



IHRE REISE

<i>Reisetermin</i> <b>17.07.2026 - 28.07.2026</b>	<i>Reisedauer</i> <b>12 Tage</b>	<i>Reederei / Schiff</i> <b>Douglas Mawson / Aurora Expeditions</b>
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**Aurora Stateroom Triple Share**






*Dreibettbelegung*


  
**€ 5.248**  
 pro Person




**Aurora Stateroom Twin Share**




<p><i>Doppelbelegung</i></p> <p>  <b>€ 5.398</b>            pro Person</p>	<p><i>Einzelbelegung</i></p> <p>  <b>€ 8.097</b>            pro Person</p>	<p><i>Gemeinschaftsbelegung</i></p> <p>  <b>€ 5.398</b>            pro Person</p>
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**Aurora Stateroom Superior**




<p><i>Doppelbelegung</i></p> <p>  <b>€ 5.698</b>            pro Person</p>	<p><i>Einzelbelegung</i></p> <p>  <b>€ 8.547</b>            pro Person</p>	<p><i>Gemeinschaftsbelegung</i></p> <p>  <b>€ 5.698</b>            pro Person</p>
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Balcony Stateroom Category C




*Doppelbelegung*



**€ 5.848**

pro Person


*Einzelbelegung*



**€ 8.772**

pro Person


*Gemeinschaftsbelegung*




**€ 5.848**

pro Person

Balcony Stateroom Category B




*Doppelbelegung*



**€ 6.148**

pro Person


*Einzelbelegung*



**€ 9.222**

pro Person


*Gemeinschaftsbelegung*




**€ 6.148**

pro Person

Balcony Stateroom Category A




*Doppelbelegung*



**€ 6.648**

pro Person


*Einzelbelegung*



**€ 9.972**

pro Person

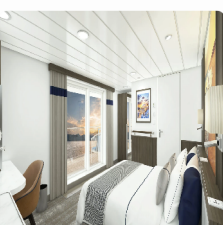
*Gemeinschaftsbelegung*




**€ 6.648**

pro Person

Balcony Stateroom Superior




*Doppelbelegung*



**€ 7.248**

pro Person


*Einzelbelegung*



**€ 10.872**

pro Person


*Gemeinschaftsbelegung*



**€ 7.248**

pro Person

Junior Suite




*Doppelbelegung*

  
**€ 9.098**  
 pro Person


*Einzelbelegung*

  
**€ 13.647**  
 pro Person


Aurora Stateroom Single




*Einzelbelegung*

  
**€ 12.695**  
 pro Person


Balcony Stateroom Category A - Solo




*Einzelbelegung*




  
**€ 13.295**  
 pro Person

Aurora Stateroom Superior Single



*Einzelbelegung*

  
**€ 13.895**  
 pro Person

Captain's Suite	
	<p><i>Doppelbelegung</i></p> <p></p> <p>Nicht verfügbar</p>
	<p><i>Einzelbelegung</i></p> <p></p> <p>Nicht verfügbar</p>



Day 1 Valletta,  
Malta

Welcome to Malta. On arrival at Valletta Airport make your way to the Arrivals Hall to meet our representative, followed by a transfer to our group hotel. At the hotel, visit our hospitality desk in the lobby to meet our team who will provide you with useful information regarding pre-embarkation procedures and about your time in Valletta. You will also receive cabin tags for your luggage. Please clearly label the tags with your name and your cabin number on the ship. Today offers time to relax in preparation for our journey. Join us for a Welcome Reception this evening, where we honour the bravery of the Maltese people and hear wartime tales of courage against seemingly insurmountable odds, from our host. \*Note: To attend our Welcome Reception we recommend your flight lands prior to 2:00pm. Accommodation: Grand Hotel Excelsior, Valletta. Meals: Welcome dinner and drinks.

