

Idyllic Greece Cruise

September 7-17, 2023

ChmieBell TOURS

Athens - Thessaloniki - Kusadasi - Rhodes - Crete - Santorini - Milos - Mykonos



Visit the most enchanting Greek island destinations around the Aegean Sea, where culture, history, pristine beaches, and fishing villages suspended in time all await aboard our Greek based Celestyal Cruise! Celestyal "Crystal" is all about the destination and invests all its energy into the places it visits -- spending longer time in port and offers top-notch shore excursions. The Crystal is a smaller vessel and can fit neatly into smaller harbors and ports that bigger vessels cannot access which makes this cruise even more unique. All our staterooms are Junior Balcony Suites providing you even more luxury as you embark on this incredible journey!

Thursday, Sept 7 - ONWARD FLIGHT

We will meet at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport to begin our Idyllic 7-night Aegean Cruise escape! If you're joining us from another state, we will meet up with you along the way.

Friday, Sept 8 - ARRIVAL - ATHENS, GREECE

Upon arrival we will take a shuttle as a group to our Hotel to rest, relax or explore.

As one of the

oldest cities in the world, the vibrant modern Athens metropolis boasts an intriguing and contrasting mix of the old and the modern architecture that is in perfect balance and harmony. You may want to take advantage of an evening dinner on the rooftop of our Hotel where you will get a wonderful view of the Acropolis at night.

Hotel: InterContinental

Saturday, Sept 9 - ATHENS, GREECE (Depart: 5:00pm)

We will have a shuttle waiting to take us to the port to set sail on our overnight voyage to Turkey. Your first night will give you the opportunity to relax, indulge in the all-inclusive hospitality onboard and anticipate the adventures ahead.



Sunday, Sept 10 - THESSALONIKI, GREECE (Arrive: 10:00am / Depart: 7:00pm)

Thessaloniki is a gorgeous and cosmopolitan seaside city and the largest in Greece after Athens. The thick Byzantine walls guarding Thessaloniki give way to an inviting mix of architectural landscapes with winding cobbled streets. Approaching the port, you will be captivated by a city that radiates culture and sophistication bathed in golden Greek sunshine. Palm lined avenues house glamorous shops and gourmet restaurants, and beautiful churches appear from every corner. You may want to take a city tour or check out the excursions offered onboard at this beautiful port.

Monday, Sept 11 - KUSADASI, TURKEY (Arrive: 1:00pm / Depart: 9:00pm)



The dynamic beach resort of Kusadasi welcomes you with its warm and friendly ambience and our morning arrival gives us all day to explore. We will experience the Hellenistic ruins of Ephesus, famed for one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Temple of Artemis. An (included) excursion and one of the highlights of this cruise, you won't want to miss! The journey to Ephesus from Kusadasi passes several noteworthy historical sites including the Byzantine fortress at Selcgb, St. John's Basilica and the ruins of the Temple of Artemis. After visiting the ruins, you can explore the iconic Grand Bazaar and browse the treasure trove of colorful shops and stalls selling souvenirs, silks, leather goods, carpets and jewelry before we depart.

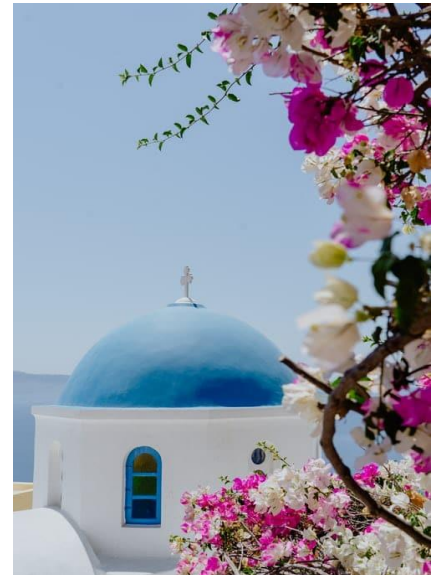
Tuesday, Sept 12 - RHODES, GREECE (Arrive: 9:00am / Depart: 6:00pm)

The picturesque island of Rhodes is well known for its beautiful beaches, majestic, fortified ruins, and its glorious year-round sunshine. We have a whole day here, giving you plenty of time to discover the crystal-clear waters, wonderful beaches, and lush wooded valleys. Perched high on the clifftop that dramatically rises up from the crystalline waters is the island's crowning glory – the Acropolis at Lindos, another (included) excursion on this fabulous tour. This walled fortress is a historical podium with a prime vantage point atop a steep cliff, offering up spectacular panoramic views of the stunning coastline. Our specialist guide will reveal all as you wander around the 20-columned Hellenistic stoa, a timeless haven that instantly transports you to the era of an extraordinary civilization.

We also visit the Palace of the Grand Master of the Knights, situated at the highest point of the Medieval Rhodes Town. The 14th-century castle stands on the site of a 7th-century Byzantine fortress, and boasts a large courtyard with impressive towers, massive walls, and elaborate Gothic architecture for you to admire. Inside the palace, there are over 150 rooms furnished with beautifully carved chairs, wall hangings, and other decorative ornaments from medieval times. This tour is an absolute delight for history buffs.

