

National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

Timeless Islands of the Mediterranean Palermo to Nice Aboard *Sea Cloud II*

October 8 – 16, 2026

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Cruise to the Mediterranean's less well-known yet culturally rich island jewels aboard the elegant *Sea Cloud II*. From Sardinia's golden shores to Corsica's rugged cliffs, each stop will peel back layers of ancient cultures and introduce you to incomparable natural wonders.

In Sardinia's capital Cagliari, wander cobblestone streets past medieval towers and Roman ruins. Choose between exploring the Old Town's 13th-century cathedral or venturing to Nora's Punic and Roman remains adorned with intricate mosaics. Be on deck as Corsica's Bonifacio greets you with towering white limestone cliffs. Scale its winding medieval lanes to discover two remarkable medieval churches.

On Elba, walk in Napoleon's footsteps at his summer villa, then savor local wines at an 18th-century vineyard overlooking the sea. On the mainland, delight in a daylong guided immersion in Genoa, Italy's largest port city, and its wealth of Renaissance and Baroque treasures, including the Basilica della Santissima Annunziata del Vastato, with its marvelous 17th-century frescoes, and Villa del Principe, the grand *palazzo* of 16th-century admiral Andrea Doria.

Extend your adventure with an optional prelude in Palermo, Sicily, exploring the city's most famous, UNESCO-listed Arab-Norman monuments including the Palazzo dei Normanni and its splendid 12th-century Cappella Palatina.



CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the romance of a bygone era aboard Sea Cloud II as you cruise the Mediterranean's vividly blue waters to some of its most historically important yet less well-known islands
- In Sardinia, join expert guides to explore Nora's remarkably preserved ruins, including a second-century A.D. Roman theater and intricate mosaic floors, revealing layers of contributions from its Punic, Roman, and Byzantine rulers
- Stand on deck as Sea Cloud II approaches French Corsica and Bonifacio's medieval citadel perched atop 200-foot-tall white limestone cliffs, stepping ashore for an inside look at its 12th-century churches
- On the island of Elba, enjoy an expert-guided tour of Villa Sa Martino, Napoleon's residence during his exile, followed by a private tasting at a historic vineyard with sweeping Mediterranean views
- In Genoa, birthplace of Christopher Columbus, meet experts for guided looks at its Renaissance and Baroque treasures, including 17th-century frescoes inside the Basilica della Santissima Annunziata del Vastato



Nora, Sardinia

Extend the adventure with an optional Palermo prelude with dates, pricing, and itinerary details to come.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8: DEPARTURE

Depart for Palermo, Italy, on an overnight flight.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9: PALERMO, SICILY, ITALY / **EMBARK SEA CLOUD II**

Arrive in Palermo, Sicily, with early guests gathering for lunch. This afternoon, board the elegant Sea Cloud II. L.D

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10: DAY AT SEA

As we make our way to Sardinia, savor the thrill of cruising aboard the legendary Sea Cloud II under a full set of billowing sails. This evening, gather for the captain's welcome reception and dinner. B.L.R.D

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11: CAGLIARI, SARDINIA, ITALY / **AFTERNOON AT SEA**

Arrive in Cagliari, Sardinia's capital, along the island's southern coast. 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 B,L,D of healing.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12: MORNING AT SEA / **BONIFACIO, CORSICA, FRANCE**

In the morning, stand on deck as the ship navigates the scenic, fjord-like waterway into Corsica and arrives at the awe-inspiring port of Bonifacio. Built on impressive, white limestone cliffs, stroll through this hilltop town, with its ninth-century citadel, winding medieval lanes, Gothic architecture, and dramatic views.

On a walking tour, see two remarkable churches. First, take a guided look at Église Sainte-Marie-Majeure, Bonifacio's oldest building, constructed by Pisan hands in the 12th century. The church's plain exterior masks an unusual interior that will spark your curiosity about Corsica's medieval era. Then take an inside look at the Église Saint-Dominique de Bonifacio, Corsica's biggest church, built between 1270 and 1343 on ground once held by Templars.

