

TRAVEL WITH FRIENDS IN 2016

Ajaccio, Corsica © JeanbaptisteM/Flickr



Islands of Hesperia

CORSICA AND SARDINIA

with Christopher Allen
24 September – 08 October 2016 (15 days)

The Daily Telegraph The Sunday Telegraph THE AUSTRALIAN
ARTS BREAKS



R
Renaissance
Tours

Islands of Hesperia

CORSICA AND SARDINIA



TOUR LEADER

Dr Christopher Allen is an art critic and historian who graduated from the University of Sydney, has worked at the Collège de France in Paris and the National Art School, and is currently Senior Master in Academic Extension at Sydney Grammar School.

He is the author of *Art in Australia from colonization to postmodernism* (London, Thames and Hudson, 1997), *French painting in the golden age* (London, Thames and Hudson, 2003), and several other books. His most recent book, *Jeffrey Smart: unpublished paintings 1940–2007* (Melbourne, Australian Galleries) was published in April 2008. He was art critic of the *Financial Review* from 2005–2008 and since 2008 has been national art critic for *The Australian*.

Discover an enchanting but unfamiliar corner of the Mediterranean, rich in ancient and modern history, spectacular scenery, French *savoir-faire* and Italian charm.

Begin in Corsica, the former Genoese island with its incredibly wild mountains and breathtaking coastline dotted with towers against pirate attacks. From the port city of Bastia, travel south via Ajaccio (birthplace of Napoleon), the Parc Naturel Régionale de Corse and the Calanques of the west coast, to Bonifacio, legendary home of the monstrous Laestrygonians in the *Odyssey*.

A short ferry crossing takes you to Sardinia, another beautiful island with an intriguing ancient Bronze Age civilization of the Nuragic peoples who have left us great stone constructions and exquisite little bronze statues. Today it offers wonderful landscapes and coastlines, elegant cities, churches and museums, squares to relax with a coffee or aperitif, and plenty of very fine and always generous local cuisine.

At a glance...

- Enjoy spectacular mountain landscapes and coastlines – walks and boat excursions
- Discover ancient archaeological sites in both Corsica and Sardinia
- Visit the islands' delightful ancient towns, churches and museums
- Stay in delightful spa resorts and boutique city hotels
- Savour inventive and delicious Mediterranean gastronomy



Itinerary

Fri 23 September 2016

Depart Australia

Suggested departure from Australia on QANTAS / Emirates flights to Nice or Munich via Dubai, connecting with Air Corse to Bastia.

Sat 24 Sep

Arrive Bastia

Early afternoon arrival at Bastia airport and check-in to your hotel.

Later, join Christopher and fellow travellers for welcome drinks.

Sun 25 Sep

Bastia – Calvi

Begin your exploration of Bastia with a walk around the Old Port, with its faded charm of narrow streets and alleys, where washing still hangs from ancient shuttered windows in the tall, often almost crumbling, buildings, dating largely from the 18th century.

Lunch at leisure. This afternoon head across the mountains to Calvi, stopping at the 12th century church of San Michele de Murato.

Sitting in a strategic position on the northwest coast, Calvi has had a turbulent history, having been invaded on numerous occasions. According to local legend, Christopher Columbus may have been born in Calvi, which at the time was part of the Genoese empire, though he may have chosen to conceal the fact because the city had a bad reputation as a centre of subversion. It was here too in 1794 that Lord Nelson lost the sight in his right eye during the siege of the city, which lasted over forty days.

Enjoy dinner at your hotel. **B D**

Mon 26 Sep

Calvi

After a morning talk drive into Calvi for a walking tour of the old city and citadel and lunch at leisure.

Late afternoon return to the hotel. **B**

Tue 27 Sep

Calvi – Porto

This morning travel through spectacular inland mountains and gorges of the Parc Naturel Régionale de Corse to the Calanques and the coastal town of Piana. Lunch at leisure in Piana followed

by time at leisure including the possibility of a short hike in the mountains.

Continue to Porto and enjoy dinner in a local restaurant. **B D**

Wed 28 Sep

Porto – Ajaccio

Breakfast and morning at leisure in Porto before continuing south to Ajaccio, famous as the birthplace in 1769 of Napoleon Bonaparte; the city is dotted with sites and monuments, from his childhood home to seafront statues, museums and street names.

