




Sardinia and Corsica: Islands of Forgotten Riches 2025

2 OCT – 19 OCT 2025

Code: 22533

Tour Leaders Dr Christopher A. Tuttle

Fitness Level 

Level 3 - Challenging

Among our most physically demanding

Journey through sublime coastal & mountain landscapes visiting the finest of Sardinia's & Corsica's cultural heritage: from Neolithic & Bronze Age, through Punic & Roman to Medieval & Renaissance.

Overview

This tour, led by archaeologist, [Dr Christopher A. Tuttle](#), to Sardinia and Corsica not only introduces a feast of sublime coastal and mountain landscapes but also explores how the history of the Mediterranean is at times encapsulated in and at others modulated by those of its islands.

- Enjoy fascinating marine, coastal and alpine environments that have nurtured unique species not found elsewhere in Europe. We journey along 3 of the most scenic drives in Corsica: the Route de Bavella, Scala di Santa Regina and the UNESCO World Heritage listed Les Calanches de Piana - a series of red rocks and cliffs that plunge 300 metres into the Mediterranean below.
- Explore the unique Prehistoric nuraghi sites of Sardinia where we encounter not just religious and funerary monuments but also military and domestic structures that provide a fascinating awareness of all aspects of Neolithic society.
- Visit the Necropolis of Montessu, one of Sardinia's most important pre-Nuragic archaeological sites dating to approximately 3000 BC; and view the ziggurat-like Copper-Age temple at Monte d'Accodi.
- See the Giganti di Mont'e Prama - Nuragic life-size stone figures representing warriors, boxers and archers presented in the archaeological museums of Cagliari and Cabras.
- In Southern Corsica view the prehistoric menhirs and dolmen of Cauria; the megalithic site of Filitosa with sculpted menhir statues, prehistoric towers and stone houses; and the prehistoric citadel of Cucuruzzu set in a forest of holm oaks.
- Visit Phoenician, Greek and Roman colonial settlements reflecting the vitality of trade in the ancient Mediterranean including the ancient cities of Nora and Tharros in Sardinia and the Roman port colony of Mariana in Corsica.
- View lovely Pisan Romanesque churches and powerful Genoese fortresses and coastal watchtowers built to counter the ever-present threats of European invaders, Muslim raiders, and the pirates that infested the sea throughout its history.
- Visit Pisan, Genoese, Spanish and French urban centres with palaces, cathedrals, the oratories of religious confraternities, and artisan districts with interesting vernacular housing.
- In the city of Napoleon's birth, Ajaccio, tour the Palais Fesch containing [France's](#) largest collection of Italian paintings outside the Louvre, with works by Botticelli, Veronese and Titian.
- Enjoy a boat excursion to UNESCO-listed Scandola Nature Reserve - where red ochre rock formations rise from a sea of lapis blue, providing a home to a wide range of sea birds.
- Take a ranger-led tour of Sardinia's Parco della Giara, home to over 350 plant species notably the Cork Oak, and the *Cavallino della Giara*, one of the last living wild horses in Europe.
- Dine at local restaurants and *agriturismo*; taste a unique cuisine born of the interaction of invading and indigenous cultures with the climate and soils of the islands.

Overnight Cagliari (3 nights) • Santa Caterina di Pittinuri (2 nights) • Alghero (2 nights) • Bonifacio (2 nights) • Sartène (2 nights) • Ajaccio (2 nights) • Piana (2 nights) • Bastia (2 nights)

Leaders



Dr Christopher A. Tuttle

ASA Academic and Outreach Coordinator Archaeologist on the Hellenistic and Roman periods of the Middle East and North Africa. Former Associate Director at ACOR in Jordan and former Executive Director of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. Current cultural heritage consultant for projects in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Chile, and Mongolia. He currently leads ASA tours to Jordan, Tunisia, Turkey, Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica.

Dr. Tuttle is an archaeologist studying the Hellenistic and Roman periods in the Eastern Mediterranean, with a specialization on the Nabataean kingdom and their capital city of Petra. This focus developed, however, from a broad interest in the ways that trade, religion, and colonisation played in shaping the histories and cultures of the Mediterranean world. His graduate studies began with examining the important roles played in the prehistoric periods by the island cultures of the Tyrrhenian Sea, including Sicily. His work then explored the Hellenisation of *Magna Graecia*, the lands colonised by the Greeks in southern Italy, Sicily, and Asia Minor, before turning his focus on the Middle East and North Africa.

Combine this tour with

Exploring the Literary Landscapes of England 2025

7 SEP – 27 SEP 2025

Finland: Architecture and Design 2025

16 SEP – 29 SEP 2025

Tunisia: From Carthage to the Sahara 2025

28 OCT – 14 NOV 2025



Itinerary

The following itinerary describes daily activities which may change or be rotated and/or modified in order to accommodate alterations in opening hours, road conditions, weather conditions, flight or ferry schedules etc. Participants will receive a final itinerary together with their tour documents prior to departure. The tour includes breakfast daily, lunches & dinners indicated in the detailed itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch and D=dinner.

Cagliari – 3 nights

Day 1: Thursday 2 October, Arrive Cagliari

- Tour commences at 2pm in the foyer of the Hotel Regina Margherita, Cagliari
- Welcome Meeting
- Orientation Walk: districts of Stampace, Villanova & Marina
- Welcome Dinner at Dal Corsaro

Meeting Point: The tour commences at 2pm in the foyer of the [Hotel Regina Margherita](#) located in the centre of Cagliari. Note: private transfers from the airport to the hotel can be arranged through the hotel's concierge, please contact ASA for further information.

Following a short welcome meeting we commence with an orientation walking tour of Cagliari. Situated on the Bay of Cagliari, the city is dominated by its citadel, perched high above houses that cascade down to the port.

This evening we enjoy a welcome meal at Dal Corsaro. Michelin-starred Dal Corsaro is an unmissable restaurant with a simple and elegant decor of arches, paintings and mirrors. The accomplished and thoughtful cuisine created by chef Stefano Deidda includes intriguing dishes that reflect and at the same time elevate the best Sardinian traditions.

(Overnight Cagliari) D

Day 2: Friday 3 October, Cagliari

- National Archaeological Museum, Cagliari
- Fort District & Cagliari Old Town: Palazzo Regio (by special appointment – to be confirmed closer to the date), Cathedral & Bastion St Remy

This morning we begin with a visit to the National Archaeological Museum located within the citadel. The museum holds Sardinia's major finds from the Nuragic, Phoenician and Roman periods and will therefore act as an introduction to the fascinating early history of Sardinia. A highlight are the Giganti di Mont'e Prama – Nuragic stone figures which we also view in Cabras.

This afternoon we resume our exploration of Cagliari's fort district and old town with visits to the cathedral which has a remodelled Pisan-Romanesque façade and the Royal palace, also known as the *Viceregio* (or Viceroyal palace). The palace was built in the 14th century as a residence for the king's representatives in Sardinia and was used as such by the Aragonese, the Spanish and the Savoyards, each of which left their own mark in their adaptations. The palace features fine halls adorned with fine paintings and frescoes. We also view the Bastion St Remy, an immense gateway to the Castello district, built into the city's medieval walls in the late 19th century. From the Umberto I terrace are sweeping views over Cagliari to the sea.

