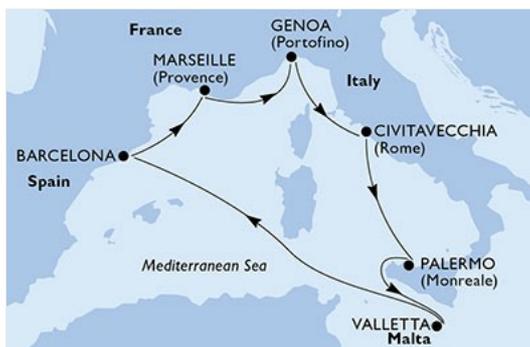




MSC

EXCURSIONS

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Cruise : **MEDITERRANEAN**

**Italy, Malta, Spain, France**

Cruise Ship: **MSC MERAUVIGLIA**

Departing from: **Civitavecchia, Italy**

Itineraries: **Palermo, Valletta, Barcelona, Marseille, Genoa**

Departure Date: **10/02/2019**

Duration: **8 Days, 7 Nights**

## Palermo

Mon 11 February 2019

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

#### PALERMO AND MONREALE - PMO02

Duration  
4 h



A coach tour will take you past the key sights, although we will stop for a full visit of the Cathedral, built in an unusual marriage of Norman and Arab architectural styles and which houses the tombs of different Norman kings and Emperor Frederick II. Another religious site of note is the Casa Professa, one of the most important baroque churches in Palermo. You will also visit the new Mercato di San Lorenzo rich in typical Sicilian products where you can enjoy some free time for shopping. Discover the area around Palermo on a bus tour to Monreale, just 8 km away; enjoy a walking tour around the town and visit the Cathedral, home to an exquisite display of golden mosaics depicting scenes from the Old and New Testament. Free time to shop in Monreale before returning to the ship. Please note: you have to walk up some steps to visit the Cathedral in Monreale. The guide will give explanation only outside the sites; guests will visit them individually. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance. This tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. At the end of the tour, guests must return audioguide to the guide in perfect conditions. Any damaging or loss of the audioguides may result in debiting the cost of the device to the guest.

#### CEFALU - PMO04

Duration  
5 h



Enjoy a 1-hour coach drive to Cefalù, a small yet pretty town situated one hour away from Palermo and which was founded by the Norman King Roger II in the XII century on the site of an earlier historic settlement. We will visit Cefalù Cathedral, the Duomo del Cristo Pantocratore, an example of Norman-Romaneque architecture with stunning interior Norman-Byzantine mosaics. Free time to walk around the narrow, atmospheric streets; look out for the intriguing public wash houses, a legacy of medieval times and which are carved into the rock. Quality local craft shops make Cefalù a great place for souvenir shopping. Please note: this tour includes walking on uneven ground and is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance.

#### PALERMO & THE PALATINE CHAPEL - PMO06

Duration  
4 h



Join us as tour through the streets and square of this bustling Sicilian town. Stop at one of Palermos key monuments: the Palatine Chapel. The Chapel was commissioned by Roger II of Sicily in 1132 and took eight years to complete. Upon entering the site, one is struck by the elegance and the luminosity of the breathtaking mosaics which cover the ceiling and the dome. We will see more of Palermos architectural gems, including the Norman Palace (exterior only) and the Cathedral (exterior only) and finally make a full visit of the church Casa Professa, whose walls are covered with marbles, inlays, statues and endless arabesques decorations. Do not miss the opportunity to look around the wonderful Capo Market, Palermos largest produce and fish market. We will end our tour via the Teatro Massimo (exterior only) before returning to the port. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. At the end of the tour, guests must return audioguide to the guide in perfect conditions. Any damaging or loss of the audioguides may result in debiting the cost of the device to the guest.



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SOMETHING SPECIAL

SANTA ROSALIAS GROTTO & MONDELLO - PMO07

Duration  
4 h



Leave the port for Monte Pellegrino where, set into a local cave, stands the shrine of Santa Rosalia, which was founded in 1625; in the nearby caves, the bones of the Saint were supposedly discovered and are now venerated as religious relics. We will then head to Mondello, a former fishing village and today a top tourist destination. Enjoy some free time strolling around this pleasant village. Back to Palermo, we will also visit the new Mercato di San Lorenzo rich in typical Sicilian products where we can enjoy some free time for shopping. Return to the port. 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. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

A TRIP TO THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF SEGESTA AND THE VILLAGE OF ERICE - PMO22

Duration  
6:15 h



Of the many must-sees that Sicily has to offer, one of the most notable are the archaeological remains of several ancient civilisations found at Segesta, now a part of the municipality called Calatafimi-Segesta, which you will reach after a pleasant coach ride. Situated a little way inland from Trapani amid green hills and fields, Segesta is home to a superbly preserved Doric temple, complete with elegant Doric columns, which dates back to the 5th century B.C.. However, the fact that the edifice lacks a roof is not down to the ravages of time it was simply never built as the temple was left unfinished by its Elymian makers. The adjacent amphitheatre, built during the Hellenistic age on a hilltop overlooking the Gulf of Castellamare and restored by the Romans, is next on the tour. As you walk to the theatre, look out for archaeological evidence of the city's former appearance. Situated at the top of Mount Erice lies the town of the same name, built on the site of ancient Eryx, a largely Hellenized town founded by the Phoenicians and your next destination. Next to providing stupendous views of Trapani and the Sicilian coastline from its mountaintop location, the charming town of Erice is a winning blend of myths, legends and actual history. Quaint cobbled streets, beautiful houses and cool courtyards are just some of the town's many delights, which also include the 14th-century Mother Church that you will visit and the Castle of Venus that you will admire from outside. The coach drive to Palermo ends your Sicilian outing. Please note: this tour is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair as it involves long periods of walking on uneven ground. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

PALERMO SIGHTSEEING & A TASTE OF SICILY - PMO23

Duration  
4 h



Your exclusive look at Palermo begins with a coach ride to Mondello to enjoy panoramic views of the gulf; a stop is scheduled for you to take photos at the Palazzina Cinese on the way. Moving on, you'll head for the historic centre for a pleasant walk through the typical Capo market and a chance to savour 2 arancine, a Sicilian deep-fried stuffed rice ball, one with meat and one with cheese and ham. Then you'll make your way to have an external view Massimo Theatre, where you'll have some free time to go shopping. Next, board your coach again and pass the Arab-Norman Cathedral on the way to a local bar for a sweet deep-fried and ricotta-filled pastry called cannoli. Other tourist spots included in the itinerary are: 4 Canti, Pretoria fountain and a stop at Villa Garibaldi fountain for a chance to admire some majestic specimens of ficus magnolioides. To wrap up, you'll pay a visit to a local bar for a glass of passito, a kind of sweet dessert wine made from sun-dried grapes. The tour then ends with your 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. At the end of the tour, guests must return audioguide to the guide in perfect conditions. Any damaging or loss of the audioguides may result in debiting the cost of the device to the guest.

