

Lisbon (Portugal) – Portimao (Portugal) – Tangier (Morocco)– Gibraltar – Motril (Spain) – Malaga (Spain) – Ibiza (Spain) – Palma (Spain) - Mahon (Spain) – Bonifacio (Corsica) – Civitavecchia (Italy)

All tours are offered with English speaking guides. The length of the tours and time spent on the sites is given as an indication as it may vary depending on the road, weather, sea and traffic conditions and on 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 wonder 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 "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.

TANGIER, MOROCCO

Secrets of Tangier

Transfer by coach to the Kasbah and on foot

Duration 2h30

Minimum 15 participants, Maximum 30 per group

Euros 34

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



GIBRALTAR

Gibraltar is situated on the southernmost tip of the Iberian Peninsula, guarding the gateway to the Mediterranean. The Rock, as it is called, is one of the two “Pillars of Hercules”. Hercules, the “Strong Man” of classical mythology, killed his children in a fit of madness and embarked on a series of 12 tasks or “labours” to expiate his sins. During the course of his adventures he is said to have raised the pillars to mark the western edge of the inhabited world.

Neighbouring countries include Spain to the north, and Morocco (North Africa) to the south, only 15 miles (24km) away across the strait.

The Rock consists mainly of Jurassic Limestone some 200 million years old.

One of the attractions of Gibraltar is its VAT free status, making it a shopper’s paradise. Most of the shops are on and around Main street.

History & Heritage Tour

Transport by Minibus

Duration 2 hours

Minimum 16 participants, maximum 22

Euros 49

You will board the minibus and head North towards the frontier with Spain. On the way you will cross a World War II runway which was used by General Eisenhower during “Operation Torch”, the allied invasion of North Africa. The minibus will then drive to Europa Point, the southernmost point of Gibraltar. On a clear day you can see views of North Africa from across the strait, including Ceuta and the Rif mountains of Morocco. From Europa point the tour proceeds to one of Gibraltar’s most popular attractions, the Ape’s Den; Barbary Macaques at liberty, the only free roaming apes in Europe. Barbary apes are normally found in North Africa and it is thought that they were imported from Morocco by the first British garrisons. Legend has it that if the apes disappear, the British will be forced to leave Gibraltar. Superstitious nonsense? Maybe, but Winston Churchill wasn’t taking any chances; when the ape population dwindled during World War II, he quickly had some more shipped in to make up the numbers.

Next on the agenda is a visit to the Great Siege Tunnels. This impressive defence system inside the Rock, was built during the Great siege of 1783, when France and Spain decided to join forces to wrest Gibraltar from the British. The Governor of Gibraltar at that time was dismayed to find that the enemy troops were positioned in trenches too close to the Rock for the British army to be able to fire on them; defeat seemed inevitable. However, he decided to offer a reward to anyone who could think of a way of getting guns on to “the Notch”, a projection on the northern rock face which would enable the army to fire sideways on to the would-be invaders. Sergeant major Ince, who belonged to what would now be known as the Royal Engineers, took up the challenge and suggested that this might be accomplished by tunnelling. He was given permission to start work and with a team of stalwarts achieved the impossible, using only muscle power and a bit of gunpowder. The tunnelling work made such a lot of dust and smoke that they could hardly breathe. The tunnellers decided to make vents in the rock face to let in some air, and quickly realised that these apertures would make ideal embrasures for guns.

The Great Siege tunnels bear witness to British ingenuity, determination and dogged courage. Sergeant Ince was rewarded with a plot of land on the upper Rock, which still bears the name, “Ince’s Farm” and the Duke of Kent, Royal Governor of Gibraltar (Queen Victoria’s father) gave him a valuable horse.

After the visit you will drive back to the pier.

There will be driver guides on the tour

The terrain is by turns flat, hilly or cobblestoned. It is not recommended for guests with mobility issues as there is a lot of walking through tunnels.

The order of the itinerary on this tour may be reversed.



Rock & ... Roll

Transport by Minibus

Duration 2 hours

Minimum 16 participants, maximum 22

Euros 49

You will board the minibus and head North towards the frontier with Spain. On the way you will cross a World War II runway which was used by General Eisenhower during "Operation Torch", the allied invasion of North Africa. The minibus will then drive to Europa Point, the southernmost point of Gibraltar. On a clear day you can see views of North Africa from across the strait, including Ceuta and the Rif mountains of Morocco. From Europa point the excursion continues to the upper rock and St Michael's cave. The cave was created by rainwater slowly seeping through the limestone and turning into a carbonic acid solution that dissolved the rock. Over a period of thousands of years tiny crevices grew into long passages and deep caverns with an amazing collection of stalactites and stalagmites. The cave was well known to the Greeks and Romans and was the subject of many legends. It was thought that the Cathedral Cave was a bottomless pit, and the fantastic rock formations made it easy to believe that it was in fact the gateway to the Underworld. These days the cave has lost its sinister reputation and is used to stage live shows, concerts and an annual World Music festival. After visiting the cave we will pay our respects to some of Gibraltar's most popular residents, the famous Barbary Macaques, the only free roaming apes in Europe. Incidentally one legend relates that the apes found their way to Gibraltar from Morocco by following a subterranean passage under the strait which ends up at St Michael's cave. The tour excursion continues to the old town and city centre before returning to the ship. The terrain is by turns flat, hill and cobblestoned. The ground at St Michael's cave is wet and slippery and there are a lot of steps.

There will be driver guides on the tour.

MOTRIL, SPAIN**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 7hours

Euros 128

Lunch included

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

A late lunch will be served at the restaurant Cueva 1900 or similar (1 drink included)



Alpujarras Mountains and Andalusian villages

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30

Duration 7hours

Euros 97

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 the 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, maximum limited

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



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 Aflarnate; 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 insiders 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 Andalusia'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 so not advisable for vegetarians

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.

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.



IBIZA, Ibiza town

Ibiza has a reputation as a boisterous party town where folk hit the beaches by day and party all night. However this picturesque spot, third largest of the Balearic Islands situated off the coast of Spain, has so much more to offer.

The town was founded by the Carthaginians around the sixth century B.C. and ruled in turn by the Romans, Arabs and Catalans. The Dalt Vila, or old town, bears witness to the passage of history and boasts many ancient buildings, relics and two notable museums. The medieval walled city and its Gothic cathedral became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1999. During the day, Ibiza is an ideal place to explore with trendy shops, interesting restaurants and a growing number of luxury hotels and spas around its beautiful harbour. Moreover, the island boasts 56 sandy beaches, making it the perfect place for some rest and relaxation.

Time at leisure.

PALMA, 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.



MINORCA, PORT MAHON

The island of Menorca received the official title of Biosphere Reserve (Man and Biosphere project – MAB, UNESCO) in 1993. The MAB Program, which means Man and Biosphere, was created in 1971. It is a scientific program for problems related to the use and preservation of natural resources in all kinds of biological and geographical situations. One of the main objectives of this program is to preserve natural places and their genetic material.

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 69

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

BONIFACIO, CORSICA

Isolated on the Southernmost 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.

Time at leisure.

