Sailing the French & Italian Rivieras

aboard Sea Cloud II • April 30–May 8, 2024

with Williams professor Michael J. Lewis
Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

Nice... Monte Carlo... Cannes... Cinque Terre... Lucca... Florence. These are names that conjure up images of glamorous seaports, sun-drenched beaches, rich masterpieces of art and architecture, picturesque villages, and medieval history—in short, the quintessential Mediterranean journey.

Early May is the perfect time of year to visit, with verdant gardens and landscapes awash with blossoms, and moderate temperatures. Join fellow travelers and Williams Professor of Art Michael J. Lewis for this exploration along the French & Italian Rivieras, combining a three-night stay at a landmark luxury resort in an iconic location with a relaxed four-night cruise aboard the Sea Cloud II from Nice to Rome, with port calls in the Cinque Terre, Livorno (for a day trip to Florence or Lucca), and the Isle of Elba. Most days feature differing excursions to choose from catering to your interests or style of travel.

A journey aboard the 47-cabin Sea Cloud II is an intimate and memorable experience on one of the most elegant and luxurious vessels afloat, combining the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with the highest modern standards of luxury. Guests can experience this marvelous ship completely under sail after the skilled crew hand-sets over 30,000 square feet of canvas. The ship’s small size also allows us to moor centrally in the most scenic harbors, and anchor offshore of Porto Venere for a visit to the Cinque Terre.

This magnificent three-masted barque accommodates just 78 passengers, so I encourage you to secure your space by calling by calling Criterion Travel at (888) 328-2089 or emailing res@criteriontravel.com today!

With kind regards,

Leila Derstine
Director of Alumni Engagement Programs
Williams College
alumni-travel@williams.edu

Please review the Williams College participation agreement information here: https://bit.ly/WilliamsAlumTravel-Agreement
Faculty Leader

Michael J. Lewis teaches modern architecture and American art at Williams College, and he is the architecture critic for the Wall Street Journal. After receiving his B.A. from Haverford College in 1980, and two years at the University of Hannover Germany, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1989. He has taught at Bryn Mawr College; McGill University, Montreal; and the University of Natal, South Africa. His books include Frank Furness: Architecture and the Violent Mind (2001), American Art and Architecture (2006), and the prize-winning August Reichensperger: The Politics of the German Gothic Revival (1993). He was a Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton (2000-2001) and in 2008 received a Guggenheim Fellowship to support the completion of City of Refuge (2016), his study of millennial Utopias. Lewis has been at Williams College since 1993 and in 2008 he was named Faison-Pierson-Stoddard Professor of Art.

**Highlights**

- **Savor local flavors** during gourmet meals ashore, including three lunches and one dinner in the French Riviera, a dinner ashore in Porto Venere, a local lunch in Florence or Lucca, and a wine tasting at a vineyard estate surrounded by olive trees in Portoferraio.

- Luxuriate in a three-night stay at the Hotel Carlton in Cannes, a historic French Riviera property boasting a central waterfront location along the glamorous Croisette, surrounded by restaurants, bars, and shopping.

- Discover the masterpieces of legendary artists Picasso, Matisse, and Chagall during visits to landmark museums dedicated to each artist; all spent many prime working years in the Côte d’Azur and were inspired by the region’s special light and landscapes.

- Enjoy private entrée to sites, such as the lovely garden and architectural masterpiece of Villa Ephrussi in Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat.
Tuesday–Wednesday, April 30–May 1

Home / Nice, France

Depart home on overnight flights to Nice, France, arriving May 1st. Transfer to nearby Cannes and check in to Hotel Carlton. Enjoy a restful afternoon at leisure, then meet your fellow travelers at a private welcome reception and dinner at the hotel.

HOTEL CARLTON (R,D)

Thursday, May 2

Antibes / Saint-Paul-de-Vence

This morning, choose between two guided excursions: 1) The nearby Picasso Museum and a walking tour of Old Town Antibes, including its ramparts along the sea; 2) The fortified village and artists’ mecca of Saint-Paul-de-Vence, followed by the Maeght Foundation and its impressive sculpture garden and collection of modern and contemporary art. Following lunch at the hotel, enjoy a welcome orientation and introductory lecture. The afternoon is at leisure to explore the area around the hotel or the rest of the Côte d’Azur on your own.

