

*You are cordially invited to explore
the Piedmont region of northern Italy & the French Riviera
with Thomas Jefferson as your guide.*

September 1 – 10, 2012

Join Thomas Jefferson, a statesman who participated in two revolutions and changed the world, for a *grand tour* of northern Italy and France as we travel from Turin and Genoa, through the Piedmont countryside to Nice, Aix-en-Provence and the French Riviera. As the enclosed itinerary reveals, this cultural expedition promises to be a truly extraordinary adventure – a sojourn that properly defines the word ‘grand’, full of exclusive visits and exceptional experiences for special friends of Colonial Williamsburg.

The tour will be ably led by Colonial Williamsburg’s own Thomas Jefferson – historic interpreter, William Barker. He will introduce us to further splendors of Mr. Jefferson’s France and Italy not previously explored on Colonial Williamsburg trips.

Happily, Julia Boadle will be joining Mr. Jefferson once again in leading the tour. Many of you have had the privilege of previously traveling with her. She is an art historian specializing in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Julia is a delightful mentor.

We start our journey in the royal city of Turin, Italy, where we stay at the five-star Principi di Piemonte, ideally located in the historic center. We continue to the French Riviera along a route traveled by Thomas Jefferson as he crossed the Alps by mule; however, we will be traveling on one of the most spectacular train rides in Europe – the Train des Merveilles.

Our final destination is Nice and the French Riviera. Our lodgings will be at the five-star palace Grand-Hotel du Cap-Ferrat - the classic Riviera hotel. One of the most beautiful ‘Grand Hotels’ in the world, and favorite of Queen Victoria, Somerset Maugham and Winston Churchill, the glamorous Grand-Hotel du Cap-Ferrat has been refurbished by French designer Pierre-Yves Rochon and re-opened its doors in May 2009.

We ask participants to make their own airline reservations to and from Europe. The tour begins in Turin on September 1, 2012. The closest airports are Turin and Milan, which may be reached from gateway airports throughout Europe. The tour ends in Nice, which offers both direct TGV rail service to Paris or connecting air service to Paris or other gateway cities.

For those travelers who wish to arrive a day or two early in Turin, or stay longer in Nice, please let us know as soon as possible to secure extra nights.

As you will see from the accompanying list of highlights, many of the private visits are available only to friends of Colonial Williamsburg. I hope you will join Mr. Jefferson for this remarkable cultural expedition.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Forrest". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial 'F'.

Forrest W. Williamson
Director, Cultural Expeditions

Highlights

Thomas Jefferson's Travels in Piedmont and the Royal city of Turin, Italy & the French Riviera September 1 – 10, 2012



Join Mr. Jefferson on the final part of his 1787 journey through Northern Italy and France, and discover why he fell in love with the land, the culture, its cuisine and wine.

Turin Situated at the foot of the Alps, against a backdrop of wonderful Alpine scenery, Turin is a city of grace and charm with superb Baroque architecture and excellent museums housed in splendid palazzos.

The *centro storico* of Turin is relatively small, graced with broad arcaded streets lined with historic buildings, cafes and shops, making it a very pleasant place to stroll. The city boasts some of Italy's finest restaurants – the cuisine of Piedmont is legendary.



Genoa Visitors are well rewarded when they explore Genoa –a city proud of its history and legends. The capital of Liguria, Italy's greatest seaport and the birthplace of Christopher Columbus, Genoa "*la Superba*" boasts a spectacular location. With its picturesque squares, it is a city of surprises and contrasts, where the most splendid palaces stand side by side with the humblest alleyways. As a center for the arts, the city has a vibrant cultural life which has earned it the title of European Capital of Culture.

Le Train des Merveilles Enjoy breathtaking scenery as we travel along one of the most spectacular train routes in Europe. The train crosses the Alps at the Col de Tende, through a series of viaducts and tunnels, and continues down past mountain villages, through spectacular valleys and passes towards the Riviera coast.





Villa Kerylos at Beaulieu-sur-Mer

A gala evening at the extraordinary Villa Kerylos. This magnificent mansion, built in the early 20th century, was designed as a sumptuous ancient Greek palace, and is decorated with remarkable mosaics, frescoes and furniture.

Nice & Cap Ferrat The waterfront of Nice, with the famous Promenade des Anglais lined with grand hotels and mansions, is one of the noblest in France. Nice is crowned by a dramatic hilltop Colline du Chateau, at the base of which lies the Vieux Ville - a bewitching warren of Italianate facades and winding alleyways. The magnificent and luxurious promontory of Cap Ferrat, with its incomparable setting on the Mediterranean Sea, will be our base on the Côte d'Azur. We stay at the superb Grand-Hotel du Cap-Ferrat, the only "palace" rated hotel outside of Paris.



