

Northern Cyclades

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All tours are offered with English speaking guides.

Tours' duration is approximate and may vary depending on traffic and weather conditions. Minimum is indicated per coach or group.

Kusadasi, Turkey

In the Hellenistic Era, Kusadasi was called Neopolis and was a resort area of the big city of Ephesus. During the Middle Ages the name changed to Scala Nuova (New Pier) and the importance as a port continued until the development of Izmir harbor. Originally developed by the Venetians and Genoese, much of what remains today--including the city walls--is a result of the Ottoman conquest in 1413. Today, with several new hotels, the marina and the port, the major activity is tourism. Kusadasi has preserved the charm of small towns. It is refreshing to walk through its narrow pedestrian streets, the local marketplace and to see tradesmen play backgammon and call to one another.

Ephesus & the Virgin Mary's House

By air-conditioned motorcoach

Min. 20 / Max. unlimited, 4 hours, Euros 50

Ephesus today is the impressive remains of what was the "first and greatest metropolis of Asia". The city dates as far back as 3000 BC. In its prime, it had a population of a quarter million and was the Roman capital of Asia Minor. The remains of this important Ionian city are vivid witnesses to its glorious past. Among the well-preserved ruins, the Theatre, the Hadrian Gate, the Celsus Library, the street of the Curetes, the Fountain of Trojan and the Odeon are the most remarkable. Ephesus had many famous residents and visitors. One of them was St. Paul. Paul's speech in the theatre against the cult of Artemis caused a demonstration of the traders of Ephesus, because one of their best-selling items was a silver miniature version of the Artemision (temple of Artemis). Nevertheless, Ephesus became one of the first important parishes of Christianity. Six years after the death of Christ, the Virgin Mary and St. John visited Ephesus. The house on top of Bülbülda is believed to be the last home of the Virgin Mary. Pope Paul VI in 1969 and Pope John Paul II in 1979 proclaimed the house as a place of pilgrimage. Today's structure is a church that dates to the 7th century.

Ephesus and Terraced Houses

By air-conditioned motorcoach

Min. 10 / No Max, duration 4 hours, Euros 59

English speaking guide only

The best-preserved ancient site in the world, extending back into the third millennium B.C., Ephesus was one of the most important centers of antiquity. The harbor city was the point of departure for the famous royal highway that led through Sardis into Lydia. Because of its location, Ephesus developed into an important political and economic center. It became the capital city of Asia's Roman province. The remains of this important Ionian city are standing miraculously today. Among the well-preserved ruins, the Theater, the Hadrian Gate, the Celsius Library, the Street of the Curetes, the Fountain of Trojan, and the Odeon are the most remarkable. Houses built on the slopes behind Ephesus stand opposite the Temple of Hadrian. They are situated on the slopes of Bülbül Mountain, with the roof of one house forming the terrace of the one above it. Those on the upper slopes are accessible by stairs. They were inhabited by wealthy Ephesians, and are finely decorated with mosaics and frescos. Built in the period of Augustus, they were much altered but continued to be inhabited until the 7th century AD, according to the evidence of excavations. Two of the houses have been totally restored. Note that the terrace houses are not opened on a regular basis, and entrance is subject to authorization. The number of visitors is limited to 15 per group.

Samos, Greece

The Heraion Sanctuary and Samos Wines

By air-conditioned motorcoach

Min. 25 / Max. 100, 4 hours, Euros 40

You will leave the picturesque port of Pythagorio and follow the coast facing Asia Minor to Heraion. At the time of the historian Herodotos, the temple here was the greatest in Greece, twice the size of the Parthenon in Athens. Traces of Roman and early Christian buildings remain, along with a wellpreserved apse of a late 16th century church.

You will then head to the North side of the island passing via Pythagorio to the seaside village of Platanakia (valley of the nightingales) for a wine tasting at a local taverna under the shadow of plane trees. Here you will get also a chance to discover what the cup of justice is about. On the way back to Pythagorio, we shall picture the capital of the island Samos town or 'Vathy' as it's known by the locals from a panoramic viewpoint – photo stop. Return to Pythagorio and back to your ship.