(Overnight Cagliari) B

Day 3: Saturday 4 October, Cagliari – Nora – Villaperuccio – Cagliari

- Ancient city of Nora
- Necropolis of Montessu, Villaperuccio

This morning we make an excursion to the ancient city of Nora, settled first by the Phoenicians and then by the Romans, who made it an administrative capital. Nora's exposed coastal position finally necessitated its abandonment after the fall of the Empire, and the site was plundered by Arab raiders. Important remains of the ancient city have, however, survived. We will see a lovely diminutive theatre that faces the sea, the substantial remains of the baths (Terme al Mare), a patrician villa that retains its floor mosaics, and a temple that occupies the end of the peninsula upon which Nora was built.

This afternoon is dedicated to visiting one of Sardinia's most important pre-Nuragic archaeological sites. The ancient Necropolis of Montessu, which occupies a natural rocky amphitheatre in the countryside of Villaperuccio, dates to the Ozieri period (approximately 3000 BC). The site is dotted with about forty primitive tombs known as *domus de janas* (literally 'fairy houses') some of which contain wonderful relief carvings including spirals, concentric circles and symbolic bulls. (Overnight Cagliari) BL

Santa Caterina di Pittinuri – 2 nights

Day 4: Sunday 5 October, Cagliari – Parco della Giara – Barumini – Parco della Giara – Santa Caterina di Pittinuri

- Parco della Giara
- Nuraghe Su Nuraxi di Barumini
- Village of Tuilli incl. Chiesa di San Pietro

This morning we drive to the Giara Plateau (also known as Giara di Gesturi), a high steep-sided basaltic

plateau located in the southern-central part of the island. It is home to over 350 plant species notably the Cork Oak, and the *Cavallino della Giara* (Giara Horse), one of the last living wild horses in Europe, probably introduced during the Nuraghic or Punic periods. Characteristic for their small size, dark mantle or dark bay, manes and very long tails, they are adapted to the particular environment of the Giara, with plenty of food and water during winter and spring and shortage of the same during summer and autumn. We take a ranger-led walking tour of the park and enjoy a lunch with selected local products.

We next drive to Barumini where we visit what is arguably Sardinia's most impressive nuraghe, the Nuraghe Su Nuraxi. The main tower, constructed around 1300 BC, was once much higher, a three-storey structure of over ten metres in height. It is, however, not just the massive circular stone defensive tower that makes this site most impressive. Excavations that took six years to complete revealed a large settlement composed of a myriad of smaller circular structures. This village, typical of the early settlement pattern of the indigenes of Sardinia, was still inhabited during the Roman period, although it had suffered some destruction. It shows the perseverance of Nuraghic culture under the Romans.

We then visit the small village of Tuilli which features distinctive stone manor houses built for the landowners of the ancient Spanish nobility. Within the village lies the Chiesa di San Pietro which houses an exquisite retable by the Maestro di Castelsardo (c.1500), a work considered to be one of the greatest artistic expressions of the Renaissance in Sardinia.

From Tuilli we continue our journey north to our hotel located in the coastal town of Santa Caterina di Pittinuri. (Overnight Santa Caterina di Pittinuri) BLD

Day 5: Monday 6 October, Santa Caterina di Pittinuri – Tharros – Cabras – Santa Caterina di Pittinuri

- Ancient site of Tharros
- Byzantine church of San Giovanni di Sinis
- Lunch at Agriturismo Pinuccia, Cabras
- Museo Civico Giovanni Marongiu of Cabras incl. the Giganti di Mont'e Prama

This morning we drive to the site of the Phoenician port of Tharros, which is situated at the tip of the Sinis Peninsula separating the great Gulf of Oristano from the Tyrrhenian Sea. Tharros, originally a Nuraghic settlement and then a strategic depot for the Phoenicians sailing into the Western Mediterranean, became an important Roman port after it was taken during the First Punic War (238 BC). We visit Tharros not so much for its monuments but for its magnificent, commanding site, which gives a vivid awareness of the role of maritime trade in Sardinia's coastal history. One of the most impressive structures on the site is the San Giovanni tower; its profile dominates a hill at the end of the peninsula. This medieval structure defended the peninsula from incursions from the sea.

San Giovanni di Sinis is a fine 10th- to 11th century church that was built around a much earlier Byzantine Greek-cross plan sanctuary of the 6th century. This is purportedly Sardinia's oldest extant church. It fell into disuse for centuries and functioned at times as a stable. It has now been restored, however, and is one of the most important pilgrimage centres of the island. The church was once surrounded by a village of thatched fishermen's huts, most of which have now disappeared.

Next we drive through the Cabras wetlands, one of the most important of their type in Europe. Connected to the sea, these tidal wetlands are often noted as the nesting grounds for the greatest number of birds and variety of species in Europe. They also are extremely rich in fish. Fishermen have lived here since the Middle Ages, and have supplied a large part of inland Sardinia for centuries; their traditional reed boats are of medieval origin. Most famous among the fish they catch is the Grey Mullett (*il muggine*), which features in a

number of local dishes. Locals also dry and cure the mullett's roe pouch and then grate or slice it to create produce *botargo*, a tasty condiment somewhat akin in taste and function to anchovies. Lunch will be served at Agriturismo Pinuccia, where Mrs Pinuccia and her family prepare homemade dishes using ingredients from their farm and fish sourced from the Cabras wetlands and the Gulf of Oristano.

Nearby is the archaeological site of Mont'e Prama where in 1974 Sardinian farmers discovered a stone head while ploughing their fields. This discovery uncovered what would become one of the most important Iron Age finds in the western Mediterranean. Over the course of decades over 5000 limestone fragments were harvested and reassembled into 28 stone giants (16 boxers, 6 archers and 6 warriors) rising up to two metres in height. They have highly stylised features such as triangular faces, T-shaped eyebrows and noses, and distinctive eyes represented by large, round concentric circles. The giants currently reside in the Museo Archaeological Nazionale which we visit in Cagliari, and the Municipal Museum of Giovanni Marongiu of Cabras. (Overnight Santa Caterina di Pittinuri) BLD

Alghero – 2 nights

Day 6: Tuesday 7 October, Oristano – Santa Cristina – Bosa – Alghero

- Sacred well and nuraghe, Santa Cristina
- Pilgrim church of Santa Cristina
- Malaspina Castle and frescoes of the Palatine Chapel of 'Nostra Signora di Sos Regnos Altos'
- San Pietro di Bosa
- Spectacular west coast drive from Bosa to Alghero

This morning we drive first to Santa Cristina, one of the richest Nuraghic sites in Sardinia. Santa Cristina is an excellent example of the endurance of Nuraghic culture (1500-1200 BC), even after the coast was settled by Phoenicians and Carthaginians, and then after the island became a province of Rome. Of particular significance to the importance of the site and continuity of ancient habitation is the extraordinary late Bronze Age temple well (11th to 9th centuries BC). Finely dressed masonry forms a keyhole entrance from which you descend to view a perfectly formed corbelled beehive vault. The vast number of nuraghe on the site shows that it had a large population that survived Roman rule.

