist buildings-some designed by the famous architect Antoni Gaudí who died a pauper but today is immortalized through his architecture. You'll stop at Gaudí's Sagrada Familia Church with its monstrous towers, then the coach will continue to the Plaza España and Montjuïc, site of the 1992 Olympic Games. Step into the Pueblo Español (a composite reproduction of some of the prettier villages of Spain) for an introduction to traditional Spanish village life. You'll also enjoy a 30-minute Flamenco dance performed by four stylish, professional artists. Savor the cultural show as you taste dry Spanish wine or the tangy local sangria along with snacks.

# Flamenco with Dinner

Approximately 3 hours with drinks • \$\$\$

Enjoy a dinner of mixed seafood at a leading Andalusian restaurant before an exciting performance of Spanish dance. Flamenco is an artform that originated in Andalusia and comprises three elements, the song (*el cante*), the dance (*el baile*) and the guitar (*el toque*). Among the gypsies of Andalusia it was an used as an expression of poverty, oppression and personal grief. Over time, Flamenco has also become a means of expressing happiness as it incorporated elements of Spanish music in lighter forms (*alegrias, bulerias, fandangos*). Contemporary Spaniards have re-established an interest in Flamenco as a commercial form of music and, although some regard this as having stifled the intimacy and spontaneity of Flamenco, it has undoubtedly opened up the art to a wider audience. You will watch in fascination as the elements of this exotic, provocative, flamboyant dance are performed for you and you will see classical Flamenco booming once again.

## A Taste of Barcelona: A Tapas Tour



Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Enjoy a brief orientation tour of Barcelona with a stop in the Gothic quarter, where you can admire outside views of the Cathedral, and at Gaudí's church of La Sagrada Familia. At two different bars in the heart of the Paseo de Gracia, you will experience literally a "taste of Barcelona," sampling two traditional *tapas* washed down with a drink. Then, you will have free time to browse in the shops before returning to the ship.

*Please note: Tastings will vary depending on the fresh products available seasonally.* 

## Barcelona by Bicycle



Approximately 21/2 - 3 hours • \$\$\$

This bike tour offers a different way to discover Barcelona's squares, monuments, beaches and people, in a city that has over 100 kilometers of bicycle lanes and an extensive pedestrian old town. You'll pedal about five miles through the old town and along the sea front, with a stop at the harbor. Pass by the Ciudadela Park, the Arc de Triomf, Palau de la Música Catalana (a Modernist building), the Cathedral, Plaça del Rei, St. Jaume Square, Plaça Reial, Plaça del Pi, the Ramblas shopping street, Plaça dels Àngels, the statue of Columbus, the Old Port, the beaches and the Olympic village. The terrain is flat and is suitable for all ages.

*Please note: Tour not recommended for children aged 12 and under. Sports clothing and sunglasses are recommended.* 

### **Barcelona Highlights Options**

This tour can be taken by guests who are returning to the ship (Option A), <u>and</u> by guests whose cruise ends in Barcelona and are transferring to the airport (Option B).

### A. Barcelona Highlights



Approximately 4 hours • \$\$ (for guests returning to the ship)

Enjoy a driving tour of Barcelona. Your guide will point out all the highlights beginning with the 13th-century cathedral located in the Gothic Quarter, and you'll step inside to admire the interior. From there, you will drive up the Passeig de Gracia. This street showcases many of the city's Modernist buildings—some designed by architect Antoni Gaudí. You'll stop at Gaudí's Sagrada Familia Church, then the coach will continue to the Plaza España and Montjuïc, site of the 1992 Olympic Games.

## B. Barcelona Highlights with Airport Transfer

Approximately 4 hours • (for guests transferring to Barcelona Airport) With prepaid transfer voucher – \$\$ Without prepaid transfer voucher – \$\$

Take the Barcelona Highlights tour as described above. Then, you will transfer to Barcelona Airport, where you will be reunited with your luggage in time for check in.

Please note: This option is available only to guests whose flight leaves Barcelona at 3:00pm or later.

### **Montserrat Monastery**

This tour can be taken by guests who are returning to the ship (Option A), <u>and</u> by guests whose cruise ends in Barcelona and are transferring to the airport (Option B).

### **A. Montserrat Monastery**



Approximately 4 hours • \$\$ (for guests returning to the ship) Ride by coach to the Montserrat Mountain Ridge, six miles long, three miles wide and 4,050 feet high. This peculiar mountain range is the site of the monastery where people come to worship *La Moreneta*—the black Madonna who is the patron-virgin of Catalonia. On a natural platform at 2,380 feet above sea level, you will visit the Benedictine Monastery, founded in the 11th century. The Benedictine community now numbers 80 monks, and has served the shrine for almost a thousand years, dedicated to a life of prayer, work and welcoming pilgrims. Montserrat is also home to the Escolans—the oldest boys' choir in Europe.

*Please note: The drive to Montserrat is 60 minutes each way. An initial panoramic tour of Barcelona will be traffic permitting. Be prepared for long lines at the monastery.* 

# B. Montserrat Monastery with Airport Transfer

Approximately 4 hours  $\bullet$  (for guests transferring to Barcelona Airport) With prepaid transfer voucher – \$ Without prepaid transfer voucher – \$\$

Take the Montserrat Monastery tour as described above. Then, you will transfer to Barcelona Airport, where you will be reunited with your luggage in time for check in.

*Please note: This option is available only to guests whose flight leaves Barcelona at 3:00pm or later.* 

## Essence of Bodegas Torres

Approximately 31/2 hours • \$\$

This tour will take you to visit one of the most important Spanish cellars, Bodegas Torres, situated in Vilafranca del Penedes between Barcelona and Tarragona. Tradition and quality are the essence of Bodegas Torres-a family-owned company linked with wine for more than three centuries. In 1870, the Torres family founded their first winery, and generation after generation has understood the importance of respecting traditions and maintaining quality. Bodegas Torres now trades in more than 120 countries and owns 1,350 hectares and 111 pagos or delimited vineyards, where specific kind of wines are developed. During your tour, you will gain an appreciation of what wine culture means to Bodegas Torres, from planting the vineyards to wine-making, to the aging of the wine in the cellars and to the design and marketing of Torres packaging and products. A tasting of five different wines (white, rosé and red) and an aperitif will be offered. You can buy some wine if you like.



On all tours to Rome an escort accompanies each bus, but the official tour guide will met upon arrival in Rome.

### Signature Collection Private Car or Minivan

Approximately 4 or 8 hours Car – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle Minivan – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle

Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. Please see pages 6 - 8 for more details.

*Please note: Entrance fees and meals are not included. Bring local currency as credit cards may not be widely accepted.* 

### Approximately 11 hours • \$\$\$\$

The Vatican's Sacred Scenes

Depart Civitavecchia's pier for a drive to the Eternal City of Rome. Spend the morning with free time in the historical center for shopping, browsing and lunch on your own. Then, get ready for a unique experience: a private Vatican tour. You will begin at the Porta di Bronzo, the Bronze Gate, and you will immediately see many outstanding Bernini masterpieces, including a somber statue of the Emperor Constantine. A graceful Bernini staircase leads to the entrance of the magnificent Royal Room. Adorned with paintings by Vasari and Raphael, this private papal chamber is a fitting site for the Pope's meetings with international Heads of State. It is from this room that he appears on the Balcony of Blessings to bless the crowds in St. Peter's Square. At another "off limits" balcony in this same room, you can enjoy a superb view of the nave of St. Peter's, from a papal vantage point! Next, by special permission, you will have the unusual privilege of visiting the Pope's private place of worship, the Paolina Chapel. The

Italy

Civitavecchia,







Chapel contains two important works by Michelangelo which are not normally seen by visitors—The Conversion of St. Paul and The Crucifixion of St. Peter. The Chapel also offers an intimate and dramatic view of the Sistine Chapel. Within the Sistine Chapel itself, you will be dazzled by Michelangelo's breathtaking frescoes, restored to their original colors and full glory. The effect is absolutely stunning! To conclude your private showing, you will have the rare opportunity to see the Papal Treasures carefully preserved clothing, richly adorned vestments, precious jewels, hundreds of priceless gifts presented over the centuries by kings and queens and Heads of State, and incomparable objects of art created for the Renaissance Popes by Bernini and Cellini.

### Eternal Rome & a Private Visit to the Vatican



Approximately 12 hours • \$\$\$\$

Drive 90 minutes to the heart of Rome, passing St. Paul's Basilica, the Pyramid of Caius Cestius, Circus Maximus and stopping at the Trevi Fountain. Walk to Piazza Venezia (Venice Square), along Imperial Forum Avenue and then stop for a view of the Roman Forum. On the far side, you'll see the Colosseum and the Arch of Constantine. After lunch, drive to the Vatican State and step through the embrace of Bernini's spectacular colonnades to the vast expanse of St. Peter's Square. Enter Christendom's largest church—St. Peter's Basilica. Then, after it is closed to the public, explore the richest storehouse of art in the world in the Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel, whose glorious ceilings will leave you in awe.

Please note: Dress respectfully for visiting religious monuments, covering knees and shoulders. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Tour requires approximately two miles of walking over uneven surfaces with extended periods of standing and about 50 steps. Not available Sundays and Catholic holidays.

