

# Star Clipper

ATHENS TO VENICE PORT INFORMATION





# Athens to Venice

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

## 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.

## Santorini, Greece

Upon arriving at Santorini, the dramatic view of vertical cliffs of gray lava and white pumice rising 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 BCE. 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 simply 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 intrigue of this special island begins when you take the cable car up to the town from the harbor observing the awesome creation of nature. For the more adventurous, you 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.

## Flavors of Santorin

By air-conditioned motorcoach

Min 25 / Max 48, 4 1/2 hours, Euros 50

Disembark and by local caiques enjoy a unique journey in the "caldera" towards Athinios harbour. Board the awaiting buses and enjoy a scenic ascent via the colourful rocky sides of the caldera, affording a spectacular panorama of the island.

At the highest peak on the island, an altitude of 2.000 feet, you will glimpse the monastery of Profitis Ilias and the breathtaking view of the entire island will captivate you. After this short stop, we continue into the vineyards of Antoniou. You will be guided around and have the opportunity of tasting wines from the region. The countryside to Fira is adorned with vineyards in the typical "nest" form. Enjoy a pleasant drive through the lovely traditional villages of the stunning island towards Oia located on the northern side. Upon arrival in Oia, your guide will take you on a sightseeing walk in the village. Have the opportunity of entering artists' workshops, meeting and talking with them. See the architecture and typical Santorinian style of houses and churches. Revive over a cup of coffee or juice at a place overlooking the volcano at your own cost. Buses will wait for you at the coach park. After a short journey of 20 minutes, finds us at Fira, the attractive capital town.

Enjoy a leisurely stroll to the town centre where you have time at your disposal to browse through the shops and boutiques and to sip coffee in one of the cafes affording a spectacular view of the volcano.

Take the cable car down at your convenience to the small harbour of Scala from where local tenders will take you back to the ship.

### NOTES:

- There is some uphill walk involved during this tour.
- Exploration of Oia is on foot. Some of the walking involves cobblestone surfaces and steps.
- This tour is not recommended for passengers with walking difficulties or in wheelchairs.

## Volcano Hiking

By boat and by foot

Min 20 / max 50, approx. 3 hours, Euros 45

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.

### NOTES:

- 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 suites 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.

# Gythéion, Greece

## Mistra

By air-conditioned motorcoach

Min. 25 / no max,

Duration 4 1/2 hours, Euros 59

From the picturesque harbour of Gythion it is an hour's drive through the land of Morea to the site of Mistra. The rock still dominates the valley and the historical town of Sparta with its extensive Byzantine ruins rising from its soil reminding visitors of the stories and deeds of its medieval kings and governors. Following your guide, you will explore the upper and lower town of Mistra. Numerous Byzantine churches, palaces and forts, paved streets and arcades are there to add to the spell and mysticism of the site. The Metropolis (St. Demetrius church) was the first to be built. A little further up, the church of St. Theodoroi and the Odigitria (Virgin Mary church), are superb in architectural style and wall paintings. From there, take the uphill path leading towards Pandanassa Monastery (Queen of the Universe) which offers a magnificent view of the valley of Eurotas. The unique Perivleptos church is the last to be visited, on the way back to the coach park.

### NOTES:

- The drive to Mistra is 60 minutes each way
- You will spend 1 hour and 30 minutes on the site
- Comfortable, non-slip shoes are recommended for the visit of Mistra site.
- The use of cameras and video-cameras is free of charge in the site, but flash in the churches is prohibited.
- Difficult and strenuous down hill walking during the visit of Mistra

# Corfu, Greece

## Achilleion and Old Town

By air-conditioned motorcoach and by foot  
Min. 25 / no max, 4 hours, Euros 38

Enjoy a pleasant drive through the verdant countryside teeming with orange, lemon, cypresses and olive groves and at the traditional village of Gastouri marvel at the Achilleion constructed under the rule of the Empress Elisabeth of Austria.