Adjacent to the archaeological site is the 12th-century church of Santa Cristina, which is surrounded by *muristenes* (pilgrims' huts originally built for Camaldolesi monks). The church is the focus of the feasts of Santa Cristina and San Raffaele Arcangelo that attract many pilgrims.

The picturesque town of Bosa occupies the left bank of Sardinia's only navigable river, the Temo; the Romans created a riverine port here, and the Piedmontese established a thriving artisanal industry producing coral jewellery. Old tanneries, functioning until after WWII, form a UNESCO World Heritage site on the opposite bank of the river. The town's extant built environment, arguably the finest in Sardinia, owes much to a branch of the Tuscan Malaspina family, who in the 11th century established a powerful feudatory here and built the large (partly ruined) castle above the town. Defended by seven great towers, the castle is approached by narrow, steep medieval streets that run between transverse alleyways that curve, following the contours of the castle hill. Small, attractive houses line these medieval streets. Within the citadel is the small church of Nostra Signora de Regnos Altos. This 14th century church has interesting frescoes in a rustic Tuscan style, executed between 1350 and 1370.

Across the river from the historic centre is the Romanesque-Gothic masterpiece, the church of San Pietro di Bosa. This church, built, according to an interior inscription, by Bishop Constantino de Castra (1062-1073), has Romanesque, Gothic and late Medieval elements. The nave is in the Lombard Romanesque style. In the

late 12th century an apse was appended and the church's powerful tower constructed. Other French Gothic elements were added along the side façade by the Cistercians who took over the church. Its west façade, attributed to the architect Anselmo da Como, is beautifully proportioned. It is articulated by three great blind arches, and has circular windows with quatrefoil cusps, and an interesting lintel sculpture of SS. Peter and Paul, the Virgin and Child and St Anne in which Byzantine, Romanesque and Gothic elements mix.

Following free time for lunch and our tour of Bosa, we drive north along the spectacular west coast of Sardinia to Alghero. There will be numerous stops for people to take in, and photograph, the beautiful scenery. (Overnight Alghero) B

Day 7: Wednesday 8 October, Alghero – Monte D'Accoddi – Capo Caccia – Alghero

- Prehistoric Altar of Monte d'Accoddi
- Capo Caccia
- Palmavera Nuraghe (exterior only)
- Afternoon at leisure in Alghero

This morning we drive to Monte d'Accoddi, where we see the fascinating remains of what was a ziggurat-like Copper-Age temple (2450-1850 BC), more reminiscent of structures in Mesopotamia, Egypt and Central America than anything in Europe. The structure held an altar, and near the ramp leading to it stands a menhir, and there are other surrounding structures. Some scholars postulate that this was a sacred site as early as 5,000 BC.

Next, we enjoy some of the most spectacular scenery in Sardinia. We shall drive to the long peninsula, the Capo Caccia, whose western coast features very high cliffs that drop precipitously to the almost unbelievably clear waters. On our way back to Alghero, we pass the Palmavera Nuraghe, with a walled *enceinte* dominated by a high tower.

Old Alghero, one of Sardinia's most picturesque medieval towns, sits between its towered sea walls and the modern town, whose wealth is derived largely from fishing for lobster and sardines, and for its coral jewellery. It was founded in the 13th century by the Genoese and withstood Aragonese attacks for thirty years in the 14th century. Eventually it fell, and after a number of revolts the Sardinian population was expelled and replaced by Catalans. The citizenry therefore now speaks a Catalan dialect and the town is considered a mirror of Barcelona by the Spaniards.

This afternoon is at leisure for you to explore Alghero including its fortress sea walls and towers, the polychrome domed church of San Michele and the church of St. Francis whose pointed Aragonese tower dominates the city. You may also wish to take a ferry from Alghero's harbour to visit Neptune's Caves which feature a fine stalactites and stalagmites. This evening we celebrate our final night in Sardinia by dining together at a local restaurant (Overnight Alghero) BD

Bonifacio – 2 nights

Day 8: Thursday 9 October, Alghero – Codrongianos – Arzachena – Santa Teresa di Gallura – Bonifacio

- Santissima Trinità di Saccargia, Codrongianos
- Lunch at agriturismo Tenuta Pilastru
- Arzachena Archaeological Park including the Giant's tomb of Coddù Vecchiù & Nuraghe La Prisgiona
- Ferry from Sta Teresa di Gallura to Bonifacio (Corsica)

This morning we depart Alghero and begin with a visit to the Pisan Romanesque church of Santissima Trinità di Saccargia which was completed in 1116 on the ruins of a pre-existing monastery. The central apse was frescoed by an unknown artist from Italy at the end of the 12th century. They are the only surviving examples of Romanesque wall painting in Sardinia and include *Madonna praying with the Apostles* and five scenes from the passion of Christ.

We continue east across to the countryside of the Costa Smeralda for lunch at agriturismo, Tenuta Pilastru, which offers traditional Gallura dishes. We then visit the nuragic sites near Arzachena, including the 'giant tomb' of Coddù Vecchiu dating from the Bronze Age. The site, which consists of a stele, a circle of stone megaliths and a gallery grave, is one of the largest Nuragic Giants' graves on the island. So far, over three hundred such monuments have been discovered in Sardinia. Despite the imaginative name, the sites were not the burial site of any giant; they were giant community burial chambers. Nuraghe La Prisgiona, located nearby, consists of a nuraghe and a village comprising around 90-100 buildings, spread across 5 hectares.

This afternoon we make the crossing from Santa Teresa di Gallura to Bonifacio in Corsica, a one-hour ferry trip. So close are the islands that each can easily be seen from the other. In the past, however, when communications were slow and distances consequently much greater, they followed very different political and cultural paths. (Overnight Bonifacio) BL

Day 9: Friday 10 October, Bonifacio

- Orientation Tour of Bonifacio
- Cruise, including Island of Lavezzi (weather permitting)

Today we begin with an orientation tour of the small cliff-top fortress town of Bonifacio. Perched on high limestone cliffs forming a promontory between the sea and a deep, narrow inlet, the city is said to take its name from its founder, Bonifacio, Marquis of Tuscany, who visited the site whilst returning from a campaign in North Africa in 828 AD. For three centuries it was a centre for fishing and piracy. It was at times controlled by Pisa, but came under Genoese control in 1195. Migrants arrived from Liguria and the city became a republic with its own coinage. Genoese control was loose and the city at this time constructed massive walls to guard its (nominal) independence. The city fell to the French in 1553 but was recaptured by the Genoese. Many of the powerful fortifications that dominate it were constructed in the 17th century. Although it became a French possession in the 18th century, Bonifacio retained its Italian cultural orientation and this distinguishes it from much of the rest of Corsica today.