## A Papal Audience at the Vatican

#### Approximately 111/2 hours • \$\$\$\$

Here is a once-in-a-lifetime experience—to be in the audience for a blessing from the Pope, and still have time to see some of Rome's famous highlights. Relax on a 90-minute motor coach journey to the Vatican. From the parking area, you will walk to your reserved seat. At approximately 10:15am, Pope Benedict XVI will appear and bless the audience, speaking for approximately 1½ hours. After this amazing experience you will re-board your motor coach and drive to a local restaurant for a typical Italian lunch. Then, venture into the Via Veneto area for approximately two hours of free time for shopping or exploring Rome on your own. Meet your escort for an orientation drive of the Eternal City, through the Borghese Gardens and along Via Veneto to Barberini Square with its Triton Fountain. At Piazza Venezie you will see the monument to King Victor Emanuel II. Drive by the Forum, the Colosseum, Circus Maximus and Palatine Hill where the Roman Emperors resided. Pass through St. Paul's Gate and glimpse the Pyramid of Caius Cestius on the way back to the ship.

Please note: This excursion is only available on Wednesdays. The Audience will be held either in St. Peter's Square or in the Aula Paolo VI, depending upon weather conditions. You will arrive early to avoid lines and crowds, so there will be some waiting. Dress respectfully for the Audience, with knees and shoulders covered. Comfortable shoes, water, a hat and sunscreen are recommended.

### Highlights of Rome



Approximately 10 - 101/2 hours • \$\$\$\$

In the Eternal City, enter the vast expanse of St. Peter's Square through Bernini's Colonnade, and step into Christendom's largest church—St. Peter's Basilica. In the apse is the splendid gilt and bronze throne, also designed by Bernini. Take time to see the Pièta—Michelangelo's masterpiece in white marble. Leaving the Vatican, drive along the Tiber River, passing Aventine Hill for a view of the imposing remains of the Imperial Palaces and the Circus Maximus. Pass by the Forum where vestiges of the Roman Empire remain. Visit the Colosseum and drive by Venice Square, the heart of Rome with its flamboyant memorial to King Victor Emanuel. Stop at the Trevi Fountain where king Neptune's Tritons guard the sparkling waters of Rome's most beloved monument. Toss in a coin to ensure your return to the Eternal City! A typical Italian lunch will be served before some free time for shopping or to continue sightseeing on your own.

Please note: Dress respectfully for visiting religious monuments,

covering knees and shoulders. This tour does not visit the Vatican Museum or the Sistine Chapel.

# Italian Countryside & Catacombs

Approximately 9 hours • \$\$\$\$

In Rome you will visit the Catacombs-a curious underground maze of tunnels where the early Christians, persecuted by the Romans, practiced their religion in secret. In the Roman Hills lies a wealth of beautiful countryside. You will follow the Appian Way, one of the first ancient Roman military roads into the countryside dotted with farmhouses, villas and palaces. In Rome's wine growing hinterland, you will stop at Montegiove Farm House. The Count Raimondo Moncada will introduce you to the history of his noble family before an aperitif on the terrace overlooking the Tyrrheanian Sea and the beaches of Anzio and Nettuno-theatres of the American Landing during World War II. Enjoy a typical local brunch in the farmhouse with homemade wine from the farm. After brunch, drive through the lovely towns of Genzano and Ariccia to Lake Albano in the crater of an extinct volcano. Free time is allowed in medieval Castelgandolfo, where the Popes have kept their summer residence for centuries.

# Panoramic Rome & St. Peter's Basilica

Approximately 9 hours • \$\$\$\$

Travel to the center of the Eternal City, with a drive past its most famous highlights: the pyramid of Caius Cestius, Circus Maximus, Palatine Hill, the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, Venice Square, Piazza Barberini, Via Veneto and the Borghese Gardens. Crossing the Tiber River, you will enter the Vatican City for a visit to St. Peter's Basilica. Pass through Bernini's awesome colonnade and step into this massive basilica that lies at the heart of Roman Catholicism. It houses Michelangelo's *Pièta*, one of the most famous sculptures in the world. Outside, you'll see the impressive square which, on special occasions, is filled with people from around the world. Enjoy lunch and free time before returning to the ship.

*Please note: Dress respectfully for visiting religious monuments, covering knees and shoulders.* 

## Etruscan Treasures: Tarquinia & Tuscania



Approximately 81/2 - 9 hours • \$\$\$

Begin your tour with a drive to Tarquinia, founded in the 7th century BC, and now known as a magnificent Etruscan burial ground. You will see the Palazzo Vitelleschi, an excellent example of early Renaissance architecture, and visit the Archeological Museum which houses the remains of the mysterious Etruscan population. Visit the Necropolis which contains thousands of tombs dating from the 6th to the 1st century BC, many of which have not yet been explored. At Lake Bolsena, you will have lunch in a lovely restaurant. This lake is situated in the northern Lazio region, and is mainly fed by rainwater. On the fertile shores, in addition to oak and chestnut woods, there are farms of olives, grapes and vegetables. Tuscania village is located on a plateau nearby, above the river Marta, and is one of the oldest towns of Italy-a cradle of the Etruscan civilization from 900 - 700 BC. Take a walk in the medieval city center and admire two great Paleo-Christian basilicas built in the 9th century, which are still well-preserved. The ancient walls lend an air of serenity to this charming place.

Please note: This tour is not available on Mondays.



Approximately 11 hours • \$\$\$\$

Today you will follow in the footsteps of Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck in the famous romantic fairytale movie *Roman Holiday*. Begin with a walk to the Spanish Steps, then continue on foot to the Trevi Fountain, where you will toss in a coin to ensure your return to Rome. Reach the Pantheon and enjoy a delicious Italian *gelato* ice cream just like Princess Ana did. After this short stop, continue to the Campo De'Fiori area, where you will have some free time to stroll around the open-air souvenir market. Meet your bus nearby and head for the beautiful Palazzo Brancaccio—the last Roman Patrician Palace built in 1880 in the heart of the Eternal City. Located on Colle Oppio, the ancient Roman hill near Emperor Nero's Domus Aurea, between the Colosseum and the famous Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, it stands in a beautiful old park among Roman ruins, centuries-old plants and fountains, pine trees, palms and laurels. Here you can admire the small but charming Hunting Lodge, full of rich decorations. In the palace you'll find enchanting banquet rooms where Princess Mary Elisabeth Brancaccio gave sumptuous parties. *Roman Holiday* was filmed inside the halls of the Palazzo Brancaccio. Within the magnificent rooms of the Palazzo, a traditional Italian lunch will be served, and here you will also see the original Vespa that took Princess Ana and her beloved journalist around the Eternal City! After lunch, you will drive past the Colosseum and catch a glimpse of the Roman Forum before reaching the "Mouth of the Truth" which, according to legend, will bite your hand off if you lie. Lastly, board your coach for the return trip to Civitavecchia, full of special memories to be treasured forever.

### **Transfer to Rome**



### Approximately 10 hours • \$\$

This transfer is intended for those who would like to explore on their own. It consists of a motor coach ride from the ship to the city. You will be dropped off at a central location, and your escort will advise you of the pick-up time for the return journey.

Please note: Guide service, taxi transfers, entrance fees and lunch are not included in the transfer price. It will be your responsibility to be at the drop-off point at the given return time. An Englishspeaking escort will be aboard the transfer motor coach to answer questions before arrival in Rome.

### A Glimpse of Rome with Airport Transfer

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44

Approximately 4 hours • \$\$\$

Depart Civitavecchia and head to the Eternal City by motor coach. In Rome you will drive through the lovely Borghese Gardens, then along Via Veneto—Rome's famous, elegant and outrageously expensive shopping street—with the most fashionable sidewalk cafés, luxury shops and up-market hotels. Drive through Piazza Barberini with the Triton Fountain, and past the Roman Forum, the Colosseum (the most Roman of Imperial Monuments), the Circus Maximus (where chariot races took place during the Roman Empire, immortalized in *Ben Hur*), and Palatine Hill with the Residence of Roman Emperors. Pass through St. Paul's Gate and watch for the Pyramid of Caius Cestius. Continue on the old Ostiense Way to St. Paul's Basilica where you will have 30 minutes free time for a visit. End your tour with a drive to the airport.

Please note: Available only to guests with flights at 3pm or later.



All guests must carry a passport to go on tour. Photocopies are not accepted.

### Signature Collection Private Car, Minivan or Yacht



Approximately 4 or 8 hours Car – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle Minivan – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle Yacht – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per yacht

Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle or vessel, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. Please see pages 6 - 8 for more details.

*Please note: Entrance fees and meals are not included. Bring local currency as credit cards may not be widely accepted.* 

# Panoramic Konavle

Approximately 3 hours • \$\$

This tour is specially designed for guests with limited mobility. Enjoy the opportunity to see the Dubrovnik region at a relaxed pace. Thanks to the Rebuild Dubrovnik Fund, this marvelous city has been reclaimed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Even a glance at it from the panoramic viewpoint will reveal its character and charm. A 60-minute drive south of Dubrovnik through the Konavle Region will bring you to the old watermill where a local inhabitant will explain a traditional way of flour making. Enjoy a welcome with local brandy in front of the old water mill and a snack of local delicacies and wine.