Aix-en-Provence Jefferson came to Aix to "take the waters" at the thermal baths and fell in love with Provence. Gracious, cultivated and handsome, the lovely old town of Aix-en-Provence was once the capital of Provence. The vestiges of that influence and power – fine art, noble architecture, and the graceful urban design that Mr. Jefferson found so attractive – remain preserved today.

Grasse Cradled by hills, with views out to the sea, Grasse is surrounded by fields of lavender, mimosa, jasmine and roses. Grasse has been the center of the world's perfume industry since the 16th century. Discover the origins of perfume-making and explore the picturesque medieval streets.



Motor yacht 'Antisan' Cruise the spectacular Riviera coast on our magnificent private 100-foot motor yacht.



*Thomas Jefferson's Travels in
Piedmont and the Royal city of Turin, Italy & the French Riviera*
SEPTEMBER 1 – 10, 2012

This tour explores the final segment of Jefferson's 1787 excursions throughout France and Italy.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- ARRIVALS IN TURIN
- AFTERNOON WALKING TOUR OF TURIN'S HISTORIC CENTRE
- INTRODUCTORY TALK BY BILL BARKER ON MR. JEFFERSON'S TRAVELS IN PIEDMONT AND TURIN: 'A PEEP INTO ELYSIUM'
- WELCOME DINNER AT DEL CAMBIO – HISTORIC RESTAURANT OF THE 18TH CENTURY

“Arriving in Turin on April 17, I stayed two days at the Hotel d'Angleterre, the best hotel. It was here that I first tasted a wine called Nebiule. It was a singular wine, melding three contradictory characteristics. It was about as sweet as the silky Madeira, as astringent on the palate as Bordeaux, and as brisk as Champagne. It was a pleasing wine.”

- Thomas Jefferson, April 1787

Morning: Arrivals into Milan or Torino airports. Transfers to our hotel, the five-star **Principi di Piemonte** in **TURIN** (Torino), ideally located in the historic center. Amenities include a bar with a splendid view over Turin, and a new state-of-the art Spa and Wellness center.

In 1563 Turin, the most important city in the ancient principality of Piedmont, became the seat of the Savoy dukes who, in 1713 had the royal title conferred upon them. During the 19th century Risorgimento Turin became for a time the most important city in the development of Italian nationhood. The Savoy King Vittorio Emanuele II unified the various Italian provinces following their fragmentation during the Napoleonic conquests, and the war against the Austrians in the mid-19th century. In 1861 Turin served as the inaugural capital of the new unified Italy, before Vittorio Emanuele II transferred the capital to Florence in 1865.

Afternoon: We start our visit with a **WALKING TOUR OF MR. JEFFERSON'S TURIN**. The ancient Roman street plan of Turin was preserved when the city was enlarged in the 17th and 18th centuries – the *centro* boasts a number of splendid Baroque palaces and churches designed by Turin architects Guarino Guarini and Filippo Juvarra. By the 18th century, Turin would have been a very handsome city – Horace Walpole passed through Turin on his 1739 tour of Italy and described it as: “*one of the prettiest cities, clean and compact, very new and very regular*”, and his travelling companion Thomas Gray remarked on the “*streets all laid out by the line, regular uniform buildings, fine walks that surround the whole and in general a good lively appearance*”.

We walk the short distance to **Piazza San Carlo**, often referred to as the ‘parlor of Turin.’ This grand space is lined by Baroque facades and elegant cafés, at the center of which is the statue of the victorious Savoy duke Emanuele Filiberto. Continue to the **Palazzo Carignano** - designed by Guarino Guarini in 1679, it was the residence of the princes of Savoy until 1831.

We make our way to the Duomo, stopping en route to view the Roman ruins of the **Teatro Romano**, and a remarkably well-preserved Roman gate. Visit the **DUOMO DI SAN GIOVANNI** and the Cappella della Sacra Sindone, home to the **SHROUD OF TURIN** – one of the most famous (and most debated) of holy relics.

After a stop for coffee in the Piazza Reale, we stroll to the **Piazza Castello**, laid out in the 14th century to serve as the seat of dynastic power for the House of Savoy, it is flanked by a number of magnificent medieval palazzi.

Evening: Welcome drinks reception, and an introduction by Mr. Jefferson to his travels in Piedmont and Turin.

“I consider Turin as the handsomest city I have seen in Europe, ...”

- William Short to Thomas Jefferson.