She greatly admired the Greek hero Achilles and named the palace after him. After her assassination, the villa was bought by Kaiser Wilhelm II. It was confiscated by the Greeks in 1914. It's built in neoclassical style with large frescoed rooms, ancient motifs and souvenirs of Elisabeth and Wilhelm II. The Italian terraced gardens are planted with flowers and Mediterranean trees and adorned with statues including the dying Achilles (by the German sculptor Herter), across from which Wilhelm II set up a huge bronze statue of Achilles, the Victor. Once in this palace, you have the opportunity to visit the vast, impressive rooms and the striking gardens, boasting exotic trees and flowers and commanding a breathtaking view of the Ionian sea. From Achilleion you continue the panoramic drive to the Old Town and Spianada. Enjoy a walk through the old quarter, along the narrow cobblestone streets known as Kantounia and past the old cricket grounds. Enjoy some free time and stroll through the arcades of the Liston Piazza once the palace stables and catch a glimpse of the old Church of Saint Spyridon, boasting a priceless collection of icons and gifts offered to the patron saint of the island.

Rejoin your coach at the old fortress entrance and return back to the ship.

### NOTES:

- The use of cameras and video-cameras is free of charge in the Achilleion but flash is prohibited.
- The Achilleion being a famous place it might be very crowded above all in July and August.

### Corfu by Sea

Transfer by van to embarkation,  
then by local boat

Min 10 / max 35, duration 4 hours, Euros 75

Take in sights of Corfu's golden coastline while cruising around Corfu Town; have your cameras ready as we pass by one of the most photographed tourist attractions Pontikonissi (Mouse Island). On your own, you can visit the small monastery on the hill, originally built by Austrian Empress Sissy, or you can have a short coffee break in island's only coffee shop. The next stop is at the Mon Repo Palace. Your guide will lead you through Mon Repo Palace and archeological sites of the old Corcyra city (Paleopolis) dated back to 492 B.C. Finally we will stop on Vidos Island. An unspoiled uninhabited small green island just half a mile from Corfu Town. You will see untouched beaches and small forest pathways leading to the old Serbian cemetery.

NOTE: Guests must have swimming costumes and towels, the boat stops regularly for swimming opportunity.

# Kotor, Montenegro

## Guided Walking Tour of Kotor

By foot

Min. 20, Max. unlimited,

Duration 1 1/2 hours, Euros 20

Upon disembarkation we will start the walking tour of Kotor, an old medieval Mediterranean town in the beautiful fjord. Kotor is the old maritime centre of Montenegro, full of monuments, shops, café bars, and restaurants. It is under the UNESCO protection. We will visit the Maritime museum, the Cathedral of St. Tripun from 12th century and the Greca square where two orthodox churches are situated, St. Luka and St. Nikolas. After the guided portion of the tour the guests will have the opportunity to explore the city on their own, before heading back to the ship.

**Inside visits:** Maritime Museum, the cathedral.

## Perast & Kotor

By bus and boat

Min. 25 / Max 48, duration 4 hours, Euros 59

Upon disembarkation you will drive through beautiful bay of Kotor to Perast, a small baroque village hidden behind the islet of Lady of the Rocks. The most beautiful buildings of this small city were built in the 17th and 18th century. It is a small and peaceful place which abounds in sacred monuments, such as the Church of St. Nicholas built between 15th and 17th century. Here you will visit the Maritime Museum.

After the visit you will have free time to explore Perast on your own before you sail to the islet Gospa od Skrpjela or Lady of the Rocks and its church called as well Lady of the Rocks.

Gospa od Skrpjela is a baroque church on one of two islets, deep in the Bay of Kotor, across from the town of Perast. According to the legend, the islet was made over the centuries by the seamen who kept an ancient oath. Upon returning from each successful voyage, they laid a rock in the Bay. Over time, the islet gradually emerged from the sea. Our Lady of the Rocks was seen on the sight. The church contains 68 magnificent paintings by Tripo Kokolja, a famous 17th century artist from Perast. His most famous painting, ten meters long, is The Death of the Virgin.

Then, you will embark the coach and drive from Perast to Kotor. On our return to Kotor we will start the introductory tour of Kotor, an old medieval Mediterranean town in the beautiful fjord. Kotor is the old maritime centre of Montenegro, full of monuments, shops, café bars, and restaurants. It is under the UNESCO protection. The Cathedral of St. Tripun from 12th century, the orthodox church of St. Luka will be viewed from the outside.