HOTEL CARLTON (B,L)

Friday, May 3

Côte d’Azur / Monaco

This morning, choose between two excursions: 1) Scenic Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, a picture-perfect village jutting into the sea atop a small peninsula highlighted by the lovely garden and architectural masterpiece of Villa Ephrussi, followed by the quaint village of Eze, perched on a rocky peak overlooking the Mediterranean and an afternoon at leisure; 2) Monaco, including the Old Town with the State Apartments of the Prince’s Palace and the Opera Gallery, followed by free time in Monte Carlo.

HOTEL CARLTON (B,L)

Saturday, May 4

Nice / Embark

After a morning at leisure, drive to Nice and choose between two excursions: 1) See the Marc Chagall Museum, which curiously opened during his lifetime, and 2) Visit the Matisse Museum, housing a large number of his works as well as pieces from his private collection that inspired some of his most famous paintings and sculptures. Late this afternoon, embark the Sea Cloud II in Nice and bid adieu to France as you sail toward Italy.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Sunday, May 5

Porto Venere / Cinque Terre, Italy

Enjoy the thrilling experience of cruising under sail (weather permitting), then anchor off Porto Venere and experience the Cinque Terre by foot, walking between iconic seaside villages. Perched between steeply terraced vineyards and the Ligurian Sea, this UNESCO World Heritage Site and protected marine area is characterized by tiny villages and hidden coves. Stop in Manarola for a wine tasting and dinner.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Monday, May 6

Livorno / Florence or Lucca

Dock in Livorno for a choice of full-day tours, each featuring a gourmet local lunch: 1) Florence, with a guided city walk to see the iconic landmarks of the historic center as well as the Duomo complex and a visit to the Florence American Cemetery 2) Lucca, birthplace of composer Giacomo Puccini and treasure chest of Tuscany’s ancient trade in silk, with a stroll around the elliptical central piazza made
up of medieval buildings outlining the ruins of a Roman amphitheater, as well as time to stroll around sections of the ancient city walls, now a park-like promenade. Return to the Sea Cloud II in the evening for dinner on board.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Tuesday, May 7
Portoferraio, Elba
This morning, following in the footsteps of the Argonauts and Napoleon, call at the tropical-esque Isle of Elba. Take a panoramic drive with superb views over the coastline, visit Napoleon’s summer residence during his exile on the island from 1814 to 1815, and stop for a wine tasting at a 17th-century country wine estate, with vineyards nestled among ancient olive trees. Return to the ship for lunch, with a leisurely afternoon of cruising and final opportunity to experience the ship under sail. Gather this evening for the captain’s farewell reception and dinner.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,R,D)

Wednesday, May 8
Rome / Home
Disembark in Civitavecchia and transfer to the Rome airport for flights home, or begin the optional extension in Tuscany.

 SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Optional Post-Tour Extension in Tuscany
May 8–12, 2024
Extend your stay with five days at Belmond Castello di Casole, a 10th-century estate spread across 4,200 acres in the Tuscan countryside near Siena. Excursions include a visit to the exclusive Marchesi di Antinori Estate, with a private visit of the cellars. Enjoy a truffle hunting experience followed by a cooking class, and explore Torre Campatelli in San Gimignano during a private, after-hours visit.

Further details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.
The iconic Sea Cloud II is perhaps the most luxurious three-masted sailing yacht on the seas today. Like Marjorie Merriweather Post’s legendary Sea Cloud, she combines the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with the highest modern standards of luxury. In the grand tradition of the world's finest sailing vessels, guests can experience this marvelous ship under sail as the skilled crew hand-sets over 30,000 square feet of canvas. The Sea Cloud II offers an intimate setting of just 47 beautifully appointed cabins, gracious common areas, world-class service, and 5-star dining.

