

Join **Michelle Marvig**
on the 2023 *Quilters Companion* magazine

QUILTING TOUR OF

Italy and the Greek Islands

Cruise aboard MS Oosterdam

13 June to 1 July 2023

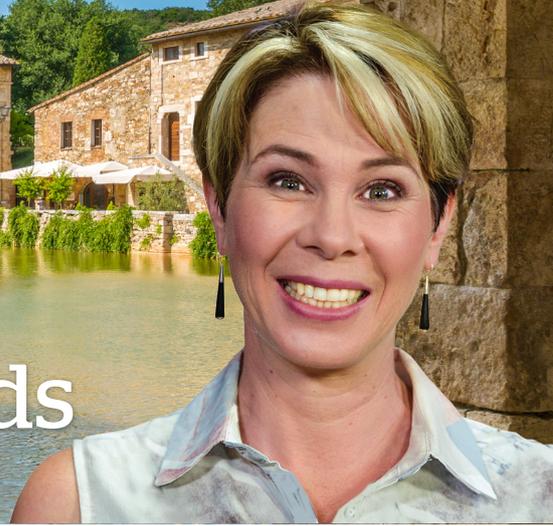
Visiting Bagno Vignoni, Bologna, Venice, Trieste: Italy;
Split, Korcula: Croatia; Santorini, Rhodes, Athens: Greece; Kusdasi: Turkey

Optional

* **Pre-tour to Rome:** * **Post-tour to Athens:**
9 to 14 June 2023 30 June to 3 July 2023



QUILTING TOUR OF
**Italy & the
 Greek Islands**
 with Michelle Marvig



DAY 1 Tuesday 13 June, 2023

Depart Australia

Today we board our flight to Rome, Italy.

DAY 2 Wednesday 14 June, 2023

Bagno Vignoni, Italy

This afternoon we arrive in Rome. After clearing customs we travel north to the Tuscan village of Bagno Vignoni, where we will spend the next five nights. Bagno Vignoni is a small Orcia River Valley village, which has long been a favourite among painters and travellers seeking solitude in a beautiful location. We will stay at a small family-owned 15th century hotel, built by Rossellino as a summerhouse for Pope Pius II, who enjoyed the advantage of the nearby hot mineral springs. Tour members will enjoy delicious Tuscan dinners each night during our stay at Bagno Vignoni. Michelle will welcome the group at dinner this evening.

DAY 3 Thursday 15 June, 2023

Bagno Vignoni

Today we travel to Siena, where we will see the magnificent Piazza del Campo renowned for the famous Palio horse race held in the Campo and its splendid civic tower and the enormous, partially completed Duomo. In the afternoon we return to Bagno Vignoni, where Michelle will set the group up and instruct them on our project.

DAY 4 Friday 16 June, 2023

Bagno Vignoni

We travel through the Tuscan countryside to the town of San Gimignano, known as the City of Beautiful Towers, a classic walled hill-town in Tuscany, famous for its medieval architecture. Known for its skyline of towers built by the feuding nobles of the 12th and 13th centuries, the town featured in the film Tea with Mussolini. We will return to Bagno Vignoni for an afternoon working on our projects with Michelle Marvig.

DAY 5 Saturday 17 June, 2023

Bagno Vignoni

This morning we travel to a gorgeous town in this region – Pienza, the “Ideal Town of Renaissance architecture” where we will have the time to walk through the gorgeous town center before visiting a cheese shop to taste the typical “pecorino”

cheese produced for centuries in this region of the Val d’Orcia. We continue with a visit to one of the most stunning towns situated in the southern region of Tuscany – Montepulciano. On arrival we will have a guided walk in the centre of this fascinating hilltop town and then a stop at a historical cellar for a wine tasting of Nobile di Montepulciano. We drive through this breath-taking valley to the nearby beautiful town of San Quirico before returning to Bagno Vignoni where the remainder of the afternoon is free to wander around the village or work on your project.

DAY 6 Sunday 18 June, 2023

Bagno Vignoni

We travel through the beautiful Tuscan countryside to Cortona, one of the oldest towns in Tuscany, with some of the most important Etruscans finds on display in its museum, and the setting for the bestselling book Under the Tuscan Sun. We return to Bagno Vignoni for time to work on our project.