Day 2 Embark  
Valletta (Port:  
Valletta)

Sitting in the centre of the Mediterranean, Malta boasts unbeatable location, location, location. Its sunny charm and island lifestyle have made it a modern-day summer holiday destination, but historically, its strategic position has made it a target for invaders. The Maltese people, known for their convivial and family-oriented nature, have a long history of defending their homeland, from ancient Greek sieges to Napoleon's forces. Their remarkable bravery during World War II, particularly during the Second Siege of Malta, earned the nation the George Cross from King George VI. This honour is proudly displayed on the Maltese flag and coat of arms, symbolising their enduring spirit and resilience. Choose to join our locally guided tour of Valletta or explore the city independently, before boarding Douglas Mawson late-afternoon. This evening onboard, enjoy a 'Welcome Dinner' where we meet our Aurora Expeditions team and crew. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experience. Full day experience: The Story of Malta. Our day is spent in Malta's convivial capital, Valletta, which remains a historical city with streets of fascinating sites telling more than their fair share of stories. Our local guide tells tales of the past and present before exploring the Grand Masters Palace and Armoury, where we uncover an impressive collection gathered by The Knights of St John, while the multimedia show, Malta Experience, places thousands of years of Malta into perspective. There's time during our locally guided tour to stroll the city streets before you board the Douglas Mawson. Meals: Breakfast, Dinner onboard.

Day 2 Valletta  
Excursion  
Introduction

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Day 3 Reggio  
di Calabria,  
Italy (Port:  
Reggio di  
Calabria)

Sitting in the 'toe' of Italy's 'boot' and guarding the formidable Strait of Messina, Calabria's former capital, Reggio di Calabria, has witnessed centuries of history. Offering views across to Sicily, just two miles away, and the formidable Mount Etna, Reggio di Calabria is home to the National Archaeological Museum, which houses the famous Riace Bronzes—life-size, ancient warrior-like Greek statues. The town boasts the Lungomare Falcomatà, a lengthy seafront promenade lined with palm trees, where locals gather for the age-old Italian evening stroll known as la passeggiata. Reggio di Calabria is also known for its historical ties to Magna Graecia, which are reflected in its classical architecture and ancient ruins. Our morning experience gives you the flexibility to enjoy a relaxing afternoon on board or ashore. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: The Coastal Duet of Scilla and Chianalea. Just 20 minutes from Reggio di Calabria, you will find the charming shores of Scilla and Chianalea. These neighbouring villages blend effortlessly, each with its own unique appeal. Chianalea, nicknamed "Little Venice," features houses clinging to the cliffs and narrow streets leading down to the clear Tyrrhenian Sea. Traditional blue fishing boats bob about in the waters, adding to its authentic character. In Scilla, you can relax on a sheltered beach, bordered by cafes and restaurants. The 16th-century Ruffo Castle stands prominently on a rocky headland, housing the historic Lighthouse of Scilla. Together, Scilla and Chianalea offer a glimpse into a quieter side of Italy's coastline and a taste of southern coastal life that most tourists never witness. Option 2 – Full day experience: Tropea and Calabrian Tasting Lunch. This morning, we follow the scenic Calabrian coast north to Tropea, the region's beloved seaside resort, where we experience the true Italian "Dolce Vita". Our locally guided walking tour through the narrow streets of the historic center with its antique mansions, countless shops and stunning views of the sea introduces us to the southern Italian lifestyle, before we head to an Agriturismo farmhouse where lunch features a tasting of Calabrian specialities. Known for its fresh, locally sourced ingredients, often served as farm to plate using long-standing traditional methods, Calabrian cuisine is flavourful, rustic, and a true taste of southern Italy.