Abandoned during the 15th century because the area became malarial, the rocky promontory of Capo di Bollo was chosen as the site for the new town by the Republic of Genoa. About a hundred Genoese and Ligurian families, the Bonapartes among them, were sent to Corsica to colonise it, the aim being to set up a new port to provide protection on the sea route to the mainland.

Early afternoon arrival at your seaside hotel at Porto, on the bay opposite the city of Ajaccio.

Dinner in the hotel restaurant. **B D**

Thu 29 Sep

Ajaccio

This morning enjoy a walking tour of the historic centre. Visit Casa Napoléon, the birthplace of Napoleon and the Cathedral, the Place Foch in the centre of the old town and once the site of its medieval gate.

Lunch at leisure before a visit to the Musée Fesch, with its impressive collection of Italian Renaissance, Roman Baroque and Neapolitan Baroque painting.

The Musée Fesch was constructed for Cardinal Fesch, a maternal uncle of Napoleon Bonaparte, with the intention of accommodating an Arts and Sciences Institute. Born in Ajaccio in 1763, the Cardinal died in Rome, leaving a legacy of more than a thousand paintings to his native town.

Return to the hotel for late afternoon and evening at leisure. **B**



Old Port of Bastia, Corsica © flmt/Flickr



Parc Naturel Régionale de Corse © akunamatata/Flickr

Fri 30 Sep

Ajaccio – Bonifacio

This morning drive to the prehistoric site of Filitosa. Only discovered in 1946, Filitosa has an impressive and enigmatic array of prehistoric menhirs and statues with the hard granite carved into human representations.

Free time for lunch at the archaeological site.

Continue south to Bonifacio, a town that has managed to preserve its ancient character thanks to its geological situation. Bonifacio is a sheltered port protected by a fortified town perched on high white cliffs and surrounded by stupendously impregnable walls. Some believe that the giant cannibalistic Laestrygonians described in Homer's *Odyssey* may refer to Bonifacio's early inhabitants (7th century BC). Bonifacio fits Homer's description of an excellent harbour closed in on all sides by an unbroken ring of precipitous cliffs, with a narrow channel in between.

Enjoy dinner in a local restaurant. **B D**

Sat 01 Oct

Bonifacio

This morning take a coastal excursion and view Bonifacio from the sea. Marvel at the buildings perched high atop of the chalk-white limestone and look for the staircase of the King of Aragon carved out of the sheer cliff. The boat sails through a low passageway in the cliff that leads into a large cave. An opening in the roof of the grotto provides natural sunlight and the crystal clear water and rock walls of the cave reflect amethyst, indigo and gold hues that add to the breathtaking natural beauty of the cave.

Return to the harbour and free time for lunch.

This afternoon take the little tram or walk up into the old walled city for a walk along the cliff top Sentier des Douaniers and back into the city to watch the magnificent sunset. Visit the centuries-old Convent, an ancient cemetery for mariners and the church of St. Dominique. Stroll through narrow cobblestone streets and climb the same steps used by Napoleon and Charles V.

Enjoy dinner in a restaurant in the old city. **B D**



Musée Fesch Ajaccio, Corsica by Isiwal Wikimedia CC

Sun 02 Oct

Bonifacio – Santa Teresa – Alghero

Leaving Corsica travel by ferry across the strait of the Tyrrhenian Sea to the small Sardinian port town of Santa Teresa di Gallura. After a stop for lunch head to Alghero, pausing along the way at the Basilica della Santissima Trinità di Saccargia, the most important Romanesque Church on the island. Construction was completed in 1116 in local black basalt stone and white limestone, in a style recalling the Tuscan Romanesque. Abandoned in the 16th century, the Church was restored and reopened in the early 20th century.

Late afternoon arrival in Alghero and dinner in the hotel restaurant.

B P D

Mon 03 Oct

Alghero

After a morning talk leave for Porto Torres, home to one of the island's largest archaeological complexes. The Roman colony of Turris Lybissonis was founded in the 2nd century BC on an area long inhabited by earlier peoples, and numerous Nuraghic monuments are found in the vicinity. Sites of archaeological interest include the remains of the thermal baths, known since the Middle Ages as the "Palazzo of Re Barbaro" and the Museum. Also visit the Basilica of San Gavino, the island's largest Romanesque church.

