ROME, SARDINIA, and CORSICA

aboard Sea Cloud II • May 14–22, 2023

Featuring Wendy Heller, Scheide Professor of Music History
Dear Princetonian,

Rome, Sardinia, and Corsica conjure up images of ancient history and rich masterpieces of art and architecture. Delight in this journey that begins with a three-night luxury hotel stay in Rome, the eternal city, then moves to the sea for a relaxed four-night cruise to Sardinia and Corsica aboard the incomparable Sea Cloud II.

May is the perfect time of year for a quintessential Mediterranean journey, with verdant gardens in full bloom and temperatures pleasantly moderate. Enjoy private events and access to sites not open to the general public, with special excursions curated by art historian Rocky Ruggiero focused on Ancient, Baroque, and Papal Rome. Savor delicious wines and local cuisine along the way, including a special gourmet lunch at La Posta Vecchia, a 17th-century villa overlooking the sea. On the islands, explore the atmospheric port cities of Sassari and Ajaccio, and see ancient Bonifacio, impossibly perched atop dramatic white limestone cliffs. Most days feature differing excursions to choose from, catering to your interests or style of travel.

A journey aboard the 47-stateroom Sea Cloud II is a memorable experience on one of the most elegant and luxurious vessels afloat, and our itinerary is custom-designed to allow ample time for experiencing the ship under sail, watching in awe from the deck as the crew hand-sets over 30,000 square feet of canvas and the wind carries you on to your next port of call.

Princeton travelers will be joined by those from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, and Yale Alumni Academy, so I encourage you to reserve your space now by calling our partner tour operator, Criterion Travel at (888) 328-2089.

With kind regards,

Bridget St. Clair
Director, Alumni Education and Travel
Princeton University
Recognized as one of the leading scholars of baroque music, Professor Wendy Heller is the Scheide Professor of Music and Director of the Program in Italian Studies at Princeton. Heller, who served as the Music Department Chair from 2015-2022, has published widely on 17th- and 18th-century opera from interdisciplinary perspectives, with emphasis on gender and sexuality, art history, Italian literature, dance history and the classical tradition. Author of the award-winning *Emblems of Eloquence: Opera and Women’s Voices in Seventeenth-Century Venice and Music in the Baroque*, Heller has published widely on the music of Monteverdi, Cavalli, Handel, and Bach. Her current projects include the monograph *Animatıng Ovid: Opera and the Metamorphoses of Antiquity in Early Modern Italy* and volume *Barbara Strozzi: In Context* (co-edited with Beth Glixon). Her edition of Francesco Cavalli’s *Veremonda, l’amazzone di Aragona* will be published next year. Heller, who also trained as a professional, maintains strong interests in performance and has been a dramaturg for numerous performances of baroque operas at Princeton. Awarded the Rome Prize from the American Academy in Rome, Heller has also won numerous fellowships from such organizations as the Mellon Foundation, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Villa I Tatti, Harvard University Center for Renaissance Studies.
**Highlights**

- **Spend two full days in the “Eternal City”** with special excursions curated by art historian Rocky Ruggiero, focused on Ancient, Baroque, and Papal Rome.

- **Sail aboard the magnificent, three-masted Sea Cloud II**, marrying the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with superior modern comforts and amenities.

- **Discover masterpieces of legendary artists** during visits to Rome’s Borghese Gallery, Saint Peter’s Basilica, and Corsica’s Palais Fesch, a museum which houses France’s largest collection of Italian paintings outside mainland France, with works by Titian, Fra Bartolomeo, Veronese, Botticelli, and Bellini.

- **Visit fascinating ancient sites** including the Etruscan city Cerveteri outside Rome and the Bronze Age settlement Nuraghe Palmavera on Sardinia.

- **Explore Corsica**, known in France as L’île de Beauté (“The Island of Beauty”), with its dramatic coastlines, imposing mountainous backdrops, and beaches washed by crystal-clear Mediterranean waters.
Sunday & Monday, May 14 & 15
DEPART U.S./ROME, ITALY
Depart home on overnight flights to Rome, Italy. Arriving Monday, check into the lovely Baglioni Hotel Regina. Enjoy a restful afternoon at leisure, with optional walking tours from the hotel to Villa Borghese Park, then meet your fellow travelers at a welcome reception and dinner at the hotel.
BAGLIONI HOTEL REGINA (R,D)

Tuesday, May 16
ROME
Following breakfast and a welcome orientation, prepare to discover ancient Rome by visiting the Coliseum and the Roman Forum. Spend the afternoon at the Borghese Gallery and view its extraordinary art collection. This evening is at leisure to enjoy the amenities of the hotel or explore the neighborhood.
BAGLIONI HOTEL REGINA (B,L)