Dinner follows at the renowned **Ristorante Del Cambio**, which first opened its doors in 1757. Crimson velvet, glittering chandeliers, baroque mirrors and its reputation for traditional and refined Piedmont cuisine – not to mention the important political discussions that took place within its walls during the Risorgimento – ensures that Del Cambio remains a legendary Turinese institution.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- PERHAPS THE BEST EGYPTIAN COLLECTION OUTSIDE CAIRO**
- GALLERIA SAUBAUDA: GLORIES OF THE SAVOY COLLECTIONS**
- LUNCH AT A FAMED CAFFÈ**
- VISIT TO ROYAL RESIDENCE**
- DINNER AT THE HISTORIC WHIST CLUB**

Morning: This morning we visit two magnificent museums housed in the Palazzo dell’Accademia delle Scienze, one of the places Jefferson visited in Turin. Our first visit is to the **MUSEO EGIZIO**, with the largest collection of Egyptian artifacts outside Cairo. Its superb collection is largely due to Piedmont-born Bernardo Drovetti, who was French Consul General in Egypt during the Napoleonic Wars - the ‘booty’ that he brought back formed the nucleus of this magnificent museum. Highlights include reconstructed Temple of Ellesija, given by the Egyptian government in 1966 in gratitude for the Italian rescue of works threatened by the Aswan dam project.

On the upper floors of the Palazzo dell'Accademia delle Scienze is the magnificent **GALLERIA SABAUDA**, which houses the principal painting collection of the House of Savoy – an outstanding collection of works by Italian, Flemish, Dutch and French masters.

Afternoon: Stroll to the Piazza San Carlo for light lunch at the **Caffè Caval'd Brons**, one of the classic cafés of Turin.

Continue to the **PALAZZO REALE**, a former royal residence built for “Madame Reale,” Maria Cristina de Borbone. We visit the state apartments on the first floor, which were lavishly decorated over the centuries and contain collections of porcelain, tapestries and furniture. For the ducal palace gardens Duke Vittorio Amedeo I hired the most famous garden architect of his day, André Le Nôtre, creator of Versailles. The upper garden retains Le Nôtre’s symmetry and charm.

Evening: We dine at the magnificent **Whist Club (Società del Whist)**, founded in 1841 by Count Cavour, modeled on the gentlemen’s clubs of London. Over drinks before dinner, Professor Tiziano Bonazzi will talk to us about Filippo Mazzei –

“Jefferson’s Italian friend - A free spirit's progress through three worlds and two revolutions”.

Filippo Mazzei was a friend of both Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson. His writings appeared in contemporary newspapers and pamphlets, promoting the cause of American independence from Great Britain and advocating such doctrines as the equality of all men, an idea incorporated eventually into the Declaration of Independence.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MR JEFFERSON IN GENOA
- FAMED PORT OF LIGURIA AND CITY OF PALACES
- LUNCH WITH GENOVESE SPECIALTIES AT PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- PRIVATE RECEPTION AND MUSICAL SOIRÉE ON THE TERRACE OF THE PALAZZO OF THE PRINCE OF GENOA

“Genoa tossed about on the sides and crests of a dozen hills, it is seamed with gullies and ravines that bristle with those innumerable palaces for which the place is celebrated.”

Morning: Drive to **GENOA** for a full day visit. The principal seaport of the kingdom of Sardina. The first view of the city rising majestically out of the harbor, seemed to justify the epithet by which the city was widely known – Genoa “the superb”. It has always been important to Americans emotionally because of its associations with Columbus who was born here.

We begin our day at the **MUSEO NAVALE** - housed in Giovanni Andrea Doria’s Renaissance Villa, its holdings include maritime collections related to Genoa and the Riviera, from the 15th to 19th century.

We continue to the gardens of the nearby **VILLA DURAZZO PALLAVICINI** – a romantic park designed by Michele Canzio, a theatre designer, for the Marquis Ignazio Pallavicini. It was intended to be viewed on a prescribed route, passing a classical avenue, a coffee house, an Arc de Triomphe, a Hermit's house, and a big lake with a Pagoda, a Temple of Diana and a flora garden.

Afternoon: Lunch of Genovese cuisine at a beautiful private residence.

Following lunch we make our way to the **Piazza Matteotti**, in the heart of the *centro storico*. We continue to the **VIA GARIBALDI** - formerly known as the **STRADA NUOVA**, it was created in the mid-16th century and became the chosen address for Genoa's noble families. The assemblage of magnificent palaces was celebrated throughout Europe. The **PALAZZO ROSSO**, a magnificent palace much admired by Thomas Jefferson when he visited, was built between 1671-77 for Ridolfo and Gio Francesco Sale.

Some free time in the old town of Genoa.

Evening: Before we leave Genoa, we enjoy a private visit to the **VILLA DEL PRINCIPE**, palazzo of the Prince of Genoa, Andrea Doria-Pallavicini. A commander of the papal fleet, his Renaissance palace overlooking the Gulf of Genoa was the largest and most luxurious in the city, and Thomas Jefferson was much taken with it when he visited in 1787.

