



WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
of Philadelphia & Cooperating Councils

October 21 to 29, 2024

ISLAND LIFE[®] Greek Isles & Ephesus

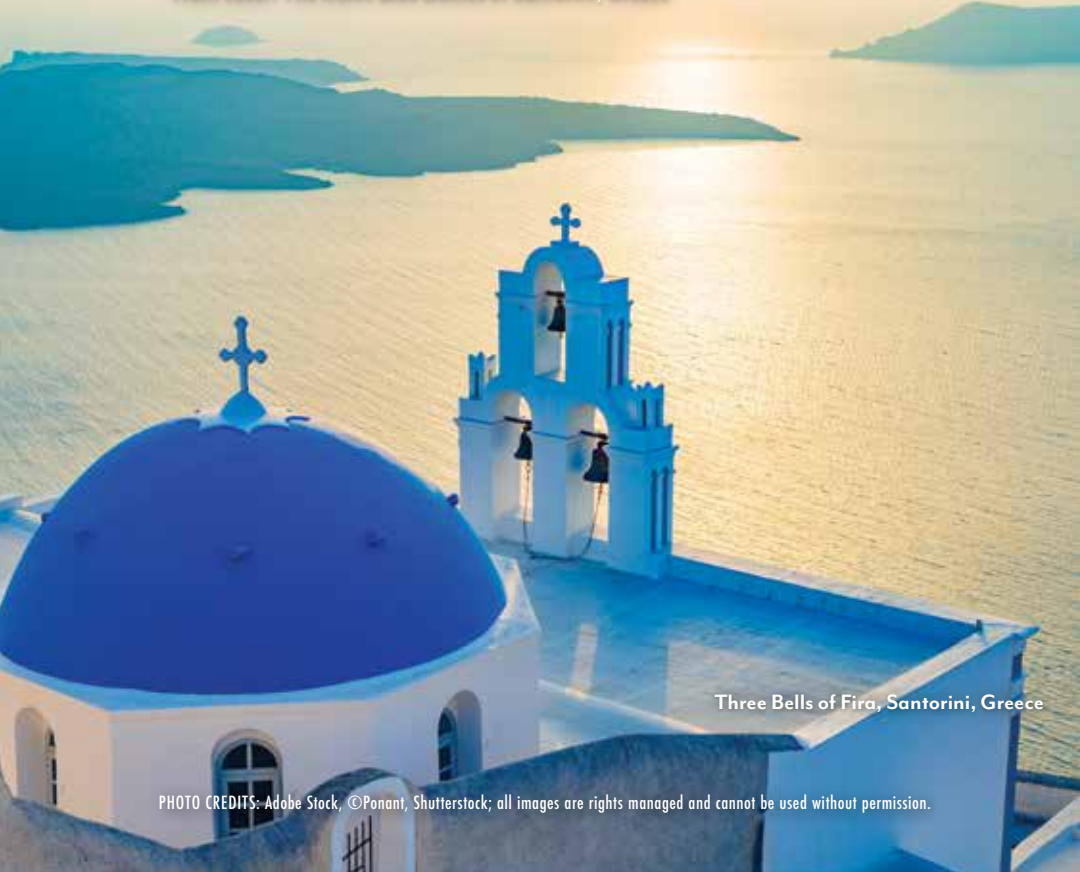


ISLAND LIFE®

GREEK ISLES & EPHEBUS

See the classical world come to life on this Aegean voyage to the ancient sites where Western civilization as we know it was founded. Our seven-night, five-star cruise to the mythical landscapes of Greece and Turkey immerses you in epic stories from antiquity. Behold breathtaking views as you explore Meteora's monasteries and traverse the streets of UNESCO-inscribed Delos, legendary birthplace of Artemis and Apollo. Explore the luxurious Terrace Houses of Ephesus; climb to the clifftop acropolis at Lindos on the island of Rhodes; and discover the mysteries of Santorini, a crescent-shaped island featuring a spectacular caldera shaped by a volcanic explosion about 3,600 years ago—potentially burying what some believe was the lost city of Atlantis. This unique itinerary is filled with the right balance of cultural enrichment, free time to explore at leisure, and opportunities to interact with locals during our exclusive Island Life® forum.

Front cover: The iconic Blue Domes of Santorini, Greece



Three Bells of Fira, Santorini, Greece



Palace of the Grand Master, Rhodes, Greece



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Dear Council Traveler,

Journey to the cradle of civilization as you explore the preserved treasures of ancient Greece and Turkey. Cruise to fabled halcyon islands from antiquity aboard the exclusively chartered, five-star LE BOUGAINVILLE. This elite small ship has only 92 suites and staterooms, each with a private balcony, and is able to moor in small ports of call inaccessible to larger vessels.

