# 7 ROYAL CLIPPER nights Corsica & French Riviera



Sat Cannes, France
Sun Portofino, Italy
Mon Propriano, Corsica
Tue Alghero, Sardinia
Wed Calvi, Corsica
Thu Bandol, France
Fri St. Tropez beach, France
St. Tropez port, France
Sat Cannes, France

# What you need to know before booking your shore excursion:

- All our tours are offered with English speaking guides.
- The length of the tours and time spent on the sites is given as an indication as it may vary depending on weather, sea and traffic conditions and on the group's pace.
- The level of physical fitness required for our activities is given as a very general indication. Passengers should be fit and active to join tours which include hiking, biking, snorkeling, kayaking, or similar activities.

# How you can book your shore excursions:

- You can book shore excursions onboard, using our "sign-up lists" available at the Cruise Director's desk.
- In order to provide the best service and to avoid disappointments, please book your shore excursions as early as possible: places are limited and there is a booking deadline for each port.
- A minimum number of participants is required for tours; if the required number is not attained, the tour may be cancelled.

# **Important notes:**

- Departure times of the tour are mentioned on the daily program of each port.
- The Captain reserves the right to alter the itinerary in order to suit wind, weather and local conditions.
- Cancellation and changes are possible until the booking deadline. After the booking deadline, 100 % cancellation fees will be charged.
- All information concerning excursions is correct at the time of printing. However, Star Clippers reserves the right to make changes, which will be relayed to passengers during the Cruise Director's onboard information sessions. Last updated tour descriptions are available in a file at the Cruise Director's desk.

Date of last update: 25th of July 2023

#### **PORTOFINO, ITALY**

Portofino's origins date back to the Roman Empire when, according to the writer and philosopher Pliny the Elder, it was known as Portus Delphini, or the port of the Dolphins, because of the large number of dolphins to be seen there.

The Benedictine order founded a monastery in Portofino, but later abandoned it due to repeated attacks by pirates. The Republic of Genoa acquired it in 1414 and after a long and turbulent history, punctuated by invasions, it was united with the Kingdom of Sardinia in 1815. In the 1850's English aristocrats started visiting Portofino in the belief that the remains of St George, England's patron saint, were buried in the Parish church, and it then became popular as a resort. Since that time the small fishing village has never looked back and has become a playground for the rich and famous, an international resort of the highest standards.

Portofino is a precious jewel in a setting of lush green vegetation that extends to a yacht lined bay. The tall colorfully painted houses and crescent moon harbor blend harmoniously with exclusive boutiques, cafés and villas. Picturesque and yet sophisticated, Portofino is known the world over as a jet setter's paradise.

#### PORTOFINO - Time at leisure (no tours in program)

## PROPRIANO (CORSE), FRANCE

#### PROPRIANO - Sartène, the oldest Corsican village

Duration: 03:30 approx. Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Price: 72 € Activity level: moderate

Min 15 / Max 40 participants

Discover Sartène, the archetypal Corsican village. Your coach will be waiting at the port ready to take you on a scenic drive along the western coast and inland to the village of Sartène.

The village of Sartène stands atop a rocky promontory and some of the houses are literally built into the rock face. In the Middle Ages it was the scene of vendettas, pirate attacks and fierce battles with the Genoese occupiers and became known as "the most truly Corsican town in Corsica". Visit the Church of St Maria, which houses the hood, chain and cross carried by local penitents during the Good Friday Procession and enjoy some free time before returning to the ship.

Please note: The drive from Propriano to Sartène takes approx. 30 minutes (each way), with one or two photo stops. Corsican roads are winding, so this tour is not recommended for people suffering from vertigo or motion sickness.

This tour is not recommended to guests with limited mobility since it involves walking over cobblestone surfaces with some steps and uneven surfaces to negotiate.

Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a bottle of water.



## **ALGHERO (SARDINIA), ITALY**

Alghero is the main resort in the northwest of Sardinia and one of it's most beautiful medieval cities. It's bustling historic centre is packed with excellent bars and restaurants making it a great place to hang out. It is also ideally placed for exploring the beaches of nearby Riviera del Corallo. Interestingly a form of medieval Catalan is still spoken even though the Iberians left three centuries ago.

