

3D IDYLLIC AEGEAN Cruise Shorex



Athens - Athens Monuments and the Acropolis

(PIR - 01)

Adult:

61 Child: 40

This historical hill of the Acropolis carries the renowned Parthenon atop its shoulders, which is dedicated to the goddess Athena, protector of the city of Athens. Its inauguration took place in 438 B.C. at the Great Panathenaea.

Next to the Propylaea lies the temple of Athena Nike or Wingless Nike. There was kept the wooden statue (xoanon) of Athena which was "wingless", signifying that she would never leave Athens. Next to the Parthenon rises the Erechtheion, a marble edifice of the Ionic order. The eastern part of the temple was dedicated to Athena Polias and the western to Poseidon-Erechtheus. From the Acropolis hill you will be able to admire the glorious Odeon of Herodes Atticus.

Leaving the historical hill of Acropolis you will pass by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in front of the Greek Parliament Building. A stop at the Panathenaic Stadium, where the first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896, is necessary. Next follows the stylish "Trilogy of Athens", which was constructed at the end of the 19th century: the old building of the University of Athens, the National Library and the Academy of Athens. The excursion comes to a close with a trip through the Squares of Omonia and Syntagma, the heart of modern Athens.

Athens - Athens tour and the New Acropolis Museum

(PIR - 07)

Adult:

61 Child: 40

Leaving behind you the port, you head by coach along the sea road towards the centre of Athens. The Temple of Olympian Zeus stands at the south east of the Acropolis, it is constructed with Pentelic marble and dedicated to the father of the 12 gods, Zeus.

The tour continues in front of the Greek Parliament Building with your destination the Panathenaic Stadium.

The tour will then convey you to the "Trilogy of Athens": three 19th century buildings, influenced by classical architecture, on Panepistimiou Street. A trip through Omonia Square and Syntagma Square will bring you to the beautiful, picturesque preserved quarter of Plaka, beneath the Acropolis.

The final destination is the modern, imposing, bright Acropolis Museum. It is a thematic archaeological museum of exceptional aesthetics, which opened its doors to the public in 2009 and houses the most famous works of classical antiquity. The new Acropolis Museum makes use of the elements of light, motion and multiple levels and its collections are exhibited on 3 floors and in an area of 14,000 sq. m (150,000 sq. ft)..

Mykonos - Transfer to Mykonos town (MYK - 07) Adult: 8

Child: 6

Return Bus transfer to Mykonos town



Ancient Ephesus through the ages - Hellenistic and Roman (Approx. 3 hrs)

(KUS - 02)

Adult: 58 Child: 36

At Ancient Ephesus you find Immortal relics of the Hellenistic, Roman and Early Christian era. At the archaeological site you will be given a guided tour among the Agora, the Odeon, the Library of Celsus, the marble-paved main Street of Kouretes, the Baths of Scholastica, Trajan's Fountain, the Public Latrines, the Residences of the Patricians, the Prytaneum, the Temple of Hadrian...

The Great Theatre, built in the 4th century B.C., could accommodate 24,000 spectators and it is famous even nowadays for its acoustics. The finds from the excavations, which have yet brought to light only 13% of ancient Ephesus, reside in the Archaeological Museum of Ephesus, in the city of Selcuk.

Your day couldn't close in a better way than a beautiful walk through the Covered Bazaar in Kusadasi. Here, you will be able to ramble, bargain for jewellery, cosmetics or leather products at the little shops.

During the excursion you will have the opportunity to do some shopping such as carpets, jewelry, leather and other souvenirs.



Ancient Ephesus and the Terrace Houses

(KUS - 07)

Adult: 62 Child: 38

Passing with your tour guide through the *Magnesian Gate* you will **wander, feeling awe in time and space**, through the *Agora*, the *Odeon*, the *Library of Celsus*, the marble-paved main *Street of Kouretes*, the *Baths of Scholastica*, the *Great Theatre*, *Trajan's Fountain*, the *Public Latrines*, the *Houses of the Patricians*, the *Prytaneum* and the *Temple of Hadrian*.