Travel on to Sassari, Sardinia's second largest city. Since its origins at the turn of the 12th century – when Porto Torres, subject to constant attacks by Saracen pirates, became uninhabitable – Sassari has been ruled by the Giudicato of Torres, the Pisans, the Sassaresi themselves in alliance with Genoa, the Aragonese and the Spanish, all of whom have contributed to the city's historical and artistic heritage. Sassari is rich in art, culture and history, and well known for its beautiful palazzi, the Fountain of the Rosello, and its elegant neoclassical architecture.

Enjoy lunch in a picturesque local restaurant and an afternoon walking tour. Late afternoon return to Alghero. **B L**



Ruins of Tharros, Sardinia by Simon.zfn Wikimedia CC

Tue 04 Oct

Oristano

Morning transfer from Alghero to Oristano, driving down the coast road stopping in the village of Bosa. Surrounded by high plateaux on one side and a deep river below, the vineyards of the famous amber-coloured Malvasia wine are the setting for the old town where it is still possible to see old women intent on weaving Bosa filet using looms to embroider traditional designs. Another traditional activity is the manufacture of gold filigree.

After lunch at leisure in Bosa head to the Nuraghic site of the *Valle dei Nuraghi* and then on to a hotel in the hills outside Oristano and dinner in the hotel restaurant. **B D**

Wed 05 Oct

Oristano

Following a morning talk, explore the nearby archaeological site of Tharros. Once a coastal city founded by the Phoenicians in the eighth century BC on the site of a former Nuraghic village (there are remains of a *tophet*, an open-air sacred place typical of Phoenician settlements), it was occupied by the Romans and successive populations until, like Porto Torres, pirate raids made it uninhabitable, and the population moved inland to found the city of Oristano.

Visit the Museo Cabras with the colossal stone Giants of Monte Prama, then enjoy lunch of fresh seafood by the lagoon of Cabras.

Early afternoon return to Oristano to visit the city at leisure.

Early evening return to hotel and evening at leisure. **B L**

Thu 06 Oct

Cagliari

Depart Oristano for Cagliari. On the way stop at Tuili and the church of San Pietro, with its remarkable 16th century altarpieces.

Proceed to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Su Nuraxi di Barumini. The complex at Barumini, which was extended and reinforced in the first half of the 1st millennium under Carthaginian pressure, is the finest and most complete example of this remarkable form of prehistoric architecture. Nearby is the Casa Zapata, built over a Nuraghic fort in the 16th century and today a museum in which one can look down through a glass floor into the remarkably well-preserved archaeological remains.



Su Nuraxi di Barumini, Sardinia by Norbert Nagel Wikimedia CC

Nuraghi

Following earlier Neolithic and Chalcolithic cultures on the island, Sardinia was occupied in the second millennium BC by the so-called Nuraghic civilization: this Bronze-age population may be identical with the mysterious 'sea-peoples' who preyed on Mycenaean, Hittite and Egyptian coastal cities before suddenly disappearing from the historical record or rather, according to this theory, settling in Sardinia. Their most visible remains are the stone tower-forts ('Nuraghi') that are scattered all over the island: there are some 7000 in all, of which 200 have been excavated. They also left a great many evocative bronze statuettes of chiefs, warriors, priests, animals and boats. The Nuraghic civilization came under pressure from the Phoenicians, who established coastal strongholds in the southwest of the island from the 8th century (including Tharros and Karalis, now Cagliari); Phoenician Carthage eventually dominated the island from about the 6th – 5th century BC.



Bronze Archer of the Nuraghic civilisation by Shardan Wikimedia CC

Mid-afternoon arrival in Cagliari. The largest city in Sardinia and the capital of the island which DH Lawrence, arriving here in the 1920s, compared to Jerusalem: '...strange and rather wonderful, not a bit like Italy.'

After settling into the hotel, enjoy dinner in a local restaurant.

B L D

Fri 07 Oct

Cagliari

This morning take a walking tour of Cagliari. Begin in Piazza del Carmine (the Forum during Roman times) to admire the ruins of Tigello's villa. Head to the remains of the Roman amphitheatre, then continue into the medieval district of Castello, the Cathedral restored in the 1930s to replace its Baroque façade with a more authentic medieval style and the city's original Bell Tower.

Visit the Sardinian Archaeological Museum, the most important museum of the Nuraghic civilization. Pass by some of the old artisan workshops along the narrow lanes, and end with a beautiful view over Cagliari from the Bastion of Saint Remy.

Lunch and afternoon at leisure in Piazza Yenne in the heart of the old city and free time to explore the many fine shops all around.

