



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you



Cruise : **MSC GRAND VOYAGES**

Japan, China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Oman, United Arab Emirates

Cruise Ship: **MSC SPLENDIDA**

Departing from: **Yokohama, Japan**

Itineraries: **Shanghai, Naha/Okinawa, Hong Kong, Laem Chabang, Singapore, Port Kelang, Phuket, Colombo, Muscat**

Departure Date: **08/11/2018**

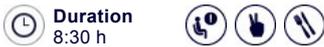
Duration: **31 Days, 30 Nights**

Shanghai

Sun 11 November 2018

CITY TOUR

SHANGHAI GRAND TOUR - SHA01



Duration
8:30 h

Situated on the Yangtze River Delta and the worlds largest city by population, Shanghai also looks back on a long and vibrant history that can be traced back to the 5th century. This grand roundup of Shanghais must-sees begins at the Jade Buddha Temple, which was founded in honour of two jade Buddha statues that were imported from Burma in 1882. But the temple also houses a larger Buddha gifted by Singapore that many mistakenly believe to be original. The Old City is next, an area noted for its bazaar and food court amid pre-1911 architecture and red upturned roofs. It is also home to the classic Chinese Yu Garden, a superbly landscaped space that dates back to 1559 and boasts carp-filled ponds, man-made elevations, dragon-lined walls and zigzag bridges linking various pavilions. A Chinese lunch follows, after which youll have some free time to spend in the Old City before you move on to the fascinating Shanghai Museum. Here, 11 galleries of artefacts bring ancient wisdom and philosophy to life. Last up is Shanghais financial district to visit the 88-storey steel-and-glass Jin Mao Tower, whose name translates into Golden Prosperity Building. The top 38 floors are occupied by a five-star hotel, the highest in the world. The tour then ends with your return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

THE WATER VILLAGE OF ZHUJIAJIAO - SHA02



Duration
5:30 h

Situated but a stones throw from Dianshanhu Lake lies Zhujiajiao, a picturesque water village with a history stretching back to the Ming Dynasty. This is your destination on this half-day tour, which begins with a scenic 1.5-hour coach ride past rippling paddy fields and rustic farms en route to the yesteryear ambience of the lovely village. Streams, rivers and bankside willows, ancient houses and courtyards, meandering lanes and alleyways as well as 36 stone bridges, of which the five-arch Ming Fangsheng Bridge is the best known, await you. Youll also find items made by the local women being sold directly off their boats as you make your way to the 19th-century post office. The nearby Rice Museum provides insight into the rice cultivation process, with exhibits even including an authentic foot-driven pestle once used to shell the rice. A delightful boat ride around the sleepy Zhujiajiao will finalise your visit to this tranquil spot before you head back to your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

SOMETHING SPECIAL

CHINESE ACROBATIC SHOW - SHA03

Duration 4 h

A uniquely entertaining experience can be yours to enjoy by boarding a coach at the pier and heading for the Shanghai Centre Theatre (or a venue of a similar class) for a Chinese variety art show. Look forward to an amazing display of acrobatics, juggling, contortionism and more, all performed by a troupe of supremely talented and rigorously trained artistes. The show continues a time-honoured tradition that began during the Han Dynasty more than 2,000 years ago. During this time, the first acrobatic shows would be put on at village harvest festivities and it was from there that the practice grew, with farmers and craftsmen increasingly spending the winter months in training using cups, plates, sticks, tables, chairs and even themselves to build the now famous human pyramids. Modern-day performances still include such elements, but now also feature new techniques and jaw-dropping stunts. Once the thrilling show has come to an end, the outing draws to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is run in the evening.

PANORAMIC SHANGHAI & MAGLEV TRAIN - SHA05

Duration 5 h

PANORAMIC SHANGHAI & MAGLEV TRAIN

CITY TOUR

SHANGHAI DISCOVERY WALKING TOUR - SHA06

Duration 5 h

Time to stretch your legs and explore the great city of Shanghai on foot, with your first stop being the Shanghai Museum on Peoples Square in the city centre. The ancient Chinese notion of a round heaven and square land is reflected by the buildings square base and domed top, while the inside welcomes visitors with a huge collection of artefacts spread over 11 galleries and 3 exhibitions. After the visit, you'll move on to the nearby East Nanjing Road, home to Shanghai's fashion district and speciality shops selling Chinese silks, calligraphies, paintings, medicines, handicrafts and souvenirs. At the end of Nanjing Road lies your next destination, the esplanade on the Huangpu River known simply as the Bund, from a Persian word for embankment. The 1.5 km/1 mile promenade, the jewel of the Huangpu district, also provides great views of the quarters varied buildings featuring Gothic, Romanesque, Baroque and Chinese architecture. The following stroll back to your ship then brings the tour to a close. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SCENIC ROUTE

BUND & HUANGPU NIGHT RIVER CRUISE - SHA07

Duration 4 h

Ramping up the romance factor, this entertaining tour will see you leave the ship and set off on a beguiling eventide exploration of Shanghai's most scenic spots. A first stop is scheduled at the famous Bund esplanade that runs along the Huangpu River, providing superb views of the Oriental Pearl Tower, Jin Mao Tower and the Shanghai World Financial Centre in the Lujiazui sector of the modern Pudong district on the eastern banks. But this spot also delivers an equally gorgeous vista of the 52 buildings of varied Gothic, Romanesque, Baroque and Chinese architecture for which the Bund is famed. You'll have time to take plenty of photos here before you continue on to your relaxing 30-minute evening cruise down the Huangpu River, giving you a chance to savour Shanghai's unique cityscape from an equally unique perspective. The tour then comes to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

CITY TOUR

NIGHT ORIENTATION IN SHANGHAI - SHA08


The Lujiazui area of the Pudong district, located opposite the Bund on the Huangpu River, boasts the avant-garde of Shanghai's architecture, including the Oriental Pearl Tower, Jin Mao Tower and Shanghai World Financial Centre. After an initial coach ride from the pier, an evening stroll along the riverside avenue will see you reach the 88-storey Jin Mao Tower, which rises to a vertiginous height of 420 m/1,380 ft.. The top 38 floors of the Jin Mao, which translates to Golden Prosperity Building in English, are occupied by the 5-star Grand Hyatt Shanghai, making it the highest hotel in the world. After time to take photos of the fabulous building, you'll move on to the beautiful Xintiandi area of the French Concession, a district once under French administration from the mid-19th to the mid-20th century. The area retains its distinctively French flair, with restaurants, boutiques and galleries now occupying the stone-gate villas, some of which have been restored to their former grandness. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. A helper to get on/off the coach must accompany wheelchair guests. Wheelchairs must be foldable, as the coach has no ramps or lifts. Once onboard, please contact Excursions Desk staff promptly so they can help make arrangements.

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SHANGHAI CLASSIC TOUR - SHA11D


Your tour will start in the morning with the visit of Shanghai Museum. This museum, that has opened doors in 1994, has a spectacular collection of Chinese relics. Here, 11 galleries of artefacts bring ancient wisdom and philosophy to life; you will be able to find every kind of Chinese cultural art such as Bronze, ceramics, calligraphy, painting, sculptures, seals, jade, furniture, coins, and much more. Spend some time at the famous Nanjing Road, stretching for almost 5 km and featuring shopping malls, historic stores, theatres and much more. Your next stop will be the Old Town & Yu Garden. Back in 1911, the old town was where the original city was situated, today, the place is a bazaar and a food court for not only the tourists but also many local citizens to purchase every kind of souvenir items and enjoy the delicious perks of Chinese food. In the heart of the old town is the Yu Garden, one of the rare Chinese classical private garden that was built in 1559. When you look around the garden, you will be impressed by the beautiful landscape design surrounded by artificial hills, carp-filled ponds, dragon-lined walls, and pavilions connected by zigzag bridges. Lunch will follow before reaching Shanghai's financial district to visit the 88-storey steel-and-glass Jin Mao Tower, whose name translates into Golden Prosperity Building. The top 38 floors are occupied by a five-star hotel, the highest in the world. The tour then ends with your coach transfer to the airport. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. The tour is reserved for guests disembarking in Shanghai with flights departing 22:00.

A GLIMPSE OF SHANGHAI - SHA12D


Before you bid farewell to China and catch your flight home, seize your last chance to visit two of Shanghai's key attractions on a valedictory half-day outing. First up, a coach transfer will take you to Shanghai Museum. This museum, that has opened doors in 1994, has a spectacular collection of Chinese relics. Here, 11 galleries of artefacts bring ancient wisdom and philosophy to life; you will be able to find every kind of Chinese cultural art such as Bronze, ceramics, calligraphy, painting, sculptures, seals, jade, furniture, coins, and much more. Spend some time at the famous Nanjing Road, stretching for almost 5 km and featuring shopping malls, historic stores, theatres and much more. Your next stop will be Yu Garden, in the heart of the old town, one of the rare Chinese classical private garden that was built in 1559. When you look around the garden, you will be impressed by the beautiful landscape design surrounded by artificial hills, carp-filled ponds, dragon-lined walls, and pavilions connected by zigzag bridges. The tour then ends with your coach transfer to the airport. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. The tour is reserved for guests disembarking in Shanghai with flights departing 17:00.

Shanghai

Mon 12 November 2018

SHANGHAI GRAND TOUR - SHA01



Duration
8:30 h

Situated on the Yangtze River Delta and the worlds largest city by population, Shanghai also looks back on a long and vibrant history that can be traced back to the 5th century. This grand roundup of Shanghais must-sees begins at the Jade Buddha Temple, which was founded in honour of two jade Buddha statues that were imported from Burma in 1882. But the temple also houses a larger Buddha gifted by Singapore that many mistakenly believe to be original. The Old City is next, an area noted for its bazaar and food court amid pre-1911 architecture and red upturned roofs. It is also home to the classic Chinese Yu Garden, a superbly landscaped space that dates back to 1559 and boasts carp-filled ponds, man-made elevations, dragon-lined walls and zigzag bridges linking various pavilions. A Chinese lunch follows, after which youll have some free time to spend in the Old City before you move on to the fascinating Shanghai Museum. Here, 11 galleries of artefacts bring ancient wisdom and philosophy to life. Last up is Shanghais financial district to visit the 88-storey steel-and-glass Jin Mao Tower, whose name translates into Golden Prosperity Building. The top 38 floors are occupied by a five-star hotel, the highest in the world. The tour then ends with your return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

THE WATER VILLAGE OF ZHUJIAJIAO - SHA02



Duration
5:30 h

Situated but a stones throw from Dianshanhu Lake lies Zhujiajiao, a picturesque water village with a history stretching back to the Ming Dynasty. This is your destination on this half-day tour, which begins with a scenic 1.5-hour coach ride past rippling paddy fields and rustic farms en route to the yesteryear ambience of the lovely village. Streams, rivers and bankside willows, ancient houses and courtyards, meandering lanes and alleyways as well as 36 stone bridges, of which the five-arch Ming Fangsheng Bridge is the best known, await you. Youll also find items made by the local women being sold directly off their boats as you make your way to the 19th-century post office. The nearby Rice Museum provides insight into the rice cultivation process, with exhibits even including an authentic foot-driven pestle once used to shell the rice. A delightful boat ride around the sleepy Zhujiajiao will finalise your visit to this tranquil spot before you head back to your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

PANORAMIC SHANGHAI & MAGLEV TRAIN - SHA05



Duration
5 h

PANORAMIC SHANGHAI & MAGLEV TRAIN

CITY TOUR

SHANGHAI DISCOVERY WALKING TOUR - SHA06



Duration
5 h

Time to stretch your legs and explore the great city of Shanghai on foot, with your first stop being the Shanghai Museum on Peoples Square in the city centre. The ancient Chinese notion of a round heaven and square land is reflected by the buildings square base and domed top, while the inside welcomes visitors with a huge collection of artefacts spread over 11 galleries and 3 exhibitions. After the visit, youll move on to the nearby East Nanjing Road, home to Shanghais fashion district and speciality shops selling Chinese silks, calligraphies, paintings, medicines, handicrafts and souvenirs. At the end of Nanjing Road lies your next destination, the esplanade on the Huangpu River known simply as the Bund, from a Persian word for embankment. The 1.5 km/1 mile promenade, the jewel of the Huangpu district, also provides great views of the quarters varied buildings featuring Gothic, Romanesque, Baroque and Chinese architecture. The following stroll back to your ship then brings the tour to a close. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

Naha/Okinawa

Wed 14 November 2018

CULTURE AND HISTORY

SHURI CASTLE & CAPE MANZAMO - NAH01



Duration
7 h

Shuri Castle & Cape Manzamo

OKINAWA WAR HISTORY - NAH02



Duration
7 h

Okinawa War History



SOMETHING SPECIAL

CAPE MANZANO & RYUKYU MURA VILLAGE - NAH03



Duration
6:30 h

Cape Manzano & Ryukyu Mura Village



NATURAL WONDERS

CHURAUMI VILLAGE - NAH04



Duration
7 h

Churaumi Village



CITY TOUR

THE BEST OF NAHA - NAH05



Duration
4 h

The Best of Naha



CULTURE AND HISTORY
CULTURAL & HISTORICAL OKINAWA - NAH06


Cultural & Historical Okinawa

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SCENIC ROUTE
SOUTHERN OKINAWA SIGHTSEEING - NAH07


Southern Okinawa Sightseeing

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SOMETHING SPECIAL
TRADITIONAL RYUKYU DANCER SHOW - NAH08


Traditional Ryukyu Dancer Show

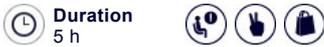
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Hong Kong

Fri 16 November 2018

CULTURE AND HISTORY

HONG KONG CULTURAL & HERITAGE EXPLORATION - HKG01



North of Hong Kong island proper lie the more rural New Territories, an area once under British rule and your destination on this culture- and heritage-themed tour. After boarding a coach at the pier, you'll head for the Chuk Lam Sim monastery, a beautiful building in traditional Chinese architectural style that is surrounded by a bamboo forest hence the name. Next up is one of Hong Kong's famous walled villages, whose fortifications were added as protection against pirates during the Ming and Qing Dynasties. With Lo Wais walls still fully intact, you'll get an authentic feel for life in its confines. After visiting one of the villagers' homes, you'll get to see Lo Wais oldest brick house before re-boarding the coach for the brief ride to Luen Wo Hui and its extensive indoor food market, a popular shopping venue that's brim-full of interesting produce. A chance to relax then follows on the coach ride back to Hong Kong island and your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is available on the first and second day.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

HONG KONG HIGHLIGHTS & DIM SUM LUNCH - HKG02



Scenic, atmospheric, delicious and cultural all describe this full-day tour that will first see you take a tram up to Victoria Peak for wonderful views of Hong Kong. Next up is Stanley Market, a slew of street stalls and small stores, where you'll have time to browse. Moving on, you'll then visit a local jewellery factory for a chance to watch the experts at work, after which you'll board a sampan to see the floating village in Aberdeen harbour. This fascinating insight into the Tanka people's traditional way of life will be rounded off by delectable Chinese dim sum, served aboard a floating restaurant. Following lunch, the tour moves on to the mid-19th-century Man Mo Temple near Cat Street. The largest of 3 in Hong Kong, the temple features traditional Chinese architecture, is dedicated to the gods of civil literature (Man Tai) and war (Mo Tai), and is sought out by students prior to exams. Cat Street itself and its open-air curio market are then yours to explore, after which you'll return to the ship. Please note: Guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. Guests need to negotiate a few steps to get on the sampan. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is available on the first and second day.

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CITY TOUR

HONG KONG ISLAND DISCOVERY - HKG03



Three Hong Kong highlights are on the itinerary on this enjoyable half-day outing, beginning with a scenic tram ride up to Victoria Peak, the highest elevation on the island, to enjoy spectacular views. Afterwards, you'll be heading for Stanley Market to browse through its street-side stalls and small shops selling souvenirs and designer goods at bargain prices. Moving on again, you'll travel to Aberdeen, a fishing village famed for its floating village in the harbour. Enjoy watching the tiny sampans nip around the harbour and rub shoulders with huge, multi-million-dollar yachts and larger fishing boats moored in the marina before beginning your return ride to the pier and your ship. Please note: guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. Guests need to negotiate a few steps to get on the sampan. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is available on the first and second day.

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CULTURE AND HISTORY

LANTAU ISLAND, CABLE CAR & VEGETARIAN LUNCH - HKG04

 Duration
7 h

Take a break from the ship for a day and board a coach to travel to Lantau Island, the largest of the Hong Kong islands and mainly mountainous in terrain. You'll get to enjoy a roughly 30-minute walking tour of Tai O, a little fishing village on the western coast that is also dubbed Hong Kong's Little Venice. Stilt houses that overhang the water are one of the most notable village features. You'll then continue on to the early 20th-century Po Lin Monastery, home to the world's largest seated bronze Buddha, Tian Tan, an addition completed in 1993. After a chance to admire The Big Buddha, you'll also get to enjoy a vegetarian and alcohol-free lunch at the monastery. The Ngong Ping 360 experience then follows, consisting of a 25-minute cable car ride up Mount Ngong Ping, with spellbinding views of the Kowloon Peninsula as well as Hong Kong and Lantau Island to savour from your aerial vantage point. The tour then draws to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance. This tour is available on the first and second day.