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Day 4 Gallipoli  
 (Port:  
 Gallipoli)

Sailing the Italian coastline, we reach the region of Puglia and moor in the walled coastal town of Gallipoli around midday. This charming town acts as our gateway to the southern tip of Italy, offering an afternoon to explore its hidden treasures on one of our 'Your Choice' experiences. Early evening, we set sail once more, journeying overnight around the heel of 'the boot of Italy' to the port town of Bari. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Afternoon experience: The Walled City of Gallipoli. Our local guide tells tales of the past and present as we enjoy a guided walk of Gallipoli. Situated at the base of Italy's Apulia region, this picturesque town is steeped in history and Mediterranean charm. Its unique location on a limestone island connected to the mainland by a 17th-century bridge makes our every step appear medieval. Gallipoli's maze of narrow streets, lined with whitewashed buildings and ancient churches, creates a true 'old town' appeal, while ancient wooden fishing machines, called trabucchi, are now preserved as cultural landmarks along the coast. Derived from the Greek Kallipolis, meaning 'beautiful city', the town's name reflects its stunning setting overlooking the Ionian Sea. Gallipoli fascinates with its storied past involving pirates who raided its shores during the medieval and Renaissance periods, prompting the construction of defensive fortifications like the Castello Angioino, which dominate its walls. This pirate history adds another layer to Gallipoli's rich sense of maritime heritage, making it an intriguing destination. Option 2 – Afternoon experience: Lecce. Heralded as the 'Florence of the South', Lecce lies around 30 minutes' drive from Gallipoli. This impressive town played a crucial role in spreading Renaissance and baroque influences from the powerful duchies of the north to the southern peninsula. It flourished as a hub of artistic and architectural innovation, attracting scholars, artists, and architects who enriched its cultural heritage. The city's renowned baroque architecture, characterised by intricate ornamentation and the use of local golden limestone, reflects this period. The central square, Piazza Sant'Oronzo, is the beating heart of Lecce. It stands at the end of the majestic Colonna del Santo Patrono, erected by the inhabitants to express gratitude for the city's deliverance from a devastating plague that threatened the Kingdom of Naples in the 17th century, but Lecce's cultural vitality extends beyond its architecture.

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Day 5 Bari  
 (Port: Bari)

Bari acts as our gateway today with a bevy of UNESCO World Heritage Sites today with Alberobello and Matera in our sights. As the capital of Italy's up-and-coming Puglia region, Bari is undergoing a renaissance, transforming once-neglected suburbs into colourful neighbourhoods. The city's bustling port has been a hub of trade and culture for centuries, showcasing its rich maritime heritage, while Bari's charming old town, Bari Vecchia, features narrow, winding streets leading to historical sites like the Basilica di San Nicola and the imposing Norman-Swabian Castle. Famed for its orecchiette pasta, often handmade by local women right on the streets, Bari adds a personal touch to its culinary scene, with seafood a local specialty. Stories rich in legends such as that of Saint Nicholas, whose relics were brought to Bari from Myra in 1087, further enrich the city's mystical allure as does a devotion to the 150,000 tons of olive oil produced in the region annually, which funds its ongoing facelift. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: UNESCO World Heritage Site - Alberobello. A one-hour drive takes us to the unique town of Alberobello, where our local guide introduces us to its streets lined with enchanting trulli houses. These whitewashed limestone dwellings with their conical roofs are a UNESCO World Heritage Site and symbolise the region's rich architectural heritage. Strolling through Alberobello's narrow lanes makes you feel like you're in a fairytale village. The story behind the trulli is as fascinating as their appearance. Their cone-shaped roofs, constructed without mortar, allowed residents to dismantle the houses quickly – an ingenious form of tax evasion during medieval times when property taxes were levied based on the number of permanent dwellings. Option 2 – Full-day experience: UNESCO World Heritage Site - Matera. Matera, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in southern Italy, enchants us with its ancient Sassi cave dwellings carved out of limestone cliffs. As we wander the labyrinthine streets of the suburbs of Sasso Caveoso and Sasso Barisano, we enter its troglodyte dwellings, many of which were inhabited until the 1950s, while we ponder the intricate rock churches adorned with Byzantine frescoes. Matera's Sassi cave dwellings, once inhabited for millennia, were gradually abandoned due to poor living conditions and social issues in the mid-20th century. The cramped spaces lacked sanitation and basic amenities, leading to health concerns and government intervention to relocate residents to modern housing. This exodus left the ancient caves vacant for decades until efforts in recent years restored some areas for cultural preservation and tourism. Today, Matera's Sassi districts stand as a testament to human adaptation and resilience, offering travellers a glimpse into a bygone era, while thanks to Hollywood, Matera's Sassi districts gained international attention as a location for movies like The Passion of the Christ. This unique town entices us to consider how populations have lived in the past and whether the Adriatic renaissance will breathe new life into this fascinating town.