This evening enjoy a farewell dinner in a local restaurant. **B D**

Sat 08 Oct

Depart Cagliari

Tour arrangements conclude with a transfer to Cagliari airport for suggested afternoon flight to Rome to connect on Emirates/Qantas flight via Dubai. **B**



Bosa, Oristano, Sardinia © Massimo Frasson/Flickr



Place Foch in Ajaccio, Corsica by Isival Wikimedia CC

Tour prices

Per person, twin-share	AUD 9,450
Single supplement*	AUD 2,000
Deposit per person	AUD 500
Final payment due	25 July 2016

*Single travellers may request to share. Please advise at time of booking.

Tour code

AGI616

Fitness level

Above Average

Please see booking conditions for fitness level definitions.

Suggested airline

Qantas/Emirates

Please contact Renaissance Tours for current airfares and flight reservations.

Tour price includes

- Accommodation in selected resort spas and city hotels with daily breakfast (**B**)
- Meals as per itinerary (**L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner) including wine with dinners
- Comprehensive sightseeing and visits with Christopher Allen and local guides including entrance fees as per itinerary
- Transportation throughout in comfortable, air-conditioned coaches
- Ferry transportation from Bonifacio to Santa Teresa in Gallura
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Hotel portorage (1 piece per person)

Tour price does not include

- International airfares
- Flights Europe - Bastia and Cagliari - Italy
- Transfers on arrivals and departure
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, mini-bar etc.
- Airport and ferry portorage
- Travel insurance

Your hotels

- Bastia – Hotel Les Voyageurs ★★★★★
- Calvi – La Villa ★★★★★
- Porto – Hotel Les Flots Bleus ★★★★★
- Ajaccio – Sofitel Golfe d'Ajaccio Thalassa Sea & Spa ★★★★★
- Bonifacio – Hotel Solemare ★★★★★
- Alghero – Grand Hotel Carlo V ★★★★★
- Oristano – Sardegna Grand Hotel Terme & SPA ★★★★★
- Cagliari – Regina Margherita ★★★★★

NB. Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted

Terms & Conditions

HOW TO BOOK

Complete, sign and return the Booking Form available from Renaissance Tours with your deposit and page one of your passport.

DEPOSIT / FINAL PAYMENTS

Your deposit is due at the time of booking and is used to pay hotel, airline, performance tickets and/or other deposits. It is non-refundable in the event of your cancellation.

Final payment is due 60 days before departure. Failure to make the final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit.

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express.

Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

a) Cancellation by You – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to cancellation fees for tours operated by Renaissance Tours as shown below, airlines, hotels and other third parties may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above, cancellation charges may apply for additional arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours, such as air tickets, hotels and travel insurance premium. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

b) Cancellation by Us – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for

force majeure, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure. No further compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability.

Cancellation and/or amendment fees may apply for additional travel arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours.

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

All travellers must be in a possession of a valid passport – most countries require a 6-month validity from your date of entry or exit. For some countries (e.g. China, Vietnam, India, Russia), visas are included in the tour cost and will be arranged by Renaissance Tours prior to travel. For other countries, it is your responsibility to ensure you have the appropriate visa(s).

You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour.

TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received.

In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid.

Once final payment is received, all prices will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. Your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours.

FITNESS AND PARTICIPATION

Most of our tours require a MODERATE level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (e.g. remote rail), certain tours will require an ABOVE AVERAGE or CHALLENGING level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

MODERATE

For the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 metres and above).

You can find the full terms & conditions at www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions or we would be happy to post you a copy on request.





R
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Tours

1300 727 095 (AU)
0800 403 621 (NZ)
call (+61 2) 9299 5801
fax (+61 2) 9299 5805
email info@renaissancetours.com.au
visit www.renaissancetours.com.au

Level 4, 47 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001
ABN 14 069 591 448

Travel agent

Booking form

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Renaissance
Tours

www.renaissancetours.com.au

Please return pages 1 and 2 to:

GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia or info@renaissancetours.com.au

Toll free AU 1300 727 095 or NZ 0800 403 621 | Tel: +61 2 9299 5801 | Fax: +61 2 9299 5805

- Please complete, sign and return this Booking Form, along with a copy of page one of your passport (international tours only and deposit).
NOTE: Flight bookings cannot proceed without passport copy. This is an airline security requirement.
- Complete credit card authority (if paying by credit card) OR forward a (deposit) cheque (made payable to Renaissance Tours).
- Upon receipt of your Booking Form and deposit, you will receive confirmation of your place on the tour(s) from Renaissance Tours.

