

# **Itinerary**

# **Greek Islands Cruise & Türkiye Tour**

\*IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.

#### Day 1: Athens ~ Embark Cruise ~ Mykonos

Upon arrival into Athens International airport, you will make own way to Lavrion cruise terminal in Athens (30 minutes by car). The cruise departs at 1300 so make sure you check in in plenty of time. After setting sail, the first stop is to the magical sun kissed island of Mykonos. Admire its stunning coastline, soft sandy beaches, and rugged rocky landscapes. Affectionately known as the 'Islands of the Winds', Mykonos is home of the 16th Century windmills that have become iconic landamarks on postcards. The energetic Greek Island is well know for its beauty, diverse range of bars cafes and restaurants and a vibrant atmosphere. Cruise departing at 2300.

MEALS: Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Celestyal Olympia

#### Day 2: Kusadasi ~ Patmos

Arrive into Kusadasi at 0700 and depart again at 1230. The dynamic beach resort of Kusadasi welcomes you with its warm and friendly ambience. Take time to enjoy the scenic seafront promenade and the towns impressive Grand Bazaar. Back on board before sailing onwards to Patmos. Patmos "the Island of the Apocalypse" is known as the site of the apocalyptic revelations of St. John the Divine, written here during his exile from the Roman Empire. The cave where he lived is near the site of the Monastery of the Apocalypse. The Monastery of St. John, built on one of the island's highest points, houses priceless icons and manuscripts in its Treasury. Ship departs at 2100. Dinner and overnight on board.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Celestyal Olympia

#### Day 3: Rhodes

Arrive into Rhodes at 0700. Rhodes is a very popular island that still preserves its medieval city structure. The structures belonging to many civilizations, including the Ottoman Empire, have been largely preserved. The island of knights is one of the most beautiful examples of the medieval period. As of April, the tourist interest is quite high on the island, where the temperature is high throughout the year. Rhodes, the largest island of Greece, stands out not only with its ancient and medieval structures but also with its natural beauties. It is a very preferred island with its butterfly valley and beaches. Depart at 1800. Dinner and overnight on board.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT: Celestyal Olympia** 

#### Day 4: Santorini

Arrive into Santorini at 0700. The spectacular sweeping scenery of Santorini will simply take your breath away. The romantic island is dotted with traditional whitewashed houses and blue domed churches that are clustered over the striking cliffs. It is instantly recognisable as one of the worlds most photographed picture-postcard landscapes. The charming villages provide a beguiling oasis of tranquility and beauty that will exceed all your expectation. Departs 2000. Dinner and overnight on board.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT: Celestyal Olympia** 

# Day 5: Athens ~ Istanbul

Arrival to Athens Cruise Terminal 0600. After disembarking, you will make your own way to the airport for your flight to Istanbul (flights from approx 13:30 onwards) Upon arrival into Istanbul airport you can take the group transfer from the Airport to the hotel on arrival or make your own way. The remainder of the day is at your own leisure.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: 5 Star Hotel, Istanbul

#### **Day 6: Istanbul City Tour**

After breakfast between 08:00 am and 09:30 am pick up from the hotel. Visit the "Sultanahmet Imperial Mosque" Across from St. Sophia built in the 16th century by the architect Mehmet, is known as the "Blue Mosque" because of its magnificent interior decoration of blue Iznik tiles. Outside the Blue Mosque we find the "Hippodrome". The Ancient Hippodrome was the scene of chariot races and entertainment. The Hippodrome comprises of three monuments; the Obelisk of Theodosius, the bronze Serpentine Column and the Column of Constantine. After a short enjoyable lunch break we head to the Grand Bazaar for shopping. After the shopping tour come back to Hotel. Overnight in Istanbul.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: 5 Star Hotel, Istanbul

#### DAY 7: Istanbul ~ Gallipoli

At around 6.30am we depart for Gallipoli to visit the battle fields. Morning tea break on route to Gallipoli. We arrive at Gallipoli around 12 o'clock and take a lunch break – you will have a chance to eat and relax before we depart for the battle fields. Visit Gabatepe Museum. Start visiting the fields with Ariburnu Cemetery and Anzac Cove because these are the places where the war had started. Then Beach Cemetery, Shrapnel Valley and Plugges Plateau. After the tour drive to your hotel. Overnight in Canakkale.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: 4 Star Hotel, Canakkale

Depart at 8:30am and drive for 30 minutes to the city of Troy. Visit the famous archeological and mythological site of Troy, home of the Trojan Horse and Helen of Troy. After the Troy tour, we drive 3 hours to Pergamon. Lunch break around 1pm and after lunch head to the magnificent acropolis of Pergamon. Its impressive temples and library made it a renowned cultural and political centre at that time. Pergamon is a famous city for its jewellery, stones and silver. So on the way, we will visit a jewellery centre for shopping. Arrival to Kusadasi around 6pm. Overnight in Kusadasi.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: 4 Star Hotel, Kusadasi

# **DAY 9: Full Day Ephesus Tour**

After breakfast around 9am you will be picked up from the hotel. Enjoy a fully guided tour of Ephesus, one of the best preserved ancient sites in the world en – route, visiting the Temple of Artemis, Isa Bey Mosque and Virgin Mary Church. Back to hotel and evening at your leisure to discover the many dining options in Kusadasi.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: 4 Star Hotel, Kusadasi

#### DAY 10: Kusadasi ~ Pamukkale

Pick up from the hotel after breakfast about 9am. We depart for Pamukkale. We will check in at the hotel around 12.00 and have lunch. Afterwards we shall visit the calcium terraces of Pamukkale (cotton castle) and the ruins of Hierapolis, then walk around this natural phenomenon and have the option of lying in the waters of the natural springs. Overnight in Pamukkale.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: 4 Star Hotel, Pamukkale

#### **DAY 11: Pamukkale ~ Cappadocia**

Today we transfer to Cappadocia by private transfer. Upon arrival you will check in to your hotel and enjoy the evening at your own leisure.

MEALS: Breakfast

**OVERNIGHT: Cappadocia** 

#### DAY 12: Cappadocia Tour with Underground City and Goreme Open Air Museum

After breakfast between 08:00 am and 09:30 am pick ups from hotel. Final timing one day before will be given you by your tour consultant.

Breakfast and hotel and then pick up for a full day tour of Cappadocia including North Devrent Valley, known as 'imagination Valley' as it is a very beautiful valley full of unique rock formations. We visit a handmade pottery making workshop at Avanos Village and then the famous Goreme Open Air Museum. Transfer back to the hotel and evening at your own leisure.

MEALS: Breakfast

**OVERNIGHT: Cappadocia** 

# DAY 13: Cappadocia ~ Istanbul

Enjoy a final breakfast in the hotel prior to check out. Transfer back to Istanbul via domestic flight. Transfer to your hotel and spend one last evening before your return flight home tomorrow.

MEALS: Breakfast

**OVERNIGHT: Istanbul** 

# **DAY 14: End of Tour ~ Departure**

This morning you will check out and make your own way back to the airport in time for your return flight back to Australia. Transfers are not included on the return as many people choose to stay on in Turkey or move onto other countries in the area.

MEALS: Breakfast