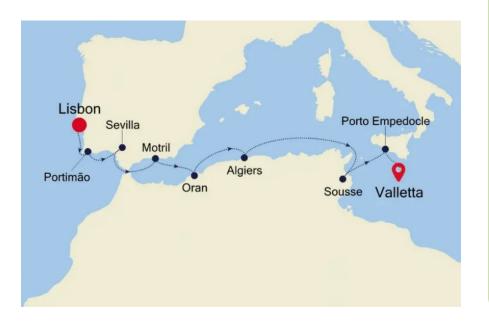
LISBON-VALLETTA



Why not spend ten days visiting some of southern Europe's most magical places? Set off from Lisbon bathed by the late summer sun and get ready for a joyous journey that takes in the beachy heaven of Portimao, the noble ancestry of Seville – to be fully enjoyed during an overnight – and Motril's lush, Moorish past. Over to north Africa for three days in Algeria and Tunisia before crossing the Mediterranean to Sicily. Disembark in Valletta.



DATE: 2022- SEP 6 | SEP 16*

DURATION: 12 DAYS/11 NIGHTS

EMBARK: LISBON, PORTUGAL

DISEMBARK: VALLETTA, MALTA *Reverse Itinerary

SHIP: Silver Cloud

FROM: \$6,800** All Inclusive - Free Economy Air or reduced Business Class Pre-cruise hotel and transfers Pre- and Post-Cruise tour are available. **\$4,950 "PORT-TO-PORT"

ITINERARY

DAY 1 - ARRIVE LISBON, PORTIGAL

A glorious mosaic of beauty, freedom and authenticity, Portugal's capital is a stirring artwork of a city. Known for the seven hills it spreads across, and its stirring fado music, Lisbon is a pastel-colored blend of houses and beautiful tile artworks and this creative city strikes a perfect harmony between natural and manmade beauty. The elegant Tower of Belém rises in the Tagus estuary and is a historic defender of these shores. The grand, carved cloisters of Jerónimos Monastery spread out close by, and there's another UNESCO recognized location close by at Sintra, where a colorful town is set amid thick gardens and towering mountains - capped by the royal Pena Palace.



NOTE: A pre-cruise hotel night and transfers are included. We strongly recommend arriving at least one day early in order to avoid complications which can arise due to flight delays, or other issues, and to see more of Lisbon and Portugal. We are happy to make arrangements, including multi-day explorations of Iceland.

DAY 2 – LISBON EXPLORATION - EMBARKATION

DAY 3 - PORTIMAO, PORTUGAL

Portimão is a beachy heaven and a perfect encapsulation of the Algarve's Atlantic appeals, offering easy access to the wonderful Praia da Rocha. Head straight for the long and wide expanse of this famous beach, where you can kick back and enjoy soft, honey-colored sands and gentle waves rolling ashore. Surrounded by offbeat fishing villages, stunning coastline and quaintly tiled old towns, there is a rich medley of life, culture



and flavors to indulge in. The Moorish trading outpost of Lagos is also within reach, where you can visit a coastline dotted with gaping sea caves, set below crumbling coastal fortresses.

DAY 3 - SEVILLE, SPAIN

Seville is a gorgeous Spanish town, most certainly the stuff of dreams. Over 2,200 years old, Seville is home to Flamenco, high temperatures and three UNESCO-World Heritage Sites. The birthplace of painter Diego Velazquez, the resting place of Christopher Columbus, the inspiration for Bizet's Carmen and a location for Game of Thrones filming, Seville is truly more than just a sum of its parts. This city is a full experience, a beguiling labyrinth of centuries old streets, tiny tapas restaurants serving possibly the best dishes you'll taste south of Madrid and a paradise of Mudejar architecture and tranquil palm trees and fountain-filled gardens.



DAY 4 - CRUISE SPAIN'S COSTA DEL SOL

DAY 5 – MOTRIL – GRANADA, SPAIN

Seeing the Alhambra palace sprawling majestically beneath the snow-sprinkled backdrop of the Sierra Nevada's range's peaks is one of Spain's most enchanting vistas. White sandy beaches welcome you ashore at Motril, and it's a short jaunt to the legendarily beautiful, sun-soaked setting of Granada where the famous and lush Moorish palace stands. Fountains sprinkle, archways soar, and intricate mosaics sparkle at the Alhambra - a fairy-tale palace, fortress and treasure of Spain's Moorish architecture.



DAY 6 - ORAN, ALGERIA

Algeria's second city Oran is a beautiful costal city, steeped in history, its origins dating back to the 10th century. A cultural melting pot of Islamic, Haussmann and Spanish influences all still visible today. The Santa Cruz fort is one of Oran's most famous landmarks, perched 400 meters up on Mt Aidour and visible from almost every corner of the city. The Medina Jdida area is the commercial hub of Oran and where the massive market of the same name is found. Selling absolutely everything imaginable, popular with the locals, there's a real buzz in the air.

