
 Duration

22 days

 Activity Level

Moderate

 Journey TypeLand
Small Group

Study Abroad in Florence

June 15 – July 7, 2027**Starting from \$6,745/pp**

Experience the beauty and culture of Florence during a three-week immersion program that combines independent living with enriching group experiences. Stay in your own apartment, explore Renaissance treasures through guided excursions and enjoy free time to discover the city at your own pace. Optional language, cooking and cultural activities offer even deeper insight into Italian life and traditions.



Day-by-Day Itinerary

Italy Immersion: Living in Florence

Air Program: 23 days/ 22 nights (includes 1 air night)

Land Program: 22 days/ 21 nights

Breakfasts: 2 | Lunches: 6 | Dinners: 7

B | L | D denotes included breakfasts, lunches and dinners.

A special note about air: If you have purchased only the Land Program, please book flights that arrive on Day 2, the first day of the Land Program. The date is listed at the top of your Reservation Confirmation.

This itinerary is subject to change due to operational conditions.

Activity Level ratings indicate each excursion's physical expectations. To make the best personal choice, please evaluate each excursion's rating and your ability to meet the tour's physical demands. Excursions on this program require: walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces; and getting on/off motor coaches.

Mild – Walk under 1 mile on mainly flat terrain; navigate under 50 stairs; stand under 1 hour

Moderate – Walk 1–3 miles on flat/uneven terrain; navigate 50–100 stairs; stand 1–2 hours

Active – Walk 2+ miles on flat/uneven terrain, including up and down inclines; navigate 100+ stairs; stand 3+ hours

Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available.

Day 1 | Depart gateway city

AHI FlexAir passengers depart for Florence, Italy. Please check your luggage from your gateway city to your arrival city. Your claim checks should have the following airport code: FLR.

Day 2 | Florence, Italy

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Arrive at Florence Amerigo Vespucci Airport. Proceed through immigration to the baggage claim area and retrieve your luggage. After completing customs, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for the group arrival transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer should exit the baggage claim area and proceed to the Arrivals Hall, where an AHI Travel representative will meet you.

Transfer to PopArtment Please note, if you arrive before check-in time, your room may not be immediately available.

Your Travel Director will be available this afternoon and throughout your program to offer restaurant suggestions and ideas for independent activities.

Tonight, kick off your three-week adventure in Italy with your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3 | Florence

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B | L

Breakfast is included this morning at the hotel, followed by a Welcome Briefing with your Travel Director.

Florence. Spend the morning exploring Florence, Cradle of the Renaissance, on a tram and walking tour. See the famous Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore. Il Duomo, as it is more commonly known, is topped by the iconic red dome that is the symbol of Florence. Marvel at the three sets of bronze doors of the Baptistery, the church dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The dome and the doors tell a tale of the artistic rivalry between Lorenzo Ghiberti, the sculptor who designed two sets of the Baptistery's doors, and Filippo Brunelleschi, the

architect behind the dome. Pitted against each other in the 1401 competition to create a second set of doors for the Baptistery, a contest in which Ghiberti bested Brunelleschi, the pair found themselves in a contest of wills nearly 20 years later. In 1420, Brunelleschi received the commission to build a dome over the gaping hole in the cathedral's roof. His patrons, perhaps concerned with his volatile temper and secrecy over his innovative and risky design, assigned Ghiberti, his old rival, to lead the project with him. During the next 16 years, through Ghiberti and Brunelleschi's bickering and political games, the city saw Ghiberti's first set of doors finally completed and hung in the Baptistery and the masterful engineering and construction of Brunelleschi's dome. Ghiberti's doors, which depicted scenes from the New Testament, so impressed his patrons that he earned a new commission to build another set of doors for the Baptistery. These doors, nicknamed "The Gates of Paradise" by Michelangelo, tell the stories of the Old Testament. Walk along the Ponte Vecchio, the storied bridge over the Arno River. The current bridge, built in 1345, replaced the original bridge, which was built almost 400 years earlier. Peek into the jewelry and gold shops that have lined the bridge since the 16th century. Above the shops sits a walkway built by the ruling Medici in the mid-1500s so they would not have to mingle with the lower classes as they traveled from the Uffizi to the Pitti Palace. Visit the Piazza della Signoria, and admire the Palazzo Vecchio, where a copy of Michelangelo's David graces the entrance. The palace has always been the seat of power in Florence, and today it also serves as the city hall. (Moderate)

Join the group for a delicious lunch at a local restaurant.