Tour name

Tour code

Personal details – Passenger 1

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

Yes

No

MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist Renaissance Tours in determining the suitability of a tour participant for a particular tour. The information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE DECLARATION (Please tick)

I have read, understood and confirm that I meet the:

MODERATE

ABOVE AVERAGE

CHALLENGING

fitness level to participate on this tour.

Personal details – Passenger 2

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

Yes

No

MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist Renaissance Tours in determining the suitability of a tour participant for a particular tour. The information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE DECLARATION (Please tick)

I have read, understood and confirm that I meet the:

MODERATE

ABOVE AVERAGE

CHALLENGING

fitness level to participate on this tour.

Booking conditions

- I have read, understood and accept the **Booking Conditions** on page 3. I have enclosed the deposit and understand that the balance of the tour cost must be paid at least 60 days prior to departure (45 days prior for domestic tours) or my reservation may be cancelled.

Sign here

Booking conditions

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Sign here

Booking form

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Renaissance
Tours

Travel details – Passenger 1

AIRFARE – WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE A QUOTE FROM US?

Yes No

Economy Premium Economy Business Class First Class

CITY OF DEPARTURE

Sydney Melbourne Brisbane Perth Other

FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

ACCOMMODATION

Double Twin Single If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

Yes No

PRE/POST TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Please advise if you would like Renaissance Tours to organise any pre/post tour arrangements (e.g. earlier departure, later return, additional accommodation/flights, etc)

NEXT OF KIN (Emergency contact only)

Name

Relationship

Daytime contact ()

After hours contact

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER? Yes No

Travel details – Passenger 2 (only fill if different from Pax 1)

AIRFARE – WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE A QUOTE FROM US?

Yes No

Economy Premium Economy Business Class First Class

CITY OF DEPARTURE

Sydney Melbourne Brisbane Perth Other

FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

ACCOMMODATION

Double Twin Single If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

Yes No

PRE/POST TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Please advise if you would like Renaissance Tours to organise any pre/post tour arrangements (e.g. earlier departure, later return, additional accommodation/flights, etc)

NEXT OF KIN (Emergency contact only)

Name

Relationship

Daytime contact ()

After hours contact

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER? Yes No

Payment

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express. Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

AMOUNT CREDIT CARD CHEQUE CASH EFT

CREDIT CARD AUTHORITY

Cardholder's name

American Express MasterCard Visa

Cardholder's number

SIGN

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Account name: Renaissance Tours

BSB: 062-032 / Account: 2800 4163

Swift code: CTBAU2S (use for transfers from overseas)

Expiry (month/year)

DATE

Travel agent

Booking form

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FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE

Most of our tours require a **MODERATE** level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (eg. remote rail), certain tours will require an **ABOVE AVERAGE** or **CHALLENGING** level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

MODERATE

for the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 m and above).

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is highly recommended that you are covered by travel insurance for domestic tours.

However, it is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. You can make your own arrangements or your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours. In either case all participants must provide the following information no later than 60 days prior to commencement of travel:

- a copy of your travel insurance policy (or details of master policy)
- the emergency telephone number of your insurance company
- next of kin emergency contact.

1. TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received. In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid. Once final payment is received, all prices (excluding air taxes) will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

2. PAYMENT

Your final payment is due 60 days before departure (45 days prior for domestic tours). Failure to make your final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit. We reserve the right to charge a late payment fee in the event of late booking and/or payment to cover additional communication and other expenses.

3. FLIGHT BOOKINGS AND FARES

Renaissance Tours will use its best endeavours to ensure that all flight prices are correct at the time that they are quoted. However, once a deposit is paid on an air fare, it guarantees that a booking is being held for you, it does not guarantee the fare and applicable taxes.

The fare and taxes can only be guaranteed when the flight booking has been paid in full and a ticket has been issued. Flight bookings cannot be transferred.

4. CHANGES

a) Changes by You – Because of additional communication and other expenses, we reserve the right to charge an appropriate administration fee per amendment to your original booking. While every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate changes and additional requests their availability cannot be guaranteed.

b) Changes by Us – While we will use our best endeavours to operate all tours as advertised, by entering into this contract the Client accepts that it may prove necessary or advisable to vary or modify a tour or its contents due to prevailing local conditions. We reserve the right at any time to cancel or change any of the facilities, services or prices described in the brochure (including flights, transport, accommodation or other arrangements) and to substitute alternative arrangements of comparable monetary value without compensation.

