

# Ancient Mediterranean Treasures 2023

## Trace the shores of history

Witness the origin of civilization as you cruise the fabled Aegean Sea. Discover the architectural gems of ancient Athens during an overnight stay & Istanbul with its Byzantine treasures and intriguing blend of Eastern and Western influences. Travel to the ruins of Troy, long steeped in myth and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. See historic sites in Ephesus and marvel at the gorgeous islands of Rhodes and Crete.

## All Aboard The Viking Sky



**Departing Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 for 9 Days / 8 nights  
in your own Private Balcony Stateroom offering superb views.**



Every space, every element onboard is thoughtful; it's clear it was designed with the modern traveler in mind. Cabins have outlets that accommodate U.S. as well as European plugs, and they have a whopping nine USB ports for charging. Seating areas include throw pillows as well as warm blankets, just in case. Even the pool deck is smartly designed -- lounge chairs face the ocean, so you can read, relax and gaze at the scenery from padded comfort. Viking Sky maximizes the scenery, with most of its venues featuring floor-to-ceiling windows, many of which can be opened when weather is pleasant.

## DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

**Day 1 – Thursday October 19<sup>th</sup> - Home Airport to Athens**  
**Overnight Transatlantic flight.**

**Day 2 – Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> - Arrive Athens, Greece and transfer to the ship.**  
**overnight aboard ship.**

**Day 3 — Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup> - A full day to explore this amazing City.**

Today, you will have the entire day to journey into ancient Athens via a panoramic drive, passing the promenade at Mikrolimano Marina as you enter the city's heart. There, you will see the Hellenic Parliament, Syntagma (Constitution) Square, the Panathenaic Stadium, the Temple of Zeus and the iconic Acropolis. Explore the bustling Plaka District at the base of the Acropolis. Or, as an option, explore the interior of this UNESCO Site; climb 80 steps to the entrance for an unforgettable view of the Parthenon at its peak.

**Overnight Ship.**

**Day 4 — Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 - Heraklion, Greece**

Home to the ancient Minoans and a former Venetian stronghold, Crete harbors a millennia-old history. Greek mythology tells us that Zeus was born here, and Theseus destroyed the Minotaur at Knossos. Later, Saint Titus of Crete preached in Heraklion's streets. Bask in Aegean breezes while exploring the café-lined Lions Square and the arched gallery of the celebrated Venetian Loggia.

**Overnight Ship**

**Day 5 — Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 - Rhodes, Greece**

Discover the Old Town of Rhodes today. This "Island of Knights" prospered from the wealth brought here from the Holy Land by the Knights of Saint John of Jerusalem. Follow the Street of the Knights to the most imposing building in Rhodes: the Palace of the Grand Masters, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tour this fascinating building, which was first a castle, then a royal palace. Our berth is near the city's historic quarter, allowing you to linger at your leisure after your included walking tour. Or, opt to visit the Acropolis of Lindos; from its rocky perch, you will have magnificent views of the whitewashed village and harbor below.

**Overnight Ship**

**Day 6 — Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Kuşadası, Turkey for Ephesus**

One of antiquity's best-preserved cities, Ephesus offers an unparalleled look into the lives of the ancients. Many of its ruins have endured from the time Ephesus was one of the largest metropolises of the ancient world.

Excavations reach back to the 10th century BC, when this city hosted one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World—the Temple of Artemis. Today, Ephesus is still full of wonders: the towering facade of the Library of Celsus, the massive amphitheater that once sat 25,000 spectators and residences adorned with frescoes.

**Overnight Ship**

**Day 7 — Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Troy, Turkey**

Located on the Dardanelles, a key waterway linking the Sea of Marmara to the Aegean Sea, Çanakkale was an object of desire dating back to the ancient Greeks. Today, explore Çanakkale or the nearby ruins of Troy, once a powerhouse of Asia Minor. The remarkably preserved structures of this UNESCO World Heritage Site provide a glimpse of the region's former glory and offer hints of life here in the days of Alexander the Great and the Roman emperor Augustus.

