

ROYAL CLIPPER

4-NIGHTS WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN:

July 10, 2018

Civitavecchia - Portoferraio – Palombaggia –
Bonifacio – Porto Ercole – Civitavecchia

All tours are offered with English speaking guides. The length of the tours 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. Fitness requirements vary according to the chosen activity, hiking, snorkelling and boating require an average to good level of fitness.

PORTOFERRAIO

Island Tour and Mount Capanne

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, maximum 80

Duration: 4h30

Euros 60

The scenic drive starting from Portoferraio will take you to the island highlands on the west side. The drive cuts through the centre of the island before continuing along the coast to the up market resort town of Marciana Marina. The coach will then drive into the hills to reach the cable car station in Marciana Alta. During the drive your guide will tell you a bit about the island culture and natural environment as you sit back and enjoy the beautiful views of the surrounding hill top villages and coastline.

The cable car station has rest room facilities. Upon arrival, your guide will give you a safety briefing and explain how to get in and out of the cable basket safely. The baskets, which leave every 20 seconds for the 20 minute climb up to the top of Mount Capanne (1.019m), accommodate two passengers each. The views during the cable car ride are quite spectacular, so make sure you have your camera handy. From the top of the mountain you can enjoy breathtaking views of all the islands of the Tuscan Archipelago and relax on the panoramic terrace.

After some leisure time (approximately 30 minutes) your guide will lead you back to the coach and the tour continues to Marciana Mariana. Here you will have some time to stroll along the water front and browse around the picturesque village shops. Look out for Elba's specialities : wonderful perfume, truly the scent of the Mediterranean captured in a bottle, and delicious local wines.

There will be a short wine tasting in a typical Cantina to allow you to sample some of the islands' wine before you return to the ship. As you take a last lingering look at Mount Capanne on the drive back, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have actually scaled its dizzy heights.



- You will take a cable car to the top of Mount Capanne.
- There will be good shopping opportunities in Marciana Marina.
- We recommend good walking shoes and a sun hat on this excursion.
- The tour is not suitable for passengers with walking difficulties, heart problems or vertigo.

“Napoleon’s Tour”

Transport by air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, maximum 90

Duration: 4 hours

Euros 66

The tour begins with a panoramic drive through the hinterland to Napoleon’s summer residence. The Villa San Martino is located in a pleasant valley planted with vineyards, a setting of lush vegetation, far from the bustle and heat of Portoferraio.

The Emperor converted a small country house into a fine private villa. The Neo-Classical building at the entrance of the property is the Demidoff Gallery, built in 1851 by Count Anatolio Demidoff. Demidoff was a fervent admirer of the Emperor, and his wife, Princess Mathilda, was Napoleon’s niece. The building was used to house Demidoff’s collection of Napoleonic Memorabilia.

The villa San Martino is situated on a terrace above the Demidoff gallery and consists of eight rooms. Three rooms were occupied by Napoleon himself, three others were for his officers and the remaining two: the “2 colombes” council chamber and the Egyptian room were used for meetings and receptions.

On the way back there will be a stop at Porto Azzurro where you will have some time to stroll along the streets of this charming town, dominated by an ancient Spanish fortress. The town also boasts a picturesque fishing harbour and numerous shops selling crystals and minerals.

There will also be a stop at “La Chiusa” an old country wine estate, nestling in a vineyard overlooking the ocean. The estate dates from the 1700’s, and includes a country house, wine cellar and miniature chapel. The owner’s house with the exterior double staircase was built later during the 1800s. “La Chiusa” hosted Napoleon Bonaparte on two separate occasions: once on May 3rd 1814 on his arrival in Elba, while waiting to be officially welcomed to Portoferraio, and another time during a hunting party on Mount Fabbrello.



Here you will get the opportunity to sample some local specialities and a selection of three different wines.

- On Mondays the Villa San Martino is closed, so you will visit the Villa dei Mulini in Portoferraio.
- On Tuesdays the villa dei Mulini is closed, so you will visit the Villa San Martino.
- This tour is not operated on Sundays afternoon.
- Whenever the museums host an exhibition an extra fee will be added to the tour cost.

PALOMBIAGGIA

To the south of Porto Vecchio lies the Palombaggia peninsula which offers the visitor no less than six incredible beaches. Umbrella pines provide shade and frame long stretches of white sandy beaches and glistening blue water, punctuated with jagged rock formations of pink granite shaped by the elements. The beaches have a grandstand view of the Archipelago of Cerbicale, uninhabited rocky islets which are now a nature reserve providing sanctuary to Crested Cormorants and other protected species who come to nest there. The combination of sand dunes, pine trees and red rocks is quite amazing, and it is no wonder that Palombaggia is considered by many to one of the finest beaches in Europe.