*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.

## THE MYSTERIES OF PALERMO - PMO26

 **Duration**  
4 h



The Catacombs of the Capuchins in the city of Palermo offer visitors a rare opportunity to get up close and personal with a topic that leaves many feeling ill at ease: death. After reaching the site, you'll embark on a somewhat macabre walk through the underground realm of those who have passed, with the corridors lined with countless mortal remains of people long deceased. The catacombs are particularly noted for the mummy of a little girl, who died of pneumonia aged nearly 2 in 1920. At the request of the distraught father, master embalmer Alfredo Salafia set about preserving the child's body. So skilled was Salafia that beautiful little Rosalia Lombardo (still) looks like she is simply sleeping with blonde curls, long eyelashes and rosy cheeks. The formula of the embalming fluid was only discovered in Salafia's private notes in 2013. Next, you'll catch outside views of the 12th-century Zisa Palace during a photo stop in the buildings lovely gardens and a drive-by look at Palermo's key sights such as the Cathedral and Teatro Massimo ends the outing. 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. This tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests suffering from claustrophobia or are scared of darkness; guests must be aware that they will see skulls and exposed corpses during the visit to the Catacombs. If the side gate of Zisa Gardens should be closed, wheelchair users will be able to visit only the lower part of the garden.

 *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.

### ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

## PALERMO AND MONDELLO BY BIKE - PMOBK1

 **Duration**  
4:30 h



Fresh air, the best of Palermo, glorious coastal views and time to spend in the seaside town of Mondello await you on this gentle, half-day biking tour. To begin with, you'll pedal through Palermo to check out the city's must-sees such as the originally late 12th-century Palermo Cathedral, the 9th-century Palace of the Normans and the late 19th-century Teatro Massimo, which is the largest in Italy and boasts perfect acoustics. Several photo stops will be made on the way so you can capture the stunning scenery. Leaving Palermo, you'll then head along a 10-km coastal route in the shadows of Monte Pellegrino to reach the fishing village of Mondello. You'll have time to explore the picturesque resort and take a moment to try some of the local cuisine before you cycle back to the ship. Please note: children are allowed to take part in this tour provided their height is 155 cm. A declaration of agreement must be signed by an adult with parental authority for children before authorisation can be given for such guests to take part.

## CYCLING IN PALERMO & SURROUNDS - PMOBK2

 **Duration**  
5:30 h



Joining this outing is sure to give you a thorough workout as you pedal around Palermo's hinterland on an approx. 40-km route with a 600-m gain in elevation. After leaving the confines of the city, you'll first cycle through the village of Arenella to reach the foothills of Monte Pellegrino, Palermo's neighbourhood mountain. Then you'll climb 500 m on a 7km uphill trail to reach the Santa Rosalia pilgrimage site, dedicated to the patron saint of Palermo. Take a break and browse the souvenir stalls at the site before continuing onwards and upwards to reach one of Monte Pellegrino's nearby viewpoints perfect for taking photos. Further photo-worthy vistas follow on the way down before you reach the Bay of Mondello, where a white sand beach and turquoise water await you. Time to relax or go for a refreshing swim will be yours at the beach, which is also served by numerous small cafés if you prefer to chill out with a drink. The final leg will give you one last chance to soak up gorgeous coastal views before you return to the ship. Please note: the tour involves arduous and in part uphill cycling along an approx. 40-km route and is considered to be suitable only for guests with a high level of physical fitness. Children are allowed to take part in this tour provided their height is 155 cm. A declaration of agreement must be signed by an adult with parental authority for children before authorisation can be given for such guests to take part.

## Valletta

Tue 12 February 2019

### CITY TOUR

#### VALLETTA AND MDINA - MLT01



**Duration**  
4 h

When in Malta, you can do no better than to pay not only the islands current capital of Valletta, but also the former capital of Mdina a visit, both of which are the fascinating destinations on this half-day tour. Valletta is first up, where you will go to see the wonderful Barrakka Gardens - a beautifully landscaped public park - to savour breathtaking views of the Grand Harbour, after which you will head for St. Johns Co-Cathedral, built by the Knights of Malta in the second half of the 16th century. The ornately decorated interior is rich in treasures, including a masterpiece by Caravaggio. The tour then continues on to the medieval walled city of Mdina, which is situated in the middle of the island and is also called The Silent City due to restrictions imposed on motorised traffic. You will get to visit the Baroque-style St. Pauls Cathedral, which presides impressively over the town, before enjoying a walk through the narrow streets and lanes of this piece of living history. Your tour then draws to a leisurely close with your return to the ship. Please note: as your visit to Mdina will be entirely on foot and involves long periods of walking, the tour is unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties. Even though all sites visited are wheelchair-friendly, Mdina terrain is mostly cobblestones and might be uncomfortable for guests using a wheelchair. If wheelchair guests want to take part, they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and their 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. If the call falls on a Saturday afternoon, the visit to the St. Johns Co-Cathedral will be external; guests will visit the National Museum. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance. This tour is not available on Sunday calls.

#### RABAT, MOSTA & MDINA - MLT03



**Duration**  
4 h

Half a day off the ship and three of Malta's must-sees are the measure of this entertaining sightseeing tour that begins with a short coach journey to the first of the destinations: the medieval walled city of Mdina, constructed by the Knights of Malta in the second half of the 16th century and once the capital of Malta. Also dubbed The Silent Town due to heavy restrictions on the use of motorised vehicles within its walls, Mdina is a place to explore entirely on foot. You will get to stroll through the lovely old city and have a chance to marvel at its old bastion. Next up is the town of Rabat, where you will take a short walk and enjoy some time to browse for a souvenir. The last place on the tour itinerary will then be the nearby town of Mosta to check out its fabulous Church of the Assumption of Our Lady, which was consecrated in 1871 and whose Rotunda boasts one of the worlds largest unsupported domes. A short coach ride back to the port and your ship then brings the tour to a close. Please note: as your visit to Mdina will be entirely on foot and involves long periods of walking, the tour is unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties. Although all sites visited are wheelchair-friendly, Mdina terrain is mostly cobblestones and might be uncomfortable for guests using a wheelchair. If wheelchair guests want to take part, they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the coach and their 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. On Sunday calls, the visit to Mosta Cathedral will be external. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance.

