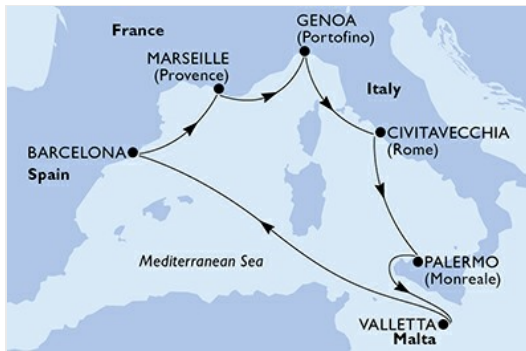




MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

Cruise : **MEDITERRANEAN****Barcelona, Marseille, Genoa, Civitavecchia, Palermo, Valletta, Barcelona**Cruise Ship: **MSC WORLD EUROPA**Departing from: **Barcelona, Spain**Itineraries: **Marseille (Provence), Genoa (Portofino), Civitavecchia (Rome), Palermo (Monreale), Valletta**Departure Date: **08/03/2024**Duration: **8 Days, 7 Nights**

Marseille (Provence)

Sat 9 March 2024

CITY TOUR

AIX-EN-PROVENCE - MRS02

Duration
4 h

We will leave Marseille port for an approx. 45-minute drive to the lovely town of Aix-en-Provence. The excursion starts with a visit to the famous XII century St. Saviour's Cathedral and gardens. The Cathedral was built on the site of a Roman Temple and dates from a period that spans the XI and XIII centuries. Fronted by a richly decorated Gothic-style portal with elaborately carved doors, the Cathedral is flanked on the north by an unfinished tower. Enjoy a pleasant walk (approx. 1.5 hours) through the historic town centre before reaching the famous Mazarino Quarter, a residential district created by Cardinal Mazarin's brother in the last half of the XVII century for the gentry of Aix en Provence. Enjoy some free time for shopping before boarding the coach to return to the port.

Please note: this tour includes long periods of walking on uneven ground; guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits. Due to local rules in France every guest must be properly sitting on the excursion coach. This includes also children aged from 0 up to three years old. If you travel with children in this age, please contact the Shore Excursions' Desk on the ship at least 48 hours prior to your tour to have a baby chair requested and placed on the excursion coach and for any additional information. Even with this early notice, the baby seats are never guaranteed.

CASSIS ON YOUR OWN - MRS03

Duration
4:30 h

Formerly a quiet fishing village on the southern coastline of France near Marseille, Cassis has grown into a charming small town and popular international tourist resort. The town is particularly famed for its cliffs, calanques - steep-walled inlets - and the local white and rosé wines. This excursion allows you to visit it on your own, at a more relaxed pace, stopping at the places that most interest you. Get on the coach and leave Marseille behind, following the coastal road to reach this renowned resort in the south of France after an approx. 1.5-hour drive. At the coach park, a local wheeled train awaits you for a short transfer to the centre of Cassis. Once there, you will have about 2 hours free time to stroll along the picturesque streets lined with brightly-coloured houses or along the charming harbour, where you can admire the splendid panorama from the waterfront. Shopping lovers can wander around the shops, while those in search of relaxation can opt for a quiet stop at a café. At the appointed time, you will pick up the little wheeled train that will take you to the coach for the return journey to Marseille and your ship.

Please note: the starting place of the local wheeled train may be crowded; please expect some queues. The little tourist train is available from May through middle September; for any call before May or after middle September, guests will walk to the city centre from the coach parking lot (approx. 500 mt.). This tour is not available from October until February inclusive.

**MSC****EXCURSIONS**
Discoveries designed for you

MARSEILLES CITY TOUR - MRS06

**Duration**
4:30 h

Located in the south of France, Marseille is an important maritime town in the south of France and will seduce you with its cosmopolitan charm and rich history. After leaving the port and boarding your coach, your first encounter with the city is from the top of the hill where the Basilica of Notre Dame de la Garde stands majestically. The Basilica consists of a lower and an upper church and was built on the site of an ancient chapel. Once off the coach, your guide will give you some information about one of the symbols of the city before you have some free time to admire the beautiful view of Marseille or to visit the basilica on your own. Afterwards, the tour continues with a coach tour passing by some of Marseille's landmarks. You will drive along the Corniche Kennedy, a long panoramic road that runs alongside the sea, and passing by the Château de Borely, you will admire from the outside this splendid 19th-century villa that now houses the Museum of Decorative Arts. The route continues through the centre of Marseille with a short photo stop outside the Palais Longchamps. Finally, you will reach the "Vieux Port", the old port, where you will have further free time. The pedestrian area is ideal for a pleasant stroll through one of the oldest parts of the city, full of shops, bars, and restaurants. This half-day tour ends with a return to the ship.

Please note: this tour includes walking uphill with some steps around the Basilica; guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits. The visit to the Basilica of Notre Dame de la Garde may be replaced with a visit to Marseilles Cathedral in case of special events. Due to local rules in France every guest must be properly sitting on the excursion coach. This includes also children aged from 0 up to three years old. If you travel with children in this age, please contact the Shore Excursions' Desk on the ship at least 48 hours prior to your tour to have a baby chair requested and placed on the excursion coach and for any additional information. Even with this early notice, the baby seats are never guaranteed.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

DELUXE VISIT TO PROVENCE: AVIGNON & AIX-EN-PROVENCE - MRS14

**Duration**
7 h

While the sun-kissed shores of southern France make ideal holiday destinations, the delightful towns lying inland are equally worth a visit. Designed to let you savour two such jewels, the outing begins with an approx. 45-minute drive to Aix-en-Provence, where you will visit the Cathedral of the Holy Saviour. Sitting on the site of a former Roman forum and amalgamating a variety of architectural styles from the 5th- to the 17th-centuries, the Cathedral boasts a richly decorated Gothic façade with elaborately carved doors, and to the north of the building an unfinished tower. You will then walk through the historical district to reach the lovely Mazarin quarter, a residential area built for the town's gentry in the second half of the 17th-century. A chance to relax then follows on the approx. 90-minute drive up to Avignon, after which you'll have some time for lunch in one of the town's many brasseries before moving on to the monumental Papal Palace, the seat of Christianity in the 14th-century and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Rich in galleries and chapels as well as frescoes and hand-painted wall-hangings in the private papal suite, the palace still bears testament to its former opulence. The pleasant return drive to Marseille and your ship then brings the tour to an unhurried close.

