

2 Nights Athens and 7 Night Cruise

SEPTEMBER 25 - OCTOBER 5, 2024

With Celestyal Cruises

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Presentation

November 17 2pm
Willowbrook Sports Performance Center
Call Carrie to RSVP 630-360-1314
Don't wait for presentation to sign up for trip
Call Donna at 630-325-1335 to get your
name on the list



2 Nights Athens and 7 Night Cruise

September 25, Overnight flight to Athens

September 26 Arrival in Athens.

Sun-drenched and mythic, Athens is a big and modern metropolis with inspiring world heritage marvels at its very heart. Even a short visit of the Greek capital's highlights, starting with the iconic Acropolis, is enough to fall under its legendary spell. Meet and assist with your English-speaking assistant and transfer to your hotel. Check in and remaining of the day at leisure. Welcome dinner tonight.

September 27, Breakfast at your hotel.

Meet and assist with your English-speaking guide and start your Athens city tour including Acropolis and Acropolis Museum. In the end transfer back to your hotel. Lunch on your own In the later afternoon we enjoy a memorable evening of Greek Food, Music, and dance at this folklore dinner show after we return to our hotel for overnight stay.

September 28, Breakfast at the hotel.

Meet and assist with your English-speaking assistant and transfer to Piraeus port to board your amazing cruise aboard the Journey.

September 29, Panoramic tour of Thessaloniki

Today we enjoy a Panoramic tour of Thessaloniki which is a gorgeous and cosmopolitan seaside city and the largest in Greece after Athens. This historic capital of the Macedonia region was founded in 315 BC by the Macedonian king Cassander and named after his wife who was a half-sister of Alexander the Great. This is the city that in the days of Philip II

of Macedon would steal Athens' thunder. It's relatively flat but there are simply mountains of history: Roman and Byzantine ruins, early Christian heritage (the Apostle Paul brought the first message of Christianity here in 50 BC), Pontic Greeks and Armenians, remnants of Venetian and Ottoman rule and perhaps most movingly, a remarkable Jewish history too. Centuries of cultural commingling has also made Thessaloniki a culinary nirvana, with almost too many great restaurants and little eateries to count.

September 30, Kusadasi

Today we arrive in Kusadasi, sitting on the hills outside Kusadasi and overlooking the Aegean is a fabulous open air archaeological wonder.

The Temple built in honour of Goddess Artemis was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. It had more than 100 marble pillars each standing 56 feet tall. A single pillar remains standing on the site, found during an excavation in the 1870s. We will be able to see the Agora, Odeon, the Library of Celsus, the marvel-paved Main Street of Curetes, the Baths of Scholastica, Trajan's Fountain, the Temple of Hadrian and the Houses of Koressus, where the wealthy families of Ancient Ephesus lived.

We have time for shopping for carpets, jewellery, leather and other souvenirs at the end of our tour.

October 1, Crete

Today we arrive in Crete (Heraklion) Leaving the Venetian walls of Heraklion behind us, we drive deep into the beautiful countryside of Greece's largest island and the birthplace of Zeus according to mythology. We pass through Episkopi and

Sgourokefali before arriving at the traditional village of Stironas. Here you take a deep breath, enjoy the fresh mountain air and take in the majestic view. Stironas is made up of traditional stone buildings arranged amphitheatrically looking towards the mountains. You will see how the Cretans lived centuries ago. We also visit a botanical parterre, home to various aromatic and medicinal herbs from the mountains of Crete. There will be the opportunity for a little wine tasting – wine has been in Crete since the Minoans, so the locals have a bit of experience in the matter. We visit a raki distiller and sample the product straight from the barrels in his cellar. After finding out more about production and bottling there will be a Cretan meze to enjoy with pure local olive oil and traditional dancers performing for their guests. We head back to historic Heraklion which was founded in 824 and learn about some of its key historic figures and the jewels in the crown of its wonderful structures including the 'Koules' fortress, Venetian Loggia, Basilica of St Mark, medieval monastery of St Catherine and the Cathedral of Agios Minas.

October 2, Santorini

We hope you will be overwhelmed by the beauty of Santorini. We head to the stunning viewpoint of Mount Profitis Ilias where you will be able to take marvellous pictures of the different aspects across this unique island.. At the summit of the mountain is the beautiful Monastery of Profitis Ilias. From here we visit the magical town of Oia, without doubt the most photographed place on Santorini and familiar all over the world. Our panoramic drive gives us breathtaking views of the lava rocks of the islets of Nea Kameni and the Caldera below, with free time to enjoy the landscape of Oia and the colourful shops and cafes with terraces overlooking the Aegean Sea. We call at one of the most exclusive wineries of Santorini and of course there will be the chance for a little tasting. Located in the village of Episkopi Gonia, we visit the beautiful Byzantine Church of Panagia Episkopi, built in the late 11th Century, and the best example of traditional ecclesiastical architecture on the island. At the coastal village of Kamari on the coast we will have free time to stroll along the beach that comes to the foot of the Mesa Vouno mountain, rising up to 400m. Once an agricultural and fishing village, modern Kamari boasts a thriving tourist industry, offering a wide choice of restaurants, cafes and bars and several water sports activities. The excursion ends in Fira where we make our way down to the harbour side by cable car.