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

#### HARBOUR CRUISE & WINE TASTING TOUR - MLT04



**Duration**  
3:30 h

To visit the island state of Malta, leave your ship and board a motorboat to embark on a relaxing sail along the scenic Maltese coastline, along the way passing by the lovely Cottonera area made up of Senglea, Cospicua and Vittoriosa, which are collectively known as The Three Cities. Nearly opposite Cottonera lies the Maltese capital, Valletta, whose harbour you will approach via the water route. The city has retained much of its architectural heritage and one of its most iconic sights is Valletta waterfront, a marvel of 18th-century Baroque architecture that has been extensively restored. Do take your camera to capture awe-inspiring views of the waterfront, while also enjoying a wine-tasting session at this unique location. Before returning to the port, you will stop at a renowned jewellery for shopping. Please note: the feasibility of the excursion is subject to wind / sea conditions on the day of call. This tour is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair; there is a flight of stairs to have access to the boat.

## CULTURE AND HISTORY

**THE NEOLITHIC TEMPLES & MARSAXLOKK BAY - MLT10**

**Duration**  
 4 h


The islands of Malta and the nearby Gozo are home to an intriguing set of eleven prehistoric monuments, seven of which are classed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, namely the marvellous Megalithic Temples of Malta. One of these fascinating sites of early engineering and worship forms the first stop on this half-day tour and will take you to the southeast of the island. These temples are among the oldest free-standing buildings ever found in the world – some pre-date the Egyptian pyramids – and make highly evocative representatives of a bygone age. You will then continue on to the pretty fishing village of Marsaxlokk, situated on the shores of Malta's second-largest natural bay, to see the traditional, brightly coloured luzzu fishing boats. In keeping with a seafaring tradition that possibly goes back as far as the Phoenicians, all of these luzzis have a pair of eyes painted on the bow, perhaps to make sure they always know where they're going. A panoramic drive through Cottonera area with a walking tour of the historic town of Vittoriosa – one of the three Historic Cities – comes next before reaching the port and your cruise ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

## SOMETHING SPECIAL

**JEEP TOUR - MLT12**

**Duration**  
 4 h


Get set to enjoy four hours of uninterrupted fun on a guided tour around the north of Malta by jeep. After leaving the ship and boarding the waiting vehicle, your first stop will be at Ghadira Bay, near Mellieha, to see the square-shaped St. Agathas Tower, also called the Red Tower due to its striking colour, which was completed in the middle of the 17th century. After a chance to enjoy the superb views of the nearby Gozo and Comino islands from this historical spot, you'll continue your drive along a scenic off-road route to Golden Sands Bay, a wonderful stretch of fine sandy beach. Then it's on to the lovely Mtalheb, with a photo stop on the way, and finally the walled city of Mdina – Malta's one-time capital – before you return to the port and your ship. Please note: participants must be at least 4 years of age, provided that they can be properly seated and wearing a seatbelt. The safari leader will provide you with information only in English during the trip. Comfortable shoes and casual clothing recommended. This tour is not suitable for pregnant women, for guests with walking difficulties or with back or neck problems. It is available in the morning on full day calls and in the afternoon on afternoon calls.

**ESSENTIAL MALTA, LOCAL FAVOURS & SIGHTS - MLT49**

**Duration**  
 3:30 h


This half-day roundup of Maltese essentials begins with a coach ride to the city of Birgu, also known as Vittoriosa. As one of Malta's three historic cities, Birgu was the first place the Knights Hospitaller called home when the order moved to the island in 1530. Your walk through town will take you past such historical treasures as the inns of residence – called auberges – that were built by the Knights, the 17th-century Church of St. Lawrence and Fort St. Angelo, whose construction began in the 13th and continued until the late 17th century. You'll then continue on by coach to the south of the island and Malta's largest fishing village: Marsaxlokk. Enjoy exploring the quaint marketplace with its cafeterias and the luzzus in the harbour, colourful boats typically used in this area. A tasting session of Maltese delicacies ends the outing before the coach returns you to the ship. Please note: this tour includes some walking on cobblestone streets with some steps; it is not recommended for guests using a wheelchair.

**MARVELLOUS MALTA BY HELICOPTER - MLT57**

**Duration**  
 1 h


Joining this short outing will give you a chance to enjoy superb birds-eye views of Malta from the seat of a helicopter – truly unique! After reaching the helipad and being briefed, you'll then be taken on an approximately 30-minute flight over Malta's lovely landscape. Keep your camera close at hand to capture footage of the Dingli Cliffs, the surrounding area and its pretty villages. Also keep an eye out for the charming island of Comino – one of Malta's three main inhabited islands – and its Blue Lagoon in the distance. Further landmarks include the geological Victoria Lines, several beautiful bays, Saint Pauls Islands as well as several forts and castles. The low-altitude flight ensures you'll be able to see everything with ease and once you return to ground level, a glass of champagne will be waiting for you. The tour comes to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: the tour is considered to be unsuitable for guests who use a wheelchair, suffer from vertigo, claustrophobia or back problems. The tour may be cancelled if inclement weather prevails on the day of the call. Each flight has a maximum capacity of 3/5 guests. The price is per flight. Guests must be at least 4 years of age to take part. This tour is not suitable for guests weighing more than 130 kg. Please note that the total weight of all passengers on the helicopter cannot exceed 270 kg.



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## NATURAL WONDERS

### DOLPHIN EXPERIENCE - MLT62

 **Duration**  
4 h



Travelling with children? Look no further than our dolphin day, ideal older for kids and nature lovers alike. Leave the pier heading for the Marine Park where we will have a short talk on dolphin behaviours and learn how to interact with these gentle mammals. We will then proceed to the dolphin pool where you will meet and play with trained bottlenose dolphins for about 20 minutes. Free time in the Marine Park before returning to the vessel. Please note: guests must be good swimmers and in good physical condition in order to participate in this tour. Participants must be at least 8 years of age. Do not forget your towel and wear your swimsuit. Guests must sign a waiver before taking part in the tour. During autumn and winter calls, the duration of the tour will be 2.5 hours with no free time.

## ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

### CITY CYCLE TOUR OF VALLETTA - MLTBK1

 **Duration**  
5 h



As you glide into Vallettas blue harbour, you'll see a mass of baroque palaces, 16th-century cathedrals, and neoclassical churches. This UNESCO-protected city was once hugely sought after, and its harbour was the setting for fierce battles. Malta's capital is even better in close-up and, on this cycling tour, you'll explore the place on 2 wheels. Your guide will first lead you to the Botanical Garden for a look at the local flora and some great views. You'll then pedal along the waterfront, passing fishing boats and expensive yachts. After a break at St. Julian, its on to the Old Town, cocooned within medieval walls. You'll ride inside to see the Grand Master Palace: built way back in 1571 and used for centuries as the house of government, today it houses the Presidents office. Also on the itinerary is the imposing St Pauls Cathedral a carbon copy of Londons version. Please note: the distance covered on this biking tour totals approx. 25 km. Children are allowed to take part in this tour provided their height is 155 cm. A declaration of agreement must be signed by an adult with parental authority for children before authorisation can be given for such guests to take part.