Please note: this tour includes long periods of walking on uneven ground with stairs to negotiate; guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits. The cost of lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour. Due to local rules in France every guest must be properly sitting on the excursion coach. This includes also children aged from 0 up to three years old. If you travel with children in this age, please contact the Shore Excursions' Desk on the ship at least 48 hours prior to your tour to have a baby chair requested and placed on the excursion coach and for any additional information. Even with this early notice, the baby seats are never guaranteed.

CITY TOUR

MARSEILLE WALKING TOUR - MRS20

**Duration**
2 h

Spend 2 hours off the ship enjoying the sunshine and stretching your legs in the fresh air on a leisurely walk around the lovely French city of Marseille, situated in the nation's deep south. You'll catch a shuttle bus to reach the city centre, after which the tour continues on foot. Taking through a mainly pedestrianised area, the guided walk begins at the foot of the old town and ends at its highest point, with information provided on the city's storied past as you go. Key landmarks include the 17th-century city hall, 16th-century Hôtel de Cabre, the magnificent Cathedral of Saint Mary Major, completed in the late 19th-century, and Fort Saint-Jean, built in 1660 by order of Louis XIV. You'll also have some free time to explore the Vieux Port - the old harbour - area before catching a shuttle bus back to the ship.

Please note: This tour includes approximately 1.5 hours of moderate walking, at times over uneven surfaces. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. All visits are external.



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EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

CYCLE THROUGH MARSEILLE - MRSBK1



Duration
4 h



Since Marseille is France's second largest city and was 2013's European Capital of Culture, this cycling tour intends to showcase the best cultural highlights of the ancient city, parts of which date back to around 600 B.C.. You'll be covering about 30 km on a moderately difficult biking route, with a first break scheduled at Marseille Cathedral, a minor basilica since 1896, so you can go inside. After then passing Fort Saint-Jean, you'll skirt the old town en route to Palais Longchamp, home to two museums. One of these exhibits art, the other historical artefacts and the gardens once housed zoo animals in the 19th-century. Although the old enclosures still stand, they are now occupied by animal statues rather than the real thing. Pedalling on, you'll then reach Pharo Gardens from where you can snap great photos of the port. As a final treat, you'll have time to do some shopping in the town centre before you begin to cycle back to the ship.

Please note: the tour involves cycling along an approx. 25-km route and is suitable only for guests with a high level of physical fitness. Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent.

MARSEILLE E-BIKE DISCOVERY TOUR - MRSBK2



Duration
5 h



Explore the cultural highlights of France's second-biggest city on a pedelec, a bicycle with a small electric motor that assists you up to 25 km/h while pedalling. Your first stop is the Cathedral of St. Mary Major, right by the sea. From here, pass Fort Saint-Jean before skirting the city's picturesque old town. Longchamp Palace, housing two museums, is your next stop. It's worth stepping outside, too: the gardens used to be home to a 19th-century zoo and now hold animal statues. After all that culture, it's on to Notre-Dame de la Garde, located on a hilltop overlooking Marseille, for some splendid views over the city and its surroundings, before descending and riding through the countryside to the beach for a refreshment stop. Then before heading back to the port, there's just time for some shopping in the old town.

Please note: the tour involves cycling along an approx. 40-km route and is suitable only for guests with a high level of physical fitness. Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent. The stop at the beach is foreseen only during summer months.



MSC

EXCURSIONS
Discoveries designed for you

Genoa (Portofino)

Sun 10 March 2024

PROTECTOURS: DISCOVER GENOA BY SEGWAY® - GOA14T



Duration
2:30 h



Short but sweet, this entertaining tour takes you off the ship to discover the city of Genoa by Segway®, a great means of transport that's not only fun and very green, but also makes for urban exploration without having to get footsore in the process. Your guided roundup of Genoa's main sights takes you through the town's historical centre and includes views of the 13th- to 16th-century Doges' Palace, the birthplace of Christopher Columbus and Porta Soprana, the best-known section of Genoa's remaining city walls. Your Segway® tour then rolls to a close with your return to the ship.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa; it is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems, pregnant women and those whose weight is less than 45 kilos or more than 117 kilos. The minimum age required to drive the Segway® is 16 years old. Guests must sign a waiver to take part in the tour. Assistance throughout the tour only in English and Italian. This tour may have multiple departures throughout the ship's time in port. You will receive all information about your specific departure the day before the excursion.

SCENIC ROUTE

GENOA PANORAMIC TOUR - GOA18T



Duration
3:15 h



Thanks to its illustrious past and collection of ornate buildings, Genoa also goes by the name of "La Superba" - Italian for "The Proud One" - and it is this civic beauty you'll be exploring on this leisurely sightseeing tour. Your guided coach tour begins at the port and takes you past such historical buildings as Columbus' birthplace and the 13th-century Palazzo San Giorgio, then continues down the seafront Corso Italia to reach the picturesque Boccadasse district. You'll have some free time to spend in this pretty harbour, flanked by the colourful houses of the resident fishing folk. When you move on again, you'll pass through the residential neighbourhood of Albaro and catch glimpses of Piazza Tommaseo and Piazza Vittoria as you head for the historical Piazza de Ferrari, Genoa's main square. Another break is scheduled here for you to explore on your own, with possible areas of interest being the old town and San Lorenzo Cathedral or a look at the Palazzo Ducale, the Doge's Palace. Last up on the itinerary is a drive up Castelletto Hill for splendid views from the observation deck, a perfect spot to take some photos.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa.



Wheelchair and disabled-friendly tour - Wheelchair guests must be accompanied by their own helper to get on/off the coach. Wheelchairs must be foldable as the coach is not provided with ramps or lifts. Once onboard, please contact Excursions Desk staff promptly so they can help make arrangements.

NATURAL WONDERS

BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE AQUARIUM - GOA19T



Duration
3:30 h



Leave the ship for a few hours and instead check yourself in to an educational and family-friendly outing for a behind-the-scenes look at Italy's largest aquarium, the Acquario di Genova. Built to coincide with the Genoa Expo in 1992, which in turn commemorated the 500th anniversary of the New World being discovered by Columbus, the aquarium is home to a vast collection of marine wildlife. After a short ferry transfer to the old part of Genoa and the Acquario, you and your family can first enjoy an unguided visit of the various tanks that provide a habitat for tropical fish, sharks, natural coral, penguins and dolphins. At a prearranged time, you'll then proceed on an expertly guided "behind-the-scenes" tour of the facility, during which you'll get to see the on-site laboratories, maintenance and plankton farming activities as well as how the animals are cared for and reared. And among the tank backstage areas, highlights include the jellyfish and dolphin enclosures. Your time at the Expo site wraps up with a little more time to explore on your own before the boat returns you to the ship.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa. No guided visit inside the Aquarium except for the behind the scenes part.



