

# Rivieras of France and Italy



# RIVIERAS OF FRANCE AND ITALY

Behold the legendary Mediterranean coasts of France and Italy from a 5-star, 4-masted sailing ship on an amazing tour of the iconic Riviéras. This exclusive 10-day, 8-night itinerary aboard the WIND STAR immerses you in the heart of one of the most storied regions of Europe. Learn more about the history and culture of the towns that line the Mediterranean coast from medieval Carcassonne, to the Rock of Monaco, to ancient Bonifacio in Corsica. Savor the art and light of Aix-en-Provence and behold panoramic views of the stunning Cap Ferrat peninsula from elegant Mont Boron in Nice. Enjoy a private boat cruise to the cliffside villages of Italy's UNESCO World Heritage-inscribed Cinque Terre. With supercars and superyachts, these sun-drenched landscapes have been attracting nobility, writers, artists, and other celebrities for generations. Experience the allure for yourself under billowing white sails of the WIND STAR, a luxurious, yacht-like vessel with ocean views from every cabin.

*Cover Photo: Portofino, Italy*



*City walls of Carcassonne*



# TEXAS EXES<sup>®</sup>

— FLYING LONGHORNS —

Dear Texas Ex:

Join us on this amazing Riviera's voyage to enjoy exquisite landscapes, visit enchanting villages, and cruise idyllic islands—favored retreats for artists, writers, nobility, and gourmands. Traverse the timeless cradle of the Renaissance and discover the dynamic biographies of the contending empires that shaped these sun-kissed regions' profound artistic and architectural legacies.

Embark on an eight-night cruise under the billowing white sails of the 5-star, 74-stateroom, small ship WIND STAR—specially designed to dock in ports inaccessible to larger vessels. Enjoy the advantages of small ship cruising—elegant ocean-view accommodations and an exclusive itinerary.

Cruise from Barcelona to Rome, with one port of call each day and opportunities to visit five treasured UNESCO World Heritage Sites and taste some of the finest cuisine of these regions. Visit Carcassonne's French medieval fortifications and the vibrant, unforgettable Italian cliffside villages of Cinque Terre. Experience the beauty of Aix-en-Provence, culturally chic Nice, the legendary Rock of Monaco, and Corsica's ancient port of Bonifacio.

This outstanding itinerary is brought to you by the Texas Exes Flying Longhorns travel program, which supports the association's mission of promoting and protecting The University of Texas at Austin and uniting its alumni around the world. While you do not have to be an alumnus of UT to travel with us, we do ask that all Flying Longhorns travelers have an active membership in the Texas Exes. Memberships start at just \$50.

The association is a huge proponent of continuing education and there is no better classroom than our world. Experience rich history and culture in the company of your fellow Longhorns! Are you ready for the adventure of a lifetime? We're standing by to answer all of your questions and/or take your reservation. Capacity is limited on this popular program and it may sell out quickly. Additional information about all Texas Exes Flying Longhorns trips can be found at [travel@texasexes.org](mailto:travel@texasexes.org)

Best regards,

Your Flying Longhorns Travel Team,  
Margaret, Janice, and Leslie

**Contact the Flying Longhorns office to secure your spot:  
1-800-594-3900 or [travel@texasexes.org](mailto:travel@texasexes.org)**



## Taste of the Riviera

As you sail the Mediterranean Sea along the coast of France and then down to the Italian Riviera, the flavors of each region will be revealed in the local food and wine you will have the opportunity to taste. One of our first stops will be in the medieval city of Carcassonne, France—home to several renowned wine regions, including Corbières, Minervois, and Fitou. Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the many quintessential Carcassonne bistros on an excursion that ends with a wine and cheese tasting at a local vineyard. You may continue to savor the specialties of the area when we dock in the medieval port city of Genoa, famous for its basil Genovese pesto sauce. A walking tour of the city includes a visit and tasting at the iconic Romanengo Confectionery, followed by a pesto cooking demonstration at a historical palace. Your culinary exploration concludes with a pesto tasting on locally made focaccia bread, paired with glass of local wine.



# LEGENDS OF LA CÔTE D'AZUR



In 1887, French writer Stephen Liégeard attempted to define the allure of a strip of Mediterranean coast between Marseille and Italy—an emerging winter destination for Europe's wealthy and elite. His book was titled *La Côte d'Azur* and from that time forward, this “short but delicious” route along the Riviera coast of France and Italy would become known as such. English aristocracy began flocking to the area as early as the 18<sup>th</sup> century for a luxurious respite in what was often referred to as a coastal “garden of Eden.”