This afternoon we explore by boat the rugged, picturesque coast of South Corsica including the island of Lavezzi. The coast you will see is one of the most photographed in the Mediterranean, due to the powerful contrast between the brilliantly coloured sea and the jagged white cliffs that rise vertically from it. Following the earlier creation of marine reserves (1980s), in 1992 the French and Italian governments declared the sea between Corsica and Sardinia a marine park. This was in part due to the unique marine environment in this isolated region. On the Lavezzi isles, for example, there are endemic species that can only be found elsewhere in Australia and South Africa. (Overnight Bonifacio) B

Sartène – 2 nights

Day 10: Saturday 11 October, Bonifacio – Cucuruzzu – Capula – Sartène

- Scenic Col de Bavella (Bavella Pass: 1218m)
- Musée de L'Alta Rocca, Levie
- Fortresses of Cucuruzzu and Capula

This morning we drive north-east along the coast road and then turn inland to traverse the incredible Col de Bavella. Corsica, although smaller than Sardinia, has much higher mountains. The most dramatic examples in the southern part of the island are the pinnacles called the Aiguilles de Bavella (Bavella Needles) that lie at the foot of the Bavella massif (2,134 m.) The 'needles' resemble the Dolomites and the views of them from the road are quite startling. We shall have a short walk so that you can explore the Col's unique flora. There are Laricio pines that have been known to live as long as eight hundred years and these great trees provided wood for Corsican shipbuilding.

Driving south-west to Sartène, we reach Levie, which has one of the most important archaeological museums in Corsica. One of its most important exhibits is the statue, the Dame de Bonifacio. The museum also boasts a fascinating ancient pottery collection, of 'cardial ware', so-named for the incisions made with the sharp edges of cardium cockle shells. Much of the landscape you will travel through today is made up of sublime mountains and deep, verdant valleys.

We continue by visiting two fortresses, set in a forest of holm oaks and chaos granitic, one from Prehistory and the other from the Middle Ages. Cucuruzzu is a vast Prehistoric citadel of the second millennium BC that covers an area of some 1,200 square metres. It is built of huge stones that must have required many people, and extraordinary ingenuity, to transport and set them in place. The citadel has a fireplace and an inner stairway that leads to upper levels. Nearby is the ruined medieval Capula castle. This site was inhabited during Prehistoric times, and the medieval castle was built on an earlier Roman citadel. It was destroyed by Giudice della Rocca, Count of Corsica and a client of Pisa, in 1259.

Sartène, in which we stay for the next two nights, is a typical Corsican mountain-side town. It looks down on the Rizzanese river valley. It is characteristic of the inaccessible settlements set up inland by indigenes who, like their Sardinian counterparts, fled the foreign powers that dominated Corsica's coasts. In the past it was famous for its vendettas; one of these, the Colomba Carabelli vendetta, is said to have forced a curate to remain shut up in his home for nine years for fear of reprisal. Such vendettas inspired the novel, *Columba* by Prosper Mérimée, who saw Sartène as the quintessential Corsican town. Another distinctive feature of the town is its Easter procession in which a penitent in chains drags a huge cross through the town. Such processions, rare in modern Europe, reflect the isolation of Corsica and the endurance of its traditional culture. (Overnight Sartène) BLD

Day 11: Sunday 12 October, Sartène

- Musée d'Archéologie de la Corse
- Walking tour of Sartène

This morning we visit the Musée d'Archéologie de la Corse. This museum showcases one of the most distinctive collections of Corsican archaeology, spanning from the earliest settlements nearly 10,000 years ago to the conclusion of the Genoese period in the 15th century AD. The collection's focal point features artifacts from Prehistory, the Bronze Age, and the Iron Age, including weaponry, ceramics, tools, ornaments, and more. It also boasts an extensive assortment of menhir statues, emblematic of Corsican and Mediterranean megalithism. The Roman era, highlighted by underwater archaeology, and the Middle Ages are also well-represented, with notable pieces reflecting the dynamics of trade, cultural interactions and conflicts. The museum, which predominantly houses artifacts from excavations conducted on the island, aims to present exhibitions closely aligned with ongoing archaeological research.

After lunch at leisure, we will meander through the medieval streets of Sartène. Constructed on multiple tiers, the streets in the town's oldest section are linked by a labyrinthine network of narrow alleys, enigmatic staircases, and seemingly clandestine passages, a few of which culminate in sturdy granite blocks. Perched

at an elevation of 300 meters above sea level, Sartène offers captivating views of the southern hills and mountains of Corsica's vast hinterland.

After finishing our walk, the remainder of the afternoon is free for leisure activities. (Overnight Sartène) BD

Ajaccio – 2 nights

Day 12: Monday 13 October, Sartène – Megalithes de Cauria – Filitosa – Ajaccio

- Menhirs and Dolmen, Megalithes de Cauria
- Megalithic site of Filitosa

Today we explore the important prehistoric culture of Southern Corsica, an area that was more densely populated than the rest of the island. The region boasts some five hundred Prehistoric sites! At Cauria we explore the development of ancient megaliths: dolmen and menhirs erected over three periods between 3500 and 1000 BC. In a wood on the barren Plateau of Cauria we will see some of the most significant groups of aligned menhirs in Europe. It also has important dolmens, stone structures that miraculously survived the depredations of the Christians, who identified them with paganism. Perhaps it was the inaccessibility of the site that preserved its treasures.

Following a light lunch we visit Filitosa, Corsica's most important prehistoric site. Filitosa was inhabited from the 9th millennium BC until the 3rd century BC, when Corsica came under Roman control. Archaeological finds from a number of different periods include wooden implements from the Mesolithic Age, flint tools, ceramics, megaliths and grindstones from the Neolithic period, and axes, stone-built towers and carved menhir-statues from the Bronze Age. The most significant finds, however, are 16 sculpted granite menhir statues, three prehistoric towers and an area of stone houses. The original, plain megaliths date back to around 4,000 BC. In around 1,200 BC many of them were re-carved with representations of human faces, armour and weapons including swords, daggers and helmets. The stone towers and houses date back to around 1,200 BC. The exact function of the towers is uncertain, but most archaeologists believe they were either simple watchtowers, strongholds for storing valuables or harvests, or meeting spaces for religious rites. We also visit the museum which displays a variety of archaeological finds and information about the site.

In the afternoon we continue our journey north to the city of Napoleon's birth, Ajaccio, where we will be based for two nights. (Overnight Ajaccio) BL

Day 13: Tuesday 14 October, Ajaccio

- Cathédrale Ste-Marie
- Maison Bonaparte
- Afternoon at leisure

We begin our orientation walk with a visit to Ajaccio's cathedral which dates from the 16th century. Within lies the *Virgin of the Sacred Heart* painted by Eugène Delacroix in 1821.

We also visit the Maison Bonaparte, owned by the family from 1682, which now houses a museum of the Bonaparte family. On the first floor is the room in which Napoleon was born. There is also a 16 metre long gallery which was the first ballroom in Ajaccio. Napoleon moved the capital of Corsica from Bastia to Ajaccio in 1811. The city was most probably founded (1492) by the Genoese who populated it with their fellow citizens from other, less healthy, parts of the island; indigenes were banned from living there until

1592.