Our epic tour calls on Delos, Mykonos, Patmos, and Rhodes—ancient destinations steeped in myth and history—along with Santorini. Sail Turkey's sun-drenched coast to visit Ephesus, the most spectacularly preserved Greco-Roman city in the world. Tour the scenic wonder of Meteora, where 14th and 15th century Orthodox monasteries crown soaring sandstone cliffs.

Join the contemporary ISLAND LIFE® forum on the Greek Isles, where you will meet and engage with local residents.

An excellent value at the best time of year where all accommodations, meals, and an excursion every day are included, and you only need to unpack once! Make your reservations while space and early booking savings are still available! Other educational groups share this departure, so make your reservation today. Call (800) 942-5004 x 209 (email: travel@wacphila.org).

Warm Regards,

Andrew Haught, Director of Travel

Can't travel at this time? Ask about the Council's other cruises with Gohagan & Company to Ireland and Northern Ireland, or Morocco and the Canary Islands.

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**To secure your spot, call Travel Department at World Affairs Council of Philadelphia
at 800-942-5004 or www.wacphila.org/travel**



Arete Kelsou statue at Celsus Library, Ephesus, Turkey

LEGENDS OF EPHESUS



Ancient Ephesus is a city of stories, ones that trace from as far back as 1050 B.C. through the Roman Imperial era to the age of early Christian evangelism. A port city and center of trade on the Mediterranean for millennia, its first settlers were Anatolian people who would later be captured by Ionian tribes, who were unseated by the Persians, who were then conquered by legendary Greek leader Alexander the Great. However, most of the well-preserved ruins you will see today in this UNESCO-inscribed Turkish city are remnants of an age of extreme wealth and prosperity enjoyed under the first century reign of Caesar Augustus. As the new capital city of proconsular Asia under the Roman Empire, the Hellenistic Great Theatre was renovated with lavish Roman aesthetics; the grand, two-story Library of Celsus was constructed; and elaborately adorned villas known as the Terrace Houses were built for its most elite residents. Very close to Ephesus you may also see what remains of the Temple of Artemis, one of the “Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.” This temple to the goddess Artemis, built in the 6th century B.C., was set on fire, then rebuilt several times only to be destroyed by a Christian mob around 401 A.D. Believing that the Virgin Mary lived here after the death of Jesus, Ephesus has since become a site of Christian pilgrimages that continue to this day.



Celsus Library, Ephesus, Turkey

JOURNEY THROUGH TIME



Lions Terrace, Delos, Greece

The Roman writer Cicero (106 to 43 B.C.) observed of Athens that “wherever you set your foot, you encounter some memory of the past.” In Greece and Turkey, the stories of antiquity come to life. St. John the Apostle is believed to have penned the Book of Revelation on Patmos; the legend of the lost utopian city of Atlantis lives on in Santorini; and it is on these mythological islands that Odysseus sought redemption in the Underworld and where Orpheus retrieved his first love. Visit the Hellenistic Grand Theater in Ephesus, walk the Sacred Way of Delos and discover ancient Akrotiri—the “Minoan Pompeii.” Enjoy exclusive cultural enrichments, including a folklore performance, a culinary demonstration and the ISLAND LIFE® forum with residents of Patmos who will share their candid perspectives about life today.



Grand Theater, Ephesus, Turkey

INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



9-DAY/8-NIGHT ITINERARY

Depart Home City

Day 1

Depart your home city.

Arrive in Athens, Greece

Day 2

Arrive in Athens, Greece, where you may have time on your own for lunch before traveling with the group to embark the five-star LE BOUGAINVILLE. (D)

Volos/Meteora

Day 3

Arrive in Volos and enjoy an excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Meteora. One of the most important complexes of Greek Orthodox monasteries, they are built on natural sandstone massifs and date to the 14th and 15th centuries. Originally the only access to the monasteries was by means of long ladders, which could be drawn up when not in use, or by a basket or net suspended on ropes. Steps have now been cut out in the rock face and there is a modern road servicing the main

monasteries, which is how we will reach these remarkable structures. Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner this evening. (B,L,R,D)

Delos/Mykonos

Day 4

This morning, visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Delos—the legendary birthplace of Artemis and Apollo. Walk along the Sacred Way to the Sanctuary of Apollo, a spectacularly rich archaeological site with remains of three separate temples from the 5th and 6th centuries B.C. See the legendary Terrace of the Lions, dedicated to Apollo, where hand-carved marble statues guarded the island for nearly 2,600 years. After lunch on board the ship, explore the island of Mykonos, where according to ancient legend, its craggy hills and clefts were formed from the petrified bodies of giants defeated by Hercules. (B, L,D)

