

The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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ANTIQUITY TO BYZANTIUM ABOARD GALILEO

A voyage through history dedicated to the Golden Age of Greek civilization and beyond, this cruise comes complete with a guest lecturer, Eugenia Alexiou. Eugenia has a Master's degree in Byzantine Art, is an expert historian and, as a graduate of the Athens' Tour Guide Academy, is the perfect tutor through all the classical sites and sights we visit. This journey to off-the-beaten track locales in the Peloponnese peninsula is a masterclass on the journey through classical antiquity and the Roman conquest, ending with the transition to the Christian empire of Byzantium. .



ITINERARY

Day 1 | Friday Marina Zeas (Athens)

Embarkation 2:00 to 3:00 pm. Enjoy a welcome drink and meet your crew and fellow passengers. Cruise for Palaia (old) Epidaurus. Evening arrival and dinner on board. Or from cruises starting from Corinth Bus transfer from Marina Zeas / Athens to Corinth port. The bus departs Marina Zeas at 16:00 pm sharp for embarkation between 17:30-18:00 pm. Enjoy a welcome drink and meet your crew and fellow passengers. Dinner on board and cruising to Itea. Overnight at sea.

Day 2 | Saturday Palaia Epidaurus

We leave our ship early in the morning to drive to Ancient Epidaurus for our optional excursion. Epidaurus was known throughout the Greek world as a healing sanctuary. It was reputed to be the birthplace of Apollo's son Asclepius and for its

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theater, which is once again in use today. The sanctuary was looted by the Roman general Sulla by pirates and later by Goths in 395 A.D. and very little remains of it today. The prosperity brought by the Asclepieion enabled the residents of Epidaurus to construct civic monuments, including a huge theater (approximately 300 B.C.) renowned for its symmetry and beauty. Lunch on ship and afternoon sailing to Nafplion. Overnight at port.

Day 3 | Sunday Nafplion - Mycenae

After a short walking tour of Nafplion, drive through the colorful city and the beautiful countryside of Argolis towards Mycenae. The importance of the city, which Homer calls "rich in gold" begins in 1650 B.C and ceases around 1100 B.C with the fall of the civilization to which it gives name. Visit the remains of the ancient glorious city including the Lion's Gate, the Palace, the so called Agamemnon Tomb and the museum. Lunch on ship and afternoon sailing to Monemvasia. Overnight sailing to Gythion.

Day 4 | Monday Gythion

Early morning arrival to Gythion. Optional excursion to Mani peninsula and Cape Tenaro plus the spectacular Dirou Caves with their stalactites and stalagmites. Ancient Gythion was inhabited during prehistoric times and later the Spartans used as a port, enlarging the natural harbor they made Gythion their naval base. Leaving Gythion we will cross the scenic Mani Peninsula to reach Diros and visit the spectacular caves, discovered around the 60s, which are perhaps among the most important natural sites of Greece. After visiting the cave we will drive to nearby Areopolis for a short stroll through the town. Mani is at the tip of the Peloponnese, a distinctive area unlike any other area in Greece. A desolate region of underground lakes and rivers, windswept landscapes and towers which are

strangely beautiful. Overnight at sea to Pylos.

Day 5 | Tuesday Pylos

Pylos is a picture perfect seaside town on the southwest corner of the Peloponnese. In 1827 a fleet of Venetians and other city states defeated an Ottoman fleet in one of the most important naval battles in history. This defeat led to the independence of Greece, which occurred in 1829. After stopping to admire the scenery, we will continue up the road to Nestor's Palace. Highlights include the well preserved royal apartments and a bathtub that archaeologists have speculated belonged to the old king himself. The palace, with its central courtyard, was originally two stories high and richly decorated with frescoes. Following our optional excursion to the remains of the palace, we will make the short trip to the town of Hora where a superb archaeological museum holds thousands of artifacts recovered from the site. Overnight sailing to Katakolon.

Day 6 | Wednesday Katakolon for Olympia

Early morning arrival in Katakolon. We will disembark the ship around 7:00 a.m. in the port town of Katakolo and travel by bus for our optional excursion to Olympia, one of the most famous and important sites in the ancient world. Olympia is revered as the birthplace of the Olympic Games. You will also explore the Temple of Hera, the magnificent temple of Zeus the Philippeion, lodging place for the athletes who participated in the games. We later visit the Olympia Museum, one of the most beautiful museums in the world. Following lunch in the town of Olympia, we'll visit the museum of the History of the Olympic Games of Antiquity. Unlike the main archaeological museum, this building houses statuary and a host of artifacts specifically related to the ancient Olympic Games. After having time at leisure we will travel overland to Patras on the north coast of the peninsula,

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where we will re-board our ship and depart for Itea in the Gulf of Corinth. Overnight at Itea.

Day 7 | Thursday Itea for Delphi - Corinth Canal Crossing - Marina Zeas (Athens)

Morning arrival in Itea, the second largest city of the Municipality of Delphi. Proceeding to Delphi for our optional excursion, we will pass by the Corinth Canal. Unlike other archaeological sites in Greece, Delphi is built on the side of a mountain and the panoramic views are truly inspiring. Delphi was revered for hosting the most important oracle in the classical world and visitors from across the Greek world travelled here to consult with the oracle. We will walk around the ruins complex including the Sanctuary of Athena Pronaia, the Castalian Spring and the Gymnasium and visit the adjoining museum. Return to the ship for lunch and afternoon sailing. Later in the evening Captain's Farewell Dinner and arrival in Corinth. Due to its rich ancient history as well as to the presence of St. Paul the Apostle in the city, some locations all over the world have been named Corinth. Overnight in port. * In spring 2023 the Corinth Canal is closed for maintenance. The clients will be transferred from Corinth to Athens on bus.

Day 8 | Corinth

Disembarkation at 7:00 am after breakfast. Bus transfer to Athens airport (for guests flying up to 12:00 noon) and to the center of Athens -exact place t.b.a. (for guests with cruise port arrangements). [Bus transfer service is included in the cruise fares] Or for cruises starting in Corinth

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: GALILEO

YOUR SHIP: Galileo

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

guaranteed. Special meals Vegetarian, diabetic diet programmes can be catered for, please request in advance Other services Your on-board cruise manager is a fountain of information, including about scheduled cruise times & optional excursions Credit cards AMEX, Visa and Mastercard are accepted on board. There is limited laundry

service on board

The 50 metre M/S Galileo is a classic steel hull motor sailer, with spacious and well appointed interiors renovated in 2016. All the cabins and inside areas of the vessel were completely renovated and upgraded in 2016. Life on Board On the main deck, a lounge area with an American bar leads into a warm and elegant dining room finished with wood and leather. Guests on Galileo particularly enjoy the shaded outdoor deck area with an outdoor bar and the ship's sun deck equipped with sun beds, deckchairs and a Jacuzzi. The Cabins The M/S Galileo's 25 outside guest cabins are located on the Lower and the Upper Deck all with large windows or portholes. Elegantly decorated, they have either twin or queen sized beds and bathrooms with showers en suite. All cabins are fully air-conditioned and offer storage space, radio music controls and telephones. Most cabins have double or twin beds, while a few have a double and a single, and there are 2 triple cabins. Cabin facilities All cabins have a bathroom with shower, toilet and basin. Cabins have individually controlled A/C, mini safe, hairdryer, adapters (voltage: 220 V) Other facilities There is a TV and audio-visual system in the lounge. There is a sea Kayak and snorkeling equipment for guests use. Wi-Fi is available but cannot be

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Category A Category B

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ADDITIONAL CHARGES: Port Charges. From 340 EUR pp