Cannes – Bonifacio – Alghero - Mahon – Ibiza – Motril – Casablanca - Tangier – Cadiz – Lisbon

All tours are offered with English speaking guides. The length of the tours is given as an indication as it may vary depending on the road, weather, sea and traffic conditions and the group’s pace.

Minimum number of participants indicated per coach or group.

The level of physical fitness required for our activities is given as a very general indication without any knowledge of our passenger’s individual abilities. Broadly speaking to enjoy activities such as hiking, biking, snorkelling, boating or other activities involving physical exertion, passengers should be fit and active. Passengers must judge for themselves whether they will be capable of participating in and above all enjoying such activities.

All information concerning excursions is correct at the time of printing. However Star Clippers reserves the right to make changes, which will be relayed to passengers during the Cruise Director’s onboard information sessions.
BONIFACIO, CORSICA

Isolated on the Southern most point of Corsica, majestic Bonifacio's natural surroundings are nothing less than remarkable. Sheer, white limestone cliffs rise out of the sea, forming a perfect natural harbour as well as a picturesque setting for this unique town. The first historical mention of Bonifacio is actually in Homer's Odyssey: "An excellent harbour, closed in on all sides by an unbroken ring of precipitous cliffs, with two bold headlands facing each other at the mouth so as to leave only a narrow channel in between." Homer’s was an accurate description of Bonifacio. In Roman times, Bonifacio was only a small village. It began to develop around 828 AD when Count Bonifacio of Tuscany built a castle on the peninsula. Its strategic location was much coveted by European powers, and like other places in Corsica, it was subject to numerous raids and attacks. The predominant forces were the Genoese who held dominion over the territory from the 12th to the 19th century until Corsica was given back to France.

Until the advent of tourism Bonifacio was just a sleepy town whose main activity was fishing. Nowadays, visitors will discover an exciting destination possessed of both old and new-world charm and breathtaking beauty.

ALGHERO, SARDINIA

Alghero Capo Caccia Scenic drive & Tasting of local produce
By air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 20 participants, no maximum
Duration 3 hours
Euros 62

The tender will leave you right in the historical centre of Alghero, where your guide will be waiting to greet you and accompany you on the scenic drive to Capo Caccia.

During the trip you will learn about the “Nuraghe”, megalithic edifices which are to be found all over the island. There are over 1000 of these constructions and they are as synonymous with Sardinia as the Great Pyramids are with Egypt.

Palmavera was built during the second millennium BC and consists mainly of two towers. Around the Nuraghe there was a small village which is still being excavated and examined by archaeologists. The coach will not stop at the nuraghe, but the guide will provide some general information about the site.

Capo Caccia is the most extreme point of the limestone promontory facing Alghero and its bay in the east, and Spain in the west. In the beginning of the 20th century the area was famous for pigeon hunting hence the name Capo Caccia (caccia means hunting in Italian). Nowadays however it is a nature reserve, home to various protected species. There will be a photo opportunity at a panoramic viewpoint before driving to a country estate, Leda’ d’Ittiri, where you will enjoy a wine tasting accompanied by local cheese, bread, bruschetta and olive oil. The estate consists of 19 hectares of olive orchards and vineyards, cultivated with love and attention. The care lavished on the land by the owners is clearly reflected in the quality of the wine and olive oil they produce. The estate is situated at the foot of Monte Doglia whose peak can be seen from the promontory of Capo Caccia. After the wine tasting you can either go back to the ship or enjoy some free time exploring Alghero.
Nuraghe Palmavera
By air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 20 participants, no maximum
Duration 3h30
Euros 50

Sardinia, with its 1800 km coastline, is known the world over as a fantastic holiday destination for water sports enthusiasts and sun seekers alike, offering vistas of unspoilt natural beauty as well as an advantageous geographical position. However, Sardinia also boasts a rich and varied history in which the town of Alghero featured prominently. The Aragonesi landed on the coast of Alghero in 1353 and wrested the fortified town from the hands of the Dorian family from Genoa. The Catalan influence is still very strong in the town and can be found in its streets, shops, life style, cuisine and traditions. Even the local dialect is a variant of the Catalan language.