We tour the principal salons, adorned with Brussels tapestries, silver and paintings such as Sebastiano del Piombo's portrait of *Andrea Doria*. Throughout the villa are the celebrated frescoes by Perino, a student of Raphael. The gardens designed for Andrea Doria were based on those of Roman seaside villas, with terraced gardens along the hill, a mosaic and shell encrusted grotto, and the Sea Garden, where a fountain of Neptune presides. The gardens were historically restored to include plants used in the sixteenth century; rose myrtle, rosemary, carnations, and many plants collected or traded by seafaring Genoese. One such botanical exchange between the Dutch and the Genoese: the prized flower bulbs of Holland were sent to the flower-loving Italians, who in return traded their exotic orange trees.

We enjoy music over an aperitivo and hors d'oeuvres, on the terrace overlooking the sea.

Return to Turin.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- BASILICA DE SUPERGA – MAJESTIC VIEW OF TURIN**
- THE VERSAILLES OF PIEDMONT: VENERIA REALE**
- LUNCH IN THE GOSSIP ROOM GALA EVENING AT THE PALAZZO MADAMA**

Morning: This morning we make exactly the same journey as Thomas Jefferson eastwards from central Turin, for a visit to the **BASILICA DE SUPERGA**, splendidly situated on a hill with views over Turin, the Alps and the Appennines. Superga's position is the key to its existence – in 1706 Duke Amadeo climbed to the top of the hill to survey the positions of the French and Spanish forces who had been besieging the city for months, and vowed to build a church dedicated to the Madonna if she would help him in the coming battle. Turin was spared and Amadeo commissioned Juvarra to build the architectural masterpiece atop the hill.

We continue to the **REGGIA DI VENARIA REALE**. Originally a royal hunting lodge built for Carlo Emanuele II in 1660, Juvarra was commissioned to reconstruct the Castello between 1714-28 – providing the Dukes of Savoy with a magnificent residence: "*Among the wondrous leisurely residences, where His Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy retreats to find some rest, the most important, the one truly deserving a visit, is the one known as Venaria Reale, three miles out of Turin. It was Duke Carol Emanuele II who gave it this name, in the firm belief that this estate would make a hunting ground suitable to a sovereign*" (opening words of the *Theatrum Sabaudiae*, a collection of 142 engravings celebrating the splendor of the Savoy domains and residences).

Within the massive palace complex, we will see Juvarra's Great Gallery (which dwarfs the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles), chapel and stables – now a space for exhibitions. The gardens of the Veneria Real

were amongst the most famous in Europe, and have been restored to their original plan based on etchings and drawings. A park created to raise horses for the Savoy Kings is now an important nature preserve.

Afternoon: We lunch in the “Gossip Room” of the Veneria Reale - a wonderful mélange of 17th century vaulted ceilings and simple, modern furniture, it boasts a terrace opening onto the gardens, offering lovely views over the Grand Parterre against the backdrop of the Alps. It is also home to the extraordinary 360-piece silver and vermeil service manufactured by Piedmontese craftsmen in the mid-1800s for Queen Maria Theresa,

Following lunch, we return to central Turin for some free time to explore the city.

Evening: Splendid gala evening at the **PALAZZO MADAMA**, one of the most imposing buildings in Turin. Originally a castle dating from the 15th century, much of the original medieval aspect is visible, both on the exterior and interior. In 1718, Juvarra was commissioned to transform the medieval structure, and he began with a dramatic nine-bay baroque façade facing Piazza Castello, enclosing a magnificent new staircase, one of most impressive in Europe. Little else of Juvarra’s plans was ever executed. The palace takes its name from two female regents: Maria Cristina (widow of Vittorio Amadeo I) and Giovanna Battista (widow of Carlo Emanuele II) – both were given the title Madama Reale and both resided here.

We enjoy a private tour of the Palazzo, which includes treasures from the Middle Ages through to the 18th century. This tour will be followed by a gala dinner, with a private chamber concert given by members of the Teatro Reggio orchestra.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- **TURIN TO CUNEO VIA PIEDMONT COUNTRYSIDE**
- **VISIT TO PIEDMONTE VINEYARD**
- **LUNCH IN THE LANGHE HILLS**
- **TRAIN DES MERVEILLES FROM CUNEO TO NICE & THE COTE D’AZUR**
- **ARRIVALS AT THE GRAND HOTEL CAP FERRAT**

Morning: Check out and depart Turin for Cuneo, via the **PIEDMONTE** region in north-west Italy, which lies at the foot of the mountains surrounded by the Alps on three sides and the fertile Po valley to the east. It is a region of lakes, medieval villages, dramatic mountains and peaceful valleys, and is well known for its culinary contributions such as white truffles and wine (Barolo, Barbaresco, Asti and Gavi). The influence of the French, who conquered the region repeatedly, can be found in everything from the language to the cuisine. The French Royal House of Savoy was also instrumental in achieving Italian unification, and Turin became the first capital of the newly-formed country from 1861-1865.