The afternoon is free for you to explore Ajaccio at leisure. (Overnight Ajaccio) B

Piana - 2 nights

Day 14: Wednesday 15 October, Ajaccio – Piana

- Palais Fesch – Musée des Beaux-Arts
- Scenic coastal drive to Piana

This morning we take a guided tour of the Palais Fesch – Musée des Beaux-Arts which was established by Napoleon's uncle, Cardinal Joseph Fesch (1763-1839). This outstanding art museum holds the largest French collection of Italian paintings outside the Louvre and includes Botticelli's *Vierge à l'Enfant Soutenu par un Ange*, Titian's *Man with a Glove*, Paolo Veronese's *Leda and the Swan* and Poussin's *Idas à la source du Fleuve Pactole*.

In the mid-afternoon we drive north along the coast to Piana where we spend the next two nights. Piana is a beautiful small village on a plateau overlooking the magnificent Golfe de Porto. (Overnight Piana) BD

Day 15: Thursday 16 October, Piana – Les Calanches – Porto – Scandola – Piana

- Gulf of Porto: Les Calanches de Piana: UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Cruise to Scandola Nature Reserve (weather permitting): UNESCO World Heritage Site

This morning we drive north along the magnificent ocean road with views of the extraordinary rock formations called Les Calanches de Piana, to the seaport of Porto. Here we board a vessel for a three-hour cruise to visit Scandola, a promontory that has become a bio-marine reserve due to its utterly unique flora and fauna. Like the island of Lavezzi in the south, this isolated peninsula, which can only be reached by sea, has given birth to and preserved species that are not to be found elsewhere in the Mediterranean. There are osprey, puffins, cormorant and in the waters that are also part of the reserve, coral and a seaweed that is so hard it forms rigid plates on the sea's surface. The Scandola Nature Reserve is listed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. (Overnight Piana) BD

Bastia – 2 nights

Day 16: Friday 17 October, Piana – Calacuccia – Scala di Sta Regina – Corte – Ponte Leccia – Bastia

- Scenic Calacuccia Pass (Scala di Sta Regina)
- Lunch in Corte
- Corte: visit of the old town and its Citadel and belvedere

Today we return to Porto and then turn inland and drive across to Corsica's east coast. We will drive through some of the island's most dramatic mountain scenery, especially at the Calacuccia Pass (Scala di Sta Regina). We stop regularly to view the magnificent panoramas along the way, and there will be a short walk along a shepherd's trail. Today you will gain a vivid impression of the contrast between Corsica's coastal regions that were prey to constant seaborne invasion and plunder, and its mountainous inland to which the Corsicans retreated for safety, and there preserved a distinctive culture that was hidden by isolation.

One distinctive culinary delight is chestnut cake, for this fruit has been cultivated throughout Corsica's inland regions. Evisa, which is famed for its chestnuts, is a delightful small village located between the

Gorges de Spelunca and the Forêt d'Aitone. The latter is a large forest of Corsican Laricio pine, fir, larch and Maritime pine. It was famous for its plant extracts and the wood from the forest served the shipyards of Genoa. Mountain passes were vital to movement through this alpine landscape. One of the most awesome of these is the Scala di Sta Regina, where the road is more like a narrow shelf hanging above deep gorges than a major thoroughfare. Without this pass, however, access to the small town of Calacuccia would have been almost impossible. One particularly beautiful human intervention in this wild landscape is a group of old bridges built by the Genoese, who needed access to Corsica's alpine trees in order to build their great fleets. The most famous of these bridges, which we see, is the Ponte Novu over the Golo River. It was on this bridge in 1769 that the Corsican forces led by Pascal Paoli lost a key battle to the French, bringing to an end a brief period in which the Corsicans, having ousted the Genoese, savoured a rare independence (1735-1769).

After lunch we explore to the historic town of Corte, former capital of the Corsican independent state. Situated amidst breathtaking natural beauty, with rugged mountains encircling it at the meeting point of multiple rivers, the stronghold of Corte is both awe-inspiring and intimidating. With its central position on the island, it is the historical and cultural capital of Corsica and still stands at the heart of Corsican identity. In 1755, when Pascal Paoli declared it the capital of the short-lived Corsican republic, the majority of the population resided within its hilltop citadel. The upper town was ravaged by the French just 14 years later, leading to the displacement of many, including Napoléon's mother, pregnant with the future emperor at the time. We will explore the old town and walk up to the citadel and its belvedere, offering extensive views across the river valleys and mountains as well as the rooftops of Corte.

We continue our journey to the north-east, eventually reaching the coast and Bastia, our final destination for the day. (Overnight Bastia) BLD

Day 17: Saturday 18 October, Bastia – Murato – Lucciana – Bastia

- Orientation tour of Bastia: Fortress, Ste Marie Church, Ste Croix Brotherhood Oratory, Palace of the Governors, Romieu Garden, Market Square, St Jean Baptiste, Immaculate Conception Brotherhood Oratory
- Farewell Lunch at La Ferme Campo di Monte
- San Michele de Murato
- Roman archaeological site of Mariana & Pisan church, La Canonica

Today we begin with an orientation tour of Bastia. Bastia is now Corsica's second city but it was not until the 15th century that the small Roman port of Mantinon became more than a place of shipment of wines from the region. It was at that time a loading area attached to the village of Cardo. The Genoese built a bastion (It. Bastiglia, hence Bastia) to defend the city, which prospered under the aegis of this great maritime republic. One distinctive feature of Bastia is its confraternities that were formed in the 17th century. They are congregations of artisans or men dedicated to good works, who built elaborate Baroque stuccoed and painted chapels like the confraternity houses of Palermo. The confraternities process through the city during festivals. One such group, the Confraternity of Saint-Roch, the saint of the plague, was particularly active given the constant threat of epidemic suffered by many Mediterranean ports.

We begin at Bastia's Genoese fortress and walk to the cathedral of Sainte-Marie (1604-19) and thence to the Oratory of the Confraternity of Sainte-Croix, a beautiful small Rococo chapel where the Christ des Miracles, a processional statue of the protector of fishermen, is held. We shall visit the Place Donjon and the Palais des Gouverneurs, residence from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century of the Genoese governors (closed for restoration). Here you will gain a magnificent view down upon the old port. Below the citadel are the Romieu gardens, with a proliferation of palms, pines, laurels and succulents. In the lower town we visit

the market square with a fine fountain, and Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Corsica's largest church. It is a masterpiece of Baroque stucco work and trompe l'oeil decoration. We also visit the equally richly decorated Baroque Oratory of the Brotherhood of the Immaculate Conception and Place Saint-Nicholas with its imposing statue of Napoleon.

Midday we depart Bastia for the small village of Murato to enjoy our farewell meal at La Ferme de Campo di Monte. The farm is owned by Pauline Juillard who is renowned throughout the island for her delicious Corsican cuisine based on her grandmother's recipes.

After lunch we drive to San Michele de Murato, just north of Murato. This 13th-century polychrome church, constructed from white limestone and green serpentine, is a masterpiece of Pisan Romanesque architecture. It is dominated by a powerful bell tower that rises over a tall, arched entrance. Blind arcades articulate and enliven its walls and there are interesting sculptural details such as distinctive capitals and consoles.