Your guide will be waiting to greet you at the pier and accompany you on the coach for the trip from the Gulf of Alghero to the Gulf of Porto Conte to visit the “Nuraghe Palmavera”. Traces of human habitation in Sardinia date back to 4000 BC, and the Nuraghe of Palmavera were constructed by the Nuraghic people, a patriarchal warrior society that appeared in the area from 1500 BC. The Nuraghe consist of circular stone towers and dwellings surrounded by exterior fortifications and an ancient village, which is still being excavated.

After the visit you will proceed to Capo Caccia for a wonderful photo opportunity and then it’s back to Alghero for a short panoramic bus and walking tour.

The drive to the Nuraghe takes 30 minutes, and you will spend 45 minutes on site.

PORT MAHON, MENORCA – SPAIN

Magic of Minorca
By air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 20 participants, no maximum
Duration: 3 hours
Euros 49

The first stop on the tour is Monte Toro; at 357m above sea level it is the highest point of the island and the views are absolutely breath taking, on a clear day you can even see Mallorca to the south-east. The site is considered to be the spiritual centre of Minorca and has been a place of pilgrimage since the 13th century. The remains of an old Augustinian monastery are still visible and there is a little church with a carved wooden image of the Virgen del Toro, patron saint of Minorca. Legend has it that Monte Toro, takes its name from a bull (el toro) which led a group of monks to a statue of the Virgin Mary carved in the rock face.

The excursion continues to Taula de Torralba, a prehistoric talaiotic settlement dating from 2000 – 1000 BC. The Taula consists of two slabs of rock, one placed on the other to form a ”T”. The monument is more sophisticated than many other prehistoric constructions, and is generally considered to have been used as a sanctuary. The Taula is exclusive to Minorca and despite their shared Talayotic heritage, there is nothing comparable in Mallorca.

Thereafter the tour bus returns to Mahon and participants will leave the coach and walk through the 18th century town (mostly downhill) before returning to the ship. After exploring the city centre you can chose to either walk back (this involves steps) or return by coach.
Hiking in S’Albufera Nature park
Transfer by van, then on foot
Minimum 10 participants, maximum 18
Duration 3h30
Euros 54

A short 15 minute drive will take you to a typical Minorcan fishing village, Es Grau, located within the boundaries of the S’Albufera Nature reserve. The park covers the wetlands, a marshy coastal area consisting of a 2km lagoon, enclosed by a system of dunes, and a river which flows into the sea.

You will be taken on an itinerary designed to showcase the flora and fauna of the wetlands. The park is home to a wide variety of bird life; waterfowl such as ducks, common coots, herons and European shags live alongside birds of prey including osprey’s, kites and booted eagles, while the torrents and ponds of the wetlands are populated by Iberian green frogs and toads.

The vegetation consists mainly of wild olive trees, holm oak, lentisk shrubs, jasmine box and tree spurge.

The hike will take you on the “Cami de Cavalls”, a bridle path which goes right round the island, through woodland, and then along the water reserve which leads to Es Grau beach. From here you will proceed along a winding path up to the headland overlooking Isla Colom off the north coast. You will continue down to Cala Tamarells before heading back along the beach to Es Grau village.

This excursion is a must for all nature lovers, the wild life is abundant in this protected area and the coastal views are simply stunning.

The tour involves a fair amount of walking over uneven ground (5km)
Please wear good walking shoes and take a bottle of water and some sun screen with you
During the months of July and August this excursion will be scheduled in the late afternoon.

Mountain bike tour
Transfer by van, then by bike
Minimum 10 participants, maximum 15
Duration 3h30
Euros 75

Cycling and mountain bike riding have long been enjoyed on Minorca and are now becoming popular with visitors of all ages and abilities. The island’s quiet roads, rolling hills and many kilometres of unpaved trails are ideally suited to the activity and our mountain bike tour is a great way to explore the hidden nooks and crannies of this unspoiled island.

New well signposted cycle routes have been created along some of the oldest trails on the island, dating back to the first human settlement. These ancient paths, bordered by dry stone walls, run past meadows and pastures which are covered by a carpet of wild flowers in the springtime and early summer. The newly opened “Cami de Cavalls” is a bridle path which rings the entire island and is the perfect way for experienced mountain bikers to explore the coastal areas.