Kusadasi, Turkey for Ephesus

Day 5

Arrive in Kusadasi and drive to Ephesus, a vast archaeological site of Greek, Roman and Byzantine ruins including the restored and reconstructed Celsus Library and the Great Theater. Visit the Terrace Houses and the Ephesus Archaeological Museum, which showcases artifacts that were retrieved from Ephesus during excavations in the late 19th and early 20th centuries—including the famous statue of Artemis. (B,L,D)

Patmos, Greece

Day 6

On the island of Patmos, tour the Greek Orthodox Monastery of St. John, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. See the Cave of the Apocalypse, where St. John the Apostle most likely wrote the Book of Revelation in 95 A.D. This afternoon, meet and engage with local residents who will discuss



Mykonos, Greece



Village of Lindos and the Acropolis, Rhodes, Greece

daily life on the islands during the ISLAND LIFE® forum. (B,L,D)

Rhodes/Lindos

Day 7

Dock in Rhodes at the wall of Rhodes Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with a stop at its ancient port—where the mighty Colossus of Rhodes statue stood before it was destroyed by an earthquake in the third century B.C. Explore the medieval old town as it was built by the Order of St. John, which occupied Rhodes from the early 14th century through the 16th century. Visit the Palace of the Grand Masters, a formidable Gothic castle that houses a treasure trove of art, furniture, and icons from that era.

You will be able to choose from two activities this afternoon. One is an excursion to the ancient village of Lindos to see its Church of Panagia and cliff-top Acropolis. At a height of 535 feet,

this iconic site offers breathtaking views and photo opportunities of the entire village, including its medieval castle, sandy beaches, and charming whitewashed, sugar-cube houses. Alternatively, you may opt to indulge in an afternoon at leisure in Rhodes. Enjoy a traditional Greek folklore show with local musicians and dancers, followed by dinner on board the ship this evening. (B,L,D)

Santorini

Day 8

Be on deck as the ship cruises into the port of Santorini, beneath which some believe to be the legendary lost city of Atlantis. From the port we will drive to the southern end of the island for a guided tour of the newly reopened excavations of Akrotiri—a unique archeological site that dates to prehistoric times. Tour these spectacular Minoan ruins, held intact by

layers of pumice and ash for over 3,500 years. Visit the Museum of Prehistoric Thera, which houses finds excavated from Akrotiri. Continue to the town of Fira, renowned for its whitewashed buildings, stunning views, and vibrant energy, for some free time to explore. You may also choose to descend by cable car to the pier for the short ride back to the ship. (B,L,D)

Athens/Return to Home City

Day 9

Arrive in Athens this morning. Disembark and continue on the Thebes and Delphi Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)



Akrotiri excavation site, Santorini, Greece



Ancient fresco, Akrotiri, Santorini, Greece



LE BOUGAINVILLE Join us aboard this exclusively chartered, 5-star small ship, where distinctive French sophistication meets innovative nautical design. Each of the 92 staterooms and suites (up to 484 square feet) features an ocean view and most have a private balcony. All accommodations feature individual climate control, two twin beds or one queen bed, a private bathroom with shower, and luxury hotel-style hotel amenities. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages and internet access are available throughout the cruise. All meals aboard ship are included.



2024 DEPARTURE DATE: October 21 to 29 (Embarkation: October 22 at 3:00 pm)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <i>per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</i>	Early Booking Rate through May 21, 2024	<i>Rates after May 21, 2024</i>
8	Deluxe stateroom with a picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. Deck 3, midship. (limited availability)	\$5,215	\$5,795
7	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 4, midship.	\$5,935	\$6,595
6	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 5, midship and aft.	\$6,655	\$7,395
5	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 6, midship and aft.	\$7,375	\$8,195
4	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 3, midship. (limited availability)	\$8,275	\$9,195
3	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 4, midship. (limited availability)	\$8,995	\$9,995
2	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 5, midship.	\$9,895	\$10,995
1	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 6, midship.	\$10,615	\$11,795
Prestige Suite II	Two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony, two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. Deck 5, midship. (limited availability)	\$11,515	\$12,795
Prestige Suite I	Two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony, two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. Deck 6, midship. (limited availability)	\$12,235	\$13,595
Privilege Suite	Large Suite with expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony, sitting area with sofa. Decks 5 and 6, aft. (limited availability)	\$12,955	\$14,395
Grand Deluxe Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom Suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. Deck 6, aft. (limited availability)	\$13,675	\$15,195
Owner's Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom Suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. Deck 5, aft. (limited availability)	\$14,575	\$16,195

BONUS SAVINGS! Pay in full at the time of booking to receive additional savings. Bookings made inside 121 days prior to departure are not eligible for this discount. Please call for details.