### A Cultural Evening in Dubrovnik



Approximately 3 hours • \$\$\$

Many facets of Dubrovnik's cultural life are united in the historical Old Town. Meet an internationally acclaimed artist and enjoy a classical music concert in a medieval church. The Rector's Palace was once the seat of Government of the independent Republic of Dubrovnik (abolished by Napoleon in 1808), and today houses a collection of paintings, furniture and medieval weapons. Dubrovnik House is situated next to historical tower of St. Dominic. Your visit to the Dubrovnik House is hosted by one of Dubrovnik's artists whose work is on display. Browse a classical array of paintings and Dubrovnik souvenirs while enjoying two types of local brandy, liqueurs, Arancini (sweet oranges), Limuncini (sweet lemons), caramelized almonds and quince candy. View the Dominican Monastery and walk to the Church of St. Saviour. In this church, you will be treated to a 40-minute classical quartet concert consisting of pieces composed by Croatian and international composers.

## Dubrovnik & Croatia's Countryside



Approximately 61/2 hours • \$\$\$\$

Thanks to the Rebuild Dubrovnik Fund, this marvelous city has been reclaimed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enter the city through the Pile Gate and visit the amazing courtyard of the Sponza Palace, known for its elaborate stone carvings. You'll see the Dominican church and monastery, and view the outside of the Rector's Palace. In the Konavle region, a 45minute drive south of Dubrovnik, spend an afternoon in an idyllic natural setting. At the Konavoski Dvori Restaurant, perfectly situated in an old water mill next to the Ljuta River, lunch on traditional delicacies. Local red and white wines, as well as bottled water, are included. Return to Dubrovnik for a brief shopping stop in the Gruz Harbor area.



Approximately 31/2 hours • \$\$

From a scenic view point, take in a magnificent view over Dubrovnik and its Riviera, then a pleasant drive leads along the coastline and through the picturesque villages of the green and fertile Konavle valley. You are headed to Cavtat, with a palmlined seashore and numerous cafés. During a short stop here, walk along the beautiful seafront promenade. Now, your coach will return you to Dubrovnik's Ploce Square at the eastern entrance to the Old Town. A refreshment will be served before you watch a performance including regional costumes, songs and dances from various Croatian provinces.

*Please note: The tour includes a walk between the Ploce Square and Pile Square of approximately 2,000 feet over a paved area.* 

# Historic Dubrovnik

Approximately 31/2 hours • \$\$

"Those who seek paradise on Earth," George Bernard Shaw once wrote, "should come to Dubrovnik"—a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Drive by coach to the view point south of town, then cross the stone bridge to walk down the broad, stone-paved avenue known as the Stradun. It is the city's main artery, lined with graceful stone palazzi where people both work and live. Your visit will include the cathedral (1667) and the Dominican monastery, with its unique collection of baroque paintings. See the Sponza Palace which is notable for its column courtyard with elaborate stone carvings, and the Rector's Palace and Onofriou's Fountain will be viewed from the outside. Enjoy free time for shopping or browsing in the Old Town.

*Please note: Audio headsets will be used to enhance the experience on this tour.* 

### Kolorina Sea Kayaking



Approximately 31/2 hours • \$\$\$

Your kayaking adventure will start with a coach ride to Pile Square, just in front of the Old Town of Dubrovnik, and after a short walk you will find yourself at Kolorina Bay where the fun starts! Following brief introduction, your instructor will lead you under the Lovrijenac Fortress and the southern parts of the City Walls towards the island of Lokrum and to the Betina Beach where you will have time for snorkeling. A snack will be served at the Betina Beach. Your tour will end with a coach ride back to the ship.

Please note: Wear your swimsuit and bring a towel.

# Cultural Dubrovnik

Approximately 7 hours • \$\$\$\$

Explore the old town of Dubrovnik, entering the 13th-century city via the Pile Gate. See the Sponza Palace with its elegant courtyard and elaborate stone carvings, the Dominican church and monastery, the Rector's Palace and the Church of St. Blaise. Walk along the city's main thoroughfare, whose graceful stone *palazzi* house shops and residences. Just 30 minutes away, visit the small town of Cavtat, with a palm-lined seashore and numerous cafés. Take a short walk along the beautiful seafront promenade. Next is the Glavic House—a traditional family home in the Konavle region, producing brandy, wine and olive oil. Enjoy a lunch of traditional Croatian specialities, locally produced wines, brandy, and delicious desserts as local musicians entertain you.





Approximately 71/2 - 8 hours • \$\$\$

Calling all wine-lovers and connoisseurs! Drive along the spectacular Adriatic coast west of Dubrovnik passing the Elaphite archipelago and villages along the coast. The first stop is at Ston, where a spectacular 13th-century defensive wall surrounds the town and continues high up into the mountains. Don't miss the ancient saltpans that are still in use today. Continue past beautiful vineyards and small villages to the Peljesac Peninsula. You'll visit the cellar of the Milos family—famous for their vineyards in Ponikve. Taste some of the wines produced here, including red wines named Plavac and Fatiga. After the cellar visit, you will stop at the home of the Bartulovic family, for a typical local lunch. En route back to Dubrovnik there will be a short stop in the small town of Slano.



Approximately 3 - 31/2 hours • \$\$

This is a unique opportunity to explore Dubrovnik inside and out. Enjoy a panoramic sail from the modern harbor, along the coast to the ancient harbor of the walled city, and dock in the Old Port as mariners have been doing for centuries. Along the way, you will be entertained by a group of musicians playing a medley of Dalmatian and international songs. Sip on a welcome drink of *prossecco*, or domestic herbal brandy. Disembark in the historical Old Town and spend some time exploring the city on your own. You will have time for dinner in one of many local restaurants if you wish. Return to the ship will be by motor coach.

Please note: Dinner is not included in the tour price.

## Konavle Biking



Approximately 4 hours • \$\$\$

Your tour begins with a drive eastward through the lovely countryside of Zupa Dubrovacka (the Parish of Dubrovnik) and the picturesque villages of Kupari, Srebreno, Mlini and Plat. Take in the scenery of the Konavle Valley, Croatia's southernmost region, shaped by the hills bordering Bosnia and Herzegovina in the north and northeast. Steep cliffs, coves and capes extend from Prevlaka and Molunat in the far south to Cavtat. This area of 33 villages is renowned for its traditional stone architecture, lush greenery and, above all, for its rich cultural tradition in handicrafts. The prosperity of this fertile farming area and bountiful oasis were fostered by strong ties to the Republic of Dubrovnik. Its name comes from the Latin canales, due to numerous channels providing potable water from Vodovadja village to Cavtat. Your biking adventure begins in the village of Gruda, located in the center of the valley. You will ride over dirt roads and through the picturesque Konavle fields, abundant with vineyards, olive groves and orchards, crossing the bridges over the Konavocica and Ljuta Rivers. Stop on the river bank for photos and refreshments.



### Katákolon, Greece

### **Signature Collection** Private Car or Minivan



Approximately 4 or 8 hours Car - half day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. Please see pages 6 - 8 for more details.

Please note: Entrance fees and meals are not included. Bring local currency as credit cards may not be widely accepted.

### Ancient Olympia with Village, Zorba, **Museum, & Vineyard Options**

The small fishing village of Katákolon is your gateway to the mystical site of ancient Olympia, 25 miles to the east. The sanctuary of Olympia has the appearance of a park, and as you step back 2,000 years into the past, imagine the area crowded with athletes, orators, merchants and philosophers surrounding the Temple of Zeus with its forty-foot statue of the god, the ruins of which you will see today. It's easy to imagine the roar of the spectators as the athletes took their marks on the marble starting blocks, and to picture the temples, treasuries, porticoes and statues as they were. After your visit to Olympia, choose from the three options A - D below to complete your tour:

### A. Ancient Olympia & Village



Approximately 31/2 - 4 hours • \$\$

Visit Olympia as outlined above, then stop briefly in Olympia village before returning to Katákolon port.

Please note: Bring sunscreen and a hat as shade is limited. Expect dense crowding and congestion at the site.



Approximately 31/2 - 4 hours • \$\$

Visit Olympia as outlined above, then proceed to Katákolon. Enjoy a refreshment on the seafront as you are entertained by the sights and sounds of Greek music and Zorba dancing. At the end of the tour, return to the ship by bus or stroll through the village.

*Please note: Bring sunscreen and a hat as shade is limited. Expect dense crowding and congestion at the site.* 

### C. Ancient Olympia





Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Visit Olympia as outlined above, then you will take the short walk to the newly renovated museum. The exhibits here are findings from the excavations at the site. The most prized exhibit is a 4th century Parian marble statue of Hermes of Praxitelis, a masterpiece of classical sculpture from the Temple of Hera. Other exhibits to visit are a sculptured head of Hera and the pediments and metopes from the Temple of Zeus.

*Please note: Bring sunscreen and a hat as shade is limited. Expect dense crowding at the site. Museum is closed Monday mornings.* 

## D. Ancient Olympia & Mercouri's Vineyards

### Approximately 41/2 hours • \$\$\$

Visit Olympia as outlined above, then you will continue to the Mercouri Estate, known not only for its wines of supreme quality but also for its magnificent location. This is the area where the Refosco grape was first planted after being imported from Italy. In 1930, the Mercouris built a modern winery and distillery, updated again in 1990 with the latest technology. You are invited to experience the beauty and charm of the vineyards, to see the old and new wineries, and also to have a taste of the locally produced wines.

*Please note: Bring sunscreen and a hat as shade is limited. Expect dense crowding and congestion at the site.* 

### Mercouri's Vineyard & Winery



Approximately 21/2 hours • \$\$



After a short drive through picturesque villages and unspoiled scenery, you will arrive at the Mercouri Estate, known not only for its wines of supreme quality but also for its magnificent location. This is the area where the Refosco grape was first planted after being imported from Italy. In 1930, the Mercouris built a modern winery and distillery, updated again in 1990 with the latest technology. You are invited to experience the beauty and charm of the vineyards, to see the old and new winery, and also to have a taste of the locally produced wine.