DAY 7 Monday 19 June, 2023

Bologna, Italy

Today we depart Bagno Vignoni for Florence, birthplace of the Renaissance and capital of Tuscany. We have time to soak up the atmosphere of Florence, the home town of Lorenzo the Magnificent and Michelangelo. We will join a local guide for a walking tour through Florence. We will see the cathedral, with its enormous dome, the Baptistery, Piazza Signoria, the famous Ponte Vecchio. We continue to Bologna for our two night stay.

DAY 8 Tuesday, 20 June, 2023

Bologna

This morning we enjoy a sightseeing tour of Bologna. We will see gorgeous Piazza Maggiore, lined with arched medieval colonnades. We will see city hall, the fountain of Neptune and the Basilica di San Petronio. In the afternoon we will visit Valli Fabrics Bologna which stocks gorgeous fabrics. Bologna is a famous foodie town, so we will have plenty of choice of restaurants for dinner.

DAY 9 Wednesday 21 June, 2023

Venice, Italy

Today we travel to the ancient city of Venice, where we spend the next two nights. Unique in the world, Venice is one of the most spectacular and romantic of cities.



Pre-tour to
Rome

DAY 1 Friday 9 June, 2023

Depart Australia

Today we depart on our overnight flights to Rome.

DAY 2 Saturday 10 June, 2023

Rome, Italy

We arrive into Rome early afternoon. After clearing customs, we will be met by our private coach and transferred to the hotel for check in.

DAY 3 Sunday 11 June, 2023

Rome

This morning we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of the ‘Eternal City’ and see the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain, where group members can throw a coin and make a wish to return to Rome one day. In the afternoon we visit the Boncompagni Ludovisi Decorative Arts Museum. It contains gorgeous Italian Fashion from the 19th to 20th century, accessories, paintings and ceramics. We will enjoy a welcome dinner this evening.

DAY 4 Monday 12 June, 2023

Rome

This morning we will visit the Vatican Museum, with a wealth of artistic treasures, and the spectacular Sistine Chapel. This afternoon is free for shopping and sightseeing.

DAY 5 Tuesday 13 June, 2023

Rome

Today we enjoy a day tour to Tivoli on the outskirts of Rome to visit Villa d’Este and Hadrian’s Villa. Tivoli is home to luxurious residences, magnificent villas, and two famous UNESCO World Heritage sites: the Renaissance palace of Villa d’Este, known for its extravagant, gardens and water fountains, and the ruins of Hadrian’s Villa the grand second-century estate of Emperor Hadrian of ancient Rome. We return to Rome late afternoon.

DAY 6 Wednesday 14 June, 2023

Rome

This morning we will visit Mercato Testaccio, where we will be able to try delicious Roman street food. We then travel to Largo di Torre Argentina, where there are several fabric stores. Group members will have a chance to visit Francesco Longo e Figli filled with silks and wools or the biggest fabric store in Rome, Fratelli Bassetti Tessuti. In the afternoon we will meet up with tour members on the main tour at Rome airport and we will travel to the gorgeous village of Bagno Vignoni.

Michelle Marvig

Michelle has always had a love affair with textiles. She has been a part of the Australian quilting industry for the last 28 years. She started as a sample quilt maker for a fabric importer and her work was seen by magazine staff. This was the start of a long career working with Australian patchwork magazines. She writes regular columns for *Quilters Companion* even acting as Creative Director of the title for one year. She has presented eight DVDs on a wide variety of techniques and has published four books. She has designed five fabric ranges, with *Cidade* being the current range available in store. Michelle enjoys imparting her knowledge to students and has a busy teaching schedule. Her work has won several awards at the NSW Quilt Guild Show.

She has been leading the Travelrite International patchwork tours since 2008, enjoying exploring America, France, England, Japan, Europe, Canada and Vietnam with her fellow quilters.



MS Oosterdam

The MS Oosterdam was launched in 2003. Built at the Fincantieri shipyard in Marghera, Italy, it blends the very latest in shipbuilding technology with the artistry, personalised touches and superior service that has made Holland America Line one of the highest-rated cruise lines in the world. At the heart of the MS Oosterdam is the Vista Dining room spanning two floors. For casual eating there is an extensive Lido Café and an alternative dining option with the Pinnacle Grill. Dutch heritage and tradition is clearly displayed throughout the ship with a wonderful art collection.

