

# Arabian Gulf Cruise 2018

# DUBAI - ABU DHABI - SIR BANI YAS - MUSCAT - KHOR AL FAKKAN

February 1<sup>st</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 (subject to change) 10 Days Cost: \$2500 total (based on double occupancy)

**Includes:** all international & domestic flights, full-time travel director, all accommodations, airport transfers, all meals on board ship, Dubai walking tour, and all taxes & fees. **Other expenses not included** are: excess baggage fees, meals before / after cruise, gratuities, and optional excursions while in port.

Travel Insurance available through our affiliate program at World Nomads. Visit <u>http://percussive.org/dubai</u> for more information.

<u>Price Valid Until: November 5, 2017</u> - checks made payable to Percussive, LLC – *Cash & Credit Card also accepted. 5% processing fee added to all credit card transactions* 

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# **<u>DAY ONE</u>** – Fly to Istanbul (tentative—connection subject to change)

- Transfer via provided shuttle from West Michigan area to Chicago O'Hare International Airport to take your flight to Istanbul, the largest city in Turkey.

- Enjoy a comfortable flight on a full-service airline where you will have full meal service, complimentary alcoholic beverages, in-flight personal entertainment, and premium comfort.

# **DAY TWO** - Transfer to Dubai

- Change planes in Istanbul, but first enjoy a nice Turkish meal at the airport

- Arrive in Dubai late at night and transfer to your modern hotel in Dubai City.

# **DAY THREE** - Walking Tour / Cruise Embarkation

- Sleep in and enjoy an authentic Middle-Eastern breakfast at the hotel.

- Join your local guide, who will take you on a walking tour of Dubai to see famous landmarks such as:

- Al Fahidi Courtyard Houses
- Coffee Museum
- Dubai Museum
- The Ruler's Divan
- Dubai Old Textile Souk called Mina Bazar
- House of Sheikh Saeed Al Maktoum
- o Al Shindaga Watchtower
- Heritage & Diving Village
- $\circ \quad \text{Gold Souk}$
- Spice Souk
- Traditional Abra Ride (wooden boat) to ride across the creek
- o Dubai Creek

- Later, transfer to the Port of Dubai to board your luxury world-class cruise ship, the MSC Splendida, which boasts 18 decks and includes numerous restaurants, bars, pools, theatres, casinos, and other entertainment.

# **DAY FOUR** - Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

- Arrive early morning in the enchanting capital city of the UAE: Abu Dhabi!

### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:**

# Abu Dhabi Sightseeing Tour

Opt to explore Abu Dhabi on a guided tour of the city. Travel through Abu Dhabi by air-conditioned coach as a guide sheds light on the region's rich culture and heritage. Marvel at the soaring domes and minarets of Sheikh Zayed Mosque. Mingle with the locals in the bustling souks, where everything from gold jewelry to fresh dates has a price to barter on. Then, travel past the corniche's pristine gardens and beaches to the Heritage Village, where the Abu Dhabi of old is brought to life.

# Desert Safari w/ Camel Ride, Dinner, & Belly Dancing Performance

Get a taste of Bedouin life and desert adventure on this 5.5-hour 4x4 trip from Abu Dhabi. With an expert guide, board a 4x4 and head deep into the dunefilled desert for an action-packed afternoon and evening Abu Dhabi desert safari. Take an exciting dune bash; visit a camel farm to ride one of the hardy desert animals; try sandboarding, watch a serene desert sunset, and perhaps get a henna tattoo. Finish with a delicious barbecue dinner and belly dancing show around a campfire at a starlit desert camp.

## Ferrari World

Dive into a world of Ferrari fun with an entry ticket to Ferrari World in Abu Dhabi. Make tracks to this thrilling, Ferrari-branded attraction, the world's largest indoor theme park, and enjoy its white-knuckle and family-friendly entertainments at leisure. Shoot around the Formula Rossa coaster, ride the gokarts; test your nerve on the advanced race simulators, watch the kids drive miniature Ferraris and more. Slow down at the restaurants and gift stores.

Many other excursions available!

# DAY FIVE - Sir Bani Yas Island, United Arab Emirates

- On Sir Bani Yas, visit an enormous nature reserve, which has been designated to species in danger of extinction. You will be able to observe rare animals inside a protected area where the great majority of them, including giraffes, flamingos and cheetahs to name just a few, live freely!

# **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:**

# Jeep Safari Adventure

Leave the ship, board a jeep and then set off on an adventure outing through the beautiful nature reserve that occupies a little more than half of Sir Bani Yas Island.

### Paddleboarding

## Snorkeling

## Mangrove Kayaking

# DAY SIX - Relaxing Day at Sea

- Enjoy a relaxing day aboard the ship and take advantage of all of the onboard activities and restaurants!