Patmos, Greece

Called "Jerusalem of the Aegean", life on Patmos seems to revolve around its religious heritage. The island was home to the apostle St. John while in exile from Rome. It is here that he wrote The Book of Revelation. Patmos has three peaks connected by two isthmuses with a long, narrow coastline and many little bays. The main port of Scala is traditional Greek with whitewashed houses, narrow lanes, flowered courtyards, taverns and shops. The city of Chora is known as being a hideaway for the rich and famous. Ask, for example, for the villa of Aga Khan. On top of the hill lies the Holy Monastery of the Theologian (St. John's Monastery). The noted monastery serves as a historical dedication to St. John and his time on the lovely Patmos.

St. John's Monastery and the Cave of Revelation

By motorcoach

Min. 25 / Max. unlimited, 3 hours, Euros 42

During his exile on Patmos, St. John lived in a cave halfway to Chora. It is said it is here that St. John heard God's voice dictating the text for the Book of Revelation. During his two-year stay here, around 97 AD, he wrote the final book of the Bible. You will board the local buses at the port of Scala, which will take you on a short journey to the village of Chora where the monastery of St. John was built within the walls of a strong fortification. After a short walk from the parking area towards the entrance, the monastery is perched high on the hill overlooking the harbor. Being one of the holiest places for the Orthodox Church, it dates back to the 11th century and is rich with chapels and treasures. Outstanding are the frescoes in the churches and the treasures of the museum housing fascinating exhibits of Byzantine icons and ancient Gospels from the 6th century. After this visit, you will be taken to the area of the Grotto of the Apocalypse. Above the Grotto stands the church of the Apocalypse, a sub-unit of the main monastery. You will visit the Grotto and see the silver halves in the wall that mark the pillow and the ledge used as a desk by St. John. Look at the three-fold crack made by the

Voice of God to emphasize the honor of the Trinity. You will return to the harbor of Scala for some refreshments before your return.

- NOTE:
- No shorts and shoulders must be covered in the monastery.
 - There are about 25 steps at the monastery as well as at the cave of revelation.
 - Would the sites be crowded, the order of the visits may be reversed.
 - Refreshments served in Chora.

Delos, Greece

Delos

By foot - guided visit of the site

Min. 20 / Max. unlimited

Duration 2 hours 30 minutes, Euros 25

The Cyclades received its name in ancient times because they form a kiklo, or rough circle, around the sacred island of Delos. Despite its minute size, it played an important role in antiquity for both commercial and religious reasons. The sanctuary to Apollo attracted pilgrims and riches. Together with the shrine at Delphi, it was the most important in the Greek world. Nowadays, Delos is a desolate wind-swept place -- a pilgrimage for tourists only. A sense of mystic fervor and nostalgia fills the ruins. The modern quay leads directly from the entrance to the archaeological site. You will walk into the heart of the sanctuary where you can see the Temples of Apollo, monuments famous for their history and architectural style, the dried lake with the palm tree and the unique marble lions of Delos. You'll visit the famous Hellenistic mansions of Delos with their superb mosaics decorating the floors and walls then, time depending, you will visit the museum.

- NOTE:
- Non-slip, comfortable shoes are recommended, the pathways are uneven.
 - Guiding is not allowed inside the museum, you will have to explore the museum on your own.

Mykonos, Greece

After only a moment's glance, it is easy to understand the popularity of Mykonos. Cafes and colorful fishing boats line the charming small harbor that acts as a scenic façade for the maze of narrow cobblestone streets that lie behind. The streets are lined with picturesque whitewashed houses, local handicraft stores, boutiques, waterfront cafes and the mascot of the island, the pelican. Don't be surprised if you encounter one of them wandering the town with you. Two of the best places to visit are Little Venice, located on the southwestern side of town and filled with waterfront cafes and spectacular views of the sunset, and the famous Windmill's (adjacent to Little Venice, on Kato Myli Hill), one of the landmarks of Mykonos. As you continue to explore this captivating island, you will not have to venture far to find one of its many beautiful beaches or coves with azure blue water lapping up on the shore. The special allure of the island is sure to leave you looking forward to your next trip to Mykonos.

Sifnos, Greece

Sifnos is a pretty and relatively fertile island with a landscape dotted with over 350 churches and chapels. Sifnos, with its excellent beaches and the lovely villages, is also famous for its 2,000-year-old pottery. Due to the variety and beauty of its backdrop, Sifnos is an ideal island for those who love exploring on foot. Gold and silver mines gave the island great wealth in the past and resulted in Sifnos being one of the largest contributors to the Delphi Treasury. There are several beachside cafes, restaurants, cocktail bars and discos.