Kerkira, Corfu, Greece

### Signature Collection Private Car or Minivan



Approximately 4 or 8 hours Car – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle Minivan – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle

Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. Please see pages 6 - 8 for more details.

*Please note: Entrance fees and meals are not included. Bring local currency as credit cards may not be widely accepted.* 





Approximately 7 hours • \$\$\$\$

You will depart the port of Corfu on a hydrofoil headed for the Albanian port of Saranda. Here you will board a coach and travel to the ancient town of Butrint. Ancient Butrint was an important Greco-Roman port city, and is now an impressive UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was inhabited continuously from the 7th century BC until it was abandoned in the 18th century AD. Its impressive walls are reminiscent of ancient Mycenae in Greece, but its most noteworthy excavated remains are early Hellenistic and Roman. Of special interest is the circular baptistry dating from the 6th century AD, paved with mosaics. Enjoy lunch in Saranda then proceed to the port to embark the hydrofoil for the return trip to Corfu. Upon arrival in Corfu town, take a scenic drive through Corfu town, where your guide will tell you about the history of this charming town before you return to the vessel.

### Palaces of Corfu



Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Pass through the main part of the town and head out into Corfu's lush and verdant countryside of olive, orange and lemon trees. Your destination is the village of Gastouri, where you will visit Achillion-the mansion built by the Empress Elisabeth of Austria and later owned by Kaiser Wilhelm II. Its beautiful gardens and statues have been left intact for visitors to admire. Continue to Kanoni for a distant view of the convent of Vlacherna and Mouse Island. Next, visit the Mon Repo Palace, built in 1828 for the second British Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, Sir Frederic Adam in 1828. It was then utilized as the summer residence of the High Commissioner, while the official residence was the Palace of St. Michael and St. George in Corfu itself. The second son of King George I, George II was born here in 1869. The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip was born and baptized here in 1921. The Greek Royal family spent their summer holidays at Mon Repo, hosting their guests (Tito of Yugoslavia, Haile Selasie of Ethiopia, Nasser of Egypt). At the end of your visit you will return to the port.

Achillion, Kanoni & Corfu



#### Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Pass through the main part of the town and head out into Corfu's lush and verdant countryside of olive, orange and lemon trees. Your destination is the village of Gastouri, where you will visit the Achillion—the mansion built by the Empress Elisabeth of Austria and later owned by Kaiser Wilhelm II. Its beautiful gardens and statues have been left intact for visitors to admire. Continue to Kanoni for a distant view of the convent of Vlacherna and Mouse Island. Return to town by a different route and take a walk through the narrow streets of the old district. Stop at beautiful St. Spiridon church before returning to the ship.

## Achillion Palace & Private Villa



Approximately 5 hours • \$\$\$\$

Take a scenic drive through Corfu Town, passing the Old Fortress, Cricket Square, the Palace of St. George and St. Michael and its elegant arcade buildings. The tour will then continue to the one-hundred-year-old Achillion Palace built by the Empress Elizabeth of Austria, adorned with fabulous statuary and mementos of its former owners. Enjoy sweeping views of the countryside, then make a special visit to a beautifully renovated private villa. With warm hospitality, the owner welcomes you to a traditional luncheon, served with refreshments, wine or *ouzo*.

*Please note: Weather permitting, you may use the pool located in the beautiful garden. Bring your swimsuit and a towel.* 

# Paleokastritsa & Corfu

Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

This excursion leaves the port and heads to Paleokastritsa perhaps the most picturesque resort on the island, with fine beaches, wooded hills and crystal-clear sheltered bays pierced by black rocks. Visit Paleokastritsa's monastery, founded in 1226, with a beautiful church. Shady archways and lovely gardens enhance the restful atmosphere. Continuing on, a stop will be made at Kanoni—with old cannons still in position. Enjoy a

Please note: This tour is not available on Mondays.

magnificent view across the bay to the convent of Vlacherna and Mouse Island. Now head back to Corfu Town for a walking tour. You will visit the Church of St. Spiridon, the patron saint of the island, which contains a priceless collection of icons. Passing narrow, balconied streets and Parisian archways, you come across the Town Hall and the Cricket Square which is still used today.

# Kickin' Corfu! A Four-Wheel-Drive Adventure

#### Approximately 41/2 hours • \$\$\$

Get behind the wheel of a four-wheel-drive vehicle and drive along the main coastal route, and up a country road, through olive groves and the village of Ano Korakiana. The road up Pantokrator Mountain features 27 zig-zag turns, and leads to the old village of Sokraki. Stretch your legs on a walk through the narrow winding streets of the village and enjoy a *meze* (traditional light snack) with a glass of local wine. Set off again along a country (dirt) lane to admire the beautiful panoramic view of the island as well as the magnificent view of the old town of Corfu. Returning to the narrow asphalt road, pass through Troubeta, Arkadades, Makrades and Lakones. You will stop for a view of Paleokastritsa before returning to the port.

Please note: Bring your driver's license. All vehicles are manual transmission Suzuki Vitara or Samurai and are self-drive. A guide vehicle will accompany the caravan. Four guests per vehicle.

### Panoramic Corfu



### Approximately 21/2 hours • \$

This special program, designed for guests who prefer a limited amount of walking, includes the key features this idyllic Greek Island offers. From Bella Vista, a natural balcony perched on the hillside above Paleokastritsa, absorb the panorama of rocky promontories, deeply formed bays and crystal clear turquoise waters as your coach heads back to town. Finally, a scenic drive through the Venetian sector of Corfu Town will charm you before returning to the port. Optionally, you may disembark in town to continue your day exploring the sites and shopping opportunities, making your own way back to the ship.

### Livorno, Italy

please visit our website: www.hollandamerica.com

Signature Collection Private Car or Minivan

Approximately 4 or 8 hours Car – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle Minivan – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle

Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. Please see pages 6 - 8 for more details.

*Please note: Entrance fees and meals are not included. Bring local currency as credit cards may not be widely accepted.* 

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Approximately 11 hours • \$\$\$\$

Siena is a glorious city of winding narrow streets that cling to steep hillsides. It boasts an unmatched, enchanting medieval atmosphere and the buildings surrounding the central Piazza del Campo symbolize the golden age of the city. Between 1260 and 1348, wealthy citizens contributed to a major program of civic development, and the stunning results are still there to enjoy today. A nasty bout of Plague and an 18-month Florentine siege worked to freeze Siena in time, and now most of its medieval buildings have been carefully renovated and restored. Your guided walking tour includes the church of San Domenico, which contains the relics of the famous Saint Catherine, including her preserved head; beautiful frescoes by Sodoma in the chapel; the Piazza del Duomo, with its magnificent cathedral in black and white marble, built on Siena's highest hill; the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption with a beautiful inlaid marble floor and pulpit by Nicola Pisano; the shell-shaped Piazza del Campo with its original 13th century palaces (the Palazzo Pubblico has been the seat of Siena government since the 13th century); and the 300-foot-tall Torre del Mangia bell tower.





You'll have some free time to either shop and browse, or to climb the bell tower's 505 steps for a beautiful view across Tuscany (entrance fee extra). Next, proceed to a local winery for an Italian lunch with wine tasting. After lunch, you'll have some free time in the town of San Gimignano—chosen by Zeffirelli as the setting for his masterpiece *Tea with Mussolini*. Explore the interesting churches, palaces and shops, the Piazza della Cisterna, the Devil's Tower, the 11th-century cathedral and Piazza del Duomo, the Old Podestà Palace, the 1353 Florentine fortress, or the simple Sant'Agostino Church that hides a heavily decorated Rococo interior by Vanvitelli—architect to the kings of Naples.

Please note: In Siena the guided tour is a walking tour. The streets of Siena are steep and a large amount of walking is required. Not suitable for wheelchairs or handicapped.

## A Taste of Tuscany: Lucca, Villa Lucchese & Farmhouse

Approximately 91/2 hours • \$\$\$\$

After a 45-minute drive, you will arrive at the walled city of Lucca for a walking visit to the beautiful Cathedral of San Martino, Piazza Anfiteatro, the Church of San Frediano, Guinigi's Tower and the outside of the Church of San Michele. Browse on your own, then meet up back in the Piazzale Verdi to leave Lucca by coach. Stop at a typical farmhouse to enjoy a Tuscan lunch and, depending on location, visit wine cellars or the gardens accompanied by the owner. A 15-minute coach ride brings you to Villa Torrigiani—one of the most important and beautiful houses in the Lucchese territory with beautiful fountains and trees. Step inside the villa and then you will have time to stroll around the garden on your own.

*Please note: Most shops will be closed on national holidays, on Sundays and on Monday mornings.* 

# Tuscan Countryside & Wine Tasting

Approximately 41/2 hours • \$\$

Traveling to Montecarlo di Lucca takes approximately one hour through the Tuscany countryside. Upon arrival, you will have 20 minutes of free time to wander at leisure, then rejoin the bus for a 15-minute drive through the Tuscany countryside to the wine cellars. Take a tour of the wine cellars where the wine-making process will be explained, then it's time to enjoy tasting the wine with some local delicacies before returning to the ship.