On arrival we have a sightseeing tour of Venice. We visit St Mark's Square, see the Grand Canal, St Mark's Basilica and the Doges Palace. We will wind our way through the narrow alleyways to the market square of the Rialto.

DAY 10 Thursday 22 June, 2023

Venice

This morning we have an excursion to the island of Murano, known as the glass-making island. There will be an opportunity to purchase a piece of this famous artisan made glasswork as a wonderful memento of your time in Venice. We continue with a ferry ride to Burano well known for its bright coloured fishermen's houses. We will visit the Museo del Merletto, where we will see exhibits of local lace making. The shops on the island sell lace products, linen and clothes.

DAY 11 Friday 23 June, 2023

Embarkation

Today we travel to Trieste to board the MS Oosterdam. We will enjoy a sightseeing tour of Trieste. Rich in history and influenced heavily by Venice and Austria, Trieste is the largest seaport on the Adriatic. We will visit Castello di Miramare. Situated on the point of a headland, this castle with terraced gardens was built in 1860 for Archduke Maximilian of Austria. Be up on deck as the ship slips her moorings at 7:00pm for the start of our fabulous cruise.

DAY 12 Saturday 24 June, 2023

Split, Croatia

Today we visit Split, the second largest city in Croatia. The old town grew up around the Emperor Diocletian's vast Roman Palace. We have a morning sightseeing tour, during which we visit the interior courtyard of the Roman complex and the Golden Gate, the main entrance to Diocletian's Palace. We visit the Baptistery of St John a small, beautiful building consecrated in the sixth century and see the Renaissance Town Hall on People's Square surrounded by Venetian buildings. This afternoon we continue working on our projects.

DAY 13 Sunday 25 June, 2023

Korcula, Croatia

Rumoured to be the birthplace of the global traveller Marco Polo, this enchanting island is off Croatia's Dalmatian coast. On our sightseeing tour this morning, we will walk through the cobble stone paths with quaint terracotta roofed houses that lead to the birthplace of Marco Polo. In the afternoon, we will take a boat trip and explore some of the near-by islands.

DAY 14 Monday 26 June, 2023

At sea

Today with the help of Michelle, we will have time to work on our projects. During your free time, you might like to enjoy the fabulous facilities of the ship including a visit to the Spa.

DAY 15 Tuesday 27 June, 2023

Santorini, Greece

Today we have a day to explore Santorini, known as the "Black Pearl of the Aegean", one of the most spectacular landscapes in Greece and in the world. The traditional villages of the island, built on tall cliffs, offer a breath-taking view over the submerged volcano. They represent the most beautiful island view you have ever seen! Enjoy free time to explore this magnificent port.

DAY 16 Wednesday 28 June, 2023

Rhodes, Greece

This morning we arrive at Rhodes, the largest island of the archipelago called Dodecanese and the capital of this group of Greek Islands. It is world known for its colossus. It is located between Karpathos and Kos. The capital lies within the walls of a very well-preserved Venetian castle, built by the Knights of Saint John. We will have a tour of the old town including the castle and visit the Grand Masters residence. The afternoon will be free

DAY 17 Thursday 29 June, 2023

Kusadasi, Turkey

This morning we arrive at the port of Kusadasi, now a thriving summer holiday destination, but better known as the gateway to Ephesus, one of the great ancient wonders of the world. We will see the famous Fountains of Trajan, built to honour the emperor of the same name, and the Polio Fountain, located opposite the Domitian Temple. We visit the Temple of Hadrian, the Private House (a brothel which was part of the scholastic baths), the Library of Celsus and the bouleuterion (a small theatre used for the meetings of the Senate). We admire the Great Theatre, which was completed by the Romans in 117 AD and has a capacity for 24,000 spectators. We continue onto the House of Virgin Mary, where she spent the last days of her life. We return to the ship late afternoon. We will enjoy a farewell drinks party to say goodbye to the ship and other tour members.

DAY 18 Friday 30 June, 2023

Departure Athens

Today disembark in the ancient city of Athens, capital of Greece. Athens is the home of the Acropolis and the ultimate in ancient Greek architectural perfection, the Parthenon, built to honour the goddess Athena and one of the wonders of the ancient world. A highlight of Athens is the Acropolis, still dominating the frantic bustle of modern Athens. We will enjoy a sightseeing tour of Athens before travelling to the airport for our return flight.

