



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours



Western Mediterranean Civilizations
Sicily, Tunisia, Sardinia & Menorca
Aboard Sea Cloud II

October 13 – 22, 2024

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

SAIL aboard the elegantly appointed *Sea Cloud II* on a Western Mediterranean cruise between Europe and Africa, discovering ancient treasures in Sicily, Tunisia, Sardinia, and the Spanish island of Menorca

UNCOVER Sicily's ancient Greek grandeur at the UNESCO-listed, 2,500-year-old Valley of the Temples and the fifth-century-B.C. Temple of Segesta, guided by experts who will share details on their latest archaeological discoveries

DISCOVER the UNESCO-listed city of Carthage, the ninth-century-B.C. Phoenician settlement that became one of antiquity's most consequential imperial cities, later conquered by Rome

TAKE a private look at the world's greatest collection of Roman polychrome mosaics at Tunis's recently reopened Bardo Museum, housed in a historic palace

JOIN historians for a walking tour through the medieval medina of Tunis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you will see the eighth-century-A.D. Zitouna Mosque, Tunisia's largest mosque and the oldest in the city

EXPLORE Sardinia's ancient Roman ruins of Nora, guided by local historians who will bring the city's past to life

CRUISE to Menorca for an inside look at the Museu de Menorca's little-seen treasures from the island's prehistoric Talayotic, ancient Roman, medieval Islamic, and Byzantine occupiers



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Dear National Trust Traveler,

In October 2024, you're invited on a special intercontinental odyssey through the Western Mediterranean. Cruise aboard the luxurious *Sea Cloud II* from Malta, sailing in the wake of ancient adventurers between Southern Europe and North Africa. Step ashore in Sicily, Sardinia, Tunisia, and the Balearic island of Menorca, less-traveled regions steeped in history, from ancient Phoenician and Greek legacies to Roman influences. With expert guides, encounter unspoiled hidden gems from history's most legendary civilizations. Venture behind the scenes at UNESCO World Heritage Sites and world-renowned museums housing eclectic treasures.

On the Italian island of Sicily, with its sun-kissed pastures and lava-scorched mountains, experience the lavish world of Magna Graecia, a once-thriving ancient Greek colony. Learn about recent archaeological discoveries, such as terracotta vases, votive objects, and ornate altars, as you enjoy an inside look at the 2,500-year-old, UNESCO-listed Valle dei Templi (Valley of the Temples) and the remarkably well-preserved Temple of Segesta.

In North Africa, arrive in Tunisia's capital, Tunis, where your expert guides will unveil the layers of ruins in the UNESCO-listed city of Carthage, from its Phoenician foundations to the spectacular villas of its Roman conquerors. A private tour of Tunis's recently reopened Bardo Museum will introduce you to one of the world's largest collections of ancient Roman polychrome mosaics. You will join historians on a tour of the city's UNESCO-recognized medieval medina and grand eighth-century A.D. mosque. Then sail to Sardinia, where a privately guided tour of the Roman city of Nora will reveal an incredible ancient theater, intricate mosaics, and bath complexes.

Before disembarking in Tarragona, Spain, visit Mahón on the island of Menorca, a melting pot of Roman, Spanish Islamic, and Byzantine influences. A behind-the-scenes look at the modern Museu de Menorca, housed in a 17th-century Franciscan convent, will showcase the island's diverse history through Roman mosaics, Islamic ceramics, and exquisite paintings. Discover the Torre d'en Galmés, one of the region's largest prehistoric settlements, where scholars will guide us through its distinctive stone *talayots* (watchtowers), mysterious caves, and unique chambers, all features unseen elsewhere in the world.

We hope you join us for this enriching Mediterranean voyage between Europe and Africa, where layers of history will unfold before your eyes, revealing mesmerizing cultural wonders.

Sincerely,

Meg Annacone-Perez
Director, National Trust Tours



Dancing Satyr, Mazara del Vallo, Sicily, Italy

 Find us on
Facebook

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities. For more information, visit the Trust's website at www.savingplaces.org or phone (800) 944-6847 or (202) 588-6000.

