

# Portrait of Europe

An Artist's Mediterranean Odyssey

29 day Escorted Tour including an  
11 night cruise on Azamara Journey

**\$14,987\***  
from

Per person, twin share.

Departs 8 September 2012 – Land only.

Join world acclaimed artist Susan Harrison-Tustain and inspiring photographer husband Richard, as they visit their favourite haunts in France, Switzerland and Italy before embarking on the beautiful cruise ship Azamara Journey... A trip of a lifetime – a Mediterranean Odyssey personalised with art, photography, wine and European cuisine.



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# Itinerary

Date	Itinerary
08 Sep 2012	Our tour starts in Paris on Saturday 8 September 2012. Let the magic begin! "Meet us in Paris!" – see you for Welcome drinks at 6pm at the Tour Hotel.
09 Sep 2012	Step aboard our own coach for a leisurely half day tour of Paris – the "must see spots!" In the afternoon we settle back and relax and travel down to fabulous Loire Valley – often called the 'Garden of France' – and famous for its glorious chateaux. Set close to some of the most magical villages in the Loire, Le Domaine des Thomeaux where we will enjoy our next four nights. There are many magical experiences ahead. <b>BB</b>
10-12 Sep 2012	During these 3 days we will become acquainted with the charms and historic grandeur of the Loire Valley. We will visit 2 of the most beautiful of the Chateaux – Chenonceaux and Villandry – and stroll in the footsteps of Leonardo da Vinci. Immerse yourself in the region's cuisine and taste some fine Loire Valley wines, as well as extend your photography prowess with Richard's instructions. Imagine capturing the flavour of an ancient Loire village in watercolour sketch or travel journal with Susan to guide you. Be captivated by the magic of the sun setting over the Valley. <b>BB</b>
13 Sep 2012	We board our private coach for a relaxing drive through the French countryside to beautiful Beaune – wine capital of the fabled Burgundy region. Why not try a little Burgundy with dinner? <b>BB</b>
14 Sep 2012	Today we leave France by coach and head for the "mountains" with more spectacular scenery to enjoy and at our journey's end is the stunning village of Lauterbrunnen. Situated in one of the most impressive trough valleys in the Alps, between gigantic rock faces and mountain peaks, there is a picture postcard at every turn. Shall we check out the thundering Trummelbach Falls before we check into our hotel? <b>BB</b>
15-16 Sep 2012	During our time in Lauterbrunnen we will take one of the best excursions in Europe – a rack rail train ride to the Jungfrauoch (11,333 feet) passing through the famous ski resorts of Wengen and Kleine Scheidegg. There are awe inspiring views as our train carries us into the Eiger itself and we arrive a 'The Top of Europe!' An amazing and extraordinary Odyssey experience. <b>BB</b>  Our second full day in Lauterbrunnen can be enjoyed as you wish. Relax and stroll through the picture perfect countryside, or take an excursion up the west side of the valley. A gondola ride takes you up into meadows where you see wildflowers, cows with Swiss bells and chalets perched precariously on the Swiss country hillside. Here you can capture the magic by paint, pencil or photography utilising your tour guides' expertise and skilled guidance. <b>BB</b>

Date	Itinerary
17-18 Sep 2012	Today we leave Switzerland and travel through the Italian countryside to Lake Como. Board the Lake Como ferry and cross to one of the most captivating lakeside villages called Bellagio – described as the 'Pearl of Lake Como' where our gorgeous Lake Como Hotel awaits us for two nights. Once you have unpacked and settled in you might like to meander through the streets of the old town, browse the shops or sit with a coffee in a local café and watch how the Italians live life. <b>BB</b>  Enjoy a day at leisure on our second day. You could catch the frequent ferry and visit some of the other lakeside villages for a leisurely lunch or spend time exploring the village and make friends with the locals. We have a real treat for you in the evening joining Bellagio star Chef Luigi Gandola in his restaurant. Visit his Mama's herb garden and try your hand at creating Luigi's master recipes with him. Then it is time to indulge! We will have a special wine tasting as we enjoy the fine cuisine. Another Odyssey extraordinary experience. <b>BBD</b>
19-21 Sep 2012	Sadly we must leave Lake Como – but we are heading for mystical Venice! Everyone's favourite. Once settled into our hotel rooms where we will stay for the next 3 nights you may like to wander along the Grand Canal and choose a Venetian mask from the inexpensive cart vendors ....for a surprise that awaits you this evening! Meet us in the lobby of our hotel at 6.30pm. As the sun goes down we step out in our finery and our masks. Awaiting us is our private water taxi to whisk us off into the night of fun and laughter. <b>BBD</b>  Let us introduce you on our second day, to the real magic of the Venice that we love so much. We will explore places that make Venice so famous: St Marks Square, the Rialto, the markets. Peel away the tourism to find the wealth of history, culture, art, architecture and the magic of this incredible place. Understand what Venice is all about, why it was built in a lagoon and see how Venice was created. <b>BB</b>  On day three after a relaxing breakfast you may like to take an optional gondola ride to explore the romantic canals. The music, the atmosphere and the opportunity to take spectacular photographs around every corner will make this another surreal day. You may like to take in one of the many Vivaldi concerts for your finale in Venice which we can organise for you. <b>BB</b>
22 Sep 2012	Say 'ciao' to romantic Venice today and board the train for the ride to Nice. Staying in 'old Nice' will allow us access to the famous flower market and shopping, the sea, restaurant and private beach on our doorstep. Browse at your leisure, wander the Promenade des Anglais and explore Old Nice in the evening – it is beautiful. <b>BB</b>



