

**Valetta – Gozo - Cagliari – Mahon – Palma – Ibiza –  
Cartagena – Motril –Malaga**

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

**Time spent on site is also given on an indicative basis only. Minimum number of participants indicated per coach or group.**

**Some excursions are only available on certain dates and/or are dependent on the ship's arrival and departure times.**

**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, snorkeling, 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.**



## GOZO, MALTA

The Malta archipelago includes 3 main islands: Malta, Gozo and Comino, but the third island is largely uninhabited. Gozo is much smaller and quieter than its sister island Malta and is sometimes described wistfully as Malta “as it used to be”. While Malta is the bustling administrative centre where most of the population live, it would be wrong to dismiss Gozo as a downtrodden “Cinderella” island, living in the shadow of her more exuberant sister.

This little island with its fertile green valleys, rugged landscapes, salt pans, excavated into the rocks in Roman times, and spectacular coastline is well worth a visit. Gozo may have a surface area of only 26 miles but it packs a big historical punch, including one of the best-preserved prehistoric temples, the Ggantija which predates Stonehenge and the Egyptian pyramids. The island’s capital is delightfully photogenic with its maze of winding streets and towering churches. The site has been inhabited since the Bronze age but was re-named “Victoria” by the British in honour of Queen Victoria’s Silver Jubilee in 1897. Its most iconic landmark is the Cittadella, a fortified city which can be seen from almost everywhere on the island. It was built to withstand the attacks of marauding pirates; indeed, attacks were so frequent that until 1637, the entire population of GOZO was required by law to spend the night in the citadel for their own safety. On one occasion, merciless Ottoman forces carried off the entire population of Gozo into slavery with the exception of 40 elderly and disabled citizens. The Citadella is home to a baroque cathedral, built on the site of a Roman temple dedicated to Juno, as well as the law courts and Bishop’s palace. Stroll around and try some island specialties like ftira (a kind of pizza) or relax with a glass of distinctive Gozitan wine. The island is also a prime site for diving, (voted the second-best diving destination in the world in 2016), rock climbing and hiking.

Legend has it that Gozo was the island where the nymph Calypso held Ulysses captive for seven years. Well, considering everything the island has to offer, that was surely no great hardship.

## CAGLIARI, SARDINIA, ITALY

## Nora

By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Duration 3h30/3h45

Euros 60

Your local guide will accompany you on board the motor coach for a scenic orientation tour of Cagliari punctuated by photo stops in front of the Bonaria Basilica and Monte Urpino, which offers fabulous panoramic views. You will then travel along the south western coast taking the same route from Cagliari to Nora as the annual religious procession in honour of St Efsio. St Efsio was a roman soldier and christian martyr who, just before being executed for his faith, promised to protect Cagliari and its inhabitants. Thus, when Cagliari was ravaged by the plague in 1652 the city fathers sought the aid of St Efsio and vowed to take the statue of the saint from Cagliari (where he was once imprisoned) to the beach of Nora where he suffered martyrdom. The Saint apparently heard their plea and the plague came to an abrupt end. Since then thousands of devout pilgrims take the same route every spring, some on foot, some on horseback and some riding the traditional ox cart « tracca » decorated with fruit and flowers. The coach will pass Santa Gilla lagoon and salt pans before reaching the ancient city of Nora. The town was founded by the Phoenicians and enjoys a scenic location on the sea front ; it stands between two hills and is dominated by a Spanish tower .

The city had two harbours, one afforded shelter from the westerly winds and the other from the Mistral. After the Phoenicians , came the Carthaginians and finally the Romans, it was during this period in the first and second centuries AD that the town really flourished. Later the town declined and much of it disappeared when an earthquake caused it to sink beneath the sea.

Nowadays the most easily visible remains of this Ghost town are a Carthaginian warehouse and Roman ruins including beautiful mosaics, a temple, patrician villas, baths and an almost completely intact theatre dating from the time of the Empire. After a guided visit, you will return to the ship by coach.

45-minute drive to the archaeological site

5-minute walk from the parking to the entrance of the site (1h30 guided visit)

The visit includes a lot of walking on uneven surfaces



## MINORCA, BALEARIC ISLANDS, PORT MAHON

**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 breathtaking, 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 Talaiotic 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 choose to either walk back (this involves steps) or return by coach.

**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

During July and August, the tour will be scheduled for the late afternoon



**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 Menorcan 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.

**PALMA, MALLORCA, BALEARIC ISLANDS, SPAIN****Valldemosa & Palma cathedral**

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum.