Stop at the imposing **Porte de Gênes**, a 12th-century Genoese fortification that stood guard over Bonifacio's citadel for hundreds of years. Pause to gaze at the sea-andsky panorama that has awed travelers for centuries. Set sail in the evening, and head north to Elba. B,L,D



Bonifacio, Corsica, France

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13: MORNING AT SEA / PORTOFERRAIO, ELBA, ITALY

Step ashore on Elba, best known as Napoleon's island of exile from 1814 to 1815. From Elba's capital of Portoferraio, set out for a delightful drive through the southern region, with superb views over the coastline. The first stop will be Villa San Martino. which was the summer residence of Napoleon Bonaparte and is now a museum. Later, enjoy some time at leisure browsing the boutiques of Porto Azzurro, dominated by a 16th-century Spanish fortress and a picturesque harbor.

Continue along the coast to Tenuta La Chiusa, an 18th-century vineyard estate surrounded by olive trees and overlooking the ocean. Enjoy a private look at the estate's cellar, built in 1700, to learn how the wine is handled and produced. In the garden facing the sea, enjoy a delicious sampling of the local product.



Portico Antico designed by Renzo Piano, Genoa, Italy

WEDENSDAY, OCTOBER 14: PORTOFINO

In the late morning, step ashore in the Italian Riviera village of **Portofino**, where the hills and verdant harbor have inspired generations of artists. Opt for a light hike for some spectacular views of the coastline along with the colors and scents of the Mediterranean vegetation. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure for independent exploration of this coastal village. B,L,D

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15: GENOA

As your ship docks in **Genoa**, Italy's busiest port, prepare for a day of Renaissance grandeur mixed with modern innovation. Begin at the **Porto Antico**, where native architect Renzo Piano transformed the ancient harbor into a vibrant waterfront. Ascend 131 feet in Piano's **II Bigo** lift for breathtaking views of the city and sea.



San Lorenzo Cathedral, Genoa, Italy

Your expert guide will lead you to the **San Lorenzo Cathedral**, a masterpiece of Romanesque and Gothic architecture. Marvel at its distinctive black-and-white striped façade, intricate portals, and the unexpected sight of a preserved World War II bomb inside—a poignant reminder of Genoa's resilience.

Next, step into the Baroque splendor of the **Basilica della Santissima Annunziata del Vastato**. Here, 17th-century Genoese artists have created a luminous wonderland of frescoes, gilded stuccoes, and inlaid marble. Your guide will point out works by masters like Giovanni Andrea Ansaldo and Domenico Piola.

The afternoon takes you behind the scenes at **Villa del Principe**, the grand palazzo of Andrea Doria, Genoa's powerful 16th-century admiral. Wander through formal gardens that stretch to the sea, then enter rooms adorned with magnificent tapestries and frescoes. In the Salone dei Giganti, your guide will decode Perino del Vaga's elaborate frescoes, revealing how they celebrate Doria's achievements and lineage. Return to *Sea Cloud II* for the captain's farewell reception and dinner. B,L,R,D

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16: NICE, FRANCE / DISEMBARK / RETURN

Disembark *Sea Cloud II* in Nice this morning, and transfer to the airport for flights home. B



Villa del Principe, Genoa, Italy

DISCLAIMER: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at <u>www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms</u>.

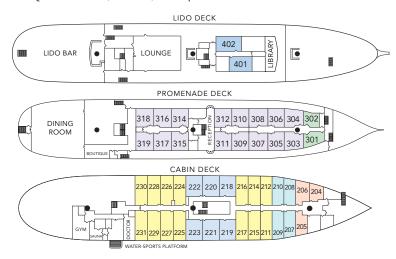
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CRUISE RATES

	Cabins	Decks	Double	Single
	Cabins 204 to 206	Cabin	\$7,999	\$9,999
	Upper/lower twin berths, shower			
	Superior Cabins 207 to 210	Cabin	\$10,499	\$15,399
	Twin beds, shower			
	Deluxe Cabins 211 to 217 & 224 to 231	Cabin	\$12,499	\$18,799
	Twin beds, shower			
	Deluxe Cabins 218 to 223	Cabin	\$14,499	Inquire
	Twin beds, shower			
	Deluxe Cabins 301 & 302	Promenade	\$15,999	Inquire
	Twin beds, shower			
	Junior Suites 303 to 319	Promenade	\$18,999	Inquire
	Twin beds, bathtub with shower			
	Owner's Suites 401 & 402	Lido	\$20,999	Inquire

Queen-size bed, bathtub, and separate shower



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.





Sea Cloud II Junior Suite (top) and Lido Deck (above)

RATES INCLUDE

- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard Sea Cloud II
- Meals as indicated on 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)
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Taxes, service, and porterage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities

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

Sea Cloud II