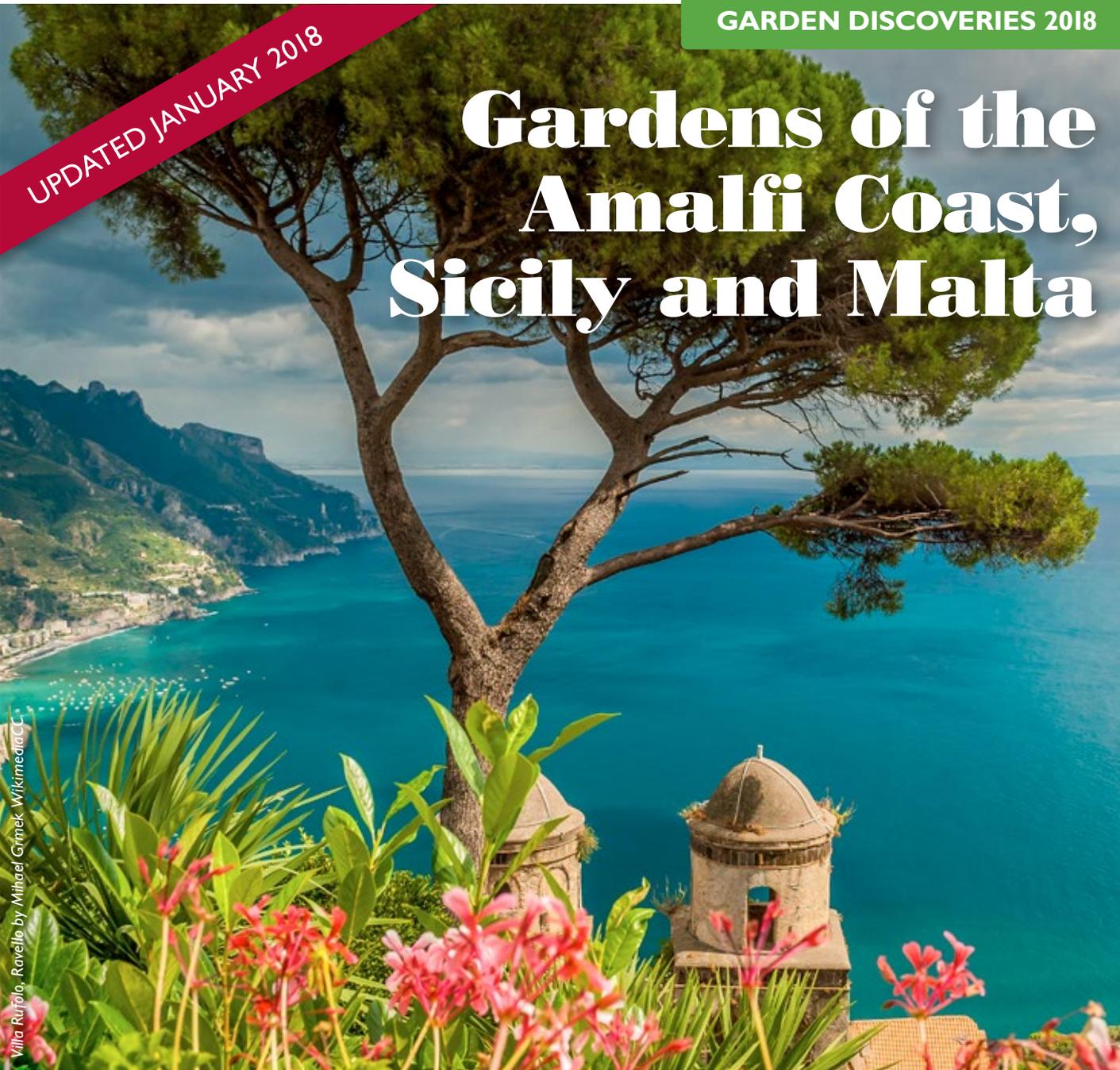


GARDEN DISCOVERIES 2018

UPDATED JANUARY 2018

Gardens of the Amalfi Coast, Sicily and Malta

Villa Rufolo, Ravello by Mihal Grmek WikimediaCC



ROME, CAPRI, POSITANO, TAORMINA AND VALLETTA

with Helen Young
04–19 May 2018 (16 days)

The Daily Telegraph

The Sunday Telegraph

THE AUSTRALIAN
ARTS BREAKS



Renaissance
Tours

Gardens of the Amalfi Coast, Sicily and Malta

ROME, CAPRI, POSITANO, TAORMINA AND VALLETTA



TOUR LEADER

Helen Young

Horticulturist, garden writer, presenter and author, Helen Young has led 20 garden tours internationally, visiting destinations such as France, England, Italy, Spain, Croatia, Morocco, Germany and Japan, and more locally Western Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand. She is well known for her weekly columns in *The Weekend Australian* over the last 15 years, and as *House and Garden* magazine's garden writer for 10 years. Sydneysiders know her as a long-term regular expert on ABC 702's Saturday morning gardening program, but she also runs her own successful horticulture business. Her experience and enthusiasm for all things garden make her a popular garden tour host.

