

## 22 Days | European Escape with Cruise and Flights | 2024

Rome - Mykonos - Izmir - Santorini - Pompeii - Venice - Munich - Rhine Valley - Amsterdam - Paris -Swiss Alps - Pisa - Tuscany - Florence - and more...

From **\$7,999** Typically \$9,599  $\checkmark$  pp twin share



Return International Economy Class Airfares from Australia to Europe 7 Night Mediterranean Cruise on the MSC Divina 12 Night Coach Tour through some of Europe's most Iconic cities and towns Discover sites such as Pompeii, The Colosseum, Lake Como, The Swiss Alps and so much MORE!

## Description



Embark on a journey of a lifetime! Your adventure begins with a seven-night Mediterranean cruise aboard the luxurious MSC Divina, followed by a twelve-day European exploration by coach. This combination of experiences promises to be a perfect blend of relaxation, culture, and adventure, offering a unique perspective on the rich tapestry of Europe.

The majestic MSC Divina delivers opulence and elegance. The vessel boasts a plethora of amenities, from gourmet restaurants to tranquil spas, ensuring that your cruise is a voyage of comfort and indulgence. As you set sail, the azure waters of the Mediterranean stretch out before you, and the coastal scenery leaves you in awe.

The cruise will take you to several enchanting destinations, each with its own charm and allure. From Turkey to the picturesque town of Santorini, every port of call will be a new adventure waiting to unfold. Whether it was savoring delectable Mediterranean cuisine, exploring ancient ruins, or simply lounging on the sun deck, this cruise offers the perfect balance of relaxation and exploration.

## Read our latest Blogs about Europe at 'Wake Up Here'

After disembarking from the MSC Divina in Rome, your real adventure is set to begin. The second leg of your journey takes you on an exploration of some of the continent's most iconic cities. Your group is guided by knowledgeable and enthusiastic tour leaders, making every day a chance to delve deeper into Europe's rich history and culture.

The tour provided you with ample opportunities to connect with locals, delve into regional cuisines, and immerse yourself in the unique atmospheres of each destination. Your accommodation ranges from charming family-run guesthouses to modern city hotels, ensuring a comfortable and varied experience throughout this trip.

Highlights of this journey include exploring the historic sites of Paris, savoring gelato in the shadow of the Colosseum, and wandering the charming streets of Amsterdam. With each new destination, you will uncover hidden gems and embrace the diversity of European culture.

This combination of the Mediterranean cruise aboard the MSC Divina and the European Escape by Coach provides a well-rounded and unforgettable experience. It will be a journey that blends relaxation, cultural enrichment, and the thrill of exploration, making it a remarkable escape into the heart of Europe.

## Itinerary

## Day 1

#### Australia 🛪 Rome, Italy

Today you will depart Australia for this incredible adventure through Europe! Check in for your flight and enjoy the services of your airline as you make your way to Rome.

Meals: Inflight Menu

Day 2

#### 🏦 Rome

Ciao! Welcome to Rome. On arrival, clear customs and immigration, collect your bag and make your way to the cruise terminal where you will board your Mediterranean cruise.

The ship is set to depart at 5PM.

Meals: All Meals Onboard

Accommodation: MSC Divina

### Day 3

#### 🏦 Day at Sea

Today is a full day at sea. Take the opportunity to relax and enjoy the ship's facilities.

Meals: All Meals Onboard

Accommodation: MSC Divina

#### Day 4

#### 🏦 Mykonos, Greece

Today the ship will arrive at 1PM.

Mykonos is an island in the Cyclades group in the Aegean Sea. It's popularly known for its summer party atmosphere. Beaches such as Paradise and Super Paradise have bars that blare thumping music. Massive dance clubs attract world-renowned DJs and typically stay open well past dawn. Iconic landmarks include a row of 16th-century windmills, which sit on a hill above Mykonos town.

The ship is set to depart at 11PM.

Meals: All Meals Onboard

Accommodation: MSC Divina

## Day 5

#### 🏦 Izmir, Turkey

Today the ship will arrive at 9AM.