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EXCURSIONS
Discoveries designed for you

CITY TOUR

MAGNIFICENT MILANO - GOA23T



Duration
7:30 h



Get off the ship and spend a day in magnificent Milano, the 2nd largest city in Italy as regards to population, politics, and cultural affairs, and the first in the field of commerce, industry, and banking. Relax on your approx. 2-hour coach drive on the motorway from Genoa to Milan. Upon arrival, begin an approx. 1.5-hour guided walking tour that will unveil some of Milan's best spots: Piazza Castello until reaching "La Scala" - Milan's Opera House, "Galleria Vittorio Emanuele" and Cathedral Square. Enjoy some free time in "Piazza Duomo" looking for a nice place to have lunch or, for the braver, to climb up the gold statue "Madonnina", the statue of the Virgin Mary placed atop the Cathedral. Alternatively, if you are a shopping lover, Milan is the place to be! Your approx. 2-hour coach drive to Genoa port and your cruise ship ends this exclusive excursion.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa and includes long periods of walking; guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. The cost of the lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

DISCOVER GENOA'S MAGNIFICENT PALACES - GOA25T



Duration
4:15 h



This appealing half-day outing will acquaint you the rich history of Genoa's aristocracy, as showcased in the splendid palaces found along the city's Via Garibaldi. As one of Genoa's oldest sections, Via Garibaldi dates back to the Renaissance era with resplendent edifices that are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. You'll first meet your guide and then stroll along the time-honored street with inside visits planned at the richly stuccoes Palazzo Nicolosio Lomellino and Palazzo Bianco. Constructed between 1530 and 1540, Palazzo Bianco hosts key art collections by old masters from the 12th- to 17th-century, including Van Dyck, Rubens, Paolo Veronese, and forms part of the Le Strade Nuove Museums. These brushes with history will be followed by a break to taste some of the city's world-famous pesto sauce at Palazzo Cattaneo-Adorno before you can enjoy some leisure time on your own. The walk back to Port Antico and your cruise ship then brings the outing to a close.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Genoa port and is unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties. Guests with any type of food intolerance are required to communicate it to the Shore Excursions Office at least two days before the call.

SCENIC ROUTE

PORTOFINO & ENCHANTING VIEWS OF LIGURIAN RIVIERA - GOA29T



Duration
7:30 h



With its beautiful landscapes, lush nature, and blue sea, this full-day excursion allows you to admire the scenery of the Ligurian Riviera and discover three of its most prized jewels: Portofino, Camogli, and Santa Margherita. From the port, a 50-minute coach trip will take you to Camogli, a typical seaside village famous for its small port and colourful waterfront buildings. Your guide will take you on a pleasant walk through the historic centre of this pretty town. Afterwards, you will board a boat for a scenic transfer to Portofino with views of the Abbey of San Fruttuoso, a hidden gem located in a bay between the two towns. Arriving from the sea, you cannot remain indifferent to the spectacle of the houses overlooking the sea surrounded by hills with olive groves and vineyards. The feeling is of living in a postcard. You will have time at leisure to explore this delightful seaside town, to take pictures or relax in the cafés. Discover the most hidden corners of this little jewel on the Ligurian coast and soak up the beauty of the place before taking the boat and reach Santa Margherita Ligure. You will have some time to explore this lovely town with its green promenade before getting on your bus for the drive back to Genoa.

Please note: Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. The cost of the lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour. This tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Genoa port. The tour depends on the weather conditions on the day of the call. The program, therefore, could be modified with a transfer partly by coach and partly by boat to Portofino. If the weather conditions do not allow you to reach Portofino, the program will include a visit to Camogli and Santa Margherita Ligure.



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NATURAL WONDERS

AQUARIUM - GOA39T**Duration**
3:30 h

Take the family on this funny excursion to the popular Genoa Aquarium; a quick ferry transfer takes us to what is reputed to be one of Europe's best aquariums, renowned for its size and vast variety of marine creatures. As one of the most natural and environmentally friendly aquariums in the world, everyone will enjoy the collections of multi-coloured tropical fish, sharks, natural corals, penguins, and dolphins. After you will have a quick boat trip back to the ship.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa. The visit to the Aquarium is unguided. The entrance ticket allows you visiting the whole Aquarium, but there may be a few areas requiring an extra cost for temporary exhibitions and/or optional further experiences.



Wheelchair and disabled-friendly tour - Wheelchair guests must be accompanied by their own helper to get on/off the coach. Wheelchairs must be foldable as the coach is not provided with ramps or lifts. Once onboard, please contact Excursions Desk staff promptly so they can help make arrangements.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

HISTORICAL CENTRE - GOA44T**Duration**
4 h

A short ferry transfer takes you to "Piazza Caricamento" for a pleasant walk through Genoa's historic town centre. We will wander the charming narrow streets known as "carruggi" to reach "Piazza de Ferrari", the commercial heart of Genoa, where we will admire "Palazzo Ducale" (external visit only). You will visit the "Cisterne del Ducale" where a local tasting made of "bruschetta" and "focaccia", typical to Genoa, awaits you. Your tour will continue with external views of the Cathedral of San Lorenzo. Enjoy some free time in the old port before returning to the port.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa. This tour includes extensive periods of walking (approx. 2.5 hours) and the boat has no ramps or lifts. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. Guests with any type of food intolerance are required to communicate it to the Shore Excursions Office at least two days before the call.

CITY TOUR

JEWELS OF THE LIGURIAN RIVIERA: SANTA MARGHERITA LIGURE & CAMOGLI - GOA45T**Duration**
7 h

Full-day excursion rich in scenery and artistic and natural beauty visiting two gems of the Ligurian Riviera: Santa Margherita and Camogli. Leaving the port, after a coach drive of about an hour to the Ligurian Riviera, the first stop on the itinerary is in Santa Margherita Ligure, also called the "Pearl of Tigullio", set in a beautiful bay. You will have about two and a half hours to discover this coastal town according to your interests. Stroll through its streets along the sea, discover its castle in the town centre, or the 17th century church of San Giacomo di Corte. These landmarks, combined with its splendid geographic location, have made Santa Margherita Ligure a popular tourist destination since the 1960s. Afterwards, a new coach transfer of about 30 minutes across the Portofino promontory will take you to Camogli. The first thing that will strike you once you arrive in this coastal town is the contrast of the blue of the sea with the bright colours of its houses. Here you will have another two and a half hours to discover this seaside village. Discover the many churches that stand in the narrow streets of the centre, stop along the waterfront for some great photos in the setting of the small harbour with the colourful houses and castle ruins as a backdrop, or look for a local restaurant or trattoria where you can enjoy some excellent Italian food. Whatever you decide to do, a visit to these two locations will make your day on the Ligurian Riviera memorable.