The addition of a railway line in the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century ensured the fate of a dazzling enclave of grand hotels and casinos that are now known collectively as the “Rivieras.” Today, these sparkling coastlines famously epitomize a glamorous age that captured popular imagination in everything from F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel, *Tender is the Night* to the 1955 film set in Monaco, *To Catch a Thief*—starring American actress Grace Kelly, who became princess of Monaco. Experience the best of this captivating region on our exclusive cruise itinerary, which takes you from Barcelona to the coast of Marseilles and then on to such iconic Riviéras hotspots as Nice, Monaco, Portofino, and Cinque Terre aboard a four-masted, yacht-like sailing ship.



## INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for excursions, both included and optional excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to shipboard staff, local guides, and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



## 10-DAY/8-NIGHT ITINERARY

### Depart home city Day 1

Depart home city for an overnight flight.

### Barcelona, Spain/ Embark the ship Day 2

Today, arrive in Barcelona and embark the 5-star, four-masted WIND STAR sailing vessel. (D)

### Port Vendres, France, for Carcassonne Day 3

Spend the day exploring Carcassonne, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the best-preserved fortified medieval cities in Europe. Visit La Porte Narbonnaise and enjoy time at leisure in Carcassonne. Experience a wine and cheese tasting at a local winery. Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening. (B,L,R,D)

### Marseille for Aix-en-Provence Day 4

Take a scenic drive to Aix-en-Provence, the old capital of Provence. Stroll the famed *Cours Mirabeau*, one of the most beautiful streets in France. Enjoy free time at the Provençal flower market and the surrounding areas. After, enjoy an included lunch in a local restaurant. (B,L,D)

### Nice/Monaco Day 5

Visit the hill of elegant Mont Boron for panoramic views of the Old Port of Nice, the village of Villefranche-sur-Mer, and the stunning Cap Ferrat peninsula. See the Russian Church, the Promenade des Anglais, and Massena Square on the way to the city's historical

where many of the principality's leaders are buried, including Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier. See the Prince's Palace with its breathtaking state apartments and collection of paintings.

Reboard the ship or opt to spend the evening in Monte Carlo on your own with shuttle service back to the ship. (B,L,D)



Old Town for a walking tour that includes the Palace of Kings of Sardinia and leisure time.

Board the ship for lunch and a short cruise to Monaco, where you will embark on an excursion to the Rock of Monaco, overlooking the city's port and the Mediterranean Sea. Spend the afternoon touring the Old Town and visit the Roman-Byzantine Cathedral

### Genoa/Portofino, Italy Day 6

Learn more about the history of Genoa on a morning walking tour through the port city's twisting maze of *caruggi* (narrow stepped lanes) to see the San Lorenzo Cathedral and the UNESCO-inscribed Palazzi dei Rolli—a collection of 39 stunning palaces. As you stroll through the medieval

*The village of Vernazza in Cinque Terre, Italy*



*Captain*

old town you will visit the Romanengo confectionery for a tasting of a local sweet. The walking tour ends at a palace, where you can enjoy a pesto sauce making demonstration and tasting.

Return to the ship for lunch as you sail to the legendary village of Portofino. Once an idyllic fishing village, it became known as an elite playground of the rich and famous in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century when such elite as Ernest Hemingway, Frank Sinatra, and Brigitte Bardot were drawn to its lavish resorts and beaches. Enjoy the evening exploring the village on your own. (B,L,D)

### **Portovenere for Cinque Terre Day 7**

Begin your day with a private boat excursion to the UNESCO-inscribed Cinque Terre, five small villages

founded around the year 1000. Clinging to the cliffs that hang over the Mediterranean Sea, the villages and their colorful buildings are now part of the Cinque Terre National Park. Visit the vibrant villages of Vernazza and Monterosso. Spend the afternoon at leisure exploring these famously winding, narrow streets. (B,L,D)

### **Portoferraio, Elba Day 8**

Stroll through the Old Town of Portoferraio, a vital trade center for Greeks and Romans in ancient times. Discover storied Medici fortresses; the Church of Misericordia; Forte Stella; and Napoleon's former home of *Villa Dei Mulini*. See the majestic Napoleonic Theatre of Vigilanti and the Porta Mare, finishing with a walk along the opulent promenade with its exclusive shops and boutiques. (B,L,D)