#### **ALGHERO - Panoramic Capo Caccia and wine tasting**

Duration: 03:30 approx. Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Price: 79 € Activity level: moderate

Min 15 / Max 35 participants

Your tour guide will welcome you at the port and accompany you on the walk to the coach park (300/400 meters) where your coach will be waiting.

You will drive through the countryside of the Nurra region, a striking blend of fertile plains and mountains. There will be a short stop at the panoramic viewpoint of Capo Caccia before arriving at the wine tasting venue. At the winery you will be welcomed by Anna Maria who will give you a short history of the estate before inviting you to enjoy a wine tasting accompanied by cheese, bread, *bruschetta* and olive oil.

The Leda' d'Ittiri estate is located a few kilometers away from the bustling town of Alghero (Northwest Sardinia) and the wonderful white sandy beaches at the foot of Monte Doglia. The estate consists of 18 ha of olive orchards and vineyards which are lovingly tended by the owners: Antonella and Anna Maria, the mother and daughter team at the head of this ambitious project. They are scions of the Sardinian nobility and theirs is the only heraldic coat of arms to grace the Sardinian wine industry. They are passionate about what they do; experts in their field, who are personally involved in every aspect of the business.

The estate's prime location has enabled the owners to combine purely agricultural activities with promoting the area and its produce to tourists. Their business philosophy is to favor quality over quantity and to offer a high level of hospitality to guests who appreciate the tranquil atmosphere of the countryside.

After the wine tasting you will drive back to the coach park at Alghero and return to the ship.

Please note: The drive to the Capo Caccia takes approximately 45 minutes. The order of the places visited may change. Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and water.

## ALGHERO - Sardinia's history and traditions: nuraghe Santu Antine, cheese demonstration and traditional lunch

Duration: 07:00 approx. Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Price: 120 € Activity level: moderate

Min 15 / Max 35 participants Lunch included

You will discover the charm of old history and ancient flavors with this tour which stars with the visit of one of the best-preserved complexes of the Nuragic civilization. An architectural gem, Santu Antine is located in the centre of a splendid natural setting and was built between the Middle Bronze Age (16th century BC) and the Iron Age (9th century BC).

It is very large and is made of huge, perfectly shaped basalt blocks which gradually get smaller from the base towards the top of the building. Its masonry is entirely of dry stone. Its central tower is 17 metres high and has a diameter of 15 metres.

Take a scenic drive to your next destination, the hilltop rural restaurant-farm "Locanda Minerva", which is nestled in the heart of a nature reserve.

Relax in a courtyard under oak and olive trees while learning all secrets of cheesemaking traditions. Enjoy a hearty traditional Sardinian lunch, with typical dishes made from local ingredients.

Drive back to the Alghero, where you will enjoy a guided tour and will have some time to stroll on your own in the old town before getting back onboard with the tender.

Please note: This tour involves moderate walking over uneven surfaces with inclines and some steps to negotiate.

Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a bottle of water.

This excursion includes approx. 3 hours driving: 1 hour from Alghero to Santu Antine, 45 minutes from Santu Antine to Locanda Minerva and 1:15 from the restaurant back to Alghero.



# **CALVI (CORSICA), FRANCE**

Seen from the water, Calvi is spectacular. Its three immense bastions are topped by a crest of ochre buildings, sharply defined against a hazy backdrop of snow-capped mountains. Below the citadel, a finely drawn strip of red-roofed houses and spidery palm trees delineate the Basse Ville, with its yacht-crammed marina, from where the town beach sweeps in a semicircle around the bay. Legend has it that Calvi is the birthplace of Christopher Columbus.

The history of Calvi has always been closely tied to the former Republic of Genoa. The city placed itself under Genovese protection for the first time in 1268. Today, Calvi is an appealing yachting haven. Its pine forests, clear blue seawater, mountains, citadel and charming town make for a vibrant composition of natural colors and a first-class seaside resort.

## **CALVI - Sant' Antonino and Pigna: authentic Corsican villages**

Duration: 03:00 approx. Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Price: 69 € Activity level: moderate

Min 15 / Max 40 participants

This excursion is the perfect way to enjoy one of Corsica's main attractions: its ruggedly beautiful scenery; winding roads will take you from one picturesque village to another.