The tour involves a lot of physical activity and requires stamina; participants should be in good condition
The total distance covered by the tour is approximately 12 km
Participants may at times have to pick up their bikes and walk for short distances
Please remember to wear suitable shoes and take sun screen
Ibiza is well known as a Hedonist’s paradise where people come to laze on the beach all day and party hard all night, but there is so much more to it than that. Ibiza town was founded by the Carthaginians around the 6th century BC and was ruled in turn by the Romans, Arabs and Catalans. Traces of their presence can be found in the Old quarter of the town known as Dalt Vila or upper town, which boasts many historical buildings and two interesting museums which give an insight into the town’s rich historical, archaeological and ethnological past. The medieval walled city and its Gothic cathedral, dedicated to “Our Lady of the Snows”, became a designated UNESCO World Heritage site in 1999.

Ibiza is a great place to explore with a host of trendy boutiques and interesting restaurants and a growing number of luxury hotels and spas around its beautiful harbour. The island also boasts 56 sandy beaches along its coastline, making it the perfect place to just chill out and relax.

**Jeep tour with driver**

No guide on board  
Minimum 12 participants, limited participation  
Duration 4h30  
Euros 99

Discover Ibiza on our « off the beaten track » 4x4 adventure – a fantastic opportunity to discover unusual places, inaccessible by coach.

The excursion starts directly from the pier where you will climb aboard your jeep and be driven inland “off the beaten track” to explore areas of the island untouched by the growing tourist industry, places which have remained unchanged for hundreds of years. The scenic itinerary has been specially designed to showcase all of Ibiza’s original beauty, passing through small country settlements, green valleys and mountain tracks to enable you to see the island from a new perspective, not as a clubber’s paradise, but as a perfectly preserved environment where Nature holds sway.

At the end of the tour there will be a one hour stop at Benirras beach (weather conditions permitting). Here you can either take a swim in the crystal clear waters or discover the old pirate tower used to protect Ibiza in bygone days. The tower was manned by two watchmen who would raise the alarm with fire or smoke signals as soon as they saw any pirate ships or other hostile vessel approaching the shore.
MOTRIL, SPAIN

Alpujarras Mountains and Andalusian villages
By air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 15 participants, maximum 35
Duration 7 hours
Euros 95
Lunch included

The tour departs from the port of Motril to ‘Las Alpujarras’, one of Spain’s most spectacular regions, where ancient villages cling to mountainsides on the southern slopes of the Sierra Nevada. The Alpujarra is famous throughout Spain because of its unique mini-ecosystem. Its terraced farmlands are constantly watered by the melting snow from above, making a high-altitude oasis of greenery standing in dramatic contrast to the arid foothills below. The cultural interest of the region lies in its fifty-odd villages, which were the last stronghold of Spanish Muslims, or Moors.

Before arriving at Pampaneira, which lies approximately 1,500 meters (5,000 feet) above sea level, we will make a photo stop at ‘Presa de Rules’ (a huge dam) and pass by the village of Orgiva. This unique village has retained its traditional Berber Architecture – terraced clusters of grey-white box-shaped houses with flat clay roofs – still commonly found in the Rif and Atlas Mountains in Morocco.

Then we will drive to the village of Capileira, situated at the top of the valley. The name is an Arabic derivation of the Latin word for ‘head’ or ‘top’. Here you will see rocky streets, overhanging passageways and sagging stone houses, which have not been remodelled or prettified for contemporary living. We will then enjoy the drive back to the ship in Motril.

This tour involves a lot of driving on winding mountain roads
You will visit the Andalusian villages of Pampaneira and Capileira
Lunch will be served at a local hotel in Mecina. The hotel is amazingly integrated into the lovely rural landscape of the Alpujarra

Secrets of Granada
By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot
Minimum 15 participants, no maximum
Duration 5 hrs
Euros 89

After the Christian conquest, Granada became the hub of a new dynamic age in all the arts, the focal point of the latest fashions and innovations, all of which resulted in the creation of the richest and most complete group of monuments ever conceived during the period from the Renaissance to the Baroque. The Alhambra alone assures Granada a place among the most beautiful cities in the world, but its rich artistic heritage includes many other treasures, often neglected by visitors to the city.