BONIFACIO

Coastal Boat Trip

Guided tour

Transport : on foot to the marina and then by boat

Duration: 1h30 including the walk to/from the ship

Minimum 20 participants, maximum 40

Euros 44

A Specially chartered boat will pick you up at the pier. After climbing aboard, you will set off on your coastal exploration trip, leaving the harbour through a narrow channel between the towering cliffs of Bonifacio. The boat will pass by the « Madonetta » lighthouse, built in 1854, before entering the Sdragnato or « Little Dragon » marine cave. There is a long fissure in the roof of the cave through which you can see the sky, and the outline of this natural skylight is strangely reminiscent of the shape of Corsica. Sunlight filters through the crack and illuminates the underwater rocks creating a magical play of light with a wonderful display of colours ; an awe inspiring moment of natural beauty. The tour continues on to « Fazio Creek » and then, following the cliff in a south easterly direction you will pass by the rock known as the « Rudder of Corsica », as well as the King of Aragon's staircase. According to legend the steps were carved by the Aragonese in a single night in 1420 to facilitate a surprise attack on the inhabitants during the siege of Bonifacio. However they actually predate this event and had a much more mundane function, enabling locals to carry water up to the citadel.

The last highlight of the tour is the « Grain of Sand » rock, a large isolated rock, shaped by erosion, which stands in about 10m of sea. This picturesque site will have you reaching for your camera, as it provides the perfect background for a photo souvenir.

- If the sea is too rough the itinerary may be modified for your comfort.
- the boat is chartered exclusively for Star Clippers' passengers.
- there is a 15 minute walk to the marina

PORTO ERCOLE

Siena

By motor coach and on foot

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Duration: 8h30

Euros 119

Lunch not included

You will be met on the pier by a tour escort who will accompany you on the pleasant drive to Siena where a local guide will be waiting to show you the sights of this magnificent medieval city.

The town is built around the famous Piazza del Campo surrounded by a 7km fortified wall erected between the 14th and 16th centuries. Siena, a UNESCO world heritage site since 1995 is famed for the PALIO a traditional bareback horse race. The competitors in the race are all from different "contrade" or districts and wear medieval costumes representing their neighbourhood. Feelings run high and there is a lot of local rivalry going on with jockeys (known as "fantini") not only striving to win the race but also trying to prevent riders from enemy neighbourhoods from making any headway.

Together with your guide you will stroll down narrow streets leading off from the main square and get the chance to admire the many historical monuments and artistic masterpieces which adorn this city. The beautiful "duomo" or cathedral is a veritable treasure trove containing statues by Michelangelo, Donatello and Bernini. Adjoining the cathedral is the Piccolomini library, decorated with colourful frescoes, which houses a collection of precious illuminated choir books. Three other sites well worth visiting are located around the cathedral, the Crypt which lay hidden for 700 years before being discovered in 1999, the stunning baptistery with its hexagonal font made by Donatello and the Opera museum, which contains many original masterpieces taken from the cathedral. Your visit will end with a panoramic view of the cathedral, city rooftops and Tuscan countryside from the top of the Facciatone wall.

- The drive to Siena takes 2 hours.



- Casual wear and comfortable shoes are recommended. However no shorts or revealing clothing will be allowed in the cathedral: ladies must cover their knees and shoulders, while gentlemen must wear trousers or jeans.

Visit and Wine Tasting at the Cantine Antinori
Transport by air-conditioned motor coach
Minimum 20 participants, maximum 35
Duration: 4h/4hh30
Euros 99

The Mortelle estate is located in the Tuscan Maremma near Castiglione della Pescaia. The current owners have had the estate since 1999, but the family association with wine making goes back much further than that. Indeed, the Antinori family have been producing quality wines for 26 generations and over 6 centuries; ever since Giovanni di Pieri Antinori became a member of the Florentine wine producers guild, the “Arte Fiorentina” in 1385.

The family has a wealth of experience and an almost unique background in wine production. They bought the estate because they are convinced that the area, which is gaining prominence on the Italian wine scene, has enormous potential and is ideally suited to the production of quality wines which express the region’s specificity.

The mortelle estate, named after the wild myrtle that grows there in abundance (mortella), extends over 270 ha. 160 of which are planted with grape vines, chiefly Cabernet sauvignon and Sangiovese, as well as the recent additions of Vermentino, Ansonica and Viognier.

A brand new winery was created on top of a hill overlooking the estate. This is where the various stages of wine production take place, vinification, storage and ageing of the wines in barrels in the basement wine cellars.

At the end of the tour you will be dropped at Castiglione della Pescaia a former fishing village, nestling in greenery, which boasts a picturesque harbour. At a short distance, perched on a spur of Monte Pettriccio, you can see the historical old town with its medieval fortified walls, towers and gates surrounding a 15th century castle. The bus will drop you off near the centre of Castiglione Pescaia and from there it is a short walk to the historical quarter.

- The drive to/from Porto Ercole takes one hour
- You will have a guided tour of the winery and a



wine tasting of three different wines, for example :
Vivia (Vermentino/Viognier/Ansonica, Beroresco
(Cabernet Sauvignon/ Cabernet Franc), Poggio alle
Nane (Cabernet Franc/ Cabernet Sauvignon)

NOTES

