

ROYAL CLIPPER**7-NIGHTS WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN:**

April 28, 2018

Malaga – Ibiza – Palma - Mahon – Bonifacio – Calvi – Cannes

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.

Depending on what activities you would like to participate in, the general fitness levels vary. If you like to enjoy walks and other sporting activities like hiking, snorkelling and boating, an average to good fitness level is required.

IBIZA, IBIZA TOWN

Ibiza owns a reputation as a boisterous party town where hit the beaches by day and dance all night. But this is only part of the story for this picturesque island, which is part of Balearics near the coast of Spain.

The town was founded by the Carthaginians around the sixth century B.C. and ruled in turn by the Romans, Arabs and Catalans. Evidence of these periods can be seen in the Dalt Vila, or old town, which boasts many historical structures and 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 in its beautiful harbour. In addition, the island boasts 56 sandy beaches around its coastline, making it the perfect place to simply relax.

Time at leisure.



PALMA, BALEARIC ISLANDS, SPAIN

Valldemosa & Palma Cathedral

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum.

Duration 4h30

Euros 52

From the port we start with a drive to the Cathedral passing by the Paseo Maritimo with numerous hotels lining one side and luxury yachts on the other. You will visit the interior of Spain's second largest Gothic Cathedral, built more than 500 years ago. Its tall, slender columns and graceful interior arches create a lasting impression. You will also walk through the small Treasure Museum, which displays 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 beauty that Majorca has to offer, with mountains and coastline scenery. We will drive you along the rugged northern coast, seeing landscapes of pine forest and groves of almond and olive trees.

You'll visit the Carthusian Monastery with a guide. You will see the Small neo-classical church, which is known for its lovely frescoes painted by Goya's brother-in-law. Also, it features an intricately carved choir stall and rich tapestries. The 18th century pharmacy is set up almost exactly as it was by the monks in 1723. The town owes much of its fame to the fact that the famous musician and composer, Frederic Chopin, and his lover, writer, George Sand, spent their winter of discontent in 1838 and added their note of romanticism to Majorcan history. During the visit to the Carthusian Monastery you will see Chopin's piano, the beautiful garden and enjoy the views. Afterwards, you will have some leisure time to stroll amongst the souvenir shops.

Palma by Bike

Minimum 8 participants, maximum 16

Duration: 3h30/4h

Euros 69

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. Along the way, your guide offers interesting commentary about your surroundings, and points 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.

Time at leisure.

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 superior location made many European powers desire possession of the port, and like some of its Corsican counterparts, it was also subject to numerous raids and attacks. The predominant forces were the Genoese who held domain from the 12th to the 19th century until Corsica was returned to France. For the last 100 years Bonifacio was a sleepy town of fishermen, until the arrival of tourism. Today, you will find Bonifacio to be an exciting destination possessing a variety of old and new-world charm and breath-taking beauty.

Time at leisure.



CALVI, CORSICA

Sant'Antonino & Pigna authentic Corsican Villages
By air conditioned motor coach and on foot
Minimum 20 participants, maximum 44
Duration: 3 hours
Euros 58

This excursion is the perfect way to enjoy one of Corsica's main attractions: its ruggedly beautiful scenery; winding roads will take you from one picturesque village to another.

The ancient circular village of Sant'Antonino, perched on a craggy rock overlooking the sea, is one of the oldest inhabited villages in Corsica and one of the highest. It is visible from miles around and offers superb 360° panoramic views. In the 9th century it was ruled by the Counts of Savelli who built the now-ruined castle in order to defend their clan. The narrow cobbled lanes, vaulted alleyways and neat stone houses have survived the passage of time and have changed very little over the past three hundred years. Sant'Antonino features in the list of "the most beautiful villages of France" and is highly prized by visitors for its spectacular views.

After a short visit of Sant' Antonino you will be driven to the hill top village of Pigna.

This delightful village in the heart of the Balagne region is built on a rocky promontory 224 m above sea level, situated at the foot of a mountain some 562m high. It is a veritable feast for the eyes with flower decked streets and an attractive village square. Pigna is dedicated to the pursuit of arts and crafts and a community of artists has settled there. It is the ideal place to buy some authentic Corsican souvenirs, made on site and sometimes before your very eyes.

You will spend some time in the village and then the coach will take you back to Calvi via the charming old villages of Corbara and Aregno.

- Due to restricted access the coach will park below Sant' Antonino. The walk to the village is uphill over

uneven and rough ground. Good shoes are a must.

- Corsican roads are winding, so this is not the ideal tour for guests suffering from vertigo or car sickness.
- During the summer months heavy traffic can be expected, which may cause delays.
- This tour involves a lot of driving. You will spend approximately 45 minutes in each village.



CANNES, FRANCE

Scenic Transfer to Nice airport (ends at Nice airport)

Transport by air conditioned minibus

Minimum 4 participants, maximum 8 per minibus

Duration: 3h30

Euros 74

Unaccompanied transfer with an English speaking driver

You will drive straight on to St Paul de Vence, a few kilometres past Cannes. This authentic medieval fortified village was built on a hill top so as to avoid Saracen attacks. In the 1920's it was discovered by artists such as Bonnard, Modigliani, Signac and Soutine, and since that time it has attracted a good number of the rich and famous literati and glitterati.

You will have approximately one hour at leisure to go round the village before driving to the airport. Stroll down Rue Grande, the main street which runs right through the village and explore the XVI^o century ramparts which afford spectacular views over mimosas, olive and orange groves.

- Your luggage will go with you in the minibus.

« Follow your nose » Tour (ends at Nice airport)

Visit Grasse the world's perfume capital

Transport by air-conditioned minibus

Unaccompanied visit of a perfume factory

Minimum 4 participants, maximum 8 per minibus

Duration: 3h30

Euros 82

Transfer with an English speaking driver – no guide.

Ever since the 17th century Grasse has been enveloped in a heady cloud of perfume; today the town is the universally acknowledged perfume capital of the world.

After a 45 minute drive you will arrive in Grasse where you can visit the prestigious Gallimard factory and be initiated into the art of traditional perfume making. Follow each step from the assembling of raw materials to the final precious elixir, piercing the mysteries of distillation and enfleurage on the way. You will visit the laboratory and the conditioning room where you will learn about the origin of perfume. You will also discover the “seat of power”, the work place of the indispensable “Nose”. This olfactory genius is a Maestro who plays his perfume organ with incredible virtuosity, composing fragrances of unsurpassed subtlety and charm. Some “insider” secrets will be revealed before its time to visit the gift shop to do some last minute shopping before flying back home. (not guided visit)

If you don't feel like visiting the factory you can set off on your own to discover this fascinating town. The Place aux Aires at the heart of Grasse is a good starting point. This charming square with its ochre façades, arcades and four tiered fountain dating from Louis XV's time is always bustling with activity, and boasts many interesting shops, outdoor cafés and restaurants. The Old town is a maze of narrow winding streets, alleys and stairways with buildings from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Discover the traces of the city's past as you admire a square Saracen tower, the remains of the 16th century ramparts,



and the town hall, formerly the bishop's palace. You will see medieval dwellings and superb private mansions (the Hôtel de Cabris, the Hôtel de Ponteves and the Court de Fontmichel) as well as elegant 18th century villas; not forgetting the wonderful Belle Époque casino, which is now a conference centre.

- The drive to Grasse takes 45 minutes.
- The drive to the airport takes 45 minutes.
- Time at leisure in Grasse; 1h30.

NOTES

