**Spartacus Cruise 2025**

In May 2025, we will set sail again on a tour with the highlights of the Adriatic**. This unique cruise will take us from Dubrovnik via Albania and Sicily to the historic cities of Pompeii and on to Rome.** We stay in Dubrovnik until shortly before midnight, which allows us to explore the historic old town after checking in. In the morning, we arrive in the 30-kilometer-long Bay of Kotor. This is also known as the southernmost fjord in Europe and is considered one of the most beautiful harbor entrances. We are eagerly awaiting the next day in Albania, probably the least known country in Europe, where two UNESCO World Heritage Sites are on the program in Saranda. Alternatively, you can also cross over to Corfu and visit the palace of Empress Sissi. Our next destination is Gallipoli in Apulia, which we chose not only because of its old town on a peninsula. The beach is considered one of the five most beautiful in Italy and has its own gay beach. We continue via the beautiful port city of Taormina in Sicily to the picturesque Amalfi Coast and Naples, where you can pay a visit to the legendary Pompeii, before ending in Rome.

**The Ports:**

**Croatia - Dubrovnik**

The Old Town of Dubrovnik, also known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic", impresses visitors with its well-preserved medieval townscape. The cobbled streets lead to magnificent palaces, churches and squares, testimony to a glorious past. The Stradun, the main street, is lined with elegant boutiques and pleasant cafés. This is also the location of key scenes in "Game of Thrones". Recently, the old town also boasts a gay bar, the "Milk", open every day.

**Montenegro - Kotor**

The medieval old town of Kotor impresses with its well-preserved buildings, narrow streets and the imposing Cathedral Square. The town is surrounded by imposing mountains that form an impressive backdrop. There are many fascinating tourist highlights in the immediate vicinity. Not far away is Budva, a lively coastal town with beautiful beaches. The Lovćen National Parks are ideal for nature lovers. The Lovćen peak offers a breathtaking panoramic view of the bay and the surrounding countryside.

**Albania - Saranda**

The horseshoe-shaped bay of Saranda on the Albanian Riviera lies between the Ionian Sea and rolling hills dotted with olive groves. When visiting, Butrint National Park should have a place on your excursion list. This UNESCO World Heritage Site of international importance is home to the remains of a Roman Empire city, a picturesque lagoon and breathtaking mountains. The city sits on the Ionian Sea and is known for its sparkling white beaches. The promenade offers a view of the Greek island of Corfu, from where you can take regular short ferry connections to perhaps visit the famous palace of Empress Sissi. The palace combines neoclassical architecture with ancient Greek elements. The gardens are decorated with sculptures, including the famous “Achilles”, and captivate the visitor with their beauty.

**Italy - Gallipoli**

Gallipoli, a historically significant spot on the Italian coast, is not only known for its turbulent past, but also for its picturesque beaches with crystal-clear water and fine sand. For gay visitors, Gallipoli offers a number of beaches such as "Baia Verde". Away from the beaches, the historic old town of Gallipoli offers a rich cultural heritage and vibrant nightlife. There are numerous bars, restaurants and clubs here.

**Italy - Taormina**

Taormina, on the east coast of Sicily, sits majestically on a hill. The old town boasts narrow alleyways, charming squares and historic buildings. The cathedral of Taormina, a masterpiece of Norman-Arabic architecture, is just as impressive as the ancient theater from the 3rd century BC. In the immediate vicinity rises the majestic Mount Etna, Europe's highest and most active volcano, to the summit of which tours are offered. The idyllic island of Isola Bella lies off the coast and is a nature reserve with crystal-clear water for snorkeling and swimming.

**Italy - Amalfi Coast**

The Amalfi Coast, a jewel of southern Italy, fascinates with its picturesque landscapes and charming coastal towns. It stretches along the Gulf of Salerno and impresses with steep cliffs that plunge into the azure Mediterranean Sea. The coastal road, lined with lemon and olive groves, connects enchanting towns such as Positano, Amalfi and Ravello. Each town has its own unique character: Positano attracts visitors with its pastel-colored houses and exclusive boutiques, Amalfi enchants with its imposing cathedral and history as a naval power of the Middle Ages, while Ravello is known for its elegant villas and breathtaking views over the coast. The region is not only famous for its natural beauty, but also for its culinary delights. The Amalfi Coast is a paradise for nature lovers and culture vultures alike, with picturesque hiking trails along the cliffs and idyllic beaches.

**Italy - Naples**

The historic old town of Naples is a labyrinth of narrow alleyways that conceal the true heart of the city. A highlight is the underground passages, which provide a fascinating insight into the ancient aqueduct system. Art lovers should visit the National Museum of Naples, which impresses with its rich collections of ancient artifacts. Ancient Pompeii lies just outside the city. In 79 AD, the city was buried by a devastating volcanic eruption. The well-preserved ruins and artistic mosaics are open to visitors. The nearby Amalfi Coast offers a breathtaking contrast to Pompeii's ancient past. The coastline stretches along steep cliffs and offers spectacular views of the deep blue Mediterranean.

**Italy - Rome**

It is worth spending another day or two in Rome, as its rich ancient history has left behind buildings of unique impressiveness. The Vatican alone, with St. Peter's Basilica, the museums and gardens, is worth a day trip. You can travel from the port of Civitavecchia to the main train station in Rome. There is at least one connection per hour for EUR 4.60 with a journey time of approx. 70 minutes. From Rome Termini it is only a 25-minute walk south to the Colosseum or 5km west to the Vatican City, where you can choose to walk along the Pantheon or past the Trevi Fountain. It is only 30 minutes by metro to Ottaviano station near the Vatican Museums. Alternatively, you can walk to Castel Sant'Angelo, 3.5 kilometers away, for a beautiful view of St. Peter's Basilica. There is also a lively gay scene waiting to be discovered. Not forgetting the delicious Italian cuisine.