CITY TOUR

KOWLOON HIGHLIGHTS - HKG05

 Duration
4 h

Treat yourself to a look at some of the must-sees on the Kowloon Peninsula, situated to the north of Hong Kong island, on a half-day tour that will first take you to the Chi Lin Nunnery. Consisting of the Buddhist convent itself, temple halls, Chinese gardens, visitors' hostels and a vegetarian restaurant, the vast complex features architecture based on the wooden temples of the Tang Dynasty. Next up is the colourful Taoist Wong Tai Sin Temple in the north of Kowloon. The shrine is dedicated to Wong Tai Sin, a Chinese god with the power of healing who is said to give you what you request – so take care if the urge strikes you to ask for a favour. Taking leave of the popular temple, you'll head for the last tour highlight, the beautifully landscaped Kowloon Walled City Park – once a much overcrowded and largely lawless zone as the Kowloon Walled City until its demolition in the early 1990s. Your look at this historic spot is followed by your return journey to the pier and your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance. This tour is available on the first and second day.

STAR FERRY RIDE & WALKING TOUR - HKG06

 Duration
4 h

This entertaining selection of Hong Kong snapshots begins with a coach ride to the famous Man Mo Temple near Hollywood Road. This the oldest of Hong Kong's 3 Man Mo Temples and, like the others, is dedicated to the Chinese gods of civil literature (Man Tai) and the god of war (Mo Tai). A walk down Hollywood Road then follows for a chance to browse its famous antiques stores. Next up, you'll get to check out a more recent addition to Hong Kong's civic highlights: the fabulous Central-Mid-Levels Escalator and Walkway System, which links the central and western district on Hong Kong island and is affectionately dubbed the people mover. After an outside look at the Central Police Station, an attractive building dating back to 1864, you'll stroll down the bustling Pottinger Street in the centre of town, home to the vibrant Li Yuen street market with its countless shops. A ride on Hong Kong's much-loved Star Ferry around Victoria Harbour rounds out your tour before you return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance. This tour is available on the first and second day.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

EVENING MARKET AND PEAK TRAM AT NIGHT - HKG10

 Duration
4 h

When the sun goes down, the traders have already laid out their wares and the opera singers and fortune tellers begin to emerge. Welcome to the Temple Street Night Market, a popular street bazaar, named after a Tin Hau temple located at its centre. It's a place so steeped in local atmosphere that it has served as the backdrop to many a memorable movie. Trinkets, tea ware, electronics, watches, menswear, jade and antiques are scrutinised and haggled over, while claypot rice, seafood, noodles and other treats are consumed with gusto. Temple Street Night Market is an enduring example of the theatre and festivity of a Chinese market. And it's on show nightly. You'll then head to the Peak, often dubbed Hong Kong's most spectacular destination. The Peak Tram opened in 1888 and is the steepest funicular railway in the world. The journey takes only seven minutes and is a visual experience to remember, as skyscrapers glide past at what appear to be impossible angles while the tram makes its ascent. Once there, you'll enjoy the stunning 360° panoramic views from the Sky Terrace, the highest viewing platform in all of Hong Kong, before heading back down the mountain and back to your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is available on the first day.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

PEARL OF THE ORIENT NIGHT TOUR - HKG11



Duration
4 h



Drive to the Harbour Front to view Hong Kong's world-renowned Symphony of Lights. This nightly event combines interactive lightshows projected against key buildings with musical effects to showcase the glamorous night vista of Victoria Harbour. You'll then head to the Peak, often dubbed Hong Kong's most spectacular destination. The Peak Tram opened in 1888 and is the steepest funicular railway in the world. The journey takes only seven minutes and is a visual experience to remember, as skyscrapers glide past at what appear to be impossible angles while the tram makes its ascent. Once there, you'll enjoy the stunning 360° panoramic views from the Sky Terrace, the highest viewing platform in all of Hong Kong, before heading back down the mountain and back to your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is available on the first day.

Hong Kong

Sat 17 November 2018

CULTURE AND HISTORY

HONG KONG CULTURAL & HERITAGE EXPLORATION - HKG01



North of Hong Kong island proper lie the more rural New Territories, an area once under British rule and your destination on this culture- and heritage-themed tour. After boarding a coach at the pier, you'll head for the Chuk Lam Sim monastery, a beautiful building in traditional Chinese architectural style that is surrounded by a bamboo forest hence the name. Next up is one of Hong Kong's famous walled villages, whose fortifications were added as protection against pirates during the Ming and Qing Dynasties. With Lo Wais walls still fully intact, you'll get an authentic feel for life in its confines. After visiting one of the villagers homes, you'll get to see Lo Wais oldest brick house before re-boarding the coach for the brief ride to Luen Wo Hui and its extensive indoor food market, a popular shopping venue that's brim-full of interesting produce. A chance to relax then follows on the coach ride back to Hong Kong island and your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is available on the first and second day.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

HONG KONG HIGHLIGHTS & DIM SUM LUNCH - HKG02



Scenic, atmospheric, delicious and cultural all describe this full-day tour that will first see you take a tram up to Victoria Peak for wonderful views of Hong Kong. Next up is Stanley Market, a slew of street stalls and small stores, where you'll have time to browse. Moving on, you'll then visit a local jewellery factory for a chance to watch the experts at work, after which you'll board a sampan to see the floating village in Aberdeen harbour. This fascinating insight into the Tanka peoples traditional way of life will be rounded off by delectable Chinese dim sum, served aboard a floating restaurant. Following lunch, the tour moves on to the mid-19th-century Man Mo Temple near Cat Street. The largest of 3 in Hong Kong, the temple features traditional Chinese architecture, is dedicated to the gods of civil literature (Man Tai) and war (Mo Tai), and is sought out by students prior to exams. Cat Street itself and its open-air curio market are then yours to explore, after which you'll return to the ship. Please note: Guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. Guests need to negotiate a few steps to get on the sampan. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is available on the first and second day.

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CITY TOUR

HONG KONG ISLAND DISCOVERY - HKG03



Three Hong Kong highlights are on the itinerary on this enjoyable half-day outing, beginning with a scenic tram ride up to Victoria Peak, the highest elevation on the island, to enjoy spectacular views. Afterwards, you'll be heading for Stanley Market to browse through its street-side stalls and small shops selling souvenirs and designer goods at bargain prices. Moving on again, you'll travel to Aberdeen, a fishing village famed for its floating village in the harbour. Enjoy watching the tiny sampans nip around the harbour and rub shoulders with huge, multi-million-dollar yachts and larger fishing boats moored in the marina before beginning your return ride to the pier and your ship. Please note: guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. Guests need to negotiate a few steps to get on the sampan. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is available on the first and second day.

 *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.*



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

CULTURE AND HISTORY

LANTAU ISLAND, CABLE CAR & VEGETARIAN LUNCH - HKG04

 **Duration**
7 h



Take a break from the ship for a day and board a coach to travel to Lantau Island, the largest of the Hong Kong islands and mainly mountainous in terrain. You'll get to enjoy a roughly 30-minute walking tour of Tai O, a little fishing village on the western coast that is also dubbed Hong Kong's Little Venice. Stilt houses that overhang the water are one of the most notable village features. You'll then continue on to the early 20th-century Po Lin Monastery, home to the world's largest seated bronze Buddha, Tian Tan, an addition completed in 1993. After a chance to admire The Big Buddha, you'll also get to enjoy a vegetarian and alcohol-free lunch at the monastery. The Ngong Ping 360 experience then follows, consisting of a 25-minute cable car ride up Mount Ngong Ping, with spellbinding views of the Kowloon Peninsula as well as Hong Kong and Lantau Island to savour from your aerial vantage point. The tour then draws to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance. This tour is available on the first and second day.

CITY TOUR

KOWLOON HIGHLIGHTS - HKG05

 **Duration**
4 h



Treat yourself to a look at some of the must-sees on the Kowloon Peninsula, situated to the north of Hong Kong island, on a half-day tour that will first take you to the Chi Lin Nunnery. Consisting of the Buddhist convent itself, temple halls, Chinese gardens, visitors' hostels and a vegetarian restaurant, the vast complex features architecture based on the wooden temples of the Tang Dynasty. Next up is the colourful Taoist Wong Tai Sin Temple in the north of Kowloon. The shrine is dedicated to Wong Tai Sin, a Chinese god with the power of healing who is said to give you what you request – so take care if the urge strikes you to ask for a favour. Taking leave of the popular temple, you'll head for the last tour highlight, the beautifully landscaped Kowloon Walled City Park – once a much overcrowded and largely lawless zone as the Kowloon Walled City until its demolition in the early 1990s. Your look at this historic spot is followed by your return journey to the pier and your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance. This tour is available on the first and second day.

STAR FERRY RIDE & WALKING TOUR - HKG06

 **Duration**
4 h



This entertaining selection of Hong Kong snapshots begins with a coach ride to the famous Man Mo Temple near Hollywood Road. This the oldest of Hong Kong's 3 Man Mo Temples and, like the others, is dedicated to the Chinese gods of civil literature (Man Tai) and the god of war (Mo Tai). A walk down Hollywood Road then follows for a chance to browse its famous antiques stores. Next up, you'll get to check out a more recent addition to Hong Kong's civic highlights: the fabulous Central-Mid-Levels Escalator and Walkway System, which links the central and western district on Hong Kong island and is affectionately dubbed the people mover. After an outside look at the Central Police Station, an attractive building dating back to 1864, you'll stroll down the bustling Pottinger Street in the centre of town, home to the vibrant Li Yuen street market with its countless shops. A ride on Hong Kong's much-loved Star Ferry around Victoria Harbour rounds out your tour before you return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance. This tour is available on the first and second day.

Laem Chabang

Wed 21 November 2018

CULTURE AND HISTORY

HIGHLIGHTS OF BANGKOK - LCH01



Duration
10 h

Take a day of your time to see some of Bangkok's best sights, with an initial coach transfer to the capital and the truly resplendent Grand Palace, the official residence of the Thai royal family from 1782 to 1925. The palace complex comprises various buildings, pavilions, extensive gardens and gold-coloured temples, including Wat Phra Kaew and its world-famous Emerald Buddha. In actual fact, the Buddha is made of green jade or jasper, stands 66 cm tall and is clothed in gold. Back on the coach again, you'll then head for the Wat Pho temple for a chance to see the 46-m reclining Buddha. Then it'll be time to relax on a leisurely cruise down Bangkok's canals. Enjoy views of the city and the late 18th-century Wat Arun, or the Temple of Dawn, which boasts a central tower shaped like an elongated Aztec pyramid. The tour also includes a delicious Thai lunch and if time permits on the return journey, you'll stop at Bangkok's Gems Gallery for a chance to browse an unparalleled collection of precious stones, jewellery and souvenirs. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. To enter the main chapel of the Emerald Buddha Temple, guests will be required to remove their shoes and men will be required to be attired in long trousers. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English. This tour is available only on the first day.

CHACHOENSAOS COLOURFUL CHARACTERS - LCH02



Duration
8 h

This all-day outing will see you board a private coach at the pier and head north on a scenic route to visit the city of Chachoengsao. On arrival, your first port of call will be the 100-year-old and multi-cultural Khlong Suan Market, which is the centre of the community and sells all sorts of strange items. After a stroll through the vibrant marketplace, you'll continue on to Wat Saket (Golden Mount) to climb its many steps and savour great views of Bangkok from the top. Then it's on to Wat Sothon, the temple that houses the principal Buddha of the Chachoengsao province: Luangpho Phuttha Sothon. A break for a Thai-style lunch at a local riverside restaurant then follows, after which you'll move on to the Wat Saman Rattanaram Temple and its giant statues of gods and goddesses on the banks of the River Bank Pakong. The temples most prominent is a huge pink statue of the elephant-headed Ganesha, the Hindu god of success. But there's also a rat, who will pass on any wish you whisper in its ear to Ganesha. The return coach transfer then brings the outing to a close. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.

AYUTTHAYA RUINS - LCH03



Duration
12 h

An extended, day-long outing to the ancient ruins of Ayutthaya Thailand's capital city until 1767 awaits you here, with 3 hours to relax on a scenic coach ride to kick the tour off. You'll first be heading for the Bang Pa-In Summer Palace in the Bang Pa-In district of Ayutthaya Province. Originally built in the 17th century, the site was then refurbished and enlarged in the mid-19th century and boasts Thai, European and Chinese influences. You'll have time to explore the four pavilions and an observatory on a small island for great views of the surrounding area. A break for a buffet lunch then follows, after which you'll move on to the Ayutthaya ruins themselves. First up is the Wat Phra Sri Sanphet temple, one of the most important in the Grand Palace compound. Then it's on to Wat Phra Mongkhon Bophit to see one of the world's largest seated Buddhas and the vihara (Buddhist monastery), which was rebuilt in original style in 1956. Last on the list is the Wat Yai Chai Mongkhon temple and its huge ruined pagoda. The tour then ends with your return transfer to the ship. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English. The order in which sights are visited may change to avoid congestion. This tour is available only on the first day.

CITY TOUR

BANGKOKS OLD TOWN - LCH04

Duration
 8:30 h


Seeing the main attractions of Bangkok's historical quarter is as easy as boarding an air-conditioned coach at the pier and first relaxing on the transfer to the capital. Once in the city, you'll pass a golden pagoda and the Wat Saket Ratcha Wora Maha Wihan temple on your way to a photo stop at the Jetsada Bodin Pavilion, used by the monarch to welcome VIPs. In the distance, you'll also catch views of the Loha Prasat iron castle of the Wat Ratchanatdaram Temple. Your tour continues down the Ratchadamnoen Klang Road, inspired by the Parisian boulevards, to pass the Democracy Monument and the Royal Field before stopping at Bangkok's City Pillar, housed in a shrine shared by the spirit deity Chao Pho Lak Mueang. Watch how worshippers leave votive offerings such as flowers and joss sticks before you move on to your next photo stop at the Grand Palace, a stunning complex of golden temples, pavilions and gardens. Another chance to take photos follows at the Royal Field, after which you'll stroll through the Flower Market. Last up is a Thai-style buffet lunch before you begin your return route through Chinatown. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English. The order in which sights are visited may change to avoid congestion.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

CITY & TEMPLES - LCH05

Duration
 8:30 h


As evidenced by the plethora of temples and shrines found nationwide, religion is a serious business in Thailand. This all-day tour will take you to see three of Bangkok's most famous temples and includes lunch by the river. After a two-hour coach journey, your first destination will be the Marble Temple, Wat Benchamabophit. The temple counts as one of the capitals most beautiful and was completed in 1911. Next up is Wat Pho, home to an enormous 46-m reclining Buddha and various dome-shaped reliquaries called chedis. It is also seen as the birthplace of therapeutic Thai massage. The coach will then take you through the Flower Market to reach Chinatown, one of Bangkok's oldest districts, and the Thieves Market, so named for the numerous stolen goods that were once fenced there. Lunch of delicious Thai fare then follows, after which you'll move on to visit Wat Trimit to see the famous Gold Buddha. And yes, it really is made of the precious metal, weighs a staggering 5.5 tonnes and is estimated to be worth a whopping US\$250 million. The tour then wraps up with your return to the ship. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

BANGKOK ON YOUR OWN - LCH06

Duration
 9 h


Take a day to enjoy independent exploration of a city whose full Thai name is the world's longest, as certified by the Guinness Book of World Records, and means city of angels, great city of immortals, magnificent city of nine gems, seat of the king, city of royal palaces, home of gods incarnate, erected by Vishvakarman at Indras behest. While this is actually highly descriptive, simply saying Bangkok makes life a lot easier. Your trip begins with a coach ride to the Central World Plaza in the city centre, your drop-off point. Not only will this see you ideally placed to enjoy leisurely shopping at the huge Central World shopping mall, but also to fan out into every direction to discover Bangkok's hidden gems. Visit temples, check out the Grand Palace, stroll through the colourful streets or simply enjoy some authentic Thai food at one of the capitals many eateries. The choice is entirely yours as to what you do, but be sure to be back at the appointed spot at the time agreed to catch your coach back to Laem Chabang and your ship. Please note: guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.

 *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.

PATTAYA COUNTRYSIDE & VINEYARD VISIT - LCH07

 **Duration**
5 h



An easy coach ride will take you to your first destination south of the coastal resort of Pattaya City, the Wat Yansangwararam temple. Built in 1976, the temple complex features numerous buildings in a wide variety of architectural styles and a lake, on the banks of which lies Viharn Sien, a Chinese temple and museum with a fine collection of Chinese artefacts and antiques. During your visit, you'll not only be able to meditate for a while, but also take photos. Next up, you'll move on to the Silverlake Vineyard in the middle of Pattaya City's verdant hinterland. You'll be taken around the sizeable property by tram, leaving you free to enjoy unfettered views of the beautiful lakeside landscape. From a distance, you'll even be able to see a modern Thai marvel: a huge image of Buddha Khao Chee Chan that was lasered into the rock face of a nearby mountain in the mid-1990s. Your tour of the winery ends with a chance to taste two of the wines produced here, a Shiraz and a Chenin Blanc, after which the tour draws to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.

NATURAL WONDERS

NONG NOOCH VILLAGE & TROPICAL GARDENS - LCH08

 **Duration**
4:30 h



This half-day outing of beautiful scenery and demonstrations of Thai culture proceeds at a leisurely pace throughout and begins with a coach ride to Nong Nooch Village, which lies south of Laem Chabang. The village is famed as the site of the Nong Nooch Tropical Botanical Garden, a landscaped haven of greenery and flowers that you'll be exploring on board a tram. Not only will you get to soak up views of a garden oasis with extensive orchards and a lake, but you'll also be treated to demonstrations of Thai dancing, Thai boxing and other examples of Thai customs on the way. The equally scenic coach ride back to Laem Chabang and the ship then ends your outing. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.