**Key:** BB - Bed & Breakfast BBD - Bed, Breakfast & Dinner BBLD - Bed, Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Date	Itinerary
23 Sep 2012	Monaco Embarkation day! Board the coach and enjoy the French coastline scenery as we head to the Principality of Monaco where we board our 5 Star Luxury Cruise Liner Azamara Journey! Enjoy settling in to your gorgeous Balcony Cabin on board, then perhaps you would like to join us to explore Monaco on foot. The Royal Palace, Cathedral and St Martin Gardens are all in the Old City, on a rocky promontory, overlooking the fashionable district of Fontvieille, built on land reclaimed from the sea. <b>BBD</b> Our cruise will take us along the spectacular French and Italian Riviera. September and early October being an ideal time to visit, you will find destinations less touristic but still with the warm glow of the Mediterranean sunshine.
24 Sep 2012	St Tropez. Initially a fishing village and now a playground for the rich and famous, the flotilla filled port is framed with a halo of sunset coloured houses. Watch locals playing petanque shaded by age old plane trees. Enjoy exploring the traditional and trendy, often side by side and soak up the heady atmosphere of the Cote d'Azur. <b>BBLD</b>
25 Sep 2012	Portofino, a beautiful fishing village with an exquisite harbour. Disembark the ship after a leisurely breakfast and join us for a beautiful walk as we head for the 16th Century Castello Brown, steeped in history and perched above the harbour. <b>BBLD</b>
26 Sep 2012	Portovenere on the 'Golfo dei Poeti' (Gulf of Poets) is a gateway to the famous 5 villages of the Cinque Terre. Join a ship excursion to explore these unique villages or come ashore with us to enjoy our favourite haunts. <b>BBLD</b>
27 Sep 2012	Livorno is the gateway to Florence and Pisa. Florence is the capital of Tuscany and the birthplace of Renaissance. Take an excursion to the beautiful timeless city with its masterpieces such as the Duomo (the Cathedral of Florence), the Statue of David and the Ponte Vecchio. Meander through the Uffizi Gallery, or travel to Pisa to see the leaning tower. <b>BBLD</b>
28 Sep 2012	Sorrento. A late arrival here in the afternoon as we glide further down the Italian Riviera. Dating back to Greek times, Sorrento has a striking location straddling cliffs overlooking the Bay of Naples, famed for its lemon groves and production of the lemon liqueur 'Limón cello!' We are at anchor for the night to soak up the magic of the surroundings. <b>BBLD</b>
29 Sep 2012	Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast. You may enjoy a visit to the towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. They are just a brief drive from Sorrento. Then we pick up anchor late afternoon and sail the short distance to Amalfi. <b>BBLD</b>

Date	Itinerary
30 Sep 2012	Amalfi and something special today! Join our private excursion which will take you from the ship to the charming village of Ravello perched high on a cliff overlooking the sea. Our tour guide will reveal the history and the special places held within the 5th century village before leading us on to the most magnificent gardens of Villa Cimbrone. Prepare for a breathtaking view over the Amalfi Coastline. We have time to explore Ravello, and then be whisked off to a private residence for a traditional Italian lunch. Return to Amalfi to visit the beautiful Cathedral before heading back to the ship after another perfect Odyssey extraordinary day! <b>BBLD</b>
01 Oct 2012	Taormina Sicily. This town has a fascinating and colourful history more recently attracting noted writers and composers including Oscar Wilde, D H Lawrence, Truman Capote and Evelyn Waugh. With breathtaking views of the sea and nearby Mt Etna, this town has a wonderful medieval village atmosphere. See the Teatro Greco built in the 3rd century BC or stroll the streets in search of a small piece of Sicily to take home with you. <b>BBLD</b>
02-03 Oct 2012	Capri. Arriving in the morning we have two full days in Capri. Marina Grande is our berth and we go up the hill to the township, over the hill to Marina Piccola or further up to the village of Ana Capri. Make sure you take the chairlift to the top of the island and a visit to the Grotta Azzurra (Blue Grotto) is a must!! We have time to explore here to our hearts content! <b>BBLD</b>
04 Oct 2012	Rome. We say "goodbye" to the beautiful Azamara Journey, our home for the last 11 nights and end our Mediterranean cruise here in the port of Civitavecchia, the port of Rome, the "eternal city", abounding in history and sights. We transfer into the city of Rome to our hotel for the next two nights, located in close proximity to The Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon and the most fantastic shopping, to browse and pick up those last minute purchases to take home. <b>BB</b>
05 Oct 2012	Rome. Today is our final day in this wonderful special eternal city, at the end of an itinerary filled with a 'picture at every turn' to take your breath away. There is the Coliseum and the ruins of Ancient Rome, the wondrous St Peters Basilica and the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican City and a myriad of other amazing sights. We have a walking tour organised to show you some of the most spectacular ones. Explore others at your leisure enjoying the last hours doing whatever the city entices you to do. Join us at 6.30pm for our final "farewell dinner and drinks" to celebrate the end of our phenomenal tour. Another Odyssey extraordinary day! <b>BBD</b>
06 Oct 2012	Au Revoir! After breakfast today, we go our separate ways after a tour full of magical experiences and life long memories. Bon Voyage! Au Revoir! Ciao! <b>BB</b>