Free Time: The rest of the day is free to get acquainted with Florence. Take a stroll to get better acquainted with your home of the next three weeks. For dinner, try one of the many excellent restaurants in town.

Day 4 | Florence

PopArtment

B | D

Breakfast is included this morning at the hotel.

The Living in Italy Elective Enrichment Tracks begin today. Please read the following information about these tracks and see the Enrichment Tracks document for pricing details.

- Three Elective Enrichment Tracks — Language, Cuisine, and Art & Architecture — are available at an additional cost.
- Individual Enrichment Track activities are not offered for purchase. The Language Elective Enrichment Track is available only as a nine-class package, the Cuisine Elective Enrichment Track is available as a three-session package, and the Art & Architecture Elective Enrichment Track is a four-session package.
- The itinerary has been organized so that you may participate in all Elective Enrichment Tracks without any scheduling conflict.

If you are not participating in any of the Elective Enrichment Track activities offered on this program, you can enjoy that time exploring independently. Your Travel Director will be available throughout your program to answer questions and offer suggestions for your free time during your stay.

Elective Enrichment Track: Art & Architecture. During this first of four excursions to explore the art and architecture of Florence, enjoy an inside visit of the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore. With its signature red-tiled cupola designed by Brunelleschi and its beautiful pink, white and green facade, it is a masterpiece of architectural design and undoubtedly the city's most iconic landmark. Learn about the history of this important building before visiting the octagonal Baptistery, one of the oldest buildings in Florence. The Baptistery is renowned for its intricately designed bronze doors and magnificent mosaic ceiling. Visit the National Museum of Bargello to see the competing designs that were considered for the Baptistery doors. The Bargello itself is a historic 13th-century fortress that once was a prison and a court. Since 1859, it has been a museum dedicated to Renaissance sculpture. (Moderate)

Elective Enrichment Track: Language. Language lessons begin this afternoon. Like a local Florentine, hop on the tram, which takes you to a stop just a short walk from your language school. Meet the staff, take a placement test and begin the first of nine language lessons. (Moderate)

Enrichment: Renaissance Art. Florence was the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance, which led to a cultural awakening across Europe between the 14th and 16th centuries. From literature to art to architecture, enjoy a comprehensive and enlightening discussion about this glorious artistic period with a local expert.

Tonight, the group gathers tonight at a local restaurant for authentic Tuscan cuisine.

Day 5 | Florence

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Free Time: Enjoy a leisurely morning in Florence. Perhaps you'll visit a museum or two, or maybe you'll explore a local market. Feeling more adventurous? Your Travel Director is a great resource for sightseeing suggestions whether you decide to stay in Florence or venture further afield.

Day 6 | Florence

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Free Time: Soak up the old-world ambience of Florence. Perhaps you'll cross the Arno to Oltrarno, where artisans still use centuries-old methods to produce their crafts. Get a feel for everyday life as you stroll through the cobblestone lanes of this creative enclave. Browse through art galleries, sip an espresso at a cozy café, and enjoy the view of life "beyond the Arno," which is the translation of this neighborhood's name.

Tonight, enjoy a delicious dinner with the group at a restaurant in Florence.

Day 7 | San Gimignano | Castellina in Chianti

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Set out early this morning by coach for a full-day excursion to explore three delightful towns in Italy's renowned Chianti region.

