

THE TRAVEL CLUB

Pre-Departure Itinerary

Liguria, Italy's Riviera

Wednesday, September 26 – Thursday, October 4, 2012

The Italian Riviera—a slender coastal strip in northwest Italy that flows into the French Riviera—offers breathtaking scenery, a wonderful climate and charming seaside resort towns. In this land of everlasting spring you'll discover hills covered by olive groves and vineyards, streets lined with palm trees, picturesque villages perched on hilltops and gardens. You'll stay in **Sanremo** on the "Riviera dei Fiori," or riviera of flowers, famous for its casino and Russian Orthodox Church. Wander into "la Pigna" (pine cone), Sanremo's Old Town, characterized by steep streets, covered alleys and little squares, for a glimpse of medieval Italy. You'll enjoy two excursions to the nearby French Riviera to exclusive **Monte Carlo, Nice** and **Cannes**, including the Matisse Museum in Nice, a stroll along the "Croisette"—Cannes' seaside promenade—and a visit to a French perfumerie in the village of Eze. Catch a glimpse of old town Genoa before heading to seaside **Santa Margherita Ligure** and travel to the world-famous resort of Portofino. This special vacation is enhanced by a visit to an olive oil mill and a wine tasting.

Includes

- Round-trip air transportation on regularly scheduled **Alitalia** Airlines flights from Boston to Genoa, via Rome
- Seven nights' three-star accommodations Hotel Alexander, Sanremo
- Nine meals: seven breakfasts, two dinners
- Wine tasting
- Escorted round-trip, private airport/hotel transfers
- Services of professional local Tour Manager

\$2,119 per person double occupancy

\$2,409 for single reservations

INCLUDES round-trip airfare and \$440 fuel surcharge

Accommodations

Hotel Alexander

Corso Garibaldi, 123
Sanremo, Italy 18038
Tel: 0184 572131

hotelalexandersanremo.com

Hotel Alexander is ideally located for the beautiful city of Sanremo's top tourist attractions: the famous Ariston Theatre, the Casino, the Palafiori, window shopping on Via Matteotti and relaxing on the beaches. The impressive façade and liberty style interior perfectly recreate the atmosphere of past times and set Hotel Alexander apart from the rest.

Triple accommodations may be available upon request. Add \$120 for air taxes and fees. Fuel surcharge, taxes and fees subject to change. Passport required. Per person deposit is \$300.

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1: Departure from Boston

Depart from Boston this evening on your Alitalia flight to Rome.

Day 2: Arrive Rome – connecting flight to Genoa

Continental breakfast will be served on board before landing. You will clear immigrations and proceed to your connecting flight to Genoa. Upon arrival in Genoa, retrieve your luggage and clear customs. You'll be met by our local representative, who will assist you with the motorcoach transfer to the **Hotel**

Alexander in the lively town of Sanremo. Check in and receive room assignments. In the afternoon there will be an orientation meeting. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel. **(D)**.

Day 3: Sanremo – walking tour

Enjoy buffet breakfast at the hotel before you depart on a guided walking tour of Sanremo, the capital of the Italian Riviera of Flowers. Sanremo lies in a wide inlet between Capo Nero and Capo Verde; it's old town is called La Pigna (pinecone) and is characterized by perched houses, steep streets, covered alleys, and little squares all reminiscent of its medieval beginnings. Sanremo is also famous for it's Casino built in 1905. Your walk includes Viale Matteotti, Villa Nobel and the Empress Promenade. Your afternoon and evening are at leisure. **(B)**

Day 4: Monte Carlo

After breakfast at the hotel you'll drive to Monte Carlo, the jewel of the Cote d'Azur with its exclusive atmosphere. En route you'll stop at the village of Eze to visit a perfume factory. While in Monte Carlo you will have free time to explore on your own. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon. **(B)**

Day 5: Genoa – Santa Margherita & Portofino

Today you'll enjoy a full-day excursion. You begin with a guided half-day visit to the historic old-town of Genoa, the birthplace of Christopher Columbus. Squeezed between mountains and sea, Genoa developed into one of Europe's most important ports. In the afternoon you'll travel to Santa Margherita Ligure, a wonderful old-fashioned Riviera resort where palm trees stand along the esplanade and Portofino – the resort of the rich and famous. Portofino is a picturesque, half-moon shaped seaside village with pastel houses lining the shore of the harbor. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon. **(B)**

Day 6: Dolceacqua

In the morning you'll visit charming medieval village of Dolceacqua, the former residence of the infamous Doria family. You'll see the Doria's ancient castle and the Roman bridge and later taste the local wine along with the typical focaccia bread. In the afternoon return to the hotel. **(B)**

Day 7: Nice & Cannes

Today's full-day excursion brings you to Nice and Cannes – the epitome of the French Riviera. Visit the Matisse Museum and Phoenix Park in Nice. Cannes, once a small fishing village, is a glamorous and expensive seaside town considered one of the social hubs of Europe. Stroll along the "Croisette" the famous seaside promenade and visit the historic center of old Cannes. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon. **(B)**

Day 8: Albenga

Today you'll enjoy a half-day excursion to Albenga to visit the " Antico Frantoio" (oil mill) Sommariva. The mill is a real gem set within the walls of the ancient town. Adjacent to the mill is the oil museum which contains rare examples of ancient agricultural instruments. Return to the hotel. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner at the hotel restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 9: Return to Boston

Early morning transfer to Genoa airport for your return flight to Boston, via Rome. **(B)**

Proof of Citizenship is required for all trips outside the United States. U.S. citizens require valid Passport. Passports are the responsibility of each client.

PLEASE NOTE: *This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured. We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2–3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is*

accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.