

Lisbon – Portimao - Safi – Tenerife – Bridgetown

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.



PORTIMAO, ALGARVE COAST, PORTUGAL

Algarve Discovery Tour

By Jeep Safari with an English-speaking driver guide

Duration 3h30/4h

Minimum 6 participants, maximum 70

Euros 70

We invite you to discover the real Algarve and the little villages that time forgot.

Join our convoy of four-wheel drive jeeps, complete with English speaking drivers/guides, and cross the great Monchique Mountains, admiring breath-taking views along the way. In Monchicao the cork oak flourishes like nowhere else on earth and you will get the opportunity to learn something about its cultivation and the age-old traditions of the cork industry. There will be a stop at a typical local shop in Monchique, where you will find some of the best examples of local handicrafts: baskets and items in wood or sisal, and have some time to wander off by yourselves and experience the unique atmosphere of the village. We will also visit the home of the "Scissor chair", one of the oldest forms of seating. This is the one and only place where these unique wooden chairs are made in the traditional way.

The excursion continues with a visit to a private farm. Here you will see a still and savour the home-made local liqueur the "Medronho", brewed on the premises, as well as tasting the owner's freshly gathered honey. The last stop before returning to the ship is Caldas (Southern Sintra) a place redolent with history and traditions; the local people have not forgotten the ways of their forefathers and still bake their bread in traditional wooden ovens. We will also visit the "Source of Love"; this is a natural spring where inhabitants from all over the mountains come to draw fresh water. The name derives from the beauty and romance of the locality, which has always been a favoured spot for young lovers to plight their troth and is now a popular setting for wedding day photos. We hope you enjoy your trip to the Algarve, southernmost province of Portugal, and have a host of pleasant memories to take back on board.

SAFI, MOROCCO

Marrakech

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Approx. duration 11 hours

Euros 117

Lunch included

Known as "The Pearl of the South", or the "Red City" because of the colour of the city walls, Marrakech has long been host to international personalities and jetsetters. Since time immemorial, Marrakech has been an important crossroad of Arabic, Berber and Sudanese civilizations. The city itself was founded by a mysterious warrior from the Sahara, Yusef ben Tachfine over 900 years ago. Its wonderful dry climate and its unequalled setting, in the midst of a 3,500-acre palm grove at the foot of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains, make it one of Morocco's most popular travel destinations.

The excursion starts with a visit to the exquisitely beautiful Bahia Palace with its finely wrought ceilings and enchanting Moorish gardens. You will continue towards the ancient Medina with its medieval ramparts. The cool shaded Medina is home to dozens of craft guilds including wool dyers, coppersmiths and spice merchants. Admire the Koutoubia mosque, a real gem of Islamic architecture whose minaret is visible from almost everywhere in Marrakech. After a typical Moroccan lunch with some traditional folklore, you will continue to Marrakech's main attraction, the famed Djamaa el Fna Square with its snake charmers, henna artists, tooth-extractors, story tellers and acrobats who perform daily around sunset. From Djamaa El Fna square you can access the souks with their tempting array of merchandise, leather goods, lanterns, jewellery, slippers and heaps of fragrant spices. There will be some free time at end of the tour.

This tour includes a long drive: 3 hours between Safi and Marrakech

Lunch is included and will be served at a local restaurant. You will have the opportunity to taste delicious specialities like Moroccan salads, chicken & lemon tajine, meat couscous with seven vegetables, fruit, and mint tea with pastries.

¼ wine, ¼ mineral water and tea are included during lunch



Marrakech & Majorelle gardens

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30

Approx. Duration 11 hours

Euros 121

Lunch included

Marrakesh, the Red City, is the most important of the four Imperial Cities and indeed from medieval times until around the beginning of the 20th century, the entire country of Morocco was known as the "Kingdom of Marrakesh".

The city boasts a long and eventful history spanning some one thousand years. Powerful monarchs have fought over the territory, which has seen the rise and fall of successive dynasties each leaving its mark in the form of magnificent palaces straight out of the "Arabian Nights", fabulous gardens, mosques and koranic schools. Home to intellectuals and writers as well as talented craftsmen, this bustling trading centre is an exotic blend of Arab, Berber and sub-Saharan influences and is the undisputed capital of Southern Morocco.

The drive to Marrakesh takes approximately 3 hours, but there will be a 10-minute comfort stop on the way.

Upon arrival you will discover the glorious Majorelle Gardens, created by the French painter Jacques Majorelle over a forty-year period. Majorelle, who was an avid plant collector, assembled specimens from the five continents, using his artistic sensibility to compose and colour his garden like a painting. The garden walls, fountains and villa itself are painted a very intense shade of blue which is known as Majorelle blue, inspired by the decorative tiles often seen on Moroccan buildings. The villa and gardens were bought by Pierre Bergé and Yves Saint Laurent in 1980 and lovingly restored. The building used by Majorelle as an artist's studio now houses a magnificent collection of Islamic art belonging to Pierre Bergé and Yves Saint Laurent and when Saint Laurent died in 2008 his ashes were scattered over the rose garden.