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Day 6  
 Dubrovnik,  
 Croatia  
 (Tender Port:  
 Dubrovnik)

Sailing east across the Adriatic, we meet the Croatian coast at the walled city of Dubrovnik, where our 'Your Choice' experiences offer an opportunity to view the city from ground level on a walking tour, or above from its city walls. Your afternoon is free to explore the city independently before catching our tender back to the ship. We sail north to Split early evening. This stunning walled city boasts a history spanning over a millennium. Founded in the 7th century, Dubrovnik thrived as the Republic of Ragusa, a prominent maritime power. Its strategic location encouraged trade across the Mediterranean, with the associated wealth shaping its unique blend of architecture and culture. Throughout its history, Dubrovnik faced periods of prosperity and challenges, including conflicts with rival states and invasions. The city's formidable defensive walls, begun in the 9th century and expanded in the 14th and 15th centuries, symbolise its strategic significance. In modern times, Dubrovnik gained global recognition as a filming location for motion pictures such as "Game of Thrones," where its ancient walls and historic streets provided the backdrop for King's Landing. Today, Dubrovnik's well-preserved medieval architecture, including churches, monasteries, and palaces, continues to attract visitors seeking to explore its rich heritage and cinematic allure along the scenic Adriatic coast. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: Walking Dubrovnik. Begin your day with a leisurely walking tour through the enchanting streets of Dubrovnik's Old Town, where centuries of history whisper from every stone. Led by a knowledgeable local guide, you'll uncover tales of the city's vibrant past and present, without the steep climbs or strenuous pace. You'll meander through the charming lanes and lively squares, pausing at iconic landmarks like the grand Pile Gate, built in 1537 and watched over by a statue of St. Blaise, Dubrovnik's beloved patron saint. Wander down the bustling Stradun, the city's main promenade, lined with elegant shops, cosy cafes, and architectural gems. Along the way, marvel at Onofrio's Fountain, the serene Franciscan Monastery, home to Europe's oldest pharmacy, and the stately Rector's Palace, a masterpiece of Gothic-Renaissance design. This tour is perfect for those who want to soak in the soul of Dubrovnik at a relaxed, unhurried pace. Option 2 – Morning experience: Walking Dubrovnik and its City Walls. Experience the essence of Dubrovnik with a locally guided walking tour including walking its city walls. Stretching over one mile in length and rising 80 feet high, these walls offer panoramic views of the Adriatic Sea and the terracotta rooftops below. From the northern Minčeta Tower to Fort Bokar at the southwestern corner, and ending at Fort St. John by the Old Harbour, the walls provide insights into Dubrovnik's resilience, contrasting with remnants of shelling damage from the 1990's conflict. Explore forts and towers, each steeped in history, while glimpsing into hidden gardens and courtyards along the residential fringes. A walking tour of Dubrovnik's Old Town and city walls promises an unforgettable journey through time. Option 3 – Morning experience: Cultural Visit to Konavle Valley and Gruda Village. Driving along the Dubrovnik Riviera takes you into the rural hinterland of Konavle, where farming communities have thrived for generations. The Konavle County Museum, housed in a building dating back to 1909, originally served as the headquarters for the rural savings society and cultural club. Established in 1974, the museum now proudly displays Konavle's rich ethnographic heritage, featuring national costumes, textile crafts, jewellery, musical instruments, and more, providing a window into local life, both past and present. Continue your journey to Gruda Village, where Antonia Ruskovic and her fellow residents uphold the ancient art of silk production. Silk, prized since the Roman Empire, is still meticulously crafted here, primarily for embroidering Konavle's traditional costumes. Gain an insight into every step of silk-making, from cocoon boiling to weaving and embroidery, while engaging with local artisans. Wrap up your countryside experience with a delightful performance of local dances by villagers adorned in traditional Konavle attire. Immerse yourself in Croatia's rural culture, away from the coastal crowds, and feel free to engage deeply with this authentic glimpse into Konavle's heritage.