### MARVELLOUS MALTA BY PEDAL POWER - MLTBK2

 **Duration**  
6 h



Discover Malta on a pedelec, a bicycle with a small electric motor that assists you up to 25 km/h while pedalling. Leaving the port and the city of Valetta, you'll cycle out into the countryside along rural roads and small paths, towards the southern part of the island. After passing the local weekly market in the small village Marsaxlokk, you'll reach the east coast of Malta, where you will be rewarded with a fascinating panorama. A small path far from the usual tourist routes will take you to Peter's Pool, a beautiful piece of coastline with various bathing possibilities. After an extensive swimming stop, you will return to Valetta, stopping briefly at the village of Marsaxlokk. Finally, enjoy a quick tour of the capital, with great views of the harbour from the Upper Barrakka Gardens, before cycling back to the port. Please note: the distance covered on this biking tour totals approx. 45 km with a 350-m gain in elevation. Children are allowed to take part in this tour provided their height is 155 cm. A declaration of agreement must be signed by an adult with parental authority for children before authorisation can be given for such guests to take part.

## Barcelona

Thu 14 February 2019

### SCENIC ROUTE

#### PANORAMIC TOUR & SHOPPING - BCN02

 **Duration**  
4 h



The fabulous city of Barcelona is well worth a visit and this whistle-stop tour will take you to see the key sights during an enjoyable half day off the ship. Upon leaving the port, your tour begins with a drive through Barcelona's main streets and squares. A short stop will be made at Montjuich Hill to take in the superb view over the city before moving on for a brief external viewing of the Sagrada Família, Gaudís striking yet unfinished neo-Gothic masterpiece. There will also be time to pass by the impressive Barcelona Cathedral, which was built from the end of the 13th until into the 15th century, before taking you to go shopping in the Plaça de Catalunya, a large square in central Barcelona that is ideal for a little retail therapy. Please note: on public holidays or on Sunday afternoon, the shopping stop will be at the La Rambla. 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.

#### PANORAMIC CITY TOUR & NOU CAMP STADIUM - BCN05

 **Duration**  
3:30 h



Thanks to the sheer scale of its impressive architecture, Barcelonas Camp Nou Stadium one of the worlds most famous football temples and the largest stadium in all of Europe with a capacity to seat nearly 100,000 people is a fascinating destination, whether you are a soccer fan or not. Apart from hosting numerous key UEFA matches throughout the years, the stadium has also been used to stage other events, including concerts given by such major pop artists as Sting, Bruce Springsteen, Peter Gabriel, Tracy Chapman or U2. In 1982, Pope John Paul II even celebrated mass at the stadium, on which occasion he was made an honorary citizen of Barcelona. Your tour begins with a drive-by sightseeing tour past Gaudís Sagrada Família, a minor basilica, and up Montjuich Hill before arriving at Camp Nou Stadium. Please note: the feasibility of the tour is subject to the schedule of the football club and then the stadium could be closed with very short notice; for this reason the tour could be cancelled even the day before our call for reasons beyond MSCs control. The visit to the stadium includes walking upstairs and downstairs and is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair. This excursion is not available on calls falling on a Sunday afternoon. This tour is not available on MSC Armonia call on 13.04.2016.

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

#### FLAMENCO SHOW - BCN10

 **Duration**  
4 h



This tour lets you simply sit back and relax on the coach while you enjoy drive-by viewings of Barcelonas main sights, including the magnificent Passeig de Gràcia and Gaudís unfinished masterpiece, the Sagrada Família, which was consecrated as a minor basilica by the Pope in 2010. Continuing up to Montjuich Hill, you can enjoy breathtaking views of the city below and after a photo stop, head for Poble Espanyol, a unique open-air architectural museum situated on the hill. The museum was originally built for the Barcelona International Exhibition in 1929 with the aim of mimicking a townscape that would reflect the architecture, style and culture typical of various Spanish regions in a single place. A 30-minute flamenco show accompanied by a fruity sangria punch rounds off your tour.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF BARCELONA, MONTSERRAT & WINE TASTING - BCN21

 **Duration**  
7:30 h



Celebrated the world over for its fabulous architecture, Barcelona is yours to enjoy as your coach first takes you around the citys main sights on this all-day Catalan experience. The route will take you down Passeig de Gràcia, one of Barcelonas main boulevards, passing by Gaudís unfinished masterpiece, the incredible Sagrada Família. Leaving the breathtaking basilica behind, a location of equally awe-inspiring proportions is next: the jagged sandstone columns of the Montserrat Mountains and the abbey of Santa Maria de Montserrat, an impressive complex of buildings that affords glorious views of the countryside below. A key Catholic pilgrimage site and popular as a religious retreat, the abbey not only hosts a statue of the Virgin of Montserrat, aka the Black Madonna, but also a basilica with an ornately decorated interior. Some time to soak up the beguiling surroundings and have lunch (not included in the price of the tour) then follows, after which your travels continue by coach to the village of Sant Sadurni and the Cava Vilarnau wine cellars. Apart from a chance to see how wine, sparkling wine and the bottle-fermented Spanish cava are made, you will also be able to please your palate during the tasting session that concludes your visit. The relaxing return drive to your ship brings your Catalan outing to a close. Please note: the guide will give explanation only outside the Monastery; guests will visit the site individually. Conservative attire recommended for visiting the religious site. This excursion is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

## THE WORLD OF GAUDÍ: COLÒNIA GÜELL, SAGRADA FAMÍLIA & TAPAS CULINARY EXPERIENCE - BCN31

 **Duration**  
7 h



While Barcelona is undoubtedly one of the best cities to view the works of master architect, Antoni Gaudí, it is certainly not the only place you can find his fabulous creations. Once such place is a stones throw from Santa Coloma de Cervelló, just a short drive from Barcelona. This is where Gaudí's Church of Colònia Güell stands as part of the larger Colònia Güell complex, founded by the Catalan industrialist, Eusebi Güell, at the end of the 19th century. Despite only the crypt ever being completed, the church is noted for its spacious feel as well as structural features like slanted columns and building materials including basalt rock and mosaics. Moreover, as it is one of the least frequented of Gaudí's works, you will get to visit without the usual crowds. The drive back to Barcelona will then take you down Avinguda Diagonal, a major thoroughfare that bisects the city, to reach Gaudí's masterpiece, the Sagrada Família. Following an approx. 10-minute walk from the parking lot, your guide will tell you all about this hugely ambitious project as you walk around. After lunch in a restaurant on Passeig de Gràcia, you will get to walk down the super-elegant boulevard to catch outside views of further Gaudí highlights like Casa Batlló and Casa Milà. To round off your experience, some free time will also be yours to spend near Barcelonas main square, Plaça de Catalunya, before you return to your ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

