

Our Glorious AFS Itinerary

Sept 20 - 21 Depart USA

Fly overnight to Venice to board the ship next day. Dozens of airlines go to Venice. Arranging your own air provides flexibility to come early to explore or add another stopover city enroute. Italy's new train system is advanced to whisk you anywhere. Based on demand, we may offer Group Air later in Trip Tips.

Sept 22 - Venice

Welcome to Venezia!... All aboard Starclippers by 3pm today.

This floating city is the heart and soul of romance. Here's an engineering marvel of 177 canals and 450 bridges connecting 118 islands that takes your breath away if it's your first visit. It's the most unique port in the Mediterranean. Gaze at the marble churches and domes of San Marco. See the Doges Palace and Bridge of Sighs. Glide in a gondola down the Grand Canal, lined with splendid palaces. Shop for art and Venetian masks, taste a Bellini at Harry's Bar or an espresso on a terrace of a grand hotel. This enchanting city will never fail to captivate the senses.

Ship sails 7pm.

Sept 23 - At Sea

A blissful day to relax or enjoy the activities provided by the crew. Tonight, is our private AFS Welcome Party on top deck under the stars. Then, like every night, watch the sails unfurl one by one to symphonic music. The stuff of dreams!

Sept 24 - Dubrovnik, Croatia

When it comes to Croatia, believe the hype about glittering bays, stunning architecture and vibrant nightlife! This city's so special visitors return here again and again. The coastline stretches 1,104 miles. It's where East meets West and certainly rivals the French Riviera. After a turbulent history, it has come back hot on the tourist trail. And George Bernard Shaw wrote, "Those who seek paradise should come to Dubrovnik." Today it's famous for real world filming of Kings Landing if you're a *Game of Thrones* fan. There's great GOT walking tours and boat trips to amazing sites from the HBO series.

While larger ships pass by, we anchor right by the city and tender ashore direct into Old Town. This magnificent walled city crowned by towers is called the "Pearl of the Adriatic." The winding marbled streets will charm the Renaissance pants off any visitor. UNESCO has restored her to her old glory since the 1991 civil war bombing. We know most of you have been here on 3 hour cruise stops, but who wouldn't want to return? You've told us you want more time here. In summer, it bursts with tourists. September is the perfect quiet time to mingle with locals.

Stroll Old Town for great shopping, pubs and cafes or walk on top of the 10th century walls for a mile of sweeping views. Visit the pharmacy in business since the Middle Ages or Europe's second largest synagogue. See the Orthodox icon museum, the Franciscan Monastery, art packed churches or Maritime Museum with 4000 exhibits of naval history. The bustling harbor offers boat rides to outer islands. Taste the local beers and dance into the night.

Sept 25 - Kotor, Montenegro

Cross another country off your bucket list. Here is the kind of beauty to render you speechless with breathtaking fjords. We enter Boka fjord, the stunning 5000' rock walled chasm splitting the coastal mountains that spill into the waterfront.

Montenegro, the youngest country in Europe (2003) is beautiful with crystal clear rivers and dense forests. Independent only since '08, it now receives a steady stream of visitors who consider it Europe's best-kept secret. It has been naturally protected by isolation for centuries. Kotor's old town is one of the best medieval towns in the region maintaining its original form of the 12-14th centuries. An earthquake in 1979 destroyed many buildings which have been rebuilt. It's now protected by UNESCO World Heritage list.

Wander the streets to view the orthodox churches, the cathedral, and Maritime Museum. Sip a bijela kava (white latte) with the locals and let the world go by. You won't want to leave.

Sept 26 - Korcula, Croatia

The endless vineyards, red tile roofs and scent of lavender forms an inviting picture of Korcula, who's famous native son was Marco Polo. It's the 6th largest Adriatic island. Located just off the Dalmatian coast, it's been a favorite getaway since the Romans, Byzantines, and Venetians. Today there's a unique fusion of luxurious Mediterranean culture and historical heritage. Most say this port is their favorite of all.

Korcula Town is a stunner. Ringed by imposing defenses, this coastal citadel is dripping with history, with marble streets rich in Renaissance and Gothic architecture. Check out Marco Polo's house and Museum.

Tonight, enjoy the festivities of the Captain's Party.

Sept 27 – Mali Losinj, Croatia

The warm sands of Cikat Bay, situated near the port of Mali Losinj where we anchor, are an irresistible magnet for beachgoers. And no wonder, the beach is 30 kilometers long and offers every watersport imaginable. This is a postcard perfect Venetian fishing village that looks like an early draft of Portofino. It's a tiny pace but the richest town in all Croatia with 4500 yachts moored for charters to take you to outer hidden islands.

For those who prefer to wander farther afield, our bicycle tour takes you around the island past the fortified town of Veli Losinj. Inland is lush with 1200 types of wild herbs and flowers.

Sept 28 - Piran, Slovenia

Time to discover the architecture, history and cuisine of another country. At the tip of the Piran peninsula lies Slovenia's hidden gem with beauty at every turn. This is an open-air museum waiting to be explored by Americans. It still maintains the clustered medieval structure along its narrow streets. Visit Tartuni Square or climb the hill to St George Church. From the lookout tower you'll have views across the sea to the Italian coast. Shopping is so affordable here. Visit the art galleries, museums or the Piran Aquarium. You can book a shore excursion or take a bus to the capital of Ljubljana to experience a vibrant metropolis of Slovenia and Slovenian culinary delights, Slovenia rocks!

Sept 29 - Back to Venice by 8am

We sadly say goodbye to this unique part of Europe and transfer to airport for flights home. (Some may want to extend more time in Venice or add other European cities.)