SEA & SUN

SEA, SAND & SUN AT CENTARA GRAND MIRAGE BEACH RESORT - LCH09

 **Duration**
7:30 h



If you feel no holiday would be complete without some time at the beach, this is the perfect outing for you. A relaxing coach ride will first take you to your destination: the 5-star Centara Grand Mirage Beach Resort, a hotel complex with a large pool and long stretch of beach. Use of a beach towel as well as lunch with a drinks package consisting of 2 cocktails, 4 glasses of local beer and 1 bottle of mineral water are included in your time at the resort. You can spend your time at the resort as you please: relaxing, going for a swim, working on your tan or enjoying all the beach itself has to offer. At the appointed time, the coach will be waiting to take you back to the ship. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

SLEEPLESS BANGKOK AND TUK TUK RIDE - LCH10

 **Duration**
11 h



A journey of discovery in Bangkok's old town with panoramic sunset views, local food, and friendly Thai culture. Drive from Laem Chabang Port to Golden Mountain Temple and challenge yourself to slowly walk up to the Heaven Level of Golden Mountain Pagoda (344 steps up and down). You'll be rewarded with panoramic evening views over Bangkok. On your way down, stop at the King's Jetsadabodin Pavilion for photos against the stunning background of the Loha Prasat at Wat Ratchanaddaram Temple as well as nearby Golden Mountain Temple. Then you will continue strolling to Thipsamai, one of the most popular Thai fried noodle restaurants and taste its signature dish Thai Fried Noodles Wrapped with Egg. Well then walk down a street lined with century-old buildings to Wat Suthat, or the Temple of the Giant Swing, for a tranquil experience of evening prayer and meditation (from 7:00 to 9:00 pm). We then set off on tuk-tuks for an exciting ride along Ratchadamneon Klang Road, a grand boulevard in the style of Paris. You will pass Democracy Monument, Royal Field, Bangkok's City, the Grand Palace, and stop to visit the colourful Flower Market. Finally, you'll board your coach for a visit to Patpong Night Market for some last-minute shopping before heading back to your ship. Please note: This tour requires lots of walking, mostly on flat ground so it is not recommended for guests with limited mobility or using a wheelchair; climbing the steps to the top of Golden Mountain is optional. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

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DINNER CRUISE ON THE WHITE ORCHID - LCH11



Duration
8 h



Spend a memorable two hours cruising along the Chaophraya River with an enchanting magical atmosphere as you enjoy a delicious international buffet dinner, live music, and show on board. Your day starts with a drive to River City pier where you will board the White Orchid. After being served a welcome drink, you will cruise the river past Rama I Bridge, Temple of Dawn (Wat Arun), the Royal Grand Palace (Wat Pra Kaew), and the Rama VIII Bridge, among other sights. You will enjoy Thai classical dance and live music during a sumptuous buffet dinner featuring a variety of Thai and Western delights. You will, of course, also enjoy the views of Bangkok by night as you cruise by. After the cruise, you will disembark and take a coach for the short drive to Patpong Night Market, where you find numerous shops offering all sorts of items for sale, many of which are a good bargain. If you're still peckish, you could grab a snack at any of the stands in the market or grab a drink at Night Owls. Please note: This tour involves some walking, mostly on flat ground, with only a few steps; it is not recommended for guests using a wheelchair.

Laem Chabang

Thu 22 November 2018

CULTURE AND HISTORY

CHACHOENSAOS COLOURFUL CHARACTERS - LCH02



Duration
8 h



This all-day outing will see you board a private coach at the pier and head north on a scenic route to visit the city of Chachoengsao. On arrival, your first port of call will be the 100-year-old and multi-cultural Khlong Suan Market, which is the centre of the community and sells all sorts of strange items. After a stroll through the vibrant marketplace, you'll continue on to Wat Saket (Golden Mount) to climb its many steps and savour great views of Bangkok from the top. Then it's on to Wat Sothon, the temple that houses the principal Buddha of the Chachoengsao province: Luangpho Phuttha Sothon. A break for a Thai-style lunch at a local riverside restaurant then follows, after which you'll move on to the Wat Saman Rattanam Temple and its giant statues of gods and goddesses on the banks of the River Bank Pakong. The temples most prominent is a huge pink statue of the elephant-headed Ganesha, the Hindu god of success. But there's also a rat, who will pass on any wish you whisper in its ear to Ganesha. The return coach transfer then brings the outing to a close. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.

CITY TOUR

BANGKOKS OLD TOWN - LCH04



Duration
8:30 h



Seeing the main attractions of Bangkok's historical quarter is as easy as boarding an air-conditioned coach at the pier and first relaxing on the transfer to the capital. Once in the city, you'll pass a golden pagoda and the Wat Saket Ratcha Wora Maha Wihan temple on your way to a photo stop at the Jetsada Bodin Pavilion, used by the monarch to welcome VIPs. In the distance, you'll also catch views of the Loha Prasat iron castle of the Wat Ratchanatdaram Temple. Your tour continues down the Ratchadamnoen Klang Road, inspired by the Parisian boulevards, to pass the Democracy Monument and the Royal Field before stopping at Bangkok's City Pillar, housed in a shrine shared by the spirit deity Chao Pho Lak Mueang. Watch how worshippers leave votive offerings such as flowers and joss sticks before you move on to your next photo stop at the Grand Palace, a stunning complex of golden temples, pavilions and gardens. Another chance to take photos follows at the Royal Field, after which you'll stroll through the Flower Market. Last up is a Thai-style buffet lunch before you begin your return route through Chinatown. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Guests are advised that conservative attire is required when visiting sites of religious importance, i.e. women should wear a long-sleeved top that ensures their shoulders are covered (no shorts, very short skirts or sleeveless tops with a cardigan); men should wear long trousers with a short-sleeved shirt. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English. The order in which sights are visited may change to avoid congestion.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

BANGKOK ON YOUR OWN - LCH06



Duration
9 h



Take a day to enjoy independent exploration of a city whose full Thai name is the world's longest, as certified by the Guinness Book of World Records, and means city of angels, great city of immortals, magnificent city of nine gems, seat of the king, city of royal palaces, home of gods incarnate, erected by Vishvakarman at Indras behest. While this is actually highly descriptive, simply saying Bangkok makes life a lot easier. Your trip begins with a coach ride to the Central World Plaza in the city centre, your drop-off point. Not only will this see you ideally placed to enjoy leisurely shopping at the huge Central World shopping mall, but also to fan out into every direction to discover Bangkok's hidden gems. Visit temples, check out the Grand Palace, stroll through the colourful streets or simply enjoy some authentic Thai food at one of the city's many eateries. The choice is entirely yours as to what you do, but be sure to be back at the appointed spot at the time agreed to catch your coach back to Laem Chabang and your ship. Please note: guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.



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

NONG NOOCH VILLAGE & TROPICAL GARDENS - LCH08

Duration
 4:30 h


This half-day outing of beautiful scenery and demonstrations of Thai culture proceeds at a leisurely pace throughout and begins with a coach ride to Nong Nooch Village, which lies south of Laem Chabang. The village is famed as the site of the Nong Nooch Tropical Botanical Garden, a landscaped haven of greenery and flowers that you'll be exploring on board a tram. Not only will you get to soak up views of a garden oasis with extensive orchards and a lake, but you'll also be treated to demonstrations of Thai dancing, Thai boxing and other examples of Thai customs on the way. The equally scenic coach ride back to Laem Chabang and the ship then ends your outing. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.

SEA & SUN

SEA, SAND & SUN AT CENTARA GRAND MIRAGE BEACH RESORT - LCH09

Duration
 7:30 h


If you feel no holiday would be complete without some time at the beach, this is the perfect outing for you. A relaxing coach ride will first take you to your destination: the 5-star Centara Grand Mirage Beach Resort, a hotel complex with a large pool and long stretch of beach. Use of a beach towel as well as lunch with a drinks package consisting of 2 cocktails, 4 glasses of local beer and 1 bottle of mineral water are included in your time at the resort. You can spend your time at the resort as you please: relaxing, going for a swim, working on your tan or enjoying all the beach itself has to offer. At the appointed time, the coach will be waiting to take you back to the ship. Please note: as the tour involves considerable periods of walking on a variety of surfaces, it is not recommended for guests of limited mobility or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be provided in English.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

ANGKOR COMPLEX CAMBODIA BY AIR - DOUBLE ROOM - LCH13

Duration
 72 h


After leaving Thailand on this 3-day tour, you'll first visit Cambodia's ancient Angkor site, then head for Singapore to rejoin your ship. On day 1, you'll fly to Siem Reap in Cambodia, transfer to the hotel and then enjoy a typical Khmer lunch at a local restaurant. The tour continues at Angkor Thom, which you'll enter via the city's main South Gate. Right in the middle of the former Khmer capital is the temple of Bayon, whose 54 towers boast 200 smiling faces. Further key spots include the three-tiered Baphuon temple, the Terrace of the Leper Kings and the Elephant Terrace. Next up is the Angkor Artisanal Centre to see traditional Khmer crafts, followed by dinner and a folkloric show. On day 2, visit the Angkor Wat temple and, after lunch, the 12th-century Banteay and Ta Prohm temples. After dinner and a night at the hotel, day 3 begins with a flight to Singapore, followed by a sightseeing drive past the Peranakan centre, the Joo Chiat district and the quayside. A seafood meal awaits in a local restaurant, followed by a harbour cruise on a so-called tongkang, or bumboat (derived from a Dutch word meaning tree boat). The tour ends when you reboard your ship. Please note: the price of the tour includes flight tickets, a 3-day Angkor pass, breakfasts, lunches and dinners; lunches and dinners do not include drinks. All land transfers and sightseeing tours run with English guides. For the Angkor Pass, guests will be required to queue to have a photo taken at the checkpoint. Please use code LCH13 to book double-room accommodation (2 adults or 1 adult and 1 child, in which case the price charged for a child is the same as for an adult), which will be charged to both guests. Please use code LCH13SGL to book single-room accommodation. Guest will leave the ship in Laem Chabang; re-embarkation will then follow in Singapore. Guests are required to take their passport with them. The tour can only be booked and paid for in advance, but not via the internet and not during your cruise.

ANGKOR COMPLEX CAMBODIA BY AIR - SINGLE ROOM - LCH13SGL

Duration
 72 h


After leaving Thailand on this 3-day tour, you'll first visit Cambodia's ancient Angkor site, then head for Singapore to rejoin your ship. On day 1, you'll fly to Siem Reap in Cambodia, transfer to the hotel and then enjoy a typical Khmer lunch at a local restaurant. The tour continues at Angkor Thom, which you'll enter via the city's main South Gate. Right in the middle of the former Khmer capital is the temple of Bayon, whose 54 towers boast 200 smiling faces. Further key spots include the three-tiered Baphuon temple, the Terrace of the Leper Kings and the Elephant Terrace. Next up is the Angkor Artisanal Centre to see traditional Khmer crafts, followed by dinner and a folkloric show. On day 2, visit the Angkor Wat temple and, after lunch, the 12th-century Banteay and Ta Prohm temples. After dinner and a night at the hotel, day 3 begins with a flight to Singapore, followed by a sightseeing drive past the Peranakan centre, the Joo Chiat district and the quayside. A seafood meal awaits in a local restaurant, followed by a harbour cruise on a so-called tongkang, or bumboat (derived from a Dutch word meaning tree boat). The tour ends when you reboard your ship. Please note: the price of the tour includes flight tickets, a 3-day Angkor pass, breakfasts, lunches and dinners; lunches and dinners do not include drinks. All land transfers and sightseeing tours run with English guides. For the Angkor Pass, guests will be required to queue to have a photo taken at the checkpoint. Please use code LCH13 to book double-room accommodation (2 adults or 1 adult and 1 child, in which case the price charged for a child is the same as for an adult), which will be charged to both guests. Please use code LCH13SGL to book single-room accommodation. Guest will leave the ship in Laem Chabang; re-embarkation will then follow in Singapore. Guests are required to take their passport with them. The tour can only be booked and paid for in advance, but not via the internet and not during your cruise.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

Singapore

Sat 24 November 2018

CITY TOUR

HIGHLIGHTS OF SINGAPORE - SIN01



Duration

4 h



Enjoy a brief journey by air-conditioned coach from the exotic quarter of Little India, where the many stalls are perfumed with fragrant jasmine garlands and merchants offer everything from saris and aromatic spices to intricate ornaments, to the colonial splendour of the civic district where you will continue the tour on foot, admiring Parliament House, the Victoria theatre, the Empress Place Building and other buildings that have been restored to their original splendour. Rejoin your coach and drive past other colonial-style buildings including the City Hall and legendary Raffles Hotel and, of course, the statue of the Merlion, Singapore's enduring symbol. Soon, your coach will cross the Singapore River and traverse Shenton Way, commonly known as Asia's Wall Street. Chinatown appears with its hubbub of trade and activity. During your stroll there, you'll be introduced to age-old architecture and customs from a bygone era. Stroll among Chinese medicine shops, teahouses, acupuncturists and calligraphers as you wander along the vibrant narrow streets. Next, you will visit the idyllic Botanical Gardens, which house the world's largest orchid collection. 60,000 plants are featured in a natural setting with over 2,000 varieties of orchid. Stroll through this lush tropical park before reboarding your coach for a trip down Orchard Road, the city's fashionable shopping district. Please note: Guests must be able to walk approximately 1.5 km over flat and cobblestone surfaces. The program is not recommended for guests with limited mobility. The amount of walking in Chinatown is at your discretion. The order of the tour may change to avoid overcrowding at venues. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. In case the Merlion statue cannot be viewed due to restoration works, guests will see nearby Merlion cub statue.

NATURAL WONDERS

WONDERS OF SINGAPORE - SIN02



Duration

4:30 h



Visit Singapore's latest and stunning attraction the Gardens by the Bay. You will be able to explore the outdoor Heritage Gardens and enter the beautiful Flower Dome and Cloud Forest. These two domes are innovatively designed and are two of the icons of Singapore's Marina South Garden. Take a stroll inside the domes and walk along the garden path, and then visit the Sky Park. From the height of Marina Bay Sands, enjoy the breathtaking view of the entire city. You will then carry on to Marina Bay Sands hotel, where you will have free time to explore the hotel's wonderful choice of shops, and to admire the Casino and its extraordinary architecture. Please note: The order of the itinerary may vary. Guests are advised to bring a sweater because the temperature at the Flower Dome is low. The Domes and OCBC Skyway will be closed for regular maintenance on certain dates each month. Guests need a valid passport to enter the casino. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

SINGAPORE NIGHT AT A GLANCE - SIN04



Duration

4 h



Start off your night tour by boarding your bumboat at one of the busiest evening spots of Singapore, Clarke Quay. Glide along the Singapore River and marvel at the extravagant contrast between the historic Boat Quay area and the striking skyscraper skyline of modern Singapore. On arrival at Merlion Park, take the opportunity to snap a few shots of the Merlion, Singapore's iconic landmark. Then, at the Marina Bay Sands, immerse yourself in an amazing convergence of light, music and sound as you enjoy the Spectra show. Set to an orchestral soundtrack, the show uses various electric light and laser effects to tell the universal tale of the journey of life. The stunning city skyline of Singapore gives a backdrop to an impressive light and water show, creating a theatrical experience. Finally, experience the breath-taking panorama of Singapore from the Sky Park set on top of the world's largest public cantilevered platform, and view the new exciting developments surrounding the Marina Bay area as you sip on a drink at the Sky Bar. Travel back to your ship with fond memories of Singapore by night. Please note: Bumboat has no air-con and explanation aboard is in English only. Smart casual attire is required to visit the Sky Bar. No shorts, slippers, singlet or tank tops are allowed. The Spectra show is weather-dependent. There might be a queue at Marina Bay Sands elevator and at Sky Bar, especially on weekends, festivities and school holidays. Space is limited, so please reserve early. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. In case the Merlion statue cannot be viewed to restoration works, guests will see nearby Merlion cub statue.



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.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

HALF A DAY AT SINGAPORE ZOO - SIN05

Duration
4 h

Recently voted to be the #1 Zoo in Asia in the TripAdvisor 2014 Peoples Choice ranking, the Singapore Zoo boasts some of the most open-plan and naturalistic enclosures anywhere in the world and supports more than 170 animal species over 28 ha of space. Beginning in the morning, this half-day tour one that children are sure to love will first see you board a coach and head north to reach the zoo. Once there, a ride on an electric tram will introduce you to the zoos resident owls, gibbons, binturongs (or bearcats) and spider monkeys, after which you'll be free to roam on your own. Apart from lemurs, tamarins, sun bears, maned wolves, white rhinos and tapirs, you'll also find polar bears, flamingos, leopard cats, white tigers, kangaroos and the worlds largest captive colony of orang-utans. And theres a highly entertaining animal show to look forward to as well before you re-board the coach and head back to the ship. Please note: the order in which the tour itinerary is run may vary. The tour involves an approx. 10-minute walk from the ship to reach the coach and guests are generally recommended to wear comfortable shoes and casual clothing. During the electric tram ride and the animal show, information will be provided only in English. Please be advised that queues may be encountered to board the electric tram, especially on festivity days or during school holidays.

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.