After a panoramic drive of less than 1 hour along the new Sierra Nevada highway, we will arrive in Granada to discover some of the city’s architectural gems. We will see the Royal Chapel, (Burial Place of the famous Catholic Monarchs, Isabel and Fernando), the Cathedral of the Incarnation (a wonder of the Spanish Renaissance), and the Madraza (medieval koranic school). We will walk through the Alcaicería, (the old Arab silk market), and see the Corral del Carbon, (the XIV century caravanseraí; a medieval hotel for merchants and their precious wares). The tour continues with a visit to the old Arab district, Albaicin, enclosing within its medieval walls churches, convents, cisterns, palaces... and last but not least the St Nicholas balcony with its famous views of the Alhambra and the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The Albaicin has been recently designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage site.

This is a strenuous excursion as there is a lot of walking involved.
The excursion includes an inside visit of the cathedral and of the Royal Chapel.
The drive to Granada takes about one hour
The Mamas and The Tapas
Transport by air-conditioned motor coach and on foot
Minimum 10 participants, maximum 25
Duration 7h30
Euros 122
Lunch included

This is more than just a sight-seeing tour, it’s an experience, giving you a glimpse of family life in Spain, and a chance to enjoy some great home cooking.

The day starts with a panoramic drive through the countryside of Andalusia, on your way to the picturesque little village of Alfarnate; you will get to explore the village, learn a bit about olive oil production and then join “Mama” and the family for lunch and have an insider’s take on Spanish culture.

During the scenic drive to Alfarnate you will be able to admire and photograph a host of traditional Spanish villages and appreciate the natural beauty of Malaga province. Alfarnate lies on a fertile plain where olives, almonds and pomegranates flourish under the hot sun. Agriculture has always been the backbone of the local economy as you will discover on the visit to a local olive oil mill, set amongst one thousand year old olive groves. Your guide will give you some interesting facts and stories about Andalucía’s “liquid gold”, also known as olive oil, before you get to see the production process and sample the end product. You can also buy some olive oil to take back with you. After the olive mill there will be a walking tour through the village which bears traces of its Moorish past, and a visit to the 16th century church of Santa Ana with its Mudejar tower (Mudejars were moors who remained in the country after the Christian reconquest of Spain).

You will then drive to a traditional homestead in Alfarnatejo for a tasting of local wines. Afterwards you will be met by a group of local ladies, the “Mamas”, who will take you back to their family homes to enjoy a home cooked Spanish meal. The warm welcome and generous hospitality you encounter make the meal even more special and you can expect to enjoy Spanish ham and cheese tapas, homemade country soup, coffee, cakes and homemade liqueurs.

You are in an ordinary everyday family home so you will probably meet other members of the family as they come back from work or school. Relax and enjoy the atmosphere, you will soon get to feel quite at home. After the meal you are free to explore the house, look at family photographs, traditional ornaments and homemade quilted bedspreads and ask your hosts about their lifestyle. By the time the visit draws to a close you will have gained a real insight into a different culture and will be reluctant to wave goodbye to “Mama” and board the coach for the trip back to the coast.

Participants should make sure they wear comfortable shoes
The lunch includes meat
Lunch is served in a private home so there may well be cats and dogs in the house, and the owners may smoke
Normally the owners will not sit down to lunch with their guests, but go about their everyday life
The walking tour is mainly over flat, even ground
Hidden Grenada: Albaycin & Sacromonte
Transport by air-conditioned motor coach and on foot
Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30
Duration: 6 hours
Euros 119

Discover the true heart and soul of Grenada. A coach will be waiting at the pier to take you to the San Cristobal viewpoint in Granada where you will be welcomed by a local guide who will show you the treasures of this cultural melting pot. Albaycin is the old Arab quarter and is a Unesco World Heritage listed neighbourhood with a strong Moorish influence, full of winding cobbled streets and Carmen houses (from the Hispanic-arabic term “Karm”, meaning house with garden). Sacromonte is a picturesque location on the outskirts of the city where for many centuries (up until 1950) Spanish gypsies resided in caves.

The walking tour will start in Albaycin; strolling through the narrow winding streets you get a real sense of this vibrant popular neighbourhood, where the past and the present rub shoulders amicably. Meet Maria, the owner of a local bakery who will invite you in to sample some of her delicious pastries. Then walk through the main squares towards San Nicolas viewpoint, one of the best places to enjoy fabulous views of the city against a backdrop of the Sierra Nevada.