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Alternatively, you may opt to transfer to the village of Mazara del Vallo to see its spectacular seven-foot bronze statue, retrieved from the sea by local fishermen. With his flying hair and goat ears, the figure was quickly dubbed *The Dancing Satyr*. B,L,D

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13: DEPARTURE

Depart for Valletta, Malta, on an overnight flight.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14: VALLETTA, MALTA / EMBARK *SEA CLOUD II*

Arrive this morning in Valletta and gather for lunch. Afterwards, board the elegant *Sea Cloud II* and set sail for Sicily. L,D

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15: PORTO EMPEDOCLE (SICILY), ITALY / AGRIGENTO

Sea Cloud II arrives this morning at Porto Empedocle, where you will transfer to beautiful Agrigento, formerly the ancient Greek city of Akragas. Discover the Valle dei Templi (Valley of the Temples), a UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring colossal ancient Greek temples. The site's nearly intact Tempio della Concordia is perhaps the world's most well-preserved Greek temple, featuring a bronze statue of the fallen Icarus by Polish sculptor Igor Mitoraj. Archaeologists recently unearthed 60 terracotta vases and other votive objects at the site. Tonight, gather for the captain's welcome reception and dinner. B,L,R,D

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16: TRAPANI / SEGESTA OR MAZARA DEL VALLO / AFTERNOON AT SEA

From the port of Trapani, transfer to the magnificent Tempio di Segesta and its adjacent theater, which were built in the fifth century B.C. and remain in remarkable condition. While exploring the site with your expert guide, learn how local authorities recently unearthed an extraordinarily well-preserved altar here from the Hellenistic period more than 2,000 years ago.



Bardo Museum, Tunis, Tunisia

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17: TUNIS, TUNISIA / CARTHAGE

Upon arrival in Tunis, join an expert guide for a tour of the ancient ruins and Roman villas of Carthage, founded by Phoenicians in the ninth century B.C. and later claimed by Rome. Then join a privately guided visit to the recently reopened Bardo Museum, renowned for its extensive collection of Roman polychrome mosaics, which depict scenes of ancient daily life. A highlight is the *Virgil Mosaic*, which shows the Latin poet flanked by Melpomene and Clio, the muses of tragedy and history. Following this, enjoy a walking tour through the historic medina of Tunis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site dating back to 698 A.D. Key landmarks include the eighth-century-A.D. Zitouna Mosque, Tunisia's largest mosque and the oldest in the city. B,L,D

Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18: CAGLIARI OR NORA (SARDINIA), ITALY

On Sardinia’s southern coast in Cagliari, the island’s capital, take an expert-guided walking tour through the maze-like streets of the Old Town, also known as Castello. Highlights include the Piazza del Palazzo, home to the 13th-century Duomo di Cagliari. Alternatively, transfer to Nora, beautifully situated on a promontory overlooking the sea. Conquered by the Romans in 238 B.C., Nora holds marvelous ruins including a theater, an aqueduct, a nymphaeum, baths with amazing mosaic floors, and a sanctuary dedicated to Asclepius, the god of healing. B,L,D

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19: DAY AT SEA

Discover the thrill of scenic sailing aboard the legendary *Sea Cloud II*. Under a full set of billowing white sails, sit down for fascinating talks from our lecturers. B,L,D

Ruins at Nora, Sardinia, Italy



Mahón, Menorca, Spain



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20: MAHÓN (MENORCA), SPAIN / TORRE D’EN GALMÉS

Recognized as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, the island of Menorca was home to the distinctive Talayotic culture of the Iron Age, known for its *talayots* (watchtowers), followed by Roman, Muslim, Aragonese, and 18th-century British rule. As *Sea Cloud II* approaches the picturesque harbor of Mahón, enjoy lunch on the Lido Deck as we pass the monumental 19th-century stone fortress Fortaleza de la Mola. Upon arrival, take a private tour of the Museu de Menorca, housed in a 17th-century Franciscan convent, where you will admire exhibits representing Menorca’s cultural heritage, from prehistoric relics and Roman mosaics to Islamic and medieval objects.

Visit the Mercat del Claustre, a vibrant food market offering delicacies like sharp, buttery Mahón cheese and *ensaïmada* (a sweet rolled pastry). Head inland for a behind-the-scenes visit to the large prehistoric settlement of Torre d’en Galmés, featuring well-preserved ruins of *talayots* and a labyrinthine network of caves and chambers. With the ship departing later in the evening, enjoy free time along Mahón Harbor. B,L,D

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21: DAY AT SEA

Today, enjoy the continuation of talks from the lecturers. Attend a farewell reception and dinner this evening. B,L,R,D

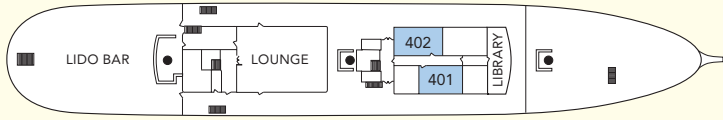
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22: TARRAGONA / DISEMBARK / BARCELONA / RETURN

Disembark this morning in Tarragona, Spain, and transfer to the Barcelona airport for flights home. B

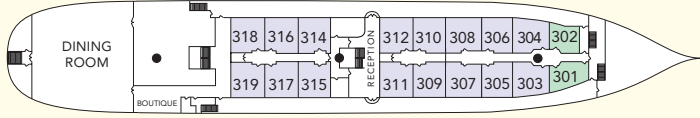
This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The National Trust for Historic Preservation and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