The coastline of Italy's Tyrrhenian Sea, gracefully easing down from Rome to the Amalfi Coast, joins hands with the historic Ionian islands of Sicily and Malta. For hundreds of years, travellers have come to bask in the beauty of these shores, and have built magnificent gardens to glorify this home of *la dolce vita*. Join Helen Young to admire the languid opulence of the gardens of Sorrento, Positano and the isles of Ischia and Capri, and the rugged beauty of the Mediterranean gardens of Sicily and Malta. In Rome, get a glimpse of the formal gardens of the Pope's exclusive retreat of Castel Gandolfo, and wander through the captivating Vatican Gardens.

At a glance...

- Visit Sorrento, Positano, Ischia and Capri, whose naturalistic gardens overflow with verdant growth and colourful blossoms
- In Sicily, see gardens raised in the shadow of Mt Etna, and wander through picturesque Taormina and Syracuse
- Explore the gardens and palaces of Malta, where gardens of palm trees and succulents grow from the honey-coloured earth
- In Rome, visit the Pope's private gardens at Castel Gandolfo, newly opened to the public for the first time, as well as the Vatican Gardens
- Optional post-tour to Gozo, Malta's charming second island



Thursday 03 May 2018

Suggested departure from Australia or New Zealand on Emirates flights via Dubai. Renaissance Tours or your travel agent can assist you with your travel arrangements.

Fri 04 May

Arrive Rome

Mid-afternoon arrival in Rome, and check in to your hotel. In the evening, join Helen and your fellow travellers for a welcome reception. **R**

Sat 05 May

Rome

Today, enjoy a full-day tour of the private gardens and palaces of the Vatican City and the Pope's lakeside residence of Castel Gandolfo. First stop is the Vatican itself for a guided tour of the Vatican Museums, and the Vatican Gardens, which cover more than half of the Vatican City's 44 hectares in central Rome. Then board the dedicated 'Papal Express' train bound for Castel Gandolfo, an enclave of the Vatican City perched above Lazio's Lake Albano. Opened to the public only in 2014 by Pope Francis, visitors can now stroll through the Barberini Gardens. After lunch, explore the Apostolic Palace. Return by train to central Rome for an evening at leisure. **B L**

Sun 06 May

Rome – Sorrento

After checking out of your hotel, travel to the remarkable landscape garden of Ninfa, described as 'the most romantic garden in the world'. The settlement of Ninfa (from Latin 'nymphaeum' meaning 'temple of the water nymphs') was a flourishing Mediaeval town with over 150 houses, a church, a castle, a town hall and a defensive wall, before being abandoned in the 17th century due to fears of malaria. It was not until the 20th century that the noble Caetani family established Ninfa as a landscape garden amidst the crumbling ruins. After free time for lunch, drive to Sorrento and check in to your hotel, followed by dinner. **B D**

Mon 07 May

Sorrento

Depart by ferry for a day-trip to the island of Capri, the iconic summertime retreat of the Amalfi Coast. Visit first the gardens of Villa San Michele, built by a 19th century Swedish doctor and philanthropist who created a terraced residence replete with

intimate leafy walkways, Greek bronzes in its corridors and a red granite sphinx perched on the Siren Heights overlooking the Gulf of Naples. Enjoy lunch in a typical local restaurant and experience the true *stile di Capri*. After lunch, return to Sorrento, followed by an evening at leisure. **B L**

Tue 08 May

Sorrento

This morning, depart by ferry for a tour of the gardens of Ischia, the picturesque volcanic isle lying off the northern horn of the Gulf of Naples. Explore the garden of La Mortella, named for the myrtle trees that grew on the site in the 1950s before British composer Sir William Walton turned it into the luxuriant gardens seen today. The garden's key feature is its central Fountain of the Four Ponds filled with water lilies, strelitzia and Egyptian papyrus plants. After lunch, return to Sorrento. **B L**