The ancient circular village of Sant'Antonino, perched on a craggy rock overlooking the sea, is one of the oldest inhabited villages in Corsica and one of the highest. It is visible from miles around and offers superb 360° panoramic views. In the 9th century it was ruled by the Counts of Savelli who built the now-ruined castle in order to defend their clan. The narrow-cobbled lanes, vaulted alleyways and neat stone houses have survived the passage of time and have changed very little over the past three hundred years. Sant' Antonino features in the list of "the most beautiful villages of France" and is highly prized by visitors for its spectacular views.

After a short visit of Sant' Antonino you will be driven to the hilltop village of Pigna.

This delightful village in the heart of the Balagne region is built on a rocky promontory 224 m above sea level, situated at the foot of a mountain some 562m high. It is a veritable feast for the eyes with flower decked streets and an attractive village square. Pigna is dedicated to the pursuit of arts and crafts and a community of artists has settled there.

It is the ideal place to buy some authentic Corsican souvenirs. You will spend some time in the village and then the coach will take you back to Calvi via the charming old villages of Corbara and Aregno.

Please note: This tour is not recommended to guests with limited mobility since it involves walking over cobblestone surfaces with some steps and uneven surfaces to negotiate. In Sant'Antonino, the walk from the bus parking to the village is uphill over uneven and rough ground.

Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and water.

Corsican roads are winding, so this is not the ideal tour for guests suffering from motion sickness.

You will spend approximately 30 minutes in each village (Sant'Antonino and Pigna).

# **CALVI - Hike to Revellata's lighthouse**

Duration: 04:00 approx. Transportation: hiking tour Price: 49 € Activity level: strenuous

Min 6 / Max 15 participants

The tour starts directly from the port and your destination is the lighthouse situated on the Punta de la Revellata. This 4-hour hike through breath-taking scenery is not to be missed. During the walk you will enjoy glorious views and see various cacti and endemic Mediterranean species of flora, some brightly colored and strangely shaped.

Revellata peninsula is like being on the edge of the world. Access is via a coastal path and there are many beautiful creeks and secluded beaches along the way, perfect for cooling off with a dip in the pristine waters of the Mediterranean. The lighthouse itself is constantly visible, guiding your footsteps, and when you reach it you will be rewarded by marvelous views of the Mediterranean and the surrounding mountains. The return trip to Calvi is via a cliff top path over the peninsula.

Please note: This is a very active tour and is only recommended for guests in very good physical condition. Participants should wear comfortable shoes and clothing and bring along a small backpack, mineral water, swimsuit (possible swimming stop on



the way), towel, hat or cap, sunglasses, sun protection.

The hike is 15km long. The terrain includes rocks, ground, sand, steps, steep slopes with cobblestone.

**CALVI - Calvi walking tour** 

Duration: 02:30 approx. Transportation: walking tour Price: 35 € Activity level: moderate

Min 15 / Max 25 participants

From the pier, follow your guide to the entrance of the citadel, perched on a rocky hill overlooking the port. Walk through the drawbridge and stop to enjoy a breath-taking vista of the red rooftops and the crystal-clear sea.

You will continue to the Place d'Armes and then to the Cathedral St Jean Baptiste set at the highest point of the promontory. The cathedral founded in the 13th century, was partially destroyed during the Turkish siege in 1553 and rebuilt in a form of the Greek cross.

Your walk will then take you to the home of Calvi's most famous resident, Christophe Columbus who is believed to be born in Calvi on October 12th. After viewing the exterior of this fabled building, pass the 13th century Caserne Sampiero, formerly the Governor's palace which now served the military.

Make your way to the Oratorio St Antoine where you can admire the Italian fresco, stroll along the city's ramparts, and wander through the narrow streets. Your tour will end at The Quay Landry, a bustling section of the town located at the foot of the ramparts, which features a lovely marina and promenade lined with bars.

Please note: This tour is not recommended to guests with limited mobility since it involves extensive walking (approx. 2 km) over cobblestone surfaces with some steps and uneven surfaces to negotiate.

Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a bottle of water.