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Day 7 Split  
 (Port: Split)

Dubrovnik's northern neighbour, Split, offers a plethora of experiences. Split's blend of ancient sites and modern delights promises a rich experience at every turn. This 1,700-year-old living museum is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most important ports on the Adriatic Coast. Split's heart beats within Diocletian's Palace, commissioned in the 4th century AD by the Roman Emperor himself, seamlessly blending ancient grandeur with modern-day markets, cafés, and shops. The city's Roman legacy echoes through its street layout and the remnants of ancient walls and columns are scattered everywhere. Don't miss exploring historical sites like the Cathedral and Bell Tower of St. Domnius, originally Diocletian's mausoleum, or browsing the souvenir stalls in Diocletian's Cellars, once used as the palace's storage rooms. While you are here, be sure to rub the big toe of the Grgur Ninski statue. Sculpted by Ivan Meštrović, this massive statue is one of the defining images of Split. The 10th-century Croatian bishop, Gregory of Nin fought for the right to use old Croatian in liturgical services instead of Latin. His left big toe has been polished to a shine – it's said that rubbing the toe brings good luck and guarantees that you will return to Split. For those choosing to explore the coast and its sites on their favourite 'Your Choice' experience, our ship is berthed close to the historic centre of Split, affording time for independent exploration in the afternoon. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: Split and Salona. Join us on a fascinating journey through time as we explore the ancient gems of Split's surrounds. Your locally guided tour begins with a scenic drive to the ruins of Salona, once the capital of the Roman province of Dalmatia. At its peak, Salona was a thriving city with 40,000 residents. Home to ruins of temples, amphitheatres, churches, burial grounds, and baths, the remnants are considered Croatia's most important archeological site. Our guides tell us tales of this ancient city as we walk amongst its ruins. Returning to Split's Old Town, we visit the 4th-century Roman palace erected by Emperor Diocletian. Begin your walking tour with a stroll through the well-preserved basement halls of the palace, viewing the Cathedral of St. Duje, one of the oldest in the world, and the remarkably intact Temple of Jupiter, before returning to the ship for lunch. Option 2 – Morning experience: The Pirate Town of Omiš and a Cruise on the Cetina River. The 2,000-year-old village of Omiš is famous for its pirate history. In the 12th and 13th centuries, the feared Omiš pirates dominated the waters as far south as Dubrovnik, attacking ships from Split, Kotor, and even Venice. The town fiercely defended itself until 1444 when it finally fell to the Venetian Empire. Under Venetian rule, Omiš prospered, and much of its current appearance dates to that period. In 1918, Omiš became part of Yugoslavia and later Croatia in 1991. A scenic drive offers grand views of Omiš and the mouth of the Cetina River, with many of its medieval defences still visible on the hill above the town. Here, you will board river boats for a scenic cruise along the Cetina River, which runs parallel to the coast. The boat cruise will take you up the river to an old mill where you can enjoy snacks and refreshments. After our river cruise and time to explore Omiš we return to Split where you can join us for lunch on the ship or choose to explore Split independently.

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 Excursion  
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Day 8 Ancona,  
 Italy (Port:  
 Ancona)