Our last visit today is the ancient Roman port colony of Mariana which was founded around 100 BC by the Roman general Caius Marius. Its strategic location made it possible to secure a new commercial outlet to Rome. The buried remains of this ancient city are located around the Romanesque church of La Canonica. Saint Devota, patron saint of Corsica and Monaco is said to have been martyred here in 303 AD. The new award-winning Archaeological Museum of Mariana, which we visit, was funded by Prince Rainer III of Monaco with the aim to renew the historical links between Lucciana and Monaco. (Overnight Bastia) BL

Day 18: Sunday 19 October, Bastia. Tour Ends.

- Tour concludes in the morning
- At leisure/Check out

Our tour ends in Bastia after breakfast. In the morning you will be required to check out of the hotel. Please contact ASA if you require assistance with a transfer to Bastia Airport. B

Accommodation

ASA has selected 3- and 4-star hotels that are themselves historical buildings and/or are located in historical centres. All hotels provide rooms with en suite bathroom. Further information on hotels will be provided in the 'Tour Hotel List' given to tour members prior to their departure.

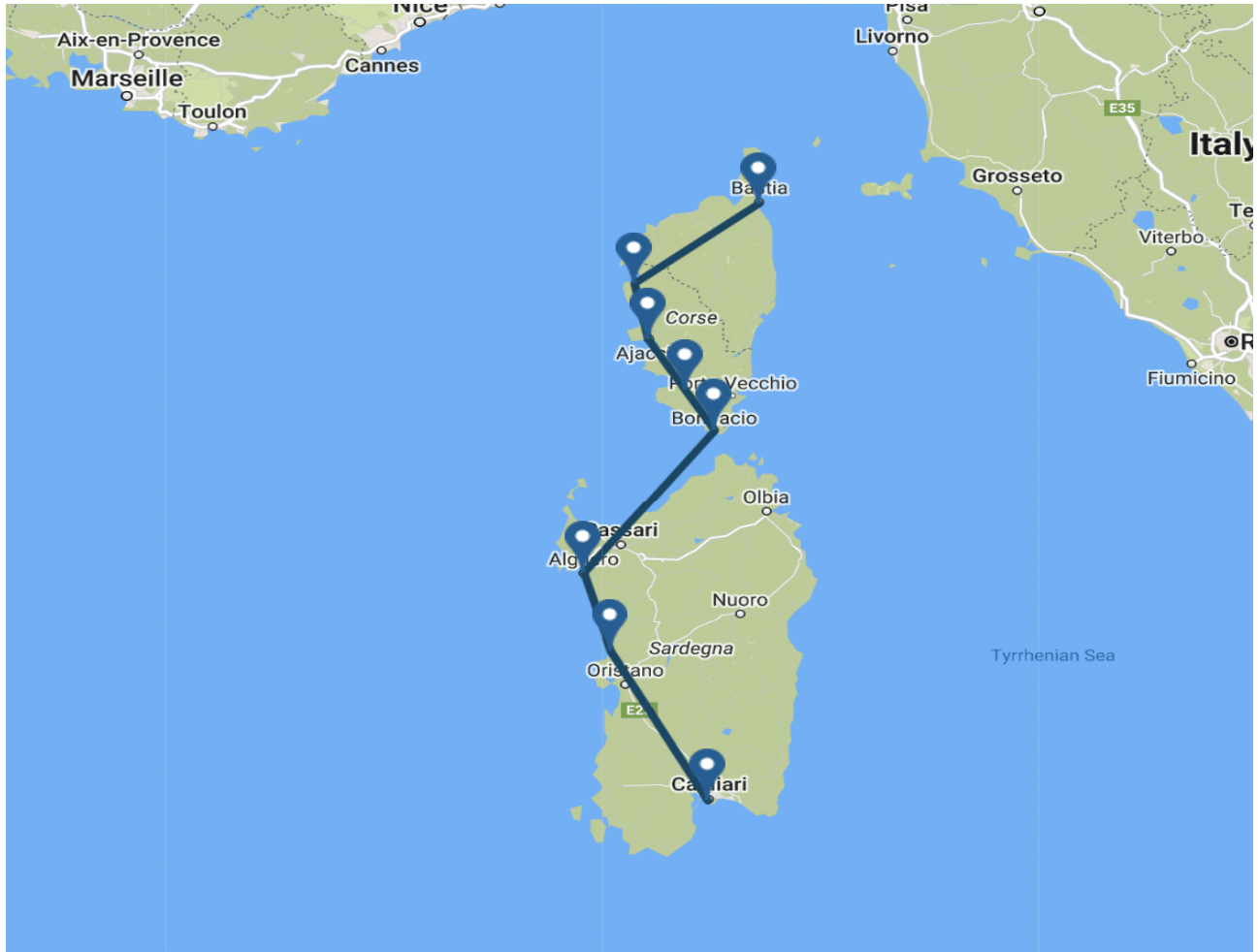
- Cagliari (3 nights): 4-star [Hotel Regina Margherita](#) – a modern 4-star hotel located in the historic centre. Cagliari Cathedral and the harbour are a 10-minute walk away.
- Santa Caterina di Pittinuri (2 nights): 4-star [La Baja](#) – set in a quiet location in the seaside resort of Santa Caterina di Pittinuri, offering beautiful views of the Mediterranean Sea.
- Alghero (2 nights): 4-star [Hotel Catalunya](#) – facing the harbour, located just a 5-minute walk from Alghero's historic centre.
- Bonifacio (2 nights): 4-star [Hotel Solemare](#) – located on the Bonifacio Marina, providing an unrivalled view of the port and its citadel.
- Sartène (2 nights): 3-star [Hôtel des Roches](#) – located in one of Corsica's oldest towns, the hotel is the perfect base from which to discover the prehistoric sites of Corsica. In summer, guests can relax on the terrace and enjoy views of the countryside.
- Ajaccio (2 nights): 4-star [Hotel San Carlu Citadelle](#) – overlooking the Mediterranean sea, the hotel is located in the heart of Ajaccio's old quarter, next to a 15th-century fortress and 50 metres from the Saint François beach.
- Piana (2 nights): 4-star [Hotel Capo Rosso](#) – offering rooms with a private balcony or terrace with panoramic views of Golfe de Porto.
- Bastia (2 nights): 4-star [Hôtel Des Gouverneurs](#) – a seafront property in the pedestrianised citadel area of Bastia.

Note: Hotels are subject to change, in which case a hotel of similar standard will be provided.