### SCENIC ROUTE

## BARCELONA SIGHTS, AQUARIUM & SHOPPING - BCN36

 **Duration**  
4 h



This family-friendly tour offers half a day of seeing the best city sights, but without putting the usual strain on your feet since you will mostly be comfortably seated on a modern coach. The tour begins at Barcelonas Columbus monument, situated at one end of La Rambla Avenue. You'll then head down the equally magnificent Passeig de Gràcia boulevard before continuing your sightseeing with more attractions on the list including the Sagrada Família, Casa Milà and Casa Batlló, all designed by Antoni Gaudí: your guide will call attention to them as you pass by. After passing through the Olympic ring, splendid views of the city follow from Montjuïc hill, where a short photo stop is scheduled. You will then move on to the Port Vell district to visit Barcelona Aquarium, a huge facility that supports around 11,000 animals representing 450 species of marine wildlife. Be sure to check out the shark tunnel and tanks with rays and other large fish during your unguided visit, after which you'll still have time to do some shopping at the co-located Maremàgnum shopping mall. The tour then wraps up with your return to the ship. Please note: this tour is partly guided; the entrance ticket to the Aquarium is included but guests will explore the site on their own. 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.*

## BARCELONA SIGHTSEEING (ENDS AT THE AIRPORT) - BCN41D

 **Duration**  
4 h



End your cruise on a high note by taking this opportunity to touch base with the fascinating city of Barcelona before you catch your flight at El Prat International Airport. You'll be able to relax on board a modern coach while the sights of Barcelona are paraded past your eyes. The route will take you past the Passeig de Gràcia boulevard, Gaudí's unfinished Sagrada Família and Plaça de Catalunya in the centre of town. Then, heading out of town, you'll reach Montjuïc Hill for a photo stop to enjoy incredible views of Barcelona. Returning to the city again, you'll then get to stretch your legs on a guided walk through the old Barri Gòtic and also have some free time to spend on your own. The tour ultimately draws to a close with your transfer to El Prat International Airport. Please note: the tour is only for guests disembarking in Barcelona whose flight is scheduled after 17:00 hours. The duration of the tour also includes the time for transfer to the airport. This tour is not recommended for guests using a wheelchair or with walking difficulties.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

## GIRONA, FIGUERES & DALÍ MUSEUM - BCN42

 **Duration**  
8 h



An entertaining day of cultural sightseeing awaits you here, starting with a 1.5-hour coach ride to the historical city of Girona. You'll head for the excellently preserved Jewish quarter for an external look at the Isaac el Cec Jewish Centre, the site of 12th-century Romanesque baths, also called the Arab Baths due to their Moorish appearance. Moving on again, you'll then head for the town of Figueres, the birthplace of Salvador Dalí. Once in town, you'll first have time to get lunch on your own, after which you'll pay the fascinating Dalí Theatre and Museum a visit. The museum incorporates the building that housed the town's theatre during Dalí's childhood and is also the place where one of the young artists first public exhibitions was staged. Apart from giving you a chance to view a huge collection of Dalí works, including 3D installations like the Rainy Taxi and the anamorphic room the Sala Mae West in which the face of Mae West is revealed when viewed from a certain angle, the museum is also Dalí's final resting place with the crypt located under the stage. The tour then wraps up with your return to Barcelona and your ship. Please note: this tour is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

## GAUDIS EXPERIENCE - BCN45

 **Duration**  
4 h



Do not miss your chance to immerse yourself in the fascinating world and works of Barcelonas premiere architect: the world-famous Antoni Gaudí. After leaving the port, your tour will take you down the beautiful Passeig de Gràcia avenue for an outside view of Casa Batlló, a flamboyant building that is covered in thousands of multi-coloured tiles. Up next is Casa Milà, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, for another exterior visit, followed by the Park Güell, a garden complex and one of Barcelonas key tourist attractions due to its remarkable, sinuous buildings, stunning mosaics and ceramic-covered benches. The excursion also includes time to visit inside Gaudís unfinished neo-Gothic masterpiece, the Sagrada Família. Your tour ends with a scenic return drive to the port. Please note: this tour is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

## FLAVOURS OF BARCELONA: TAPAS, JAMÓN & CITY METRO - BCN49

 **Duration**  
6:30 h



Live and direct is how youll experience Barcelona on this appealing city tour and youll do it by taking the underground. First meet your guide and take a shuttle to the drop-off point in town. Then continue by underground for an outside look at the yet unfinished Sagrada Família, visionary brainchild of architect Antoni Gaudí, and some time to spend as you please. Back on the underground again, youll head for Plaza Universidad in the city centre for a stroll down the bustling Las Ramblas avenue. Next up is free time to look around the produce-laden Boqueria market, about which information will be provided before you enter individually. Then, get ready for your jamón experience at Moniberic and sample three kinds of jamón and enjoy a drink. A stroll through the historical Barri Gòtic to the El Born district for tapas then follows, after which youll catch the shuttle back to the ship. Please note: the tour involves extensive periods of walking and standing; it is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

## CYCLING TOUR OF BARCELONA - BCNBK1

 **Duration**  
5 h



Get up close and personal with the streets and iconic sights of Barcelona, from the saddle of a bike. As you follow your guide around the citys network of cycle paths, youll find its a really relaxed way of exploring. Cycle up Mount Montjuic to check out the Olympic Stadium, enjoy great views of the harbour and Montjuic castle, marvel at Antoni Gaudís unfinished masterpiece, the immense Sagrada Família, and trundle past quirky boutiques, antique shops and tiny tapas bars in the citys Gothic Quarter. Cycle to the Museum of Art, and past the Olympic Harbour, and see the Statue of Columbus, the Arc de Triumph and Gaudís wave-shaped Casa Mila townhouse. Youll also visit Las Ramblas, the famous boulevard buzzing with flower sellers, street artists and buskers, and therell be time for a refuelling stop at a tapas or seafood bar along the way too. Guests will cycle for a total of 17 km. Children are allowed to take part in this tour provided their height is 155 cm. A declaration of agreement must be signed by an adult with parental authority for children before authorisation can be given for such guests to take part.