Please note: This tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa. It does not include any internal visits to the sites mentioned in the description. Lunch, which is not included in the tour price, can be provided either at Santa Margherita or Camogli, depending on operational requirements on the day of the visit. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. This tour is available from November to end of April.



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EXCURSIONS

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AUTHENTIC GENOA BY BIKE - GOABK1



Duration
4:30 h



This appealing half-day outing lets you discover what makes Genoa so special by bike. Following a moderately difficult route of about 25 km, you'll first cycle around the harbour to pass Genoa Aquarium and the old Lanterna lighthouse on your way to Porta del Molo, an area in the old town. Enjoy the old-world feel as you cycle down the ancient caruggi (lanes) to reach Porta Soprana, an entrance in the old city walls. After a look at the house of Christopher Columbus, you'll pedal on to Genoa Cathedral, consecrated in 1118, and Piazza de Ferrari for a break. Take some photos of the fine buildings on the square, which is near the 13th-century Doge's Palace. Next, you'll bike your way to the pretty fishing village of Boccadasse, where you can have a break at one of many cafés or go for a swim at the short stretch of beach. On returning to the city, you'll make your way to Via Garibaldi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site as a street of palaces. After a short climb to a viewpoint, you can enjoy final views of Genoa before biking back to the ship.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa. Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent.

COSMOPOLITAN GRANDEUR AND COASTAL CHARMS OF GENOA - GOABK2



Duration
4:30 h



This tour is made easier by riding a pedelec - an electrically powered bicycle which assists the rider's pedal power at speeds of up to 25 km/h. Leaving the port, you'll pedal around the harbour basin past Genoa Aquarium and the Old Harbour (Lanterna) all the way to the Porta del Molo. Cycling through the atmospheric narrow "caruggi" streets, you'll come to the Old City Gate (Porta Soprana) and Christopher Columbus' House, located just outside the ancient medieval city walls. From there, you'll continue to Genoa Cathedral and the Piazza De Ferrari, where you'll have a first short stop to admire the beauty of this magnificent square and the nearby Doge's Palace, one of the oldest buildings in the city. Photo break over, you'll leave the old city to visit the famously picturesque village of Boccadasse, where you'll have the opportunity to enjoy a leisurely coffee or a swim from the small but charming beach, surrounded by cafés. Suitably refreshed, you'll cycle back towards the city centre, but turn north before getting there to access a magnificent viewpoint with panoramic vistas of the city. The partly steep and winding road will lead you to the Terrazze Capolinea Funicular Railway Station for a quick coffee break before you make your descent back to the city and port.

Please note: this tour is only for guests who do not embark/disembark in the port of Genoa. Guests will cycle for a total of 27 km, including uphill routes. Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent.

**MSC****EXCURSIONS**

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Civitavecchia (Rome)

Mon 11 March 2024

CULTURE AND HISTORY

ROME, BAROQUE TOUR - CIV02

**Duration**
9 h

Rome - one of the world's most iconic cities, steeped in history and rich in Italian charm - awaits you after an approx. 1.5-hour coach drive from Civitavecchia. A city guide will be on hand to meet you on arrival and then escort you on a coach sightseeing Roman tour that includes external viewing of Caracalla's Baths, the Circus Maximus, the Colosseum, Constantine's Arch, and the Palatine. Next, leave the coach and enjoy a 1.5-hour walk on an itinerary that includes Fontana di Trevi, the Pantheon - one of Rome's best-preserved ancient Roman temples - and Roman Baroque Piazza Navona. After some time to have lunch on your own, you will reach San Pietro area with the splendid Bernini Column: you will have 1-hour free time to explore on your own or to visit the Basilica - your guide will provide information on the site beforehand. The excursion ends with a coach drive back to Civitavecchia after saying goodbye to your guide in Rome.

Please note: The cost of the lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour. There may be long queues to enter St. Peter's Basilica, and it may close at short notice for reasons beyond MSC's control. The opportunity to visit the site during your free time will be reconfirmed during your cruise. Guests using a wheelchair are welcome to participate in this tour but should be aware that it includes long periods of walking, that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to assist with getting on and off the coach, and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable, as the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits. It may be dusk in autumn or winter while visiting some of the sites.

SCENIC ROUTE

TRANSFER TO ROME AND TIME AT LEISURE IN TOWN - CIV03

**Duration**
9 h

If you want to discover the beauty of Rome but follow your own interests, this full-day excursion will allow you to do so at a more relaxed pace. Leave the port of Civitavecchia for an approx. 1.5-hour coach drive to Italy's capital city, after which you can spend the entire day exploring "The Eternal City" at your leisure. You will receive instructions on how best to get around town and a map showing the main sights and monuments. Some of the must-sees Rome is known for include the Colosseum and the Roman Forum, the Pantheon, the beautiful Piazza Navona in old Rome and the neighbouring Vatican City State in Rome's modern centre, to name but a few. As one of the world's fashion capitals, the city is also choc-full of superb shopping facilities. Further sights include the magnificent Bernini Column on St. Peter's Square, which is also the site of the Pope's Sunday Angelus. And since the choice of what to visit or admire is yours alone, be sure to return to the meeting point to catch the coach that will take you to the port and the ship.

Please note: the bus stops near "Piazza del Popolo"; this is the point of arrival and departure of your tour. The cost of the lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

ROME & THE WONDERS OF THE VATICAN MUSEUM - CIV08

**Duration**
9 h

A 1.5-hour bus transfer will take you to Rome where your guide will provide a sightseeing tour of Rome's key monuments including the Aurelian Walls, the Pyramid, Caracalla's Baths, the Circus Maximus, the Colosseum and the romantic "Lungotevere": all from the comfort of your coach. We will proceed to the Vatican area where, after a short walk, you will reach the Vatican Museum. This excursion allows you privileged access to the site, avoiding the long queues. Enjoy a guided tour inside one of the world's most famous museums, admiring the masterpieces commissioned by the Roman Popes and which have been collected and preserved during the ages. See inside the Sistine Chapel, marvel at the exquisite frescoes by Michaelangelo and other XV century artists from Tuscany and Umbria. Free time for lunch (not inclusive) followed by a guided tour of "Piazza San Pietro" before the unguided return to the port.