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation in a double room for single occupancy throughout the tour. The number of rooms available for single use is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

AUD \$12,980.00 Land Content Only – Early-Bird Special: Book before 30 September 2024

AUD \$13,180.00 Land Content Only

AUD \$1940.00 Single Supplement

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 4-star hotels (or 3-star in Sartène)
- Meals as indicated in the tour itinerary, where: B=breakfast, L=lunch & D=dinner
- Drinks at welcome and farewell meals. Other meals may not have drinks included.
- Transportation by air-conditioned coach; boat excursions as outlined in the itinerary (weather permitting)
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person at hotels (not at airports or a couple of the smaller family-run hotels)
- Lecture and site-visit program
- Entrance fees
- Use of audio headsets during site visits
- Tips for the coach driver, local guides and restaurants for included meals

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- Airfare: Australia-Cagliari, Bastia-Australia
- Personal spending money
- Airport-hotel transfers
- Luggage in excess of 20kg (44lbs)
- Travel insurance



Fitness Criteria & Practical Information

Fitness Level



Level 3 - Challenging

Among our most physically demanding

You must be able to:

- manage at least five to seven hours of physical activity per day with ease.
- walk at a regular to moderate pace; some days for at least 5-7km, over terrain which may include rocky and uneven paths, sometimes with steep inclines.
- negotiate challenging historic and archaeological sites which may include poor lighting, low ceilings, steep and uneven stairs. Many sites are large and unsheltered.
- climb several flights of stairs without duress.
- cope with variable road conditions which include scenic mountainous winding roads in Corsica.
- cope with a demanding tour schedule which involves longer days and regular early morning starts.
- board/alight coaches, ferries and small boats unassisted.
- contend with a shower over a bath; walk-in showers may not be available at all hotels.
- manage your own luggage at some hotels and for the ferry transfer between Sardinia and Corsica.

Fitness Levels

Please also view the fitness criteria required for our tours, graded from Level 1 to Level 3, at www.asatours.com.au/fitness-level/

All ASA tours are active programs suitable for people with a good level of mental and physical fitness and good mobility. They are not suitable for people who lack stamina, have difficulty walking at the group's pace or who have mobility issues. An unavoidable aspect of every tour is the need to manage walking, stair-climbing and standing for long periods of time.

It is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to their suitability to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. Before enrolling on an ASA tour please read the fitness requirements carefully.

Managing your luggage during the ferry from Sardinia to Corsica

You must be able to wheel your own luggage from the coach through the ferry terminal and then onto the ferry where storage racks are available on the ground level. The turn-around time for ferries is extremely efficient and therefore you need to be able to board the ferry with your luggage without delays.

Booking Conditions

ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION FORM

Please complete the ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION and send it to Australians Studying Abroad together with your non-refundable deposit of AUD \$1000.00 per person payable to Australians Studying Abroad.



Reservation Application

TOUR NAME _____
TOUR DATES _____

Please complete **one application, per person in block letters and sign**. Parental signature is required for participants under 18 years of age. Please mail this form with the appropriate deposit to: **P.O. Box 8285, ARMADALE, VICTORIA, 3143**. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation.

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Miss ☐ Dr ☐ Other _____
FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____
MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____
POSTAL ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____
TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____
EMAIL address _____
Date of birth / / GENDER Male ☐ Female ☐

Passport Number _____ Expiry date / / Nationality _____
☐ Colour copy of my current valid passport enclosed ☐ I'm renewing my passport ☐ ASA has a colour copy of my current passport

Covid Certificate ☐ A copy of my current international certificate enclosed

Travel Plans

☐ I plan to leave Australia before the tour commences. Planned departure date / /
☐ I will be arranging my airfare independently and taking the Land Content Only option.

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: ☐ a twin-bedded room ☐ a double-bedded room ☐ a room for sole occupancy
I am travelling: ☐ on my own ☐ with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

☐ I do not have any specific dietary requests

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:

☐ fish ☐ poultry ☐ red meat ☐ dairy products
☐ eggs ☐ pork ☐ nuts
☐ Other _____

Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence ☐ Postal Mail ☐ Email Address _____

Emergency Contact Details

Note: this person **MUST** be available by telephone and be present in Australia for the duration of your tour with ASA

Name _____ Relationship to Traveller _____
Address _____
TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____
EMAIL address _____

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist ASA to determine, where necessary, whether ASA is able to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs and whether your health and safety (or that of your fellow travellers) is likely to be compromised given your choice of tour. It will also assist you and ASA if you fall ill or have an accident whilst travelling.

- ASA reserves the right to decline your Reservation Application if this Medical Information section is not completed properly and may reject or cancel your reservation, or terminate your participation on any tour, if ASA subsequently learns that you have failed to make full and proper disclosure.
- ASA is committed to protecting the privacy of your personal information. ASA's privacy policy is available for viewing at www.asatours.com.au
- If ASA has any concerns about the information you have provided, it will contact you to request clarification before considering your Application.
- ASA requires you to consider carefully your limitations in light of ASA's Physical Endurance Star Rating System in ASA's Brochure and Itinerary when choosing your tour.
- If you are not likely to satisfy ASA's Participation Criteria (see below), ASA, in its sole discretion, may reject your Reservation Application.
- It is a condition of your tour that you agree to accept the directions of ASA's Tour Leaders in relation to your suitability to participate in activities planned on tour.
- ASA reserves the right to cancel your participation on a tour if your behaviour is in ASA's opinion causing undue distress or damage to any person or their property.
- If your participation is discontinued during a tour, ASA will assist by arranging your onward travel (if required) at your own cost, but you will not be refunded for forfeited parts of the tour.
- ASA tour groups are not accompanied by a medical practitioner. ASA recommends that you see your doctor for advice about your specific needs while overseas. You may also wish to contact a travel and vaccination clinic for advice. www.traveldoctor.com.au tel: 1300 658 444; www.travelvax.com.au tel: 1300 360 164.
- Travel insurers require you to declare all existing medical conditions.
- Please carry a complete list of medications with you during the ASA tour. Include **generic names** of each medication (consult your local pharmacy for information).

Please mark **X** in the YES or NO box to every question below and provide details where necessary:

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. **You must also be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.** If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. The responsibility of the Tour Leader is to ensure that the larger group enjoys a relaxing and informative journey, and he or she cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing individual assistance to any one guest.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Can you walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Can you walk unassisted on and over uneven surfaces? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Can you climb at least 3 flights of stairs and/or walk up and down steep slopes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Can you walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15 - 20 minutes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Can you organise, manage and carry your own luggage? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Can you follow and remember tour instructions and meet punctually at designated times and places? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Can you administer your own medication? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. You do NOT have impaired vision or hearing which may impact your capacity to participate on this tour? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Mobility and Fitness

As many of ASA's international sites do not provide access to wheelchairs or similar mobility aids, we regret that ASA tours are not suitable for people who require the use of a walking frame, wheeled walker, wheelchair or motorised scooter.

1. Do you suffer from any medical conditions that may compromise your mobility and/or fitness to participate on this program? YES NO ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

Allergies and/or Food Intolerances

ASA will make reasonable endeavours to organise meals to suit you, provided that you give ASA adequate notice of your specific dietary requirements or allergies. You may be required to research dietary alternatives, as not all destinations may be able to offer suitable food substitutes.

1. Do you have any food allergies or intolerances? YES NO ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

2. Have you ever had an anaphylactic reaction to anything? ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

Do you carry an epipen? ☐ ☐

3. Do you have any other allergies or reactions to anything, including medical drugs? ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

Existing Medical Conditions

You alone are responsible for managing any existing medical conditions, your medication and any medical equipment that you may need when on your tour. Please plan for contingencies and take extra medication, dietary supplements and/or fully charged batteries for medical equipment if your health and safety depends on these. You should take into consideration that power sources at some destinations may be unavailable, inadequate, inconvenient or unreliable.