Next you will see the Koutoubia Mosque, the largest mosque in Marrakesh. This landmark building can be seen from almost everywhere in the city. Its iconic minaret, topped by four copper spheres, is as much a symbol of Marrakesh as the Eiffel tower is of Paris. Legend has it that the spheres were originally three in number and made of gold. The fourth sphere was added by the wife of the ruler Moulay Yacoub who melted down all her jewellery as a penance for breaking her fast during Ramadan. Non-Muslims are not allowed to enter the mosque, but you will be able to visit the surrounding gardens.

You will then take a break to enjoy a typical Moroccan lunch.

The next stop will be the Dar El Bacha Confluences museum. This newly opened museum, dedicated to Islamic art, is a work of art in itself. The fabulous building was once home to Thami el Glaoui, named Pasha of Marrakech by Sultan Moulay Youssef in 1912. El Glaoui, also known as Lord of the Atlas, was at one point the most powerful and influential figure in Morocco, as well as being one of the world's richest men. He enjoyed a very glamorous lifestyle and entertained lavishly playing host to many of the world best known personalities: Winston Churchill, General De Gaulle, Charlie Chaplin and Jacques Majorelle among others. Naturally his palace was in keeping with his status. Built at the start of the 20th century is it one of the most beautiful palaces in the Red City featuring exquisite cedar wood panelling and coffered ceilings, painted walls and the famous Moroccan Zellij, traditional hand-crafted mosaic tiles with geometric and floral motifs. Feast your eyes on the opulent décor and imagine the magnificent receptions, sumptuous banquets and extravagant celebrations that once took place here; the walls echoing with laughter and brilliant conversation as the cream of international society enjoyed the pasha's generous hospitality.

After a visit to the old town and the many different souks selling carpets, metal work, clothing, spices and leather goods, you will walk to Djammaa El Fna Square, which is the heart of Marrakesh. In 1050 the square was the scene for many public executions and the name Djammaa El Fna, translates as "Assembly of the dead". These days however the square could not be more alive and is teeming with snake charmers, water sellers, fortune tellers, acrobats, musicians, henna artists and story tellers as well as a constant stream of locals and tourists. You will have one hour at leisure to soak up the amazing atmosphere before the journey back to the ship.

This tour includes a long drive: 3 hours between Safi and Marrakech

Lunch is included and will be served in a local restaurant. You will have the opportunity to taste delicious specialities like Moroccan salads, chicken tagine with lemon, meat couscous with seven vegetables, fruit, and mint tea with pastries.

¼ wine, ¼ mineral water and tea are included during lunch



Essaouira

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30

Duration approx. 7 hours

Euros 107

Seafood lunch included

Essaouira is one of Morocco's most enjoyable and attractive coastal towns. It is charmingly picturesque with whitewashed, blue shuttered houses, art galleries, wood workshops, and a harbour filled with bright blue fishing boats- all enclosed by ancient red walls. The town faces a group of rocky islands and is surrounded by an expanse of empty sandy beaches and dunes. Everything in the small centre is within walking distance and the beaches are quite clean.

The tranquillity and traditional aspect of Essaouira belie its rich history and the many international influences that have surged through this ancient trading and fishing port at one time or another. Apart from the charming mix of Portuguese, Berber and French architecture and the beautiful scenery, it is the laid-back atmosphere and unique sense of tolerance, which makes Essaouira so appealing.

2 hour drive each way!

You will visit Bab Marrakech square, La Scala, the Old town and "le Vieux Port"

You will have some time at leisure after the guided tour

Lunch is served in a Sea Food Restaurant

Time at leisure after lunch

SANTA CRUZ, TENERIFE**Mount Teide National Park**

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Duration 4 hours

Euros 42

The coach will set off in the direction of Laguna, the old colonial capital located in the Aguere Valley between the Anaga mountain range and Monte de la Esperanza. From this point onwards we will take a mountain road through the magnificent Esperanza pine forests and foothills to the Teide National Park. The park which extends over 18.990 hectares was granted World Heritage status in 2007. As you will see, it is a truly unique landscape composed of craters, volcanoes and rivers of petrified lava. The park is dominated by Mount Teide, the highest mountain in Spain, which is an active, though dormant, volcano (the last eruption was in 1909). The mountain was of great spiritual significance to the Guanches people (the original inhabitants of Tenerife) who believed that it held up the sky. The park itself lies at around 2000 meters above sea level and in winter snow falls and gales sometimes make the road impassable. During the summer months temperatures can soar to over 40C and the arid scenery looks like a moonscape or something out of a cowboy movie.

There will be some free time at Roques de Garcia before the coach journey back, which will be punctuated by photo stops so you can capture the breath-taking views on camera.