Opposite *Hadrian's Temple*, at the foot of the *Bulbul hill* and the covered part of the archaeological site, protected by the heat and natural elements lie the *Houses of Koressus* or *Terrace Houses*. Here lived the rich families of *Ancient Ephesus* and you will be surprised by the excellent state of preservation of these comfortable villas, especially their interior décor. The oldest unearthed houses date since the 1st century B.C. and were two-storied and built based on the city planning and they even had "heating", and hot and cold water.

The excursion comes to a close at *Kusadasi* with the colorful *Covered Bazaar* and the little shops that brimming with the jovial energy of bargaining.

During the excursion you will have the opportunity to do some shopping such as carpets, jewelry, leather and other souvenirs.



Ancient Ephesus - House of Virgin Mary & Ancient Ephesus (approx.4hrs)

(KUS - 01)

Adult: 62 Child: 38

Before his crucifixion, Jesus entrusted the safety of the Virgin Mary to St. John the Evangelist. St. John moved Mary to Ephesus for safety.

Virgin Mary lived here until the 101st year of her life. In 1957 the Vatican recognized the "House of the Virgin Mary" as the place where the Virgin spent the last years of her life and since then it is an important pilgrimage site for both Christians and Muslims.

Next stop the city of Ancient Ephesus, the Ionian colony, which is one of the largest open-air archaeological museums in the world. Together with your tour guide, you will pass the Magnesian Gate. Traces of the Hellenistic, Roman and Early Christian period are scattered everywhere: the Agora, the Odeon, the Library of Celsus, the marble-paved main Street of the Kouretes, the Thermal Baths of Scholastica, Trajan's Fountain, the Public Latrines, the Houses of the Patricians, the Prytaneum, Hadrian's Temple, the Great Theatre.

The excursion is completed at the Covered Bazaar of Kusadasi with some free time for shopping and... bargaining!

During the excursion you will have the opportunity to do some shopping such as carpets, jewelry, leather and other souvenirs.

Samos

Traditional Samian Feast

(approx 4 hrs)



SAM-03 AD; 69 Ch: 45

Join us for an unforgettable meal served in the main square of Pagondas, a charming village scented by orange and lemon trees and filled with friendly locals eager to share their cuisine and way of life.

Board your air-conditioned motor coach for a scenic drive through the verdant island of Samos passing by lovely villages and attractive bays. Your first stop will be the picturesque village of Pythagorion where you will enjoy independent time to explore.

Continuing on, enjoy a relaxing forty-five minute journey to the entrance of the village of Pagondas. From here, proceed on foot, walking through the narrow streets until you are greeted by the big trees, small taverns and quaint houses that line the beautiful town square. Large, inviting tables overflow with traditional delicacies and world famous Sámos wine. Savor the food and atmosphere while enjoying the performances of a local orchestra and dancing troupe.



Samos - Pythagoras island and its diverse beauty

SAM-01 AD: 39 CH: 20 (Approx 4 hrs)

Samos the land of Pythagoras, Epicurus, Aristarchus and possibly Aesop, is in full bloom. Its fertile soil gives birth to the world renowned Muscat variety of wine. These two elements of nature, earth and water, are in complete control on this island, which is the 8th largest of Greece. You will have so much to see and do!

Starting out on a coach, with an experienced tour guide, from Vathy you will shortly arrive at the Samos Wine Museum. It was inaugurated in the summer of 2005 and both its exhibits and its impressive representations will guide you through paths of fine, aromatic, awarded wine. You will learn about the vats and

chemistry equipment, you will see up close the tools and tubes and you will become informed about the white Muscat variety, which reigns supreme over this land.

Traveling towards the south, you will soon come to the Monastery of Panagia Spiliani. It is said that this was the Cave of Pythagoras and that from here, the great mathematician operated a philosophical school.