Please note: Montecarlo village is extremely small; there are a few shops and the village consists of one road. Most shops will be closed on national holidays and on Sundays.

Tuscan Landmarks: Florence & Pisa



Approximately 101/2 - 11 hours • \$\$\$\$

Journey approximately 1<sup>16</sup> hours through the countryside of western Tuscany to Florence. Upon arrival, you'll begin a halfday walking tour to Brunelleschi's masterpiece cathedral in pink, green and white marble, and its adjacent Bell Tower and Baptistry. See the copy of Michelangelo's *David* in the Piazza della Signoria and visit the Church of Santa Croce. Free time may be allocated for shopping. Next, dine at a local Florentine restaurant before a 40-minute freeway drive to Pisa. In Pisa, you will have 30 minutes' free time at the amazing Piazza dei Miracoli with the Leaning Tower, Cathedral and Baptistry. Across the street is a row of street stalls selling souvenirs and leather bags.

Please note: The motor coach parking area is located approximately two miles from the city center. The walking portion involves approximately two miles of extensive walking on cobblestone streets. There is a 30-minute standing visit at the cathedral. For visiting religious monuments, local custom requires covering knees and shoulders. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Audio headsets will be used to enhance the experience on this tour.

## Transfer to Florence

Approximately 91/2 hours •\$\$

This transfer is intended for those who would like to explore Florence on their own. It consists of a  $1^{\frac{1}{2}}$ -hour motor coach ride from the ship to the city center. You will be dropped off at a central location, and your escort will advise you of the pick-up time for the return journey. You will have approximately five hours to shop and explore on your own.

Please note: Guide service, taxi transfers, entrance fees and lunch are not included in the transfer price. It will be your responsibility to

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be at the drop-off point at the given return time. On Sundays most shops are closed with the exception of some souvenir shops. Most museums are closed on Mondays.

## Discover Cinque Terre

#### Approximately 9 - 91/2 hours • \$\$\$

Depart by coach from Livorno pier to Manarola, an enchanting village with its tiny typical fishermen's wharf. You'll tour this village, before you start your walk along the *via dell'amore* (the Path of Love) carved in the steep cliffside that plummets into the sea. The 20-minute walk is characterized by typical Mediterranean scenery, deep scents of plants and herbs and the fascination of isolated inlets. Arriving in Riomaggiore, the oldest village in the Cinque Terre, you will transfer by boat to Vernazza (or by local train in case of inclement weather). After a short tour of this interesting and picturesque village that closely hugs its small harbor, you will have some free time for lunch and shopping on your own. Return by local train to La Spezia and board the coach for the return drive to Livorno by coach.

Please note: Bring credit card and cash as lunch is on your own.

# Lucca & Pisa

#### Approximately 51/2 hours • \$\$

In the northwest corner of Tuscany lies the ancient city of Lucca. This charming walled city started out as a Roman colony in 177 BC and graduated to provincial capital of Tuscany in the Middle Ages. A 45-minute drive from Livorno will bring you to this gorgeous walled city, where you will set out with your guide on a walking tour through its narrow, winding streets. Once you reach the Church of San Michele, you will be given the option to spend the remainder of your time at your leisure or remain with your guide. Continue to the Church of San Frediano, founded in the 6th century and also view the Piazza Anfiteatro—which has been built upon the remains of an ancient Roman Amphitheatre. After free time or your guided tour, you will meet back in Piazzale Verdi to re-board your motor coach. You are now headed to Pisa, where the bus will park outside the Old Town and you will walk to Miracle Square. A highlight of your day will be a guided tour inside the massive cathedral and around the outside of justifiably famous Leaning Tower and the stunning Baptistry.

*Please note: Most shops will be closed all day on Sundays and on Monday mornings. Audio headsets will be used to enhance the experience on this tour.* 



### Signature Collection Private Car or Minivan



Approximately 4 or 8 hours Car – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle Minivan – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle

Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. Please see pages 6 - 8 for more details.

*Please note: Entrance fees and meals are not included. Bring local currency as credit cards may not be widely accepted.* 

# A Day in Provence

Approximately 8 hours • \$\$\$

Leaving the harbor of Marseille, your motor coach will take you first to Roussillon, a village that stands on the highest hills between the Coulon Valley and the Vaucluse Plateau. These striking hills are often captured in the work of Van Gogh. Enjoy a guided walk and free time. On the way to Gordes, you will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant. Gordes is a spectacular sight rising in picturesque tiers on the Vaucluse Plateau. Enjoy the atmosphere of this charming village and stroll through the small paved, sometimes stepped, alleyways, with vaulted passageways and arcades of old, tall houses and rampart ruins.



### Messina, Sicily, Italy

### Signature Collection Private Car or Minivan



Approximately 4 or 8 hours Car – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle Minivan – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle

Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. Please see pages 6 - 8 for more details.

*Please note: Entrance fees and meals are not included. Bring local currency as credit cards may not be widely accepted.* 

### In the Footsteps of the Godfather

Approximately 5 hours • \$\$



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For fans of The Godfather movie series, many of the places visited on this tour will seem familiar. Begin with a brief drive through Messina and along the freeway to Roccalumera. From there, the coastal road, bordered by villas, flowering gardens, and picturesque villages, leads to the historical artist town of Savoca. In a private house in the village, Bar Vitelli houses a collection of local artisans' tools and photographs taken when Francis Ford Coppola shot scenes of The Godfather II. After a refreshment, stroll along the village's main street past Santa Lucia and San' Michele churches for a view over the valley. At Forza d'Agro, a 20-minute drive away, you'll find a charming little village overlooking the Arab-Norman castle of Capo Sant'Alessio. In 1990, Al Pacino and Sophia Coppola shot scenes here for The Godfather III. From the main square, a lane meets the circular steps that ascend to the Gothic-Catalan portal in front of the Church of San Agostino, or Triade. See the Baroque Chiesa Madre church before returning to Messina.

*Please note: Guests must be able to walk approximately one mile over uneven terrain, gravel paths, inclines and 30 steps.* 

### Taormina & the Greco-Roman Theater

#### Approximately 41/2 hours • \$\$

Pass Messina's Viale Boccetta and Immacolata Church, then travel by freeway to Taormina, about 31 miles away. The road is a gravity-defying series of tunnels and switchbacks. Taormina is situated high on Mount Tauro, overlooking the calm Ionian sea, with a delightful medieval character and many interesting shops. The town dates back to AD 39. On your walking tour of Taormina, admire Palazzo Corvaja and the impressive theater built by the Greeks in the 3rd century BC and later renovated by the Romans. Renowned for its unique acoustics, it is still used for open air performances. Stroll the Corso Umberto, a mostly pedestrian street, where shops beckon you to explore.

Please note: Strenuous uphill walking is involved. Wear comfortable walking shoes, bring a hat. At the Greco-Roman Theater there are steps and walking is on uneven ground.

## Castelmola & Taormina

Approximately 61/2 - 7 hours • \$\$\$\$

102

Founded in the 6th century BC by Greeks from Naples, Taormina was subsequently taken over by the Romans. Today the influences of both are found in the ruins of the town's Greco-Roman theatre. The beauty of Taormina has been documented by writers for centuries, and the town is one of Sicily's most impressive resorts. It has all of the qualities that attract visitors, incredible views, ancient ruins, and an abundance of quaint shops and boutiques. Many of its narrow cobblestone streets are closed to traffic, making the main part of Taormina accessible only on foot. Stroll through this charming resort town perched high on a cliff overlooking the Bay of Naxos. Your guide will introduce you to the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele and the bustling main street of Corso Umberto, which is lined with former mansions with enchanting architecture and balconies that brim with flowers. Stop briefly in the inner courtyard of the medieval Corvaja Palace for a look at a richly painted original Sicilian carretta, or carriage. Also enjoy the panoramic views of the bay and snow-capped Mt. Etna in the distance. Follow your guide up the narrow street that leads to the Greco-Roman Theatre.

Taormina's famous antiquity that dates back to the 2nd and 3rd centuries B.C., and still hosts performances today. The theatre's dramatic location is nothing less than breathtaking, with an incredible view of the coast. Next you'll head to Castelmola. This tiny village is strategically located near Taormina and enjoys splendid panoramic views. The focus of the village is the attractive Piazzetta del Duomo with its fine, intricate paving. Lunch will be served at a local hotel overlooking the beautiful Bay of Naxos.

Please note: Strenuous uphill walking is involved. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat. At Greco-Roman theatre there are many steps and walking is on uneven ground. To reach the village of Castelmola, an uphill walk is required with approximately 70 steps.

### Tindari Ruins



Approximately 41/2 hours • \$\$

Depart the Port of Messina and pass by the Viale Boccetta and Immacolata Church. Proceed to Tindari by way of the Tyrrehenian Coast with views of the Aeolian Islands. Tindari, founded by the Greeks and later rebuilt by the ancient Romans, is still a small town with a unique character. Highlights are the Greco-Roman Theatre and the Roman Villa and the Santuario della Madonna Nera church. Take advantage of some free time for souvenir shopping before heading back to Messina.

Please note: It is approximately a ¼-mile uphill walk from the bus to the sanctuary. From the sanctuary to the Roman ruins is approximately ¼-mile each way. Guests with walking difficulties are kindly asked to take this into consideration. Appropriate attire is required to enter the Black Madonna Sanctuary.

