SAILING THE SPANISH AND FRENCH RIVIERAS
Barcelona to Nice aboard the 47-cabin Sea Cloud II
April 26–May 4, 2024
Dear Council Travelers,

Immerse yourself in beauty, culture, and delectable food and wine on an exploration of the Spanish and French Rivieras, from the art nouveau architecture of Gaudí’s Barcelona to the majestic Roman amphitheater at Arles and the lush landscapes that inspired Picasso and Cézanne.

Spend two full days strolling Barcelona’s famed Parc Güell and Las Ramblas and Gothic quarters, sampling local tapas and paella, experiencing Gaudí and Miró in the city where they created their masterpieces. Sip rosé and play boule along the Route of Cézanne in Provence. Wander iconic Roman ruins in Arles and wonder at Salvador Dalí’s surrealistic creations in his own castle. Discover one of the region’s living traditions with French cowboys at a working Camargue ranch, and dine at a historic Catalonian country property, sampling wines, cheeses and fresh-pressed olive oils. This journey will truly be a feast for the senses.

With four nights aboard Sea Cloud II, enjoy the unparalleled experience of cruising aboard one of the world’s finest sailing vessels, combining the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with the highest modern standards of luxury, on an itinerary carefully designed to maximize time under sail.

We will be joined by travelers from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Princeton Journeys, Tufts Travel-Learn, and Yale Alumni Academy, so I encourage you to reserve your space now by calling our office at (800) 942-5004 ext. 209 or 231, or emailing travel@wacphila.org.

We look forward to traveling with you,

Andrew Haught
Director of Travel
World Affairs Council of Philadelphia
HIGHLIGHTS

♦ Spend four nights aboard the legendary Sea Cloud II, an elegant three-masted vessel that is evocative of a classic tall ship from a bygone era, but with modern comforts.

♦ Savor meals and tastings that feature local specialties and wines of Catalunya and Provence, including a sampling of top wines, cheeses, olive oils, and salts at a historic countryside property.

♦ See an expert presentation about the ongoing construction of Gaudi’s landmark cathedral, the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona.

♦ Enjoy a private visit to a working cowboy ranch in the Camargue for a feast and a demonstration of horsemanship skills.

♦ Play boule (French bocce) with the locals at the foot of Mount Sainte-Victoire, a view memorialized by Paul Cézanne on many of his famous canvasses.
Friday – Saturday, April 26–27
Home / Barcelona, Spain
Depart home on overnight flights to Barcelona. Arriving Saturday, transfer to the five-star Hotel El Palace in the city center close to boutiques, markets, and historic sites for a three-night stay. This classic property has been frequented by Spanish artists including Dali and Miro since its founding as the Ritz in 1919. Gather at the hotel with fellow travelers this evening for dinner and a wine reception.
HOTEL EL PALACE (R,D)

Sunday, April 28
Barcelona
After breakfast, take an immersive guided tour through two of Antoni Gaudi’s famed Barcelona architectural masterpieces: The towering Sagrada Familia Basilica and the fanciful Parc Güell. A local guide will share the history and significance of these amazing creations, while explaining the ongoing 140-year construction project of the basilica. The afternoon is at leisure to tour the city independently, with a recommended visit to the Fundació Joan Miró which will be open late into evening. The museum houses thousands of the Barcelona native’s artworks and drawings.
HOTEL EL PALACE (B)

Monday, April 29
Barcelona
Begin with a walking tour of Las Ramblas and the Gothic Quarter for prime people-watching and window-shopping with a healthy dose of history, then experience the mouth-watering sights, smells, and tastes of the stalls of the famed La Boqueria market before lunch at a neighborhood restaurant. Also see the towering interior of the 500-year-old La Seu Cathedral with its awe-inspiring stained-glass windows, then journey into the 20th century at the Picasso Museum to discover this artist’s close links with Barcelona in some of his famous works. Top off the day’s tour at a traditional granja cafe for hot chocolate and ensaimada, a Catalan specialty.
HOTEL EL PALACE (B,L,D)

Tuesday, April 30
Barcelona / Embark
This morning, choose between: 1) A visit to Monserrat Monastery, an enormous structure in a seemingly impossible setting among mountain crags, with a vast basilica, iconic virgin sculpture, and a museum with world renowned art, or 2) A private tasting at a winery in the nearby Penedès region, most famous for its naturally sparkling cava wines. After lunch at a local restaurant, embark the majestic, three-masted Sea Cloud II in the afternoon for the first leg of a four-night, five day journey along the scenic shorelines of the Spanish and French Rivieras.
SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Wednesday, May 1
Figueres
Arrive in the Catalonian port city of Figueres where you’ll tour the Dalí Theatre-Museum, touted as “the largest surrealist object in the world,” to examine Salvador Dalí’s art and his connections to Catalonian culture. Continue to nearby Pubol to tour the medieval-modern workshops and art displays in the Gala Dalí Castle, which the eccentric artist designed for his wife. This evening, sail across the border to the French Riviera.
SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)
Thursday, May 2
Arles and the Camargue, France
Dock at the mouth of the Rhone River to visit Arles, a beautiful setting which served as inspiration to Van Gogh and many other regional artists. Travel through time while touring the city’s expanse of Roman and Romanesque monuments, many dating to the time the city was a metropolis in the 1st Century B.C. Experience true living culture in the afternoon on a journey to the countryside to visit a working ranch. Over a rich regional feast, enjoy a demonstration of amazing horsemanship skills by Camargue cowboys.