DAY 7 - ALGIERS, ALGERIA

Along with museums and cultural sites, architecture offers a glimpse into Algiers' rich history, where French and Islamic influences exist side by side. Part of France from the mid 1800's, in 1962 Algiers battled and won independence. The heart of the city is the ancient Casbah, a crowded hillside of homes, ancient palaces and mosques, nicknamed "Algiers La Blanche" (Algiers the white) because of the whitewashed houses. An urban maze of steep streets, smelling of spices and coffee, that twist and turn, down to the sea. There are many beautiful mosques to visit from the oldest, the Great Mosque of Algiers built in 1097, to the Djamaan. El Djazair Mosque opened in 2020 with the world's tallest minaret, a staggering 256 meters tall.



DAY 8 – DAY AT SEA – CRUISE THE NORTH AFRICA COAST

DAY 9 – SOUSSE, TUNISIA

With more than 270,000 inhabitants Sousse is Tunisia's thirdlargest city. Located on the coast and bordering the Gulf of Hammamet, it is about 140 kilometers south of Tunis. Sousse's origin goes back to Hadrumetum, a Phoenician settlement in the Tunisian Sahel. It was later used by Romans, Vandals and the Byzantine Empire, but eventually destroyed in the 7th century during the Muslim conquest of North Africa. By the year 800 a border defense was set up at present day Sousse and it became an important commercial and military port under the Aghlabids. Located next to the port, several of Sousse's old structures are still well-preserved and are listed as "Historic Monuments", among them the Kasbah, the Medina of Sousse with the Great Mosque, the Bu Ftata Mosque and the Ribat, the most ancient and best-preserved fort and religious building.



DAY 10 - PORTO EMPEDOCLE, SICILY, ITALY

As the largest island in the Mediterranean and centrally located, Sicily attracted interest from many historical powers. Greece was one state which established colonies here. Their legacy lives on as Porto Empedocle is named after a Greek philosopher. Later, the Romans made sure Sicily was part of their empire. Both ancient Greek and Roman art and culture are recognized in two outstanding World Heritage Sites on Sicily.

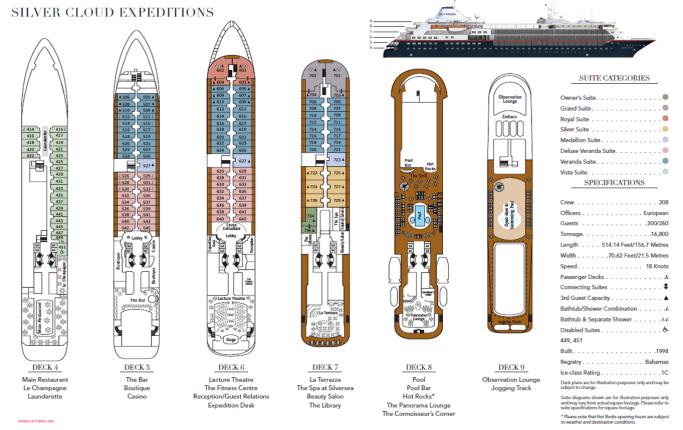
DAY 11 - VALLETTA, MALTA

Perched high on the imposing Sciberras Peninsula, Valletta immediately presents its massive, protective walls and vertical bastions to visitors arriving by sea. Built by the Knights of St John on the narrow peninsula, Valletta is a compact, richly historical treasure trove of Baroque wonders. Ascend to reach the restful, flower filled Upper Barrakka Gardens. Recognized as 2018's European Capital of Culture, Valletta is a fascinating and dense haven of history and intrigue. Mdina also waits nearby, and the former medieval capital is a striking contrast to the island's main city. Cars are barred from its streets, and it offers endlessly atmospheric old-time wanders. Independence from Britain was finally achieved in 1964, but the close allegiance remains evident, with English recognized as an official language, cars driving on the left, and red post boxes and telephone gleaming in Malta's sunshine.

Post-Cruise arrangements are available.







Rates are per person, based on Double Occupancy and Includes all beverages, gratuities to crew, all excursions, port charges, enrichment lectures by a highly qualified Expeditions Team, spacious suites, unlimited free Wifi, and more. **Pre- and Post-Cruise tours are available to suit your interests.** ***Port-to-Port** – Non-refundable deposit, no air or arrival transfers.



Reservations & Information 1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671) Email - info@explorcruises.com

www.explorcruises.com



SUITE/2022	SEP 6	SEP 16	
DOUBLE RATES		FULL FARE	PORT- PORT*
Vista	\$6,900	\$6,800	\$4,950
Veranda	\$7,900	\$7,900	\$5,950
Delux Veranda	\$8,900	\$8,900	\$6,850
Medallion	\$11,300	WL	
Silver	\$13,200	\$13,200	
Royal	\$15,500	\$15,500	
Grand	\$18,000	\$18,000	
Owners	\$21,100	\$26,100	