### **Classic Messina**



Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

This tour provides sightseeing in and around Messina. Begin your tour with a short orientation drive through Messina's main street, Via Garibaldi. Visit the Cathedral Treasury, where you can admire the sumptuous Madonna golden mantle and a collection of important historical and artworks donated by kings, bishops, noblemen and even local people as a token of faith and thanksgiving. Stop at the Cathedral, almost entirely rebuilt after the earthquake of 1908. It features an interesting 15th- to 16thcentury finely-carved central doorway. View the Astronomical clock which operates only at noon. A large bell tower, 100 feet tall, holds the largest astronomical clock in the world. Don't miss the Orion Fountain in the Cathedral square next to the Duomo. Built in 1547, its polygonal basin portrays Orion, one of the legendary founders of the city.

Please note: There will be approximately 45 minutes of walking involved for this tour. Modest attire is required for this tour; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered.

### **Panoramic Slopes of Mt. Etna**



#### Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Leaving the port of Messina you will head towards the lovely village of Zafferana, driving south on the motorway through a fertile paradise of green vineyards and golden citrus groves. Passing through Santa Venerina village, the scenery becomes increasingly forbidding as you approach the Park of Mt. Etna. At 1,800 feet above sea level, this small village boasts enchanting, wild scenery. At a local hotel, a refreshment will be served as you enjoy panoramic views of the Sicilian coast that was overwhelmed by an eruption 300 years ago. The volcano has erupted more than 130 times, killing more than a million people. The volcano dominates the entire coast of Sicily, and its mass outrivals all of Italy's other mountains.

Please note: The drive from Messina to Zafferana is about one hour and half each way, traffic permitting. Bring a light jacket or sweater. In the event of fog or inclement weather, views are limited.

### Scenic Mt. Etna



Approximately 5 hours • \$\$

Majestic Mount Etna at 11,000 feet is Europe's largest active volcano. Leaving Messina, you will pass through many villages, all closely connected to the volcano's history. As you drive up the mountain's scenic lower slopes and switchback road, the views include forest, orchards and vineyards. Mt. Etna's flanks are covered in cones and craters and the remnants of streams of lava. At 6,200 feet, you will visit the Silvestri Craters and see the 1983 and 2001 lava flows. Continue down the mountain through lemon groves and chestnut and pine forests, which blend with the hardened lava and endless volcanic cones.

*Please note: Wear comfortable walking shoes. Due to the high altitude, bring a light jacket or sweater. It is a two-hour drive each way to Mt. Etna.* 



### Monte Carlo, Monaco

### Signature Collection Private Car or Minivan

Approximately 4 or 8 hours Car – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle Minivan – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vehicle

Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. Please see pages 6 - 8 for more details.

*Please note: Entrance fees and meals are not included. Bring local currency as credit cards may not be widely accepted.* 

# Jewels of the Côte d'Azur: Nice, Eze & Monaco

Approximately 81/2 hours • \$\$\$\$

Sightsee along the French Riviera, driving by way of the lower Corniche with its superb views. Enter the resort city of Nice along the beautiful palm-laced Promenade des Anglais with a stop in the old city. Your next destination is the village of Eze, perched on a craggy peak above the Mediterranean. Stroll its steep, narrow stone streets, and a delicious luncheon (or dinner on afternoon/ evening calls) will be served at a local restaurant. Next, you will drive to Monaco. Escalators and elevators will transport you to the top of the Rock, for a walk past the Oceanographic Museum, the



Prince's Palace and the Cathedral. By motor coach, you will follow the Grand Prix Circuit to the Monte Carlo Grand Casino, surrounded by immaculate gardens. Cross the street to admire the Hotel de Paris, if you like, or take in some window shopping at the boutiques around the corner. The Café de Paris Casino is open for those who would like to flirt with Lady Luck.

Please note: This tour does not include time at the Grand Casino. Guests may enter the Casino on their own during the one hour at Casino Square. Dress code for the casino: no shorts, tank tops, tennis shoes or sportswear. The Casino opens at noon on Saturdays and Sundays and at 2:00pm Monday through Friday. Persons under 18 will not be admitted. The Cathedral may be closed during religious services, especially on Sundays. There is an entrance fee charged at the Casino and passport identification is required. This tour is not available May 18- May 25 during the Grand Prix.

### Stars of the Côte d'Azur: Cannes, Grasse Perfume Factory, St. Paul de Vence



Approximately 8 - 81/2 hours • \$\$\$\$

This is a highlight-packed tour along the famed French Riviera that begins with a drive to Cannes, host of glittering film festivals. In Cannes you will enjoy a sightseeing tour and, time permitting, a brief stop at the elegant La Croisette Avenue allows time to admire the famous hotels or window shop at the Rue d'Antibes. Then, your motor coach will turn north, proceeding inland to Grasse—birthplace of the French perfume industry where you'll visit a perfume factory and learn all about one of the world's oldest distillation processes. En route to St. Paul de Vence, you will stop for a delicious lunch (or dinner on afternoon/evening calls). Then, explore this 16th-century walled village whose ramparts remain remarkably intact. Browse in the wonderful boutiques that line the narrow cobblestone lanes.

## A Taste of the Riviera



Approximately 41/2 hours • \$\$

From Monaco, your motor coach will take the Middle Corniche to the medieval village of Eze, perched on a craggy peak above the Mediterranean. This town is closed to traffic, so you will walk along the narrow cobblestone streets. Then, continue to Nice with views of Beaulieu, Cap Ferrat, Villefranche, Nice, and Cap d'Antibes. Enjoy a panoramic city tour of Nice and the old town where tall houses, bright with flowers, exclude the glare of sun and keep the streets cool. Enjoy a walk on Cours Saleya, the elegant promenade of Old Nice, with the famous flower market held here. At a Wine Cellar, taste a selection of five cheeses and three wines. Return to Monaco on the Lower Corniche along the coast at the foot of the mountains of the Côte d'Azur.

Please note: On Mondays there is a brocantage (antiques and curios) fair at Cours Saleya instead of the flower/fruit market.

### St. Paul de Vence & Scenic Drive



Approximately 31/2 - 4 hours • \$\$

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Depart Monaco on the Middle Corniche road that winds along the coast as far as Nice, where you will drive through town, passing the famous Promenade des Anglais. Now, you head inland to St. Paul de Vence—a medieval city with an imposing silhouette. Perched high upon an escarpment, St. Paul de Vence is the quintessential fortified town of Provence, and its ramparts are still amazingly intact. Painters such as Modigliani, Signac and Soutine met at a local café which has since become the sumptuous Colombe d'Or. Return to Monte Carlo via the freeway.

### Nice & Eze



Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Your adventure will begin with a spectacular scenic drive along the lower Corniche, past famous Riviera resorts, to the city of Nice. Take the palm-lined Promenade des Anglais, named for the town of English Colony which financed the street. See the Negresco Hotel with its ornate Rococo façade, and the Russian Orthodox Cathedral with six domes and colorful ceramics. Disembark your motor coach in the Old Town area and walk the Cours Saleya—a charming promenade that leads to the markets of Nice. Tall houses washed in delightful colors shade the narrow streets. At the flower market, stroll among the stalls in search of the finest blossoms. Re-board the coach, and your drive continues along the Middle Corniche to the town of Eze, perched high above the sea on the face of a cliff. Time is allowed here is time to wander through the cobblestone streets and browse in the shops.

Please note: On Mondays there is a brocantage (antiques and curios) fair at Cours Saleya instead of the flower/fruit market.

### Panoramic Riviera



Approximately 31/2 hours • \$\$

Begin with a drive on the Great Corniche—the highest of the three roads on the Riviera. Below you is a marvelous panorama of the Italian coast, Cap Ferrat, Eze, and the principality of Monaco. You will pass by the village of La Turbie, then cross the Middle Corniche (1,217 feet) where the descent begins. Stop in the square at the foot of Eze village. Above you, this strangely isolated settlement clings to a rocky spike. From a viewpoint on the Middle Corniche you will see from the tip of Cap d'Ail to the Estérel, Beaulieu, Nice, Villefranche-sur-Mer, and Cap d'Antibes. Passing through the city of Nice, you will drive by Beaulieu and Eze-sur-Mer. Cypress trees and pines line the way through Cap d'Ail as your coach returns to Monaco via the Lower Corniche.

## Highlights of Monaco & Monte Carlo

### Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Monaco, home to the royal Grimaldi family, is a principality of fairytale beauty. Your coach will take you to the foot of the famous Rock of Monaco, where you will proceed to its top by escalators and elevators. A guided walking tour through the narrow streets takes you past the Royal Palace, the Oceanographic Museum and the cathedral that houses the tomb of Princess Grace. Board your motor coach for a drive along the Grand Prix Circuit to the Casino Square. Enjoy an hour to window shop at the elegant boutiques of major Parisian jewelers and couturier houses nearby.

Please note: This tour is not available May 18- May 25 during the Grand Prix, and does not include time at the Grand Casino. You may enter the Casino on your own during the time at Casino Square. Dress code for the casino: no shorts, tank tops, tennis shoes or sportswear. Casino opens at noon on weekends and at 2:00pm Monday through Friday. Persons under 18 will not be admitted. Cathedral may be closed during religious services, especially on Sundays.

# A Cruise to the Isle of Capri

#### Approximately 71/2 - 8 hours • \$\$\$\$

Begin with a jetfoil ride to the Island of Capri, taking in several lovely sights, including Capri and Anacapri, then enjoy a typical Italian lunch. Roman emperors such as Caesar Augustus and Tiberius vacationed on the island, and you'll see the magnificent remains of their Roman villas. Capri is a popular destination for artists and the wealthy. This tour, although escorted, is unstructured, with time to explore, browse or shop.