Izmir is a city on Turkey's Aegean coast. Known as Smyrna in antiquity, it was founded by the Greeks, taken over by the Romans and rebuilt by Alexander the Great before becoming part of the Ottoman Empire in the 15th century. Today, its expansive archaeological sites include the Roman Agora of Smyrna, now an open-air museum. The hilltop Kadifekale, or Velvet Castle, built during Alexander's reign, overlooks the city.

The ship will depart at 5PM.

Meals: All Meals Onboard

Accommodation: MSC Divina

## Day 6

#### â Santorini, Greece

Today the ship will arrive at 8AM.

Santorini is one of the Cyclades islands in the Aegean Sea. It was devastated by a volcanic eruption in the 16th century BC, forever shaping its rugged landscape. The whitewashed, cubiform houses of its 2 principal towns, Fira and Oia, cling to cliffs above an underwater caldera (crater). They overlook the sea, small islands to the west and beaches made up of black, red and white lava pebbles.

The ship will depart at 6PM.

Meals: All Meals Onboard

Accommodation: MSC Divina

### Day 7

#### 🏦 Day at Sea

Today is a full day at sea. Take the opportunity to relax and enjoy the ship's facilities.

#### Meals: All Meals Onboard

Accommodation: MSC Divina

### Day 8

#### 🏦 Naples (Pompeii), Italy

Today the ship will arrive at 11AM.

Naples is the regional capital of Campania and the third-largest city of Italy, after Rome and Milan, with a population of 909,048 within the city's administrative limits as of 2022.

Pompeii is a vast archaeological site in southern Italy's Campania region, near the coast of the Bay of Naples. Once a thriving and sophisticated Roman city, Pompeii was buried under meters of ash and pumice after the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D. The preserved site features excavated ruins of streets and houses that visitors can freely explore.

The ship will depart at 8PM.

Meals: All Meals Onboard

Accommodation: MSC Divina

## Day 9

#### 🏦 Rome

The ship is due to dock at 7AM.

Welcome back to Rome! On disembarking the ship, make your way to the hotel and check in. The rest of the day is yours at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Warmthotel, B&B Hotel Roma San Lorenzo, Excel Roma or similar

## Day 10

#### Rome 🛱 Venice

Breakfast will be at your hotel this morning. After meeting up with your tour leader and group it's time to hit the road. Sit back and enjoy the scenery on the journey from Rome to Venice! Arrive in the "Floating City" and join your tour leader for an orientation walk. Enjoy a scoop of local gelato and see the iconic St. Mark's Square, Grand Canal and Rialto Bridge. The evening is yours to enjoy authentic Italian delights, with hundreds of fantastic local restaurants and bars to choose from. Why not explore Venice the traditional way - from the canals? Choose to join a gondola or water taxi optional excursion to see Venice from a completely different perspective!

#### Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel San Giuliano, Hotel Venezia or similar

## Day 11

#### Venice 🛱 Innsbruck 🛱 Munich/Bavaria

Arrivederci for now, Italy! Look forward to some stunning scenery as the tour heads north towards Germany. Enjoy the views while crossing the dramatic Brenner Pass into Innsbruck, Austria. Arrive and enjoy an orientation tour of this city and marvel at the incredible mountain backdrop with time to visit the famous Swarovski store. Next, travel onwards to Munich. Get to know the capital of Bavaria on an orientation tour. Munich was largely rebuilt after WW2 and boasts a fascinating ancient and modern history. The city also hosts the famous Oktoberfest! For a taste of authentic beer culture, enjoy dinner in a traditional beer hall and say prost! with a local pint!

#### Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: The Niu Loco, Bento Inn Munich or similar

#### Day 12

#### Munich/Bavaria 🛱 Rhine Valley

Look forward to more German adventures today and travel towards the majestic Rhine River. Once in the Rhine Valley, set sail on a Rhine riverboat and cruise towards the accommodation for the night. Admire the views while the boat sails past the beautiful scenery. This picturesque region boasts the most concentrated stretch of castles in all of Europe! It's also home to quaint villages, rolling hills and vineyards. Once the cruise is over, visit a local wine merchant for an included wine tasting. Learn more about the local varietals and, if the harvest has been good, try eiswein (ice wine). This dessert wine is produced in very small quantities as it can only be harvested in below freezing temperatures!

