

**EUROPEAN SPECTACULAR
'Just for Singles' (45 years & over)**

Tour Itinerary 7 – 29 September 2008 (23 days)



Tour Operator:



Day	Date	Location
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Day 1	Sun 07 Sep	PARIS
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PARIS

Bonjour! Welcome to Paris for a marvellous four night stay. Join you Tour Director this evening for a welcome drink.

Day 2	Mon 08 Sep	PARIS
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With a local guide today, we see Notre Dame Cathedral, the courtyard of the Louvre and Place de la Concorde, before driving along the elegant Champs Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe. Next we ascend the Eiffel Tower before visiting Napoleon's tomb in the Église du Dôme. There is then free time at leisure in the afternoon. Perhaps take an optional excursion to the charming house and gardens, of the greatest impressionist painter, Claude Monet, an inspiration for his famous waterlily paintings. Tonight we enjoy a highlight dinner together at a typical Parisian Bistro and round the evening off with a sparkling illuminations tour of the 'city of light'. (B)

Day 3	Tue 09 Sep	PARIS
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Today we enjoy a visit to the Palace and Gardens of Versailles, the imposing residence of Louis XIV reflects the extravagant lifestyle of the grandest court in history. Escorted by a local guide we see the Queen's apartments, the Hall of Mirrors and the Gallery of Battles. (B, HD)

Day 4	Wed 10 Sep	PARIS
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Today is a day of leisure. There is certainly no shortage of things to do and see in this great capital city!

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Meet the enigmatic Mona Lisa in the Louvre, ascend the hill of Montemarte by mini-train for superb panoramic views. Don't miss the chance to go shopping in the famous department stores like Galleries Lafayette and Au Printemps, or the elegant designer boutiques of the Left Bank. (B)

Day 5 Thu 11 Sep DIJON

We depart Paris and travel to the ancient capital of the Champagne region, Troyes, it's magnificent centre of medieval buildings is appropriately shaped like a champagne cork. We continue to Burgundy, famous for its fine wines, stopping in the famous wine village of Chablis to taste the local wines. We continue to Dijon for an overnight stay. (B,D)

Day 6 Fri 12 Sep LUCERNE

After breakfast, we pass the Jura Mountains, and cross into Switzerland at Basel, situated on the Rhine River exactly where Switzerland, Germany and France touch noses. In the historic centre, we see the awe-inspiring Munster, which dominates the landscape, before ending the day in lovely Lucerne. (B,D)

Day 7 Sat 13 Sep LUCERNE

Today, we see the Chapel Bridge and the stirring Lion Monument, dedicated to the Swiss guards who died defending the King of France. We then enjoy another highlight excursion, as we ascend Mount Pilatus by cog-wheel railway for 360 degrees views of the Swiss Alps. Later, back in Lucerne, we have some free time. (B)

Day Sun 14 Sep VENICE

You pass gushing streams and soaring peaks as you pas through the Swiss Alps. You travel through some of the richest farmland in Europe as you cross into northern Italy and travel to Romantic Venice, where we stay for two nights. (B, D)

Day 9 Mon 15 Sep VENICE

We take a private launch to St Mark's Square to view the Bridge of Sighs, Doges' Palace and the Basilica. Then relax and enjoy the atmosphere, as you cruise along the picturesque Venetian canals on a highlight gondola ride. Later as night falls, why not enjoy a traditional Venetian dinner with music? (B)

Day 10 Tue 16 Sep FLORENCE

Bid farewell to Venice and follow the highway past the university city of Bologna, into the wild Apennines and onto the peaceful landscapes of Tuscany, with its cypress clad hills and vineyards. We travel to the fascinating Renaissance city of Florence, the Capital of Tuscany for a two night stay. (B,D)

Day 11 Wed 17 Sep FLORENCE

With a local guide this morning, we visit Michelangelo's original Statue of David in the Academy Gallery. Then we see the Cathedral, the 'Gates of Paradise', Piazza Signoria, and Santa Croce Church. There is free time to continue sightseeing. Perhaps discover more art treasures housed in the many museums and galleries, or spend some time shopping for leather and gold, or simply relax at an outdoor café with a glass of vino? (B)

Day 12 Thu 18 Sep ROME

Today, we leave the beautiful Tuscan hills and take the "autostrada" south to Rome, the capital city of Italy, for a two night stay. (B)

Day 13 Fri 19 Sep ROME

With a local guide this morning, we visit the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican Museums. Then see Michelangelo's 'Pieta' inside St Peter's Basilica. Then we cross the River Tiber to visit the massive Colosseum and look out over the Roman Forum. Later, there is time for some sightseeing at your own pace. Perhaps consider visiting the Catacombs or sip a cappuccino in the Piazza Navona, the 'Living Room of Rome'? Tonight we visit the Spanish Steps before a Highlight Dinner including pasta, wine and entertainment. (B,HD)