### NOTES:

- Light clothes and sturdy shoes are recommended for that tour.
- There is a 20 minute drive to Perast.
- You will visit the Maritime Museum in Perast, Gospa od Skrpjela church.

# Dubrovnik, Croatia

## Traditional Dubrovnik

By coach and by foot

Min 25 / Max 96, 4 hours, Euros 40

This is an opportunity to enjoy, not far from the city, a genuine village atmosphere and traditional specialities. The drive takes you through a chain of villages in the Konavle Valley to the small village of Poljice where you will visit the Glavic family and their typical Konavle style house. The family has lived here for generations producing grape brandy, olive oil and wine in traditional way. Your hosts will show you around the house, with a traditional welcome drinks included (dried figs and home-made brandy).

The romantic atmosphere, exquisite scenery, and the charm of your host will make the entire visit a memorable experience. You will continue your tour to the little town of Cavtat, founded centuries ago at the remains of Epidaurus. This beautiful region has long been a source of inspiration for artists and poets. On arrival, you will traverse the town's palm-lined promenade. Here, residents and visitors congregate to enjoy the southern European summer weather. Having once served as a Roman settlement, Cavtat is today a favorite destination for sailors as well as yachting enthusiasts. Enjoy independently exploring the town at your own pace.

Upon arrival to Pile Gate your guide will take you for an introductory tour of the Old Town showing you all the highlights of this medieval town. After the introductory tour you will have the opportunity to explore the city on your own.

### NOTES:

- The drive to Poljica is about 60 minutes, the scenic drive to Cavtat is about 20 minutes, the drive to Dubrovnik is 30 minutes.
- You will spend 45 minutes with the Glavic family.
- You will have time at leisure in Dubrovnik.

## Hidden Treasures of Dubrovnik

By foot

Min. 25 / no max., duration 3 hours, Euros 33

Stari Grad, the old city of Dubrovnik and its medieval walls have been designated a world heritage site by UNESCO. Upon disembarkation you will walk to the Stradun, main street of the Old City of Dubrovnik where many fine buildings will be viewed from the outside – Sponza Palace, notable for its columned courtyard, Rector's Palace, the seat of the Rector in once independent Republic, the Cathedral, Onofriou's Column, etc.

The first visit will be at the Cathedral whose roots stretch back to the 7th century. Beneath the Cathedral, nearby archaeological excavations have revealed the foundations and walls of two older churches. Around the mid-12th century another magnificent church was constructed around the walls of the original church. Some say that this new church was financed by Richard the Lion-Heart who, on his return from the Third Crusade, was shipwrecked off the island of Lokrum. Saved by the citizens of Dubrovnik, he was so grateful he gave a substantial gift to finance the new church.

You will then walk to visit to the ramparts.

Part of the walls date from the 13th century, they are intact and encircle the old city with a circumference of more than a mile and a half (you'll walk half way). From the top of the rampart you overlook the sea of roofs covered in a mosaic of clay and dried earth tiles. Twenty five metres high, six metres wide, the rampart has protected the city for seven centuries. Built in the twelfth century, it was fortified one century later by fifteen square, gothic towers. The risk of Ottoman attack led to the existing towers being re-inforced in the fifteenth century: the Lovrijenac citadelle is in the west, the Minceta tower at the northern edge of the town, the Bokar tower that protects the Pile gateway, and the Revelin fort at the eastern entrance to the town. At the four fortresses a ditch was added, as well as a second layer of fortification on the inside. The walkway at the top of the rampart offers an impregnable view of the town: the steep, grid-like streets, the

*(Tour continued on next page.)*

facade of the salesmans houses that border the Stradun, each one built with similar baroque style, the patchwork of tiles every now and then broken by a dome, a tower, a bell tower....

Next stop is to the Dubrovnik maritime museum, located in St John's castle which was rebuilt after the earthquake of 1979. The permanent display consists of 4000 exhibits which illustrate the naval history of Dubrovnik and the surrounding area. Among them are ship models dating back to the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries as well as flags, cannons, log books weapons and some rare books.