Athens, Greece

The earliest Athenians were of Ionian stock, arriving on the peninsula in about 2000 BC. Of the early rulers little is known except that they were kings. By the 7th century BC they had been superseded by Eupatrids, the aristocracy of the eleven noble families of Attica. The next development from the aristocratic rule came with Solon, the "Father of Democracy", who initiated the idea of rule by the people and created assemblies of ordinary citizens. Following Solon's democracy came the age of the Tyrants, a system of rule largely established by Peisistratus in about 546 BC. The idea was to remove much of the power of the nobles and to favor merchants, farmers, and the ordinary people. Athens, particularly the Acropolis, became one of the chief centers of religion in Greece, and by 600 BC there were many temples, fragments of which are in the Acropolis Museum. The year 450 BC saw the beginning of Pericles and his "Golden Age". In the 1830s, the Greek architect Cleanthes and the German Schaubert planned the new city around Otto's austere Palace. From a small proximity above the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Palace dominates Syntagma Square (Constitution Square). From Syntagma Square, Amalia Avenue leads past the National Garden and the Zappion Park to Hadrian's Arch. Behind the park, the Stadium, built on a natural ravine for the first modern Olympic Games held in 1896, occupies the same site used in ancient times. The mountainous region of Attica and Athens, though barren and infertile, has a superb climate.

Athens and the Acropolis

By air-conditioned motorcoach

Min. 15 / Max. unlimited

End at airport: Euros 69, 5 hours

(possible drop off in Athens: Euros 48, 4 hours)

From the port of Piraeus you will pass the charming yacht harbor of Zea with dock foundations from the 5th century BC. Next is Mikrolimano's attractive waterfront lined with inviting al fresco fish restaurants. From here it is a short drive into cosmopolitan Athens. You will drive directly to the base of the Acropolis

where a series of steps invite you to ascend to the top of this sacred rock. The word "Acropolis" appears a great deal in Greece since literally it means "high city", built usually on a neighboring hill for defense from invaders. The great age of the Athenian Acropolis came with Pericles, perhaps the greatest Greek statesmen. Upon reaching the top you will pass through the Propylaea, the stately entrance to the magnificent structures inside, where a spectacular view of the city and the entire basin of Attica will greet you. Once inside, you will immediately see the Parthenon, by far the best known and most awe-inspiring of the structures on the Acropolis. This massive Doric temple was dedicated to Athena, the divine patroness of Athens. Just north of the Parthenon is the Erechtheion, another well-recognized structure with its graceful porch of Caryatids. Following your visit to the Acropolis, your tour will continue with an orientation to the modern city of Athens. A visit to the Greek House of Parliament will be among the most memorable. The traditional changing of the Guard takes place by a neoclassical structure that overlooks the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Also on the tour are Syntagma Square, the Academy, the University, the National Library, the Temple of Zeus, the Panathenaic Stadium.

- NOTE:
- The tour will end at the Inter-Continental hotel in Athens. The guide will leave the tour and the coach will continue to the airport (arrival 13h/13h30).
 - A minimum of 10 guests going to the airport is requested to operate the tour until the airport
 - Passengers staying on board the following cruise may stay in Athens and return to the pier on their own.
 - The duration of the tour very much depends on the traffic in Athens. If the traffic is light, the tour will end earlier at the airport

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Rhodes, Greece

With its age-old history and its formidable natural beauty, Rhodes was and is a major pole of attraction. The island lays claim to a mild climate, a unique and varied landscape, a wonderful sea, and monuments from all periods; Rhodes is a mosaic of all these elements and its beauty defies description. It is formerly the site of one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World--the Colossus of Rhodes--and contains many faces of its past. The island was inhabited at least as far back as the 16th century BC. The golden era was from the 5th to 3rd centuries BC when Rhodes was an important religious, commercial and political center. During those years, the island became the main commerce link in the Mediterranean. Because of its strategic importance, Rhodes also played a key role for the crusaders and for the Ottoman Empire. The present-day city of Rhodes has within it a fascinating medieval city completely enclosed by massive, flower-covered walls nearly five miles long. Once occupied by the Turks, the medieval part of the city offers a unique opportunity to stroll the narrow, stone-paved streets surrounded by 15th century buildings, arches, flying buttresses, minarets and fountains. The Street of the Knights is the finest example of a late Gothic street found anywhere in Europe. The 15th century inns of the Knights of Seven Languages were built along this street, four of which still remain today. At the end of the Street of the Knights is the imposing 14th century Grand Master's Palace, a massive citadel that dominates the old town. It was destroyed in 1856 and reconstructed in 1939.