Towns of Chianti. Discover the renowned Chianti region during a full-day excursion. Explore the historic hill town of San Gimignano, a UNESCO World Heritage site that boasts 14 medieval tower houses and a wealth of original squares, palaces and fountains. Continue to the delightful town of Castellina in Chianti for a cooking demonstration with a chef, followed by lunch. After a guided walk through Castellina, continue on your journey through Chianti. Stretched between Florence and Siena and home to Italy's most famous red wine, this region is a dreamy panorama of quiet back roads, lovely hillside towns, hundreds of acres of woodland and, of course, many a vineyard. Travel to its heart to visit Castello di Monsanto, built in 1750. Taste wines made from handpicked Sangiovese, Canaiolo and other grapes. Learn how the rooster became the symbol of the region and how the area got its name. (Moderate)

Free Time: Return to Florence, where you can enjoy the evening on your own. In the evening, why not jump feet first into aperitivo, a quintessential Italian tradition? This favorite pre-dinner ritual involves visiting one of the local bars for a drink and some nibbles or small plates. Some establishments even offer a buffet, which sometimes is included with the price of a drink. Enjoy a drink and snacks as you plan tomorrow's adventures and whet your appetite for dinner.

Day 8 | Florence

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Free Time: Enjoy Florence and its environs on your own this morning if you aren't participating in the Optional Enrichment Tracks. Discover a favorite tradition of many Florence residents: Il Mercato delle Cascine. Held at the Parco delle Cascine every Tuesday morning, this open-air market has everything from food to clothes for sale. Your Travel Director can offer other suggestions.

Elective Enrichment Track: Language. Attend a language class this morning. Your instructor uses the immersion method of instruction, which means he or she will speak only in Italian during your classes. This common instruction method enhances listening and comprehension skills. (Moderate)

Meet up with the group for lunch at a local restaurant.

Accademia Gallery. Visit the Accademia, one of the most renowned museums in Florence. Marvel at Michelangelo's David and other artistic masterpieces of canvas and sculpture, created mostly between the mid-13th and late 16th centuries. Recently the Gallery has been enriched by an important collection of musical instruments dating from the late 17th to the early 19th centuries, formerly belonging

to members of the Medici and Lorraine families. The collection includes pieces by Antonio Stradivari, one of the greatest luthiers, and Bartolomeo Cristofori, inventor of the piano. (Moderate)

Free Time: Spend a leisurely evening on your own in Florence, perhaps enjoying a delicious meal followed by a stroll.

Day 9 | Florence

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Free Time: Enjoy a day at leisure if you are not participating in the Optional Enrichment Tracks today. Discover new neighborhoods, visit museums, or perhaps go on a hike if you are looking for something more active. Your Travel Director is on hand to offer suggestions.

Elective Enrichment Track: Cuisine. Begin your exploration of Tuscan cuisine this morning with a walk through a market with a local chef. Learn about the foods that are the hallmarks of Italian cooking. After selecting your ingredients, the chef takes you back to the cooking school, where you will learn how to make traditional Italian dishes. Then, enjoy the spread you have prepared! (Moderate)

Elective Enrichment Track: Language. Continue your Italian language classes this morning. Practice helpful phrases to help you navigate everyday situations, such as ordering in a restaurant or asking how much something costs in a store. (Moderate)

Day 10 | Florence

PopArtment

Free Time: Spend the morning at your leisure if you are not participating in the Optional Enrichment Track today. Perhaps you'll visit the Medici Chapels, which are part of the Basilica of San Lorenzo, the city's original cathedral, which includes magnificent bronze pulpits by Donatello and sculptures by Michelangelo.

Elective Enrichment Track: Language. Continue learning Italian at your language class this morning. (Moderate)

Italy's Coffee Culture. Enjoy a visit to Caffè Gilli, one of the oldest cafes in Florence. It is here where "American Girl in Italy," the famous Ruth Orkin photograph, was taken. Sip an expertly prepared coffee, cappuccino, or latte and enjoy a pastry while an expert discusses Italy's coffee culture and how to prepare a perfect cup. The group will be divided into two. Half the group will visit Caffè Gilli today and the other half will visit tomorrow. (Moderate)

Enrichment: Italy Today. Attend an engaging discussion with a local expert about current events and life in contemporary Italy.