Then you will descend from the walls and the guide will accompany you to the Old harbour or you can stay and take time to stroll around the city at your convenience and be able to get back to the ship at any time.

#### NOTES:

- Cameras and videos are not allowed in the museum.
- This walking tour includes a lot of uphill walking and staircases.
- It might be hot on the ramparts, do not forget to take some sun protection and a bottle of water.
- Inside visits: the maritime museum and the cathedral.

# Korcula, Croatia

*(Athens to Venice cruises only)*

**Korcula, Cultural and Historical Center**

By foot

Min. 20 / no max., 2 hours, Euros 20

Korcula is perhaps most visibly reminiscent for its history – from the house in which islanders believe Marco Polo was born, to medieval fortifications erected to keep the Turkish invaders and pirates at bay. These landmarks make the largest settlement on the island, also named Korcula, a fascinating town to explore. Here the main street does not cleanly bisect the town, but it zig – zags, the side streets feeding into it at an angle. And none of this is by accident ; the zig – zaging blocks the cold winter winds that blow in off the sea while a layout of the side streets tempers the heat of the midday sun. A tour of the town weaves in and out of the stone – paved streets of one of the most beautiful towns in Dalmatia. The tour spans centuries and myriad art forms – starting with the 14th – 16th century fortifications, taking you via the Rector’s palace with its 15th century turrets, into the City Museum housed in a 16th century mansion and filled with an impressive array of artefacts and Byzantine icons that bring alive Korcula’s history. You will also visit the Treasury of the Abbey and the beautiful Cathedral.

## Buggy Adventure

Min 7 / max 14, 4 1/2 hours, Euros 98

Experience Korcula island off road adventure, start the engines and hold on to your hats! Say hello to life, on Korcula hidden bays with this exciting journey in your own 2-seater buggy convertible. First off, we'll introduce you to the stunning Kor\_ula archipelago via Motor Yacht. After safety briefing in Beach Club enjoy Buggy driving on gravel roads above Lumbarda village with its gorgeous landscape full of olive groves and vineyards known only to your professional bilingual skipper. First stop will be at Milina Franko family estate. Our next stop is a hidden bay and almost entirely unpopulated locale with lovely remote vistas, where you will have chance to swim in crystal clear water. Familiarise yourself with the fragrances and sounds of the Mediterranean incl. olive groves, pine trees and the calls of island birds. Final stop on our journey is on a famous Lumbarda Sandy Beach "Pr\_ina" with another chance to enjoy sun and sea!

### NOTES:

- Only children older than 10 years are allowed to sit alone in the seat.
- Minimum age for the drivers is 18 years and have their driving license with them.
- The transfer by boat to Lumbarda will take 30 minutes each way.

# Hvar, Croatia

## Hvar Island Tour

By air-conditioned motor coach

Min 25 / max 96, 3 1/2 hours, Euros 58

The Island of Hvar is a well - known destination thanks to its mild climate and lush subtropical vegetation. The island is rich in cultural and historical monuments, and remains of the ancient times can still be seen in most settlement on the island.

The coach will take you from Hvar town to Starigrad, a small town famous for its large bay, which has long inspired artists and poets. Starigrad is a crowning glory in this majestic countryside. The town of Starigrad was the largest settlement on the island and it dates back to the 2nd century BC. In Starigrad you will visit the Dominican Monastery, with its rich library with priceless books and paintings. After a short guided tour you will have some free time in the town before continuing your scenic ride toward village of Vrisnik, where your friendly host will welcome you to his traditional country home and offer some wine. The islands wines range from light whites to full-bodied reds; all of them made locally and produced only in small quantities. In between sips you can enjoy some local specialities such as smoked ham and home made cheese.

Leaving the village of Vrisnik you will continue your ride toward the town of Hvar. Just before arrival a short stop will be made bellow the Fortress above the town of Hvar from where the magnificent view of the town of Hvar and Pakleni Islands can be enjoyed.