### Navplion, Greece

# Mycenae & Epidaurus

#### Approximately 6 hours • \$\$\$

Journey along the picturesque winding road passing typical Greek villages on your way to the World Heritage Site of Epidaurus. Known throughout the Hellenistic world for its unique medical facilities and healing treatments, Epidaurus was dedicated to Aesclepius, the god of healing who restored health to the sick and, reputedly, sometimes even life to the dead. The city was filled with curative spas and baths, and only priests had access to some of the healing rites. Today most of the ruins have been reduced to their foundations with one exception, the remarkable theater. Built into, rather than above the ground, and set overlooking a valley, the theater is known for its astonishing acoustics. Restored in 1954, it hosts modern productions of the ancient classics as well as musical recitals of performers such as the late Maria Callas. Enjoy a traditional Greek luncheon; then, continue along the Argive Plain to visit the site of ancient Mycenae. Although excavations had begun here in 1841, it wasn't until 33 years later that a self-styled archaeologist, Heinrich Schliemann, unearthed

Mycenae's treasures. Enter the site via a walkway lined by impenetrable cyclopean walls through the Lions Gate, where Clytemestra received her husband, Agamemnon on his return from Troy. Once inside the gate, explore the Royal Palace, the shaft graves and the remains of the city walls. An archaeological briefing within the Treasury of Arttreus, also known as the Tomb of Agamemnon, enhances your understanding of these sites.

# Ancient Corinth & Canal

#### Approximately 41/2 - 5 hours • \$\$

Visit the famous Corinth Canal which is four miles long, 70 feet wide and has sloping sides 170 feet in height. It connects the Ionian and Aegean seas, providing a maritime "short cut." Your next stop will be in Ancient Corinth. The ruins that lie in this area are a surprising mix of an ancient 6th-century BC Greek city and a 44 BC Roman city—the latter, was built after Julius Caesar placed a colony on this desolate site. See the ruins and excavations of both, including a Christian Basilica, the starting lines of a Greek racetrack, a sacred spring with its bronze lion's-head spouts and the elaborate Roman fountain of Peirene.

## Ancient Corinth & Mycenae

#### Approximately 7 hours • \$\$\$

Ancient Corinth, a city blessed with a superb location, fertile plains and virtually impregnable refuge. Excavations reveal that the ancient city was huge and wealthy; a survivor of the numerous invasions but devastated by earthquakes. St. Paul lived and worked in Corinth for 18 months, making converts where he could. The Bema (platform) where the Roman governor tried him is still visible. See one of Corinth's most striking ancient buildings - the Temple of Apollo, seven of whose original columns still stand. Walk through the remains of the Market Place, a colonnaded square once surrounded by many small shops. See the celebrated Fountain of Priene, which has produced water from earliest times, and the Lechaion Road, formerly the main thoroughfare to the port of Lechaion. Continue along the Argive Plain to visit the site of ancient Mycenae. Although excavations had begun here in 1841, it wasn't until 33 years later that a self-styled archaeologist, Heinrich Schliemann, unearthed

Mycenae's treasures. Enter the site via a walkway lined by impenetrable cyclopean walls through the Lions Gate, where Clytemestra received her husband, Agamemnon on his return from Troy. Once inside the gate, explore the Royal Palace, the shaft graves and the remains of the city walls. An archaeological briefing within the Treasury of Arttreus, also known as the Tomb of Agamemnon, enhances your understanding of these sites.

# Mycenae & Palamidi Castle

#### Approximately 31/2 hours • \$\$

Drive inland across the Argive Plain through orange and lemon groves, past the ancient cities of Tiryns and Argos, to reach "well-built Mycenae, rich of gold," as described by Homer in The Odyssey. Tucked into a fold in the hills and lost to time for centuries is Agamemnon's citadel, just a short walk from where your coach parks. Although excavations had begun here in 1841, it wasn't until 33 years later that Heinrich Schliemann, an entrepreneur turned self-styled archaeologist, unearthed Mycenae's treasures. A controversial figure, Schliemann believed in the accuracy of Homer's epic poems, and to the amazement and dismay of scholars, governments and the world, he was right. Enter the site via a walkway lined by impenetrable cyclopean walls through the Lions Gate, Europe's oldest existing example of monumental statuary. It was here that Clytemnestra received her husband Agamemnon on his return from Troy. Walk to the first shaft tomb, where in 1874 Schliemann excavated the famous golden death masks, now on display at the Archaeological Museum in Athens. This site affords magnificent views over the Argive. Visit the eerie Beehive Tomb a short distance away from the citadel. Also known as the Treasury of Atreus, this could be the tomb of Agamemnon. Enter the impressive grave through a 10-foot corridor and stand in its cool, dark interior marveling at this monument to Mycenaean building skills. Returning to Navplion, drive to the top of the massive fortified area known as the Palamidi. Perched on a crag over 700 feet high, Palamidi has commanding views of the town, the harbor and the Argive Plain. It consists of three self-contained castles linked by vaults, corridors and secret passages now reside within the outer walls of the complex. The city's symbol, the Lion of St. Mark, appears over the entrances, a reminder of the fortress' Venetian

occupation. You may return to the ship via coach or descend by foot the over 850-step staircase that leads back down to the harbor and your ship.

### Epidaurus & Palamidi Castle

#### Approximately 3¾ hours • \$\$



Journey along the picturesque winding road passing typical Greek villages on your way to the World Heritage Site of Epidaurus. Known throughout the Hellenistic world for its unique medical facilities and healing treatments, Epidaurus was dedicated to Aesclepius, the god of healing who restored health to the sick, and reputedly, sometimes even life to the dead. The city was filled with curative spas and baths, and only priests had access to some of the healing rites. Today most of the ruins have been reduced to their foundations with one exception, the remarkable theater. Built into, rather than above the ground, and set overlooking a valley, the theater is known for its astonishing acoustics. Restored in 1954, it now hosts modern productions of the ancient classics as well as musical recitals of performers such as the late Maria Callas. Returning to Navplion, drive to the top of the massive fortified area known as the Palamidi. Perched on a crag over 700 feet high, Palamidi has commanding views of the town, the harbor and the Argive Plain. Started by the Francs, and later enlarged by the Venetians, three self-contained castles linked by vaults, corridors and secret passages now reside within the outer walls of the complex. The city's symbol, the Lion of St. Mark, appears over the entrances, a reminder of the fortress' Venetian occupation. Guests may return to the ship via coach or descend by foot the over 850-step staircase that leads back down to the harbor and your ship.

### Venice, Italy

## Signature Collection Private Motor Launch



Approximately 4 or 8 hours Motor Launch – half day/full day: \$\$\$\$ per vessel

This exclusive new tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights of Venice in the comfort and privacy of your own motor launch. With your private motor launch, and the personalized attention of your boat captain and English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters.

*Please note: This tour is not available on disembarkation day to those guests who are disembarking in Venice.* 

## Venice Sightseeing

Approximately 41/2 hours • \$\$

154

Transfer by motor launch to St. Mark's Square—the heart and soul of Venice, with palatial arcades and charming cafés. Your guided walking tour passes the Byzantine façade of St. Mark's Cathedral, originally constructed in the 9th century, with domes and bronze horses. At the exquisite Doges' Palace, the former residence of the Dukes of Venice and the seat of the Venetian government from the for 800 years, climb the Golden Staircase to marvel at the paintings of Tintoretto and Veronese. Cross the famous Bridge of Sighs to reach the prison and view the cells. In the square are small workshops of glass manufacturers and you will stop here before returning to the ship by motor launch.

Please note: Due to restrictions inside St. Mark's Cathedral, your guide will provide detailed narration before you enter. Only one group may enter at a time, so there may be a considerable wait outside. The visit to the Doges' Palace involves a lot of stairclimbing. Guests who have difficulty with stairs can wait in the lobby. Modest attire is required in the church; knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered; bags/backpacks are not permitted in the Doges' Palace.

## The Jewish Ghetto & Panoramic Venice

#### Approximately 3 hours • \$\$

A motor launch will take you to the Cannaregio Canal for a visit to the medieval Jewish Ghetto, the first in Europe. Along the canal you will see St. Mark's Square and the Doges' Palace, the Lido of Venice, St. Peter's of Castello, and Fontamente Nuove before reaching the Ghetto. In 1516, all the Jews in Venice were confined to the islet of Cannaregio. By day, Jews leaving the Ghetto had to wear identifying badges and caps. Nowadays, only a few Jewish families live in the Ghetto. However, the quarter has retained its ethnic character. There are kosher food shops, a Jewish baker, a Jewish library and five synagogues. There is also a shop selling glass rabbis and Hanukkah lamps. Visit two of the five Synagogues and the interesting Jewish Museum on your own. Upon completion of the tour, stay in town and return to the ship independently, or return directly to the ship via motor launch.

## Murano & Burano

Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Today you will visit two of the Venetian Lagoon's 40 islands— Murano and Burano. In 1291, when furnaces were banned from Venice as a fire precaution, the manufacturers of exquisite glassware were transferred to Murano. Glassware was one of the few Venetian exports and as such, the secrets of this skillful craft were tightly guarded. Glassmaking was considered a privileged occupation, and glass artisans were allowed to marry into the nobility. Today, the Murano products of blown-glass mirrors, chandeliers, goblets and intricate works of art are renowned worldwide. There's time to visit one of the many workshops and to shop. Burano is next—brightly painted houses decorate this small and cheerful fishing village that is best known for its lacemaking. Admire these beautiful works that require hours of labor, and maybe even purchase some, if you like.

