



EXPLORA JOURNEYS ANNOUNCES NEW DESTINATION EXPERIENCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IN 2024



Geneva, Switzerland, 27 March 2024 - Explora Journeys, the luxury lifestyle ocean travel brand of the MSC Group, announced today a new collection of distinctive Destination Experiences in the Mediterranean for 2024, continuously expanding its offerings ahead of the inaugural Mediterranean season of EXPLORA I and EXPLORA II.

Koray Savas, VP Hotel at Explora Journeys, said *"Embarking on our newest Mediterranean journeys, travellers have the chance to immerse themselves in a tapestry of rich history and vibrant cultures. From the sun-kissed shores of Italy to hidden gems in Greece, each experience is meticulously curated to unveil the essence of the Mediterranean spirit. Our team has carefully crafted experiences in each destination that will enrich our guests and make each journey truly memorable. Experiences are tailored to intimate groups of 2–25 guests, with time to experience off-the-beaten-path encounters at a slower pace. Our aim is to provide guests with unforgettable moments, deepening their connection with these timeless destinations."*

With curated experiences available for EXPLORA I and EXPLORA II, these journeys are designed to immerse travellers in the mosaic of diverse heritage and authentic traditions and to unveil the essence of the Mediterranean.

Highlights include:

Rovinj, Croatia: Truffle Hunting in Istria

Travellers will have the chance to delve into the world of truffles amidst the pristine landscapes of Istria. Guests have the opportunity to join an old Istrian family of truffle harvesters for a truffle hunt in their private wood, accompanied by specially trained dogs. Sampling artisanal truffle-laced products and exploring the medieval town of Motovun, for panoramic views of the Mirna River valley, adds to the allure of this experience.

Casablanca, Morocco: Invigorating Hammam and Lunch at a Historic Palace

Guests will visit the magnificent Hassan II Mosque, Africa's largest, and indulge in a traditional hammam experience using clay from the Atlas Mountains. Afterward, they enjoy a lavish lunch at a historic palace in the heart of the Casablanca Medina, savouring refined Moroccan cuisine amidst ornate surroundings.



Mykonos, Greece: Vineyards and Villages of Mykonos

An experience to showcase a different side of Mykonos, guests will venture to a family-owned organic vineyard. There, they'll learn about biodynamic wine crafting and sample a selection of wines paired with local delicacies, immersing themselves in the sights, sounds, and flavours of Greece before returning to the ship in the evening.

Málaga, Spain: Secrets of Granada

Travellers delve into the hidden gems of Granada, from the freethinking barrio culture of Albaicín, to the Gypsy community of Sacromonte. Wandering through winding cobbled alleys, sampling delicious local food and drink, and immersing themselves in the history and vibrancy of this distinctive Spanish city create an unforgettable experience.

Livorno, Italy: Lucca by Bike and Picnic on the Ramparts

Guests are guided on a leisurely pedal through the city, enveloped by its medieval charm within the ancient city wall. Highlights include visits to landmarks like the Romanesque Cathedral of San Martino and the oval Piazza dell'Anfiteatro, standing on Roman amphitheatre foundations. A Tuscan-flavoured picnic atop the city walls precedes browsing local boutiques, cafes, and shops.

Brindisi, Italy: Trulli of Alberobello and Gleaming Ostuni

In Alberobello, travellers will visit the iconic traditional dry-stone huts with a corbelled roof, known as Trulli. After getting a taste of local gelato, guests can explore the UNESCO World Heritage site before lunch at a Trullo restaurant. A picturesque 45-minute drive takes them to Ostuni, the ancient 'white city' overlooking the Adriatic, followed by a guided tour before returning to Brindisi.

The Destination Experiences are now available for guests to book. EXPLORA I will be in the Mediterranean from June to early December 2024 and EXPLORA II will embark on her maiden journey from Barcelona to Civitavecchia (Rome) on August 11, 2024, and will sail in the Mediterranean until November before sailing the Caribbean.

The brand has extended its "Total Luxury Offer", until 30 April 2024, so that guests can benefit from additional benefits such as onboard credit, additional inclusions, and savings on their journey.

-ENDS-

For media enquiries please contact press@explorajourneys.com

About Explora Journeys

Explora Journeys is the privately-owned luxury lifestyle brand of the MSC Group, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, created at the heart of Swiss luxury hospitality. The brand stems from the long-held vision to redefine the ocean experience for a new generation of discerning luxury travellers, drawing on the Aponte family's 300 years of maritime heritage. The brand's aspiration is to create a unique 'Ocean State of Mind' by connecting guests with the sea,



with themselves, and like-minded others, while remarkable itineraries blend renowned destinations with lesser-travelled ports, for a journey that inspires discovery in all its forms.

A fleet of six ships will be launched from 2023 to 2028, starting with EXPLORA I's delivery that took place on 24 July 2023. Equipped with the latest environmental and marine technologies, Explora Journeys introduces a new style of transformative ocean travel. EXPLORA I offers 461 oceanfront suites, penthouses and residences designed to be 'Homes at Sea' for guests, all with sweeping ocean views, private terrace, a choice of eleven distinct culinary experiences across six vibrant restaurants plus in-suite dining, Chef's Kitchen, twelve bars and lounges (eight indoor and four outdoor), four swimming pools, extensive outdoor decks with 64 private cabanas, wellness facilities, and refined entertainment. Inspired by the company's European heritage, Explora Journeys will provide guests with an immersive ocean experience and respectful and intuitive hospitality.

EXPLORA II is currently under construction and will come into service in August 2024. EXPLORA III will come into service in 2026 and EXPLORA IV in 2027 with both ships being LNG-powered. EXPLORA V and EXPLORA VI will enter service in 2027 and 2028, respectively.

To learn more about Explora Journeys, visit explorajourneys.com or follow us on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).