Next we will explore the Sacromonte district. Sacromonte is located on Valparaiso hill and borders the Albaycin neighbourhood. In the 15th century large numbers of Spanish gypsies “Gitanos” came to the area and made their homes in caves on the hill. The name “Sacromonte” or Holy Mountain was given to the hill because it was believed that the hill caves contained relics of San Cecilio, the city’s patron saint. The vibrant gypsy culture is still alive and well in Sacromonte. A visit to the Sacromonte Caves Interpretation Centre, ethnological museum will give you an insight into the life and customs of these cave dwelling gypsies. Afterwards visitors will be treated to a performance of live music by a gypsy guitarist and a glass of Sangria. The guide will then take you through Paseo de Los Tristes, literally Promenade of the Sad, so-called because it is the route taken by funeral processions on their way to the cemetery behind the Alhambra, before your transfer back to Motril.

Walking on the tour is moderate to strenuous
You will enjoy tea or lemonade with a local sweet pastry in a café, and a bottle of water and glass of sangria are also included.
CASABLANCA, MOROCCO

Rabat
By air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 15 participants, no maximum
Duration approx. 5 hours
Euros 50

Rabat is the fourth of the Imperial cities. It is a mix of a long past and a highly modernised present. The city’s glory days were in the 12th century, when the then Sultan used the Kasbah as a base for campaigns against the Spanish. It was during this time that the city’s most famous landmarks sprang up. A haven for Muslims driven out of Spain in the early of 17th century and a capital city only since the days of French occupation, Rabat’s ambiance comes from Islam and Europe in fairly equal proportions.

The city’s most famous site is the Tour Hassan, 44 meters high, although originally intended to reach 80 meters. Majestic but never finished, the tower was the brainchild of Sultan Yacoub El Mansour whose ambition was to build the biggest mosque in the Muslim world.
Alongside but separated by many centuries, stands the Mohamed V Mausoleum, the construction of which began in 1962. Admire the magnificent white marble pavilion with its green tiled roof which houses an exquisitely crafted burial chamber and a white onyx tomb. This sumptuous monument expresses a Nation’s grateful thanks to the Sultan and statesman who led the country to independence.
You will also visit the ruins of the Chellah Necropolis, built in the 14th century by the Merinids, on the site of the Roman city of Sala. An elegant minaret, all that is left of a once impressive mosque, stands guard over this magical spot.

Before returning to Casablanca you will see the Kasbah des Ouyadas, a citadel overlooking the ocean. It was named after the Oudaya tribe who were sent to Rabat by Sultan Moulay Ismail to defend the city against the ferocious Andalusian pirates. The Kasbah is a Unesco World Heritage site.

The drive to Rabat is about 1h15 each way.
Inside visits: Mausoleum of Mohamed V and Hassan Tower, Kasbah of the Oudayas
Outside visit: the Mechouar (surroundings of the Royal Palace), panoramic view of the Chellah Kasbah.
The Royal Palace and the Mausoleum can be closed without any prior notice if the King or a member of his family is in Rabat or when there is an official visit.
Panoramic tour of Casablanca and visit of HASSAN II Mosque
By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot
Minimum 15 participants, no maximum
Duration 4 hours
Euros 42

Of all the cities in the world, Hollywood chose to immortalise Casablanca as the classic exotic colonial outpost in its eponymous blockbuster starring Humphry Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. Casablanca is Morocco’s largest city and industrial centre. This port city was deep in decline until the French decided to remodel it with wide boulevards, public parks and imposing Moorish civic buildings. Since the 12th century historians have described the port of Anfa as the axis of its neighbouring regions: Chaouia, Rehamnas and Tadla. It was their connection to Europe, enabling them to export cereals, wool, beeswax and oil. These days, although relics from the past are clearly visible in the form of bazaars, souks, the ramparts around the old Medina, mosques and marabouts, Casablanca is a progressive, forward looking city, taking its place in the modern world.

A perfect example of old and new blending harmoniously is the Habous Quarter, also known as the New Medina. This vibrant district was built by the French in the 1930’s but looks as if it had been throbbing with activity since the dawn of time. Small shady squares, narrow streets lined with arcades leading from one souk to another, everywhere you look there is something to delight the eye: coppersmiths shaping teapots, cauldrons, candlesticks vases and trays, bazaars bursting with all kinds of merchandise in every imaginable colour, a fragrant olive souk, antique shops and fruit stalls.