### NOTES:

- This tour includes panoramic drives.
- You will spend one hour in Starigrad, half guided and half on your own.
- The drive between Vrisnik and Hvar is one hour.

## Hvar Jeep Safari

Min 7 / max 21, duration 3 hours, Euros 80

Inland has many beauties we want to present in appropriate way. The trip is carried out by off-road vehicles. Vehicles pass through woodland paths and areas of difficult access in order to enable a visit to all most beautiful regions on the island. Trip route leads across four most attractive belvederes, abandoned villages, fields and vineyards, tunnel, valleys, cuttings, as well as across picturesque areas full of perfumed heather, sage, rosemary, lavender and many other spicy and aromatic plants. Scenery of the island is certainly decorated by mules, donkeys, goats and sheep... familiar Mediterranean image. We are going to explore together old settlements which are far away from urban areas and preserved remains of Greek parcelling, embryonic church-fort, roman villa rusticae and some settlements lined up ring-like. Their strategic position has always been defense and hiding place from enemies. While you absorb smell of aromatic plants, passing through abandoned villages, vineyards and olive-groves, listening to our guide talking about almost forgotten customs, we take you back in rich history of the island of sun and lavender.

### NOTES:

- The off drive to Malo Grablje village will take 15 minutes.
- The off-driven will continue to Levanda panoramic point passing by the village Velo Grablje and then to St Nicola's peak (highest point on the island).
- Drivers will be provided for all the jeeps.

# Losinj, Croatia

## Cycling on Losinj

By mountain bikes

Min 10 / max 30, approx. 3 hours, Euros 49

The Lungomare trail follows the coastline, passing through numerous bays and coves, through centennial pine forests. You will pass through the part known as Sunny Bay, which owes its name to its natural attributes. It is a unique jewel of nature, with rocky beach and crystal clear water. At the other side of the island, the trail links Mali Losinj to Veli Losinj, where you'll cycle by the sea, through the beautiful Rovenska Bay, which will attract your attention with its beautiful beach, the ancient breakwater and the fishermen atmosphere.

Don't forget your camera, because photo stops will be made along the route.

### NOTES:

- Parts of the tour are uphill and off-road.
- We can not assure Mountain bikes without bar for ladies.
- Take a backpack for your water.

## Athens, Greece

The earliest Athenians were of Ionian stock, arriving on the peninsula in about 2000 BCE. Of the early rulers little is known except that they were kings. By the 7th century BCE 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, creating 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 BCE. 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 BCE there were many temples, fragments of which are in the Acropolis Museum. The year 450 BCE 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 New Acropolis Museum

By air-conditioned motorcoach

Min. 15 / Max. unlimited

End at the airport: Euros 65, 5 hours

(possible drop off in Athens: Euros 44, 4 hours)

From the port of Piraeus you pass the charming yacht harbour of Zea with visible foundations from the 5C BC dock. Next is attractive Mikrolimanon's waterfront lined with inviting al fresco fish restaurants. It is a short drive into cosmopolitan Athens, where, in the midst of modern structures are great monuments to be seen, such as: Temple of Zeus, Panathenaic Stadium, Parliament at Syntagma (Constitution) Square, National Academy, University, the Library, Hadrian Arch and finally we arrive at the New Acropolis Museum, located only 300 meters southeast of the Rock of the Acropolis. It was designed by Bernard Tschumi. The museum was opened to the public in 2009 and nearly 4,000 objects are exhibited on three levels with an area of 14,000 square metres. Displayed are the findings from the Acropolis archaeological site as well as artifacts from the Greek Bronze Age to Roman and Byzantine Greece. For those who will return to the ship, the tour will end in Athens centre and then the rest of the passengers will be transferred to the Airport.

### NOTES:

- The tour will end at Syntagma square in Athens. The guide will leave the tour at that moment and the coach will then 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 will be dropped off in Athens (return on your own to the pier).
- The duration of the tour very much depends on the traffic in Athens, would there be no traffic, the tour will end earlier at the airport.
- You will spend about 2 hours in the museum.
- The use of cameras and video-cameras is free of charge, but flash is forbidden in the museum.





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