Day 11 | Florence

PopArtment

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Free Time: If you are not participating in the Optional Enrichment Track this morning, enjoy some time to explore on your own. Maybe you'll stroll through a market and search for souvenirs for friends and family and mementos for yourself!

Elective Enrichment Track: Art & Architecture. Spend the morning discovering medieval and Renaissance Florence. Visit the Basilica of Santa Croce for a guided tour. Inside, behold its prized 14th-century frescoes. Many influential Florentines, including Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli, are buried in the church's crypt. Continue to Casa Buonarrotti, a home once owned by Michelangelo. See two of his early sculptures as well as letters and drawings from the family archive. (Moderate)

Italy's Coffee Culture. Enjoy a visit to Caffè Gilli, one of the oldest cafes in Florence. It is here where "American Girl in Italy," the famous Ruth Orkin photograph, was taken. Sip an expertly prepared coffee, cappuccino, or latte and enjoy a pastry while an expert discusses Italy's coffee culture and how to prepare a perfect cup. The second group of travelers visit the café today. (Moderate)

Gather tonight at a restaurant in Florence for a group dinner.

Day 12 | Cortona

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Cortona. Enjoy a full-day excursion to the lovely city of Cortona. Clinging to a hill clad with olive groves, Cortona is well situated to enjoy sweeping views of the Val di Chiana. Ancient gates open out of the city's walls, some of which were built during the time of the Etruscans. Enjoy a walking tour of this Tuscan gem, whose layers of history are revealed through its mixture of architectural periods and styles. Visit the stunning Romanesque cathedral and the renowned Etruscan Museum. After lunch at a restaurant in the city center, spend some free time exploring on your own in the afternoon. (Moderate)

Free Time: Return to Florence, where the evening is free to enjoy on your own.

Day 13 | Florence

PopArtment

Free Time: Enjoy a full day at leisure if you are not participating in the Elective Enrichment Track today. If the day is nice, pick up the fixings for a picnic at your favorite stores, then spread a blanket at one of Florence's many parks. Parco delle Cascine and Giardino delle Rose are two solid choices for a picnic. The former is one of Florence's most popular parks, and the latter is a delightful walled park just west of Piazzale Michelangelo. It has hundreds of rose varieties and a Japanese garden.

Elective Enrichment Track: Art & Architecture. Travel up the hillside to Michelangelo Square for a beautiful view over Florence. Next, continue to the Archaeological Museum in Fiesole with its Etruscan and Roman remains including an Etruscan temple and tombs as well as Roman baths and a very well-preserved Roman theatre. Enjoy lunch at a restaurant in Fiesole. (Moderate)

Day 14 | Florence

PopArtment

Free Time: The day is free to explore Florence on your own if you are not participating in the Optional Enrichment Tracks. Stroll over to the Ponte Vecchio to admire the pieces created by the talented goldsmiths. Or maybe you'll visit the Basilica di San Lorenzo, a church built by the Medici family, to see the beautiful artwork inside the modest exterior.

Elective Enrichment Track: Language. Work on increasing your Italian vocabulary during today's lesson. (Moderate)

Elective Enrichment Track: Cuisine. Learn about the different types of pasta and try your hand at making fresh egg pasta by hand and by machine this evening. Learn how to make three types of sauces, which you'll use to embellish your fresh pasta as well as dry pasta. The lesson concludes with instruction on how to make a typical Italian dessert. Afterward, enjoy eating your handiwork in the lovely setting of the school's wine cellar! (Moderate)

Day 15 | Florence

PopArtment

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Free Time: The morning is free to explore Florence on your own if you are not participating in the Elective Enrichment Tracks. Perhaps you'll wander through the Mercato Centrale, which opened in the historic San Lorenzo market building in 2014. At the Mercato Centrale, you can buy not only groceries, but freshly prepared artisanal foods that you can eat at the market's food court or take away.