Please note: It may be dusk in autumn and winter while visiting some of the sites. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits. The Vatican Museum may close at short notice for reasons beyond MSC's control; have the visit to the venue reconfirmed during your cruise. The cost of the lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour. This tour is not available on Sunday calls.



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SCENIC ROUTE

ROME SIGHTSEEING - CIV09



Duration
5:30 h



Leave the port for a 1.5-hour drive to Italy's capital city and experience one of the most comfortable ways to visit Rome with a sightseeing coach tour of all the attractions that make up this "Eternal City". You will see the Cestia Pyramid, Caracalla Baths, "Circus Maximus", the Colosseum as well as St. John's Square, St. Mary Major, Via Veneto, Villa Borghese, and the romantic "Lungotevere". We will then drop you off at the Vatican where you will have free time to wander the tranquil backstreets of the Vatican State or visit Saint Peter's Basilica on your own. The return to the port will be unguided.

Please note: guests will meet guides in Rome. There may be long queues to enter St. Peter's Basilica, and it may close at short notice for reasons beyond MSC's control. The opportunity to visit the site during your free time will be reconfirmed during your cruise. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits.



Wheelchair and disabled-friendly tour - Wheelchair guests must be accompanied by their own helper to get on/off the coach. Wheelchairs must be foldable as the coach is not provided with ramps or lifts. Once onboard, please contact Excursions Desk staff promptly so they can help make arrangements.

CITY TOUR

TUSCANIA AND TARQUINIA - CIV22



Duration
4:30 h



The origins of Tuscania goes back to the myth and legends; some want the town to be founded by Hercules' son, some others by Aeneas' son, Ascanius. Your excursion will begin with a 50-minute coach drive across the beautiful landscape until reaching the village of Tuscania. Enjoy a guided walking tour of its historical centre, surrounded by medieval walls and marvel at the view from the Tower of Lavello. Your guide will point out the village's main sights including the Church of Saint Peter; a unique opportunity to feel the atmosphere of central Italy's little villages. Next, after boarding your coach again, you will drive to Tarquinia, one of the 12 Etruscan cities in the past. Your guide will take you on an interesting itinerary to discover of this important village in the heart of Tuscia territory.

Please note: this tour is unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits.

SCENIC ROUTE

DISCOVERING THE "CASTELLI ROMANI" - CIV72



Duration
8:30 h



After a 110-minute drive, meet the guide at the gates of Rome and proceed the journey to the Roman Castles, a wonderful green region with 17 villages on the hills overlooking the Eternal City. The first stop will be the city of Frascati, dominated by the majesty of Villa Aldobrandini summer residence of the noble family built for the Cardinal Pietro nephew of Pope Clemens VIII in the XVI century. A beautiful view of the Eternal City from the terrace of the main square, the Baroque Cathedral of St. Peter's and the narrow streets of the village will be the highlights of a guided walking tour. After this, a 15 minutes drive will take you to the village of Castel Gandolfo, summer residence of the Popes since 1623 and once Villa of the Roman Emperor Domiziano. The main square, facing the Papal building, overlooking Lake Albano, and affording great views, is also decorated with a fountain designed by the Master Gianlorenzo Bernini. The village also holds several shops selling souvenirs, craft, and food so you will have free time to have lunch or taste an ice cream or other specialities. Leaving Castel Gandolfo behind, next destination is the village of Nemi, once theatre of religious rites dating back to Emperor Caligula, and now renowned for flowers and wild strawberries and the beautiful volcanic lake below. After a stroll along its narrow streets and flowered Piazza overlooking the lake, enjoy some free time to explore on your own. Amazed by the beauty of the Roman countryside, the coach drive to Civitavecchia concludes this full-day tour.

Please note: The cost of the lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part.

**MSC****EXCURSIONS**

Discoveries designed for you

CULTURE AND HISTORY

TREASURES OF THE ETERNAL CITY - CIV73**Duration**
9 h

The thousand-year history of Rome and the delights of authentic Roman cuisine await you on this full-day excursion to the Eternal City. A coach trip of approximately one and a half hours will take you to Rome where your guide will be waiting for you. The first part of the tour will take you to the Vatican to admire St Peter's Basilica and Bernini's spectacular colonnade from the outside. You will have some free time to take some souvenir photos and visit a shop, a chance to buy a souvenir of Rome. Back on the coach, the tour continues with a sightseeing tour of the city, passing along the Tiber, the Pyramid, the Baths of Caracalla, and the Circus Maximus, ending at the Colosseum. Following your guide on a circular walk outside one of the world's most famous monuments, you will learn that the Flavian Amphitheatre could seat up to 50.000 people. Impossible not to stop and take a photo or a selfie in front of the beauty and grandeur of this monument before moving on to a typical Roman restaurant. Enjoy a typical Roman lunch where, among other dishes, you will taste the famous pasta all'amatriciana. Besides satisfying your palate, lunch will allow you to rest and discover some anecdotes about the dishes you will be served. Well recharged, the tour continues on foot along a route that includes some of Rome's treasures: Piazza Venezia and the Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps, the Pantheon (external visit) and Piazza Navona. After leaving our guide in Rome, your Roman experience ends with the coach drive back to Civitavecchia and your ship.

Please note: Guests using a wheelchair are welcome to participate in this tour but should be aware that it is completely on foot, that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to assist with getting on and off the coach, and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable, as the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. It may be dusk in autumn and winter while visiting some of the sites. The inside visit to St. Peter's Basilica is not part of the tour. The possibility of accessing the site during the free time depends on the queues at the entrances which can be very long, and which can vary from call to call. Please, therefore, respect the duration of free time provided in St. Peter's Square to avoid delays in completing the tour program. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits. The restaurant lunch may be earlier or later depending on the day of call. Guests with any type of food intolerance are required to communicate it to the Shore Excursions Office at least two days before the call. All visits are external.