Returning to Italy's east coast we dock at the city of Ancona. Set amidst miles of sandy beaches, this region is a favoured summer retreat for Italians wishing to enjoy their homeland's seaside scene. Ancona, an ancient city with a modern Italian vibe, has been a magnet for explorers and merchants for centuries. Its strategic location has made it a pivotal port since Greek and Roman times, with the city's Arch of Trajan, a triumphal arch built in honour of the Roman emperor Trajan, standing as a testament to the city's Roman heritage. During the Renaissance, Ancona flourished as a hub for explorers like Amerigo Vespucci, who embarked on voyages of discovery to the New World from its port. Ancona's name, derived from the Greek word ankon meaning 'elbow,' reflects the shape of its natural harbour. The Mole Vanvitelliana, a pentagonal fortress on a small island near the harbour, which was originally built as a quarantine station for maritime travellers, now hosts cultural events and exhibitions. Today, Ancona serves as our gateway to its surrounding charms. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: Medieval Corinaldo. Discover the enchanting hilltop town of Medieval Corinaldo, one of Italy's most celebrated medieval gems. Stepping back in time, you will find yourself immersed in a town untouched by mass tourism. Medieval Corinaldo is renowned for its formidable walls that encircle the historic centre, providing a captivating glimpse into its storied past. Famous for 'La Piaggia,' an impressive flight of steps leading to the iconic Pozzo della Polenta – an ancient well steeped in local legend and embodying the town's whimsical spirit – Medieval Corinaldo invites you to explore its charming alleys. Wander along the nearly one-kilometre-long walls, adorned with imposing towers and bulwarks, and experience the medieval allure of this well-preserved town. Option 2 – Morning experience: The Magical Wines of the Marche. The soil inland from Ancona on the Marche countryside is perfect for the vines which have made the region famous. We visit a family-run winery, where we discover the cultivation of white grape varieties such as Verdicchio, Malvasia, and Biancame, alongside reds like Montepulciano, Sangiovese, merlot, and cabernet sauvignon. After being carefully hand-picked and swiftly pressed, the grapes are transformed into exceptional wines using traditional methods. Enjoy a tour of the vineyards and cellars, followed by a tasting session where you can savour the region's exquisite wines crafted with passion and tradition.

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Day 9 Ravenna  
 (Port:  
 Ravenna)

Once the capital of the Western Roman Empire and later the Byzantine Empire in Italy, Ravenna boasts a wealth of UNESCO World Heritage Sites that showcase its ancient glory. Its strategic location near the Adriatic Sea made it an ideal centre for administration and defence against northern invaders during the declining years of Rome, placing the empire's fate in the hands of Ravenna. In later years its renaissance attracted notable figures throughout history, including Dante Alighieri, the renowned Italian poet, whose tomb remains a place of pilgrimage for literature enthusiasts. A guided tour is highly recommended to fully appreciate the city's rich history and its remarkable mosaics, which tell their own captivating story. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: Walking Ravenna – A Tale Told by Tiles. Beyond its historical importance, Ravenna is celebrated for its aesthetic charm, vividly brought to life by our local guide on this leisurely walking tour. The city's well-preserved monuments and churches are adorned with some of the world's most intricate mosaics from the Byzantine era, such as those found in the Basilica di San Vitale and the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia. During a time when the written word was not accessible to everyone, these intricate images conveyed stories not only from the Bible but also of everyday life and moral ideals. As we view them through the eyes of a past resident of Ravenna, we gain insight into their joys and hardships, offering us a unique glimpse into historical life. These colorful tiles narrate the city's intertwined faith and destiny, making Ravenna's story truly captivating. We will also visit a mosaics workshop to meet the artisans preserving these works of art and learn more about their craft and even try our hand at creating our own mosaic. Option 2 – Morning experience: The Mural Village of Dozza. Set among the picturesque hills of Emilia-Romagna, just under an hour's drive from Ravenna, the village of Dozza offers a unique blend of history, art and culture. Known for its vibrant murals and imposing castle, Dozza is a truly unique Italian village. As you stroll through its streets, you follow the vibrant murals adorning the walls of houses and buildings. These artworks, created by renowned international artists, transform the village into an open-air gallery. Every two years, during the Biennale del Muro Dipinto, new murals are added, ensuring that Dozza's artistic landscape is ever evolving. The heart of Dozza is its medieval castle, Rocca Sforzesca. This well-preserved fortress dating back to the 13th century offers a fascinating glimpse into the region's past. Inside, you can explore the richly decorated rooms, ancient armoury and chapel. A visit to Dozza is a journey through time and creativity, making it a must-see destination for art lovers and history enthusiasts alike.