Single supplements apply to categories 6, 7, & 8 at 160% of the per person double price and are subject to availability. Single price for all other cabin categories is at 200%.

Port taxes are an additional \$450 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

To secure your spot, call Travel Department at World Affairs Council of Philadelphia at 800-942-5004 or www.wacphila.org/travel

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Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/



PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

Athens

October 19 to 22, 2024 (Tour Begins: October 20)

Begin your journey with an immersive experience in the ancient city of Athens. Explore the monumental Acropolis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and its perfectly proportioned Parthenon, a graceful example of Doric architecture. Tour the archaeological treasures of the Acropolis Museum and enjoy the colorful neighborhood of Plaka, the oldest section of Athens. Discover the idyllic coves and sparkling Aegean waters of Cape Sounion and follow the ancient route of Pericles to the Temple of Poseidon—where 15 of the original 34 Doric columns are remarkably still standing. Accommodations are for two nights in the five-star HOTEL GRANDE BRETAGNE.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$1,195**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$1,480**



POST-PROGRAM OPTION

Delphi

October 29 to 31, 2024 (Tour Ends: October 31)

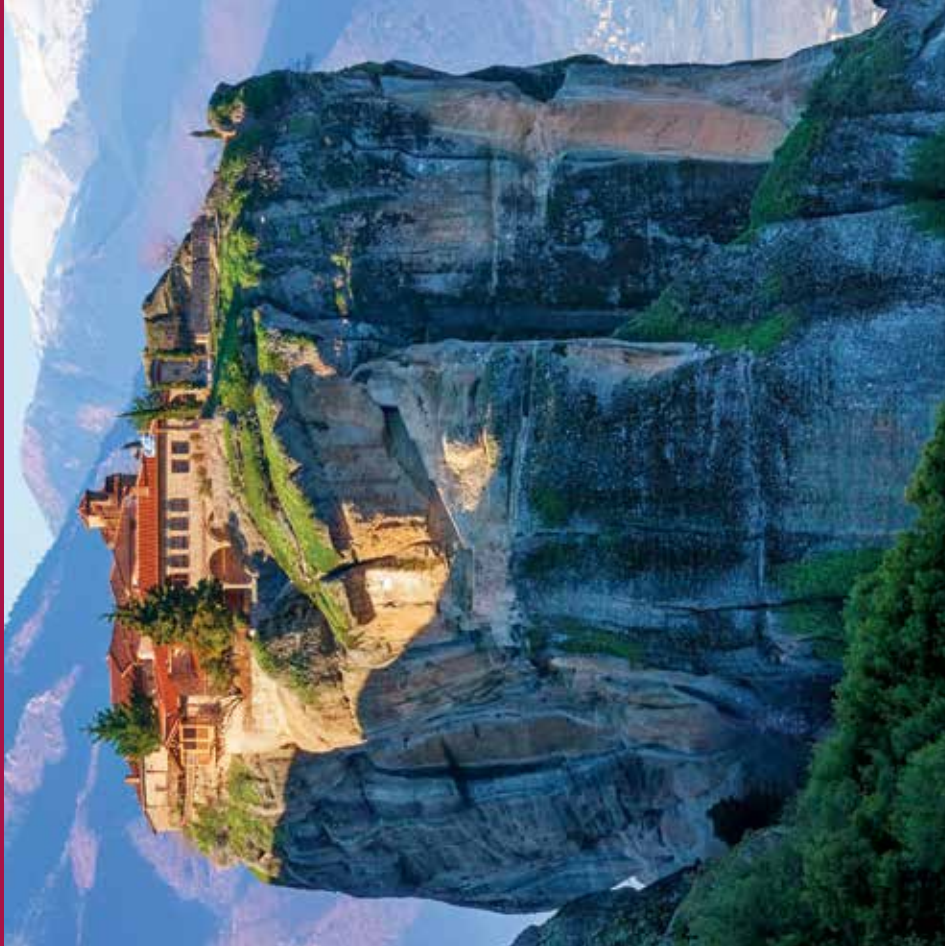
Extend your journey with a two-night itinerary exploring Delphi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and Thiva, or Thebes—featuring a visit to the Archaeological Museum of Thebes, where exhibits span from the Neolithic era to the end of the Ottoman rule. Tour Delphi and visit the Delphi Archaeological Museum. Walk on the Sacred Way to see the Treasury of Athens, the Temple of Apollo, the theater, and the impressive stadium. Spend one night in the DOMOTEL ANEMOLIA HOTEL and one night in the SOFITEL ATHENS AIRPORT HOTEL.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$820**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$1,040**

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

SPECIAL SAVINGS! Early Booking up to \$3,240 per couple, plus receive Bonus Savings if you pay in full at the time of booking! Call for details.



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