SINGAPORE UNDER THE STARS - SIN08

Duration
3 h

Eventide in Singapore, the stars are out and so will you be at the vibrant Telok Ayer Market, or Lau Pa Sat as the locals call it. This covered cast-iron structure dates back to the Victorian era and adds a touch of anachronistic quaintness to an area that is otherwise characterised by its soaring glass-and-steel structures. Open day and night, the market is a food-lovers paradise, with premium hawker food on sale wherever you look. Give your taste buds something to remember as you try such Asian favourites as pork noodles, Hainanese chicken rice or the ever-popular satay, then round off your culinary exploration with some ice balls or kacang puteh, a singularly nutty experience (the cost of any food purchased is not covered by the price of the tour). You'll then move on to the magical Marina Bay Sands complex to catch the spellbinding Spectra sound and light show. Combining great music, amazing visual effects, lasers, searchlights, LEDs, video projectors and gigantic streaming water screens, this is superb night-time entertainment that the entire family can enjoy. And as a final highlight, you'll even get to see Singapore from a height of 200m when you take the elevator to the Marina Bay Sands Skypark Observation Deck. Your return to the ship then brings the tour to a close. Please note: the cost of any food you may wish to purchase is not covered by the price of the tour. Please be advised that the market is usually very crowded so there may be long queues to order food and that seats cannot be reserved. The order in which the tour itinerary is run may vary. The Spectra show is weather-dependent. The tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with mobility problems. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This is a night tour.

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.

SHOPPING & GARDEN RHAPSODY SHOW - SIN09

Duration
4 h

Promising to deliver the perfect end to a leisurely cruise day, this evening tour combines two of Singapores most enjoyable highlights: a spectacular sound-and-light show and a chance to shop to your hearts content in two of the citys best retail locations. First up after boarding your coach at the pier is Singapore Citys gorgeous park the so-called Gardens by the Bay to watch the amazing Garden Rhapsody audio-visual spectacular that lights up the parks Supertrees Grove in the most beautiful manner, all to a backdrop of stunning original music. Once the show is over, you'll move on to part 1 of your shopping spree at the colourful Bugis Street. From street vendors and hawkers to glitzy boutiques and everything in between, this is just the place to browse, shop and soak up the unique atmosphere. Then its on to part 2 of your retail therapy at the fabulous Marina Bay mall, where no end of high-end stores await you with a cornucopia of enticing products, street fashions and luxury brands. And if youre feeling lucky, you could even check out the Marina Bay Casino while youre there. At the end of your time at the mall, you'll return to the ship shopping bags and all. Please note: the cost of any food you may wish to purchase is not covered by the price of the tour. Please be advised that the open-air market area of Bugis Street is usually very crowded. Guests wishing to visit the casino will need their passport to gain admission. Should bad weather prevail on or other events be scheduled for the day of the tour, the Garden Rhapsody show may be cancelled. The order in which the tour itinerary is run may vary.

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.

SCENIC ROUTE

SENTOSA DISCOVERY - SIN12

Duration
3:30 h

Leisurely in pace and a feast for your eyes, this enjoyable tour begins with a coach ride up to Singapore Citys Mount Faber, a hill whose peak affords splendid views of the central business district and Sentosa island. Catch more great vistas of Singapore and the surrounding islands on the cable car down to Sentosa island, after which you'll walk to the famous statue of the Merlion, the mythical lion-fish that symbolises Singapore. Take some photos before you head back to the coach for a drive around Sentosa island en route to the appealing Marina at Sentosa Cove complex. You'll have some free time to enjoy this vibrant quayside setting, a popular dining and lifestyle destination, by going for a drink, having a snack or simply strolling around. Once youve returned to your coach, you'll then be returned to the port and your ship. Please note: queues may be encountered to get on the Singapore Flyer, especially on festival days and during school holidays. The cost of any food and/or drinks you may wish to purchase is not covered by the price of the tour. The tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with mobility problems. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

Singapore

Sun 25 November 2018

CITY TOUR

HIGHLIGHTS OF SINGAPORE - SIN01



Duration
4 h

Enjoy a brief journey by air-conditioned coach from the exotic quarter of Little India, where the many stalls are perfumed with fragrant jasmine garlands and merchants offer everything from saris and aromatic spices to intricate ornaments, to the colonial splendour of the civic district where you will continue the tour on foot, admiring Parliament House, the Victoria theatre, the Empress Place Building and other buildings that have been restored to their original splendour. Rejoin your coach and drive past other colonial-style buildings including the City Hall and legendary Raffles Hotel and, of course, the statue of the Merlion, Singapore's enduring symbol. Soon, your coach will cross the Singapore River and traverse Shenton Way, commonly known as Asia's Wall Street. Chinatown appears with its hubbub of trade and activity. During your stroll there, you'll be introduced to age-old architecture and customs from a bygone era. Stroll among Chinese medicine shops, teahouses, acupuncturists and calligraphers as you wander along the vibrant narrow streets. Next, you will visit the idyllic Botanical Gardens, which house the world's largest orchid collection. 60,000 plants are featured in a natural setting with over 2,000 varieties of orchid. Stroll through this lush tropical park before reboarding your coach for a trip down Orchard Road, the city's fashionable shopping district. Please note: Guests must be able to walk approximately 1.5 km over flat and cobblestone surfaces. The program is not recommended for guests with limited mobility. The amount of walking in Chinatown is at your discretion. The order of the tour may change to avoid overcrowding at venues. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. In case the Merlion statue cannot be viewed due to restoration works, guests will see nearby Merlion cub statue.

NATURAL WONDERS

WONDERS OF SINGAPORE - SIN02



Duration
4:30 h

Visit Singapore's latest and stunning attraction the Gardens by the Bay. You will be able to explore the outdoor Heritage Gardens and enter the beautiful Flower Dome and Cloud Forest. These two domes are innovatively designed and are two of the icons of Singapore's Marina South Garden. Take a stroll inside the domes and walk along the garden path, and then visit the Sky Park. From the height of Marina Bay Sands, enjoy the breathtaking view of the entire city. You will then carry on to Marina Bay Sands hotel, where you will have free time to explore the hotel's wonderful choice of shops, and to admire the Casino and its extraordinary architecture. Please note: The order of the itinerary may vary. Guests are advised to bring a sweater because the temperature at the Flower Dome is low. The Domes and OCBC Skyway will be closed for regular maintenance on certain dates each month. Guests need a valid passport to enter the casino. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

HALF A DAY AT SINGAPORE ZOO - SIN05



Duration
4 h

Recently voted to be the #1 Zoo in Asia in the TripAdvisor 2014 Peoples Choice ranking, the Singapore Zoo boasts some of the most open-plan and naturalistic enclosures anywhere in the world and supports more than 170 animal species over 28 ha of space. Beginning in the morning, this half-day tour one that children are sure to love will first see you board a coach and head north to reach the zoo. Once there, a ride on an electric tram will introduce you to the zoo's resident owls, gibbons, binturongs (or bearcats) and spider monkeys, after which you'll be free to roam on your own. Apart from lemurs, tamarins, sun bears, maned wolves, white rhinos and tapirs, you'll also find polar bears, flamingos, leopard cats, white tigers, kangaroos and the world's largest captive colony of orang-utans. And there's a highly entertaining animal show to look forward to as well before you re-board the coach and head back to the ship. Please note: the order in which the tour itinerary is run may vary. The tour involves an approx. 10-minute walk from the ship to reach the coach and guests are generally recommended to wear comfortable shoes and casual clothing. During the electric tram ride and the animal show, information will be provided only in English. Please be advised that queues may be encountered to board the electric tram, especially on festivity days or during school holidays.

 **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.

SCENIC ROUTE
SINGAPORE ISLAND DISCOVERY - SIN07


Make a day of exploring the beautiful city of Singapore on a partly coach- and partly walking-based guided tour that begins with a trip to the peak of Mount Faber. After enjoying photo-worthy views of the central business district and the island resort of Sentosa, linked to Singapore island by a causeway, you'll move on to Sentosa itself. A walk then takes you to the famous statue that symbolises Singapore, the Merlion, a mythical chimera with the head of a lion and the body of a fish. Continuing by coach again, a scenic ride will take you to the city centre and Marina Bay, with a chance to take photos of the bay from Clifford Pier. Lunch then follows at a traditional Peranakan restaurant, after which the coach will transfer you to Chinatown where you'll have about 45 minutes to explore. The narrow streets and old buildings are home to an eclectic mix of Chinese medicine shops, teahouses, acupuncturists, calligraphers and any number of other colourful stores that give the district a unique ambience. As a final treat, you'll then head back to the coach and move on to the iconic Marina Bay Sands. The 57-storey megastructure flaunts the Sands SkyPark situated on the world's largest public cantilevered platform. Its vast, curved-surfboard-like deck envelopes a one-hectare sky oasis, showing off lush greenery and sculptured gardens. Experience the stunning panoramic view of Singapore as surely, there is no greater feeling than to stand tall above Singapore's grandest structures! Your return to the ship then brings the tour to a close. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

 *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.*

SOMETHING SPECIAL
SINGAPORE UNDER THE STARS - SIN08


Eventide in Singapore, the stars are out and so will you be at the vibrant Telok Ayer Market, or Lau Pa Sat as the locals call it. This covered cast-iron structure dates back to the Victorian era and adds a touch of anachronistic quaintness to an area that is otherwise characterised by its soaring glass-and-steel structures. Open day and night, the market is a food-lovers paradise, with premium hawker food on sale wherever you look. Give your taste buds something to remember as you try such Asian favourites as pork noodles, Hainanese chicken rice or the ever-popular satay, then round off your culinary exploration with some ice balls or kacang puteh, a singularly nutty experience (the cost of any food purchased is not covered by the price of the tour). You'll then move on to the magical Marina Bay Sands complex to catch the spellbinding Spectra sound and light show. Combining great music, amazing visual effects, lasers, searchlights, LEDs, video projectors and gigantic streaming water screens, this is superb night-time entertainment that the entire family can enjoy. And as a final highlight, you'll even get to see Singapore from a height of 200m when you take the elevator to the Marina Bay Sands Skypark Observation Deck. Your return to the ship then brings the tour to a close. Please note: the cost of any food you may wish to purchase is not covered by the price of the tour. Please be advised that the market is usually very crowded so there may be long queues to order food and that seats cannot be reserved. The order in which the tour itinerary is run may vary. The Spectra show is weather-dependent. The tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with mobility problems. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This is a night tour.

 *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
ORIENTATION TOUR OF SINGAPORE - SIN10


Treat yourself to a day off the ship to see the main sights of Singapore, the first of which are the 20,000 or so varieties of orchid found in the National Orchid Garden, part of the much larger Singapore Botanical Garden. Then it's on to the temples and decorated terraces of Chinatown, Singapore's pulsating cultural centre. A traditional lunch follows at a local restaurant, after which you'll move on to the Peranakan Museum. An informative talk will give you an insight into the rich Peranakan culture, which evolved through intermarriage between Chinese settlers and the indigenous Malay population in the 19th century. The museum is home to superb displays and interactive exhibits on Peranakan culture that are presented in ten permanent galleries - immersive, educational and fascinating all at once. Leaving the museum and the Colonial District behind, you'll have time to relax on the coach as you travel through Singapore's ethnic quarters, from the shops of Little India selling a motley assortment of saris, fruit, vegetables, Hindu artefacts, bangles and ornaments, to the Muslim quarter around Arab Street, the place to go for Indonesian batiks, silks, sarongs, carpets, oil lamps and perfumes. Freshly infused with the sights, sounds and scents of these dynamic neighbourhoods, you'll then head back to the port and your ship. Please note: as the tour involves walking a distance of approx. 1.8 km over partly cobblestoned surfaces, it is considered to be unsuitable for guests with mobility problems. Guests are recommended to wear comfortable walking shoes and casual clothing. The distance walked in Chinatown is at guests' personal discretion. Lunch is a set menu plus a soft drink served family style (for sharing) at a local restaurant (with table service). The order in which the tour is run may vary to avoid congestion at places of interest.



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CULTURE AND HISTORY

SINGAPORE HERITAGE TOUR - SIN11

 **Duration**
7 h



Get your fill of Singapore on a tour that begins with visits to Little India, a district famed for its spice-scented, shop-lined streets, as well as Arab Street and Kampong Glam, the centre of Muslim life and home to the magnificent Sultan Mosque. The route then takes you past the Raffles Landing Site at the Singapore River and on through the civic district for views of such meticulously restored colonial buildings as Old Parliament House, the Victoria Theatre, Empress Place Building, City Hall, the Supreme Court, the legendary Raffles Hotel and the wonderful Merlion statue, which depicts a large mythical creature with the body of a fish and the head of a lion. Following a traditional lunch at a local restaurant, you'll head for the early 19th-century wooden Thian Hock Keng Temple, Singapore's oldest place of Hoklo worship. The temple was built by Chinese sailors in honour of Mazu, the Taoist goddess of the sea and protector of seamen. The hustle and bustle of Chinatown is next, home not only to all things Chinese, but also an Islamic mosque located almost next door to a Hindu temple. Strolling through the area will transport you to another world, one in which Chinese medicine shops, teahouses, acupuncturists and old-fashioned calligraphers are the order of the day. You'll have some time to yourself to go shopping or sample some of the local delicacies before you begin your return route to the pier and your ship. Please note: the tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with mobility problems. The distance walked in Chinatown is entirely at guests' discretion. The order in which the tour is run may vary to avoid congestion at places of interest. Lunch is a set menu served family style (for sharing) plus a soft drink at a local restaurant (with table service). Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. In case the Merlion statue cannot be viewed to restoration works, guests will see nearby Merlion cub statue.

SCENIC ROUTE

SENTOSA DISCOVERY - SIN12

 **Duration**
3:30 h



Leisurely in pace and a feast for your eyes, this enjoyable tour begins with a coach ride up to Singapore City's Mount Faber, a hill whose peak affords splendid views of the central business district and Sentosa island. Catch more great vistas of Singapore and the surrounding islands on the cable car down to Sentosa island, after which you'll walk to the famous statue of the Merlion, the mythical lion-fish that symbolises Singapore. Take some photos before you head back to the coach for a drive around Sentosa island en route to the appealing Marina at Sentosa Cove complex. You'll have some free time to enjoy this vibrant quayside setting, a popular dining and lifestyle destination, by going for a drink, having a snack or simply strolling around. Once you've returned to your coach, you'll then be returned to the port and your ship. Please note: queues may be encountered to get on the Singapore Flyer, especially on festival days and during school holidays. The cost of any food and/or drinks you may wish to purchase is not covered by the price of the tour. The tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with mobility problems. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

Port Kelang

Mon 26 November 2018

CITY TOUR

BEST OF KUALA LUMPUR - PKG01



Explore Kuala Lumpur, Malaysias cultural, economic and financial centre, on an all-day tour showcasing only the citys best sights. A coach will first take you to the National Museum, where Malaysias history comes to life in various culturally themed tableaux as well as displays of weaponry, musical instruments, arts, crafts and ceramics. Next up are photo stops at the National Palace, also called Istana Negara, and Independence Square. Youll then pass the skyscrapers and colonial-era buildings in the Golden Triangle, Kuala Lumpurs business hub, en route to lunch at a renowned local restaurant. Have your camera ready again afterwards for your next photo stop at the Petronas Twin Towers, the architectural pride of Malaysia, opposite which lies the equally impressive KL Tower, whose height of 421 m/1,381 ft. makes it the worlds 4th tallest communications tower. Youll take a lift up the observation deck to capture spectacular views of the city and of the Petronas Towers before you head back to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchairs. The photo stop at Petronas Twin Tower will be from a distance. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

KUALA LUMPUR FROM UP HIGH: PETRONAS TOWERS & LUNCH IN KL TOWER - PKG02



Its not every day that a chance presents itself to enjoy a delicious lunch in exquisite surroundings half way up to heaven, but this tour promises to let you do just that in Kuala Lumpurs KL Tower. To begin with, though, a coach ride from the pier will see you reach the National Museum for a look at its collection of historical and cultural artefacts. Two photo stops follow at the National Palace a.k.a. Istana Negara and Independence Square en route to the KL Tower, the worlds 4th tallest communications tower at a height of 421 m/1,381 ft.. Youll take a lift up to around 280 m/920 ft. to reach the observation deck, where gorgeous views of both the city and the even taller Petronas Twin Towers opposite await you. The revolving Atmosphere 360 restaurant is on the same floor and lunch then follows to changing views of Kuala Lumpur from above. After lunch, a final stop will be made at the Petronas Towers Malaysias pride and joy. An elevator will take you to floor 86 for more wonderful views and for a chance to browse the gift shop. A coach drive to the port will conclude your tour. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchairs. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. No slippers & shorts allowed for Petronas Tower visit.

SCENIC ROUTE

IMPRESSIONS OF KUALA LUMPUR - PKG03



Spending half a day off the ship on this largely coach-based tour gives you a chance to relax while enjoying some of Kuala Lumpurs many and varied sights. The first stop along the scenic route is at the National Monument, a freestanding bronze sculpture grouping that commemorates the lives of Malaysian soldiers who fought during WWII and the subsequent Malaysian Emergency. Next up are photo stops at the National Mosque, the Old Railway Station, a gorgeous building in resplendent white, and Independence Square, where the mock-Tudor Royal Selangor Club, the Sultan Abdul Samad Building and the Cathedral of St. Mary the Virgin still stand. Independence Square also marks the spot where, in August 1957, the new Malaysian flag was hoisted, ending British rule. Last on the itinerary before you return to the ship is a final photo stop allowing views of the incredible Petronas Twin Towers, which stand tall at nearly 452 m/1,485 ft. and are the architectural pride of Malaysia. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchairs. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. The photo stop at Petronas Twin Tower will be from a distance.

PUTRAJAYA & LAKE CRUISE - PKG04



Relocating an entire seat of government is already no mean feat, but actually building a city for it takes the exercise to a whole new level. Such is the story of Putrajaya, an intelligent garden city whose former life as the sleepy Prang Besar changed forever in 1993 when building work began. About 40% of the citys area is given over to greenery, with the central man-made Putrajaya Lake providing a vast recreation area. The tour begins with a coach ride to Putrajaya and your first photo stop at the domed Perdana Putra building, home to the Prime Ministers offices, and Putra Mosque with its blend of Islamic architecture. Next up are a look at the elegant cable-stayed Seri Wawasan Bridge spanning Putrajaya Lake, followed by Putra Square with its unusual concentric-star layout that symbolises Malaysias development. After another photo stop at the Palace of Justice, you can relax on a boat cruise on Putrajaya Lake before the coach returns you to your ship. Please note: as the tour involves approx. 40 steps to negotiate at the boat jetty, it is considered to be unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchairs. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.