Elective Enrichment Track: Language. Practice speaking and expanding your vocabulary in today's class. (Moderate)

Uffizi Gallery. This afternoon, visit the Uffizi Gallery, home to one of the most illuminating art collections in the world. The Uffizi, "offices" in Italian, was built for Cosimo I de' Medici as the offices for Florentine magistrates. Today it houses priceless, famous works by Michelangelo, Leonardo, and others. Trace the development of Florentine art from the Gothic era of the 13th and 14th centuries to the realism of the early Renaissance in the 15th century, to the High Renaissance and Mannerist periods of the 16th century. (Moderate)

Tonight, gather with the group for dinner and share stories of your Tuscan adventure thus far.

Day 16 | Colle di Val d'Elsa | Siena

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Colle di Val d'Elsa and Siena. Located above the valley of the Elsa River, Colle di Val d'Elsa is on the Via Francigena, a medieval highway frequented by pilgrims and merchants traveling from Rome to northern Europe. Colle di Val d'Elsa is the center of Italy's crystal glass production. Visit one of the town's factories for a demonstration of this exquisite art form. Continue to the Old Town and wander the narrow lanes of this historic town and delight in its 15th- and 16th-century noble houses and medieval tower houses. Enjoy some free time before a delicious group lunch at a restaurant. After lunch, continue to Siena, a labyrinth of majestic Gothic architecture, remarkably unchanged since the Middle Ages. Bathed in a rose-pink glow, Siena's narrow streets wind through a spectacle of resplendent cathedrals, rich museums and finely preserved Gothic buildings. All roads lead to the renowned Piazza del Campo, one of the most beautiful medieval squares in Italy. With your expert guide, explore the historic center of the city. See the imposing 14th-century Torre del Mangia rising in the distance, the masterful bas-reliefs on the Gaia fountain, and the dramatic, black-and-gold-striped cathedral. Enjoy free time in Siena. (Active)

Free Time: After returning to Florence, spend an evening at leisure.

Day 17 | Florence

PopArtment

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Free Time: The day is free to enjoy as you wish if you are not participating in the Elective Enrichment Tracks. You may wish to visit one of Florence's most popular attractions, the Basilica of Santa Maria Novella. Considered to be one of the most important Gothic churches in Tuscany, the interior holds some extraordinary works of art including a series of frescoes by Domenico Girlandaio. After a tour of the church, visit the adjacent Santa Maria Novella Pharmacy. Established in 1221 by Dominican monks, who grew herbs to make medicines and salves for their infirmary, it is one of the world's oldest pharmacies still in operation.

Elective Enrichment Track: Language. Continue with your progress in learning Italian. (Moderate)

Meet your fellow travelers at a restaurant in Florence for a group lunch.

Elective Enrichment Track: Art & Architecture. Visit Pitti Palace, which houses a vast collection of art ranging from the High Renaissance to the 20th century. See the Palatine Gallery and the Royal Apartments, where the Medici, Lorraine and Savoy families once resided. Adjacent to Pitti Palace are the Boboli Gardens, one of the first Renaissance gardens in the city, originally designed for the Medici family. The lovely gardens are filled with Renaissance statues, fountains, and grottoes. (Moderate)

Day 18 | Florence

PopArtment

Free Time: The day is free to enjoy as you wish if you are not participating in the Elective Enrichment Tracks. If you are feeling ambitious, you might want to climb the 414 stairs of the Campanile in the Piazza del Duomo for a spectacular view of the city. Then reward yourself with a scoop of gelato!

Elective Enrichment Track: Language. Practice conversational Italian in class today. (Moderate)

Elective Enrichment Track: Cuisine. Learn to prepare a traditional four-course dinner consisting of an antipasto, appetizer; primo, first course; secondo, second course; and dolce, dessert. Enjoy snacks, wine and camaraderie while learning to prepare classic Italian dishes. Participants will set the table and have time to relax and enjoy dinner and conversation with the chef in the school's wine cellar. (Moderate)

Day 19 | Lucca

PopArtment

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Free Time: The morning and lunch are free to enjoy on your own.