While on the bus, Bill Barker recounts Thomas Jefferson’s agricultural espionage in the great North Italian rice-fields, which lay behind his “peep into Elysium.” Jefferson’s interest in Lombard Rice led him to inform Edward Rutledge of Charleston that he was “determined to take enough to put you in seed.” Although taking unhusked rice out of Piedmont was a crime punishable by death, Jefferson bribed a muletier “*to run a couple of sacks across the Appenines to Genoa*” and in case he was double-crossed, filled his pockets with as much rice as his “*coat and surtout would hold.*”

We drive to **ALBA**, an old Roman market town in the middle of the truffle and wine-growing region, with a reputation for gastronomy. Alba enjoyed a prosperity that reached its apex in the Middle Ages and lasted until 1628 when Savoy took control. It is a town of medieval towers (at the height of its powers, Alba boasted more than 100 towers), Baroque and Renaissance palaces and cobbled-streets lined with gastronomic offerings. We enjoy a walking tour of the charming *centro storico*, visiting the cathedral San

Lorenzo, with its 15th century choir stalls richly decorated with wooden intarsias, the market, and a number of specialty shops.

We continue for a tour and wine tasting at the renowned **FONTANAFREDDA WINE ESTATE** - "... one of the great names of Piedmontese winemaking". The Fontanafredda estate, established in the 1800s, sits in the middle of the Langhe Hills in the Piedmont wine-growing region. The vineyards planted on these gently undulating slopes are responsible for Italy's version of Bordeaux reds, the muscular, brooding, long-lived wines of Barolo and Barbera that are forged from the Nebbiolo grape.

Jefferson described a recent shipment of Nebbiolo, a sparkling wine of the Italian Piedmont, as "superlatively fine." This importation proceeded from his memory of drinking Nebbiolo in Turin in 1787, when he described it as "about as sweet as the silky Madeira, as astringent on the palate as Bordeaux, and as brisk as Champagne. It is a pleasing wine."

Afternoon: We drive through the village of Barolo, the small village of ochre-washed houses set amongst extensive vineyards which gives its name to one of the great Italian wines, and make our way to La Morra, just to the north for lunch at the **Belvedere Restaurant**, which specializes in Albese cuisine.

Continue to **Cuneo**. At Cuneo, we embark on a remarkable journey, following in the footsteps of Thomas Jefferson on his journey over the Alps. While Jefferson crossed the Alps by mule, ascending and descending the three mountains of Braus, Brois, and Tende, we board the late afternoon **TRAIN DES MERVEILES** to Nice to follow this extraordinary journey. The Cuneo-Ventimiglia-Nice line is a remarkable engineering success, and is considered one of the most daring railways of Europe. It is 96 km long, has 81 tunnels and the journey follows a 26% gradient to arrive to a maximum height of 1040 m above sea level in the "Col de Tende" tunnel, before descending towards the Mediterranean sea. In the upper Roya valley the train makes two full 360 degree loops while in tunnels, and descends finally into the Peillon river valley towards Nice. On this remarkable journey we will pass mountains and streams, valleys and villages, including many of the places Jefferson visited by mule on April 14 and 15, 1787, such as Coni (now Cuneo), Limone, Tende, Saorge, La Giandola and Sospel.

"Why were you not with me? So many enchanting scenes which only wanted your pencil to consecrate them to fame. Whenever you go to Italy you must pass at the Col de Tende. You may go in your chariot in full trot from Nice to Turin, as if there were no mountain. But have your pallet & pencil ready: for you will be sure to stop in the passage, at the chateau de Saorgio. Imagine to yourself, madam, a castle & village hanging to a cloud in front, on one hand a mountain cloven through to let pass a gurgling stream; on the other a river, over which is thrown a magnificent bridge; the whole formed into a bason, it's sides shagged with rocks, olive trees, vines, herds, &c. I insist on your painting it."

– **Thomas Jefferson to Maria Cosway**

Arrivals in Nice and transfers to our hotel the **GRAND-HOTEL DU CAP-FERRAT** - the classic Riviera hotel. One of the most beautiful 'Grand Hotels' in the world, and favorite of Queen Victoria, Somerset Maugham and Winston Churchill, the glamorous Grand-Hotel du Cap-Ferrat has been refurbished by French designer Pierre-Yves Rochon and re-opened its doors in May 2009.

The hotel is set on a 17-acre private estate, with beautiful flower-filled gardens and shady paths that meander between the cypresses and umbrella pines; it commands a cliff-top position on the southern tip of the Saint-Jean Cap-Ferrat peninsular, affording magnificent views along the Côte d'Azur. Leisure activities include tennis, an 8,500-square-foot spa with indoor swimming pool, the spectacular Club Dauphin with an Olympic-sized heated seawater swimming pool located 'au bord de la mer', reached by private funicular, and walks through the gardens and along the sea-shore.

