

# Premium Canary Islands, Spain & Portugal with Oceania

September 20 - October 5, 2024 (16 Days)
Tentative Itinerary



Join Collins Tours on this exciting journey to Spain, Portugal, and the Canary Islands just off Africa's Moroccan coast. Enjoy a pre-cruise, 2-night stay in Lisbon, Portugal, a unique city known for its seafood and relaxed pace of life. From this vibrant capital city, we board the stunning brand-new Oceania Vista for an 11-night cruise to Barcelona with stops in 3 different Canary Islands, Madeira, Seville, as well as exotic Agadir & Casablanca, Morocco. This leisurely paced small group escorted vacation is the perfect way to experience the relaxed cultures of the Iberian Peninsula and Canary Islands. Your tour manager looks forward to meeting you and delivering a well-managed and enjoyable escape where all you have to do is... sit back, relax, and enjoy!

-Sincerely, Greg Collins - President & CEO

### Day 1 - Friday, September 20 - Home - Overnight Flight to Lisbon, Portugal

- For those who purchased Collins Tours Inclusive Air Package, make your way to your local area airport for your assigned flight connecting with your overnight Air Canada flight to Lisbon from Toronto Pearson International Airport where you will meet your tour manager.
  - NOTE: 1<sup>st</sup> checked piece of luggage is free for international flights (up to maximum of 50lbs). 2nd bag is an additional cost and based on weight. Additional fees apply for overweight and oversized bags. Carry-on luggage is free, your bag must be light enough that you can store it in the overhead bin unassisted and typical weight is maximum 22lbs per carry-on bag.
- Visit www.aircanada.com for more details on luggage fees. Luggage payment is paid directly to Air Canada and not included in tour package. Fees are charged on both outbound & return flights.
- Be sure to have your valid passport for Customs & Immigration which you will clear in your destination, Lisbon, and not in Toronto.

## Day 2 - Saturday, September 21 - Lisbon, Portugal Altis Avenida Hotel (B, Welcome Reception)

- Welcome to Portugal! Please proceed to clear passport control, head to the baggage claim area to collect your luggage where you will meet your Tour Manager.
- Your deluxe private motor coach will be there to meet us and take us to our beautiful home for the next 2 nights; the 5-star Altis Avenida Hotel in the heart of Lisbon's historic centre close to all major attractions!
- Lunch is on your own today. There are many restaurants and cafes all around the hotel.
- Tonight, enjoy an exclusive Collins Tours Welcome Reception with your Tour Manager and fellow travelers. Enjoy wine, beer, and hot and cold appetizers while we toast to the natural beauty around us!
- Dinner and the remainder of the evening is on your own.



## Day 3 – Sunday, September 22 – Lisbon, Portugal (B)

- A delicious buffet breakfast is included at our hotel.
- After breakfast, enjoy a 3-hour guided city tour, featuring: Alfama neighborhood, Sao Jorge Castle, Tower of Belem, Tower of the Discoverers, Praca do Comercio & city history.
- After the tour, you are welcome to enjoy Lisbon, "The City Of Seven Hills". It is a great day to look at sightseeing or visiting attractions on own in Lisbon. Enjoy a free afternoon and evening in Lisbon.



## Day 4 - Monday, September 23 - Lisbon, Portugal - Embark on Oceania Vista (B, L, D)

- This morning, enjoy the buffet breakfast **(included)** before checking out of your room in time for our departure. Your Tour Manager handles group hotel check out, part of the signature Collins Tours service you will receive along our journey together.
- All aboard the beautiful Oceania Vista for our 10-day cruise!
   Note: Your Collins Tours team has completed the check-in process for you! All part of our signature group tour experience.
- Once we arrive at the port, your luggage will be taken by Oceana ship staff and delivered to your cabin. We expect to be on board the ship by early afternoon allowing time for lunch on ship while awaiting luggage delivery.
- Make yourself at home on this beautiful Oceania vessel, the Vista. Familiarize yourself with the layout of the ship. Get ready for what will surely be a trip of a lifetime with Collins Tours!



- Please note your cabins may not be ready until 3:00 p.m. As the staff work hard to prepare for the new guests, you may use the facilities open at this time as part of your cruise package.
- The Vista sets sail this evening at 7:00 pm. Choose from one of the many complimentary dining options onboard the ship for supper.

## Day 5 - Tuesday, September 24 - At Sea (B, L, Group D)

- Free day to relax and enjoy the Vista and enjoy the amenities of your ship only an elevator ride away!
- Today we are cruising the Atlantic Ocean.
- Join your tour manager and group friends this evening for a delicious group dinner in one of the ship's main dining rooms (Included)!