Lucca. This afternoon, travel to the walled city of Lucca, a veritable time capsule of urban Tuscan architecture. Founded by the Etruscans, then colonized by the Romans in the second century B.C., the town retains the street plan of a Roman military camp, with two perpendicular streets forming the central axis. Walk along the tree-lined public promenade, built atop the town walls in 1830, and admire the city's complex web of densely packed houses, towers, and churches, most of them erected during the city's heyday between the 11th and 14th centuries.

On a guided walking tour, visit the city's 11th-century Romanesque cathedral, which houses one of the most famous relics of medieval Europe: Volto Santo, a crucifix that is said to be a true portrait of Christ. Enjoy the opportunity to explore the city on your own during some free time. Rejoin the group for dinner in Lucca before returning to Florence. (Moderate)

Day 20 | Lucca

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Free Time: The day is free to enjoy as you wish if you are not participating in the Elective Enrichment Track. Perhaps you'll venture out into the Tuscan countryside and discover some of the region's beautiful parks. Parco Nazionale delle Foreste Casentinesi and other natural areas are within two hours of Florence. Please see the Travel Director if you need suggestions.

Day 21 | Florence

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Free Time: Enjoy a full day at leisure if you are not participating in the Optional Enrichment Track. As your residency in Italy is coming to a close, plan a sentimental walk through Florence or perhaps a final jaunt to one of the nearby towns or villages that you have come to love.

Optional Enrichment Track: Language. Attend your final language class, followed by a graduation ceremony. Celebrate your achievement in learning Italian! (Moderate)

Tonight, celebrate your three-week Italian escapade at a Farewell Dinner.

Day 22 | Florence

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Free Time: Take advantage of a free day to fit in last-minute shopping, one last visit to the Uffizi or anything you haven't had a chance to do. Revisit all your favorite places from the gelateria with the best ice cream to the restaurant that serves a perfectly cooked bistecca alla fiorentina.

Gather a final time with the group for a festive Farewell Cocktail.

Day 23 | Depart for gateway city

AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for a group transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer depart for Florence Airport for your return flights home. Your Travel Director will provide the details.



What's Included

Program Overview

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- 21 nights in Florence, Italy, at the first-class PopArtment.
- AHI Connects: Local immersion.
- AHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact in the communities we visit.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Meal Program

- 2 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Dinners to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

On-site Features

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program with baggage handling.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.



FlexAir Travel Program

Need assistance booking your travel arrangements? Our experts are here to help. Our air program offers the following benefits.

Trip Transportation

- Assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays
- Arrival and departure transfers on group dates

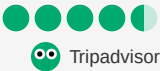
Price Guarantee

- Price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase

Travel and Hotel Accommodations

PopArtment Florence

Located in the heart of Florence, this modern apartment offers a comfortable stay just steps from the city's historic landmarks, cafés and boutiques. Contemporary interiors, thoughtful amenities, and complimentary Wi-Fi create a convenient home base for exploring the Renaissance treasures of Tuscany.



Pricing

\$500 Full Payment Discount expires January 16, 2027

\$250 Special Savings expires November 24, 2026

Category/Deck	Base Price	Special Savings*	Full Payment Discount*	Special Price
B1-One Bedroom	\$7,745	-\$250	-\$500	\$6,995
SD-Deluxe Studio	\$7,245	-\$250	-\$500	\$6,495
B0-Studio	\$6,745	-\$250	-\$500	\$5,995

Package rates are per person based on Double occupancy from Land Only. Prices include all service charges; port charges when applicable; US government taxes and fees. The minimum deposit is \$1000.00 per person. Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies. To view Program Terms and Conditions, close this window and scroll to the bottom of the page.

** Full Payment Discounts are only available at the time of booking with initial payment 150+ days prior to departure. This offer only applies to full payment at the time of reservation. Details on how to qualify for this savings will be included when your reservation request is confirmed.