Wed 09 May

Sorrento – Ravello

Check out from your hotel and drive to Positano, the glory of the Amalfi Coast. Enjoy a guided tour of Hotel Il San Pietro, a terraced garden and hotel built on the spot where St Peter supposedly first set foot on Italian soil, and after lunch in this spectacular setting, spend some free time in Positano in the afternoon. Continue to Ravello and check in to your hotel. **B L**

Thu 10 May

Ravello

In the morning, explore Ravello with an orientation walking tour. Visit Villa Rufolo, whose 13th century origins are evident in its Arab-Norman tower and Moorish cloisters, and whose terraces look out over the Bay of Salerno. Villa Rufolo's gardens overflow with terraces of orange, red and pink blossoms, shaded by palm trees so typical of Mediterranean gardens. Explore Villa Cimbrone, quiet hideaway of DH Lawrence, Winston Churchill other famous figures, whose Mediaeval-style castle-palace incorporates elements inspired by Saracenic, Byzantine, Moorish and Renaissance architecture. Its garden features a 500 metre-long central nave shaded by cypress, acacia and arbutus, leading under a bridge hung with roses and wisteria.

After the conclusion of the walking tour, enjoy free time for lunch and the remainder of the afternoon and evening at leisure in Ravello. **B**



Fri 11 May Ravello – Catania

Enjoy a leisurely morning in Ravello, before checking out from the hotel and transferring to Naples airport for a flight to the city of Catania in Sicily. **B**

Sat 12 May Catania

In the morning, discover Catania with an orientation tour of the city centre. Explore the fascinating Orto Botanico of the University of Catania, which is divided into the Hortus Generalis (plant species from around the world) and the Hortus Siculus (Sicilian native plants). Wander the paths of the Giardino Bellini, Catania's oldest urban park, where the planting is changed daily to depict the day's date. Travel to the Giardino della Villa Trinità, a three-hectare garden on the slopes of Mount Etna, where citrus trees, palms, succulents and irises are set amongst the *sgje* (traditional handmade irrigation channels) and the natural lava outcrops. Enjoy lunch in the garden before returning to your hotel for an evening at leisure.

B L

Sun 13 May Catania

Depart for a full-day tour to Taormina, an ancient city set between the towering Mount Etna and the azure waters of the Ionian Sea. Visit the Giardino della Villa Comunale, developed in the late 19th century by Lady Florence Trevelyan, a Scotswoman who had immigrated to Sicily after having an affair with the Prince of Wales, and her husband Salvatore Cacciola, a professor of histology and long-time mayor of Taormina. The garden's olives, pines, palms, cypresses and creepers are typical of the Mediterranean biome. Continue to Casa Cuseni, 'an English garden in the soil of Sicily' designed by a trio of 19th century British artists. Casa Cuseni blends the familiar English garden design with the indigenous flora of the Mediterranean. Enjoy free time in Taormina for lunch and a stroll, before returning to Catania. **B**

Mon 14 May Catania – Syracuse

Depart Catania bound for Syracuse. En route visit the centuries-old estates of two noble families which have each been given a new lease on life with the addition of sumptuous gardens by their present owners. Travel first to the Villa Borghese and Giardino del

Biviere in Lentini. In the 1960s, Principessa Maria Carla Borghese decided to turn the dry rocky bed of a drained lake into a lush garden, populated with plants drawn from her travels throughout the Mediterranean and gifted to her by foreign visitors. Next, visit the Estate of San Giuliano in Villasmundo for lunch, followed by a guided tour of the gardens. Created by the Marchese of San Giuliano in 1974, the garden is quartered into Arabian, Tropical, Mediterranean and Scented Flower sectors. Continue to Syracuse and check in to your hotel, followed by an evening at leisure. **B L**

Tue 15 May Syracuse

Explore central Syracuse with a walking tour of Ortigia Island, the heart of the old city, and a visit to the Galleria Regionale del Palazzo Bellomo to discover its collection of art treasures from deconsecrated churches and convents. After lunch at a local restaurant, delve into the Hellenistic past of Syracuse with a tour of the Ancient Greek Theatre, recessed into the Temenite Hill and overlooking the Bay of Syracuse, and the 3rd century BC Altar of King Hiero II, the largest known altar from antiquity. Also visit the ancient quarries which supplied the doughty and durable limestone of which Greek Syracuse was built. **B L**