## Treasures of Venice

#### Approximately 4 hours • \$\$

Board a motor coach for a transfer to Piazzale Roma. From here you will cross the small bridge over the Rio Novo for a walking tour of Venice. Narrow Venetian streets lead you on foot to the Scuola Grande di San Rocco, whose Tintoretto paintings and school make it one of Italy's most prized buildings. Pass through Campo San Polo-an enormous square dating back to the 15th century. Watch for the Palazzo Mocenigo (designed around 1550 by San Michele) and the church of San Silvestro, famous for another Tintoretto masterpiece, The Baptism of Christ. You will reach the 1588 Rialto Bridge-the first bridge to be built of solid stone after the collapse and decay of earlier wooden structures. Traditional trade stalls, crowded, colorful quayside food markets and shops still border the Grand Canal here. Finally, walk through the Calle Mercerie to St. Mark's Square to admire its beautiful basilica and belltower. You will have 50 minutes free to explore on your own before meeting the motor launch for a transfer back to the port.

### A Taste of Veneto: Tasty Treviso



Approximately 61/2 hours • \$\$\$\$

Slow Food tours are designed for all lovers of ancient tastes and flavors-for those who do not want the important tradition of eating delicious, meaningful food to fade away, but still want to live life at human pace in harmony with nature. Your journey will start with transfer to Roncade, a small town located near Treviso, where you will visit an artisanal cheese factory. Here, you will watch a cheese making session and enjoy a tasting of different kinds of cheese, including the traditional Casatella Trevigiana produced with raw milk. Since early times in Treviso, when farms produced more than peasant families needed, it was made into butter, cheese and ricotta right on the farm. Artisan methods were used, and it was delivered to the dairy cooperatives in each town or village. Casatella's name comes from the Venetian dialect Casata, meaning cheese that was "made at home." Next, you will continue by coach to Treviso, one of the major cities in Veneto region, and stroll through its enchanting

medieval center. Don't miss the Piazza dei Signori square flanked by the Palazzo dei Trecento and Torre Civica buildings. Here you will have a chance to try a *cicheto*, a typical apéritif usually served with small canapés, in one of the cafés on the square. And finally, you will savor a relaxing lunch in a restaurant located in the historical Santa Maria dei Battuti building dating back to the 13th century. This amazing edifice also houses the University of Treviso. Your tour will end with the ride back to Venice.

### The Peggy Guggenheim Collection



#### Approximately 21/2 hours • \$\$

Your tour will commence with a sailing by private motor launch from the pier to Zattere Ai Saloni landing point. You will pass through Giudecca Canal and you will see from the boat the Redeemer Church by Palladio, and Zitelle Church, both on Giudecca Island. After a short but lovely walk through a lesstraveled part of Venice, you will arrive at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection housed in the Palazzo Venier dei Leoni, which faces the Grand Canal. The Museum guide will take you through the exhibits and explain the late heiress' exceptional collection of abstract and surrealist masterpieces by Picasso, Alexander Calder, Jackson Pollack, Max Ernst, Paul Klee, Marc Chagall and Salvador Dalí. After the guided visit, you will have some time at your leisure to stroll in the beautiful garden. You will then walk back to the motor launch for the transfer back to the ship.

## Verona: The City of Romeo & Juliet

#### Approximately 6 hours • \$\$

Follow the highway from Venice to Verona, then set out with your local guide on a walking tour. Admire the arena built in 30 BC, which once rivaled the Colosseum and is the third largest arena in the Roman world. In Piazza delle Erbe, discover a square that has been the center of Veronese life since the days of the Romans. A Venetian lion stands atop a column to the north of the Piazza, signifying Verona's absorption by the Venetian Republic in 1405. The Maffei Palace, built in 1668, today houses luxury apartments and elegant boutiques. Don't miss Piazza dei Signori, where a 19th-century statue of the poet Dante graces the Square, gazing out upon the 14th-century Palazzo della Ragione—the Veronese law court. Behind Dante's statue lies the Renaissance Loggia del Consiglio (1493), whose council chamber boasts a fresco that includes the figures of Catullus and Pliny. Continue to Juliet's balcony where Romeo is said to have scaled the wall at Casa di Giulietta at 27 Via Cappello. Pose for a photo in the small courtyard and check out the names inscribed on the wall by visitors seeking eternal love. You will have free time at leisure before boarding the coach for the drive back to Venice and the port.

Please note: Lunch is not included in the tour price.

## A Venetian Night

Approximately 3 hours • \$\$\$\$

Leave the pier by private coach for a short drive to Piazzale Roma. Upon arrival, your escort will lead you to Palazzo Zeno located at Campo Ai Frari. Enter this beautiful palace, take your seat, and enjoy the lovely ambiance. Then, the show begins: a quartet formed by a pianist, a violinist, a double bass player and a guitarist will play famous excerpts and will accompany two sopranos, two tenors and one basso as they sing a repertoire of famous Opera excerpts as well as Italian, Neapolitan and Venetian popular songs. During the show, sparkling wine or soft drinks will be served at your table. At the end, your escort will lead you again to Piazzale Roma where the coach will be waiting to take you back to the port.

### Nighttime Gondola Serenade



Approximately 2 hours • \$\$

Venice is best admired from the water, and the city provides especially lovely viewing at night, with moonlit reflections glistening on the water. An evening ride by gondola along the magical canals of Venice is an experience to treasure forever. You will transfer by launch from the ship to the gondola landing pier near St. Mark's Square. There, board your gondola and you will gently glide, six per gondola, through the canals to the sounds of serenading musicians.

Please note: Operates weather, tide and wind conditions permitting.

### Venice on Your Own with Airport Transfer Option

This tour can be taken by guests who are returning to the ship (Option A), **and** by guests whose cruise ends in Venice and are transferring to the airport (Option B).

### A. Venice on Your Own



Approximately 4 hours • \$ (for guests returning to the ship)

This transfer is intended for those who would like to explore Venice on their own. Transfer by motor launch for a ride to St. Mark's Square. You will be dropped off at a central location and given time to explore Venice on your own. Your escort will advise you of the pick-up time for the return journey.

Please note: Guide service, entrance fees and lunch are not included in the transfer price. It will be your responsibility to be at the dropoff point at the given return time.

## B. Venice on Your Own with Airport Transfer

Approximately 5 hours  $\bullet$  (for guests transferring to the airport) With prepaid transfer voucher – \$ Without prepaid transfer voucher – \$

Upon disembarkation, you will claim your luggage which will be stored in the baggage deposit area at the pier. Take the Venice On Your Own tour as described above. Then, return to the pier to retrieve your luggage, which will be put on the bus for your transfer to the airport.

Please note: Guide service, entrance fees and lunch are not included in the transfer price. It will be your responsibility to be at the dropoff point at the given return time. This tour is available only to guests with flights departing after 5:00pm.

#### **GUIDES, SERVICES & TRANSPORTATION:**

In certain interesting but off-the-beaten-track places, professional guides and vehicles are at a premium. The best available are engaged. For all tours other than the Signature Collection, it is exceptional for drivers of public hire vehicles to speak any language but their own and it is not always possible to obtain air-conditioned buses or taxis in many ports. However, we do our utmost to find the very best excursion packages for your touring pleasure. Guests who leave during a tour for which transportation is included must thereafter provide for their own transportation and services at their own expense. Transportation standards vary from country to country.

#### **SELF-GUIDED EXCURSIONS:**

Guests who do not join these prearranged shore excursions must rely on whatever transportation is available in each port. If you choose to devise your own excursion, we suggest that you remind the driver or tour escort of the ship's sailing time. Of course, the ship's facilities are fully available to guests while in port.

#### **CONDITIONS:**

Shore excursions are "Non-Holland America Line Services" for the purposes of your Cruise Contract. This means that shore excursions are not owned or operated by Holland America. Refer to your Cruise Contract for a full statement of your rights and obligations as well as those of the Owner of the Ship, Holland America Line Inc. and certain other persons and entities with respect to Non-Holland America Line Services. In particular, please note that you are assuming the entire risk of utilizing Non-Holland America Line Services subject only to whatever terms or arrangements are made by you or on your behalf with the third party furnishing the Non-Holland America Line Services. Holland America does not assume liability for injuries or damages that occur during or as a result of shore excursions, nor is Holland America Line liable for loss of or damage to any baggage or other property which occurs ashore, for any reason whatsoever. Shore excursions are subject to cancellations or changes. Shore excursion operators reserve the right to deny participation to guests based on such criteria as they may establish. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult aged 21 or older.

#### **ABOUT PRICING, REFUNDS & CANCELLATIONS:**

Rates and descriptions are current as of the printing date. Prices are subject to change without notice and descriptions may vary from the actual tour provided. All cancellations that are made less than 10 days prior to cruise departure are subject to a 10% cancellation fee. There will be no exceptions. In addition, if you cancel your tour reservation after the booking deadline stated in the Shore Excursion Planning Form on board, or if you cancel a Signature of Excellence® shore excursion within 10 days of sailing, a 100% cancellation fee will apply since transportation and services will have already been arranged.