October 3, Mykonos

Today we arrive in Mykonos We set off by coach from Mykonos Town, also known as Chora and head for Omos. It's a picturesque fishing harbour and popular anchorage sitting on a narrow isthmus between two beaches and its streets are lined with tavernas. We visit the lovely colourful beaches of Agia Anna and Kalafatis. On our return trip to Chora we call at the traditional village of Ano Mera and the monastery of Panagia Tourliani, founded in 1542. It houses a wonderful

collection of icons and has a beautiful bell tower and marble fountain, well worth seeing. The delightful village square of Ano Mera is the perfect spot for a short break and maybe a coffee. You'll be relaxing in one of the island's oldest communities. Back in Mykonos Town we stop at the Paraportiani church (which literally means Our Lady of the Side Gate and is actually made up of five churches) and the Folklore Museum. Here you can see many exhibits including traditional costumes, furniture and personal items typical of Mykonos life in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It's a fascinating glimpse into the island of more than 100 years ago. We finish at Little Venice, the neighbourhood of Alefkhandra to admire those famous windmills, a sight you can surely never tire of.

October 4, Milos

Today we arrive in Milos, the incredible volcanic island, one of the most beautiful places on earth. On this excursion we invite you to step back in time with us. A short drive from the harbour takes us to Sarakiniko, an inlet of pure white stone sculpted by Volcanic Eruptions, It is probably one of the most photographed places in the Cyclades. We'll walk down to the inlet so you can experience this oneof-a-kind beach and take photographs. Clear turquoise waters and you may see adventurous tourists swimming and snorkeling in the caves at the bottom of the ravine. Our next stop along the picturesque coast road is the cobblestone streets and alleys of Plaka, a classic Cycladic village of white stone houses and bougainvillea flowers. We'll stroll through the village to admire its traditional architecture and its stunning view of the sea, and we'll sample homemade delicacies at the local pastry shops. Very close to Plaka we call at the ruins of ancient Melos and its Roman amphitheatre which is cut into the rocky slope of the hill near the ancient agora. There you'll find large Dorian walls and column fragments. The marble amphitheatre, fully restored in 2015, still includes seven intact rows of seats and offers a lovely view of the bay. We will also see where the Venus de Milo, now residing in the Louvre in Paris, was discovered. The last stop is the award-winning Mining Museum which brings together our theme of stepping back in time. The mining history of the island and the fascinating exhibits telling the story gives you an understanding of how the rich geology of Milos has shaped it. You will also see the materials that are still excavated from the island and where we find them in everyday life.

October 5, Breakfast on board. Time to bid farewell to the lovely Greece.....Until next time!







PRICE \$7699.00 - OCEANVIEW WINDOW CABIN PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY PRICE \$8499.00 - OCEANVIEW WINDOW CABIN SINGLE OCCUPANCY

PRICE \$8299.00 - BALCONY CABIN PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY PRICE \$11169.00 BALCONY CABIN SINGLE OCCUPANCY

PRICE \$8779.00 - SUITE BALCONY CABIN PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY (ONLY 2 AVAILABLE) - NOT AVAILABLE FOR SINGLE OCCUPANCY

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ROUNDTRIP AIRFARE
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BREAKFAST DAILY AT ATHENS HOTEL
SIGHTSEEING TOUR IN ATHENS AND GREEK FOLKLORE DINNER
7 NIGHT CRUISE ABOARD THE JOURNEY
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FINAL PAYMENT DUE BY MAY 15, 2024 BY CHECK ONLY PAYABLE TO HINSDALE TRAVEL 9052 CHARING CROSS ROAD WOODRIDGE, IL 60517

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Name EXACTLY as it appears on PASSPORT	
Need copy of PASSPORT sent to Hinsdale Travel or given to Carrie MUS OCTOBER 5, 2024	ST BE VALID FOR 6 MONTHS PAST
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Nonrefundable Deposit due at time of booking \$2000.00 per person b	y credit card
Final payment due MAY 15, 2024 by check payable to Hinsdale Travel payment BY credit card	THERE IS A 3.5% fee for final
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WHEELCHAIR REQUEST AT AIRPORT YES NO	
REQUEST 1 BED IN ROOMREQUEST 2 BEDS IN ROOM	
PREFERRED SEAT ASSIGNMENT AISLEWINDOW	
ALL BEDDING AND SEAT ASSIGNMENTS ARE REQUESTED AND CAN'T B	BE GUARANTEED THEY ARE SUBJECT

TO AVAILABILITY

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