Wed 16 May Syracuse – Valletta

Enjoy a morning and early afternoon at leisure with late check out from your hotel, before departing for the city of Noto, the last stronghold of the Arabs against the conquering Normans in the 11th century. In Noto, watch organisers put the finishing touches on the famous Infiorata di Noto flower festival. In the afternoon, depart for the port city of Pozzallo, and after dinner at a local restaurant board the ferry to Malta, arriving in the late evening. **B D**

Thur 17 May Valletta

In the morning, take in the sights of Valletta, Malta's honey-coloured capital city, with a walking tour of the Upper Barrakka Gardens, St John's Co-Cathedral and the Armoury of the Grandmaster of the Knights of St John. After lunch at a local restaurant, visit the 5,500-year-old temple complex of Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra, whose Stone Age megaliths, one of the national symbols of Malta, are around a millennium older than even the most ancient of Egypt's pyramids. Return to Valletta for an evening at leisure. **B L**



Gardens of Villa Rufolo, Ravello

Fri 18 May

Valletta

After a morning visit to the Argotti Botanical Gardens in Valletta, travel to the town of Rabat and enter St Paul's Grotto, the cave where the Apostle Paul is said to have lived after he was shipwrecked on the shores of Malta in 60 AD. Continue to Mdina, which served as the capital of Malta from antiquity to the Middle Ages, and discover the Siculo-Norman, Gothic and Baroque architecture of the houses of Malta's noble families. After a visit to the Cathedral of St Paul, built on the spot where the Roman governor greeted the shipwrecked saint, enjoy a farewell lunch. After lunch, visit Naxxar's 18th century Palazzo Parisio, residence of the Scicluna family, whose gilded ballroom has seen the palace dubbed 'a miniature Versailles'. After a tour of the palace and its luxuriant Baroque gardens, enjoy some free time for afternoon tea before returning to Valletta. **B L**

Sat 19 May

Depart Valletta

Tour arrangements conclude after breakfast. Suggested departure for Australia or New Zealand on Emirates flights via Dubai.

OR Join an optional two-night extension tour to Gozo (see overleaf).

B

Your hotels

Rome – Hotel Ponte Sisto **★★★★**

Sorrento – Grand Hotel Flora **★★★★★**

Ravello – Hotel Bonadies **★★★★**

Catania – Una Palace Hotel **★★★★★**

Syracuse – Grande Albergo Alfeo **★★★★★**

Valletta – Hotel Phoenicia **★★★★★**

NB. Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted



Tour prices

Per person, twin-share	AUD 9,950
Single supplement*	AUD 1,750
Deposit per person (at time of booking)	AUD 500
Final payment due	02 March 2018

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

Tour code

GD1802

Fitness level

Above Average

Please see booking conditions for fitness level definitions.

Suggested airline

Emirates

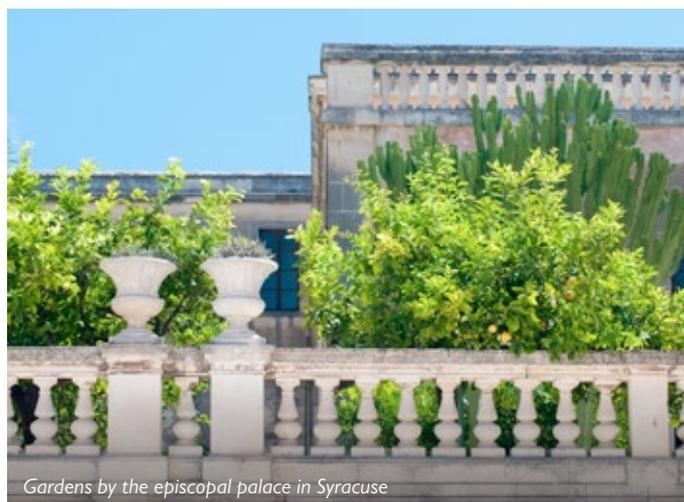
Please contact Renaissance Tours or your travel agent for current airfares and flight reservations.