THE ETERNAL CITY BY PEDAL POWER - CIVBK1**Duration**
9 h

Dedicate a day to exploring the Eternal City on a gentle biking route through mainly pedestrianised areas and side roads with little traffic. First, though, you'll board a coach for the transfer to Circus Maximus, from where you'll then follow your guide by bike. The escorted tour will take you past such iconic landmarks as the Capitol, Pantheon, the fountains on Piazza Navona, Castel Sant'Angelo, the world-famous Spanish Steps and the equally notable Trevi Fountain, the one in which it is customary to toss a coin for good luck. Also, on the cycling itinerary are views of the Roman Forum, People's Square and Villa Borghese and the Colosseum. A stop is scheduled at St. Peter's Square, home to St. Peter's Basilica, so you can have a bit of a breather and enjoy the surroundings. Your bike ride will also include plenty of stops to take photos of all you see and at the end, you'll rejoin your coach for the relaxing return journey to your ship.

Please note: Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent.

THE ETERNAL CITY BY E-BIKE - CIVBK2**Duration**
9 h

Dedicate a day to exploring the Eternal City on a gentle biking route through mainly pedestrianised areas and side roads with little traffic. First, though, you'll board a coach for the transfer to Circus Maximus, from where you'll then follow your guide by bike. The escorted tour will take you past such iconic landmarks as the Capitol, Pantheon, the fountains on Piazza Navona, Castel Sant'Angelo, the world-famous Spanish Steps and the equally notable Trevi Fountain, the one in which it is customary to toss a coin for good luck. Also, on the cycling itinerary are views of the Roman Forum, People's Square and Villa Borghese and the Colosseum. A stop is scheduled at St. Peter's Square, home to St. Peter's Basilica, so you can have a bit of a breather and enjoy the surroundings. Your bike ride will also include plenty of stops to take photos of all you see and at the end, you'll rejoin your coach for the relaxing return journey to your ship.

Please note: Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

Palermo (Monreale)

Tue 12 March 2024

CULTURE AND HISTORY

PALERMO AND MONREALE - PMO02



Duration
5 h



Your excursion begins with a coach tour past the city's key landmarks, such as the Quattro Canti, Piazza Politeama and the Teatro Massimo, en route to Monreale, a town located on the slope of Monte Caputo and just 8 km away from Palermo. Enjoy a walking tour around the town and visit the Cathedral, home to an exquisite display of golden mosaics depicting scenes from the Old and New Testament. Back on your coach, enjoy the drive to Palermo for a full visit of the Cathedral, built in an unusual marriage of Norman and Arab architectural styles and which houses the tombs of different Norman kings and Emperor Frederick II. Another religious site of note is the "Casa Professa", one of the most important baroque churches in Palermo. You will also visit a local market rich in typical Sicilian products where you can enjoy some free time for shopping before returning to the ship.

Please note: you have to walk up some steps to visit the Cathedral in Monreale. The guide will give explanation only outside the sites; guests will visit them individually. If the Cathedrals are closed on public holidays or during special events, the visit will be external. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits. This tour includes periods of walking, at times over uneven surfaces; guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. Guests will be required to return their audio guide equipment to their tour guide in perfect condition at the end of the tour. Guests will be charged for any damage to or loss of audio guide equipment.

CEFALU' - PMO04



Duration
6 h



Enjoy a 1-hour coach drive to Cefalù, a small yet pretty town situated one hour away from Palermo and which was founded by the Norman King Roger II in the XII century on the site of an earlier historic settlement. You will visit Cefalù Cathedral, the "Duomo del Cristo Pantocratore", an example of Norman-Romanesque architecture with stunning interior Norman-Byzantine mosaics. Next on the list is the visit to the medieval lavatory, a public lavatory where people used to wash their clothes in the Middle Age and fully restored in 1991, a legacy of medieval times, carved into the rock. Enjoy a guided walk along the historical centre and some free time to explore the narrow, atmospheric streets. Quality local craft shops make Cefalù a great place for souvenir shopping.

Please note: this tour includes walking on uneven ground and is unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties. If the Cathedral is closed on public holidays or during special events, the visit will be external. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for religious visits.

PROTECTOURS: WALKING TOUR OF PALERMO - PMO20



Duration
3:30 h



This appealing outing gives you a chance to team a little gentle exercise with seeing the sights of Palermo, Sicily's capital city, on foot. Your guided walking tour begins on Via Francesco Crispi, a large boulevard leading to Piazza XIII Vittime and its monument to 13 victims of the notorious mafia. A short photo stop is scheduled there, after which you'll continue your walk down Via Cavour, then past the well-known Teatro Massimo and Quattro Canti, an octagonal square flanked by a number of Baroque buildings. You'll also get to see Piazza Pretoria and Piazza Bellini en route to the ancient Vucciria marketplace and Piazza San Domenico before you return to the port and your ship.

Please note: This tour includes approximately 1.5 hours of moderate walking, at times over uneven surfaces. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part.

**MSC****EXCURSIONS**

Discoveries designed for you

CULTURE AND HISTORY**PALERMO SIGHTSEEING TOUR & VISIT TO TEATRO MASSIMO - PMO48****Duration**
4:30 h

Palermo's Teatro Massimo, the third largest opera house in Europe, is part of this half-day excursion, along with a panoramic tour of the city. The first part of the excursion is dedicated to photography enthusiasts, who will be able to capture the splendid panorama of Palermo from the 610-metre-high Monte Pellegrino. Back in the city, the itinerary includes an overview of Mondello, famous for its beaches, and other short photo stops to capture the beauty of the gulf and then the Casina Cinese and Parco della Favorita. Arriving at the Teatro Massimo, the largest theatre in Italy, you will be fascinated by the structure with its huge dome and the façade that resembles a temple with columns. The tour inside will leave you even more breathless as you pass through the foyer, the hall of mirrors, to the great horseshoe shaped auditorium with 31 boxes including the royal box. Your guide will tell you a few anecdotes about the theatre, which could seat up to 3000 people, before leaving this marvel of opera and continuing the tour with a walk through the streets of Palermo. Follow the guide along Via Maqueda, past the 4 Canti, Piazza Pretoria and admire the Cathedral from the outside. And it is in this setting, comfortably seated in front of Palermo Cathedral, that you will pause to enjoy two Sicilian delicacies, an arancino (fried stuffed rice balls) and a cannolo (a sweet pastry filled with ricotta cheese), accompanied by a glass of passito wine. After some free time, the coach will take you back to the port, passing the monument dedicated to the victims of the Mafia.

Please note: This tour includes approximately 1 hour of moderate walking, at times over uneven surfaces. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. Guests with any type of food intolerance are required to communicate it to the Shore Excursions Office at least two days before the call.