1. Have you any significant medical conditions that may impact your capacity to complete this tour? YES NO ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

2. Do you require some form of powered medical aid, such as a CPAP machine? ☐ ☐

These machines may not be operable on certain international flights, modes of transport, in remote or other areas with inadequate or unreliable power sources without a fully charged independent long life battery or batteries.

Diabetics: You may be travelling and sightseeing for many hours at a time. Insulin dependent diabetics must carry extra supplies of insulin (as this medication cannot be obtained in some destinations), regulators, applicators, storage and refrigeration equipment, as well as any necessary supplements. Accommodation may not provide refrigerators in rooms.

3. Are you diabetic? ☐ ☐
- Are you insulin dependent? ☐ ☐
4. Do you suffer from travel sickness? ☐ ☐
- Remember to use an appropriate medication while on tour.

Declaration

I declare that: I have read and understood the ASA Tour Itinerary, Reservation Application and Booking Conditions. I am aware of ASA's terms as relating to refunds, cancellations, responsibility and liability. I understand that ASA relies upon this declaration when considering this Application. I accept the inherent dangers, risks and uncertainties in travel and those beyond ASA's control and understand they may occur before or during any tour. I have made full and complete disclosure and have not knowingly withheld any medical information about myself from ASA. I have completed this Reservation Application honestly and accurately. I warrant that I am able to participate independently in all activities described by ASA in the itinerary without assistance from any person.

I will advise ASA in writing if any aspect of my fitness and or health conditions change materially at any time before my departure date. I understand and accept that the itinerary, accommodation and lecturers scheduled for this tour may change.

I agree and consent that ASA may give my personal information in this Reservation Application to tour service providers and relevant authorities as required by law, but only for the purpose of making bookings with and engaging services associated with the tour. I understand that if I do not consent to the use of my personal information for this purpose, ASA will decline my Reservation Application.

In consideration of ASA's acceptance of my Reservation Application, I irrevocably release and indemnify ASA from all claims that I, or any other party, may have against ASA its employees, invitees, agents and contractors, however arising in respect of any loss, damage, injury, death or expense incurred in the course of booking, preparing for, travelling to, on and from or cancelling any tour.

I release and indemnify ASA with respect to:

1. Every general risk to which I or my personal belongings may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour;
2. Every special risk, in particular medical risks, to which I may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour arising from, including, but not limited to:
 - a. intermittent power cycles and/or the temporary or permanent loss of power (beware CPAP or any other medical machine users);
 - b. dietary, food or other allergies (ASA cannot guarantee that traces of items to which you are allergic are not present in food or drink you are served, medication you are administered or other substances with which you may come into contact);
 - c. any event or situation that may compromise the administration of necessary medication or my health, safety and wellbeing generally; and
 - d. any event or happening beyond ASA's control
3. All claims arising as a result of my or ASA's cancellation or termination of any tour, part of a tour or of my continued participation on a tour for any reason (subject to ASA's refund conditions below).

Limitation of Liability

ASA is not a carrier, event or tourist attraction host, accommodation or dining service provider. All bookings made and tickets or coupons issued by ASA for transport, event, accommodation, dining and the like are issued as an agent for various service providers and are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by each service provider. ASA is not responsible for their products, services, terms and conditions. If a service provider cancels or does not deliver the product or service for which you have contracted, and does not give a refund, your remedy lies with the service provider, not ASA.

ASA will not be liable for any claim (e.g. sickness, injury, death, damage or loss) arising from any change, delay, detention, breakdown, border closures, cancellation, failure, accident, act, omission or negligence of any tour service provider or authority however caused (contingencies). You must take out such travel insurance as is available against such contingencies.

ASA's liability in respect of any tour cancelled or changed will be limited to the partial refund of amounts you have paid, less an administration fee of \$500 and other costs and charges of third party service providers. No compensation will be payable to you by ASA where ASA cancels or changes a tour, or any part of a tour.

ASA reserves the sole discretion to cancel any tour or to modify itineraries in any way it considers appropriate and in the best interests of health, safety and wellbeing of tour participants. Tour costs may be revised, subject to unexpected price increases or exchange rate fluctuations.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSITS

A non-refundable deposit of \$1000.00 AUD per person is required to reserve a place on an ASA tour.

CANCELLATION FEES

If you cancel your booking the following charges apply:

More than 75 days before departure: your initial deposit of \$1000.00 is non-refundable.**

75-31 days prior 50% of total amount due

30-0 days prior 100% of total amount due

**\$500.00 of this amount (ie 50% of your deposit) may be credited to another ASA tour departing within 12 months of the original tour you booked. We regret, in this case early-bird discounts will not apply.

We take the day on which you cancel as being that on which we receive written confirmation of cancellation.

UNUSED PORTIONS OF THE TOUR

We regret that refunds will not be given for any unused portions or services of the tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation, flights or transfers.

WILL THE TOUR PRICE OR ITINERARY CHANGE?

If the number of participants on a tour is significantly less than budgeted, or if there is a significant change in exchange rates ASA reserves the right to amend the advertised price. We shall, however, do all in our power to maintain the published price. Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of ASA make it necessary to change airline, hotel or to make amendments to itineraries. We will inform you of any changes in due course.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

ASA requires all participants to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. A copy of your travel insurance certificate and the **reverse charge** emergency contact phone number must be received by ASA no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the tour.

FINAL PAYMENT

The balance of the tour price will be due 75 days prior to the tour commencement date.

PLEASE READ THE ABOVE CAREFULLY, PRINT AND SIGN BELOW

☐ I accept the conditions on this booking form ☐ I have read the information about the physical requirements of the tour in the detailed itinerary and confirm that I am able to meet these requirements

Applicant's Signature

Print Full Name

Dated

Tour / Course Name _____

Name of Traveller 1 _____

Name of Traveller 2 _____

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$ _____ (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

The above amount is payable for:

- ☐ Intention to Travel ☐ Tour Deposit
- ☐ Balance of Payment ☐ Upgrade from Intention to Travel to a Deposit
- ☐ Travel Insurance ☐ Other (eg. Airfares, Accommodation) _____

International Payments

Welcome to our international travellers! If you are making a payment and do not have an Australian bank account/credit card, we can only accept payment as follows:

- via credit card with the applicable fee - the credit card company/bank will set the exchange rate
- via bank transfer; please give your surname and tour code (eg. Smith 21705) as a reference and ask your bank to allow for all charges.

Bank cheques or personal cheques will not be accepted.

By Cheque (accept Australian cheques only)

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
Swift Code ANZBAU3M
BSB 013-423
Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No. _____

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended
_____Date Money Transferred

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard, Visa & American Express 2%

Please debit my: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____ Security Code (CVC) _____

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ) _____

Cardholders Name _____

Cardholders Billing Address _____

Postcode _____

State _____ Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Cardholders Signature _____