Evening: Welcome dinner on the terrace of the hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant **Le Cap**.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- MORNING AT LEISURE AT CAP FERRAT
- OPTIONAL AFTERNOON IN NICE:
- RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
- MUSÉE MATISSE

Morning: This morning will be at leisure to enjoy the facilities and surroundings of the Grand Hotel du Cap Ferrat.

Afternoon: This afternoon, there will be the option to either remain at the Grand Hotel, or to enjoy a visit to NICE. We start our afternoon with a visit to one of the most surprising landmarks in the south of France – the magnificent Russian orthodox **CATHEDRAL OF ST. NICHOLAS**. In the 19th century many aristocratic Russian families came to winter in the South of France, and in 1864 a railway was opened between Leningrad to Nice. In order to provide a religious focus for the growing Russian community, the Cathedral was built in Nice between 1903 and 1913, with funding by Nicholas II.

We continue to Nice's northern suburb, **Cimiez**, home to the **MUSÉE MATISSE**. Matisse spent the winters in Nice from 1916 until his death in 1954 at age 85. His devotion to Nice and its "clear, crystalline, precise, limpid" light resulted in a bequest of his works to the city, which formed the core of the Musée Matisse founded nine years later in a villa in Cimiez. It was in Nice that Matisse produced his most sensual, colorful canvases – his last work, the gargantuan paper cut-out *Flowers and Fruit*, dominates the entrance hall of the museum. The collection spans every period of Matisse's career, beginning with early bronze sculptures, a series of back studies, paintings from the early sultry *Odalisque with a Red Box*, to probably the most famous painting of the collection *Still Life with Pomegranates*.

Evening: Dinner on your own – suggestions will include one of the two legendary restaurants in the area: La Reserve in Beaulieu, and the Chateau d'Eze with magnificent views over the Cote d'Azur, or a casual dinner in the harbor of Beaulieu.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON IN •AIX-EN-PROVENCE
- LUNCH AT LES DEUX GARCONS
- VISIT MUSÉE GRANET
- DINNER AMIDST THE VINEYARDS AT L'ABBAYE DE LA CELLE IN BRIGNOLES

My journey hitherto has been a very pleasing one. It was undertaken with the hope that the mineral waters of this place might restore strength to my wrist.

*Other considerations also concurred. Instruction, amusement and abstraction from business, of which I had too much in Paris - - **Thomas Jefferson***

"I am now in the land of corn, wine, oil, and sunshine. What more can man ask of heaven? If I should happen to die at Paris I will beg of you to send me here, and have me exposed to the sun. I am sure it will bring me to life again."

- **Thomas Jefferson writes to William Short from Aix**

Morning: This morning we drive to **AIX-EN-PROVENCE**, one of the earliest Roman settlements, *Aquae Sextiae* grew at the site of natural thermal springs. Aix became the capital of Provence and was an important center during the Age of Enlightenment. Jefferson came here in September of 1786 having dislocated his wrist “*trying to leap over a large kettle in a small courtyard.*” A surgeon urged Jefferson to try the healing waters of Aix-en-Provence. Thus Jefferson embarked on a “restorative trip” to the south of France:

We begin our day in *Vieux Aix*, the ancient city center. We first stop at the **CATHÉDRALE ST-SAUVEUR** built on the site of an ancient Roman forum - a patchwork of periods and styles from Gothic to Renaissance, it also incorporates Roman columns in its baptistry. We continue to admire the classical 17th Century architecture in the **PLACE HOTEL DE VILLE**, and continue south, winding through cobbled squares decorated with fountains at their center. We stroll down the avenue **COURS MIRABEAU** – designed in the 17th century as the city’s most elegant address. Soaring plane trees shade the elegant fountains and facades of the 17th and 18th century *hotels particuliers* which Jefferson found so appealing.

The city is one of the cleanest and neatest I have ever seen in any country. The streets are straight which make for delicious walks-- **Thomas Jefferson**

Afternoon: We lunch on the Cours Mirabeau at the **Café des Deux Garçons**, an Aix landmark since the 17th Century, where we enjoy Provencal specialties. During his stay in the south of France, olive oil joined the exclusive company of wine and books as a Jeffersonian "necessary of life." Every year until his death he imported four to five gallons of the "virgin oil of Aix" (a fragment of a French olive oil bottle was recently unearthed in archaeological excavations at Monticello).

After lunch, we pass the 17th Century Fountain of the Four Dolphins to the renowned **MUSÉE GRANET**. housed in the old Priory of the Knights of Malta. Founded by Francois Granet, a local 19th century painter, the museum holdings include French, Italian and Flemish paintings from the 17th to the 19th centuries. There are also works by Giacometti, Picasso, and of course Cézanne, born in Aix in 1839, who studied on the ground floor of the building when it was the Municipal Art School.