## BEST OF BARCELONA ON TWO WHEELS - BCNBK2

 **Duration**  
6 h



Tour the iconic sights of Barcelona on a pedelec, a bicycle with a small electric motor that assists you up to 25 km/h while pedalling. As you follow your guide around the citys network of cycle paths, youll find its a really relaxed way of exploring. Cycle up Mount Montjuic to check out the Olympic Stadium, enjoy great views of the harbour and Montjuic Castle, marvel at the immense Sagrada Família, and trundle past quirky boutiques, antique shops and tiny tapas bars in the citys Gothic Quarter. Cycle to the Museum of Art, and past the Olympic Harbour, and see the Statue of Columbus, the Arc de Triumph and Gaudís wave-shaped Casa Mila townhouse. Youll also visit Las Ramblas, the famous boulevard buzzing with flower sellers, street artists and buskers, and therell be time for a refuelling stop at a tapas or seafood bar along the way too. Please note: guests will cycle for a total of 25 km. Children are allowed to take part in this tour provided their height is 155 cm. A declaration of agreement must be signed by an adult with parental authority for children before authorisation can be given for such guests to take part.

## Marseille

Fri 15 February 2019

### CITY TOUR

#### AIX-EN-PROVENCE - MRS02



**Duration**  
4 h

We will leave Marseille port for a 40-minute drive to the lovely town of Aix-en-Provence. The excursion starts with a visit to the famous XII century St. Saviours Cathedral and gardens. The Cathedral was built on the site of a Roman Temple and dates from a period that spans the XI and XIII centuries. Fronted by a richly decorated Gothic-style portal with elaborately carved doors, the Cathedral is flanked on the north by an unfinished tower. Enjoy a pleasant walk (1,5 hours) through the historic town centre before reaching the famous Mazarino Quarter, a residential district created by Cardinal Mazarins brother in the last half of the XVII century for the gentry of Aix en Provence. Free time for shopping. Please note: this tour includes long periods of walking on uneven ground and is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance. Conservative attire recommended for visiting places of religious importance.

#### MARSEILLES CITY TOUR - MRS06



**Duration**  
4:30 h

Join us on a visit around this important maritime town. We will begin our excursion with a visit to the Basilica of Notre Dame de la Garde which stands majestically on top of a hill. The Cathedral is made up of a lower and an upper church and was built on the site of an ancient chapel. Continue along the Corniche (coast road) where we will admire Borely Castle and garden (no inside visit). The excursion includes sightseeing in the centre of Marseilles and photos at Longchamps Palace before enjoying some free time in the Vieux Port (old port). Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair due to many steps and uphill path around the Basilica. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance. The visit to Notre Dame de la Garde may be replaced with a visit to Marseilles Cathedral in case of special events.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

#### AVIGNON AND PANORAMIC OF MARSEILLES - MRS07



**Duration**  
7 h

Our starting point for this day-long tour begins in Marseilles, at the Basilica of Notre Dame de la Garde. This Neo-Byzantine church stands on top of a hill and was designed by the French architect Esperandiu between 1853 and 1864. The site was formerly a XIII century chapel dedicated to Our Lady of the Guard and features several votive offerings from safely returned sailors. Stop for an inside visit before continuing on a 1.5-hour coach ride to the medieval city of Avignon. Here we will visit the Palace of the Popes, an ancient fortress rich in galleries and chapels. The frescoes and hand-painted tapestries in the Popes bedrooms and private rooms bear witness to the former opulence of this residence. Make the most of your free time to stroll around and have lunch (non-inclusive) in one of the typical French brasserie-restaurants. Return to Marseilles for embarkation. Please note: walking on uneven ground and steps. This tour is not suitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair due to many steps and uphill path around the Basilica in Marseilles. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance. The visit to Notre Dame de la Garde may be replaced with a visit to Marseilles Cathedral in case of special events.

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



**Duration**  
7 h

While the sun-kissed shores of southern France make ideal holiday destinations, the delightful towns lying inland are equally worth a visit. Designed to let you savour two such jewels, the outing begins with a 40-minute drive to Aix-en-Provence, where you will visit the Cathedral of the Holy Saviour. Sitting on the site of a former Roman forum and amalgamating a variety of architectural styles from the 5th to the 17th centuries, the Cathedral boasts a richly decorated Gothic façade with elaborately carved doors, and to the north of the building an unfinished tower. You will then walk through the historical district to reach the lovely Mazarin quarter, a residential area built for the towns gentry in the second half of the 17th century. A chance to relax then follows on the 90-minute drive up to Avignon, after which you'll have some time for lunch in one of the towns many brasseries before moving on to the monumental Papal Palace, the seat of Christianity in the 14th century and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Rich in galleries and chapels as well as frescoes and hand-painted wall-hangings in the private papal suite, the palace still bears testament to its former opulence. The pleasant return drive to Marseille and your ship then brings the tour to an unhurried close. Please note: as the tour involves walking on uneven ground and using stairs, it is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. The cost of lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance.

## BEST OF TWO CITIES: AIX-EN-PROVENCE AND MARSEILLE - MRS15

 **Duration**  
8 h



An all-day tour of two cities awaits that will take you to see both Aix-en-Provence and Marseille, two of the most popular destinations in the south of France. Initially remaining in Marseille, a coach will take you down the coastal Kennedy Corniche for views of the near-shore islands called Les Îles, before continuing on to the hilltop location of the Neo-Byzantine Basilica of Notre Dame de la Garde, where more superb vistas are a snapshot waiting to happen. Moving on down Marseilles Palais Longchamps, you will head for the Vieux Port for some free time to explore. The many cafés and restaurants are perfect for coffee or a bite to eat (not included in the price of the tour) and the nearby Centre Bourse is ideal for all who love to shop. A 40-minute coach journey will then take you up to the beautiful university and spa town of Aix-en-Provence. A walk through the historical district will take you from the tree-lined Cours Mirabeau boulevard to the 17th-century residential Mazarin quarter, built to house the towns gentry, en route to Place des Quatre Dauphins, its ornate Four Dolphins fountain and the Cathedral of the Holy Saviour, a blend of various architectural styles from the 5th to the 17th centuries. You will have some time to spend on your own at this lovely spot before the coach returns you to your ship. Please note: as the tour involves walking on uneven ground and using stairs, it is unsuitable for guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. The cost of lunch (optional) is not included in the price of the tour. Conservative attire recommended for visiting sites of religious importance. In case of events in town, guests will not reach Notre Dame de la Garde; they will visit Marseille Cathedral.