Lindos

By air-conditioned motor coach

Min. 25 / Max. unlimited, 4hrs, Euros 45

This tour begins with a beautiful 30-mile drive along the East Coast through charming picturesque villages. A wonderful scent fills the air through the orange and lemon groves, vineyards and gnarled olive trees. On this tour you may walk up to the summit of the Acropolis. Once you have reached the site you will visit the 4th century BC Doric temple of Athena Lindia and a double-winged portico, a Byzantine church, the fortifications of the Knights, and the remains of the Governor's quarters. A breathtaking view awaits atop the Acropolis; at its foot you will see St. Paul's bay, where the Apostle is said to have landed in the year 51 AD to preach Christianity to the Rhodians. Below the Acropolis you will see the old, whitewashed houses and the narrow streets of this most delightful town. Its beauty has inspired artists and writers for years. Here you will find many small shops selling enchanting ceramic objects and beautiful crocheted linens. You will return to the quayside in Rhodes following the same picturesque route. On the way, you may visit a traditional ceramics workshop.

NOTE: • There is a lot of uphill walking. The Acropolis visit involves 150 steps, but you will have the opportunity to ride a donkey up the hill (optional, not included in the tour cost is 5 euros per person).

- This tour is subject to the opening hours of Lindos unknown at the time of printing.

Rhodes, city of St John's Knights

By foot

Min 20 / Max 40, 3 hours, Euros 34

As you gaze at the town of Rhodes from the ship's deck, the splendid range of walls, towers and turreted gateways dominating the view and the massive Palace of the Grand Masters rising above all, take the mind straight to the central point of interest in this city - to the Knights of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, who fortified the island in the 14th Century as a stronghold of Christendom against the Muslims.

Entering the old town through the Main Gate, we shall pass by the Old Hospital of the Knights, housing today the archaeological museum. After a short stop there, we continue on, through the Street of the Knights, viewing the Inns of Italy, France, Spain & Provence. Next stop is Grand Masters Palace, built by the Knights of St John of Jerusalem on the site of a 7th century Byzantine fortress. After its dereliction during the Turkish occupation, it was largely destroyed by the explosion of the powder magazine in 1856. When the Italians occupied Rhodes in 1911, they rebuilt it in a grandiose pseudo-medieval style as a holiday residence for the King of Italy, and later for Benito Mussolini, whose name can still be seen on a large plaque near the entrance. After the visit of the Palace, we continue our walking tour in the Old Town passing by Suleiman Mosque, Moslem Library and Socratous street with a stop for typical refreshments.

At the end of the guided tour, you will have time to walk around at your own pace.

- NOTE:
- It is a 10 minutes walk between the ship and the city
 - The guided walking tour will last approx 2hrs
 - Refreshments will be offered at the end of the tour (you will be served an ouzo accompanied with some meze and greek yogourts with honey)
 - You can walk back to the ship at your convenience

Bodrum, Turkey

Bodrum was established on one of the great ancient cities known as "Halikarnassos". The artifacts in the Bodrum museum attest that this city and its surroundings are beholden to a civilization from some 5,000 years ago. The building of the tomb of King Mausolos - the Mausoleum - shows the important role and great wealth of Halikarnassos, known as one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Today the twin-bay town is one of the most prominent tourist and entertainment centers in Turkey with its natural, historical and cultural endowments and its bohemian way of life. You need not go far from the port to find the life of the town. The cafes that fill the harbor give way to the colorful and lively bazaar. The major local arts include carpet and kilim manufacturing, and the building of the special trilandil type of trough is an art within itself.

St. Peter Castle and Underwater Archeological Museum Walking Tour

Min. 20 / Max. unlimited 2 hours, Euros 20

A short walking distance separates the disembarkation pier from the regal Castle of St. Peter. The castle's origins date back to the knights of St. John. This group of expatriates began in the 11th century with a church and hospital in Jerusalem. Although belonging to the Catholic Church, care was denied to no one. When the knights arrived they instructed their builders to remove all usable materials from the tomb of king Mausolos as the castle construction began in the 1400's. The knights referred to the town as Mesy not knowing that they were in the ancient Halikarnassos. The fortress became known as the Castle of St. Peter, the Liberator, and it served as the sole place of refuge for all Christians on the West Coast of Asia during the time of the crusades. For over a century the castle served as a stronghold in the knight's community. Bodrum was taken by the Turks in 1523. After 1895, the castle was used as a prison. It was converted into a museum in 1959. Underwater relics and Mycenaean, Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantium artifacts are displayed in different sections in