If a service or facility becomes unavailable due to circumstances beyond our control ('force majeure') and no alternative arrangement of comparable monetary value is available, we will substitute the best alternative available and will refund the Client for any cost saving or charge the Client for any additional costs incurred. 'Force majeure' includes any event which Renaissance Tours or its suppliers could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid (e.g. advice against travel from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), war, threat of war, riot, civil strife, industrial dispute, epidemics, health risks, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster, fire or adverse weather conditions, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes imposed by cancellation or rescheduling of flights by an airline or main charterer, the alteration of airline or aircraft type). Renaissance Tours is not liable for any penalty charges associated with 'supersaver' type connecting rail or air fares, in the event of a change to a holiday departure time, date or airport.

5. SUBSTITUTION OF CLIENT

If any member of the party is prevented from travelling because of the death, injury or serious illness of the passenger, close relative or friend, redundancy or jury service, it may be possible to transfer the booking to another suitable person (acceptable to Renaissance Tours) provided that written notice is given at least one calendar month prior to departure. An administration fee of \$100 + GST per person will be levied plus any costs imposed by our suppliers. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

6. CANCELLATION

a) Cancellation by You – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to the charges shown below airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

International Tours

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit*
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

Domestic Tours

45 days or more	Forfeit of deposit*
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

* Includes any flight deposit paid.

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above cancellation charges, the full insurance premium together with any existing administration fees is also payable in the event of a cancellation by the Client. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

b) Cancellation by Us – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for *force majeure* (as outlined in clause 4b) or the Client's failure to pay the final balance, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure for international tours and 45 days before departure for domestic tours. Unless the Client fails to pay the final balance, we will return all monies paid, excluding payment for travel insurance and administration fees. No compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

7. PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

It is your responsibility to be in possession of a passport valid for 6 months after the date of your return to Australia. You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary visas, inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour. Information about these matters or related items is given in good faith but without responsibility on the part of Renaissance Tours.

8. ILLNESS OR DISABILITY

Anyone suffering from illness or disability or undergoing treatment for any physical or medical condition must declare the true nature of such condition at the time of booking and make arrangements for the provision of any medication or other treatment which may be required during the tour. Failure to make such disclosure will constitute a breach of these booking conditions and result in such persons being excluded from the tour in which case all monies paid will be forfeit.

9. LOCAL LAWS

All participants of the tours we operate are expected to obey the laws and regulations of the countries visited and any failure to do so will relieve Renaissance Tours of all obligations that they may otherwise have under these booking conditions.

10. IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT

If you have a complaint about any of the tour arrangements, you must bring it to the attention of the tour leader or other representative of Renaissance Tours at the time so that they may use their best endeavours to rectify the situation. It is only if we are made aware of any problems that there will be the opportunity to put things right. Any complaints must be made in writing to Renaissance Tours within 28 days of the completion of the tour.

11. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

All bookings are accepted on the understanding that the Client appreciates that travel does involve some risk and that they undertake all tours of their own volition.

i) Renaissance Tours accepts liability should any part of the tour arrangements booked with us not be supplied as described in the brochure(s) and not be of reasonable standard. In such a case, we will pay reasonable compensation if the Client's enjoyment of the tour has been adversely affected but will pay no compensation if there has been no fault on the part of Renaissance Tours or our suppliers and the reason for the failure in the tour arrangements was the Client's fault, the actions of someone unconnected with the tour arrangements or could not have been foreseen or avoided by Renaissance Tours or its suppliers even if all due care had been exercised.

ii) Our acceptance of liability to pay compensation pursuant to clause 11(i) is limited, in the case of air travel, rail travel, sea travel or hotel accommodation, to the amount set out in the provisions of, respectively, the Warsaw Convention as amended by the Hague Protocol 1955, the 1961 Berne Convention, the 1974 Athens Convention and the 1962 Paris Convention.

iii) Our acceptance of liability in clauses 11(i) and 11(ii) above is subject to assignment by the Client to Renaissance Tours of the Client's rights against any agent, supplier or sub-contractor of Renaissance Tours which is in any way responsible for the unsatisfactory tour arrangements.



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