The promenade running along the coast of Casablanca is known as The Corniche and is one of the most pleasant areas in in the city, popular with locals and tourists alike. It is ideal for taking a dip in the sea, going out for a drink or enjoying the night life.

However the heart of the city is Mohammed V square which stands between the two contrasting sides of the city: The Medina, and the elegant modern section of Casablanca with its large boulevards. You will find some of the country’s most impressive Moorish architecture in Casablanca. The Hassan II Mosque completed in 1993 is the most recent adornment to the Kingdom’s most modern city, towering majestically from sea to sky. Built right on the sea, a laser beam visible up to 22 miles away, shines at the top of the minaret and shows the direction of Mecca. 3300 craftsmen from all over the kingdom were put to work to build the world’s tallest minaret (200 meters high), the retractable roof which can transform the prayer hall into a magnificent patio in 3 minutes flat, sculpt 10000 square meters of decorations, and install 67000 square meters of plaster, and 53000 square meters of wood. The mosque boasts a nave of incomparable beauty, a prayer room large enough to hold 25000 worshippers and an esplanade for a further 80000. It is a gem of religious architecture, subtly mixing Moroccan tradition with “state of the art” technology.

Modest clothing is required to visit the mosque.
TANGIER, MOROCCO

Tetuan
By air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 20 participants, no maximum
Duration 5 hours
Euros 49

Tetuan has the charm of all small northern Moroccan towns. Set among the giant mountains of the Rif, the town has a unique history. It was a safe haven for many Muslim and Jewish refugees fleeing from Christian Andalusia and was later occupied by the Spanish for almost two centuries. Tetouan is truly a multicultural melting pot and this is reflected in its architecture which is a wonderful mixture of Spanish and Moorish styles. The town is growing fast and there are now 65,000 inhabitants. The people are friendly and the Spanish influence is still ever present with the townsfolk speaking both Arabic and Spanish when they talk amongst themselves.

The 57 km drive to Tetuan will take you through the Rif Mountains. You will then reach Tetuan which is situated on the northern slope of a fertile valley. The sightseeing tour will start with a stroll through narrow streets to explore the medina and the souks.

The drive between Tangier and Tetuan is approx. 1h15 (57km). The city tour is by foot (approx. 2 hours).

Secrets of Tangier
Transfer by coach to the Kasbah and on foot
Duration 2h30
Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30
Euros 35

The coaches will drop you off at the Kasbah, the ancient medina with its narrow streets and bazaars. Accompanied by your guide, you will walk down to the Grand Socco (meaning "Big Square"), which divides the medina from the Ville Nouvelle area of Tangier and pass by the Mendoubia Gardens embellished with a large marble fountain and park benches. The square really comes to life during the evenings when vendors put up their extensive displays and sell a variety of second-hand goods, fruit and spices. The market is vividly colourful, and the country women presiding over the stalls are known for their striped foutas and wide-brimmed straw hats. The tour continues to the Petit Socco (meaning "Little Square"), also known as the "Souk Dakhli". Petit Socco was once one of the greatest souks in all of Morocco and people would flock from miles around to buy food and clothes. In the nineteenth century the area became more prosperous and trading with Europe increased. By the early twentieth century, it was frequented by businessmen, diplomats and bankers and the cafes, hotels and casinos located there bore witness to this newfound affluence. However, by the 1950s, the hub of city life had moved to the Ville Nouvelle. You will enjoy mint tea and local pastries before passing by the Tangier Grand Mosque, built on the site of a former Portuguese cathedral which in turn stood on a Roman temple dedicated to Hercules. The mosque dates back to the Moulay Ismail period and was expanded in 1815 by Moulay Sliman. Mohammed V visited the mosque on April 11, 1947, going on to make a historic speech at Mendoubia Gardens. After some time at leisure you will have the opportunity either to take the coach back to the port or return on foot back at your convenience.

It is about 1.5km all downhill
Mint tea and a local pastry will be offered to you
CADIIZ, SPAIN

A day in Seville
By air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 15 participants, maximum limited & fixed by the Alcazar’s administration
Duration 8h30/9 hours
Euros 120
Tapas Lunch included

Seville, the capital of Andalusia is a unique, compact and relaxing city with a rich cultural heritage, and has always been seen as a symbol of tolerance between Roman, Arabic, Jewish and Christian cultures. Visitors will be enchanted by the sights and sounds of this atmospheric city: the mysterious, patios, the sound of church bells calling the faithful to prayer, the sleepy plazas and of course the multitude of artistic treasures.