**Overnight Ship**

**Day 8 — Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Istanbul, Turkey**

Discover where East meets West as you arrive today in Istanbul. Take time to admire this city that straddles two continents across the Bosphorus Strait, with its Old Quarter skyline of domes and minarets and the twinkling lights of modern Istanbul across the water. Sample delicious cuisine for a taste of this fusion, combining fresh Mediterranean fare with spices from the Far East and Asia. Enjoy a wealth of religious sites, such as the spectacular "Blue Mosque" and the legendary Hagia Sophia. We are docked overnight here, so you will have a full day tomorrow to explore this historic port.

**Overnight Ship**

**Day 9 — Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Istanbul, Turkey and Flight back to USA**

**MORE FEATURES, SERVICES AND EXCURSIONS INCLUDED:**

- One complimentary shore excursion in every port of call
- Free Wi-Fi (connection speed may vary)
- Beer, wine & soft drinks with onboard lunch & dinner
- 24-hour specialty coffees, teas & bottled water
- Port taxes & fees
- Ground transfers Airport to Ship and Ship to Airport
- Visits to UNESCO Sites
- Enrichment lectures & Destination Performances
- Access to The Nordic Spa & state-of-the-art fitness center
- Self-service laundrettes
- Alternative restaurant dining at no extra charge
- 24-hour room service

**ALL STATEROOMS INCLUDE:**

- King-size Viking Explorer Bed with luxury linen
- 42" flat-screen LCD TV with intuitive remote & complimentary Movies On Demand
- Large private bathroom with spacious glass-enclosed shower, heated floor, anti-fog mirror & hair dryer
- Premium Freyja toiletries
- Direct-dial satellite phone and cell service
- Security safe
- 110/220 volt outlets
- Ample USB ports

Should you wish to have unlimited Alcohol on board ship the cost is approximately \$15 per person per day.

Pre and Post cruise tours are available in Athens and Istanbul: available - \$549 per person based on double occupancy



## Itinerary at a glance

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

**Starts:** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Ends:** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## What's included?

- Flights from most USA airports to Athens, Greece
- All transfers from airport to Cruise Ship / Airport. All Taxes air and sea
- All Meals aboard ship
- Beer and Wine with Lunch and Dinner Service
- Entertainment aboard ship.
- Services of an ABS Escort / Tour Director on arrival in Athens and back to Istanbul Airport

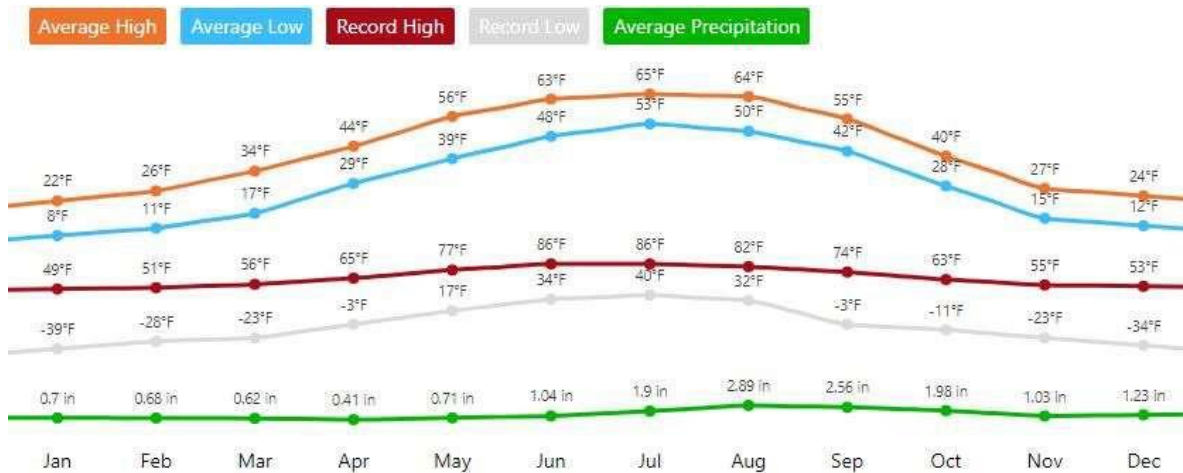
## How to book

- Full payment at time of booking.

## 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.
- A copy of your Covid Vaccination Cards ( This is a Viking requirement and not for entry into Greece or Turkey)

## Weather



July is on average the WARMEST month.

January is on average the COOLEST month.



**1-888-788-6777**

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