Day 9 Ravenna  
 Excursion  
 Introduction

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Day 10 Rovinj,  
 Croatia (Port:  
 Rovinj)

The Istrian Peninsula, nestled at the crossroads of Croatia, Slovenia, and Italy, is rich in Roman heritage. Today, we dock at the picturesque enclave of Rovinj, granting us access to both the town and its scenic surroundings. We start with a morning experience before returning to the ship for lunch. The afternoon is yours to explore Rovinj's charming streets, savour a cool drink at a waterfront bar, or relax on a nearby beach. We set sail in the early evening as the sun sets over this enchanting town. Ancient ruins like well-preserved amphitheatres and its terrain, bearing witness to centuries of Roman influence. Istria's prized olive oil tradition underscores its Mediterranean charm, with groves dating back through the ages. The wealth brought by this 'liquid gold' to the former Roman colony still resonates today, making Istria a favoured holiday destination for Italians, Slovenians, and Croatians alike. Among its gems, romantic Rovinj shines as Istria's star attraction—a picturesque Mediterranean fishing port with morning markets, scenic cliffside views, renowned restaurants, beautiful beaches, and a year-round calendar of cultural events. Climbing the bell tower offers vistas of Rovinj's historic centre and the Adriatic Sea beyond. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: The Roman Town of Pula. Our morning is spent in the nearby town of Pula, founded by the mythical Jason and Medea. The port city of Pula is renowned for its well-preserved Roman heritage, most notably the Pula Arena, the sixth largest and one of the best-preserved Roman amphitheatres in the world. Built in the 1st century AD, it continues to host concerts and events today. The city's Roman Forum, Temple of Augustus, and Arch of the Sergii stand amongst the modern-day city as testament to its ancient past. Pula's strategic location on the Adriatic coast has made it a bustling port city since antiquity. Its current work-a-day atmosphere contributes to its charm as a working city, which has been its role since ancient times. Option 2 – Morning experience: Istria's Liquid Gold. Enjoy a locally guided walking tour of Rovinj, beginning with a stroll to the Town Square and continuing to the hilltop St. Euphemia Church. Following the tour, board your coach and head to the Istrian countryside. Olive oil production in Istria dates to Roman times when it was a significant contributor to the local economy. The region's fertile soil and favourable climate made it an ideal location for cultivating olives, which were highly valued by the Romans for culinary and medicinal purposes. The trade of olive oil from Istria was a crucial part of the Roman economy, contributing to the prosperity of the region. Today, olive groves still dot the landscape, continuing this rich tradition. We arrive at an award-winning olive grove specialising in growing olives and producing top-quality, extra virgin olive oils. Istrian olive oil is listed among the top 15 olive oils in the world and has been declared the 'most promising in the world' by the renowned guide 'L'Extravergine'. We learn about the fascinating production process during a guided tour of the property before enjoying an olive oil tasting accompanied by smoked ham, cheese, bread, and wine. A scenic 30-minute drive returns us to Rovinj.

Day 10 Rovinj  
 Excursion  
 Introduction

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Day 11  
 Disembark  
 Venice San  
 Basilio, Italy  
 (Port: Venice  
 San Basilio)

