

# MEDITERRANEAN FLAVOURS

TOUR 6840—14 days from Madrid to Rome

Priced From  2,059<sup>US</sup>

## YOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES

Individual headsets 

**SIGHTSEEING:** Visits to Cuenca, Peniscola Castle, Collioure, Marseille, Cassis, Èze, Nice, Cinque Terre, Verona, Venice, Assisi St. Francis Basilica

■ Inside visits and special features are shown in UPPERCASE in the tour description including admission charges where applicable.

**GUIDES:** Local Guides for city sightseeing in Madrid, Valencia, Barcelona, Rome; professional Tour Director while touring

**SCENIC HIGHLIGHTS:** Castilian Plains, Pyrenees, Côte d'Azur, Po Delta, Apennines

**TRANSPORTATION:** Touring by private, first-class, air-conditioned motorcoach; canal boat ride in Venice; train Levanto-La Spezia

**HOTELS:** Listed below or equivalent. Rooms with private bath or shower, hotel taxes, portage, tips and service charges

**MADRID** Rafael Hoteles Ventas (ST), **VALENCIA** Catalonia Excelsior (F), **BARCELONA** Abba Garden (F) or Porta Fira (F) or Ibis Styles Bogatell (ST), **MARSEILLE** Ibis Centre Euromed (ST), **FRENCH RIVIERA** Ibis Styles Vieux Port (ST) or Quality Mediterranee (ST) at Menton, **CINQUE TERRE AREA** NH (F) at La Spezia, **VENICE AREA** Antony Palace (F) at Marcon or Holiday Inn (ST) at Marghera, **ROME** Pineta Palace (ST) or Holiday Inn Express San Giovanni (ST)

**MEALS:** Buffet breakfasts (B) daily; 5 dinners (D), including dinner at a local restaurant in Marseille

**MyACCOUNT:** Personalise your tour ahead of time with additional excursions. Visit our website for details and conditions.



### Day 1, Sat. ARRIVE IN MADRID, SPAIN.

Check into your hotel. Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travellers. (D)

**Day 2, Sun. MADRID.** Not only is it the capital of Spain, but because it is situated 2,180 feet above sea level, the Spaniards rightly say it's the nearest thing to Heaven. Enjoy the main highlights on the included guided city tour. Consider an optional trip to Toledo. The splendid setting of this old walled city above the Tagus was made famous in El Greco's painting—even now, it's like a great open-air museum of Spanish history and art. (B)

**Day 3, Mon. MADRID-CUENCA-VALENCIA.** Travel southeast to Cuenca, perched high above the precipices of the Jucar and Huecar Rivers. It is famous for its "hanging houses" that are suspended over the Huecar ravine. Journey on to Valencia,

Spain's third-largest city. Enjoy the sights with a Local Guide and visit magnificent SCIENCE PARK, designed by architect Santiago Calatrava. (B,D)

**Day 4, Tue. VALENCIA-PENISCOLA-BARCELONA.** Today, visit PENISCOLA CASTLE in Castellon, built by the Knights Templar in the 14th century. The promontory on which the castle and town are located is a fine reminder of medieval times. Continue your journey through orange groves and seaside resorts past Tarragona to Catalonia's lively and beautiful capital, Barcelona. (B)

**Day 5, Wed. BARCELONA.** Sightseeing with a Local Guide includes a drive around Monjuïc to see the Olympic Stadium and a great panoramic view of the port and city. The drive continues to the city centre of Plaza Catalunya and to Paseo de Gracia to





NOTRE DAME DE LA GARDE, MARSEILLE



① = Overnights  
 ● = Start City  
 ● = End City

admire the greatness and eccentricity of Gaudi's architectural masterpieces in the Houses Batllò and Mila and the Sagrada Família (entrance fees not included). Afternoon at leisure—maybe join the optional excursion to Montserrat. (B)

**Day 6, Thu. BARCELONA-COLLIOURE, FRANCE-MARSEILLE.** Leave Spain today and cross the border into France to visit Collioure. This picturesque village is nestled in an idyllic place on the rocky Mediterranean coastline and is sheltered by the Pyrenees. Carry on to the oldest city in France—Marseille, to enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