ACTIVE & ADVENTURE**PALERMO AND MONDELLO BY BIKE - PMOBK1****Duration**
4:30 h

Fresh air, the best of Palermo, glorious coastal views, and time to spend in the seaside town of Mondello await you on this gentle, half-day biking tour. To begin with, you'll pedal through Palermo to check out the city's must-sees such as the originally late 12th-century Palermo Cathedral, the 9th-century Palace of the Normans and the late 19th-century Teatro Massimo, which is the largest in Italy and boasts perfect acoustics. Several photo stops will be made on the way so you can capture the stunning scenery. Leaving Palermo, you'll then head along a 10-km coastal route in the shadows of Monte Pellegrino to reach the fishing village of Mondello. You'll have time to explore the picturesque resort and take a moment to try some of the local cuisine before you cycle back to the ship.

Please note: Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent.

CYCLING IN PALERMO & SURROUNDS - PMOBK2**Duration**
5:30 h

Joining this outing is sure to give you a thorough workout as you pedal around Palermo's hinterland on an approx. 40-km route with a 600-m gain in elevation. After leaving the confines of the city, you'll first cycle through the village of Arenella to reach the foothills of Monte Pellegrino, Palermo's neighbourhood mountain. Then you'll climb 500 m on a 7km uphill trail to reach the Santa Rosalia pilgrimage site, dedicated to the patron saint of Palermo. Take a break and browse the souvenir stalls at the site before continuing onwards and upwards to reach one of Monte Pellegrino's nearby viewpoints - perfect for taking photos. Further photo-worthy vistas follow on the way down before you reach the Bay of Mondello, where a white sand beach and turquoise water await you. Time to relax or go for a refreshing swim will be yours at the beach, which is also served by numerous small cafés if you prefer to chill out with a drink. The final leg will give you one last chance to soak up gorgeous coastal views before you return to the ship.

Please note: the tour involves arduous and in part uphill cycling along an approx. 40-km route and is suitable only for guests with a high level of physical fitness. Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent.

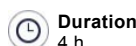
**MSC****EXCURSIONS**
Discoveries designed for you

Valletta

Wed 13 March 2024

CITY TOUR

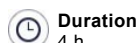
VALLETTA AND MDINA - MLT01

**Duration**
4 h

When in Malta, you can do no better than to pay a visit not only the island's current capital of Valletta, but also the former capital of Mdina, both of which are the fascinating destinations on this half-day tour. Valletta is first up, where you will go to see the wonderful Barrakka Gardens - a beautifully landscaped public park - to savour breathtaking views of the Grand Harbour, after which you will head for St. John's Co-Cathedral, built by the Knights of Malta in the second half of the 16th-century. The ornately decorated interior is rich in treasures, including a masterpiece by Caravaggio. The tour then continues to the medieval walled city of Mdina, which is situated in the middle of the island and is also called "The Silent City" due to restrictions imposed on motorised traffic. You will get to visit the Baroque-style St. Paul's Cathedral, which presides impressively over the town, before enjoying a walk through the narrow streets and lanes of this piece of living history. Your tour then draws to a leisurely close with your return to the ship.

Please note: as your visit to Mdina and Valletta will be entirely on foot and involves long periods of walking, guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. Even though all sites visited are wheelchair-friendly, Valletta is mostly cobblestoned and might be uncomfortable for guests using a wheelchair. If they want to take part, they must be accompanied by a paying helper to aid with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. If the tour falls on a Saturday afternoon and on Public/National Holiday, the visit to the St. John's Co-Cathedral will be external only and guests will visit the National Museum instead. St. John's Co-Cathedral may close without prior notice for religious service. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for visits to sites of religious importance. This tour is not available on Sundays.

RABAT, MOSTA & MDINA - MLT03

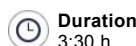
**Duration**
4 h

Half a day off the ship and three of Malta's must-sees are the measure of this entertaining sightseeing tour that begins with a short coach journey to the first of the destinations: the medieval walled city of Mdina, once the capital of Malta. Also dubbed "The Silent Town" due to heavy restrictions on the use of motorised vehicles within its walls, Mdina is a place to explore entirely on foot. You will get to stroll through the lovely old city and have a chance to marvel at its old bastion. Next up is the town of Rabat, where you will take a short walk before driving to Ta' Qali Handicraft Village to browse for a souvenir and to a glass blowing factory. The last place on the tour itinerary will then be the nearby town of Mosta to check out its fabulous Basilica of the Assumption of Our Lady, which was consecrated in 1871 and whose Rotunda boasts one of the world's largest unsupported domes. A short coach ride back to the port and your ship then brings the tour to a close.

Please note: even though all sites visited are wheelchair-friendly, the visit to the three cities will be entirely on foot and involves long periods of walking. If they want to take part, they must be accompanied by a paying helper to aid with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. If this tour runs on Sundays, the visit to Mosta Basilica will be external only. The Basilica may close without prior notice for religious service. Guests are requested to wear appropriate attire for visiting sites of religious importance.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

HARBOUR CRUISE - MLT04

**Duration**
3:30 h

To visit Malta's impressive natural harbour, leave your ship and board a motorboat to embark on a relaxing trip along the scenic Maltese coastline, along the way passing by the lovely Cottonera area made up of Senglea, Cospicua and Vittoriosa, which are collectively known as The Three Cities. Nearly opposite Cottonera lies the Maltese capital, Valletta, with its remarkably imposing bastions. The city has retained much of its architectural heritage and one of its most iconic sights is Valletta waterfront, a marvel of 18th-century Baroque architecture that has been extensively restored. Do take your camera to capture awe-inspiring views of the waterfront, while also enjoying a wine-tasting session at this unique location. Before returning to the ship, you will stop briefly at the Mdina glass outlet at the Valletta waterfront.

Please note: the tour is subject to wind/sea conditions on the day of the call. The access to the boat is through a narrow gangway. Guests with any type of food intolerance are required to communicate it to the Shore Excursions Office at least two days before the call.

**MSC****EXCURSIONS**
Discoveries designed for you**CULTURE AND HISTORY****THE NEOLITHIC TEMPLES & MARSAXLOKK BAY - MLT10****Duration**
4 h

The islands of Malta and the nearby Gozo are home to an intriguing set of eleven prehistoric monuments, seven of which are classed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, namely the marvellous Megalithic Temples of Malta. One of these fascinating sites of early engineering and worship forms the first stop on this half-day tour and will take you to the southeast of the island. These temples are among the oldest free-standing buildings ever found in the world - some pre-date the Egyptian pyramids - and make highly evocative representatives of a bygone age. You will then continue on to the pretty fishing village of Marsaxlokk, situated on the shores of Malta's second-largest natural bay, to see the traditional, brightly coloured "luzzu" fishing boats. In keeping with a seafaring tradition that possibly goes back as far as the Phoenicians, all of these luzzu have a pair of eyes painted on the bow, perhaps to make sure they always know where they're going. A panoramic drive through "Cottonera area" with a walking tour of the historic town of Vittoriosa - one of the three Historic Cities - comes next before reaching the port and your cruise ship.

