

THE IDYLIC GREEK ISLANDS & EPHESUS, TURKEY 2023



Departing Thursday 14TH September 2023 for 12 Days / 11 nights

Join us for our amazing Greek Islands cruise with a port of call at Ephesus, Turkey. A truly magical experience. We visit Athens, Thessaloniki, Mykonos, Ephesus (Turkey), Rhodes, Santorini, and Hydra – all aboard the Celebrity Infinity and what a beautiful ship she is.

As part of their \$500-million fleet-wide modernization program, Celebrity Infinity is now making even more waves in the cruise world. From adding brand new staterooms and elevating design concepts together with technology across the ship, this brilliant star shines with a modern luxury makeover. Slip into new eXhale™ bedding featuring CashmereSM mattresses that will surround you in luxury—literally. Marvel at completely new bathroom modernizations. Wine and dine in reimagined restaurants and lounges, including the main dining room, Oceanview Café, Sunset Bar, and Rendezvous Lounge. Surrender your senses in the newly redesigned spa. Shop in new retail boutiques.

Your Ship – The beautiful Celebrity Infinity



Day to Day Itinerary:

Day 1 Departure Airport to Athens, Greece

After checking-in at your designated departure airport, please go directly through to the departure gate so you don't get caught in a long line for security. Once aboard your transatlantic flight, sit back and relax on your overnight flight.

Overnight aircraft – Meals as provided by the airline.

Day 2 Arrive Athens, Greece and overnight.

When you arrive in Athens, proceed through Immigration and Customs to the baggage re-claim area for your flight and an ABS Travel Representative will meet you there. After all bags have been re-claimed, you will be directed to your transportation for transfer to the hotel in Athens for overnight.

ATHENS:

Athens offers a looking glass back in time into Greece's powerful ancient civilization. Art lovers, epicureans and history buffs will be delighted by the ancient ruins, museums and tavernas of this picturesque town. Just 10 minutes from the port, you'll find the Archaeological Museum of Piraeus, filled with sculptures from the Bronze Age to the Romans. Walk to the Zea Harbour to discover how the Hellenic Maritime Museum will bring to life the grandeur of ancient Greece's naval capacities. Jump onboard an Athens cruise and relax at the small harbor of Mikrolimano, enjoying a meal of grilled octopus and chilled white wine at a small restaurant overlooking the sea. In addition to being the birthplace of democracy, Athens is also considered the cradle of western civilization. This is due to their progress in the fields of philosophy, literature and even architecture. Athens was the heart of ancient philosophy. It was the location of Plato's Academy as well as Aristotle's Lyceum.

Overnight Athens, Greece

Day 3 Board Ship and sail at 4.00pm

Mid-morning we depart the hotel and head for the Port of Piraeus where our floating hotel awaits us. Once on board we can settle into our staterooms and then explore the ship. Dinner tonight is in the Main Dining Room at 6pm as it will be throughout our cruise.

Overnight Cruise Ship – all meals are included.

Overnight sailing to Thessaloniki, Greece

Day 4 Thessaloniki, Greece – 10am to 6pm

Thessaloniki overlooks the Aegean against the backdrop of Mount Olympus. Steeped in mythology and the warm Mediterranean sun, Greece's "Second City" is a first-class delight that welcomes visitors with its Byzantine churches, ancient ruins, historic monuments and the lively ambiance of its cafe-lined waterfront. Cruise to Thessaloniki and visit the Mount Olympus, now Greece's first national park; The White Tower, dating back to the 15th century, now home to Byzantine art and the icon of the city; and the ancient church that was built in the 4th century in honor of the city's patron saint, Hagios Demetrius.

Overnight sailing to Mykonos, Greece

Day 5 Mykonos, Greece – 9.30am to 8.30pm

Nestled in the heart of Greece's Cyclades archipelago, Mykonos pulses with irrepressible energy. With its powder white houses, sparkling blue waters, and red-hot nightlife, The Island of the Winds is as colorful as the people who call the island home. You can walk narrow marble pathways laced with purple bougainvillea blooms, or go cycling on two wheels past off-the-path Ano Mera village. Explore Greece's maritime history at Armenistis Lighthouse, and check out the Folklore Museum's Mykonian ship models. Join in the raucous beach party on Super Paradise's shimmering sands, or watch the sun burn out beyond an Aegean horizon from an open-air seaside taverna.

Overnight sailing to Kusadasi for Ephesus, Turkey

Day 6 Ephesus, Turkey – 8.00am to 8.00pm

The UNESCO World Heritage ruins of Ephesus impress even those familiar with the world's other ancient cities. Though excavations have been underway for 150 years, only 20 percent of the city has been uncovered. Check out the the Celsus Library — built in 117 A.D., the site is made up of towering columns highlighted by the statue of the goddess of wisdom. Cruises to Ephesus will give you a taste of Turkish life by strolling the seafront promenade and the bustling city center. Walk Marble Street, paved with actual marble slabs, which takes you from downtown to the Temple of Artemis — you can still see one lone remaining column from this wonder of the ancient world.