chronological order. In the Gothic chapel in the courtyard, findings from the Bronze Age are exhibited, dating back 2000 - 3000 years. Local objects and weapons from the Mycenaen time were found by excavation in the necropolis near Bodrum - Ortakent. In the south of the chapel, adjoining the castle wall, is a Turkish Bath where the bathing tradition is shown in details. A narrow street to the left of the chapel leads to the Amphora Park. From here one comes to the Hall of the Glass wreck, where the Wreck of Serçe Harbour and environs are displayed with glass works from the 14th century AD. The towers are in the upper section of the Castle. On the ground floor of the Italian Tower, the Coins and Jewellery Hall displays finds from the 7th century BC until the Roman and Ottoman periods. In the middle floor of the tower is The Hall of Classical Period. Various ceramic and bronze objects and statues dating back to the 5th century are exhibited here. Baltali Tower is situated at the highest point of the castle and houses the Carian Princess Hall and one of the most interesting places of the Museum. In 1989 a sarcophagus was found entering Bodrum. The jewelry the skeleton wore identified it as Princess Ada, who was also the adoptive mother of Alexander the Great. The University of Manchester plastered the skeleton of Princess to her state while living and she is now exhibited in a niche in the hall. Enjoy your guided visit, at the end of the tour you will have time to walk around on your own.

NOTE: Ulubatik ship rack and Treasury section is only opened for Star Clipper's passengers.

Bodrum and Gumusluk Village

By air-conditioned motor coach

Min. 20 / Max. unlimited, 5 hours, Euros 60

After visiting the Castle of Saint Peter's, you will leave fifteen miles from Bodrum towards Gumusluk which is within walking distance of "new" Myndos, a Carian town founded by Mausolus in the 4th century BCE, provided a brief haven for the ships of Gaius Cassius Longinus, one of Julius Caesar's assassins. "Old" Myndos, a Lelegian town, is two miles to the southeast. Gumusluk itself is whitewashed, has abundant bougainvillea and rustic dining. The town is famous for its fish restaurants. Lunch is at a local fish restaurant near the seashore with typical Turkish mezes (snacks). After lunch you will visit a the local mosque and will enjoy some leisure time to go swimming. You will then return to Bodrum harbor.

NOTE: 1 soft drink or one local beer is included during lunch.

Dalyan River, Turkey

The delta of the Dalyan River and the 4-kilometer long Iztuzu Beach are one of the last habitats of sea turtles and copious water birds like the cormorant, sea eagle, pelican, and stork. You should not miss a boat trip through the reed delta to explore this beautiful landscape. On the banks of the canal, between the sea and Lake Köyce, lies the archeological site Caunos. Famous also are the Lycian rock tombs situated on the cliffs close to the canal. If you continue your boat trip you will reach the village Dalyan. Dalyan is known for the excellent seafood restaurants along its shores, which serve local bass and mullet. Dalyan's notoriety for these fish is actually historic and its name literally means, "fish-trap."

Ancient Caunos and Dalyan River

By boat

Min. 20 / Max. unlimited,
3 hours 30 minutes, Euros 40

The village of Caunos is located on the side of the canal reached by the road, and the ruins are on the other side of the canal. A motorboat will take you on a romantic canal cruise through the reed delta allowing you to see the mysterious Lycian tombs built into the cliffs throughout the area. Within these tombs, whose facades are like those of temples, are stone benches for laying out the dead. Shreds found in the tombs, which look down upon us from the sheer rock opposite, reveal that they date to the 4th century BC. During the tour, a boat will pick you at the ship's gangway to take you to the foot of the tombs rock, then you will re-board the same boat to reach and visit Caunos .

NOTE: This tour involves getting on and off boats as well as a fair amount of walking at Caunos. At the end of the tour, you will have the opportunity to be dropped at the beach.

