2013 - EUROPEAN EXPEDITION (2.5 WEEKS)

GENERAL ITINERARY

5-Jun Day 0	Wednesday	fly out JFK (evening)
6-Jun Day 1	Thursday	arrive Venice & day in Venice
7-Jun Day 2	Friday	Venice
8-Jun Day 3	Saturday	Venice and embark Cruise ship
9-Jun Day 4	Sunday	Cruise Day 1: Depart Venice and day in sea
10-Jun Day 5	Monday	Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia
11-Jun Day 6	Tuesday	Cruise Day 3: Dubrovnik, Croatia
12-Jun Day 7	Wednesday	Cruise Day 4: Corfu, Greece
13-Jun Day 8	Thursday	Cruise Day 5: Day in Sea; Messina Strait
14-Jun Day 9	Friday	Cruise Day 6: Naples (Pompeii-Amalfi Coast Drive day tour with Cruising Excursions)
15-Jun Day 10	Saturday	Cruise Day 7: Civitavecchia (Rome - Day tour with CantBeMissedTours)
16-Jun Day 11	Sunday	Cruise Day 8: Livorno (Florence and Pisa bus tour with Cruise Ship Excursion)
17-Jun Day 12	Monday	Cruise Day 9: Monaco
18-Jun Day 13	Tuesday	Cruise Day 10: Marseille
19-Jun Day 14	Wednesday	Cruise Day 11: Barcelona
20-Jun Day 15	Thursday	Disembark Cruise ship and Day in Barcelona
21-Jun Day 16	Friday	Barcelona
22-Jun Day 17	Saturday	Barcelona
23-Jun Day 18	Sunday	fly home via Dusseldorf

^{*} Detailed Itinerary is done from my memory, trip notes, and my pictures. Some sights could be in slightly different order

DETAILED ITINERARY

5-Jun	Day 0	Wednesday	fly out JFK (evening)
6-Jun	Day 1	Thursday	arrive Venice 12pm & Day in Venice
			- bus from airport, walk to hotel from bus terminal (10min), check into hotel
			- first lunch in Venice
			- walk around Santa Croce district
			- Scuola Grande di San Rocco
			- Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari
			- Rialto Bridge
			- Piazza San Marco

^{**} Many restaurants, bars, gelaterias, food stands where I dined are not mentioned in the itinerary

^{***} Many hotels, motels, bed and breakfast... are also not mentioned

			Composite (see to the ten)
			- Campanile (go to the top)
			- Tetrarchs
			- Palazzo Ducale (Doge's Palace)
			- Basilica di San Marco
			- Clock Tower
			- walk around Venice in the evening
	_		- dinner
7-Jun	Day 2	Friday	Venice:
			- Secret Tour of Doge's Palace (www.tickitaly.com)
			- 11am St Mark's Basilica (skip the line entrance) - visit all museums and go to top level
			a. Treasury
			b. Golden Altarpiece
			c. San Marco Museum
			- Piazzetta
			- St Marks' Square during daytime
			- Grand Canal on vaporetto #1 (45min)
			- Bridge of Sighs
			- Arsenale
			- walk through the Castello district and relax in park
			- wonder through the streets of Venice
			- dinner
8-Jun	Day 3	Saturday	Venice:
			- walk around Santa Croce, Cannaregio, San Polo Districts
			- Grom gelateria
			- walk through Dorsoduro district
			- last brunch in Venice
			- check in to Holland America ms Nieuw Amsterdam cruise ship
			- vaporetto to the Venice center
			- evening Gondola Ride (30min)
			- return back on the cruise ship (walk all the way)
9-Jun	Day 4	Sunday	Cruise Day 1: Day at Sea (9am departure)
10-Jun		Monday	Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town
			Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town
			Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town - Diocletian's Palace:
			Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town - Diocletian's Palace: a. Cellars
			Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town - Diocletian's Palace: a. Cellars b. Peristyle
			Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town - Diocletian's Palace: a. Cellars b. Peristyle c. Cathedral of St Dominus and climb the Bell Tower
			Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town - Diocletian's Palace: a. Cellars b. Peristyle c. Cathedral of St Dominus and climb the Bell Tower d. Jupiter's Temple and St John's Baptistery
			Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town - Diocletian's Palace: a. Cellars b. Peristyle c. Cathedral of St Dominus and climb the Bell Tower d. Jupiter's Temple and St John's Baptistery e. Golden Gate (also other entrances: Iron, Silver, Bronze gates)
			Cruise Day 2: Split, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm) - Old Town - Diocletian's Palace: a. Cellars b. Peristyle c. Cathedral of St Dominus and climb the Bell Tower d. Jupiter's Temple and St John's Baptistery