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Super 8 by Wyndham, Wyndham Garden Koblenz or similar

## Day 13

#### Rhine Valley 🛱 Amsterdam

Auf wiedersehen Germany! The tour continues to the Netherlands this morning. In the Dutch countryside, discover three of the most iconic Dutch products - cheese, clogs and windmills! Stop at the famous Riekermolen windmill for some memorable photos. Then, enjoy an entertaining cheese and clog-making display! Later, check into the hotel in Amsterdam. Then, head to the centre of Amsterdam for a twilight canal cruise. Admire this vibrant city and its unique architecture and landmarks from the water. An audio guide will explain these sights in more detail. Afterwards, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. The rest of the evening is free to explore the city to your heart's content.

#### Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Hampton by Hilton, Holiday Inn Express or similar

## Day 14

#### Amsterdam 🖨 Ghent 🖨 Paris

Bid *vaarwe*l to the Netherlands and travel to the stunning Belgian city of Ghent. This port city is renowned for its well-preserved medieval architecture and gorgeous pedestrianised city centre. While here, be sure to try an authentic Belgian waffle and grab some Belgian chocolate to take home! Then, it's time to head to Paris, the 'City of Lights'! Arrive and enjoy a driving tour showcasing some of the French capital's top attractions and landmarks. See the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe and more! After ticking off some bucket-list sights, enjoy an included group dinner in the city.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Hotel Kyriad Paris Nord Porte de Saint Ouen, B&B Hotel Paris 17 or similar

## Day 15

#### Paris

Enjoy a full free day to explore the French capital! Explore on your own or join a full day of exploration in Paris! The Paris+ excursion includes many quintessential Parisian experiences including a macaron tasting, a River Seine lunch cruise, visits to a famous parfumerie, the Champs-Élysées and much more! In the evening, why not experience the gorgeous Montmartre neighbourhood, home to the famous Moulin Rouge, or watch an exciting cabaret show? These optional excursions are sure to be unforgettable!

#### Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Kyriad Paris Nord Porte de Saint Ouen, B&B Hotel Paris 17 or similar

## Day 16

#### Paris 🛱 Burgundy 🛱 Swiss Alps

Say *au revoir* to Paris and see a different side to France with a stop in Burgundy, a stunning winemaking region. Here, visit the town of Beaune and discover the historic Hospices de Beaune or indulge in some local wine. Enjoy free time for lunch before hopping back on the coach for a scenic drive across the border into Switzerland. Travel into the breathtaking Swiss Alps and look forward to two nights of being surrounded by spectacular natural beauty. Settle into the accommodation and enjoy an included dinner at the hotel tonight.

#### Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Alpenrose Hotel and Gardens, Hotel Merkur, Hotel Baren Wilderswil, Hotel Alpina or similar

## Day 17

#### Swiss Alps

Today offers a full day to experience the wonders of the Swiss Alps! Why not take this opportunity to experience one of Expat Explore's highest-rated optional excursions? The journey to Jungfraujoch, the highest train station in all of Europe, is one not to be missed! Admire incredible views on the train or gondola ride to the top. Arrive at the top and discover endless photo opportunities, play in the year-round snow and admire the magical ice palace carved into a glacier! Alternatively, spend the day exploring the local villages or shop for souvenirs. Warm up this evening with an optional Swiss fondue dinner.

#### Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Alpenrose Hotel and Gardens, Hotel Merkur, Hotel Baren Wilderswil, Hotel Alpina or similar

#### Day 18

#### Swiss Alps 🖨 Lake Como 🖨 Pisa 🖨 Tuscany

Admire the last of the views of the Swiss Alps and travel towards Italy this morning. First stop is the luxurious Lake Como! Enjoy free time for lunch in this picturesque location. Admire the crystal clear waters of the lake as well as the surrounding mountains and villages. Then, head to one of the most iconic sights in Italy - the Leaning Tower of Pisa! Snap some fun pictures at this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Afterwards, travel to tonight's accommodation in Montecatini Terme, a beautiful Tuscan spa town. Tonight, choose to explore this town further and enjoy a delicious Tuscan dinner with the Evening in Montecatini optional excursion.

#### Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Terme Pellegrini, Antica Tabaccaia Resort, Hotel Massimo or similar

## Day 19

#### Tuscany 🛱 Florence 🛱 Rome

After breakfast, head to Florence, a magical city known as "the Jewel of the Renaissance"! Arrive and embark on a walking tour of the city with a local guide. Discover the fascinating history and see top sights including the Ponte Vecchio and the replica statue of David! Then, visit a local leather and gold shop and admire the work of expert local craftsmen. Afterwards, enjoy some free time to explore further or choose to sample local cuisine with an optional family-style Tuscan lunch. Later, head back to Rome. This evening, enjoy an included dinner at the hotel.

#### Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Warmthotel, B&B Hotel Roma San Lorenzo, Excel Roma or similar

## Day 20

#### Rome

Explore the "Eternal City" to your heart's content today! Don't know where to start? Join one of the optional excursions on offer. Conquer the Capital with your tour leader to see the city's most iconic sights, including the Trevi Fountain and Pantheon, and enjoy an authentic Italian pasta lunch. Alternatively, spend the day wandering the city on your own. Grab a gelato, do some shopping or simply soak up the buzzing atmosphere of Italy's capital city.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Warmthotel, B&B Hotel Roma San Lorenzo, Excel Roma or similar

#### Day 21

#### Rome 🛪 Australia

Your European Escape adventure comes to an end after breakfast this morning. Be sure to exchange details with your fellow travellers! Make your way to the airport and check in for your flight home.

Meals: Breakfast and Inflight Menu

#### Day 22

#### Australia

Welcome Home! We hope you have enjoyed your time away and look forward to helping you plan your next adventure.

## **Inclusions & Exclusions**

#### Inclusions

- Return International Economy Class Airfares to Italy
- 7 Nights onboard the MSC Divina in an Inside Stateroom
- All Meals onboard the Cruise
- 12 nights in quality hotel accommodation in twin rooms with private bathrooms
- Single travellers have the option to pay a single supplement to ensure a private room
- 11 Breakfasts and 6 Dinners whilst touring by coach
- Modern air-conditioned coach with reclining seats and toilet onboard
- Any public transport used as part of the tour (excludes free days)
- A fully guided tour with an experienced tour leader will accompany the group throughout and manage all logistical details

About the MSC Divina: Inspired by Sophia Loren, MSC Divina brings you all the elegance and glamour of the golden age of cruise lines, enhanced by modern, eco-friendly technology. On board, you'll find every modern comfort, along with a variety of sports and leisure facilities as well as world-class entertainment, including kids' and teens' clubs to ensure everyone's happy. Also, MSC Divina is one of the four ships that sail to Ocean Cay MSC Marine Reserve, MSC's exclusive Bahamian destination.

Travelling on your own? Why not join the Traveldream Solo Travellers Facebook group where you can interact with other travellers.

#### **Exclusions**

- Transfers to and from Airports and Cruise Terminals
- Meals/beverages not stated in the itinerary
- Optional gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours/entrance fees
- Personal Expenses
- Travel Insurance (strongly recommended)
- Visa(s)/Visa fee

Child Policy: Children over the age of 10 years are welcome.

Flight Budget: There is a flight budget allocated to this deal. Should your selected date exceed this amount, a surcharge will be payable.

**Single Supplement:** The additional supplement for a single traveller is \$2999 and available on checkout.

Cruise Ship Cabin Upgrade: Upgrade to an Ocean View or Balcony Stateroom on checkout.

Group Size: Minimum 2 people with a Maximum of 56 people.

Travel Insurance: We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click HERE.

Arrive early/stay longer: Want to stay longer, or arrive early? Ask our friendly Customer Service team for a quote.

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