**Program Rates (per person)**

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<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 150 sq. ft., upper &amp; lower single beds, two portholes, shower</td>
<td>$5,990</td>
<td>$8,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 204 sq. ft., forward, twins or queen bed, two portholes, shower</td>
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<td>$11,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 215 sq. ft., midship, twins or queen bed, three portholes, shower</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 226 sq. ft., queen bed, three portholes, shower</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 215 sq. ft., queen bed, panorama windows, shower</td>
<td>$10,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 247 sq. ft., twins or queen bed, panorama windows, tub/shower</td>
<td>$11,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 290 sq. ft., king bed, panorama windows, bathtub &amp; shower</td>
<td>$13,990</td>
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**General Information**

**Program Rates Include**
All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including seven breakfasts, six lunches, five dinners, three hotel nights and four nights aboard Sea Cloud II · Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations · Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates · Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers and shipboard personnel for all group activities · Entrance fees and port charges · Welcome and farewell wine receptions · House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners · Bottled water on motorcoaches · Complete packet of pre-departure information · Professional tour manager throughout the program

**Air Arrangements**
U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

**What to Expect**
This is a moderately strenuous program, at times physically demanding and busy, with considerable walking at some sites. The ship does not have an elevator, so you will need to navigate stairs, possibly while on choppy seas. Daily activities can involve miles of walking, often on cobbled streets and uneven terrain; elevators may not be available and stairs may not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health. Limited medical facilities are available on board the Sea Cloud II. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Williams Alumni Travel Study or Criterion Travel, local staff, and host country laws.

**Group Size**
This program can accommodate 78 participants, including travelers from Carleton Alumni Adventures, Harvard Alumni Travels, National Trust Tours, and Williams Alumni Travel Study.
GENERAL INFORMATION CONTINUED)

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE
- U.S. domestic and international airfare
- Passport/visa expenses
- Medical expenses
- Vaccinations, immunizations, or COVID-19 testing if required at the time of travel
- Travel and trip cancellation insurance
- Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days
- Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options
- Airline baggage charges
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges • Room service - Other items of a personal nature

A NOTE ABOUT RATES
Tour rates are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE
We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Information about optional trip cancellation insurance will be provided by Williams Alumni Travel Study upon confirmation of your booking.

ITINERARY CHANGES
The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Williams Alumni Travel Study and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, we reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation will be the responsibility of the participant.

TERMS & CONDITIONS
Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed “Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause” is required from each applicant prior to participation.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS
A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. To register, please email Criterion Travel at res@criteriontravel.com. You may also complete the reservation form included in this brochure and mail it with your check or credit card information to: Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd, Beaverton, OR 97005. Or you may fax the completed reservation form to (650) 560-6400. Final payment deadline is January 2, 2024. For those who register after January 2, 2024, final payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS
Upon payment of the deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a $250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After the January 2, 2024 final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. We highly recommend a travel insurance policy with “Cancel for Any Reason” (CFAR) coverage. If a staff member is unable to participate, no refund will be made, but Criterion Travel will make every effort to find a replacement with similar qualifications. NOTE: Neither the President and Trustees of Williams College, as sponsor, nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

CABIN CATEGORY PREFERENCES
Sailing the French & Italian Rivieras aboard Sea Cloud II, April 30 – May 8, 2024

For more information or to request a reservation by email: res@criteriontravel.com.

You may also complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel, to: Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd, Beaverton, OR 97005.

NAME #1 (as it appears on passport) BIRTH-DATE
NAME #2 (as it appears on passport) BIRTH-DATE
MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP or POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE MOBILE PHONE

E-MAIL 1

E-MAIL 2

PAYMENT

O Please charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):
VISA MC

AMEX DISCOVER

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CARD # EXP. DATE SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD DATE

O Enclosed is my check for $____ (10000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel) to reserve ______ place(s) on Sailing the French & Italian Rivieras

SINGLE TRAVELERS
O I prefer to have single accommodations (limited availability) or O I plan to share accommodations with:

SAILING THE FRENCH & ITALIAN RIVIERAS

O I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of January 2, 2024 I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Cabin category preference:
1st Choice: __________ 2nd Choice: __________

Bed Preference (not guaranteed):
O One bed O Two beds

I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein:

SIGNATURE DATE

SIGNATURE DATE
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aboard Sea Cloud II • April 30–May 8, 2024

alumni.williams.edu/travel