Because of the high altitude (about 2.200 metres) this tour is not suitable for people with heart conditions or breathing difficulties.

Warm clothing is recommended

It is forbidden to remove any stones or plants from the National Park

The tour takes you up mountain roads to approximately 2000 metres above sea level

This panoramic tour includes a lot of driving

If weather conditions are bad, access to Mount Teide may be closed at short notice, and an alternative route will be chosen



History and Flavours of Tenerife

By air-conditioned motor coach

Duration 4 hours

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 35

Euros 48

Explore a bustling market, discover the colourful city of La Laguna which enjoys World Heritage status, and enjoy a drink at the iconic Tenerife Auditorium designed by the Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava, reputedly the finest late modernist building in the Canary Islands.

There is no better way to take the pulse of a city than to visit the local market. In Santa Cruz this means a tour of “Our Lady of Africa” covered market built in 1940 in typical North African style. It is truly the social and commercial hub of the city offering visitors a plethora of local produce; you will find a cornucopia of fresh fruit and vegetables stacked in pyramids, herbs and spices, teas and flowers on over 300 stalls. You will be accompanied on the visit by an expert guide.

The tour continues to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of La Laguna, considered to be the cultural capital of Tenerife. San Cristobal de La Laguna, to give it its proper title was the first town to be founded on the island thanks to its ideal location; it has a natural source of fresh water and is far enough from the coast to be safe from pirate attacks. The town is a unique example of an unwallled colonial city. The original 15th century layout remains largely intact and was the template for colonial cities in the New World such as Old Havana, Lima and Cartagena. The old town of is full of fine buildings from the 15th and 17TH centuries as well as many churches and religious buildings including the recently restored cathedral. The most important streets are for pedestrians only, so it is a pleasure to wander around the picturesque squares and soak up the atmosphere.

Before returning to the ship, you will be treated to a passion fruit mojito accompanied by a selection of local delicacies at the Auditorium de Tenerife which has wonderful sea views. The majestic curved profile of the auditorium has become a symbol of the island and is emblematic of modern Spanish architecture.

This tour involves around 1½ hours of walking.

There are some cobblestone surfaces to negotiate in La Laguna.

Flat, comfortable shoes are recommended



BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

Flavour of Barbados (Island Discovery tour ending at the Airport)

By air-conditioned vehicle

Minimum 20 participants, Maximum 64

Duration approx. 5 hours

Euros 80

Your tour starts along the famous West Coast of Barbados, also known as “the Gold Coast”, where the rich and famous have their villas. On the way you will pass through two historic little towns, Holetown and Speightstown with a lot of local charm. Next you will head inland, and your first stop will be at Farley Hill National Park with the ruins of its magnificent Great House, destroyed by fire, landscaped gardens and breath-taking views of the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy a leisurely stroll through the park which is a popular picnic spot for Barbadians.

Moving on from here you continue along the coast for a while with another picture stop at the fishing village named Bathsheba. The rolling waves on Bathsheba beach have made this a surfer’s paradise. From here you will head up the hill again to reach the next stop: St. John’s Parish Church. This classical gothic style church offers sweeping views of the picturesque East Coast. The church building and grounds belong to the Barbados National Trust.

A short scenic drive will take you to your lunch stop at Sunbury Plantation. This Great House was originally built over 300 years ago and is maintained as a period museum. It is magnificently furnished and gives a vivid idea of what life was like on a sugar estate in the 18th and 19th centuries. After this momentous leap back in time, you will be ready to enjoy a sumptuous buffet lunch served in the courtyard.

From here a short drive will take you to the Airport where you will find your luggage ready to be checked in.

This tour can only be done by guests that have flights leaving Barbados after 3 pm. You will be transferred to the airport just after lunch.

You will be at the airport at latest 1.30pm

Lunch is included during the tour, but drinks will be at your own expense.

Your luggage will be loaded on a separate luggage truck and it will be delivered to the airport at the end of the tour.

Beach Break at Copacabana

Transfer by air-conditioned vehicle

Minimum 10 participants / maximum 25

Euros: 75

How about enjoying your last hours in the Caribbean on a beautiful beach in Barbados, soaking up the warm sunshine before heading back home?

The beach facility is a 15-minute drive from the Harbour. Your luggage will be stored on site and you can just relax in a sun lounger on the beach.

Transfers to the Airport will be provided at two pre-arranged times in order for guests to make the most of their last day (1st one at 12.45 pm, second one at 2.15pm, the airlines require guests on international flights to be at the Airport at least 2 ½ hours prior to their flight departure)

The rate includes all transfers (Port / Beach / Airport) the storage of luggage assisted by luggage attendant

Light lunch at the bar and 2 drinks are included

One beach chair and a shared umbrella, shower facility and washrooms are available

Copacabana is not a hotel or a resort but strictly a Beach Bar

2 towels will be provided per guest – 1 for the beach and one to dry off after the final shower