DAY 19 Saturday 1 July, 2023

Arrival Australia

This evening we arrive in Australia. Tour activities are concluded.

Post-tour to

Athens



DAY 1 Friday 30 June, 2023

Athens, Greece

Today we arrive into the ancient city of Athens, capital of Greece. Athens is the home of the Acropolis and the ultimate in ancient Greek architectural perfection, the Parthenon, built to honour the goddess Athena and one of the wonders of the ancient world. A highlight of Athens is the Acropolis, still dominating the frantic bustle of modern Athens. After breakfast we disembark the ship and will enjoy a sightseeing tour of Athens. We check into our hotel in the afternoon and the remainder of the day is free.

DAY 2 Saturday 1 July, 2023

Athens

This morning we will visit the Benaki Museum, which houses a wonderful collection of Greek embroidery and textiles from the Ottoman era. In the afternoon we visit Alexandra's Fabrics, which sells a large selection of fabrics of good quality.

DAY 3 Sunday 2 July, 2023

Departure

This morning we explore the National Archaeological Museum in Athens, one of the famous museums of the world. In the afternoon we are transferred to the airport for our flights back to Australia.

DAY 4 Monday 3 July, 2023

Arrive Australia

This afternoon we arrive in Australia. Tour activities are concluded.

Italy & the Greek Islands

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Included in the price of the main tour:

- Economy-class flights from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Rome and return from Athens
- 5 nights' accommodation in Bagno Vignoni including daily breakfast and dinner, 2 nights' accommodation in Bologna and Venice including breakfast. In first and moderate first class accommodation.
- Tour leadership and project instruction by Michelle Marvig
- A Travelrite International tour manager will meet the group in Rome and travel on the tour
- 7 night Mediterranean cruise on MS Oosterdam in the cabin category of your choice
- Farewell drinks on the ship
- All meals, entertainment and service charges on MS Oosterdam
- Journey through beautiful Italy in a luxury coach
- Sightseeing tours in ports of call as per the itinerary
- Port and handling charges on MS Oosterdam
- Cruise taxes, air taxes and surcharges
- Onboard gratuities

Not included in the tour price:

- Passport and visa fees
- Travel insurance
- Meals and drinks unless specified in the itinerary
- Sightseeing and general expenses unless specified in the itinerary
- Additional travel arrangements not in the detailed itinerary. These will be quoted for separately

Prices per person in Austalian Dollars

Cabin	Description	Deck	Twin-share	Single Fare
J	Interior	1	\$ 9995	\$ 12395
I	Large Interior	6,7,8	\$ 10095	\$ 12495
D	Large Ocean View	1,4	\$ 10395	\$ 13095
C	Large Ocean View	1	\$ 10495	\$ 13195
VC	Deluxe Balcony	4,5,6,8	\$ 10695	\$ 14295
VB	Deluxe Balcony	4,5,6,7,10	\$ 10795	\$ 14395
VA	Deluxe Balcony	4,5,6,8	\$ 11595	\$ 14495
Included port and handling charges			\$ 492	\$ 724
Included gratuities			\$ 143	\$ 143
Included air taxes as at 10/3/21			\$ 290	\$ 290

Availability: All cabins are subject to cabin availability.

Please call 1800 630 343 for fares and information on other cabin categories.

Rome Pre-tour Price

Twin-share per person: \$ 1995
Single supplement: \$ 500

Included in the pre-tour to Rome:

- 4 nights' accommodation in a first-class hotel in Rome on a bed and breakfast basis
- Tour leadership by Michelle Marvig
- Sightseeing as listed in the itinerary

Not included in the extension pre and post-tour price:

- Travel insurance
- Additional travel arrangements not detailed in the itinerary. These will be quoted for separately
- Passport and visa fees
- Lunches, dinners and drinks unless listed in the itinerary

Athens Post-tour Price

Twin-share per person: \$ 1095
Single supplement: \$ 250

Included in the post-tour to Athens:

- 2 nights' accommodation in a first-class hotel in Athens on a bed and breakfast basis
- Tour leadership by Michelle Marvig
- Sightseeing as listed in the itinerary

Extending: You can stay longer in Europe for minimal extra cost.

Please contact 1800 630 343 for more information.

General Information and Booking Conditions

International touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the assistance from others.