			- Hike the Marjan Peninsula
			- Bavice Beach new Old Town
			- return to the ship
11-Jun	Day 6	Tuesday	Cruise Day 3: Dubrovnik, Croatia (8am - 4:30pm)
i i-ouii	Day 0	Tuesday	- bus/walk to Dubrovnik from cruise terminal (10/30min)
			- walk city walls (1-1.5hrs)
			- walk around Old Town
			a. Pile Gate
			b. Stradun (main street)
			c. 2nd Oldest Synagogue in Europe d. Onofrio's Fountain
			e. Minceta Tower
			f. Orlando's Column
			g. St Blaise's Church
			h. Cathedrale
			- Mount Srd (get there by cable car) - best views of Dubrovnik
			- Napoleon's Fort
			- eat in Dubrovnik
			- return to ship
12-Jun	Day 7	Wednesday	Cruise Day 4: Corfu, Greece (10am - 7:30pm)
			- New Fortress
			- St Spyridon Church
			- Browse Old Town
			- Old Fortress
			- Gerald Durrell Plaque
			- Dasya Beach (30 min drive from Old Town)
			- return to ship
13-Jun	Day 8	Thursday	Cruise Day 5: Day in Sea (pass through Messina Strait)
14-Jun	Day 9	Friday	Cruise Day 6: Naples, Italy (8am - 5:30pm)
			- Bus Shore Excursion to Pompeii, Sorrento, and views of Positano (www.cruisingexcursions.com)
			a. Pompeii major sites (2 hrs)
			b. Sorrento (2 hrs), lunch at Sorrento
			c. Scenic Route on Amalfi Coast Drive with views of Positano
			- return to Naples port and walk around Naples
15-Jun	Day 10	Saturday	Cruise Day 7: Rome, Italy (7am - 6:30pm)
			- meet up with group at Civitavecchia Train Station for Rome City tour (http://cantbemissedtours.com)
			a. train to Rome to Colosseo Station
			b. Colosseum Tour
			c. pass by Roman Forum, Arch of Constantine, Piazza Venezia, Tajan Column
			d. The Pantheon
			e. Trevi Fountain
			f. Spanish Steps

