







# **Athens & Greek Islands Cruise**

# Athens – Mykonos – Samos or Kusadasi – Patmos – Crete – Santorini 7 Days / 6 Nights

## Day 1 - Arrival in Athens

Upon arrival at Athens International Airport, you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel. Balance of the day at leisure.

If time permits depending on your arrival time to Athens, you may enjoy one of our optional tours. (Cape Sounion or Athens By Night Tour with Traditional Greek show).

## Day 2 - Athens

After breakfast at hotel, pick up for our Athens Sightseeing Tour. Our Athens Half Day Tour begins with a panoramic drive around Syntagma square, passing by many sightseeing hot spots such as National Garden, Hadrian's Arch, St. Paul's Church, Parliament, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Catholic Cathedral and Schliemann's House. We will then drive past the Athens Trilogy which includes the University of Athens, the Academy of Athens, and the National Library. Our licensed guide will make you feel as if you are experiencing firsthand Athens's old and new history as you look at these stately buildings. We continue for a photo stop at Panathenaic Stadium, otherwise known as Kallimarmaro Stadium, where the first Olympic Games took place in 1896. As we proceed, we pass by Zappeion and the Temple of Olympian Zeus. Last but not least, we make our way to the archaeological site of Acropolis, an UNESCO'S world heritage monument and we visit Propylae, as well as the small Temple of Athena Nike. Of course, our visit shall not be completed without the Parthenon and Erechtheion. The expert guided Athens sightseeing and museum tour continues with a pleasant short walk passing by Herodion and Dionysos Theater, in order to visit the New Acropolis Museum.

With this Athens half day tour you will enjoy one of the top UNESCO'S world heritage monuments.

At the end of our tour, return back to your hotel.

Balance of the day at leisure.

## Day 3 - Cruise: Athens 11:30 hrs - Mykonos 18:00h hrs - 23:00 hrs

After breakfast, transfer to Piraeus port for embarkation at 11:30hrs on ship for a 4 day cruise exploring 5 Greek islands and Turkey.

18:00 Arrival at Mykonos, renowned the world over for its lovely countryside and its beaches, its iconic windmills and sea breezes, the Little Venice neighbourhood of Mykonos Town...it's a dream from which you won't want to wake. Stroll the picturesque alleys of Mykonos Town and, after the sun tucks itself into the sea, drink and dance deep into the night in one of Mykonos Town's jet set nightclubs. It only takes a few hours on this paradisiacal island to understand how it's earned its reputation as one of the world's most beloved vacation destinations.

Cruise ship departs for Samos or Kusadasi at 23:00hrs.

Overnight stay on Cruise.

# Day 4 – Cruise: Samos (Pythagorion) 05:00 hrs - 15:30 hrs or Kusadasi (Turkey) 07:30 hrs - 13:00 hrs – Patmos 17:45 hrs - 21:30 hrs

07:30hrs Arrive for breakfast in quiet Kusadasi, whose white sand beaches and incomparable shopping are a stone's throw from the legendary excavation of Ancient Ephesus- one of the best-preserved and the Terrace Houses, one of the largest and most complete ancient cities in the world, the House of the Virgin Mary, beautiful Sirince Village



and the thrilling metropolis of Izmir. Enjoy the excursion of "Ancient Ephesus through the ages" included in your program. Kusadasi is also home to a fantastic covered bazaar, where you can shop with a view of the town's picturesque harbor.

For those who do not wish to visit Kusadasi, Samos Island is an excellent alternative. You shall join the "Panoramic island tour" and get to know the island of the great mathematician, Pythagoras, a little better. You shall have the opportunity to experience the rural island life and see beautiful beaches and welcoming people, ready to offer you great Greek tastes and feelings.

Cruise ship departs for Patmos at 13:00hrs from Kusadasi or at 15:30hrs from Samos.

17:45hrs Arrival at the blessed island of Patmos, a verdant, mountainous paradise considered one of the world's loveliest destinations. Many believe John the Apostle wrote the Book of Revelations in a mountainside grotto (Grotto of Apocalypse) on Patmos where he heard the voice of God. At the top of the mountain, within the white walls of Hora, the monastery founded in his honor in 1088 stands guard above this holy island.

Cruise ship departs for Rhodes at 21:30hrs

Overnight stay on Cruise.