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CITY TOUR

KUALA LUMPUR WALKING TOUR - PKG05

Duration 7 h [Icons: Clock, Hand pointing up, Hand pointing down]

One of the best ways to explore any place is on foot and when the city in question is Kuala Lumpur, the option is particularly appealing. Your all-day walking tour around Malaysia's capital will focus on its older sections, providing a delightful glimpse of its rich heritage. Look forward to the bustle of Chinatown with its covered street bazaars and artsy items at the central market, but equally to views of the former seat of the British government, the Royal Selangor Club in its mock-Tudor building and the pretty late 19th-century Anglican Cathedral of St. Mary the Virgin on Independence Square. The route will also take you past the city's oldest mosque, Chinese and Indian temples as well as many other interesting sights. Your final photo stop will enable you to take photos from a distance of Malaysia's flagship Petronas Twin Towers, an architectural marvel that stretches almost 452 m/1,485 ft. into the sky, before you head back to the ship. Please note: as the tour involves extensive walking, it is considered to be unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

GARDEN CITY OF KUALA LUMPUR - PKG06

Duration 7 h [Icons: Clock, Hand pointing up, Hand pointing down, Shopping bag]

Streets lined with ornamental plants, shady trees and shrubbery, 3 forest reserves and a variety of parks all go to ensure Kuala Lumpur fully deserves its byname of the Garden City. Boarding a coach at the pier and joining this all-day tour will see you visit one of these parks, the Lake Gardens, after a drive through Port Klang. The vast inner-city park was established in 1888 and you'll first be visiting the Orchid and Hibiscus Gardens, followed by the Bird Park, reputed to have the world's largest free-flight walk-in aviary. More than 200 species of bird live here, including birds of paradise, eagles and rhinoceros hornbills. Moving on, a photo stop follows at Independence Square, once the hub of Kuala Lumpur and still an important spot with terraces, gardens, fountains and various notable buildings. A buffet lunch at a local restaurant is followed by a photo stop at the iconic Petronas Twin Towers. Before heading back to the port, a visit to Central Market to browse handcrafted items will conclude your tour. Please note: this tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

MAH MERI CULTURAL VILLAGE - PKG07

Duration 5 h [Icons: Clock, Hand pointing up, Hand pointing down]

Located a short coach drive to the south of Port Klang lies Pulau Carey, an island separated from mainland Malaysia by the Langat River and home to an indigenous people called the Mah Meri, of which no more than around 2,200 remain today. Originally a tribe of sea nomads living off the western coast of the Malay Peninsula, the Mah Meri finally settled on land around 100 years ago to avoid attacks by pirates. This is your chance to immerse yourself in a unique way of life at the Mah Meri Cultural Village, where a heart-warming welcoming ceremony and a refreshing drink await you on arrival. Have your camera ready as you then enter the village itself to enjoy a colourful performance the Mah Meri mask dance, after which you'll get a chance to mingle with the villagers and learn about their ways. Interactive demonstrations include origami using palm leaves, a practice thought to appease spirits. Some tasty local snacks will also be served before you begin your journey back to Port Klang and your ship. Please note: this tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

KUALA LUMPUR ON YOUR OWN - PKG08

Duration 7 h [Icons: Clock, Hand pointing up]

Grab a chance to do your own thing in the Malaysian capital for a day by joining this tour, which begins with a drive into town from Port Klang. On the way, your escort will point out interesting sights, local cafés and restaurants as well as tell you the opening hours of shopping malls, museums, banks and money changers. You'll be dropped at the Suria KLCC Shopping Mall (also your later pick-up point) and then it's up to you. Snapshot-worthy spots include the gorgeous Moorish railway building, the clock tower of the Sultan Abdul Samad Building, the world's tallest flagpole and the Royal Selangor Club on Independence Square along with many others. Shopping opportunities can be found at the Sungei Wang Plaza, Bukit Bintang Plaza and the Lot 10 Shopping Complex. Be sure to return to the pick-up point a little early to have time to take photos of the amazing Petronas Twin Towers, at whose base the Suria KLCC Shopping Mall is located. The drive back to Port Klang then brings your outing to a close. Please note: guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

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KLANG TOWN & HOME VISIT - PKG09

 Duration
5 h



This entertaining half-day tour will see you board a coach at the pier and leave Port Klang to head for the nearby city of Klang, once the capital of Selangor state. First up on arrival is a visit to a real Malaysian home, where coffee or tea will be served along with some local Malaysian cake. Your guide will act as an interpreter during your visit, after which you'll move on to the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Royal Gallery, a notable heritage site that displays royal heirlooms, artefacts and gifts that were once presented to the sultan and that he later wished to share with the people of Selangor. A photo stop then follows at the Istana Alam Shah, the former palatial residence of the Sultan of Selangor. Last up on this look around Klang is a visit to Little India, a district in the middle of town with appealing pre-war buildings housing shops selling items such as saris, sweetmeats, aromatic spices, fragrances and more. Your visit to Klang then wraps up with your return drive to Port Klang and your ship. Please note: this tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Shoes must be removed prior to entering the Malay House.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

BATU CAVES & CITY EXPERIENCE - PKG10

 Duration
7 h



A varied all-day tour awaits the pleasure of your company, which begins with a coach ride through Kuala Lumpur's attractive suburbs to the Batu Caves. This natural limestone phenomenon is not just a simple set of 3 main and several smaller caverns, but also features one of the most popular Hindi shrines outside of India. This top cave can be reached via 272 steps that were cut into the steep face of the limestone outcrop. Leaving the caves, you'll head for the Visitors Centre of the Royal Selangor factory, the world's largest manufacturer of pewter. After a tour of the site, a chance to watch the artisans at work and a visit to the gallery, it'll be time to have lunch. Your last two must-sees will then be the KL Tower, the world's 4th tallest communications tower at a height of 421 m/1,381 ft., from the top of which you can enjoy superb views of the city. Opposite the KL Tower stand the even taller Petronas Twin Towers, where a final photo stop is scheduled before you return to your ship. Please note: this tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Guests are requested to wear conservative attire for visiting the Batu Caves: tank tops, sleeveless shirts and shorts are strictly prohibited for women wishing to enter the caves. The Temple authority may demand payment for additional garments should inappropriately dressed women wish to enter. Guest can take snapshots of Petronas Twin Tower only from a distance during the final photo stop. You may find monkeys on the staircase leading to the Caves they are not aggressive but please avoid carrying any plastic bag or food and do not provoke them.

Phuket

Tue 27 November 2018

ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

SAFARI ELEPHANT RIDE & BIG BUDDHA TEMPLE - HKT01



Duration
5 h

This half-day combination tour of Phuket Island is fun for everyone and gives you the opportunity to admire the unspoiled scenery from the back of an elephant! You'll be picked up from your ship and travel by four-wheel drive up to the Chalong highlands and Siam Safari elephant camp on the top of a mountain. Meet Siam Safari's elephants and learn about them and their caretakers, the Mahouts. You will also learn about Thai elephant conservation and how you can help. See how young elephants are trained you can even touch them and feed them bananas. This elephant camp is the only one in southern Thailand to have attained the Thai government standard award. This is your chance to take a 30-min trek on an elephant's back in the Chalong highlands which offer some wonderful views over Chalong bay and out to Phi Phi Island. You'll continue on with your guide to the top of the mountain to see Phuket's Big Buddha, the world's largest and tallest outdoor-seated Buddha. Then on your way back down the hill you'll visit the nearby Chalong Temple, Phuket's most significant temple, and Wat Chalong (or Wat Chaiyathararam), a monastery not far from Phuket Town. The temple hall houses the bronze statues of three monks Luang Por Chaem, Luang Por Gluam and Luang Por Chuang venerated by the inhabitants of Phuket. In 1876, during the reign of King Rama V, Chalong came under threat from the Ang-Yee Rebellion a large mob of rioting immigrant Chinese tin-mine workers that had been rampaging across the island. Luang Pho Chaem (1827-1908), Abbot of Wat Chalong, insisted on staying in the temple no matter what happened. As a result, the people also decided to stay and fight off the Ang-Yee until they were victorious. Following this rewarding, active and educational adventure, you'll return to your ship. Please note: a lot of walking involved in this tour and although the ground is mainly flat, this excursion is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

PHUKET LIFESTYLE, TEMPLE & SHRINE - HKT02



Duration
4:30 h

This excursion starts with a short, scenic drive through the rubber plantations, local housing, and mosques from the port to Phuket Town. On arrival in town you'll visit Phud Jaw Shrine that is dedicated to Kuan In, Goddess of Mercy. The oldest shrine in Phuket, Phud Jaw was built over 200 years ago and stands adjacent to Jui Tui Shrine, your next stop built in the 1920s, Jui Tui Shrine is the oldest and most famous of the Chinese temples in Phuket. Its fame today mainly arises from the Phuket Vegetarian Festival that takes place for nine days in October each year. Afterwards, you will take a short walk while admiring the many well-preserved old Sino-Portuguese style buildings. You'll stop by the local Chinese temple to observe the locals way of life at the bustling market packed with fresh products. You'll then continue your drive to visit one of the most important temples on the island: Wat Chalong (or Wat Chaiyathararam), a monastery not far from Phuket Town. The temple hall houses bronze statues of three monks Luang Por Chaem, Luang Por Gluam and Luang Por Chuang venerated by the inhabitants of Phuket. In 1876, during the reign of King Rama V, Chalong came under threat from the Ang-Yee Rebellion a large mob of rioting immigrant Chinese tin-mine workers that had been rampaging across the island. Luang Pho Chaem (1827-1908), Abbot of Wat Chalong, insisted on staying in the temple no matter what happened. As a result, the people decided to also stay and fight off the Ang-Yee until they were victorious. Afterwards you'll enjoy a short drive to visit the Cashew Nut Factory. Cashews are a staple ingredient in local Phuket cuisine. You'll see how they're processed from start to finish. And, before your return to the port, if time permits you'll stop to shop for some souvenirs: local products, handicrafts, pearls or semiprecious stones. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SEA & SUN

JAMES BOND ISLAND & FASCINATING PHANG NGA BAY - HKT03



Duration
4:30 h

The unparalleled scenery of Phang Nga Bay defies description. This opportunity for a boat cruise through a pictureperfect waterway is a wonderful experience not to be missed during your visit to southern Thailand. Upon arrival at Phang Nga Bay National Park, you will switch to a motorboat and begin an unforgettable cruise through the surrealist landscape of limestone stacks. The awesome scenery of Phang-Nga Bay is well worth the trip. During the cruise, you'll see Kao Ping Gun Island. Popularly known as James Bond Island, it was here that the filming of the last scenes of The Man with the Golden Gun took place. You'll then visit Koh Panyi, a water village where more than 200 houses were built on stilts with attached wooden walkways. There will be a late Thai buffet lunch at Phang Nga Bay Resort, a setting overlooking the mangrove forest and towering hills. After lunch, there'll be a visit to Suwan Khuha Temple, a cave temple with numerous Buddha statues standing, reclining, and seated. Return to Phuket Island and the ship. Please note: This excursion is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. The Thai buffet lunch at Phang Nga Bay Resort includes one soft drink (juice, mineral water or a small local beer). James Bond island will be viewed from distance. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SNORKEL IN PHIPHI ISLAND BY SPEEDBOAT - HKT04



The tour begins with a transfer from the port to a luxurious marina where you'll board a speedboat and enjoy a breathtaking cruise across the emerald waters of the bay and journey on to Bamboo Island. Within its tropical 700- metre diameter circular area, the entire Island is uninhabited, and therefore has pristine, unspoiled beaches surrounded by a majestic coral reef. You will relish your leisure time here snorkeling, swimming or sunbathing on the beach. Then cruise on to Phi Leh Bay, passing Viking Cave, named after prehistoric drawings on the cave walls that resemble ancient Viking ships. It is believed that these were drawn by sea gypsies or pirates who stopped here to shelter from monsoon storms. Again, you will have time to swim in Phi Leh Bay before cruising on to your last leisure site Maya Bay, located on the west side of Phi Phi Ley. Enjoy more time to swim and snorkel in the translucent emerald sea with its rich coral reefs and explore the undersea life in Maya Bay where the movie The Beach was filmed. The boat departs late in the afternoon with a short journey back to the Royal Phuket Marina. The coach will be waiting to take you back to the port. Please note: Considerable amount of physical activity is required and, this excursion is not recommended for guests with mobility problems. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

CITY TOUR

PHUKET HIGHLIGHTS - HKT05



Depart from port with your local guide who will keep you fully informed as a kaleidoscope of villages, temples, mosques pass by. Your journey today will lead you to appreciate the beautiful panoramic views of Promthep Cape. Apart from photographing, you will have a chance to write to your beloved one and put your postcard (already with a stamp) into a unique postal box there. Afterwards, you will continue your drive to visit be one of the most important temples on the island: Wat Chalong (or Wat Chaiyathararam), a monastery not far from Phuket Town. The temple hall houses bronze statues of three monks Luang Por Chaem, Luang Por Gluam and Luang Por Chuang venerated by the inhabitants of Phuket. In 1876, during the reign of King Rama V, Chalong came under threat from the Ang-Yee Rebellion a large mob of rioting immigrant Chinese tin-mine workers that had been rampaging across the island. Luang Pho Chaem (1827-1908), Abbot of Wat Chalong, insisted on staying in the temple no matter what happened. As a result, the people decided to also stay and fight off the Ang-Yee until they were victorious. Afterwards you'll enjoy a short drive to visit the Cashew Nut Factory. Cashews are a staple ingredient in local Phuket cuisine. You'll see how they're processed from start to finish. Then proceed to Phuket town. As your coach enters the town of Phuket, you'll glimpse exterior views of old Sino-Portuguese-style buildings, the local market and the Chinese shrine before your coach will drop you at Rommanee Lane. You will stroll along this alley full with colourful old style houses and shops representing the architectural style of Chinese Migrants that settled in Phuket in the early 19th century. Next you will be invited to visit the Bann Chin Pracha Chinese Mansion, the old Chino-Portuguese architectural-style building, which was built in 1904 and is still well-preserved. Furniture was imported from China, floor tiles are from Italy, gates are from Holland, while lightings are from England. Local snacks and hot tea or coffee will be served while enjoying the tour. And you will finally travel back to port. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

A STROLL THROUGH PHUKET OLD TOWN - HKT07



Although this highly photogenic half-day tour of Old Phuket Town begins with a scenic coach ride through rubber plantations, once you've reached Hai Leng Ong a huge statue of a golden dragon that is thought to protect the city you'll continue on foot. A walk down Phuket Road will take you to the late 19th-century Wat Mongkol Nimit Buddhist temple, one of the city's oldest. In exchange for a modest offering, one of the resident monks will bring you luck with a splash of holy water. The lovely old Sino-Portuguese buildings lining Rommanee Lane are sure to have your camera finger twitching and the local shops beckon with postcards and souvenirs. A look at the small exhibition hosted by the Tourist Information Centre on Thalang Road delivers information on Phuket's history, after which a break is scheduled at a local coffee bar. You'll then move on to Phuket's oldest temple, the Put Jaw Shrine, constructed around 200 years ago in honour of the Buddhist Goddess of Mercy, Guanyin. Directly adjacent to Put Jaw lies the early 20th-century Jui Tui Shrine, the oldest of Phuket's Chinese temples. Its current popularity is largely owed to the 9-day Phuket Vegetarian Festival that it hosts in October each year. Last up is a chance to try a popular local dessert. Pronounced oh-eeew, this is a dish of jelly with ice shavings and optional toppings like lotus seeds or bread crumbs. You'll then return to the port and your ship by coach. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SEA & SUN

PARADISE PATONG - HKT13



Depart from the port and drive to Patong Beach, which is one of the most, developed, most vibrant, most visited beaches of Phuket. It never fails to impress visitors. The beach is lined with a wide range of accommodation and shopping arcades, and offers magnificent leisure activities and energetic night-time entertainment. There is a picture-perfect postcard view of a 3-kilometre-long, white sandy beach that is perfect for water sports: whether swimming, challenging water sports such as jet skiing, windsurfing snorkelling, sailing, and parasailing, or just lazing on the gorgeous sands. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SCENIC ROUTE
PANORAMIC PHUKET - HKT14

 **Duration**
 4 h



Depart from the port with your local guide who will keep you fully informed as a kaleidoscope of villages, temples, mosques, markets and beaches pass by. Drive to sacred Chalong Temple where there will be time for photos. Then proceed to Phuket town. As your coach enters the town of Phuket, you'll glimpse exterior views of old Sino-Portuguese-style buildings, the local market and the Chinese shrine. Continue your drive, passing the Two Heroines Monument, built to commemorate two Thai women who saved Phuket from a Burmese invasion in the 18th Century. Then pass the island's biggest mosque at Bang Tao Village before driving along the coastal road passing Surin Kamala until Patong. Your final stop will be the island's famous Patong Beach with its long stretches of silky white sand and crystalline waters, where you will be dropped off for your leisure time before return to port. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