#### **BANDOL, FRANCE**

## **BANDOL** - Le Castellet and wine tasting

Duration: 03:00 approx. Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Price: 89 € Activity level: moderate

Min 12 / Max 35 participants

The coach leaves Bandol taking the wine route. There will be a stop at a well-known vineyard (Domaine de Souviou or an equivalent estate) to taste some top-quality local wines. The Souviou estate is built around a beautiful 15th century bastide with its own adjacent chapel and surrounded by 79 acres of vineyard. The vineyards of the Bandol valley are protected by the Sainte Baume ridge on one side and the Mediterranean coast on the other and the unique climate produces some of France's best red, white and particularly rosé wines. The estate is also reputed for the quality of its olive oil; there are six thousand olive trees dotted over the domain and some of them are over 1000 years old. During your wine tasting session, you will sample red, white and rosé wines produced on the estate.

The coach will then head off to Le Castellet, a typical medieval Provencal hilltop village with a history spanning over 2000 years. The walking tour will take you through the narrow medieval streets which lead to the castle.

There will be some leisure time, so you can explore the local arts and craft shops with their attractive displays of paintings and pottery.

Please note: This tour is not recommended to guests with limited mobility since it involves extensive walking over cobblestone surfaces with some steps and uneven surfaces to negotiate.

Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a bottle of water.

The driving time between Bandol and Castellet is approx. 30 minutes (each way).



## BANDOL - Cape Canaille scenic drive, Cassis & Calanques boat tour

Duration: 06:00 approx. Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach, boat

Price: 89 € Activity level: moderate

Min 12 / Max 35 participants Free time for lunch (lunch not included)

Enjoy a scenic drive along the coast before arriving at the "Massif des Calanques" a national park combining the beauties of both land and sea. Breath taking, awe inspiring and magnificent are the adjectives most used to describe this unspoilt paradise. Discover Mediterranean scrubland, dazzling white limestone cliffs and Cape Canaille, the highest clifftop in France and the fourth highest in Europe. You will also see the famous Calanques, which are rather like Mediterranean fjords. These rocky canyons plunging into a turquoise sea create a dramatic landscape whose stunning beauty has earned it a place on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

There are many spectacular panoramic viewpoints along the coast road, and you will get stunning views over sheer cliffs, seeing the Calanques, Mount Puget and the islands between Marseille and Cassis. The most impressive view is to be had from the top of Cape Canaille; this lofty perch offers views of the Calanques and the picturesque town of Cassis.

Cassis is without doubt the quintessential, picture perfect Provençal fishing village, with boats bobbing in the harbor and a bustling seafront lined with cafés.

Stroll along the sea front, and up cobblestone streets, admire picturesque houses decked with flowers, browse around the boutiques or just relax at an outside café and watch the world go by. After some free time for lunch in Cassis, you will meet up with your guide and adventure on a boat trip through the Calanques National Park.

You will see steep cliffs so sharp that some Calanques are only accessible by sea.

You will discover by a little boat 3 Calanque of Cassis and be astonished and amazed by the beautiful scenery, considered one of the most beautiful places in the world.

Please note: This tour is not recommended to guests who suffer from sea sickness nor to those with limited mobility, since it involves moderate walking over cobblestone surfaces with some steps to negotiate.

In case of strong winds or rough sea conditions, the panoramic road in Cap Canaille could be closed and the boat tour could be cancelled with short notice.

## **SAINT TROPEZ, FRANCE**

Up until 1958 Saint Tropez was just a sleepy, picturesque fishing village; then the legendary couple Brigitte Bardot and Roger Vadim arrived, bringing with them a touch of glamour, and changing the place beyond all recognition.

However, the history of St Tropez goes way back, well before the era of movie stars, luxury yachts and glamour girls in bikinis. It was once a place of Christian pilgrimage, honoring the martyrdom of a young Roman soldier named Tropes. Tropes openly professed his Christian beliefs and was beheaded by the authorities and cast adrift in a small boat which eventually washed ashore at the place now known as St Tropez.

In the 1800's St Tropez became a center for art and culture with the arrival of the French writer Guy de Maupassant and the Impressionist painter Paul Signac who brought with them a host of talented contemporaries, including Matisse.