Wednesday, Sept 13 - CRETE, HERAKLION (Arrive: 7:00am / Depart: 12:00pm)

Crete is Greece's largest island and the fifth largest in the Mediterranean, a place of myths and legends. As we pull into Heraklion, you have the chance to snap the imposing 16th-Century walls of Koules Fortress. Here you can enjoy the calm of the stunning waterfront, explore the Cretan countryside, or discover the Palace of Knossos. The choice is yours!



Wednesday, Sept 13 - SANTORINI, GREECE (Arrive: 4:30pm / Depart: 2:00am Thursday, Sept 14)

Santorini is instantly recognizable, and we are sure it will take your breath away, with its soaring landscapes, picture-perfect scenery featuring traditional whitewashed houses and blue-domed churches set against a beguiling brilliant blue backdrop. This romantic island is the remnants of a devastating volcanic eruption in the 16th-Century BC. Here you will have the chance to experience the Mediterranean lifestyle of the idyllic oasis and relax in the island's calm and tranquility. You have a full day and evening to explore this beautiful island and we highly recommend you check out the excursions onboard to discover all that you can. In the evening you can explore at leisure or simply relax on deck sipping cocktails or a glass of fine wine.

Thursday, Sept 14 MYKONOS, GREECE (Arrive: 8:00am / Depart 2:00am Friday, Sept 15)



Another full day awaits in the sun-drenched island of Mykonos which is affectionately known as the "Island of the Winds". Easily recognized by its iconic 16th-Century windmills perched high on the hill, the vibrant Mykonos Town is an alluring landscape of smooth sandy beaches dotted along a dramatic coastline. Take a stroll through the atmospheric Old Town with its immaculate whitewashed houses, winding alleys, lovely little churches and delightful restaurants or there are many excursions available onboard to take before we depart this beautiful city. You may be asleep when we depart Mykonos, but we will be in Milos, the Island of Colors at breakfast time!

Friday, Sept 15 MILOS, GREECE (Arrive: 9:00am / Depart: 7:00pm)

The volcanic origins of the beautiful Greek island of Milos are clearly evident in the stunning landscapes, wind and sea sculptured rock formations, soft sandy beaches, secluded coves and crystal-clear aquamarine waters. Take one of the many excursions offered in Milos with a local expert to explore the many beauty spots and charming fishing villages or explore the capital Plaka, 2,000-year-old catacombs on your own or simply soak up the sun on the flat rocks of stunning Sarakiniko Beach.

Saturday, Sept 16 ATHENS, GREECE (Arrive: 7:00am)

As we pull into the port, your cruise may be over, but your day is just beginning, and the magical city of Athens is one of the most fascinating cities in the world. We will board a specialty coach to enjoy a half day (included) tour beginning with a panoramic drive around Syntagma square, passing by National Garden, Hadrian's Arch, St. Paul's Church, Parliament, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Catholic Cathedral, and Schliemann's House. We will drive past the Athens Trilogy which includes the University of Athens, the Academy of Athens, and the National Library and continue for a photo stop at Panathinaiko Stadium where the first Olympic Games took place in 1896. It is the only stadium built out of white marble.



We continue on passing by Zappeion and Temple of Olympian Zeus before making our way to the archaeological site of Acropolis an UNESCO'S world heritage monument and visit Propylae. This is the monumental entrance to the Acropolis which blends Doric and Ionic building principles, and the small temple Athena Nike, which stands on a protruding mass of rock, protecting the gate to the citade and of course the Parthenon, and Erechtheion with its porch of Maidens. As our city tour comes to an end, we will enjoy a final evening at our hotel before our flight home.

Hotel: InterContinental

Sunday, Sept 17 ONWARD FLIGHT HOME

We will depart as a group from our hotel and grab a shuttle to the airport for our flight home with incredible memories to share with family and friends of our Idyllic Greece Adventure.

Price per Person:

\$4,999

All Balcony Suites

(Based on DBL Occupancy)

DON'T WAIT! - REGISTER EARLY!

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Deposit of \$500 Per Person due

by March 1st, 2023 to reserve your spot!

Final payment due June 1st, 2023

3% Service Charge added for Credit Card payments.

Cash or Check preferred

Price Includes:

- Round-trip Airfare from Mpls/St.Paul (All other States call for pricing)
- Pre & Post Cruise Hotel Overnights
- Port Taxes, Fees & Ship Gratuities
- Unlimited Classic Drinks Onboard Ship
- Onboard Dining & Entertainment
- Shuttle to/from Airport and Port
- Ephesus Excursion in Kusadasi
- Acropolis of Lindos in Rhodes Excursion
- Athens Half-Day City Tour

Personally Hosted by Us!

*Patty Chmielewski
& Michael Bell*



ChmieBell TOURS
ChmieBellTours.com / (612) 749-6330

Call us today!