 *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.*

SOMETHING SPECIAL
OVELAND TO COLOMBO VIA CAMBODIA ANGKOR COMPLEX DOUBLE ROOM - HKT19

 **Duration**
 96 h



Oveland to Colombo via Cambodia Angkor Complex double room

OVELAND TO COLOMBO VIA CAMBODIA ANGKOR COMPLEX SINGLE - HKT19SGL

 **Duration**
 96 h



Oveland to Colombo via Cambodia Angkor Complex single

Colombo

Fri 30 November 2018

CITY TOUR

COLOMBO HIGHLIGHTS - CMB01



Duration
4 h

Passengers will be picked up from the pier for a city tour of Colombo, a city that like so many in developing countries is fast changing. Almost overnight, skyscrapers arise from where old buildings once stood. Yet in some parts, the old-world charm is retained. For example, there is a 100-year-old clock tower and several British-built, colonial buildings. Other places of interest include the Pettah market, Hindu and Buddhist temples, residential areas where you'll see the stately homes of the affluent, the Colombo museum, the Bandaranayake Memorial International Conference Hall (an outright gift to Sri Lanka from the Peoples Republic of China), Independence Square, old parliament building, University of Colombo, and Royal College, which is probably the largest school in Asia with 7500 students. We will have a brief stop for refreshments in a star class Hotel. Please note: Modest attire is required to visit the sacred sites. Shorts and short skirts are not allowed. Ladies should have their shoulders covered. Shoes and hats should be removed prior to entering the temples. Security is very strict, and no bags of any sort may be carried inside. Sunscreen, sunglasses, hats and temple socks are recommended. This tour includes a considerable amount of physical activity such as walking on uneven surface and climbing stairs at the National Museum and at the Temple. It is not recommended for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

NATURAL WONDERS

THE ELEPHANTS OF PINNAWALA - CMB04



Duration
7:30 h

Leave the ship, board a coach and head inland on this family-friendly tour to the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, which was established by the Sri Lankan Department of Wildlife Conservation in 1975. The roughly 1-hour drive will first give you a chance to soak up views of the island's lush interior before you reach your destination and the world's largest land mammals, the elephants themselves. Visit the centre which was originally created with the sole aim of providing a sanctuary for orphaned baby elephants. Around 60 gentle giants are currently being looked after by a whole host of mahouts (elephant handlers), who ensure they get the food, training and all the tender, loving care they need. The knowledgeable staff will tell you all about the work the orphanage is doing not only to care for these lovable creatures on site, but also to safeguard their natural habitats in the interest of ensuring the survival of the species in the future. After leaving the orphanage, you'll move on to the nearby Pinnalanda Restaurant, whose veranda overlooks the Maha Oya River and is the perfect spot to have lunch and watch the elephants enjoying their daily bath in the river. The coach will then be waiting to return you to the port and your ship. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

KELANIYA TEMPLE & COLOMBO CITY TOUR - CMB05



Duration
7 h

Blessed with outstanding natural beauty, the island of Sri Lanka fondly called the Pearl of the Indian Ocean is home to a highly varied landscape, diverse ethnicities, languages and religions as well as a particularly rich Buddhist heritage. But it is also famed for its coffee, tea and cinnamon as well as for gemstones like sapphires and rubies. Giving you a chance to touch base with the Buddhist temple at Kelaniya and Sri Lanka's largest metropolis, Colombo, this all-day tour begins with a short coach ride to the Raja Maha Vihara Temple. Believed to have been hallowed by Buddha during his final visit to Sri Lanka, the temple dates back to before 500 B.C.. After visiting this ancient monument, you'll head back to Colombo for a coach-based tour of the city. The drive-by route will take you past the 100-year-old clock tower, numerous colonial buildings, the Pettah bazaar, stately homes, the Bandaranaike Conference Hall, the university, the Royal College, a Hindu temple, the town hall and Independence Square en route to your next two stops: the National Museum, home to artefacts of great national importance, and the stunning edifice of the Gangaramaya Temple, a modern complex of buildings blending a variety of architectural styles. Then, after the lunch at a star class hotel or at a standard restaurant, you'll move on to visit a handicraft shop selling traditional Sri Lankan wares, where some time will be yours to browse or shop. The return drive to the pier and your ship then brings your tour to a close. Please note: guests are requested to wear modest attire (no shorts or short skirts) when visiting sacred places and women are required to keep their shoulders covered. Shoes and hats must be removed prior to entering temples. Guests are recommended wear a hat, sunscreen and sunglasses as well as to take a pair of thick socks to wear as pavements can get very hot underfoot. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.



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SOMETHING SPECIAL

HANDICRAFTS, GEMS & SHOPPING - CMB06

Duration 3:30 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand, pencil, bag, star]

As Sri Lankas capital city and largest port, Colombo still bears many traces of its colourful colonial history and is a great place to shop for luxury items such as the finest teas, intricate woodcarvings, brass- and silverware, batiks as well as locally mined precious and semi-precious stones.

TEA EXPERIENCE TOUR - CMB07

Duration 6 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand, pencil, bag, star]

The fact that tea superseded coffee as a typical Sri Lankan crop in the mid-1800s is owed to a chap called James Taylor, an Englishman who believed the islands central highlands would provide an ideal climate for camellia sinensis to flourish.

NATURAL WONDERS

EXPLORE THE WONDER OF MADU GANGA - CMB08

Duration 6:30 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand, pencil, bag, star]

Take some time off the ship and instead immerse yourself in Sri Lankas unparalleled natural beauty on a tour dedicated to showcasing one of the islands most popular wetlands, the Madu Ganga River and the eponymous lake it feeds.

SEA & SUN

BEACH BREAK AT THE BLUE WATER HOTEL - CMB09

Duration 6:30 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand, bus, pencil, bag, star]

Fancy spending a few hours of unadulterated sun-worship in the stylish comfort of an upscale resort hotel? Then pack your swimwear, grab a towel and board a coach at the pier for a 2-hour ride down to Wadduwa, the lovely location of The Blue Water Hotel, your destination.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

CITY TOUR

COLOMBO DISCOVERY - CMB12

Duration
6 h

Make a date with Colombo to discover the many facets of this vibrant city on a tour that begins with a drive-by look at its key sights. Apart from the 100-year-old clock tower, several British-built colonial buildings, the colourful Pettah Bazaar, Hindu and Buddhist temples, residential areas with luxurious homes, Colombo Museum and the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, you'll also pass the old parliament, the university, the Royal College and Independence Square. Following lunch in a star class hotel or at a standard restaurant, you'll move on to visit a jewellery and handicrafts outlet. The resident artisans use their consummate skill to craft beautiful handmade pieces featuring all sorts of stones, from brilliant sapphires and star rubies to cats eyes, aquamarines, moonstones, topaz and more. Woodcarvings, brassware, silverware and batik items complete the range of handicrafts. Before you return to your ship, the tour wraps up with a display of the best tea in the world. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

TASTE OF COLOMBO BY NIGHT WITH DINNER - CMB16

Duration
4:30 h

Like many capital cities in developing countries, Colombo is undergoing fast-paced changes with skyscrapers replacing ancient buildings almost overnight. You'll pass by the stately homes of the affluent, the University of Colombo, the Royal College, probably the largest school in Asia, a Hindu temple, Town Hall, Independence Square, and the National Museum of Sri Lanka. You'll then head to Laksala, a state-operated gift and souvenir boutique that helps local craftsmen sell their wares at fair prices. Laksala follows a rigorous selection process when it comes to sourcing of products for its stores. Because it plays a nationally important role of fostering the arts and crafts of the island, its products are sourced from the most authentic of manufacturers. The shop offers an eclectic blend of items including beautifully packaged tea and spices, colourful batik, elaborate arts and crafts, as well as the finest Sri Lankan gems and jewellery. Once you've completed your shopping, you'll head for dinner at a 5* hotel in Colombo. During dinner, you will have the opportunity to watch an approx. 45 minute cultural performance featuring richly decorated and colourful costumes and face. The dances tell stories from local legend and Hindu mythology and the performance typically ends with a ceremonial drumming. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

OVERLAND TO KANDY, THE LAST KINGDOM OF SRI LANKA - SINGLE - CMB17SGL

Duration
48 h

Overland to Kandy, the last Kingdom of Sri Lanka - single

Colombo

Sat 1 December 2018

CITY TOUR

COLOMBO HIGHLIGHTS - CMB01



Duration
4 h

Passengers will be picked up from the pier for a city tour of Colombo, a city that like so many in developing countries is fast changing. Almost overnight, skyscrapers arise from where old buildings once stood. Yet in some parts, the old-world charm is retained. For example, there is a 100-year-old clock tower and several British-built, colonial buildings. Other places of interest include the Pettah market, Hindu and Buddhist temples, residential areas where you'll see the stately homes of the affluent, the Colombo museum, the Bandaranayake Memorial International Conference Hall (an outright gift to Sri Lanka from the Peoples Republic of China), Independence Square, old parliament building, University of Colombo, and Royal College, which is probably the largest school in Asia with 7500 students. We will have a brief stop for refreshments in a star class Hotel. Please note: Modest attire is required to visit the sacred sites. Shorts and short skirts are not allowed. Ladies should have their shoulders covered. Shoes and hats should be removed prior to entering the temples. Security is very strict, and no bags of any sort may be carried inside. Sunscreen, sunglasses, hats and temple socks are recommended. This tour includes a considerable amount of physical activity such as walking on uneven surface and climbing stairs at the National Museum and at the Temple. It is not recommended for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

NATURAL WONDERS

THE ELEPHANTS OF PINNAWALA - CMB04



Duration
7:30 h

Leave the ship, board a coach and head inland on this family-friendly tour to the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, which was established by the Sri Lankan Department of Wildlife Conservation in 1975. The roughly 1-hour drive will first give you a chance to soak up views of the island's lush interior before you reach your destination and the world's largest land mammals, the elephants themselves. Visit the centre which was originally created with the sole aim of providing a sanctuary for orphaned baby elephants. Around 60 gentle giants are currently being looked after by a whole host of mahouts (elephant handlers), who ensure they get the food, training and all the tender, loving care they need. The knowledgeable staff will tell you all about the work the orphanage is doing not only to care for these lovable creatures on site, but also to safeguard their natural habitats in the interest of ensuring the survival of the species in the future. After leaving the orphanage, you'll move on to the nearby Pinnalanda Restaurant, whose veranda overlooks the Maha Oya River and is the perfect spot to have lunch and watch the elephants enjoying their daily bath in the river. The coach will then be waiting to return you to the port and your ship. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

KELANIYA TEMPLE & COLOMBO CITY TOUR - CMB05



Duration
7 h

Blessed with outstanding natural beauty, the island of Sri Lanka fondly called the Pearl of the Indian Ocean is home to a highly varied landscape, diverse ethnicities, languages and religions as well as a particularly rich Buddhist heritage. But it is also famed for its coffee, tea and cinnamon as well as for gemstones like sapphires and rubies. Giving you a chance to touch base with the Buddhist temple at Kelaniya and Sri Lanka's largest metropolis, Colombo, this all-day tour begins with a short coach ride to the Raja Maha Vihara Temple. Believed to have been hallowed by Buddha during his final visit to Sri Lanka, the temple dates back to before 500 B.C.. After visiting this ancient monument, you'll head back to Colombo for a coach-based tour of the city. The drive-by route will take you past the 100-year-old clock tower, numerous colonial buildings, the Pettah bazaar, stately homes, the Bandaranaike Conference Hall, the university, the Royal College, a Hindu temple, the town hall and Independence Square en route to your next two stops: the National Museum, home to artefacts of great national importance, and the stunning edifice of the Gangaramaya Temple, a modern complex of buildings blending a variety of architectural styles. Then, after the lunch at a star class hotel or at a standard restaurant, you'll move on to visit a handicraft shop selling traditional Sri Lankan wares, where some time will be yours to browse or shop. The return drive to the pier and your ship then brings your tour to a close. Please note: guests are requested to wear modest attire (no shorts or short skirts) when visiting sacred places and women are required to keep their shoulders covered. Shoes and hats must be removed prior to entering temples. Guests are recommended wear a hat, sunscreen and sunglasses as well as to take a pair of thick socks to wear as pavements can get very hot underfoot. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SOMETHING SPECIAL
HANDICRAFTS, GEMS & SHOPPING - CMB06


As Sri Lankas capital city and largest port, Colombo still bears many traces of its colourful colonial history and is a great place to shop for luxury items such as the finest teas, intricate woodcarvings, brass- and silverware, batiks as well as locally mined precious and semi-precious stones. This tour gives you a chance to shop for both traditional Sri Lankan handicrafts as well as high-end jewellery featuring the most beautiful sapphires, star rubies, topaz, garnets, citrines and other fabulous gemstones in handmade settings. The artisan skill involved in this work is passed down from generation to generation and each unique piece takes the sort of mastery that can only be acquired after years of training. A stop at the ODEL Department Store Colombos premiere fashion outlet completes your shopping spree before you return to the port and your ship. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

TEA EXPERIENCE TOUR - CMB07


The fact that tea superseded coffee as a typical Sri Lankan crop in the mid-1800s is owed to a chap called James Taylor, an Englishman who believed the islands central highlands would provide an ideal climate for camellia sinensis to flourish. He proved to be correct in his assumption and what came to be known simply as Ceylon tea a name still used to this day is now a household commodity around the world. This tour intends to familiarise you with Sri Lankas tea-growing industry at a plantation located about a 2-hour coach ride from Colombo in Ingiriya on the western side of the island. Look forward to receiving a garland of tea leaves on arrival at the plantation, after which youll be given a blow-by-blow account of how tea is processed, from picking the leaves to grading the finished product. A sales point is also on site for anyone who would like to buy some tea to brew at home. The area in which the plantation is situated is equally favourable for growing rubber trees provider of raw latex - that is indispensable for many modern-day products and as such takes the No. 2 spot in terms of earning power in Sri Lankas export trade. A freshly brewed cup of pure Ceylon chai said to the purest tea in the world rounds off your tea-centric experience before the coach takes you back to Colombo and your ship. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

NATURAL WONDERS
EXPLORE THE WONDER OF MADU GANGA - CMB08


Take some time off the ship and instead immerse yourself in Sri Lankas unparalleled natural beauty on a tour dedicated to showcasing one of the islands most popular wetlands, the Madu Ganga River and the eponymous lake it feeds. After making yourself comfortable on the coach, youll travel south en route to your first stop: the Bentota Beach Hotel for lunch. Youll then continue by coach until you reach the Madu Ganga River, where small boats will be waiting to take you on a mesmerising river cruise. With the lush mangrove forest all around, youll gently glide through this eco-reservation and get to enjoy the splendid surroundings. The region is considered to be an important breeding ground for numerous endangered species, flora and fauna alike, and provides a habitat for around 46 bird species. See how many water monitors, kingfishers, eagles, monkeys, butterflies and any other creatures you can spot, while also looking out for Sri Lankan locals as they go about their daily business of coir making, cinnamon farming and coconut-leaf weaving. The final highlight on the tour will be a visit to the 19th-century Buddhist Kothduwa Temple on the tiny islet of Kothduwa, located just off the northwest shores of the lake. The scenic drive back to your ship in Colombo then brings your tour to a leisurely close. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

SEA & SUN
BEACH BREAK AT THE BLUE WATER HOTEL - CMB09


Fancy spending a few hours of unadulterated sun-worship in the stylish comfort of an upscale resort hotel? Then pack your swimwear, grab a towel and board a coach at the pier for a 2-hour ride down to Wadduwa, the lovely location of The Blue Water Hotel, your destination. Designed by the famous architect, Geoffrey Bawa, the hotel complex lies adjacent to the beach amid a landscaped coconut grove in which ponds, streams, waterways, fountains and one of the largest pools in Asia play a prominent role. With direct access to and glorious views of the beach provided by the hotel, you can first take a dip in the Indian Ocean, later take to the pool and even get some exercise by playing a game of tennis, squash, volleyball, table tennis or snooker. And should you feel the need for a bit of personal pampering, the hotels own spa may interest you (at extra cost not covered by the price of the tour). Your leisurely time at The Blue Water Hotel will then be brought to an equally unhurried close with the coach ride back to the port and your ship. Please note: this excursion is not fully guided, but is instead intended for guests who wish to spend a relaxing day at a beach resort. Although towels are provided, please bring swimwear, high-factor sunscreen, sunglasses and a hat for your own comfort. Guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Guests using a wheelchair who would like to participate in this tour are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. Limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

Discoveries designed for you

CITY TOUR

COLOMBO DISCOVERY - CMB12



Duration
6 h



Make a date with Colombo to discover the many facets of this vibrant city on a tour that begins with a drive-by look at its key sights. Apart from the 100-year-old clock tower, several British-built colonial buildings, the colourful Pettah Bazaar, Hindu and Buddhist temples, residential areas with luxurious homes, Colombo Museum and the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, you'll also pass the old parliament, the university, the Royal College and Independence Square. Following lunch in a star class hotel or at a standard restaurant, you'll move on to visit a jewellery and handicrafts outlet. The resident artisans use their consummate skill to craft beautiful handmade pieces featuring all sorts of stones, from brilliant sapphires and star rubies to cats eyes, aquamarines, moonstones, topaz and more. Woodcarvings, brassware, silverware and batik items complete the range of handicrafts. Before you return to your ship, the tour wraps up with a display of the best tea in the world. Please note: limited number of guides in languages other than English. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only.