Today St Tropez is famous the world over for being one of the most glamorous locations on the French Riviera. While it is mostly known for its beaches and port filled with millionaire's yachts, it also boasts tree lined squares, pastel-coloured houses, chic boutiques and quaint cafés serving a delicious local pastry the "Tarte Tropezienne"



## **SAINT TROPEZ - Discover the origins of St Tropez** (incl. Maritime Museum)

Duration: 02:30 approx. Transportation: walking tour Price: 39 € Activity level: moderate

Min 15 / Max 25 participants

Once a fortified stronghold and later sleepy fishing village, Saint Tropez was catapulted onto the world stage in the 1950s by screen legends such as Brigitte Bardot and Sacha Distel. Their endorsement turned into the chic capital of the French Riviera and these days it's home to many a film star and fashionista.

Upon arrival, disembark and walk with your guide along the waterfront and through the old streets towards the top of the city to start your guided tour with the visit of the Citadel of Saint Tropez.

Your guide will give you the keys to discover the daily life of the men and women who shaped the Saint Tropez of today over the centuries and the famous sailors of Saint Tropez.

Dating from the XVII century, the Citadel is the most important defense element between Antibes and Toulon and one of the only monuments of this magnitude on the Provencal coast with magnificent panorama on the bay. Then back to the village step by step you will discover and learn more about a secret second life that is hidden.

Please note: This tour is not recommended to guests with limited mobility since it involves extensive walking over cobblestone surfaces with some steps and uneven surfaces to negotiate.

Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a bottle of water.

## **SAINT TROPEZ - Ramatuelle and wine tasting**

Duration: 04:00 approx. Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Price:109 € Activity level: moderate

Min 15 / Max 30 participants

Enjoy a taste of the good life in Provence, visiting the delightful village of Ramatuelle.

A short drive to the southwest, past sun-washed mountains and vineyards, takes you to the village which is perched high on a rock just a few miles from sea. This old Provençal town features narrow, winding streets with arches and vaults, and old houses, now restored, huddled against the town wall near the church. But it's the peerless views of the countryside and the Gulf of St Tropez that sets Ramatuelle apart. Take time to appreciate the magnificent panoramas.

Then, drive to a local winery, Domaine Bertaud Belieu (or similar) for a wine tasting. Located on the French Riviera in the heart of the peninsula of Saint Tropez in Gassin, this 65-hectare vineyard rosé, red and white wines with AOP Label, benefiting from its exceptional location on the border between the sandy limestone Massif des Maures and the sandy clay Raphaello coast.

Please note: This tour is not recommended to guests with limited mobility since it involves moderate walking over cobblestone surfaces with some steps and uneven surfaces to negotiate.

Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a bottle of water.



#### **CANNES, FRANCE**

# **CANNES - Saint Paul de Vence** (ending at Nice airport)

Duration: 04:00 approx. Transportation: air-conditioned minivan

Price: 99 € Activity level: moderate

Min 4 / Max 18 participants

This tour does not feature a tour guide

This tour ends at Nice Airport (NCE) and is suitable for guests whose flight leaves after 15:00.

You will drive straight on to St Paul de Vence, a few kilometers away from Cannes. This authentic medieval fortified village was built on a hilltop so as to avoid Saracen attacks. In the 1920's it was discovered by artists such as Bonnard, Modigliani, Signac and Soutine, and since that time it has attracted a good number of the rich and famous literati and glitterati.

You will have approximately two hours at leisure to go round the village before driving to the airport.

Stroll down Rue Grande, the main street which runs right through the village and explore the XVI° century ramparts which afford spectacular views over mimosa, olive trees and orange groves.

Please note: This is an unaccompanied transfer with an English-speaking driver. Your luggage will go with you in the minivan. The drive to Saint Paul de Vence takes approx. 60 minutes. The drive from St Paul de Vence to the airport takes approx. 45 minutes. The duration of the time at leisure in St Paul de Vence can change, depending on the traffic conditions and the arrival time in St Paul de Vence.

#### Star Clippers offers the following services (optional, upon reservation):

## ✓ Shared transfers to the airport.

Guests who have purchased a shared transfer cannot choose their pickup time.

There will be one fixed departure from the port at about 09:00am, the arrival at the airport will be around 10:00 am. This transfer is suitable for guests whose flight leaves after 12:00 pm.

# ✓ Private transfers to the airport / to hotels

Latest pick-up time from the pier is at 10:00 am.

Private transfers are operated with private sedan car (max 2 persons) or van (max 6 persons).