Some free time to stroll in Aix en Provence, before we continue towards Brignoles.

Evening: We stop in the heart of the vineyards of Coteaux Varois near Brignoles, for dinner at **L’Hostellerie de l’Abbaye de la Celle**. Set on the grounds of a former Benedictine abbey, Alain Ducasse has transformed this 18th century residence into a wonderful Michelin-starred restaurant utilizing the seasonal bounty of the Abbaye’s garden. We will have the opportunity to wander the beautiful gardens (the rooms are all named after plants growing in the grounds), and enjoy the magnificent views. Champagne in the delightful garden before dinner.

“ I see no plums in the vicinity of Brignoles which makes me conjecture that the celebrated plum of that name is not derived from the place”

– **Thomas Jefferson. May 3, 1787**

Return to the hotel.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- **A DAY ALONG THE COAST OF THE RIVIERA**
- **GLORIOUS ROTHSCHILD VILLA AND GARDENS**
- **PRIVATE HOUSES AND GARGENS ON CAP FERRAT AND IN MENTON**
- **MAGNIFICENT EVENING CRUISE ON PRIVATE YACHT ALONG THE RIVIERA COAST**

Morning: We start our morning at the **VILLA EPHRUSSI DE ROTHSCHILD** which crowns the narrow isthmus of St Jean Cap Ferrat. The flamboyant Béatrice de Rothschild was an avid art collector and following her marriage to banker Baron Ephrussi, she commissioned the villa to house her collection. The result is a wonderful ensemble of paintings, sculpture and decorative art housed in a magnificently sited villa. A private tour of the villa, reveals some splendid interiors including a Venetian rococo room designed for a Tiepolo ceiling. The gardens are no less magnificent with musical fountains and a rose garden with spectacular views over the bay of Villefranche.

Nearby, on Cap Ferrat is the elegant **VILLA SANTO SOSPIR**, owned by the Weisweiller family. Francine Weisweiller, a Parisian socialite, was a great admirer of Jean Cocteau. Using the wealth of her millionaire American husband to support the artist, Francine published most of his books and in 1950 asked the artist to decorate the doors of her villa. Cocteau covered the house with his trade-mark mythological frescoes. We enjoy a private visit to this rarely visited villa.

Afternoon: Lunch at the Villa Santo Sospir.

We continue along the Riviera coast to **MENTON**, as unspoilt and beautiful as when Jefferson passed through there in 1787, admiring the lemons trees that are still synonymous with this town today. We have been invited for a private visit to **Clos du Peyronnet**, still owned by the Waterfield family, who came here before WW I. We enjoy a tour of their celebrated English garden with William Waterfield. His brother Giles Waterfield's recounted the story of the garden's creation in his acclaimed first novel, *The Long Afternoon* - an elegiac account of an English family in France between the First and Second World Wars.

Evening: We make our way to the port, and board our **private yacht**, the 108-foot Antisan, for a magnificent evening cruise along the Riviera coast back to St Jean Cap Ferrat, following by sea, the route that Jefferson traversed by mule.

“If any person wished to retire from their acquaintance, to live absolutely unknown, and yet in the midst of physical enjoiments, it should be in some of the little villages of this coast, where air, earth, water concur to offer what each has most precious.”

Thomas Jefferson – August 6, 1787

On arrival in Cap Ferrat we anchor off the coast for dinner aboard our yacht.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- A DAY IN THE HILLS ABOVE THE FRENCH RIVIERA
- GRASSE – THE TOWN OF PERFUME
- ST-PAUL-DE-VENCE AND THE FOUNDATION MAEGHT
- MATISSE & THE CHAPELLE DU ROSAIRE IN VENCE
- GALA EVENING AT THE GRECIAN VILLA KÉRYLOS
- COLIN CAMPBELL TALKS OF COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

Morning: We drive to **GRASSE**, centre of the French perfume industry and often referred to as the world's perfume capital. Many "noses" are trained or have spent time in Grasse, which produces over two-thirds of France's natural aromas,

We continue into the hills to **VENCE** to visit the **CHAPELLE DU ROSAIRE**. Henri Matisse conceived the chapel during the last few years of his life; he was too ill to attend the dedication ceremony in 1951, but said "*in spite of all its imperfections, I consider it as my masterpiece.*" He insisted on designing every aspect of the chapel from the large wrought iron cross rising above the tiled roof, to the candlesticks and the priest's vestments. Well into his 80s and confined to a wheelchair, he used long bamboo poles with brushes attached to paint the faceless images of St Dominic, the Virgin and Child, and the Crucifixion on the white faience tiles, which are illuminated by the suffused light of the geometrically patterned stained-glass windows. He considered it the fruit "*of a life consecrated to the search for truth.*"

We drive to nearby **ST-PAUL-DE-VENCE**, for a visit to the **FONDATION MAEGHT**. Founded in the mid-1950's by art dealers Aimé and Marguerite Maeght, its *raison d'être* was to create an environment where they could show their own collection and provide space for their many artist friends to work and exchange ideas. Catalan architect José Luis Sert was commissioned to design the the commission as "*installing a museum inside Nature.*" The Maeghts, who knew all the great artists working in Provence at the time, invited painters, sculptors, potters and designers to decorate the building. The permanent collection includes virtually every major artist of the past century, and fully represents the link between Provence and modern European art.