## Day 6 - Wednesday, September 25 - Funchal (Madeira) (B, L, D) \*Optional

Excursion

- Today, we are in the mountainous Portuguese city of Funchal, Madeira from 8:00am 5:00pm.
- Join Collins Tours for an exciting 4-hour optional excursion (price TBA). As we explore Madeira's capital city, we will admire the breathtaking vistas facing the blue Atlantic Ocean and the backdrop of dramatic mountains. Located in the stunning south of the island, on its sunniest coast amidst banana plantations and wonderful gardens where flowers bloom all year round in the shelter of the verdant mountains, Funchal is an extremely lush, green, and relaxed city.
- Tonight, our ship continues the adventure and tomorrow we wake in Santa Cruz de la Palma, Canary Islands!



### Day 7 - Thursday, September 26 - Santa Cruz de la Palma (B, L, D)

- Today, we are in Santa Cruz de la Palma, Canary Islands, from 9:00am 7:00pm.
- Welcome to Santa Cruz de la Palma, our first of three ports of call in the Canary Islands! This beautiful city is the capital of the island of La Palma and is located on the east side of the island. Santa Cruz de la Palma boasts an artistic historic centre, lively cobbled streets, and many interesting museums. Stroll along Calle O'Daly, the pedestrian district lined with historic residences. Visit the Town Hall and the church, Iglesia del Salvador, both dating back to the 16th century.

## Day 8 - Friday, September 27 - Santa Cruz de Tenerife (B, L, D) \*Optional Excursion

- After another amazing Oceania breakfast, welcome to Santa Cruz De Tenerife, Canary Islands!
- Today, we are in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, from 8:00am 10:00pm.
- This port is located nearly 1,300 km from mainland Spain and 210 km from Northern Africa. Historically considered a link between the four continents of Africa, North America, South America, and Europe; this city was named as one of the top five places to live in the world.
- Please join Collins Tours for an optional excursion on a beautiful 4.5-hour guided tour of this magnificent island featuring the Puerta de la Cruz, views of El Teide, San Cristobal de la Laguna and much more. We will explore the city's wide avenues filled with beautiful examples of modernist architecture, many squares, and exotic landscaped areas (Price TBA).
- Dinner and rest of the evening is on your own.
- Tonight, our ship continues the adventure and tomorrow we wake in Arrecife!

### Day 9 - Saturday, September 28 - Arrecife (Lanzarote) (B, L, Group D)

- Today, we are in Arrecife, Canary Islands, from 8:00am 5:00pm.
- Arrecife means "reef' in Spanish and this city is renowned for its abundance of reefs and islets along its coast. Explore the capital city of the island of Lanzarote, part of the Canary Islands,
- Dinner and the remainder of the evening are on your own. Our ship sets sail this evening for Agadir, Morocco.
- Join your tour manager and fellow passengers this evening for another group dinner in one of the ship's main dining rooms (Included)

## Day 10 - Sunday, September 29 - Agadir (B, L, D)

- Today, we are in Agadir, Morocco from 7:00am 5:00pm
- After an earthquake hit in 1960, the city had to almost completely rebuild itself. Now, it's a beach vacation destination for the whole country. Take a walk on the promenade, pick up a slice from one of the city's many delicious pizzerias, relax on the beach, and get a taste of the Moroccan street scene.

## Day 11 - Monday, September 30 - Casablanca (B, L, Group D) \*Optional Excursion

- Today, we are in Casablanca, Morocco from 9:00am 6:00pm
- The urban landscape of this famed city clearly demonstrates the contrasts between the old French colonial legacy in its downtown Mauresque architecture, a blend of Moorish style and European art deco.
- Please join Collins Tours for an optional excursion on a 4.5-hour guided tour of Casablanca. Learn about the history and cultural hallmarks of one of North Africa's most economically important cities. We will be visiting the modernist landmark of the Hassan II Mosque, the 3rd largest mosque in the world (Price TBA).
- Tonight, join your tour manager and fellow passengers this evening for another group dinner in one of the ship's main dining rooms (Included)



## Day 12 - Tuesday, October 1 - Seville (Cádiz) (B, L, D)

- Welcome to mainland Spain! Today, we are in Cadiz from 8:00am 6:00pm
- Explore one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in Europe: Traces of the Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans and North African Muslims, who once ruled these lands can all be found on a short walk through Cádiz' old town.
- Perhaps you choose to go a bit further inland and spend a fabulous day in majestic Seville, the capital and largest city of Andalusia. This charming city is famous for its historic churches and palaces, Moorish buildings, and flamenco dancing. You can visit the magnificent cathedral, climb the famed Giralda Tower or wander through the gorgeous Alcazar and its gardens. You cannot miss the ceramic-encrusted Plaza de España and stroll through the alleys of Barrio de Santa Cruz.

### Day 13 - Wednesday, October 2 - At Sea (B, L, Group D)

- It's time to unwind and enjoy a beautiful day cruising through the Mediterranean Sea as we head to Barcelona.
- Tonight, join your tour manager and fellow passengers this evening for our last group dinner on the ship before we continue our adventure in Catalonia's capital city (Included).