Please note: this tour is unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties.

SCENIC ROUTE**PANORAMIC ISLAND TOUR - MLT24****Duration**
4 h

A carefully curated crop of Malta's must-sees is on the itinerary of this appealing half-day tour, which will first see you board a coach to reach Vittoriosa (a.k.a. Birgu), an old fortified town that the Knights Hospitaller made their first Maltese home in 1530. From here, a guided walk will take you past such key landmarks as the waterfront, the Malta Maritime Museum, and the late 17th-century St. Lawrence's Church. Next up is a drive to the fishing village of Marsaxlokk, where you'll have free time to explore and check out the local luzzus, colourful little boats with a pair of eyes painted on the bow. The custom is thought to date back to the Phoenicians and is supposed to protect fishermen from harm while at sea. You will then head for Wied iz-Zurrieq, which, although famous for its beautiful natural arch hosting the famous Blue Grotto, is a place that offers enchanting views. You will have free time to take a walk along the pathways overlooking the sea or to visit the shop and the cafés on the street level. If you wish to visit the Blue Grotto, then venture down a steep incline to the sea level, purchase a ticket and take in a 20-minute boat ride to this famous attraction. The tour concludes with the return to the port and to your cruise ship.

Please note: the visit to Vittoriosa, Marsaxlokk and Wied iz-Zurrieq will be entirely on foot and involves long periods of walking. Moreover, paved roads in Vittoriosa can be very uncomfortable for wheelchair users. There are two coffee shops/restaurants the same level of the coach park at Wied iz-Zurrieq. At Wied iz-Zurrieq the hill is very steep to reach the coffee shops at the lower level and the sea for those who want to do the boat trip. Guests of limited mobility are requested to evaluate their personal level of stamina and ability before taking part. If wheelchair users want to take part, they must be accompanied by a paying helper to aid with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. The visit to the Blue Grotto is optional, not included in the tour price, it is subject to both weather conditions and the free time that will be allocated during each call.

CITY CYCLE TOUR OF VALLETTA - MLTBK1**Duration**
5 h

As you glide into Valletta's blue harbour, you'll see a mass of baroque palaces, 16th-century cathedrals, and neoclassical churches. This UNESCO-protected city was once hugely sought after, and its harbour was the setting for fierce battles. Malta's capital is even better in close-up and, on this cycling tour, you'll explore the place on 2 wheels. Your guide will first lead you to the Botanical Garden for a look at the local flora and some great views. You'll then pedal along the waterfront, passing fishing boats and expensive yachts. After a break at St. Julian, it's on to the Old Town, cocooned within medieval walls. You'll ride inside to see the Grand Master Palace: built way back in 1571 and used for centuries as the house of government, today it houses the President's office. Also, on the itinerary is the imposing St Paul's Cathedral - a carbon copy of London's version.

Please note: the distance covered on this biking tour totals approx. 20 km. Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent.



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EXCURSIONS

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MARVELLOUS MALTA BY PEDAL POWER - MLTBK2



Duration
6 h



Discover Malta on a pedelec, a bicycle with a small electric motor that assists you up to 25 km/h while pedalling. Leaving the port and the city of Valetta, you'll cycle out into the countryside along rural roads and small paths, towards the southern part of the island. After passing the local weekly market in the small village Marsaxlokk, you'll reach the east coast of Malta, where you will be rewarded with a fascinating panorama. A small path far from the usual tourist routes will take you to "Peter's Pool", a beautiful piece of coastline with various bathing possibilities. After an extensive swimming stop, you will return to Valetta, stopping briefly at the village of Marsaxlokk. Finally, enjoy a quick tour of the capital, with great views of the harbour from the Upper Barrakka Gardens, before cycling back to the port.

Please note: the distance covered on this biking tour totals approx. 35 km with a 350-m gain in elevation. Children who are at least 155 cm tall are welcome to take part in this tour with the parent's/guardian's written consent. A stop at the beach is included only during summer months.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

KEY TO SYMBOLS

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--|---|--|-------------|---|
| | Possibility of swimming | | Long route by bus | | Best seller | DIFFICULTY LEVEL Easy May involve a limited quantity of steps, uneven surfaces and/or periods of standing Moderate May involve inclines, steps, uneven surfaces and/or extended periods of standing Strenuous Active excursions recommended only for guests in good physical health |
| | Tasting included | | Shooting videos and/or taking pictures is not allowed or subject to fee | | New | |
| | Lunch or dinner included | | Wheelchair and disabled-friendly tour As guests in wheelchairs must be accompanied by their own helper, please inform Excursions Desk staff promptly so they can help make arrangements | | | |
| | Drink included | | Shopping | | | |
| | Snack included | | Mini Tours | | | |
| | No guide available | | Limited seat | | | |

OUR EXCURSIONS CATEGORIES

ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

Head ashore in search of adventure! Opportunities for sport and fun range from trekking and snorkelling to kayak tours and 4x4 vehicle adventures. The active choice.

MSC BIKE ADVENTOURS

CITY TOUR

Explore the city centre with a guided tour and soak up the local scenery with a comfortable coach ride. The easy way to get to know your destination.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

Learn all about the history and culture of your destination, with visits to must-see locations and guided tours of key sites. The ideal route to local knowledge.

NATURAL WONDERS

Immerse yourself in spectacular scenery and discover the fascinating flora and fauna of your destination. Your passport to the wonders of the natural world.

SCENIC ROUTE

Admire your destination in total comfort, with a scenic coach tour taking in the best views and the main places of interest. The relaxing road to discovery.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

Pursue your interests in new places! From gastronomic tours and guided shopping trips to religious visits, there's a world of pastimes and passions to explore.

MSC PROTECTOURS

Some excursions are very popular and therefore availability cannot always be guaranteed, it is advisable to book in advance to avoid disappointment.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

ALL AREAS

The tour can be provided in 5 languages (ENG-DEU-FRA-ESP-ITA) and it depends on the availability of guides. The final language will be confirmed on board during your cruise

ONLY SOA

The tour can be provided in 6 languages (ENG-DEU-FRA-ESP-ITA-POR) and it depends on the availability of guides. The final language will be confirmed on board during your cruise