**Day 7, Fri. MARSEILLE-CASSIS-FRENCH RIVIERA.** Capital of the Provence, Marseille was founded by the Greeks in 600 BC. See the city's bustling ancient heart—the picturesque Vieux Port (old port), where elegant markets and handsome townhouses surround the boat-filled harbour. Then, head for the hilltop BASILICA NOTRE DAME DE LA GARDE, with stunning views of the city. Follow the coastal route toward Cassis, a small fishing port lined with cafés and restaurants, and stop to discover the town before reaching Nice. Later, why not join the optional Monte Carlo by Night excursion? (B)

**Day 8, Sat. FRENCH RIVIERA. EXCURSION TO ÈZE.** Start the day with a visit to a PERFUME WORKSHOP in Èze. Later, time at leisure to do as you please! Dabble in the Mediterranean Sea, stroll along the famous Promenade des Anglais, or join our optional excursion to the artists' town of St. Paul de Vence. (B)

**Day 9, Sun. FRENCH RIVIERA-CINQUE TERRE AREA, ITALY.** Enjoy the wonderful coastal scenery along the French and Italian Riviervas as you travel toward Cinque

Terre. Take the TRAIN in Levanto and stop in some of the most enchanting villages of the spectacular Cinque Terre region, where the beauty of the rugged cliffs and romantic fishing villages once inspired Lord Byron. There are several breathtaking trails carved into the rocks connecting the villages, affording dramatic sea views. (B,D)

**Day 10, Mon. CINQUE TERRE AREA-VERONA-VENICE AREA.** Travel through areas of culinary excellence in the Po plains to reach the romantic city of Verona. See *Romeo and Juliet's* balcony, and enjoy some time at leisure. Continue to the Venice area, where you will spend two nights. (B)

**Day 11, Tue. VENICE.** Venice is more like a marvellous film set than a real-life city, with its criss-crossing canals, gondolas and water buses, arched bridges, palaces, and piazzas. The included orientation starts with a BOAT RIDE to St. Mark's Square and is followed by time at leisure and a chance to watch VENETIAN GLASSBLOWERS fashion their delicate objects as they did centuries ago. Don't miss out on the optional gondola trip, gliding along the

picturesque canals with a local troubadour to serenade you. (B,D)

**Day 12, Wed. VENICE AREA-ASSISI-ROME.** Cross the Po Delta and head into the verdant Apennines to medieval Assisi, enclosed by ramparts and little changed since the Middle Ages. This is the town of the deeply mystical and poetic ST. FRANCIS. See the UPPER and LOWER BASILICA with the beautiful frescoes by Giotto, then head for Rome. (B)

**Day 13, Thu. ROME.** The "Eternal City" is steeped in history, vibrantly alive and exciting, and absolutely unique! Included sightseeing with a Local Guide starts with St. Peter's Square and Basilica. Other highlights are the iconic Colosseum, the largest amphitheatre ever built; the Roman Forum; Piazza Venezia, and Campidoglio. An optional visit is available to the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel, world famous for Michelangelo's impressive fresco of *The Last Judgment*. (B)

**Day 14, Fri. ROME.** Your holiday ends with breakfast this morning. (B)

#### TOUR 6840 DATES & PRICES

									US\$								
Departure Number	Start	Madrid	End	Rome	Land Only	Departure Number	Start	Madrid	End	Rome	Land Only	Departure Number	Start	Madrid	End	Rome	Land Only
0414	Sat	14 Apr	Fri	27 Apr	2089	0623	Sat	23 Jun	Fri	06 Jul	2159	0901	Sat	01 Sep	Fri	14 Sep	2159
0428	Sat	28 Apr	Fri	11 May	2119	0707	Sat	07 Jul	Fri	20 Jul	2089	0915	Sat	15 Sep	Fri	28 Sep	2159
0512	Sat	12 May	Fri	25 May	2159	0721	Sat	21 Jul	Fri	03 Aug	2089	0929	Sat	29 Sep	Fri	12 Oct	2119
0526	Sat	26 May	Fri	08 Jun	2159	0804	Sat	04 Aug	Fri	17 Aug	2089	1221	Fri	21 Dec	Thu	03 Jan	2059
0609	Sat	09 Jun	Fri	22 Jun	2159	0818	Sat	18 Aug	Fri	31 Aug	2089						

Prices are per person, based on double room occupancy.

Single room supplement: \$678; guaranteed shares: see page 5; no triple room reduction.

Departure 1221 Christmas in Barcelona and New Year's Eve reeveillon dinner in Venice.

Extra nights per person in Madrid:

in single room \$106-\$115, in twin / in triple \$57-\$63

Extra nights per person in Rome:

in single room \$113-\$145, in twin / in triple \$65-\$88