## Day 14 - Thursday, October 3 - Grand Hotel Central, Barcelona (B)

- Welcome to Catalonia's cosmopolitan and exciting capital city
   Barcelona, birthplace of world-renowned architect Antoni Gaudí! After disembarkation, convene with your fellow travelers for a private transfer to the 5-star Grand Hotel Central, our home for the next 2 nights, located in Barcelona's Gothic Quadrant.
- Your Tour Manager will check you in and provide you with your room keys before having the hotel staff deliver your bags to your rooms.
- Enjoy a free evening in Barcelona. Our hotel is placed at the heart of the Gothic quarter, it provides a quiet and peaceful space to encounter calmness in the middle of centric Barcelona. Grand Hotel Central is surrounded by walking areas to uncover the secrets beyond the Roman wall on Via Laietana or the narrow labyrinthine streets of El Born. Walking distance from the port as well as the luxury shopping area Passeig de Gracia.
- Dinner tonight can be enjoyed on your own.

### Day 15 - Friday, October 4 - Barcelona (B, Farewell D)

- Buffet breakfast offering local and international dishes is included at our 5-star hotel.
- This morning, we invite a local guide to step on the bus with us and provide a comprehensive half-day guided city tour of Barcelona featuring city highlights including a must-see visit to La Sagrada Familia (admission included) for a memorable journey into the creative genius of Antoni Gaudi's most iconic design. The church is inspired by nature and is a stunning display of architecture. Other highlights include: Montjuic visit and photo stop & Las Ramblas Barcelona's main pedestrian thoroughfare through the heart of the historic city centre. This tour provides a great overview of the Barcelona area
- Tonight, we gather for our Farewell Group Dinner (included with wine or beer) at an upscale restaurant located near our hotel. We will discuss our wonderful memories together, plan our next journey and plan for our return home to Canada.



### Day 16 - Saturday, October 5 - Barcelona - Return Flight Home (B)

• Breakfast included at hotel. For those who purchased Collins Tours Inclusive Flight Package, we meet our private airport shuttle for a transfer. Thank you for traveling the Canary Islands, Spain & Portugal with Collins Tours!

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- Tour itineraries are ONLY a guideline and may need to be modified by your tour manager. Times on tour itineraries are only estimates as various unforeseen factors, such as weather, traffic, mechanical issues, emergencies, and other "Acts of God," can influence tour timing. Collins Tours is not responsible or liable, in any way, for delays caused by unforeseen events. No refunds or reimbursements will be offered in the event of any such occurrences.
- > Canadian citizens are required to have a valid passport that is good for at least THREE MONTHS AFTER your departure date. Citizens of other countries should call and verify their required documentation.
- ➤ **Baggage allowance details**: For all Air Canada flights to and from Europe: You are allowed one personal and one carry on item at no charge (max dimension: 23 cm x 40 cm x 55 cm). You are also allowed <u>one free checked bag</u> (max weight 23 kg; \$100 fee for overweight bag). Second checked bag is \$100 CAD <u>each way</u>.
- Currency used in Spain and Portugal is the *Euro*. Duty Free Rules allow you to claim \$800 per person when you have travelled outside Canada for at least 48 hours.
- > All liquids and gels that you are planning to bring on board an airplane must be 3oz or less and sealed in a Ziploc bag and kept in your carry-on. Keep prescription medication in original container or carried with you.
- > Collins Tour is not responsible for lost or stolen baggage and/or personal items.
- > Covid-19 Protocol. Guests who contract Covid-19 while traveling with the tour many not be able to continue with the tour depending on the itinerary of each tour. Depending on the severity of sickness or illness, guests may be removed and isolated. If symptoms are mild, fully boosted and vaccinated guests can continue with advisement from Management. Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd is not responsible for any flight delays, schedule changes, flight gate changes, acts of God, mechanical issues, any emergencies, or any missed connections due from any such events described above or unforeseen circumstances arising not described above, yet may cause similar outcomes or delays.
  - Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd is not responsible for providing additional transportations costs, if necessary, reimbursements or and king for these additional expenses, loss of use, or loss of hotel nights, meals, transportation arrangements, or any portion of your planned vacation you have that may or may not be missed. These costs, if any, will be paid directly by the traveler and submitted through the appropriate persons travel insurance for reimbursement of expenses. Please contact our office if you need assistance with all-inclusive medical insurance, trip cancellation and interruption coverage, or quarantine insurance. Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd does not anticipate any such concerns or events and only wishes for everyone to ensure proper travel insurance has been purchase in advance.
- > REMEMBER, your tour manager handles: hotel check in/check out procedures, overall group management (e.g. timely transitions, itinerary planning), and group representation with airlines, hotels, group activities, Customs and Immigration, and overall operation of each tour. We work hard to ensure that everyone enjoys his/her experience to the fullest. **Gratuities for your Tour Manager are not included in your tour price**. Tipping is your way of saying 'Thank

You," for a job well done.

#### > Here are our guidelines on *Tipping Etiquette*:

- Collins Tours guide from \$6.00-\$8:00 per person, per day
- Bus driver \$4 -\$5.00 per person per day
- Private city tour guides- \$2 per person, per day

#### **Hotel Contact Information:**

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