#### Day 5 - Cruise: Rhodes 07:00 hrs - 18:00 hrs

O7:00 Arrival to the incomparable island of Rhodes, where we have a full day to explore it. The Palace of the Grand Masters, Philerimos Church and the Citadel of the Knights, in the old walled city of Rhodes, will make you think you've stepped back in time. Stroll the old city and enjoy an al fresco lunch and a traditional Greek coffee, strong enough to fortify you for an afternoon wandering through the past. Enjoy the excursion to "Medieval tour - Acropolis of Lindos and the Citadel of the knights", included in your program.

Cruise ship departs for Crete at 18:00hrs.

Overnight stay on Cruise.

#### Day 5 - Cruise: Crete (Heraklion) 07:00 hrs - 12:00 hrs - Santorini 16:30 hrs - 21:30 hrs

O7:00 Ship arrives to Heraklion, an ancient Venetian port and the capital of Crete. Greece's largest island will greet you like family. It's a wonderland of secluded beaches, hiking trails, rivers and archeological marvels, including the Minoan Palace of Knossos, the first civilization in Europe, and the Archeological Museum in Heraklion with its majestic exhibition of invaluable treasures from the Ancient, Classical, Hellenistic and Roman periods of Crete in 20 galleries. Its collection of Minoan art and artifacts, many of them from nearby Knossos, is considered the finest in the world. Walking the city discover among others; Piazza dei Signori (Square of the Lords) and the elegant awarded Loggia, a nobleman's club, the Fountain of the Lions, which was built by Francesco Morosini, St. Mark's Basilica, the medieval Monastery of Saint Catherine and the Cathedral of Agios Minas. And don't leave the island without a bottle of Cretan olive oil, the world's finest. However you decide to spend your morning in Crete, you'll fall in love.

Cruise ship departs for Santorini at 11:30hrs

Arrival at 16:30hrs to the volcanic island of the Cyclades, Santorini; its mighty cliffs rise from the blue waters of the Aegean like a dream. Admire upon the cruise ship's arrival in Santorini the spectacular caldera, created by the eruption of the island's volcano in ancient times and the white washed houses perched on the edge, 300 meters above the sea level. Discover with your tour (optional) the breath taking panorama of Oia, the most photographed spot in Greece, known worldwide for its fascinating sunset, the Monastery of Profitis Ilias and the capital of Fira with the Museum of Prehistoric Thira, whose exhibits date from the Neolithic era through the 17th century BC, and the Megaro Ghyzi, a cultural center. Fira is full of art galleries, award-winning restaurants, chic cafes, cosy bars, nightclubs, traditional taverns and unique shopping.

Cruise ship sets sail for Piraeus at 21:30hrs

Overnight stay on Cruise.

#### Day 7 – Departure from Athens

Your cruise to the Greek islands has come to an end. Upon arrival at Piraeus port approx. at 07:00, transfer to Athens International Airport for your departure flight.



#### **Inclusions:**

- 2 Nights Athens hotel Accommodation (3\*/4\*/5\*)
- Daily Breakfast
- > SIC Half day Athens Sightseeing organized tour, including the Acropolis site and the museum of Acropolis with transport from/to hotel
- > 5 Day/ 4 Nights cruise to 5 Greek Islands and Turkey in an interior cabin, on All-inclusive basis including 2 shore excursions and beverages. Port charges are included.
- Entrance fees at Museums & Archaeological sites as mentioned above
- Licensed professional Guide on tours
- Private transfers in Athens, from/to airport & Piraeus port with professional driver
- All taxes

#### **Not Included**

- International and Domestic flights
- Other optional tours
- Other Meals or Beverages
- Gratuities (optional)
- Any personal expenses

SHOREX INCLUDED		
PORT	EXCURSION	SHOREX CODE
KUSADASI	Ancient Ephesus through the Ages - Hellenistic/Roman	KUS-02
RHODES	Medieval tour - Acropolis of Lindos and the Citadel of the knights	RHO-01
or SAMOS	Panoramic Samos*	SAM-07
*Excursion available to passengers who visit Samos instead of Kusadasi		

In case of an increase in the VAT or other taxes, including entrance fees, rates are subject to change without prior notice.

Rates may change during special periods such as Christmas, New Year, Easter, International Congresses, Conventions and Fairs.

We would like to inform you that according to Government's law, from 01/01/2018 guests shall be required to pay directly to the hotel an "accommodation tax", per overnight, per room. This tax goes directly to the state and the Hotel and/or travel agents have no interference. In case such regulation comes into force in 2018, hotel guests shall be requested to pay the accommodation tax directly to the hotel and is not included in any of our offers.