Dalyan River and Mud Baths

By boat

Min 20 / Max. 35, 3 hours 30 minutes,
Euros 39

The village is situated on the side of the canal reached by the road. A motorboat will take us on a romantic canal cruise to the ruins. As we cross the canal, you will see Lycian tombs with their fine architectural facades. Within these tombs, whose facades are like those of temples, are stone benches for laying out the dead. Shreds found in the tombs, which look down upon us from the sheer rock opposite; reveal that they date to the 4th century BC. Since Caunos is situated on the border between Caria and Lycia, tombs of both are side-by-side. The tour continues with a beautifying mud treatment. "Beauty Mud" not only cleanses and tones the skin but also is said to remedy rheumatism and has anti-ageing properties. After allowing the mud to dry, it can be removed in a natural clear water sulphur pool, at temperatures of around 40 Celsius. This will leave you refreshed and relaxed.

NOTE: At the end of the tour you will have a chance to be dropped at the beach.

Santorini, Greece

Upon arriving at Santorini, the dramatic view of vertical cliffs of gray lava and white pumice rises nearly 1,000 feet above the sea greet you. The island is part of the remains of the ancient island destroyed in the catastrophic volcano eruption from around 1350 BC. The explosion is said to have altered the course of history in the ancient world. What remains has become one of the most famous of the Greek Isles because of its dramatic beauty. Typical of the whitewashed and pastel Cycladic style, the town of Thira, along the rim of the volcano, is nothing short of breathtaking. The cafes and hotels built on the hill overlooking the harbor offer one of the most spectacular views in the world. The intrigues of this special island begin when you take a cable car up to the town from the harbor and observe the awesome creation of nature. The more adventurous can take a donkey ride to the top of the mountain; a special treat in itself. The striking beauty of Santorini is something every visitor long remembers.

SANTORINI Volcano Hiking

By boat and by foot

Min 20 / Max. 50, Approx. 3 hours, Euros 44

The local caique will take you from ship's side on a boat trip to Nea Kameni. You will sail along the volcanic shores with the peculiar shape formations. The black volcanic rocks and the white pumice offer beautiful views for you to admire. After disembarking the caique, an uphill walk will take you to the crater of the still active volcano. During your walk up the ascending path you will have the opportunity to observe the lava fragments and the volcanic rock formations.

Once you have reached the crater you will have time to relax and enjoy the view of Santorini island and the amazing cliff of Caldera. After your descent back to the caique you will sail towards the thermal springs of Palea Kameni. The boat will stop in the dark green sulfur waters. Here you can have the relaxing experience of swimming in the warm waters. From here your caique will take you back to the ship.

- NOTE:
- There is uphill strenuous walking (approx 1 km on the ground) involved during the visit of the volcanic islet. Comfortable (walking or sport) shoes are needed.
 - There is no shade on the volcano and you should wear appropriate sun protection and comfortable shoes.
 - In case of bad weather conditions the tour could be cancelled.
 - This tour is not recommended for guests who suffer from seasickness and those with mobility problems.
 - To do this excursion you need to be in top form physically and a good swimmer.
 - Don't forget to bring your swimsuit, sunscreen and a towel. Due to high sulphur levels light coloured bathing suits may become discoloured.
 - The climb is 30 minutes up and 20 down
 - The transfer to the volcano port is only 15 minutes
 - The transfer to the hot spring is 20 minutes and then 25 back to the ship

SANTORINI Jeep Tour

By boat and jeep

Min 17 / Max 80, Approx 3h30, Euros 76

You will disembark by tenders from the ship to the port of Athinios from where you will depart by jeep for Akrotiri, located on the northern end of the island where you will see a lunar landscape created by last eruption of the volcano. You will pass by the beach of Vlihada, before taking in the beach of Perissa, and, afterwards, the traditional village of Megalochori where you will spend 45 minutes. Next destination will be the mountain of Profitis Elias, the highest mountain of the island (550 m), with an incredible view of the Aegean Sea and a panoramic view of Santorini. Then you will continue down the road down to Kamari beach passing through the village of Exo Gonia. When you arrive at Kamari, you will follow the black beach sand until the beach of Monolithos. Final destination will be the capital of the island, Thira. There you will have free time to stroll through the city and admire the beautiful view of the caldera, before taking the cable car down to the port of Thira to return by tender to the ship.

- NOTE:
- Each jeep can accommodate 4 passengers.
 - One of the guest will have to drive and a valid driver's license is required.
 - We recommend wearing comfortable clothes and shoes.
 - The drive will be along an asphalt road along with a panoramic itinerary.