Wednesday, May 17
ROME
This morning delight in baroque Rome, including visits to the Piazza Navona, church of Sant’Agnese, the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain and the Spanish Steps. After lunch at a local culinary gem, continue to papal Rome, including the Castel Sant’Angelo, Via della Conciliazione, St. Peter’s Square, and the Basilica of St. Peter. The evening is at leisure to stroll the streets of Rome and dine independently.
BAGLIONI HOTEL REGINA (B,L)

Thursday, May 18
CERVETERI / EMBARK
Drive to the town of Cerveteri to see the impressive pre-Roman tombs and wall paintings. Savor local cuisine during a gourmet lunch at La Posta Vecchia, a stunning 17th-century villa overlooking the sea. Later this afternoon, embark the Sea Cloud II and sail toward Sardinia.
SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Friday, May 19
PORTO TORRES, SARDINIA
Dock in Porto Torres this afternoon and join in one of three excursion options: 1) Visit the well-preserved and unique stone ruins of the Bronze Age at the Nuraghe Palmavera archaeological site, then enjoy a wine tasting. 2) Explore the neoclassical architecture of Sassari, followed by an artisan pastry workshop. 3) Marvel at Neptune’s Grotto, one of Italy’s largest marine caves, then stop for a pecorino cheese tasting.
SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Saturday, May 20
AJACCIO, CORSICA
Anchor off the beautiful port city of Ajaccio this morning, and choose between three excursions: 1) Following in the footsteps of Napoleon, visit the Maison Bonaparte where Napoleon grew up, then explore the Palais Fesch’s extensive art collection. 2) Take a scenic drive through the Regional Natural Park of Corse to the city of Corte and its museum of Corsican culture. 3) Enjoy a gentle coastal walk with panoramic vistas followed a typical Corsican aperitif at a café in the old town center of Ajaccio. This afternoon, experience the thrill of cruising under sail (weather permitting).
SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Sunday, May 21
BONIFACIO, CORSICA
Dock near the white limestone cliffs topped by Bonifacio and choose between three full day adventures: 1) Explore the citadel and narrow streets of old town Bonifacio, built atop a Roman settlement and dating to medieval times. 2) Join a pleasant coastal hike with stunning views of the turquoise-hued beaches and visit an organic farm specializing in aromatic herbs and essential oils. 3) Explore Porto Vecchio’s natural harbor and picturesque old town, followed by a visit to a nearby olive oil and cheese farm. This evening, enjoy a festive farewell reception and dinner.
SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Monday, May 22
ROME/HOME
Disembark in Civitavecchia and transfer to the Rome airport for flights home. (B)
**General Information**

**Program Rates (per person)**

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**Sea Cloud II**

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 include**

- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including 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 shipboard personnel, porters, wait staff, guides, and drivers 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
- Bottled 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.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

The pace of this tour is moderately active, with considerable walking each day, often over rough, cobblestoned terrain. Participants should be in good health, physically fit, and capable of undertaking this level of activity without assistance from tour staff. By forwarding the deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other participants. SARS-COV-2 (COVID 19) vaccinations are required for all participants as well as tour staff and shipboard crew. Up-to-date COVID-related protocols and procedures will be communicated in pre-trip documents.

**GROUP SIZE**

This program is limited to 78 participants, including travelers from National Trust Tours, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, and Yale Alumni Academy.

**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.
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Please make your deposit check payable to Criterion Travel and mail to: 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005. You may also fax your credit card information to (650) 560-8400 or email res@criteriontravel.com.

For more information or to reserve by phone, contact Criterion Travel at res@criteriontravel.com or (888) 328-2089.

NAME #1
PRINCETON AFFILIATION

NAME #2
PRINCETON AFFILIATION

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP / POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE
MOBILE PHONE

E-MAIL(s)

PAYMENT

Please charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):

VISA □ MC □ AMEX □ DISCOVER □

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD   DATE

PAYMENT

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

SIGNATURE AT IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD   DATE

O Enclosed is my check for $_________ ($1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel) to reserve ______ place(s) on Rome, Sardinia, and Corsica

SINGLE TRAVELERS

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

O I prefer to have single accommodations.

O I plan to share accommodations with:

E-MAIL(s)

O I’d like to know about roommates

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of January 15, 2023, I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference:

1st Choice _______ 2nd Choice _______

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

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

SIGNATURE   DATE
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