Discover the intriguing mélange of cultures that flourished in the wake of ancient empires on this exclusively chartered cruise to the resplendent shores of Italy, Sicily and Malta. Cruise for seven nights from Rome to Valletta aboard the newest Five-Star expedition ship, Le Bougainville, launching in 2019 with only 92 Suites and Staterooms, each with a private balcony, and featuring the extraordinary Blue Eye, the world’s first multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge. This outstanding, custom-designed itinerary features the very best of this historic region at the most ideal time of year, and affords the unique opportunity to travel with a small, intimate group that showcases seven UNESCO World Heritage sites. Marvel at Italy’s stunning Amalfi Coast and the colorful seaside town of Sorrento. Gain insight into Roman life of A.D. 79 in the superbly excavated town of Pompeii. Discover Sicily’s storied town of Taormina, the legendary city of Syracuse and Agrigento’s majestic Valley of the Temples. Experience the rich history of Malta, the island nation where Saint Paul was shipwrecked. Rome Pre-Cruise and Malta Post-Cruise Options are available.
Program will be accompanied by guest lecturer, Professor Darren Zook. (Cal lecturer’s participation cannot be guaranteed and is contingent on a minimum number of paying travelers.)

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- Seven-night cruise from Rome, Italy, to Valletta, Malta.
- Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom, each with a private balcony.
- Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Complimentary alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.
- All meals aboard ship.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
- Blue Eye – the world’s first luxury, multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge.
- Time on your own to explore the quaint seaside town of Sorrento, the spectacular Isle of Capri and the picturesque village of Positano.
- Private tour of Casa Rocca Piccola and its lovely gardens, hosted by a member of the noble de Piro family.

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE HIGHLIGHTS

- Guided tour of the remarkable archaeological preservation of Pompeii.
- Scenic drive along the famous Amalfi Coast showcasing Italy’s natural beauty.
- Cruise past the island of Stromboli, the “Lighthouse of the Mediterranean.”
- Walking tour of Sicily’s ancient town of Taormina, featuring the third-century B.C. Greco-Roman theater.
- Tour of Sicily’s Syracuse, with visits to one of the best-preserved ancient Greek theaters in the world and the historic island of Ortygia, the legendary “Old City” of Syracuse.
- Excursion to Sicily’s Agrigento and its majestic Valley of the Temples, known for its exceptionally well-preserved classical Doric temples.
- Walking tour of Valletta, Malta.

ALWAYS INCLUDED

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions.
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