TOUR OPERATOR: Travelrite International Pty Ltd, (ABN 64 005 817 078) is the tour operator.

TOUR COSTS: The tour costs are based on airfare, general transport, accommodation costs and foreign exchange rate at 25/1/22. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to price will be made within 90 days of departure from Australia.

AIR TAXES: from Sydney/Melbourne/Brisbane as listed in the itinerary. Please contact us for air taxes from different cities. Air taxes are as at 25/1/22. If they change due to government and airline charges and currency variations, Travelrite International reserves the right to charge additional amounts.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT: A deposit of \$900 per passenger should be sent with a completed Travelrite International booking form that lists your requested cabin category. As soon as the booking is confirmed, (usually within 24 hours), a cruise confirmation advice will be posted to the client. The confirmation advice will contain all details. The passenger must also complete an online Holland America Cruises reservation form and a Travelrite International booking form. Final payments are due to be paid to Travelrite International 91 days prior to the commencement of the cruise/tour. Paying by cheque or cash a 1.5% administration fee will be charged on payment by Visa, Mastercard and AMEX.

CANCELLATION CHARGES: Number of days before sailing.

Days prior to Departure	Cancellation Fee
Over 91 days	loss of deposit
90 days or less	loss of 100% of full fare
Non-appearance/no written notice:	100% of full fare

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS AND CONDITIONS: The tour has been priced on the basis of a minimum number of passengers having booked 91 days prior to departure. Travelrite reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of all monies paid or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified cost.

TOUR ORGANIZATION: Travelrite reserves the right to change advertised entrances if necessary for the smooth operation of the tour.

REFUNDS: The tour is based on arrangements that do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals, airfare or other services not utilized after the tour has commenced.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: All passengers will require a valid passport. Visas for countries visited are not required for Australian passport holders. If you hold another passport please check with Travelrite.

BAGGAGE: All passengers qualify for the 20kg free baggage allowance.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Travelrite International Pty Ltd is the tour organiser. Travelrite International Pty Ltd, its agents, officers, affiliates, and/or suppliers of services pursuant to, or in connection with these fly/cruises, shall act only as agents in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, including transportation by ship, restaurants, or any other service and do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence or a default of any hotel, carrier restaurant company or person rendering any services included in fly/cruises, or by act of God. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labour disputes, machinery break-down, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or other causes beyond their control. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omission, delays, re-routing or acts of any government authority. Baggage is at owners' risk throughout the fly/cruise. The passage contract between the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of this fly/cruise and/or the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw any fly/cruise and/or make such changes in the fly/cruises as may be found desirable or necessary for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying out of the fly/cruise. This contract shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any legal action must be taken in the State of Victoria. Attention is also directed to the terms and conditions of the MS Oosterdam fly/cruise passage contract with Holland America, detailed in the Holland America brochure or on the website. If you can't find this form please contact Travelrite International and we will tell you where you can see it.

DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS: You engage Travelrite to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite acts as your agent for the purpose of making contracts between you and the various providers of accommodation, transportation and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite may without reference to you provide or make available to you, or may as your agent engage any third party to provide or make available to you, any good or service which Travelrite reasonably believes is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly or partly for

any reason. You appoint Travelrite your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay Travelrite any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite in respect of any cost it incurs in this regard. Travelrite advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required.

TRAVEL VACCINATION POLICY: The wellbeing of our guests is our top priority. All guests booked to travel internationally with Travelrite International are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, which may include a booster shot to keep it current and valid.

HOW TO BOOK: Bookings can be made by sending full names and addresses of intending tour members with a deposit of \$900 for the Quilting Tour.

Travelrite International Pty. Ltd.
423 Whitehorse Road
Balwyn, Victoria 3103

Further information or a booking form can be obtained by telephoning Travelrite International on the following numbers:

Toll Free **1800 630 343**

Phone: (03) 8803 6868

Email: balwyn@travelrite.com.au

www.travelrite.com.au



ABOUT TRAVELRITE: Travelrite International Pty Ltd (A.B.N.64 005 817 078) is a well-established travel company which has been operating in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne for more than 40 years. It is fully ATAS accredited: A10538 and IATA accredited. As such, it directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international tour and transport operators. Travelrite International has been operating special interest tours for 30 years, and now runs over 90 tours a year. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents – AFTA.