	1	g. Lunch and Gelato
		h. Vatican Museums
		i. Sistine Chapel
		j. St Peter's Basilica & St Peter's Square
		k. return by train back to Civitavecchia (port)
		- walk by the beach to the cruise terminal
10 1 10 11		- return to ship
16-Jun Day 11	Sunday	Cruise Day 8: Livorno, Italy (7am - 7:30pm)
		- Cruise ship bus excursion to Florence and Pisa
		- 1.5 hrs drive through Tuscany countryside from Livorno port to Florence
		Florence:
		a. The Duomo
		b. Campanile (Giotto's Tower)
		c. Baptistery and Ghiberti's Bronze Doors
		d. Palazzo Veccio
		e. Statue of David (copy), Rape of Sabines, Perseus, fountain of Neptune
		f. Uffizi Courtyard
		g. Ponte Vecchio
		h. San Lorenzo Market
		i. Lunch at Palazzo Borghese
		i. Church of Santa Croce
		k. Gellateria
		- 1 hr drive from Florence to Pisa
		Pisa:
		a. Piazza dei Miracoli with Leaning Tower of Pisa, Duomo, and Baptistery
		- return to ship (passing by US army base)
17-Jun Day 12	Monday	Cruise Day 9: Monaco (8am - 5:30pm)
17 July 12	Wieriday	Monaco-Ville:
		- Palace Square (Place du Palais)
		- Palais du Prince and change of Guard (11:55)
		- Monte Carlo Story (35min video)
		- Monaco Cathedral (Grimaldi's burial; Princess Grace Married)
		- Museum of Oceanography (Cousteau Aquarium)
		- harbor views
		- Exotic Garden (Jardin Exotique)
		Grand Prix
		Marina with boats and yachts
		Monte Carlo:
		- Casino
		- Monte Carlo hotels
		- River Walk Hall of Fame: Rock'n Roll & Football)
		- Monte Carlo Golden Circle

			La Condamine - walk around
			- return to ship
18-Jun	Day 13	Tuesday	Cruise Day 10: Marseille, France (8am - 4:30pm)
			- take shuttle bus from port to Marseille
			- walk through the city to Notre Damme De La Garde (Marseille's highest point)
			- view of the Iles du Frioul including island of If (Monte Cristo)
			- La Canebiere (Markets)
			- Vieux Port (Old Port)
			- Le Panier District (Old Town)
			- Cathedrale de la Nouvelle Major
			- return to ship
19-Jun	Day 14	Wednesday	Cruise Day 11: Barcelona, Spain (10am - next morning)
			- from ship walk to Columbus Monument
			Old City:
			- La Ramblas
			- La Bocueria (market)
			- Fountain of Canaletes
			- Joan Miro art
			- Placa de Catalunya
			- Arc de Triomf
			- Parc de la Ciutadella
			The Barri Gotic:
			- Avinguda Portal de l'Angel
			- Barcelona Cathedral
			- Placa Nova with Roman Towers
			- Palau de la Generalitat
			- walk around Barri Gothic - lots of small ancient streets
			- Church of Santa Maria del Mar
			Barcelonetta:
			- walk along beachfront
			- have dinner
			return to ship
20-Jun	Day 15	Thursday	Barcelona
			- disembark at 10am, take cab to hotel in the center of La Ramblas
			- Casa Batllo
			- Casa Mila
			- walk to Park Guell
			- Park Guell
			- very long walk to the Tibidabo
			- Temple of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and go all the way to top of cathedral
			- views of Barcelona
			- bus back to funicular to go down to metro

			- paella dinner and evening Barcelona
21-Jun	Day 16	Friday	Barcelona
			- Sagrada Famiglia with the tour of one of the Towers
			- walk around modern Barcelona and Torre Agbar
			- Barcelona Camp Nou (from outside)
			- Poble Espanol (Spanish Village)
			- Dinner with Flamenco show at Tablao De Carmen in Spanish Village
			- Barcelona Olympic Village, Stadium, and Communications Tower
			- night Montjuic with Magic Mountain
22-Jun	Day 17	Saturday	Barcelona
			- visit Barcelona Camp Nou and museum
			- walk to Montjuic and explore Montjuic
			- views from Monjuic
			- Placa d'Espanya
			- Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya
			- walk back to Barri Gotic and spend the rest of the day wondering on small streets
			- last drinks on La Ramblas
23-Jun	Day 18	Sunday	fly back home with layover in Dusseldorf, Germany
			- plane to Dusseldorf
			- train from airport to city center (20min)
			- walk from train station to Altstadt (Old Town)
			- walk around Altstadt
			- Rathaus (city hall)
			- "Conflict" sculpture
			- Rhine river promenade with Sunday festival (food and beer)
			- train back to airport
			- fly back to NY