### CITY TOUR

## CHARMING ARLES - MRS19

 **Duration**  
5 h



Board a comfortable modern coach for an enjoyable 1.5-hour drive to the historical city of Arles located in the Camargue region in the south of France. The city was once the main Roman colony of ancient Gallia Narbonensis. UNESCO listed the citys Roman and Romanesque monuments as World Heritage Sites in 1981. The Dutch post-impressionist painter, Vincent van Gogh, lived in Arles for a year between 1888 and 1889, during which time he produced more than 300 paintings and drawings. Your panoramic walking tour includes the main sights such as the Church of St. Trophime, which once held cathedral status, the Place du Forum that inspired van Goghs famous painting and the Roman amphitheatre, whose 120 arches date back to the 1st century. The amphitheatre was capable of seating more than 20,000 spectators and was built for providing entertainment for the masses in the form of chariot races and gladiators engaged in bloody hand-to-hand combat. You will have time to explore on your own before returning to the ship. Please note: as the tour involves walking on uneven and rough ground, it is not suitable guests with mobility problems or using a wheelchair. Comfortable shoes and a hat (in summer months) recommended as well as conservative attire for visiting places of religious importance.

### ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

## MARSEILLE E-BIKE DISCOVERY TOUR - MRSBK2

 **Duration**  
5 h



Explore the cultural highlights of Frances second-biggest city on a pedelec, a bicycle with a small electric motor that assists you up to 25 km/h while pedalling. Your first stop is the Cathedral of St. Mary Major, right by the sea. From here, pass Fort Saint-Jean before skirting the citys picturesque old town. Longchamp Palace, housing two museums, is your next stop. Its worth stepping outside, too: the gardens used to be home to a 19th century zoo and now hold animal statues. After all that culture, its on to Notre-Dame de la Garde, located on a hilltop overlooking Marseille, for some splendid views over the city and its surroundings, before descending and riding through the countryside to the beach for a refreshment stop. Then before heading back to the port, theres just time for some shopping in the old town. Please note: the tour involves cycling along an approx. 40-km route and is considered to be suitable only for guests with a high level of physical fitness. Children are allowed to take part in this tour provided their height is 155 cm. A declaration of agreement must be signed by an adult with parental authority for children before authorisation can be given for such guests to take part. The stop at the beach is included only during summer months.

## Genoa

Sat 16 February 2019

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

#### AQUARIUM - GOA02T

 **Duration**  
3:30 h



Take the family on this funny excursion to the popular Genoa Aquarium; a quick ferry transfer takes us to what is reputed to be one of Europe's best aquariums, renowned for its size and vast variety of marine creatures. As one of the most natural and environmentally friendly aquariums in the world, everyone will enjoy the collections of multi-coloured tropical fish, sharks, natural corals, penguins and dolphins. After you will have a quick boat trip back to the ship. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port. No guided visit inside the Aquarium; only cameras without a flash allowed. The Aquarium is wheelchair-friendly; guests using a wheelchair are advised that they must be accompanied by a paying helper to provide assistance with getting on and off the ferry and that wheelchairs must be collapsible/foldable since ferries have 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.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

#### HISTORICAL CENTRE - GOA03T

 **Duration**  
4 h



A short ferry transfer takes you to Piazza Caricamento for a pleasant walk through Genoa's historic town centre. We will wander the charming narrow streets known as carruggi to reach Piazza de Ferrari, the commercial heart of Genoa, where we will admire Palazzo Ducale (external visit only). You will visit the Cisterne del Ducale where a light buffet made of bruschetta and focaccia, typical to Genoa, awaits you. Your tour will continue with external views of the Cathedral of San Lorenzo. Free time in the old port before returning to the port. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port and is not suitable for those who use a wheelchair. This tour includes extensive periods of walking (approx. 2.5 hours) and the boat has no ramps or lifts.

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

#### SIGHTSEEING ON OPEN BUS & AQUARIUM - GOA06T

 **Duration**  
7 h



Enjoy a panoramic tour of Genoa while sitting comfortably on an open bus and admire the main squares and streets of this lively city. You will discover the elegant 16th century district of Via Garibaldi, the imposing Piazza de Ferrari area with the Ducal Palace. You will also pass by the Carlo Felice Theatre and the Columbus house and along the fashion street, Via Roma, with the most elegant Italian brands. During your tour on the bus, multilingual commentary is provided. Next stop will be the Aquarium whose visit is included in the tour, an opportunity to admire on your own a vast variety of marine creatures, coloured tropical fishes, sharks, corals, penguins and dolphins. At the end of the visit, no rush to return to the ship. Passengers will take their time to enjoy the town and return by shuttle bus departing every 30 minutes from the Aquarium drop on. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port. No guided visit inside the Aquarium; only photos without a flash allowed during the visit. This tour is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair and can be booked only during your cruise.

### ACTIVE & ADVENTURE

#### DISCOVER GENOA BY SEGWAY - GOA14T

 **Duration**  
2:30 h



Short but sweet, this entertaining tour takes you off the ship to discover the city of Genoa by Segway, a great means of transport that's not only fun and very green, but also makes for leisurely urban exploration without having to get footsore in the process. Your guided roundup of Genoa's main sights takes you through the town's historical centre and includes views of the 13th- to 16th-century Doges Palace, the birthplace of Christopher Columbus and Porta Soprana, the best known section of Genoa's remaining city walls. Your Segway tour then rolls to a close with your return to the ship. Please note: this tour is not suitable for guests with mobility problems, pregnant women and guests whose weight is less than 45 kilos or more than 117 kilos. The minimum age required to drive the Segway is 16 years old; all guests aged 6/15 can participate in this excursion but will share the Segway with an adult on condition the guests' total weight does not exceed 117 kilos. Guests have to sign a release act in order to take part in the tour. Assistance throughout the tour only in English and Italian.

**SOMETHING SPECIAL**
**GENOA & PALAZZO DEL PRINCIPE - GOA16T**

**Duration**  
 3:15 h

Just a few hours of your time is all it takes to get the best of Genoa, beginning with a short walk from the port to your first stop: the truly resplendent 16th-century Palazzo del Principe. You will have a chance to explore the historical building with its frescoes, tapestries, artwork by old masters and other hidden treasures during the guided visit. A private coach will then whisk you off on a non-stop drive around Genoa, taking in such sights as the port district, Genoa's famed aquarium, the Fiera del Mare indoor arena and the expo complex. After passing through Albaro, a district once favoured by the aristocracy, you will move on to the city centre. Look forward to views of the monuments on Victoria Square, the lawns displaying Columbus caravels in flowers, the main Via XX Settembre and bridge, Piazza de Ferrari and Columbus House and proceed to Piazza Caricamento. Time to stretch your legs follows during a short walk with outside views of the Doges Palace, St. Lawrence's Cathedral and St. George's Palace to enjoy. After some free time, the tour ends with a short boat trip back to the ship. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port and is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair.