Hydra, Greece

Hydra, this historic and scenic island with its distinctive architecture and unspoiled local color, is beloved by artists from all over the world. The town of Hydra, hidden until the last moment from those approaching by sea, rises in an amphitheater on the slopes of the steep hills that enclose the deep, natural harbor of the island. The town gets its character from the imposing mansions that were built in the late 18th century for the great Hydriot families by Venetian and Genoese architects. They are unusual in Greek island architecture for their individuality, size and sloping tiled roofs. The old ship's cannons in front of the little harbor and the windmills on the hilltops are picturesque reminders of Hydra's glorious past and highlight the deep roots of a tradition still alive. It harks back to the days when sea captains made the island renowned throughout the seafaring world as "little England". The island has been proclaimed a landmark preservation area and no motor vehicles are permitted. Hydra today is a fashionable artist colony, a retreat for intellectuals and a favorite filmmaking location. Though Hydra still upholds its long naval tradition as home of the Merchant Navy Officers Training School, it is also a cosmopolitan resort; its nightclubs, discos and other entertainment centers buzz with life. The waterfront cafes, bars, restaurants, jewelry shops, art galleries and boutiques, the steep lanes and their countless steps, the bare hills dotted with dazzling white chapels, the gentle paths overlooking the sea – all offer the visitor the promise of a fulfilling stroll.

Athens, Greece

The earliest Athenians were of Ionian stock, arriving on the peninsula in about 2000 BC. Of the early rulers little is known except that they were kings. By the 7th century BC they had been superseded by Eupatrids, the aristocracy of the eleven noble families of Attica. The next development from the aristocratic rule came with Solon, the "Father of Democracy", who initiated the idea of rule by the people and created assemblies of ordinary citizens. Following Solon's democracy came the age of the Tyrants, a system of rule largely established by Peisistratus in about 546 BC. The idea was to remove much of the power of the nobles and to favor merchants, farmers, and the ordinary people. Athens, particularly the Acropolis, became one of the chief centers of religion in Greece, and by 600 BC there were many temples, fragments of which are in the Acropolis Museum. The year 450 BC saw the beginning of Pericles and his "Golden Age". In the 1830s, the Greek architect Cleanthes and the German Schaubert planned the new city around Otto's austere Palace. From a small proximity above the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Palace dominates Syntagma Square (Constitution Square). From Syntagma Square, Amalia Avenue leads past the National Garden and the Zappion Park to Hadrian's Arch. Behind the park, the Stadium, built on a natural ravine for the first modern Olympic Games held in 1896, occupies the same site used in ancient times. The mountainous region of Attica and Athens, though barren and infertile, has a superb climate.

Athens and the Acropolis

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Min. 15 / Max. unlimited

End at airport: Euros 69, 5 hours

(possible drop off in Athens: Euros 48, 4 hours)

From the port of Piraeus you will pass the charming yacht harbor of Zea with dock foundations from the 5th century BC. Next is Mikrolimano's attractive waterfront lined with inviting al fresco fish restaurants. From here it is a short drive into cosmopolitan Athens. You will drive directly to the base of the Acropolis where a series of steps invite you to ascend to the top of this sacred rock. The word "Acropolis" appears a great deal in Greece since literally it means "high city", built usually on a neighboring hill for defense from invaders. The great age of the Athenian Acropolis came with Pericles, perhaps the greatest Greek statesmen. Upon reaching the top you will pass through the Propylaea, the stately entrance to the magnificent structures inside, where a spectacular view of the city and the entire basin of Attica will greet you. Once inside, you will immediately see the Parthenon, by far the best known and most awe-inspiring of the structures on the Acropolis. This massive Doric temple was dedicated to Athena, the divine patroness of Athens. Just north of the Parthenon is the Erechtheion, another well-recognized structure with its graceful porch of Caryatids. Following your visit to the Acropolis, your tour will continue with an orientation to the modern city of Athens. A visit to the Greek House of Parliament will be among the most memorable. The traditional changing of the Guard takes place by a neoclassical structure that overlooks the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Also on the tour are Syntagma Square, the Academy, the University, the National Library, the Temple of Zeus, the Panathenaic Stadium.

- NOTE:
- The tour will end at the Inter-Continental hotel in Athens. The guide will leave the tour and the coach will continue to the airport (arrival 13h/13h30).
 - A minimum of 10 guests going to the airport is requested to operate the tour until the airport

- Passengers staying on board the following cruise may stay in Athens and return to the pier on their own.
- The duration of the tour very much depends on the traffic in Athens. If the traffic is light, the tour will end earlier at the airport



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