## DAY SEVEN - Muscat, Oman

- Step ashore to one of the oldest cities in the Middle East: Muscat! This capital of Oman is where incense was shipped to Greece and Rome as far back as the 2nd century!

## **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:**

### Muscat Sightseeing Tour

Get to know beautiful Muscat, capital of Oman, on this 4-hour city tour, with an expert guide. Driving between the sights by air-conditioned vehicle, hear interesting commentary on Muscat's maritime trading past, and admire the elegant, flower-lined embassy quarter and old Muttrah, with its balconied merchants' houses framing picturesque Corniche. On route, visit the stunning Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, see the Al Alam Palace and Al Jahali and Al-Mirani forts, and explore the main souk and Bait Al Zubair Museum, with its displays on Oman's fascinating history and heritage.

#### Day Tour to the Enchanting Forts of Nizwa

Discover the Oman of old with its pretty forts and oasis villages on this full-day trip to Nizwa Fort from Muscat. With an informative guide, depart Muscat by air-conditioned coach or minivan, tracing the jagged Hajar Mountains to visit picture-postcard, 17th-century Nizwa Fort. Take a guided tour of the battlements and turrets, and browse for silver jewelry and handicrafts at Nizwa souk. Then, pass through palm-ringed oases towns such as Bahla to visit Jabreen Fort, one of Oman's most enchanting castles and famous for its murals and wood carvings.

#### Other excursions available!

# DAY EIGHT - Khor al Fakkan, United Arab Emirates

- Disembark on one of the prettiest spots in the UAE and enjoy the pristine beaches.

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:**

#### Fujairah Heritage Village

Step back in time as you enter this historical village dedicated to the traditions of the 16th century. This carefully recreated Arabian village depicts the home life of olden times, including cooking utensils, farming tools and the Al Yazrah irrigation system. (FREE ADMISSION)

## **DAY NINE** - Dubai, United Arab Emirates

- Enjoy more free time in the metropolis of Dubai!

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:**

#### Burj Khalifa: The World's Tallest Building

Look out from the Burj Khalifa's 'At the Top' observation deck with this entrance ticket to the 124th-floor viewing point. Ride the moving sidewalk to the tower as you watch a multimedia presentation on Dubai's history, and take the high-speed elevator up to the observation deck. Then, behold the incredible views over Dubai Marina, the Burj-Al Arab and other sights through the panoramic windows. Use the digital telescopes to view and learn about the landmarks below, and browse the gift store before returning to ground level.

#### Dubai Atlantis Aquaventure Waterpark

Throw yourself into the action of Aquaventure Waterpark in Dubai with an allday ticket. Part of the Atlantis The Palm resort, the Aquaventure Dubai boasts impressive water rides and adventures fit for all ages. Enjoy the attractions as you wish: career down corkscrew chutes, ride through shark tunnels, watch the little ones at the Splasher's kids' area, and unwind on the lazy rivers. Upgrade to include entrance to The Lost Chambers, the Atlantis-themed aquarium.

#### Dubai Helicopter Adventure Tour

Admire spectacular views of Dubai on a 15- or 25-minute shared helicopter flight. With an experienced pilot at the controls, settle into a 5-passenger helicopter and soar above the Palm Jumeirah, Burj Al-Arab and other top sights. Hover around the Burj Khalifa; glide over The World, the man-made archipelago in the Persian Gulf shaped like a map; and snap photos as your pilot points out the main landmarks.

## Dubai Aquarium & Underwater Zoo

Discover one of the largest indoor aquariums in the world at the Dubai Aquarium and Underwater Zoo. Enjoy your choice between the Researcher Experience, which offers a guided, behind-the-scenes tour of the Underwater Observatory to feed stingrays and sharks, or the Explorer Experience, taking you on a glass-bottom boat tour and a submersible simulator adventure. Both options provide access to the Aquarium Tunnel and the Underwater Zoo, home to massive 'King Croc' and some of the UAE's nocturnal animals.

## Dubai Adventure Combo Tour

Eager to try camel riding Dubai-style? Then this 4-hour morning desert experience packs in a Dubai camel ride, plus three other exciting activities. Travel into the desert bright and early in a 4x4 with an expert guide, and arrive at a traditional camel farm. Snap photos of the hump-backed herbivores and any baby camels in the herd, and take a camel ride over the sands. Cap your morning with a thrilling quad bike ride, and then, take to a sandboard to slip, slide and skid down the dunes.

# DAY TEN - Dubai & Fly Home

- Enjoy one last breakfast on board the ship before you transfer to your flight home.