Duration 4h30

Euros 55

The excursion starts from the port where you will board the coach and drive along the famous sea front road Paseo Maritimo with luxury hotels on one side and glamorous yachts on the other. First stop will be to Spain's second largest Gothic Cathedral, built more than 500 years ago. Its tall, slender columns and graceful interior arches soaring heavenward make a lasting impression. You will also get to see the small Treasure Museum, which houses ancient manuscripts, paintings and religious items. There are 80 steps up to the Cathedral.

After this visit, we'll drive to Valldemossa, one of the most beautiful and typical villages on the island, nestled in a valley in the northern mountain range. Enjoy the scenic beauty of Majorca: mountains, pine forests almond and olive groves and rugged coastline. There will be a guided visit of the Carthusian Monastery. You will see the small neo-classical church, known for its lovely frescoes painted by Goya's brother in-law, intricately carved choir stall and rich tapestries. The 18th century pharmacy, established by the monks in 1723 is virtually unchanged. The town owes much of its fame to the fact that the famous musician and composer, Frederic Chopin, and his lover, writer George Sand, leading exponents of the Romantic Movement, spent their winter of discontent here in 1838. During the visit to the Carthusian Monastery you will see Chopin's piano, and enjoy the views from the beautiful garden.

Afterwards, you will have some leisure time to browse around the souvenir shops.



**Palma by bike**

Minimum 10 participants, maximum 25

Duration 3h30

Euros 57

Indulge your senses with the fresh air, great outdoors and scenic beauty of Palma during this memorable bicycle tour through the historic Old Town.

Once ashore, meet your guide, receive your safety briefing, bicycle and helmet, then follow the dedicated bicycle lane along the bay and into the city. Your route proceeds for approximately 100 yards (about 91 metres) on top of the old city wall before entering the small and shady alleyways of the Old Town.

En route, discover churches, small monasteries and old aristocrat's mansions featuring cosy patios and enchanting small plazas. Your guide will provide a running commentary during the ride and point out interesting sights. Halfway through the ride, a refreshment stop is made at a local tavern before continuing on your bicycle tour, which concludes back at the pier.

The total route travelled is six-eight miles (10-12 kilometres) over mostly flat surfaces.

This tour is not recommended for guests with limited mobility

All equipment is provided.

**IBIZA, BALEARIC ISLANDS, SPAIN****Jeep tour with driver**

No guide on board

Minimum 12 participants, maximum 40

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.



## CARTAGENA, SPAIN

**A Tale of 2 Cities**

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 15 participants, no maximum

Duration 4h30

Euros 54

The route from Cartagena to the hinterland crosses fertile farmland before wending its way through the mountain pass of the "Mountains of the Chain" to reach Murcia, the charming provincial capital.

There will be a visit to the Old Quarter of the city of Murcia and its beautiful 13th century cathedral. The façade of the cathedral is considered to be one of the best examples of Baroque architecture to be found anywhere in Spain, while the late Gothic Velez Chapel inside delights the eye with its delicate stone tracery. There will also be a visit to the neighbouring San Juan de Dios church.

Upon your return, there will be a walking tour of Cartagena, a charming city with a superb natural harbour. The tour starts by the Monument to the Heroes of Cavite and the Town Hall, and then continues along the pedestrian main street where you can admire the 18th century doorway of the casino as well as some delightful modern houses. The city has a rich history and Roman excavations can be seen below street level, protected by glass panels. There is also a Roman Theatre, discovered by chance in 1897, with rows of seats built into the hillside. The commemorative inscriptions indicate that it was built in the late 1st century BC at the height of the Roman colony's urban development.

**Cartagena by Segway**

Duration 1h30

Minimum 4 Participants, maximum 12

Duration 1h30

Euros 69

Discover Cartagena by Segway, a fun and effortless way to explore this fascinating city.

Your guide will be waiting to greet you on the pier and teach you how to use your Segway safely. When everybody is comfortable riding their Segway the tour can begin. The group will leave the port area and follow a route designed to showcase the charms of Cartagena, historical monuments, shopping areas, and all the most interesting sights. The Segway tour is the best way to get a feel for the city in a relatively short period of time. You will enjoy the unique gliding sensation of the Segway as you discover a dynamic modern city with an incredibly rich artistic and historical heritage. Cartagena: the perfect blend of past and present.

After the tour your guide will accompany you back to the pier.

Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes

We advise you to wear a hat and sun glasses and to use UV sunscreen

Participants are welcome to stay behind at the end of the tour, just let the guide know

Minimum weight to ride the Segway 40kg, maximum 120kg. Minimum height 1m40, maximum 2m



**Roman Cartagena**

Walking tour

Minimum 15 participants Maximum 25

Duration 3 hours

Euros 39

The Port of Cartagena is a natural harbour, ideally situated in a deep bay protected by the surrounding mountains. This strategic location has been a magnet for settlers throughout the ages and has contributed enormously to the city's development and importance. In the late 3rd century BC the Carthaginians established a trading post here. Fast-forward to the 18th century when the Bourbon King Carlos III picked Cartagena to be one of Spain's main naval bases, a status it still enjoys today.