Tour price includes

- Accommodation in centrally located hotels with breakfast daily (**B**)
- Meals as per itinerary (**L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner, **R**=Reception), including wines Economy class flight from Naples to Catania
- Economy class flight from Naples to Catania
- Comprehensive sightseeing, including local guides and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Transportation throughout in comfortable air-conditioned coaches
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Hotel portorage (one piece per person)

Tour price does not include

- International airfares (please contact Renaissance Tours or your travel agent for assistance)
- Transfers on arrival and departure
- Airport portorage
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, taxis, room service, etc.
- Travel insurance (a condition of travel; please contact Renaissance Tours for assistance)



OPTIONAL POST-TOUR

Tour to Gozo

Locally guided

19–21 May 2018 (2 nights/3 days)

To cap off your exploration of the Maltese Archipelago, spend two nights on the island of Gozo, Malta's smaller, greener, more rustic cousin, which is home to some of the country's most beautiful scenery and architecture. Said to be the home of the nymph Calypso in Homer's *Odyssey*, Gozo has been enchanting travellers for at least 7,000 years and delights the heart with its slower pace, charming fishing villages, coastal scenery and centuries-old traditions.

Saturday 19 May 2018

Valletta – Victoria

After breakfast, drive to the port city of Ċirkewwa for a ferry ride to the picturesque island of Gozo. On arrival, proceed to Victoria, the capital of Gozo, with free time for lunch before a walking tour of the sights of the city. Built on one of the three hills of Gozo, Victoria is dominated by its honey-coloured Mediæval citadel. In the afternoon, check in to your hotel for dinner. **B D**

Sun 20 May

Victoria

Enjoy a full-day tour of the highlights of Gozo. In the morning, travel to Dwejra Bay, where the Mediterranean creeps through a natural archway underneath great limestone cliffs and forms the gentle, teal-coloured lagoon known as the Inland Sea. Explore the megaliths of Ġgantija, a 5,000-year-old temple complex dedicated to a Stone Age fertility goddess and continue to Calypso's Cave, where the nymph Calypso was said to have trapped Odysseus for seven years. (For safety reasons, it is not possible to enter the cave – but given what happened to Odysseus, it is just as well!) Enjoy lunch in the beguiling fishing village of Xlendi, set between the steep hills and the deep sea. Visit the Villa Rundle Gardens, a Mediterranean-style garden established around 1915 by the British Governor of Malta, before returning to your hotel for an evening at leisure. **B L**

Mon 21 May

Victoria – Valletta

After breakfast, check out from hotel and return to Malta island by ferry. Transfer to Valletta Airport arriving by 12:30, where tour arrangements conclude. Suggested departure for Australia or New Zealand on Emirates flights via Dubai departing from 15:30 onwards. **B**



Tour prices

Per person, twin-share	AUD 1,750
Single supplement*	AUD 250
Deposit per person (at time of booking)	AUD 500
Final payment due	02 March 2018

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

Tour code

GD1802A

Fitness level

Moderate

Please see booking conditions for fitness level definitions.

Suggested airline

Emirates

Please contact Renaissance Tours or your travel agent for current airfares and flight reservations.

Tour price includes

- Accommodation in centrally located hotels with breakfast daily (**B**)
- Meals as per itinerary (**L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner, **R**=Reception), including wines
- Comprehensive sightseeing, including local guides and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Transportation throughout in comfortable air-conditioned coaches
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Hotel portorage (one piece per person)

Tour price does not include

- International airfares (please contact Renaissance Tours or your travel agent for assistance)
- Transfers on arrival and departure
- Airport portorage
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, taxis, room service, etc.
- Travel insurance (a condition of travel; please contact Renaissance Tours for assistance)

Your hotel

Gozo – Hotel Kempinski San Lawrenz ★★★★★

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.

DEPOSITS / 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.

For tours that include international flights, the international airfare payment is due 120 days before departure.

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 renaissancetours.com.au/booking-conditions or we would be happy to post you a copy on request.



Typical Maltese Balconies



Positano



R
Renaissance
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 renaissancetours.com.au

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



Follow us on Facebook and keep up to date with these and other unique travel experiences.

Travel agent

Booking form

Page 1 of 3



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

- 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 form

Page 2 of 3



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

Page 3 of 3

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:

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- 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.



Renaissance
Tours

toll free 1300 727 095 (AU)
toll free 0800 403 621 (NZ)
call (02) 9299 5801
fax (02) 9299 5805
email info@renaissancetours.com.au
visit www.renaissancetours.com.au

Level 4, 47 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000
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ABN 14 069 591 448

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.

For tours that include international flights in the tour cost, the international airfare payment is due 120 days before departure.

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
59 – 45 days
44 – 31 days
30 – 15 days
Less than 15 days

Forfeit of deposit*
25% of tour cost
50% of tour cost
75% of tour cost
100% of tour cost

Domestic Tours

45 days or more
44 – 31 days
30 – 15 days
Less than 15 days

Forfeit of deposit*
50% of tour cost
75% of tour cost
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.