The drive from the port of Cadiz to Seville will take you along the highway through vineyards, cotton fields and olive groves. You will visit the Alcazar, a 14th century fortress palace built in the Moorish style by the Christian King, Peter the Cruel in the Moorish style. The marvellous architecture, intricate decorations, fragrant gardens and sparkling fountains will long be engraved in your memory. There will also be an inside visit of the city’s cathedral. Built in the 15th century the Cathedral of Seville is reputed to be the 3rd largest in the world. The imposing 322 ft bell tower, known as La Giralda, was once the minaret of a mosque located on the site in former times. You will also walk through the old Jewish quarter in the neighbourhood of Santa Cruz with its labyrinth of narrow streets, wrought-iron-grilled windows, white washed buildings and tiled patios.

The tour will end with a panoramic tour of Plaza de America, Plaza de España and Maria Luisa Park. Before leaving Seville the guide will point out some other interesting sights.

The drive between Cadiz and Seville takes about 1h30 each way
You will spend approx 3 hours in Seville.
Inside visits: cathedral (approx 45 minutes), the Alcazar (approx one hour).
Modest clothing is required for the cathedral visit
This tour involves a lot of walking.
The time schedule of this tour may be altered according to meet on the spot requirements
Please note that the Alcazar is a royal residence - the building maybe closed to public without prior notice for official reasons – in such case the visit will be replaced by the “Casa de Pilatos.”
Tapas Lunch consists of several dishes to be shared between 4 guests. It includes mineral water, red wine (1 bottle for 4) and coffee
Jerez – Sherry & Royal Horse Performance
By air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 15 participants, maximum limited
Duration 5 hours
Euros 69
“How the Andalusian Horses dance” performance included
Late return onboard for lunch

Jerez de la Frontera has the distinction of being internationally famous for both sherry and fine horses. The Muslims called the town Scheris, from which the Spanish name Jerez and the English word Sherry are derived. Centuries of sherry and brandy production by venerable English and Spanish companies have created a landed aristocracy whose large ranches, flanked by vast vineyards, provide lush areas for horse breeding. With a winemaking tradition spanning more than two millennia, the most famous wine in southern Spain is Sherry, made from grapes grown in the area’s chalky soil. The region surrounding Jerez benefits from a microclimate which favours grape cultivation. The coach will leave Cadiz for a 20 mile drive heading north to the town of Jerez. Upon arrival in Jerez you will visit one of the leading wine cellars, where you will be introduced to the mysteries of the blending process, a crucial step in the making of fine sherry as well as the different kinds of ageing process called “soleras and criaderas”.

You will visit the main Andalusian courtyard and some of the bodega’s antiques before entering the “Gran Bodega”. This is one of the biggest wine cellars in the area and houses a fine private collection of Contemporary Art including 100 Picasso prints, paintings of Dalí, Tapiés, Chillida, Miró and many more. The visit ends with a wine tasting; enjoy the unique atmosphere of the Bodega as you savour the different types of sherry. On the way to the Royal Andalusian Horse riding School, the guide will take you for a short panoramic drive around Jerez de la Frontera. The prestigious Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art was established in the 1970’s in the grounds of a splendid 19th century palace, and ever since the magical ‘dressage and dance’ performances executed by the horses have enthralled audiences. For a truly memorable experience, take the opportunity to see the Spanish-Andalusian horses perform their spectacular show. These beautiful, pure bred creatures have incredible grace, speed and stamina and their experienced riders display wonderful skills of horsemanship.

The Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art Foundation in Jerez de la Frontera is known all over the world thanks to its show entitled "How the Andalusian Horses Dance", a unique exhibition of horsemanship which both exhibits and summarises the work which the institution has carried out since its establishment. The show (duration 1h30) is scheduled at noon Late return and late lunch onboard It is 45 minute drive to Jerez
The white villages of Andalucia
Transport by air-conditioned motor coach
Duration 4h30
Minimum 15 participants, maximum 40
Euros 39

A motor coach will be waiting on Cadiz pier, ready to take you in air-conditioned comfort to Vejer de la Frontera, an authentic “pueblo blanco” or white village, perched on a hill top above the steep gorge of the Barbate river.