For the conclusion of the excursion, there awaits the land which gave birth to Pythagoras and which took its name from him: Pythagoreio. At the third largest village of Samos, a vivid and beautifully maintained place, you will have enough time for exploration, walks and shopping



Samos: Pythagoras Island / Culture, Scenery, Winery

(SAM - 02)

Adult: 39 Child: 20 (Approx 4hrs)

Samos, with its 25 vineyards, the waterfalls and the wetlands, the seaside villages, the traditional pottery craft and the famed Samian wines welcomes you cordially.

The organized excursion, with your tour guide, starts from Vathy, the capital of the island. First stop is the Samos Wine Museum, to be introduced without delay to the tradition, procedure and artistry of the local wine production processes. You will learn about the vats and chemistry equipment, you will see up close the tools and tubes and you will become informed about the white Muscat variety, which reigns supreme over this land. At the Museum's shop you can pick up supplies of these cultured souvenirs. Next stop of this excursion, after you navigate an amazing, verdant route, is the seaside village of Kokkari. It is one of the most touristically developed villages of Samos and its picturesque qualities are flowing

through its alleyways and houses, its little port and enviable beaches. Here you will have the free time to stroll around and search out interesting shops and places.



Samos- Transfer to Tsamadou beach (SOB)* (SAM-03)

Adult: 20

Child: 14

Bus transfer to beautiful Tsamadou beach. Tsamadou is an organized beach with all modern facilities (Included in the price Sun chair & Umbrella).



Samos 4 x 4 Adventure (SAM-04) AD: 69 Ch: 45

(Approx 4 hrs)

Get acquainted with the verdant island of Sámos with this exciting four-wheel-drive experience, which includes a visit to a beautiful beach for a chance to swim and sunbathe.

At the pier, you will climb into your Suzuki-type four-wheel-drive vehicle to begin your island exploration. The manual-transmission jeep is self-driven, with either you or your travel companion taking the wheel. Your guide will be in a lead vehicle,

ensuring that you see the best of Sámos without having to navigate its roads on your own.

Your route takes you northeast, to the part of Sámos considered to be the most interesting and beautiful. Making your way around the Bay of Vathi, venture through the pine-forested region of Malagari before passing the picturesque fishing village of Kokkari. Nearby is Lemonakia, one of the most dazzling coves on Sámos.

The road next leads to a forest of plane trees and the lovely Valley of the Nightingales. Named for the nightingales that can often be heard singing high up in trees that line the river, the valley is a favorite spot for humans too, as it offers a cool oasis on hot summer days.

Following a brief stop to admire the view, enjoy the 30-minute drive to Potami beach, a breathtaking stretch of white pebbles and sand. You will have the opportunity to swim in the crystal clear waters and relax in the sun.

MILOS



Step Back in Time **MIL-02** **AD: 45** **Ch:25**

(Approx 4 hrs - Restricted Maximum Participation)

On parking the coach visitors will have the opportunity to walk down onto this environmental monument, probably the most photographed spot on Milos. This is a very unusual and unique area often compared to a lunar landscape, the outcome of volcanic eruptions, a startling, pure *white* environment!

- *09:45 departure from Sarakiniko*

- *10:00 arrival Papafranga and adjacent archaeological site of Filakopi*

The dramatic coastline of Milos sculpted by nature after volcanic eruptions gives us interesting and very picturesque spots, Papafranga is one of the more famous; this soft volcanic rock has been formed over the years into inlets and sea caves, wonderful for swimming and snorkelling. Visitors approach and look down into this deep ravine, often observing the more adventurous tourists below swimming in and around these fantastic sea caves.

Milos is considered a beacon in the pre-history of the Cyclades islands due to an important discovery made in 1896 by British archaeologists who first excavated the area known as Filakopi, discovering a settlement dating back to Neolithic times (several thousand years BC) this is where implements were first fashioned by man from the volcanic rock known as obsidian, we will take a look over towards the site discussing all of the important periods in which Filakopi played a major role from Neolithic times right up until 1.000 years BC observing remains of the city walls still visible today, the site is being continually excavated exposing more new evidence proving thousands of years of inhabitancy.

