

**GREAT ESCAPE TRAVEL**  
**CUSTOM GREECE ITINERARY**  
**OCTOBER 6 – 17, 2018**

**Day 1:** Saturday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup> ~ Depart early evening ( 5:00 PM ), from Logan International Airport for your overnight flight to Athens, Greece (via Frankfurt) to arrive at 1:30 PM on Oct 7th.

**Day 2:** Sunday, Oct 7<sup>th</sup> ~ Athens

We will be transported from the airport in Athens to our hotel for check-in with a bank stop en-route. The remainder of the afternoon is at our leisure to freshen-up and relax prior to our orientation meeting and welcome dinner. (Dinner)

**Your accommodations from 10/7 to 10/8:**

**Athenaeum Palace Hotel**

**124 Syngrou Avenue**

**Athens 11745 Greece**

**+30 210 923 5371**

**Amenities include: Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, a/c**

**Tourist / City Tax per person per day approx. 3.00 Euros payable directly to hotel**

**Day 3:** Monday, Oct 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Athens - Mykonos

Following breakfast and hotel check-out, we will board our motorcoach for the short drive to the port of Piraeus, where we will board our cruise ship. Depart Piraeus. Lunch onboard. Our first port-of-call is on the mountainous island of Mykonos, which is known for its characteristic windmills and dazzling white-washed houses. Wander through the narrow, winding streets lined with trendy boutiques and friendly tavernas. Return to our ship for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

*Your accommodations from 10/08 to 10/12:  
Celestyal Cruises - Celestyal Olympia*

**Day 4:** Tuesday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> ~ Kusadasi - Patmos

Breakfast onboard. Our first stop on today's agenda is in Kusadasi, Turkey with an included shore excursion to visit the nearby Greek, Roman and Byzantine excavations of Ephesus. Our next port-of-call is on the island of Patmos with an included shore excursion, where St. John the Divine is said to have written *The Revelation*. The 11<sup>th</sup> century monastery, known for its rare manuscript collection, is well worth a visit. Return to our ship for dinner. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

**DAY 5:** Wednesday, Oct 10<sup>th</sup> ~ Rhodes

Breakfast onboard. Spend the entire day exploring the sun-drench island of Rhodes! Experience the historic Old City with its medieval ramparts and palaces built by the Knights of St. John during the crusades. As an alternative, Rhodes' spectacular beaches and colorful

shopping district are within easy walking distance of the harbor. Return to our ship for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

**Day 6: Thursday, Oct 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Heraklion, Crete - Santorini**

Breakfast onboard. Morning port-of-call on Crete, the Greek island made famous in Homer's epic poems. Heraklion, the capital of Crete and its principal commercial port, is just three miles away from the fantastic ruins of the Palace of Knossos. The Archaeological Museum in Heraklion displays many of the treasures found during the excavations. Afternoon visit to Santorini, the "Black Pearl of the Aegean" and possibly the most beautiful of all the Greek islands. Return to our ship for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

**Day 7: Friday, Oct 12<sup>th</sup> ~ Athens**

After breakfast on the cruise ship and disembarkation, we are off on a morning sightseeing tour of Athens, featuring many of the most important sites in this ancient capital: the Temple of Zeus, Hadrian's Arch, the Acropolis (*including the famous Parthenon and Temple of Athena*), the Acropolis Museum and the Presidential Palace. The afternoon is free for shopping, relaxation or touring on our own. Dinner is included this evening. The rest of the evening is at our leisure to enjoy the lively atmosphere of the tavernas and night clubs! (Breakfast and dinner)

**Your accommodations from 10/12 to 10/17:**

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**Athens 11745 Greece**

**+30 210 923 5371**

**Amenities include: Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, a/c**

**Tourist / City Tax per person per day approx. 3.00 Euros payable directly to hotel**

**Day 8: Saturday, Oct 13<sup>th</sup> ~ Mycenae - Corinth Canal**

Breakfast at our hotel. Today we will voyage west to visit to the military stronghold of Mycenae, which was a major center of Greek civilization during the 2nd century BC for a guided tour of the archaeological ruins. Along our route, we will stop for lunch. In the afternoon, we will continue our journey and we will cross the engineering wonder - the Corinth Canal - constructed in 1893 and was cut from sheer rock. Where we will stop to see where Saint Paul addressed the Corinthians. Afterwards, we will return to Athens for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

**Day 9: Monday, Oct 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Delphi**

After breakfast we will board our motorcoach for our full-day tour to Delphi on the slopes of Mount Parnassus. Here, we will walk on the ancient sacred way to the Temple of Apollo and then, on to the Museum where we can see, among many other archaeological treasures, the unique bronze statue of the Charioteer! Next, we will visit the Athenian Treasury and Castalia Springs. Lunch will be in Delphi. Return to Athens. Dinner this evening is included. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

**Day 10: Monday, Oct 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Saronic Islands Tour**

Breakfast at our hotel. This morning, we will enjoy a day at sea visiting the three beautiful Saronic Islands- Hydra, Poros and Aegina. Hydra is the favorite island of the jet set, whose old traditional beautiful stone houses and mansions silently witness to a long and turbulent history. The small narrow stone paved streets await you to explore them on foot or by the island's traditional "vehicle" - the saddled donkeys... captivating walks along the old seaside promenade crystal clear waters, radiant fine craft shops and the beauty of Hydra will enchant you! Our stay in Hydra is about two hours. Then it is on to Poros, the smallest of the three islands that we visit, featuring a narrow strait offering a most enchanting view of the town of Poros. Our stay in Poros is about one hour before we continue on to Aegina, the largest of the three islands, known for its famous pistachios. Lunch onboard the vessel. Return to Athens for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

**Day 11: Tuesday, Oct 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Athens**

Breakfast at our hotel. The day is at leisure for individual sightseeing, relaxation, or shopping. Return to our hotel for our "farewell dinner" and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Day 12: Wednesday, Oct 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Athens - Boston**

After breakfast, we will be transported to the airport where we will board our return flight to Boston (*via Munich*) with full meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, available in-flight. (Breakfast)

**PLEASE NOTE: SCHEDULING IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**