The village was declared a national monument in 1978 and apart from being extremely picturesque and unspoiled, gives visitors a good idea of what Andalusian towns looked like during the five centuries of Moorish occupation. On our guided walking tour you will discover a labyrinth of narrow cobbled streets and explore secret nooks and crannies, stumbling upon hidden patios and enchanting houses. You will also stroll through Plaza Espana, voted one of the prettiest squares in Spain, which boasts a wonderful tiled fountain with little ceramic frogs spouting water. Plaza Espana is the vibrant heart of Vejer de la Frontera and you will have some time at leisure to look round by yourself.

The excursion continues with a scenic drive through the countryside and “La Brena” national park with its beautiful pine forest. Look out for Cape Trafalgar where a lighthouse marks the bleak headland where the Battle of Trafalgar was fought in 1805. It was here that Nelson’s tactical genius routed the combined French and Spanish forces, despite their superior numbers. In the course of this historic encounter 22 French and Spanish ships were lost; the British lost no ships but paid dearly for victory nonetheless as Nelson himself was shot by a French musketeer and died just before the battle ended.

The last stop on this tour is at Conil de la Frontera, a traditional fishing town with dazzling white buildings, a picturesque old quarter with a 15th century tower, cobbled streets and a host of friendly tapas bars and shops. You will have some leisure time to enjoy Conil on your own; relax and watch the world go by at one of the tapas bars, browse around the shops, or simply go for a stroll on the beautiful sandy beach.

Segway Sauntering
Duration 2h30
Minimum 2 participants, maximum 8
Euros 60
Active tour

Discover the exciting multi-faceted city of Cadiz on our original Segway Sauntering tour and see all the city highlights.

There is a short walk to the departure point of the Segway tour, but on your return you will be picked up and brought back to the ship.

Learning to ride a Segway is very easy and you will soon feel relaxed and confident. The sense of freedom and comfort as you glide along on your Segway is incomparable and it is a great way to explore all the sites.

Cadiz is said to be the oldest inhabited city in Western Europe and some parts are almost 1,000 years old, so that’s a lot of atmosphere and history to experience (just as well you’ve got your Segway!). Old world charm abounds in Cadiz; narrow winding roads and alleys, inner courtyards, churches, monuments and picturesque squares serve as a back drop for the buzzing vitality of the locals going about their everyday life.

Enjoy the ride and admire the sights including the 12th century Arco des Populo, the medieval gateway to the sea, the Central Market of Abastos, Spain’s oldest covered market, the Carlos III promenade and much, much more.

This alternative Cadiz discovery tour is a great way to combine culture and fun.
LISBON, PORTUGAL

Panoramic Lisbon
By air conditioned motor coach
The tour ends at the airport
Duration 4hrs
Minimum 15 participants, maximum 38
Euros 60

A hilly city paved with cobblestones. Nearby the berth you will see the lavishly decorated Belen Tower, where Portuguese explorers were given a rousing send-off and the Monument of Discoveries, built to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Prince Henry’s death, the mastermind navigator. Then you will enjoy the visit to the Church of Jeronimos Monastery, a 16th century architectural masterpiece designed in the Gothic-Manueline. The tour continues towards Rossio Square considered the Piccadilly Circus of Lisbon, leading to a mile-long Avenida da Liberdade on is the Marquis of Pombal statue, who rebuilt the city after the 1755 earth quake. Stop at the top of Park Eduardo VII Belvedere with its magnificent view over the harbour and continues passing by the monumental Moorish-style bullring Built in 1892 in a Moorish style with small cupolas atop its four main towers, Campo Pequeno’s bullring (Praça de Touros do Campo Pequeno) which accommodates up to 9,000 spectators. Bullfights take place on Thursdays in summer season. During the rest of the year it is occasionally used for concerts and other shows, such as the circus.

The coach ride will take you through the main avenues, the top of Eduardo VII Belvedere,
You will visit Jeronimos’ monastery – on Mondays the visit of the church is replaced by the visit of Palacio da Ajuda
When visiting religious sites, please dress respectfully; no bare shoulders or shorts allowed.
Guests continuing the cruise to Barbados can take part of this tour; remain in the city after the tour and go back to the ship at their own convenience. A taxi from Praça do Comercio back to the ship will cost approx €19.