**SCENIC ROUTE**
**GENOA PANORAMIC TOUR - GOA18T**

**Duration**  
 3:15 h

Thanks to its illustrious past and collection of ornate buildings, Genoa also goes by the name of La Superba Italian for The Proud One and it is this civic beauty you'll be exploring on this leisurely sightseeing tour. Your guided coach tour begins at the port and takes you past such historical buildings as Columbus birthplace and the 13th-century Palazzo San Giorgio, then continues down the seafront Corso Italia to reach the picturesque Boccadasse district. You'll have some free time to spend in this pretty harbour, flanked by the colourful houses of the resident fishing folk. When you move on again, you'll pass through the residential neighbourhood of Albaro and catch glimpses of Piazza Tommaseo and Piazza Vittoria as you head for the historical Piazza de Ferrari, Genoa's main square. Another break is scheduled here for you to explore on your own, with possible areas of interest being the old town and San Lorenzo Cathedral or a look at the Palazzo Ducale, the Doges Palace. Last up on the itinerary is a drive up Castelletto Hill for splendid views from the observation deck, a perfect spot to take some photos. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port and is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair.

**NATURAL WONDERS**
**BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE AQUARIUM - GOA19T**

**Duration**  
 3:30 h

Leave the ship for a few hours and instead check yourself in to a thoroughly educational and family-friendly outing for a behind-the-scenes look at Italy's largest aquarium, the Acquario di Genova. Built to coincide with the Genoa Expo in 1992, which in turn commemorated the 500th anniversary of the New World being discovered by Columbus, the aquarium is home to a vast collection of marine wildlife. After a short ferry transfer to the old part of Genoa and the Acquario, you and your family can first enjoy an unguided visit of the various tanks that provide a habitat for tropical fish, sharks, natural coral, penguins and dolphins. At a prearranged time, you'll then proceed on an expertly guided behind-the-scenes tour of the facility, during which you'll get to see the on-site laboratories, maintenance and plankton farming activities as well as how the animals are cared for and reared. And among the tank backstage areas, highlights include the jellyfish and dolphin enclosures. Your time at the Expo site wraps up with a little more time to explore on your own before the boat returns you to the ship. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port. No guided visit inside the Aquarium except for the behind the scenes part; only cameras without a flash allowed. Guides available only in English and Italian. This tour is not suitable for guests using a wheelchair.

**SOMETHING SPECIAL**
**A TASTE OF GENOA, DIOCESAN MUSEUM & PESTO DEMONSTRATION - GOA21T**

**Duration**  
 4:30 h

This enjoyable half-day outing begins with a boat transfer to Genoa's aquarium area from where you'll then set off on your city tour. A walk through the narrow lanes called caruggi of Genoa's historical district will see you reach the Diocesan Museum, located in the old residence of the canons of the Cattedrale di San Lorenzo and accessible through its lovely cloister. Follow your guide inside the Cardinal Fieschi's room, where recipes and instructions will be given to learn the use of mortar and pestle to prepare a classic pesto alla Genovese. In addition to seeing the expert preparing the pesto sauce, you'll also learn about the ingredients and the secret of making perfect pesto and curious history of the green sauce. Next, walk to the lovely cloister, built in the XII century, for a tasty treat of bruschetta and focaccia with the freshly made pesto. The guided return walk will then take you through the historical district to the aquarium area and from there, back to the pier by boat. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port. It includes long walking; it is not suitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.

## ENJOY MILAN AT YOUR OWN PACE - GOA22T



**Duration**  
7:30 h

Milan is the most famous town for fashion and shopping, here you will immerse into its famous designer shops including Gucci, Armani, and Versace, and for its stylish ambience. Take advantage of this tour to have good chance for window browsing and soak up the atmosphere of this famous city. Leave the port for a 2-hour coach drive to Milan and enjoy free time in the city with some good shopping opportunity. At the fixed time, you will meet your coach again to drive back to Genoa port and to your cruise ship. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port. 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.*

### CITY TOUR

## MAGNIFICENT MILANO - GOA23T



**Duration**  
7:30 h

Get off the ship and spend a day in magnificent Milano, the 2nd largest city in Italy as regards to population, politics and cultural affairs, and the first in the field of commerce, industry and banking. Relax on your 2-hour coach drive on the motorway from Genoa to Milan. Upon arrival, begin an 1,5-hour guided walking tour that will unveil some of Milans best spots: Piazza Castello until reaching La Scala Milans Opera House, Galleria Vittorio Emanuele and Cathedral Square. Enjoy some free time in Piazza Duomo looking for a nice place to have lunch or, for the braver, to climb up the gold statue Madonnina, the statue of the Virgin Mary placed atop the Cathedral. Alternatively, if you are a shopping lover, Milan is the place to be! Your 2-hour coach drive to Genoa port and your cruise ship ends this exclusive excursion. Please note: this tour is only for guests in transit in Genoa port and includes long periods of walking. It is considered unsuitable for guests using a wheelchair.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

## DISCOVER GENOAS MAGNIFICENT PALACES - GOA25T



**Duration**  
4:15 h

Uncover the rich and glorious history of Genoas aristocracy by Via Garibaldi, built during the Renaissance and well known for its magnificent palaces. Join your guide for a pleasant stroll along Via Garibaldi, one of the oldest parts of Genoa, to discover enchanting palaces which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and learn about the enormous wealth from distant lands that was hidden here by noble families. Get a glimpse into the past with inside visits to Palazzo Nicolosio Lomellino featuring richly stuccoed façades and fresco murals adorning the ceiling and walls and Palazzo Rosso. This Palace forms part of the Museums of the Strada Nuova as Via Garibaldi is also referred to and hosts quintessential art collections including paintings by Antoon Van Dyck, Guido Reni, Bernardo Strozzi and Il Veronese, to name a few. Before visiting Palazzo Rosso, there will be a short stop at the dungeons of Palazzo Cattaneo Adorno to taste one of the city's delicacies, pesto sauce. The excursion continues with a walk through the alleys of Genoa and some leisure time before returning to the Porto Antico and your cruise ship. Please note: this tour is available only for guests in transit in Genoa port and is considered to be unsuitable for guests with walking difficulties or using a wheelchair.



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### KEY TO SYMBOLS

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

### OUR EXCURSIONS CATEGORIES

<b>ACTIVE &amp; ADVENTURE</b>	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.
<b>CITY TOUR</b>	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.
<b>CULTURE AND HISTORY</b>	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.
<b>NATURAL WONDERS</b>	Immerse yourself in spectacular scenery and discover the fascinating flora and fauna of your destination. Your passport to the wonders of the natural world.
<b>SCENIC ROUTE</b>	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.
<b>SOMETHING SPECIAL</b>	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