Muscat

Wed 5 December 2018

SCENIC ROUTE

PANORAMIC TOUR OF MUSCAT & NAKHL - MCT01



Duration
8 h

This panoramic tour begins with a visit to the Grand Mosque, which was built over a period of 6 years from 1995 to 2001. The Mosque is surrounded by 5 minarets, each of which symbolizes the five holy vows taken by every devout Muslim to reinforce his faith in the Almighty. From the Mosque, the tour continues on to the Fort at Nakhl, which stands proudly on the top of a hillock as one of the highest forts in Oman. You then continue on to the Al Thowara Oasis, the source of the natural springs. After lunch return to Muscat by afternoon time and you will have a chance to see from outside Al Alam Palace, the Sultans Palace, which is flanked by Forts Mirani and Jalali, two keeps that were built by the Portuguese in the 16th century. Before going back to the ship you will stop in the Muttrah souk a traditional Omani market. The souk offers a wide range of goods, especially typical Omani souvenirs. Please note: guides for languages other than English are limited. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance: loose-fitting clothes and long trousers. Ladies will require a headscarf to cover their head. If the call falls on a day of religious celebrations, the visit to the mosque will be around the exterior only. Guests are requested to take off their shoes to enter the Mosque and not to touch the Holy Quran (Holy Book) or any other architectural features inside the mosque. Children under the age of 10 not allowed entering the Grand Mosque. This tour is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair; there are steps inside Nakhl Fort.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

FASCINATING FORTS: NIZWA AND JABRIN CASTLE - MCT03



Duration
8 h

This fascinating tour will take you on a 2-hour drive through the beautiful interior of Oman to the town of Nizwa, which once was the Omani capital during medieval times. The first stop is Nizwa Fort, one of Omans most impressive round-tower forts that was built in the 17th century. Constructed on a solid base of rock, the huge tower was designed to withstand the vibrations of 24 cannons. From the top, visitors can enjoy a superb panoramic view of Nizwa and the surrounding plains a sure delight for all avid photographers. From here, the tour proceeds to Jabrin Castle (45 km from Nizwa), the finest of Omans fortifications and built in the late 17th century. The castle later became a seat of Omani education and learning. The castle features beautifully painted ceilings and intricate wood carvings. On the way back to Nizwa, the tour also includes a photo stop at Bahla Fort, the oldest and first Omani fort to be built in the Islamic style. After lunch at Falaj Daris Hotel in Nizwa, you return to the ship. Please note: guides for languages other than English are limited. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. This tour is not suitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair: there are steps inside Nizwa Fort and Jabrin Castle. Light comfortable clothing and flat shoes recommended.

MYSTICAL MUSCAT - MCT05



Duration
4 h

This tour of Omans capital city, Muscat, begins with a visit to the Grand Mosque, which was built over a period of 6 years from 1995 to 2001. The Mosque is surrounded by 5 minarets, each of which symbolizes the five holy vows taken by every devout Muslim to reinforce his faith in the Almighty. From the Mosque, the tour continues to the old part of Muscat city, the Muttrah Souk. As a traditional Omani market, the souk offers a wide range of goods, especially typical Omani souvenirs. Next on the itinerary is a stop at the Bait Al Zubair Museum, a small townhouse that has been converted to display archaeological remains found at the site as well as Omani traditions such as national dress and jewellery. The tour will also include a chance to see from outside Al Alam Palace, the Sultans Palace, which is flanked by Forts Mirani and Jalali, two keeps that were built by the Portuguese in the 16th century. Please note: Visitors are requested not to touch the Holy Quran (Holy Book) or any other architectural features inside the mosque. Children under the age of 10 not allowed entering the Grand Mosque. Guests are advised that conservative attire is appropriate for visiting places of religious importance: loose-fitting clothes, long trousers and no transparent garments. This tour is unsuitable for guests using a wheelchair; there are steps inside the Souq and at the Mosque. Guests will have an external view of the Mosque on 19.04.2019.

ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

JEEP ADVENTURE TO WADI ARBAYEEN - MCT11



Duration
9 h

Join us on a tour of many contrasts that will allow you to experience the different landscapes of Muscat area. Board a jeep and leave the port to reach the fishing village of Quriyat through the stark mountain terrain. After a short photo stop, continue along the picturesque waterfront on an adventurous route cutting through the mountains. At the end of the drive, Wadi Arbayeen awaits you with its deep pools of water set among the date palms. Enjoy a swim with picnic lunch here. Drive back via Wadi Dayqah for photo stop of dam before returning back to your ship. Please note: please wear comfortable walking shoes. Guests must be in good physical health. This tour is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems, with back/neck problems and for pregnant women. This tour involves a bumpy, five-hour ride in a jeep. The driver will provide some basic information in English. This activity possibly involves wearing a swimming suit or bathing trunks. Children must be at least 4 years old to participate. If you wish to swim in Wadi Arbayeen, keeping in view of local culture, guests are advised not to wear exposed swimwear. Ladies must wear one-piece swim suit with boxer shorts on it and men must wear boxer short while swimming.



MSC

EXCURSIONS

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SEA & SUN

BEACH RELAXATION AT GRAND HYATT HOTEL - MCT12

Duration 6 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand, fork, glass, swimmer]

Prepare to spend the day soaking up the sun and enjoying the warm waters of the Gulf of Oman at Muscats 5-star Grand Hyatt Hotel, only a 30-minute coach ride from the port. On arrival at the luxury resort, you'll be served a welcoming drink, after which you can choose where and how to spend your time. Sun loungers are available poolside, the perfect spot to get comfortable and relax. But there's also a nearby public beach where you can swim, stroll or explore the surroundings should the desire take you. Your time at the luxury resort also includes a delicious buffet lunch, served at the hotel's elegant Mokha Café restaurant. The return drive to your ship finally brings the excursion to a close. Please note: 1 sunbed/pax & sun umbrella on sharing basis included. This tour is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair. English assistant only. Drinks are not included; no beachwear during lunch. If you wish to swim on the public beach, keeping in view of local culture, guests are advised not to wear exposed swimwear. Ladies must wear one-piece swim suit with boxer shorts on it and men must wear boxer short while swimming.

BEACH FUN AT GRAND HYATT HOTEL - MCT13

Duration 4 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand, glass, swimmer]

If sun, sea and sand in a luxury 5-star setting sound like a plan, join this tour and first enjoy a 30-minute coach ride to reach Muscats Grand Hyatt Hotel. You'll be met with a welcoming drink, after which the rest of your half-day outing is yours to savour whichever way you prefer. Sun loungers are simply made for soaking up the rays, the pool an open invitation to jump in and the nearby public beach just the place to get your fill of sand and sea. At the appointed time, the coach will be waiting to return you to the port and your ship. Please note: 1 sunbed/pax & sun umbrella on sharing basis included. This tour is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair. English assistant only. If you wish to swim on the public beach, keeping in view of local culture, guests are advised not to wear exposed swimwear. Ladies must wear one-piece swim suit with boxer shorts on it and men must wear boxer short while swimming.

SCENIC ROUTE

MUSCAT SIGHTSEEING - MCT15

Duration 4 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand, glass, swimmer]

Treat yourself to half a day of exploring Muscat, the capital of Oman, on a tour that includes numerous photo opportunities and begins with a coach ride to Muscat's old quarter for an external look at Al Alam Palace, the ceremonial residence of Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Busaidi. The palace is flanked by two Portuguese-built forts, of which you'll also have a chance to take photos. The tour then moves on to the Muttrah district and its appealing souk, one of the oldest in Oman with a history dating back around 200 years. A huge array of products can be found at the souk from household goods, apparel and shoes to frankincense, perfumed oils, fresh jasmine, various spices and much more. Next up is a drive through Muscat's newer areas for a photo stop at the very lovely Royal Opera House, a sign of the importance attached to culture by the Sultan. The final stop on the tour will then be at the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, the country's largest and most beautiful. The tour draws to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: the number of guides for languages other than English is limited. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. All visits are external only. Wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

MUSCAT CULTURAL TOUR - MCT16

Duration 5 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand, camera, bag]

Aiming to acquaint you with Oman's rich cultural heritage, this half-day tour begins in Muscat's upscale Shatti Al-Qurm district, home to the sublimely beautiful Royal Opera House Muscat. As a leading venue for musical arts, the Opera House seeks to inspire audiences and nurture creativity with innovative programming, both regional and global. The contemporary Omani architecture of the Opera House reflects the vision of Sultan Qaboos, at whose order it was built. Next up is the Amouage Factory & Visitors Centre, a creator of luxury perfumes founded in 1983, followed by a visit to the Bait Adam Museum. Housed on the ground floor of a private home, the museum showcases a unique collection of currency, paintings, photos and firearms, while also providing a rare opportunity to chat to the museum's owner. You'll be welcomed with Arabic coffee and sweet dates, after which you'll be introduced to Omani lifestyle from past to present. Then you'll move on to Muttrah Souq, a colourful old market selling a wide array of goods, followed by a photo stop at Al Alam Palace, the ceremonial residence of Sultan Qaboos, and its protective Forts of al-Mirani and al-Jalali. Please note: the number of guides for languages other than English is limited. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.

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.

Muscat

Thu 6 December 2018

MYSTICAL MUSCAT - MCT05



This tour of Omans capital city, Muscat, begins with a visit to the Grand Mosque, which was built over a period of 6 years from 1995 to 2001. The Mosque is surrounded by 5 minarets, each of which symbolizes the five holy vows taken by every devout Muslim to reinforce his faith in the Almighty. From the Mosque, the tour continues to the old part of Muscat city, the Muttrah Souk. As a traditional Omani market, the souk offers a wide range of goods, especially typical Omani souvenirs. Next on the itinerary is a stop at the Bait Al Zubair Museum, a small townhouse that has been converted to display archaeological remains found at the site as well as Omani traditions such as national dress and jewellery. The tour will also include a chance to see from outside Al Alam Palace, the Sultans Palace, which is flanked by Forts Mirani and Jalali, two keeps that were built by the Portuguese in the 16th century. Please note: Visitors are requested not to touch the Holy Quran (Holy Book) or any other architectural features inside the mosque. Children under the age of 10 not allowed entering the Grand Mosque. Guests are advised that conservative attire is appropriate for visiting places of religious importance: loose-fitting clothes, long trousers and no transparent garments. This tour is unsuitable for guests using a wheelchair; there are steps inside the Souq and at the Mosque. Guests will have an external view of the Mosque on 19.04.2019.

SEA & SUN

BEACH FUN AT GRAND HYATT HOTEL - MCT13



If sun, sea and sand in a luxury 5-star setting sound like a plan, join this tour and first enjoy a 30-minute coach ride to reach Muscats Grand Hyatt Hotel. Youll be met with a welcoming drink, after which the rest of your half-day outing is yours to savour whichever way you prefer. Sun loungers are simply made for soaking up the rays, the pool an open invitation to jump in and the nearby public beach just the place to get your fill of sand and sea. At the appointed time, the coach will be waiting to return you to the port and your ship. Please note: 1 sunbed/pax& sun umbrella on sharing basis included. This tour is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair. English assistant only. If you wish to swim on the public beach, keeping in view of local culture, guests are advised not to wear exposed swimwear. Ladies must wear one-piece swim suit with boxer shorts on it and men must wear boxer short while swimming.

SCENIC ROUTE

MUSCAT SIGHTSEEING - MCT15



Treat yourself to half a day of exploring Muscat, the capital of Oman, on a tour that includes numerous photo opportunities and begins with a coach ride to Muscats old quarter for an external look at Al Alam Palace, the ceremonial residence of Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Busaidi. The palace is flanked by two Portuguese-built forts, of which youll also have a chance to take photos. The tour then moves on to the Muttrah district and its appealing souk, one of the oldest in Oman with a history dating back around 200 years. A huge array of products can be found at the souk from household goods, apparel and shoes to frankincense, perfumed oils, fresh jasmine, various spices and much more. Next up is a drive through Muscats newer areas for a photo stop at the very lovely Royal Opera House, a sign of the importance attached to culture by the Sultan. The final stop on the tour will then be at the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, the countrys largest and most beautiful. The tour draws to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: the number of guides for languages other than English is limited. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. All visits are external only. Wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

MUSCAT CULTURAL TOUR - MCT16

Duration
 5 h


Aiming to acquaint you with Omans rich cultural heritage, this half-day tour begins in Muscats upscale Shatti Al-Qurm district, home to the sublimely beautiful Royal Opera House Muscat. As a leading venue for musical arts, the Opera House seeks to inspire audiences and nurture creativity with innovative programming, both regional and global. The contemporary Omani architecture of the Opera House reflects the vision of Sultan Qaboos, at whose order it was built. Next up is the Amouage Factory & Visitors Centre, a creator of luxury perfumes founded in 1983, followed by a visit to the Bait Adam Museum. Housed on the ground floor of a private home, the museum showcases a unique collection of currency, paintings, photos and firearms, while also providing a rare opportunity to chat to the museums owner. Youll be welcomed with Arabic coffee and sweet dates, after which youll be introduced to Omani lifestyle from past to present. Then youll move on to Muttrah Souq, a colourful old market selling a wide array of goods, followed by a photo stop at Al Alam Palace, the ceremonial residence of Sultan Qaboos, and its protective Forts of al-Mirani and al-Jalali. Please note: the number of guides for languages other than English is limited. Should a tour guide for your language be unavailable, the tour will be in English only. Wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.

 *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.

Dubai

Fri 7 December 2018

CITY TOUR

NEW WONDERS OF DUBAI - DXB01



Duration
4 h

This discovery tour begins with a photo stop at the epitome of modern Dubai, the sumptuous Burj Al Arab Hotel, which is the only 7-star hotel in the world. The tour continues with a drive to the Palm Jumeirah, a magnificent man-made archipelago of islands in the shape of a palm tree where the impressive Atlantis Hotel is located. The next stop on the tour is the beautiful Dubai Marina, projected to become the largest man-made marina in the world. Next on the itinerary is a drive along Sheikh Zayed Road, taking you to the Souk Al Bahar where you will have free time to spend in the bazaar. The souk features over 100 shops in an eclectic retail mix that includes restaurants, cafés and lounges that flank the souks extensive waterfront promenade. Literally meaning The Market of the Sailor, Souk Al Bahar derives its name both from its traditional souk architecture natural stone corridors, high archways and subdued lighting as well as its unique seaside location on an island in Lake Burj. Please note: embarking guests can take part in the tour in the afternoon. Guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai will take part in the tour in the morning and can combine it with one of the following excursions if available for your cruise: DXB03,DXB06,DXB18,DXB19,DXB36,DXB37,DXB48. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai, this tour is available in the morning on both days. Wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.

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SOMETHING SPECIAL

DINNER IN THE DUNES - DXB03



Duration
6 h

Treat yourself to the thrill of a lifetime on our Desert Dune Adventure. An exciting rollercoaster ride over the golden sand dunes of Arabia awaits you all from the comfort of a modern four-wheel drive vehicle. Look forward to viewing the beautiful desert scenery at sunset from the top of the highest sand dune and taking stunning photos. The highlight of the tour then comes in the form of a delicious barbecue dinner, accompanied by the lithe movements of a belly dancer all served up in a wildly romantic and relaxing setting. The entertainment programme also includes a henna artist to show the art of painting hands and feet with intricate henna designs, a popular practice in the region to mark special occasions. In addition, to round off this Bedouin experience you can even have a go at riding a camel. To bring this magical evening to a perfect close, you will re-join your vehicle for your return journey to your ship. Please note: the driver will give information in English only. As this tour involves travelling over rough and bumpy terrain, it is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems, with neck/back problems, for pregnant women and for children aged less than 4 years. This tour is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai, takes place in the afternoon and can be combined with one of the following tours if available during your cruise: DXB01,DXB09,DXB10,DXB12,DXB14. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai and depending on the time of stay on each day, this tour may be available in the afternoon on both days. The duration of the tour also includes two stops (approx. 30 minutes) to inflate/deflate tires.

ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

DUNE DRIVE SAFARI - DXB07



Duration
4 h

Treat yourself to the thrill of a lifetime on our Desert Dune Adventure. An exciting rollercoaster ride over Arabias golden sand dunes awaits you and all from the comfort of a modern four-wheel drive vehicle. The tour culminates in a visit to a secluded desert camp site, decorated in authentic Arabic style. This tranquil spot is not just perfect for relaxing amid majestic sand dunes, but also for having a camel riding. Please note: the driver will give information in English only. As this tour involves travelling over rough and bumpy terrain, it is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems, with neck/back problems, for pregnant women and for children aged less than 4 years. Embarking guests can take part in the tour in the afternoon. Guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai will take part in the tour in the morning and can combine it with one of the following excursions if available for your cruise: DXB06,DXB18,DXB19,DXB36,DXB37,DXB48. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai, this tour is available in the morning on both days. The duration of the tour also includes two stops (approx. 30 minutes) to inflate/deflate tires.

NATURAL WONDERS
DOLPHIN TOUCH & AQUAVENTURE WATER PARK - DXB09


If you have ever wanted to make friends with a dolphin at close hand, this is the perfect tour for you. On the way to the aptly named Dolphin Bay, a part of the Atlantis Hotel complex, the tour will also take you through the Palm Jumeirah, a magnificent man-made archipelago of islands. Once at Dolphin Bay, you will be escorted by an expert in aquatic mammals and given a short presentation on the life of a dolphin as well as instruction on how to behave towards these creatures in the water. You will then have an opportunity to personally interact with the dolphins in their lagoon (without swimming). The tour continues with a visit to the adjacent Aquaventure water park, which boasts exciting water slides, refreshing swimming pools and unspoiled beaches. Please note: you will not be permitted to wear sunscreen, tanning oil or jewellery since these can harm the dolphins skin. This activity involves wearing a swimming suit or bathing trunks. Children must be at least 4 years old to participate; a parent or a legal guardian must accompany children under the age of 12. This tour takes places in the morning and is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai. If available during your cruise, you can combine it with one of the following excursions: DXB03,DXB06,DXB18,DXB19,DXB36,DXB37,DXB48. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai, this tour is available in the morning on both days.

