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EUROPEAN ADVENTURE

Depart Sydney 15 May 2019



15MAY19 **Depart Sydney**

16MAY19 **Paris, France**

On arrival in Paris, make own way to hotel and check-in for a 2 night stay.

17MAY19 **Paris, France**

Today is free to enjoy Paris at your leisure.

18MAY19 **Paris - Lucerne, Switzerland (650km)**

Check-out of your hotel and make own way to the tour pick-up location. After boarding the luxury coach in Paris, sit back and enjoy a scenic journey across classic French countryside en route to mountainous Switzerland. You'll pass through Basel, which is located at the point where the Swiss, French and German borders meet, before arriving at the picturesque lakeside city of Lucerne, nestled at the foot of the snow-capped Swiss Alps. Here you'll get to see Lucerne's famous landmarks, including Chapel Bridge, the Water Tower, and some wonderfully preserved Baroque and Gothic architecture, followed by some free time to shop or take pictures.

Overnight Hotel: Lucerne or city nearby

19MAY19 Lucerne– Milan –Venice, Italy (400 km)

Head south from Lucerne through spectacular Switzerland and into northern Italy, where your first stop will be Milan, fashion capital of the world. Your orientation tour will introduce you to the city's iconic sights, including the vast Gothic cathedral (Duomo). You'll also see the planet's oldest shopping mall, the 19th century Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, where you can wander among the boutique shops and take lunch in one of the refined cafes. After enjoying the many delights of Milan, you'll head to another vintage Italian city: Venice.

Hotel: Outside Venice Island or city nearby

20MAY19 Venice – Rome, Italy (550 km)

Spend the morning in the company of a knowledgeable local guide as you explore Venice, the most magical of cities. Begin with a waterbus ride to San Marco Island, a memorable crossing of the lagoon that gives you a real taste of the city's charm as you approach the dreamy spires and distinctive waterside buildings. Once on the island you'll be led around some of Venice's best-known locations, beginning in the Piazza with the Basilica di San Marco, a stunning piece of Byzantine architecture. You'll also see the legendary Bridge of Sighs, which appears on many a postcard or picture of Venice and connects the old prison to the interrogation rooms in the Doge's Palace. Afterwards you'll have a chance to see some traditional Venetian craftwork at close quarters with a demonstration by Murano glassblowers; their exquisite creations make excellent souvenirs. Of course, the ultimate Venice activity is to ride through the warren of waterways on a gondola, and for most people this optional excursion is a must. Step aboard, relax and enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Transfer to Rome in the afternoon.

Note: Attraction Fee involved: Gondola Ride (6 person per gondola) €30 // Italian Spaghetti Lunch €20

Hotel: Rome or city nearby.

21MAY19 Rome – Vatican –Arezzo, Italy (280 km)

Your day in Rome starts with a visit to the smallest country in the world, The Vatican City, which lies at the heart of the Italian capital. Here you'll marvel at St Peter's Basilica, home to Pope Francis and arguably the most significant site in Christianity. The exquisitely beautiful Basilica has been present here for almost 1,700 years and contains a bewildering collection of paintings, frescoes and design crafted by some of humanity's most famous artists, which you can explore. Alternatively, you can choose to add on the optional Sistine Chapel tour to view Michelangelo's famous painted ceiling. Next you'll see the famous Trevi Fountain, the lavish Baroque showpiece where people flock to throw coins into the water – an action which is said to ensure that you'll return to the city again one day. After lunch, take a step even further back in time as you visit Italy's unrivalled Roman relics. An optional guided tour of the Coliseum, built in AD 72, is highly recommended. History comes to life as you imagine yourself witnessing gladiatorial combat inside the spectacular Amphitheatre, or alternatively you can walk at your leisure around the outside to admire the facade of this ancient wonder. After the Coliseum, get up close to the nearby Arch of Constantine, which dates back to the fourth century AD, then spend some further free time enjoying Rome, sampling the rich and creamy delights of "gelato" Italian ice cream.

Next, you can visit the magnificent Basilique Santa Maria degli Angeli e dei Martiri near Piazza della Repubblica before transferring to Arezzo in the late evening.

Note: Attraction Fee involved: Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel tour with guide and skip the line €45 // Coliseum Tour with guide and skip the line €35

Hotel: Arezzo or city nearby.