Sailing past San Marco and Venice's famous sites we disembark at the Venetian port of San Basilio on the island of Venice, for a day in this fascinating city. The true magic of Venice is that no matter how many times you visit, it remains a surreal experience. It's almost impossible to believe that people live and go about their daily lives in this 'movie-set' city. Founded in the 5th century as a refuge from barbarian invasions, Venice rose to become a powerful maritime republic and a major centre of trade and culture during the Middle Ages and Renaissance. At the height of its wealth and influence, Venice expanded its empire, leaving an indelible mark across the Mediterranean, evident in the architecture, art, and culture from the Dalmatian coast to the Ionian Islands. Unlike many great cities, Venice lacks grand boulevards, world-class entertainment facilities, and bright neon signage. Its true allure lies in the city's ability to transport visitors to another world. It is the Venetians who reveal Venice's true character. In winter, they wear real fur and don sunglasses day and night as they emerge from hidden trattorias, skilfully avoiding the tourist menus. They navigate the city using vaporetto's, not gondolas, purchase Murano glass directly from the island of Murano, and shrug off remarks regarding the canals' odours with disdain. Today, our Venetian guides lead us through their city as honoured guests. We spend time in Saint Mark's Square, marvel at the eclectic Saint Mark's Basilica, sigh at the Bridge of Sighs, and navigate the maze of alleys leading to the Rialto Bridge. No visit to Venice is complete without an exploration of the city's canals by gondola. Our gondolier will navigate us through a series of waterways, offering us a unique insight into the 'other side' of Venice—a view from the city's many canals. With time to explore further at your own pace Venice is yours, before we meet our guides and join a vaporetto, Venice's own water ferry service, to make our way to our hotel. This evening, we celebrate our journey with a Farewell Event. Accommodation: Hampton Inn, Venice. Meals: Breakfast onboard, Farewell dinner and drinks.

Day 11 Venice  
 Excursion  
 Introduction

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Day 12 Depart  
 Venice

This morning, check out of your hotel and say farewell to your fellow travellers, as you transfer to Venice Marco Polo Airport for your onward flight. Meals: Breakfast

#### Im Preis inbegriffen

- Airport arrival and departure transfers to/from our group hotel on the first day and final day of your voyage package
- One night's hotel accommodation, including breakfast, in Valletta on Day 1
- One night's hotel accommodation, including breakfast, in Venice on Day 11
- Onboard accommodation during voyage, including daily cabin service
- All meals, snacks, tea, coffee, soft drinks and juices during voyage
- Meals listed as included during shore excursions and land portions of the package
- Beer and house wine with dinner
- Captain's Farewell reception including four-course dinner, house cocktails, house beer and wine, non-alcoholic beverages
- Pre-voyage and post-voyage excursions as listed\*
- 'Your Choice' shore excursions as listed\*
- Enrichment experiences as listed, including Welcome and Farewell Events
- Presentations and guiding services provided by our Voyage Host, Aurora Expeditions Team and local operators
- Gratuities during excursions and enrichment program for local guides, drivers, venues and local sites
- Port surcharges, permits, tender, pilot and landing fees
- Onboard Wi-Fi
- Headsets are available for use during our 'Your Choice' experiences when needed
- Complimentary access to onboard expedition doctor and medical clinic (initial consultation)
- Comprehensive pre-departure information

\*Our 'Your Choice' shore excursions listed in the itinerary are included. One excursion per person per port of call and city stay package is included, unless stated otherwise. Note, the listed experiences are indicative only. These must be reserved through our passenger portal at least 60 days prior to embarkation and cannot be amended after this time. If we do not receive your choices by this time, you will be allocated excursions by our automated system. Due to restrictions imposed by site management and government bodies, we must have your passport details to purchase tickets for the included sites at the time of booking. We will always do our best to provide you with your first preference of shore excursion; however, we may occasionally need to place you on an alternative excursion for operational reasons.

#### Nicht im Preis inbegriffen

- International or domestic flights – unless specified in itinerary
- Transfers – unless specified in itinerary
- Airport arrival or departure taxes
- Passport, visa, reciprocity and vaccination fees and charges
- Travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges
- Hotels and meals – unless specified in the itinerary
- All items of a personal nature, including but not limited to, alcoholic beverages (outside of dinner service), on board gratuities#, laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, email or phone charges

#Note: A US\$15 USD per person per day gratuity for the crew is automatically added to your onboard account. It is at your discretion if you would like to remove the tip (or adjust the amount) when you settle your bill. It is not necessary to tip the Aurora Expeditions Team members. This gratuity amount is included for suites as part of their 'Suite Benefits'.

## *Ihr Schiff*

Ihr Schiff ist die "Douglas Mawson". Ausführlich stellen wir Ihnen dieses Schiff auf unseren Schiffseiten vor. [Ausführliche Informationen zu diesem Schiff.](#)

Passagiere  
154

Bordsprachen  


Eisklasse  
1A