On this guided tour you are literally walking in the footsteps of history. The archaeological site, open to the public since 2012, offers a fascinating insight into everyday life in Roman times. You will see the remains of a thermal spa, and an atrium building used to host ritual banquets in honour of the gods. Fortuna House in particular gives a very clear idea of domestic arrangements in the first century AD. The size and rich decoration of this family home indicate that it belonged to a very wealthy merchant. At this point in history Cartagena was a hive of activity and a real commercial hub exporting lead, silver, fish paste, salt and grain to Rome.

The house has a series of reception rooms including an intimate salon where the master of the house would conduct business and receive those petitioning favours, a magnificent dining room where couches would be pulled up around a central table, and bedrooms. The wall paintings are still bright and vibrant with colour. The Romans were very fond of bright colours and wall paintings and mosaics were status symbols. At Fortuna house traces of the original mosaic floors are still visible; they must have been very expensive and show that clearly no expense was spared to display the owner's wealth.

The last stop on this excursion is the Roman theatre, one of the city's "not to be missed" landmarks. It was built between the fifth and first century BC when Rome was at the height of its power. The theatre could accommodate 6000 spectators, with the best seats being reserved for the local elite, judges and priests.

Home to many different cultures, Cartagena has been a city of major importance for the past 3000 years.

**MOTRIL, SPAIN****Secrets of Granada**

By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30

Duration 5hrs

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 caravanserai; 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



**Granada and the Alhambra**

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 15, maximum limited

The number of visitors per day is strictly limited at the Alhambra ; as tickets and visiting hours are granted by the authorities up to four months in advance, access to this site may not always be possible

Duration 5 hours

Euros 99

Departure is from the port of Motril. The city of Granada, lying at approx. 2.100 feet above sea level, in the shadow of the mighty Sierra Nevada, is the epitome of Moorish culture in Andalusia. The Moors stormed across the Straits of Gibraltar in the 8th century, and held sway in Granada until they were driven out in 1492. During the intervening centuries they impressed southern Spain with their civilisation and culture; Granada, and particularly the Alhambra, represent the zenith of Moorish art and architecture. The coach will take the new road out of Motril, heading north through picturesque countryside. After one hour's drive you will reach the historical city of Granada.

We will visit the summer palace and country estate of the Moorish rulers of Granada, the Generalife. The name means "the Architect's garden" and indeed the most attractive part of the site is the garden. There is a long avenue of stately cypress trees, and trim flower-beds, box hedges, myrtle bushes and, above all, fountains delight the eyes and refresh the jaded spirit. The mountains of the Sierra Nevada provide a spectacular backdrop and the view down to the Darro Valley, across to the old quarter of Albaicin and the gypsy haunts of Sacromonte, and the Alhambra itself, is absolutely breathtaking.

The Alhambra has been damaged and restored many times over the centuries, but it is not difficult to picture the place as it was in all its glory 600 years ago. The decorations have to be seen to be believed; from floor to ceiling, every inch seems to be covered with some kind of pattern; geometric, floral or Arabic script. The ceilings drip with stalactites in stucco, and each room seems more richly decorated than the previous one. Perhaps the gems of this oriental jewel box are the Hall of the Ambassadors and the Court of the Lions.

The time schedule of this tour may be altered to suit on the spot requirements.

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking, so please make sure you wear comfortable flat shoes

**Hidden Grenada: Albaycin & Sacromonte**

Transport by air-conditioned motor coach and on foot

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30

Duration 5 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.





**MALAGA, SPAIN****Mijas & wine museum**

Transport by air-conditioned motor coach

Duration 4h30

Minimum 10 participants, no maximum

Euros 56

This tour ends at the airport.

We will leave the town of Malaga behind us and head west along the coast road to Fuengirola, before driving inland to reach the village of Mijas. Mijas, perched 1500 ft. above sea level is a hill top village with a maze of little white washed streets.

It is beautifully clean and very well organized for tourists. Explore the narrow cobbled streets away from the crowds and enjoy fine views of the surrounding countryside.

Before leaving Mijas we will visit the wine museum and sample a glass of Spanish wine.

You will return to Malaga airport by a different route

The drive to Mijas takes about 1 hour

After a one hour guided tour you will have some time at leisure to explore the village before the transfer to the airport.