Overnight sailing to Rhodes, Greece

Day 7 Rhodes, Greece – 8.00am to 6.00pm

The Colossus might not be standing anymore, but the Greek island of Rhodes still delivers beauty and allure on a giant scale. The island instantly greets you with serene white-sand beaches and wide-open blue skies. See the site in the harbor where the now-destroyed wonder of the ancient world once stood. Then, head to the Old Town, surrounded by medieval walls and seven ancient gates. Don't miss the Palace of the Grandmaster, with its mosaic floors dating from Hellenic, Roman and early Christian times. Shop for a colorful menagerie of seashells by the shoreline — and don't forget to spend some time relaxing beside the translucent blue waves with your Greece cruise.

Overnight sailing to Santorini, Greece

Day 8 Santorini, Greece – 7.00am to 10.00pm

Santorini is one of the world's most popular islands, known best for its dramatic scenery, whitewashed villages and fiery volcanic activity. Here adventure bubbles above the Aegean Sea in the most bold and breathtaking ways. A cable car takes you to the capital of Fira, a bustling cliff-top town awash with old cathedrals, enthralling museum collections and cozy tavernas. Venture to the coast for a swim in the deep blue waters that lap red and black pebbled beaches. And peel back layers of lava and history among excavated Akrotiri. Whether it's by bicycle, ATV or on your own two feet, exploring this Cyclades isle never fails to impress.

Overnight sailing to Hydra, Greece

Day 9 Hydra, Greece – 8.00am to 6.00pm

It has one real town, no real roads, no cars, and not even any bikes. Water taxis whisk travelers from the quaint little harbor to isolated beaches and tavernas. Donkeys are the main way to transport things here. These surefooted beasts of burden, laden with everything from sandbags and bathtubs to bottled water, climb stepped lanes. Behind each mule-train toils a human pooper-scooper; I imagine picking up after your beast is required. On Hydra, a traffic jam is three donkeys and a fisherman.

Hydra (pronounced EE-drah) is hardly undiscovered. In 1956, Sophia Loren came here to play a Hydriot sponge diver in the film *Boy on a Dolphin*, propelling the little island onto the international stage. (A statue honoring the film sits just outside of town along the coastal path.) By the 1960s Hydra had become a favorite retreat for celebrities, well-heeled tourists, and artists and writers, who drew inspiration from the idyllic surroundings.

Overnight sailing for Athens, Greece

Day 10 Athens, Greece - Dock at 6.00am

After breakfast it's time to transfer to your hotel in Athens for the next 2 nights.

Day 11 – Athens – Full Day Sightseeing

Overnight Athens

Day 12 – Transfer back to Athens Airport for your return flight home

Staterooms & Pricing:



BALCONY STATEROOM: \$5,995 per person based on double occupancy

Itinerary at a glance

Price: from USD \$5,995 (pp based on double occupancy)

Starts: Thursday 14th September 2023

Ends: Monday 25th September 2023

What's included?

- Flights from most USA airports to Athens, Greece
- 1 pre-cruise overnight in Athens
- All transfers from airport to hotel / Cruise Ship / Airport. All Taxes air and sea
- All Meals aboard ship (specialty restaurants excluded)
- Onboard Gratuities for Cabin Attendant & Main Dining Room Staff
- Entertainment aboard ship.
- Basic Drinks package on board ship
- 2 nights post cruise in Athens
- Transfer from Hotel to Athens Airport.

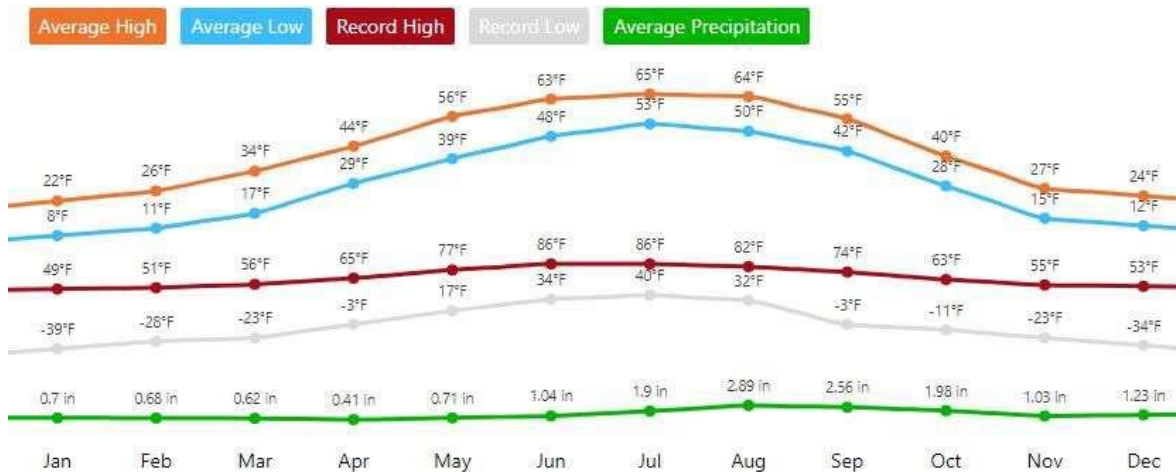
How to book

- Full Payment at this time to include Gratuities & Drinks

What you'll need

- Passport Book is required for this tour – Passport Cards will not be accepted.
- A Camera for those who want to keep memories of this delightful trip.

Weather



July is on average the WARMEST month.

January is on average the COOLEST month.



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