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Day 14 Sat 20 Sep SORRENTO

We see the formidable Abbey of Monte Cassino which dominates the surrounding countryside from its mountain top before continuing on to Pompeii. We enjoy a guided walk through the streets of this Roman resort buried by an eruption of the volcanic Mt Vesuvius in AD79. A cliff-top drive leads us to Sorrento for our three night stay. (B)

Day 15 Sun 21 Sep SORRENTO

There are plenty of photo opportunities today as you travel along Italy's finest coastline, the Amalfi Coast. Stop for a bird's-eye view of the terraced houses of Positano before boarding minibuses to explore the heart of the town. There's time to be tempted by the boutique's before heading back to Sorrento. Tonight why not consider dining at one of Sorrento's top restaurants? (B)

Day 16 Mon 22 Sep SORRENTO

Today, we enjoy a tour to the Isle of Capri. You arrive at the Marina Grande by boat, ascend to Capri Town by funicular railway. There is time to browse in the elegant shops and enjoy the fabulous views? After you return to Sorrento, you can swim, shop, explore or relax with a wine and watch the fashionable world pass by. (B)

Day 17 Tue 23 Sep OVERNIGHT FERRY

We cross the Apennines and head to Bari on the east coast. We board a ferry for an overnight cruise to Greece. Sleeping berths are included. (B)

Day 18 Wed 24 Sep ATHENS

We disembark the ferry in Patras, and travel by coach to the ancient capital of Greece, Athens, where we will enjoy a two night stay. (B)

Day 19 Thu 25 Sep ATHENS

Today begins with a sightseeing tour where we delve deep into the glorious history of Athens! We begin with a visit to the Acropolis, still dominating the frantic bustle of modern Athens with its serene presence. Next we admire the Parthenon, built to the honour of the goddess Athena and still amazing in its grace, despite the loss of the Egin Marbles and the ravages of Turkish occupation. Then it's on to see the Temple of Zeus, the Temple of the Wingless Victory and Hadrian's Arch. (B)

Day 20 Fri 26 Sep CRUISE

We board our cruise ship today and set sail for the delightful island of Mykonos, with its dazzling sugarcube houses and white-washed windmills. Your cabin for your three night cruise will be a superior outside cabin with a porthole. (B,L,D,S)

Day 21 Sat 27 Sep CRUISE

Enjoy a full day on Rhodes, once the fortified headquarters of the crusaders and home to the Colossus of Rhodes. There is time to explore the Old City or stroll along the beautiful beaches. Enjoy a Greek evening and dinner with entertainment while cruising. (B,L,HD,S)

Day 22 Sun 28 Sep CRUISE

Dock at the island of Patmos, where St John wrote the Book of Revelations in the celebrated Grotto of the Apocalypse. We then sail on to the Turkish port of Kusadasi where you can visit the bazaar or perhaps take an excursion to the ancient ruins of Ephesus (shore excursions are bookable on board). (B,L,D,S)

Day 23 Mon 29 Sep DEPART ATHENS

Our wonderful cruise ends in Athens, where you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight. (B)

Meal Key: (B) = Breakfast (L) = Lunch (D) = Hotel Dinner (HD) = Highlight Dinner (S) = Supper

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Please Note: Please note hotels are subject to final confirmation. After final confirmation hotels are subject to change should circumstances dictate.

Please Note: We reserve the right to alter or deviate from the tour itinerary should circumstances dictate
Coach use is subject to EU Regulations

Tour Inclusions:



ACCOMMODATION

Based on twin share in Superior Tourist/Moderate First Class hotels for 18 nights, 3 nights on a Greek cruise in a superior outside cabin with porthole and 1 night on an overnight Ferry with a 4 share sleeping berth. Please note that any hotels advised are to be used as a guide only and are subject to availability and will be finalised closer to the time of travel. A final hotel list will be provided prior to departure when travel packs are issued to participants.



SIGHTSEEING

Included as per the itinerary.



MEALS

Included as per the itinerary.



TOUR DIRECTOR

Services of a professional English speaking Tour Director throughout. Local expert guides where required & as noted on the itinerary.



TRANSPORTATION

Exclusive use of air-conditioned coaches for group touring as per the itinerary.



PORTERAGE

One piece of luggage per person, in and out of hotels as per the itinerary. Due to coach capacity the sum of the length, width and depth of the case should not exceed 160cm and weight should not exceed 20kg.



SERVICE CHARGES

Tips to restaurants where a meal is included on Itinerary. Service charges and local taxes on services provided by Tour operator (except local airport and boarder taxes)



DOCUMENTATION

A travel bag and wallet containing the itinerary, hotel list, optional excursion list, baggage labels and information booklet.

Tour Exclusions:



Gratuities to Tour director, Coach Drivers and local guides.

It should be remembered that tipping is standard tradition in Europe. Tipping is at the passengers discretion however recommended and as a measure of guidance we would advise that an average tip would be US\$4.00 pp per day for a Tour Director, US\$2.50 pp per day for a Driver & US\$2.00 pp for or a local guide.



International, domestic and internal Airfares. Optional excursions, Travel Insurance, Visas and items of a personal nature.

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