

Lisbon – Portimao - Safi – Funchal – 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 80

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, Youssef 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

FUNCHAL, MADEIRA**Island of eternal spring**

Funchal highlights & Botanical Gardens
 Transport by air-conditioned motor coach
 Minimum 15 participants, maximum 90
 Duration 4 hours
 Euros 60

This excursion offers you a bird's eye view of Madeira, all the way up to the parish of Monte, which has attracted visitors to Madeira since the late 19th century. From 1893 to 1943 a rack and pinion mountain railway used to take visitors from Pombal in Funchal to Terrero da Luta in Monte. The railway no longer exists, but these days cable cars offer an even more spectacular experience; suspended between heaven and earth you will see the urban environment give way to lush greenery and enjoy breathtaking views of Funchal Bay as you climb to your destination.

The departure point for the cable car is at Almirante Reis park in the old town.

Your first glimpse of Monte will be the twin towered landmark church of Our Lady of the Mountain, Nossa Senhora do Monte, built in the 18th century. The church houses the mortal remains of Charles the 1st of Austria, last ruler of the Austro-Hungarian empire who was forced to renounce all claims to the throne after the First World War and spent the rest of his life in exile, dying in 1922 at the age of 34.

The tour continues with one of the island's not to be missed treats, a toboggan ride to Livramento on one of the island's traditional two-seater wicker sledges. The first of these sledges appeared in 1850 and was used by wealthy landowners to transport goods and people rapidly down to Funchal.

There are currently 100 of these wicker sledges in use. Each sledge is piloted by two Carreiros do Monte, wearing a white shirt with the number of their sledge on it, a straw hat and special rubber boots which they use to help with braking. The speed varies from 15 to 38 km per hour depending on weather conditions.

Madeira has often been described as a garden floating in the Atlantic; plants thrive in the island's extraordinarily fertile soil and flourish in the mild subtropical climate as you will see for yourself at our next stop, the Botanical Gardens. Once part of a private estate belonging to the Reid family, who built the famous Reid Palace hotel in 1891, the gardens are now open to be public. There are over 2000 plants from all over the world to be admired, and you will find a herbarium, as well as terraces and greenhouses with many rare and indigenous plants labelled in Portuguese and Latin. The gardens have wonderful views over Funchal, so be sure to have your camera handy.



The cable car is not suitable for passengers with walking difficulties as it slows down for boarding, but does not actually stop, rather like a ski lift

There are 75 steps to reach the church of Our Lady of the Mountain

Enjoyment of panoramic views is dependent on weather conditions

Madeira has a microclimate so please bring a jacket to be ready for any change in temperature

A taste of Madeira

Transport by air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 90

Duration 4h30

Euros 49

Drive in air-conditioned comfort to what is arguably Madeira's best viewing point; the Belvédère of Pico dos Barcelos offers 360° panoramic views of Funchal, the bay, the harbour, the surrounding hills and the parishes of Santo Antonio (birthplace of the football star Cristiano Ronaldo) and Sao Martinho.

The excursion continues along a winding coast road to the village of Camara de Lobos. It was here that the Portuguese explorer Joao Goncalves Zarco, credited with the discovery of the Madeira islands, first disembarked. He found a rocky peninsula extending into the sea forming a cove where ships could shelter from Atlantic storms; he also saw a colony of sea lions which is how the village got its name (lobo marinho is the Portuguese for sea lion).

Madeira has always attracted its fair share of crowned heads and celebrity visitors; in 1950 Winston Churchill came here on holiday and was enchanted by Camara de Lobos, spending many hours painting this picturesque village with its red-roofed houses and colourful fishing boats.

To reach our next destination, Cabo Girao, we will drive through freshly scented Eucalyptus and pine forests. Cabo Girao is the second highest sea cliff in the world and the highest in Europe. It rises 580 m above sea level and affords spectacular views of the coastline, Funchal and Camara de Lobos.

Madeira is of course synonymous with wine and no tour of the island would be complete without taking the highroad and heading up the mountains and passes to the vineyards of Estreito de Camara de Lobos, one of the most important wine growing areas. The island's volcanic mountainous terrain is hard to cultivate and as we travel up the steep valleys you will see the man-made terraces known as "poios" which enabled farmers and wine producers to overcome these environmental difficulties. We will stop at the Adega da Quinta, a charming hostelry surrounded by vineyards and offering breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean. In this warmly welcoming setting you will get to sample local wine accompanied by Portuguese cheeses and admire the original wine cellar filled with barrels of Madeira, Ginja (sour cherry liqueur) and local brandy.

It is the perfect place to enjoy a bit of Madeiran hospitality, something to savour as you settle back in the motor coach for the return journey.

The tour involves a long panoramic drive

Please take a jacket to be ready for any change in temperature.

Visibility at viewpoints depends on weather conditions



BEFORE TIME BEGAN

Laurisilva Unesco World Heritage site

Jeep tour

Minimum 6 participants, maximum 24

Duration 4 hours

Euros 69

This fabulous jeep tour gives you a unique opportunity to explore the hidden wonders of Madeira, valleys and mountains which can only be visited with off road vehicles.

You will leave the city and head towards the interior of the island and the breathtaking valley of Serra de Agua, climbing steadily to the Ecumeada pass at a height of 1000 M above sea level. Here you will enjoy spectacular views of both the north and south coast, and the valleys of Ribeira Brava and Sao Vicente, as well as getting some really fantastic photos. After the photo stop, you will board the jeep and make your way to the Laurisilva Unesco World Heritage site. If you have ever wondered what the world looked like before the appearance of man, here is your answer. Laurisilva is a laurel tree forest of a type which used to cover southern Europe 15 – 40 million years ago. Madeira has the largest area of this type of forest in the world extending over 15 thousand hectares, more than 20% of the island's surface. Much of the forest has never been felled and you will see massive trees which were growing before the island was even discovered. Our open topped land rovers will allow you to immerse yourself completely in this primeval environment and get the full measure of this amazing forest experience. We will then go off the beaten track reaching the wine growing territory on the northern coast of the island. You will get the opportunity of visiting the Quinta do Barbusano winery and sampling their production of red, white and rosé table wine, accompanied by some tapas, before starting the journey back to Funchal.

The itinerary may be changed in the interests of guest safety if weather conditions are unfavourable.

Comfortable clothing and footwear are recommended

Each jeep can take from 6-8 passengers

Visibility at scenic viewpoints depends on weather conditions

This tour is not suitable for pregnant women or anyone suffering from injuries or conditions which may be affected by bumpy roads



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