Friday, May 3
Marseille / Aix-en-Provence
Call at Marseille for a visit to picturesque Aix-en-Provence, a medieval university city that served as the inspiration, home, and workplace of Paul Cezanne, and continues to wow visitors with its architecture, shopping, and pedestrian-friendly streets. Spend the morning on a walking tour, strolling through markets bursting with fresh regional produce, flowers, local crafts, and handmade textiles. Then visit Cezanne’s historic studio in town, where the artist incorporated much of this local color into his masterpiece paintings. After an independent lunch and free time in town, ride along the “Route of Cezanne,” passing the scenic farms, forests, and mountains that starred as subjects in many of the artist’s works. Stop for a wine tasting in the shadows of craggy limestone peaks at Montagne St. Victoire to sip local rosé while trying boule (the French version of bocce ball).

Saturday, May 4
Disembark / Home
Arrive in Nice and transfer to the Nice-Cote d’Azur International Airport for flights home.

(Sea Cloud II (B,L,D))
The iconic *Sea Cloud II* is perhaps the most luxurious three-masted sailing yacht on the seas today. Like Marjorie Merriweather Post’s legendary *Sea Cloud*, she combines the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with the highest modern standards of luxury. In the grand tradition of the world’s finest sailing vessels, guests can experience this marvelous ship under sail as the skilled crew hand-sets over 30,000 square feet of canvas. The *Sea Cloud II* offers an intimate setting of just 47 beautifully appointed cabins, gracious common areas, world-class service, and 5-star dining.

**PROGRAM RATES (PER PERSON)**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE**

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including seven breakfasts, four lunches, six dinners, three hotel nights and four nights aboard *Sea Cloud II* - Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations - Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates - Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers and shipboard personnel for all group activities - Entrance fees and port charges - Welcome and farewell wine receptions - House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners - Filtered water on motorcoaches - Complete packet of pre-departure information - Professional tour manager throughout the program

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

This is a moderately strenuous program, at times physically demanding and busy, with considerable walking at some sites. The ship does not have an elevator, so you will need to navigate stairs, possibly while on choppy seas. Daily activities can involve miles of walking, often on cobbled streets and uneven terrain; elevators may not be available and stairs may not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health. Limited medical facilities are available on board the *Sea Cloud II*. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by The World Affairs Council of Philadelphia or Criterion Travel, local staff, and host country laws.

**GROUP SIZE**

This program is limited to 78 participants, including travelers from the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Princeton Journeys, Tufts Travel-Learn, and Yale Alumni Academy.
To reserve a place, please contact the World Affairs Council by phone at (800) 942-5004 or (215) 561-4700 x209 or x231, or mail a completed reservation form to: Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005.

For more information, please visit our website at www.wacphila.org/travel or email travel@wacphila.org.

NAME #1 (as it appears on passport)            BIRTHDATE

NAME #2 (as it appears on passport)            BIRTHDATE

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP or POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE MOBILE PHONE

E-MAIL 1

E-MAIL 2

DEPOSIT

☐ I'd like to pay my deposit by credit card. Once a request is received, a Travel Counselor from Criterion Travel will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Deposit may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA.

--OR--

☐ Enclosed is my check for $_________ ($1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel) to reserve ______ place(s) on Sailing the Spanish and French Rivieras

SINGLE TRAVELERS

☐ I prefer to have single accommodations (limited availability)

☐ I plan to share accommodations with:

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference:

1st Choice ___________ 2nd Choice ___________

Bed Preference (not guaranteed): ☐ One bed ☐ Two beds

I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein:

SIGNATURE             DATE

SIGNATURE             DATE

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SAILING THE SPANISH AND FRENCH RIVIERAS

aboard the 47-cabin Sea Cloud II

April 26–May 4, 2024

PROGRAM RATES

DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airline - Passport/Visa expenses - Medical expenses, immunizations, and COVID-19 testing if required at the time of travel - Travel and trip cancellation insurance - Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days - Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

A NOTE ABOUT RATES

• Tour rates are based upon current fuel prices, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed “Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk & Binding Arbitration Clause” is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

To reserve space, call (800) 942-5004 ext. 209 or 231, or email travel@wacphila.org, or return the completed reservation form with your $1,000 per person deposit to Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005, or fax to (503) 560-6400. Balance of payment is due December 28, 2023, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of a deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia and Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a $250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After December 28, 2023, final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate.

NOTE: Neither the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

HEALTH

All participants should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Criterion Travel, the tour operator. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, the tour operator reserves the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.
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