### **Bonifacio, Corsica, France**

#### **Day 9**

In Bonifacio, take a tram from the harbor to *haute ville* (upper town) and around the plateau, where you will be able to enjoy panoramic views. A walking tour will take you to the Citadel and Old Town to see St. Dominique church; Place Bir Hakeim; St. Jean Baptiste church; and Le Grain de Sable—a limestone rock formation. Explore the *Jardin des Vestiges* and see where Napoleon stayed. Tonight, attend the Captain's Farewell Reception with your fellow travelers. (B,L,R,D)

### **Rome, Italy/ Return to home city Day 10**

Disembark the ship and transfer to the airport for your flight home or continue on the Rome Post-Program. (B,L,D)

*Casino in Monte Carlo, Monaco*



*Cliffside of Bonifacio in Corsica*





## WIND STAR

The intimate, four-masted WIND STAR offers an unforgettable 5-star sailing experience. This small ship is designed to sail from deep seas into lagoons inaccessible to larger vessels. The WIND STAR's gourmet dining and wide teak deck with unobscured views provides the ultimate sailing experience to each guest. Complimentary alcoholic/nonalcoholic beverages and Wi-Fi access are available throughout the cruise. All meals on board the ship are included. Each of the 74 ocean-view staterooms features one queen bed or two twin beds (Owner's Suite has a queen bed), private bathroom with shower, luxury hotel amenities, individual climate control, flat-screen television with DVD player, safe, minibar, vanity table, hair dryer, plush robes, and slippers.



**2024 DEPARTURE DATE: April 18 to 27** (Embarkation: April 19 at 1:00 pm)

| Category         | LAND/CRUISE RATES<br><i>per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</i> | Early Booking<br>Rate through<br>Nov. 17, 2023 | Rates after<br>Nov. 17, 2023 |
|------------------|--|--|------------------------------|
| B                | Stateroom with two portholes. <i>Deck 1, aft and forward.</i>                      | <b>\$5,485</b>                                 | \$6,095                      |
| BX<br>Deluxe     | Stateroom with two portholes. <i>Deck 1, midship.</i>                              | <b>\$5,935</b>                                 | \$6,595                      |
| A                | Stateroom with two portholes. <i>Deck 2, aft and forward.</i>                      | <b>\$6,655</b>                                 | \$7,395                      |
| AX<br>Deluxe     | Stateroom with two portholes. <i>Deck 2, midship.</i>                              | <b>\$7,105</b>                                 | \$7,895                      |
| Owner's<br>Suite | Suite with four portholes, queen bed, and sitting/dining area. <i>Deck 1, aft.</i> | <b>\$8,095</b>                                 | \$8,995                      |

Single supplements apply to select categories at 160% of the per person double price and is capacity controlled.

Port taxes are an additional \$240 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while onboard. Deck plans available upon request.

Final payment due December 20, 2023

**Contact the Flying Longhorns office to secure your spot: 1-800-594-3900 or [travel@texasexes.org](mailto:travel@texasexes.org)**

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## PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

### Barcelona

**April 16 to 19, 2024** (Tour Begins: April 17)

Experience the lively capital city of Catalonia, Barcelona, once an ancient Roman trading port. See the *Barri Gòtic* (Gothic Quarter), the city's old-world center, with its Roman walls, and the labyrinthine streets. Tour architect Antoni Gaudí's extraordinary UNESCO World Heritage Site, *Basílica de la Sagrada Família*, and visit the Picasso Museum. Explore Park Güell, designed by Gaudí in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Accommodations of two nights in the 5-star MAJESTIC HOTEL & SPA.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy:*      **\$1,195**

*Price per person, based on single occupancy:*      **\$1,795**



## POST-PROGRAM OPTION

### Rome

**April 27 to 30, 2024** (Tour Ends: April 30)

Capital of the Roman Empire and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the "Eternal City" of Rome showcases its spectacular landmarks from centuries as a nucleus of culture, religion, and political power. Tour magnificent St. Peter's Basilica and the opulent Vatican Museums, including the Sistine Chapel. Visit the fifth-century Church of St. Peter in Chains, the iconic Colosseum, and the historic Roman Forum. Accommodations of three nights in the 5-star WESTIN EXCELSIOR ROME.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy:*      **\$1,795**

*Price per person, based on single occupancy:*      **\$2,595**

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

EARLY BOOKING SAVINGS UP TO \$1,800 PER COUPLE

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