SEA CLOUD II

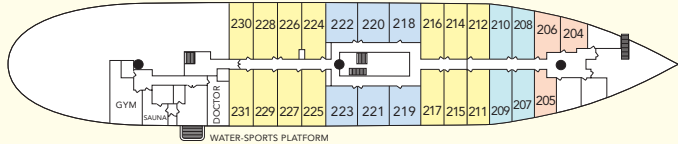
LIDO DECK



PROMENADE DECK



CABIN DECK



CRUISE RATES

(Per Person)

Cabins	Decks	Double Rates	Single Rates
204 to 206	Cabin	\$9,999	\$11,999
Upper/lower twin berths, shower			
207 to 210	Cabin	\$12,999	\$19,499
Superior Cabins. Twin beds, shower			
211 to 217 & 224 to 231	Cabin	\$14,999	\$22,499
Deluxe Cabins. Twin beds, shower			
218 to 223	Cabin	\$15,999	Inquire
Double bed (two separate mattresses), shower			
301 & 302	Promenade	\$16,999	Inquire
Deluxe Cabins. Twin beds, shower			
303 to 319	Promenade	\$17,999	Inquire
Junior Suites. Twin beds, bathtub with shower			
401 & 402	Lido	\$20,999	Inquire

Owner's Suites. Queen-size bed, bathtub, and separate shower

RATES INCLUDE

- Eight nights cabin accommodations aboard *Sea Cloud II*
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; thoughtfully selected wine and beer with onboard lunches and dinners; complimentary open bar aboard *Sea Cloud II* throughout the cruise (including all standard spirits)
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities; taxes, service, and portage charges

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES: International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

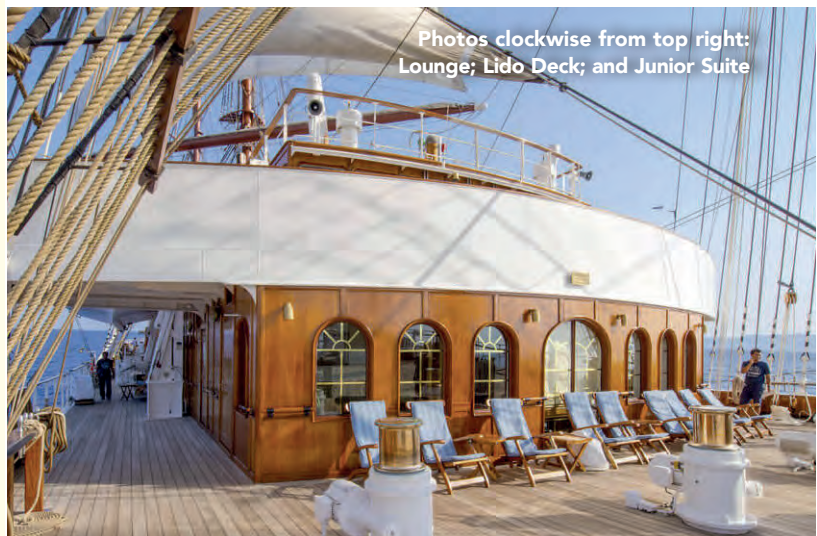
INSURANCE National Trust Tours strongly suggests the purchase of travel insurance. For more information on policy options, visit <https://my.travelinsure.com/nationaltrust/plan/> or call 1-800-937-1387.

SEA CLOUD II



Sea Cloud II

Sea Cloud II is a three-masted sailing yacht steeped in the elegance of yesteryear and complemented with the most modern amenities. Sister ship of the legendary *Sea Cloud*, *Sea Cloud II* has 47 outside cabins and travels under 23 billowing sails trimmed by hand. From the mahogany-paneled library and gracious lounge to the gym and watersports platform, no detail has been overlooked. Praised by the world's most discerning travelers, *Sea Cloud II* receives consistently high rankings from *Condé Nast Traveler*. Passengers enjoy open seating at all meals and complimentary use of all water sports equipment. A doctor is on call 24 hours a day. Please note that there is no elevator on *Sea Cloud II*.



Photos clockwise from top right: Lounge; Lido Deck; and Junior Suite



RESERVATION INFORMATION

To secure your cabin, please call National Trust
Tours at **888-484-8785**.

A deposit of \$1,000 per person
(of which \$500 is non-refundable for
administrative fees) is required.





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1155 15th Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
(888) 484-8785 or (202) 588-6300
www.nationaltrusttours.com
info@nationaltrusttours.com

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Front cover: Trapani, Sicily, Italy. Back cover: Zitroun Mosque, Tunis, Tunisia (top)
and Valley of the Temples, Sicily, Italy (bottom).

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