22MAY19 Arezzo– Florence – Pisa –Genoa, Italy (250 km)

Your voyage of cultural discovery continues as you get to know Florence, the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance and home to some fabulous architecture and fine art. Begin the day you can see a demonstration of the traditional craft of leather working at close quarters in a local workshop, and you'll also have the opportunity to purchase some of the high-quality leather items for which the city is famous. From here you'll enjoy a guided walk around Florence's many highlights, including the Ponte Vecchio over the Arno, the Piazza del Duomo and Campanile Tower. You'll pass the Uffizi Gallery, which contains one of the most notable art collections in Florence. You'll have free time to see the city further, to shop or to watch the world go by from a street side cafe, before travelling on to your next destination, Pisa. Here you are free to wander, but be sure to have your camera ready to get a shot of the iconic Leaning Tower, the famous bell tower in the 'Square of Miracles', which also contains the centuries-old Cathedral and Baptistery.

Note: Attraction Fee involved: Florentino Steak Menu €30

Hotel: Genoa or city nearby.

23MAY19 Genoa – Monaco – Nice – Cannes – Avignon, France (450 km)

A breath-taking drive along one of Europe's most famous stretches of Mediterranean coastline awaits as you say arrivederci to Italy and head for Monaco. This small principality, enclaved in France is chic and beautiful, home to the famous Formula 1 Grand Prix. A walking sightseeing tour here takes you to the grand Prince's Palace, where you'll have some free time to soak up the refined atmosphere, before continuing on to view the 1920s Courthouse, the cliffside Oceanographic Museum, and the Cathedral, where Grace Kelly is buried. We then travel a little further to visit the famous Fragonard Perfume Factory. Here you'll be taken on a fascinating guided tour around this working factory. Next it's Nice, where you'll stop for lunch to sample some excellent local cuisine and warm-hearted hospitality. Your journey continues to Cannes, where many a movie star has enjoyed the sweet smell of success. Be sure to take the opportunity to snap some photos of the Palais des Festival, home to the city's annual international film festival, before transferring to the hotel.

Hotel: Avignon or city nearby

24MAY19 Avignon – Barcelona, Spain

Your tour ends upon check-out from hotel. Make own way to rail station for rail to Barcelona. Upon arrival make your own way to hotel for a 1 night stay

25MAY19 **Barcelona, Spain – board *MSC Seaview***

Check-out of your hotel and make your own way to pier to board *MSC Seaview*, departing at 6:00pm.



26MAY19 **Ajaccio, France**

Arrive 12:00pm – Depart 7:00pm

Ajaccio is a relaxed and good-looking place for a visit to Corsica, with an exceptionally mild climate, and a wealth of smart cafés, restaurants and shops. The core of the old town of Ajaccio – a cluster of ancient streets spreading north and south of place Foch, which opens out to the seafront by the port and the marina – holds the most interest.

27MAY19 **Genoa, Italy**

Arrive 7:00am – Depart 6:00pm

Genoa is marvellously eclectic, vibrant and full of rough-edged style; it's a great cruise excursion. Indeed "La Superba" (The Superb), as it was known at the height of its authority as a Mediterranean superpower, boasts more zest and intrigue than all the surrounding coastal resorts put together. Just 35km south of Genoa is the delightful village of Portofino.

28MAY19 **La Spezia, Italy**

Arrive 7:00am – Depart 6:00pm

The port at the head of the majestic Gulf of La Spezia, an impressively sweeping panorama of islands and rough headlands renamed the Gulf of the Poets, is workaday La Spezia. La Spezia is the gateway to Pisa and Florence.

29MAY19 Civitavecchia (Rome), Italy

Arrive 7:00am – Depart 6:00pm

The port of Civitavecchia is one of the largest in Italy, and the port city for excursions to Rome. Civitavecchia enjoys a millenary history due to its coves along the coast, which offered a perfect shelter for vessels, making it a natural port long before cruise ships sailed the seas, and in fact the port was known to the Romans as Centumcellae.

30MAY19 Cannes, France

Arrive 9:00am – Depart 6:00pm

With its immaculate seafront hotels and exclusive beach concessions, glamorous yachts and designer boutiques, Cannes is in many ways the definitive Riviera resort, a place where appearances count, especially during the film festival in May. The not particularly attractive seafront Palais des Festivals is the heart of the film festival but also hosts conferences, tournaments and trade shows.

31MAY19 Palma de Mallorca, Spain

Arrive 2:00pm – Depart 11:00pm

Palma is a vibrant place and a world away from the heaving tourist enclaves of the surrounding bay. As well as shore excursions, finding your way around Palma is fairly straightforward once you're in the city centre. The obvious landmark to see in Palma on your cruise holiday is the Cathedral, which dominates the Mediterranean Sea waterfront and backs onto the oldest part of the city, a cluster of alleys and narrow lanes whose northern and eastern limits are marked by the zigzag of avenues built beside – or in place of – the city walls.

01JUN19 Barcelona, Spain

Arrive 8:00am

MSC Seaview berths at Barcelona this morning. Make your way to the airport for your onward flight.