SWIMMING WITH DOLPHINS & AQUAVENTURE WATER PARK - DXB10


This is an exceptional opportunity for anyone who wants to get up close and personal with dolphins and is capable of swimming in deep waters. On the way to the aptly named Dolphin Bay, a part of the Atlantis Hotel complex, the tour will also take you through the Palm Jumeirah, a magnificent man-made archipelago of islands. Once at Dolphin Bay, a specialized trainer will give you a brief talk on dolphins, after which you will be taken to the water where the dolphins await you to swim and play. The tour continues with a visit to the adjacent Aquaventure water park, which boasts exciting water slides, refreshing swimming pools and unspoiled beaches. Please note: you will not be permitted to wear sunscreen, tanning oil or jewellery since these can harm the dolphins skin. Guests with back and/or neck injuries, walking difficulties as well as wheelchair users and pregnant women cannot participate in the tour. Children must be at least 8 years old to participate; a parent or a legal guardian must accompany children under the age of 12. This tour takes places in the morning and is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai. If available during your cruise, you can combine it with one of the following excursions: DXB03,DXB06,DXB18,DXB19,DXB36,DXB37,DXB48. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai, this tour is available in the morning on both days.

SCENIC ROUTE
PANORAMA FROM BURJ AL KHALIFA - DXB12


The tour begins with a photo stop at the iconic Burj Al Arab, the very epitome of modern Dubai and the only 7-star hotel in the world. The itinerary continues with a drive through the Palm Jumeirah, an awe-inspiring man-made archipelago of islands in the shape of a palm tree. This is also where the impressive Atlantis Hotel is situated. After a drive through Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubais most magnificent boulevard, before finally stopping at the incredible Burj Al Khalifa, which holds the current record for the worlds tallest building at a dizzying height of 828 meters. Visit the observation deck at the 124th floor for a fascinating 360 degree view of Dubai. Please note: this tour is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai, takes places in the morning and can be combined with one of the following excursions if available for during your cruise: DXB03,DXB18,DXB36,DXB37,DXB48. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai, this tour is available in the morning on both days. Wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.

 *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.*

SEA & SUN
AQUAVENTURE AT THE ATLANTIS - DXB14


Experience Aquaventure, the largest water park in the region. Thrill your senses with the Ziggurat, Aquaventures centerpiece or dare to take the Leap of Faith, a near vertical drop of 27.5 meters through a submerged tunnel into shark infested waters. Glide along over two kilometres of inter-connected waterways, dare to brave the rapids or simply enjoy the leisurely tidal effect of The Surge. For a gentler experience, younger visitors can plunge into Splashers, a water playground for kids. It all adds up to a unique water adventure, with something new discovered at every turn. Relax by the sandy beach of Atlantis before returning to Dubai port. Please note: do not forget your swimming costume, towel, sunglasses. This excursion is not suitable for guests with neck/back problems and for pregnant women. This tour is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai, takes places in the morning and can be combined with one of the following excursions if available for during your cruise: DXB03,DXB18,DXB19,DXB36,DXB37,DXB48. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai, this tour is available in the morning on both days.



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SOMETHING SPECIAL

EXCLUSIVE DUBAI BY HYDROPLANE - DXB15

Duration
2 h

Why not add a special touch to your cruise holiday and treat yourself or a loved one to an excursion with a difference? This exceptional tour includes a 45-minute flight in a hydroplane over the city of Dubai. Enjoy a birds-eye view of some of the city's iconic sights such as the Burj Al Arab Hotel, the appropriately shaped Palm Jumeirah, the Atlantis Hotel and the literally sky-scraping Burj Al Khalifa building. Your flight ends at the port. Please note: the pilot will provide information in English only. Children must be at least 4 years old to participate. You will receive a short briefing before take-off. This tour is subject to weather conditions and may have multiple departures on each day. Please contact the Shore Excursions Desk for information about departure timing. Please bring your passport.

SNAPSHOTS OF DUBAI BY HYDROPLANE - DXB16

Duration
45 m

A luxury limousine (minivan) will pick you up at the port for a short transfer to the dock and the hydroplane. The ensuing 20-minute flight is an amazing opportunity to admire the beauty of Dubai from a completely new perspective and take stunning photos. Have your camera at the ready to ensure you don't miss a thing. Please note: the pilot will provide information in English only. Children must be at least 4 years old to participate. You will receive a short briefing before take-off. This tour is subject to weather conditions and may have multiple departures on each day. Please contact the Shore Excursions Desk for information about departure timing. Please bring your passport.

NIGHT SHOPPING & FOUNTAIN SHOW - DXB18

Duration
4 h

As beautiful as Dubai is by day, it turns into a sparkly jewel of a city when the lights come on at night - a visual spectacle this outing seeks to deliver. You'll first head down Sheikh Zayed Road, home to skyscrapers such as the Emirates Tower and the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building and home also to the Dubai Mall, the world's largest shopping centre. You'll be able to spend some time browsing and buying premium brands in this retail temple to your hearts content. The mall also features a variety of other attractions, including an aquarium and underwater zoo (visit not included). Outside, at the foot of the Burj Khalifa which soars to a staggering total height of 829.8 m/2,722 ft. you'll be able to watch the Dubai Fountain Show, a lovely display of dancing water jets. The tour then comes to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: whether or not the Dubai Fountain Show takes place is dependent on the prevailing weather conditions on the day of the visit. This tour is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai, takes place at night and can be combined with one of the following tours if available during your cruise: DXB01, DXB07, DXB09, DXB10, DXB12, DXB14. Approx. departure time of the tour: 20.30. Wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made.

DUBAI AT NIGHT FROM THE BURJ AL KHALIFA - DXB19

Duration
3:30 h

This tour lets you see both the breathtaking beauty of Dubai at night and the Burj Al Khalifa in one go. After leaving the port, you will drive along Sheikh Zayed Road, the most famous street in Dubai, to reach the Burj Al Khalifa building, which is currently credited as being the world's tallest building at a dizzying height of just over 828 meters. The observation deck on the 124th floor will give you a fascinating 360-degree view of Dubai and the city's glittering lights. The tour then continues on to the Dubai Mall, the world's largest shopping centre. You will have time to explore premium-brand outlets plus various other mall attractions such as an aquarium and an underwater zoo (admission to attractions not included in the price of the excursion). The excursion also includes the opportunity to watch the unique Dubai Fountain show, a fabulous display of water jets gushing out of a pool at the foot of the Burj Al Khalifa. You will then return to the port. Please note: this tour is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai, takes place at night and can be combined with one of the following tours if available during your cruise: DXB01, DXB07, DXB09, DXB10, DXB14. Approx. departure time of the tour: 20.30.

DISCOVER DUBAI & LUNCH AT THE BURJ AL ARAB - DXB20

Duration
8 h

This enjoyable sightseeing tour of Dubai will give you a chance to discover the contrasts between old and new in this fast-growing and vibrant city, which is popularly known as the "City of Merchants" due to its long history of trade. Your tour will take you to the historical Al Bastakiya district of Dubai, a quarter known for its beautiful old houses along with their characteristic wind towers. These structures were designed to cool the buildings in the days before air conditioning. The tour also includes a visit to the Dubai Museum that is located at the 18th-century Al Fahidi Fort, a river crossing in a typical abra boat and a stop at the aromatic spice market. Finally, you will visit the huge gold souk, which offers exquisite gold jewellery at prices lower than anywhere else in the world. The next stop on your tour is the world-renowned seven-star Burj Al Arab. Built on a man-made island, this luxury hotel is not only a truly fitting monument to a new millennium, but also the iconic location where you will stop for lunch. Once refreshed, you will continue on a coach to the incredible Palm Jumeirah, a man-made island in the shape of a palm tree. You will have a chance to take photos of the Atlantis Hotel where a further tour highlight awaits you: a visit to the Lost Chambers Aquarium. As you make your way through this exciting maze of underground passageways and tunnels, you will feel like you are visiting the ruins of the legendary city of Atlantis. Look forward to a stunning display of marine life, including clownfish, piranhas and colourful live corals. Before returning to the port and your vessel, the final stop on the tour is the Dubai Mall, the world's largest shopping centre, where you will have time to explore scores of premium-brand shops. Please note: this excursion is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. On 2-day calls and depending on the time of stay in port, this tour is available on both days. You can combine this tour with the night tours with codes DXB18 or DXB19. In Burj Al Arab, guests can take pictures only in public areas.

CITY TOUR

EXCLUSIVE DUBAI: BURJ KHALIFA & LUNCH AT BURJ AL ARAB - DXB25


This excursion promises to offer you unique sensations and visits to some of the iconic symbols of Dubai. The first visit on this full day tour promises to prove you why Dubai is often referred as to the City of Merchants; a short coach drive to the Dubai Mall, which is situated at the foot of and forms an integral component of the Burj Dubai building, will give you plenty of time for shopping. Next, get ready to enjoy one of the most fabulous views of Dubai, ascending the incredible Burj Al Khalifa, which holds the current record for the worlds tallest building at a dizzying height of 828 meters. Visit the observation deck at the 124th floor for a fascinating 360 degree view of Dubai before returning back to the ground to reach the world-renowned seven-star Burj Al Arab. Built on a man-made island, this luxury hotel is not only a truly fitting monument to a new millennium, but also the iconic location where you will stop for lunch. Once refreshed, you will continue on a coach to the palm-shaped Palm Jumeirah, a man-made island ending at old Al-Bastakia area of Dubai. This is the perfect spot for a short stop to admire the old houses with their characteristic wind towers that once cooled the buildings in the days before air conditioning. Next on the list is the Dubai Museum, located in the late 18th-century Al Fahidi Fort, which aims to illustrate Dubais traditional way of life. After then crossing the river in a typical abra boat and stopping at a spice market, you will get to browse Dubais huge gold souk the best place to buy gold jewellery at rock-bottom prices. Return to the port. Please note: this excursion is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. On 2-day calls and depending on the time of stay in port, this tour is available on both days. You can combine this tour with the night tours with codes DXB18 or DXB19. In Burj Al Arab, guests can take pictures only in public areas.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

SHOPPING TRANSFER - DXB33


If shopping is your bag, this daylong celebration of all things retail is perfect for you. Your first port of call will be the wonderful Souk Madinat Jumeirah, a modern recreation of an old-fashioned bazaar with an ambience to match. After some time to browse this vibrant and colourful marketplace, you'll move on to two of the worlds largest shopping emporia: the Mall of the Emirates and the Dubai Mall. The former opened its doors in 2005, is currently being extended and not only boasts more than 700 shopping outlets, but also features the first indoor ski resort and snow park in the Middle East. The Dubai Mall is even larger, offering no less than 1,200 high-end stores, an incredible aquarium, an indoor ice rink and much more besides. It is situated at the base of the BurjKhalifa building, which soars to a vertiginous height of just under 830 m (2,725 ft.) and is currently the worlds tallest man-made structure. You'll then return to the ship, complete with any purchases you might have made. Please note: wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. On 2-day calls and depending on the time of stay in port, this tour is available on both days. You can combine this tour with the night tours with codes DXB18 or DXB19.

 *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

WALKING TOUR OF OLD DUBAI - DXB36


If you like your sightseeing live and direct, theres no better way to explore Dubais old quarter than on this half-day tour, which will take you on an unhurried stroll through the historical streets. To begin with, a coach drive will see you reach the Al Bastakiya district, with a short photo stop scheduled at the saltwater Dubai Creek on the way. The Al Bastakiya area is particularly famed for its old houses with wind towers, a means of passively cooling a building without the need for electrically powered air conditioning. You'll also pass through the textile souk and the heritage area during your visit. The final highlight of the tour will then be a stop at the Dubai Museum, which forms part of the 18th-century Al Fahidi Fort. You'll have about 1 hour to have a look around on your own before the coach ride back to the ship brings the tour to a leisurely close. Please note: as the tour involves 3 hours of walking and standing (in total), it is considered to be unsuitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. This tour is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai, takes place in the afternoon and can be combined with one of the following tours if available during your cruise: DXB01,DXB07,DXB09,DXB10,DXB12,DXB14. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai and depending on the time of stay on each tour, this tour may be available in the afternoon on both days.



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SCENIC ROUTE

DUBAI SIGHTSEEING & MIRACLE GARDEN - DXB37

Duration 4 h [Icons: wheelchair, hand]

This tour of two halves combines a leisurely coach-based sightseeing drive around the City of Merchants with a chance to stretch your legs in the city's colourful Miracle Garden. The drive around Dubai begins with a photo stop at the Burj Al Arab, the world's only 7-star hotel, and then continues on to the Palm Jumeirah, a man-made island in the shape of a palm tree. Watch out for views of the Atlantic Hotel as you head for the Dubai Marina, the largest man-made facility of its kind in the world. After soaking up these city vistas, you'll then have a chance to enjoy outdoor time at the Miracle Garden. Among the plethora of different flowers, you'll also find plants that are common in more temperate climates, but count as exotics in these parts, which is why petunias and geraniums also form part of the multi-hued line-up. The topiary section even features displays of blooms fashioned to resemble giant hearts, stars, igloos and pyramids. Take your time to enjoy the natural beauty of the park before the coach returns you to the ship. Please note: wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. This tour is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai, takes place in the afternoon and can be combined with one of the following tours if available during your cruise: DXB01, DXB07, DXB09, DXB10, DXB12, DXB14. If the ship stays 2 days in Dubai and depending on the time of stay on each tour, this tour may be available in the afternoon on both days.

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.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

DUBAI PARK & RESORT JEG SHOW WITH DINNER - DXB48

Duration 6 h [Icons: hand, knife, wheelchair, camera, camera]

We invite you to spend an amazing night at Dubai Park and Resort, the largest integrated resort destination in the Middle East. A one-hour coach drive will take you to this exciting park. On your arrival, after walking through River Land, you will reach Bollywood Park, where you will enjoy a delicious dinner. Next, you will have the chance to see Jaan-e-Jigar, the biggest Bollywood-style show in the region, where storytelling and cinematic music and dance meet stagecraft and technical wizardry. The show is a one-of-a-kind musical packed with Bollywood masala in a spectacular two-hour performance. Set in the royal town of Ishqabad, this musical extravaganza will take you through the fantasy tale of two brothers named Jaan and Jigar, in a classic story of good versus evil. Please note: wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. This tour is available only for guests who do not embark/disembark in Dubai, takes place in the afternoon and can be combined with one of the following tours if available during your cruise: DXB01, DXB07, DXB09, DXB10, DXB12, DXB14.

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.

IMG WORLDS EXPERIENCE - DXB49

Duration 8 h [Icons: hand, camera, camera]

This exciting and fun-filled day for the whole family begins with a 45-minute coach drive to Dubai's first mega-themed entertainment destination. Divided into four sections, the IMG Worlds of Adventure theme park brings the MARVEL Super Heroes and characters from the Cartoon Network to life, along with the Lost Valley Dinosaur Adventure. The action-packed MARVEL zone has exciting rides and attractions featuring the MARVEL Super Heroes: Spider-Man, Hulk, The Avengers, Iron Man and Thor. In the Cartoon Network zone, rides and attractions featuring The Powerpuff Girls, Lazy Town and Ben 10 are great fun for all ages. At the Lost Valley Dinosaur Adventure zone, you can enjoy a prehistoric experience with adrenaline-filled fun. It's up to you what to visit first, but you can be sure that at the end of the day, you will return to the ship thrilled and satisfied. Please note: this excursion is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. On 2-day calls and depending on the time of stay in port, this tour is available on both days. You can combine this tour with the night tours with codes DXB18 or DXB19.



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DUBAI PARK & RESORT - DXB50



Duration
8 h



This fun-packed excursion offers you a day at the Dubai Park and Resort, the largest integrated resort destination in the Middle East, with access to more than 100 incredible indoor and outdoor rides and attractions. Venture through Motiongate Dubai, a Hollywood-inspired theme park that brings the movies to life. Be mesmerised as classics from The Smurfs to Shrek, How to Train a Dragon and The Hunger Games are reimagined as roller coasters, immersive attractions and more. Experience the atmosphere of the magical Bollywood section, packed with action, dance and romance. Or explore Legoland Dubai, the ultimate theme park for families with children ages 2-12, where your imagination will run free with over 40 Lego-themed rides, shows and building experiences for the whole family to enjoy. Whatever you choose to visit, fun is guaranteed. Please note: wheelchair users must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach; wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since the coach has neither a ramp nor a lift. Wheelchair users wishing to take part in this are requested to contact the Shore Excursions Desk promptly once they are on board so that arrangements can be made. On 2-day calls and depending on the time of stay in port, this tour is available on both days. You can combine this tour with the night tours with codes DXB18 or DXB19.



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.



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KEY TO SYMBOLS

Possibility of swimming	Long route by bus	Best seller	DIFFICULTY LEVEL
Tasting included	Shooting videos and/or taking pictures is not allowed or subject to fee	New	
Lunch or dinner included	Shopping	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	Mini Tours		
Snack included	Limited seat	Easy May involve a limited quantity of steps, uneven surfaces and/or periods of standing	
No guide available		Moderate May involve inclines, steps, uneven surfaces and/or extended periods of standing	
		Strenuous Active excursions recommended only for guests in good physical health	

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.
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.
SEA & SUN	Treat yourself to some pure relaxation, basking on a beautiful beach or enjoying the stunning views on a scenic boat trip. A winner for sea and sun lovers.
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.

The excursions in the programme are intended to provide MSC Guests with an idea of the different tours that can be arranged in each port of call; this programme is merely a guide and confirmation of each excursion and its description and prices will be made during your cruise.

Shore excursions programs and itineraries may vary depending on local conditions and/or any unforeseen events in relation to the timing on the day of the tour.

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

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