## Meet your tour guides:

Recognised as one of New Zealand's favourite artists, Susan Harrison-Tustain enjoys an extraordinary successful career as an internationally acclaimed and award-winning artist, mentor and tutor. Her work can be found in numerous art collections, art books and publications around the world. Her husband Richard has worked as a European Tour Leader for many seasons and has been in the New Zealand wine industry for 15 years. Richard is also a very accomplished photographer.

Both Susan and Richard have travelled extensively and have personally selected spectacular destinations in France, Switzerland and Italy for their 2012 Mediterranean Odyssey. Visit their favourite haunts where stunning sights and unforgettable experiences await you. Your newly found and untouchable skills with painted cameos, with Susan there to guide you, or those magical photographs and learned insight into the mysteries of wine and Mediterranean cuisine ably hosted by Richard will make this a very unique tour and a treasured memory.



## What's included in your tour:

- Fully escorted by Susan and Richard Harrison-Tustain from Paris
- Twin/Double share accommodation throughout - as per itinerary
- 17 nights touring with accommodation and meals as specified
- 11 nights cruising on Azamara Journey in Twin Balcony staterooms with all onboard meals including wine with dinner
- Gratuities are included on the cruise
- All port taxes and government fees on the cruise
- Portage throughout based on 1 suitcase per person up to 23kgs
- Meeting and Welcome drinks on arrival in Paris on 8 September
- Half day sightseeing coach tour of Paris on 9 September
- Wine tasting and photography with Richard and art instruction with Susan – your tour hosts
- Jungfrauoch Excursion in Lauterbrunnen
- Cooking lessons "Michelin style" with Luigi in Bellagio
- Burano excursion with water taxi transfers and dinner in Venice
- Ravello excursion with lunch on the Amalfi coast
- Discover Rome on a 'Charming Walking Tour'
- Farewell drinks and dinner in Rome

## What's not included in your tour:

- Travel Insurance (this is mandatory)
- Fuel surcharge and currency fluctuations (if applicable)
- Passport and Visa Fees
- Personal meals and beverages (unless included in the itinerary)
- Gratuities on the land portion of the tour (based on 10USD per day)
- Items of a personal nature
- Suggested optional land and ship excursions

\*Terms & Conditions apply. Pricing is based on per person twin/double share joining in Paris on the 8th of September 2012. Airfares are additional. All pricing is in New Zealand Dollars. Sales are valid until 30 April 2012 or until the tour sells out. Confirmation on booking must be secured by a non refundable deposit of \$2000 per person which is required within 7 days of confirmation. A CTI deposit cancellation insurance must be purchased in conjunction with the payment of your deposit. The balance of the tour is required by 30 June 2012. Upon full payment this tour is non refundable / non transferable. All payments are to be made by Eftpos or Direct credit. Payments by credit card will incur a surcharge of 1.5%. All cancellation and amendment fees are subject to supplier and agent cancellation fees. Prices quoted are in NZD based on the current exchange rate as at 20 Jan 2012 and we reserve the right to adjust prices subject to currency fluctuations without notice. It is our policy to present the true cost of our holidays inclusive of all pre-payable train, cruise, coach and hotel levies and surcharges. Please accept that we have included those fees that are current as at 20 Jan 2012 and any new fees and levies are outside our control and not included in the pricing of this tour. This group is based on the minimum group number of 20 passengers which includes your two Tour Guides. Price subject to increase if minimum numbers not reached. Due to unforeseen circumstances we reserve the right to change or substitute nominated tour guides. UT0879