

# Alghero

SARDINIA



## Alghero Discovery Tour AHO001



Approximately 4 hours • \$109

Sardinia, with approximately 800 miles of coastline, is a popular vacation destination, famous not only for its natural beauty but also for its history. The Aragonese landed on the coast in 1353, so Catalán influence is alive and well in Alghero. Its streets, shops, language, lifestyle, food and traditions are all Catalán. You will travel by motor coach over the road that links the Gulf of Alghero to the Gulf of Porto Conte, to visit the Nuraghe Palmavera—an archeological site with two-story stone towers. The main tower dates back to 1100 BC, with an irregular, elliptical-shaped fascia, and the second tower is connected to a central courtyard that was added later. The whole complex is surrounded by a barbican with four towers marking the boundary of ancient village. From Capo Caccia, take dramatic photos, then head back to Alghero for a walking tour of the town, past ancient monuments, old fortifications, historic buildings and beautiful churches.

## A Taste of Sardinia Tour AHO002



Approximately 4½ hours • \$109

Tour Alghero to discover the town's churches in fascinating Catalán-Gothic architecture, the towers and wall which surround the old town, and the Aragon palaces overlooking the main square. Then, you will follow the coastal road to Porto Conte, continuing inland toward the attractive vineyards of Sella & Mosca, a company founded in 1899 and now one of the most important wine producers in Sardinia. Tour the old cellars and taste some fine wines, including Torbato, Cannonau (the most famous Sardinian red wine), Vermentino di Sardegna, Nasco, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Sauvignon Blanc. These quality wines are produced in an ideal climate and excellent soils.

# Alicante,

SPAIN



## Wine Tasting & Elche Tour ALC001



Approximately 4½ hours • \$99

Board your motor coach for a drive to Novelda and the Heretat de Cesilia cellars, founded in 1707, where you'll have a chance to sample some of the local wines produced on site. After your time in Novelda, visit La Mola Castle—a fortress of Islamic origin built in the late 12th century. It has an octagonal floor plan and had eight cubes hanging. Only four of the cubes remain, two of which are covered up. They feature a square tower inside, made from adobe on a masonry base. In 1931 the fortress was declared a Historical Artistic Monument of National Interest. Next, is a visit to the town of Elche, home to the extraordinary Palm Tree Forest of Europe—

an enormous park full of palm trees and quite unique at this latitude. The municipal park will introduce you to the world of plants and the palms of the area, but the most interesting stop on this tour will be at Huerto del Cura—an exotic garden containing the rarest varieties of palms. The garden boasts great botanical diversity and is the ideal place to stroll around and see its luxuriant plants. The fountains and the main lake placed right at the heart of the park are all inspired by Arabian architectural style—the area was occupied for centuries by Muslims. After your tour, return to Alicante and your waiting ship.

## Alicante City Tour ALC002



Approximately 3 hours • \$89

Leave the port of Alicante to discover this city whose past and present are inextricably linked with North Africa for historical and economic reasons. You will cross the center of town en route to the Castle of Santa Barbara, an aging fortress built during the 16th century. From 500 feet above sea level, take in the beautiful view of the city, the bay and your ship. Inside the castle, admire some interesting Iberian archeological findings which demonstrate that people lived there even before the arrival of the Romans. You'll visit the best-preserved areas such as the