Afternoon: A special afternoon in **ST-PAUL-DE-VENCE** where we will be enjoying lunch and a wonderful afternoon of visits.

Return to the hotel.

Evening: A **private reception and farewell gala dinner** for Colonial Williamsburg travelers at the magnificent **VILLA KÉRYLOS**. Set on the sea, with exceptional views of the coastline, the house was built for archaeologist Theodore Reinarch in 1902, as a luxurious re-creation of an Ancient Greek Villa. A tour of the villa will be followed by a private reception, where Colin Campbell will talk about Colonial Williamsburg, and a splendid dinner in the magnificent courtyard of the Villa.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

DEPARTURES FROM NICE

The tour concludes. Individual departures from Nice.



**Tour Reservation Form
Thomas Jefferson's Travels in**

Piedmont and the Royal city of Turin & the French Riviera

SEPTEMBER 1 – 10, 2012

PRICE:

\$11,860 per person (based on deluxe room in Turin & Pineview room at Grand Hotel Cap Ferrat)

\$14,230 per person (based on deluxe room in Turin & Seaview room at Grand Hotel Cap Ferrat)

*** no single supplement**

Traveler Name (s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Facsimile: _____ Email: _____

Deposit of \$5,000 per person required for reserved space.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Please find enclosed a **check** in the amount of \$ _____ to secure _____ place(s).
Make check payable to: **The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation**

Please charge my credit card \$ _____ for _____ place(s).

Card Type: _____ Card Number: _____

Exp Date: _____ Signature: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Principi de Piemonte, Turin, Italy

I/we would prefer to have (Circle): Twin Beds King Bed

I /we would like to upgrade to a Junior or Full Suite based on availability. Supplemental cost to be advised.

Grand Hotel du Cap Ferrat, Cap St. Jean Ferrat, Southern France:

I/we would prefer to have (Circle): Twin Beds King Bed

I/we would like a Pineview room (garden view at side or rear of hotel) based on availability

I/we would like a Seaview room (full sea view at front of the hotel) based on availability

I/we would like to upgrade to a Junior or Full Suite based on availability. Supplemental cost to be advised.

Please complete this form and return it to:

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Cultural Expeditions
Post Office Box 1776
Williamsburg, VA 23187-1776

Shana Bradley
Travel Program Associate
Telephone: 757.220.7242
Fax: 757.565.8065
Email: sbradley@cwf.org



SINGLE ROOMS: There will be no supplement charged for single travelers on this tour.

TOUR COSTS INCLUDE: First-class hotel accommodations based on two persons sharing twin- or double-bedded room with private bath; meals as indicated in itinerary, including 9 full breakfasts, 7 lunches, 1 reception, and 7 dinners; comprehensive educational program including services of study leaders, local experts, and professional guides; all special visits and excursions; all transportation and sightseeing as indicated in itinerary; entrance fees; service charges and basic gratuities.

NOT INCLUDED: Transportation to and from tour start and finish location; visa and passport fees, photos, and processing whenever applicable; meals not specified in itinerary; personal items such as wines, liquors, a-la-carte orders not specified in itinerary; room service, telephone, fax, or Internet connection fees, and valet/laundry charges; costs incurred by The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation to make individual arrangements before or after a program; and other items not specifically mentioned as included.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: To reserve space(s), please complete the reservation form and send it with your non-refundable deposit check or charge card authorization. Balance due upon receipt of invoice.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Refunds of deposits, less a \$500 per person cancellation fee, will be made only if your place(s) can be resold. Cancellation 60 days prior to departure: no refund. No refunds for unused portions of a tour including but not limited to, missed meals, hotel nights, and sightseeing. Cancellation of program by The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation or our tour operators: full refund. Should events beyond the control of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation or any of our tour operators necessitate the cancellation of a program while on tour, a full refund of land costs will be calculated based on the cost of services used up to the time of the group's return.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation strongly recommends that all tour participants purchase Trip Cancellation, Emergency Medical Evacuation, Baggage, Accident and Medical insurance for their tour. Upon receipt of your initial tour deposit, a Trip Insurance plan will be mailed to you.

ITINERARY OR PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS: While every effort will be made to carry out the program as planned, the program as described is subject to modification and change by The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and our tour facilitators.

I/We confirm that I/We have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this program.

Signature _____

Signature _____