- *10:30 departure Filakopi*

Drive to the capital Plaka

Admiring the view along the coast, talking about all aspects of Milos (geology, history, flora and fauna, modern day living etc.)

- *11:00 arrival Plaka cobblestone streets - rest room facilities*

Taking a promenade in picturesque Chora, a chance for a coffee break, excellent views from this village at 250 metres above sea level, optionally visiting the folk museum and local churches, strolling through the narrow cobbled streets where we can admire traditional architecture and sampling home made sweets at local stores and pastry shops.

- *12:00 departure Plaka*

- *12:15 Ancient city of Melos 1.000 BC - 100m easy access*

Just a 100m away from our busses we can admire the marble Roman Theatre, cut into the rocky slope near the ancient agora. Last but not least we visit the spot where one of the most famous statues in the world was discovered in 1820, the Venus de Milo. From here we indicate also by hand the area of early Christian Catacombs and talk briefly about their significance in history.

- *12:45 departure for return drive to the port*



The Amazing beaches Tour

MIL-03

AD: 25 CH:15

(Approx 4 hrs - Restricted Maximum Participation)

Easy access, walking on sandy surface.

Milos is famous for her beaches and certainly Paleochori must come first on the list of

outstanding spots for sun worshippers and swimmers alike.

The beach is located in the south eastern corner of the island, around thirty minutes

drive the main port of Adamas, and is known for her dramatic cliff faces coloured in

bright red and yellow from the mineral deposits. Access to this region is by coach transfer, along good quality asphalt roads.

There are a couple of restaurants perched high above the beach where you can eat whilst taking in breathtaking, panoramic, views out to the Sea of Crete not to mention

the 'Aqualocd', a great atmospheric bar with comfy chaise long for chilling the afternoon away!

The main beach offers umbrella and sun-bed rental, and is a popular destination for visitors during the summer months, the beach is sandy with a smattering of pretty white pebbles. We arrive on the beach and turn left, after a stroll of around 350 metres along the more frequented part of the strand we arrive at a secluded spot hidden by a rocky outcrop, this is where those who might like to swim in the nude will feel most comfortable. However we must remind visitors nudism is not acceptable on the more populated area of the beach.



Day out in Milos MIL-04 AD: 45 CH: 25

(Approx 4 hrs - Restricted Maximum Participation)

Tripiti:

After the abandonment of Filakopi in 1100 BC, the inhabitants established a new capital near

the present day village of Tripiti with the name Milos.

The city's safe haven on the coast below was known as Klima, the ancient port.

Thus at this

(new) position for many years the Geometric, Classical, Hellenistic

Roman and Byzantine periods changed hands.

The itinerary of Ancient Milos includes sites of interest from all periods:

Polygon walls from the late Geometric period

Roman Theatre

Place where the Venus de Milo was discovered

Location of the early Christian Catacombs

Plaka:

Picturesque traditional Cycladic village the capital of the island. Wonderful architecture,

spectacular eagle-eye views from the courtyard of 'Korfiatisa' one of Plaka's beautiful

churches. Narrow cobblestoned streets take us through this very pleasant settlement with its

colourful little souvenir stores and coffee shops selling excellent local pastries and sweets.

Sarakiniko Lunar Landscape

One of the most photographed spots in the Aegean and unique in all of Europe. The complete absence of any vegetation, together with the white colour and strange formations

of the rocks gives the impression of a moonscape.

Before 2.000.000 years

Two million years ago, after volcanic eruption, layers of ash mixed with the sea bed were

deposited in this region. The speed at which the lava cooled and its content determined the

bright white colour of the rocks and the elements, wind, water and the passing of time give

us the unusual shapes.

Pollonia:

The bay of Pollonia is known for her wonderful sandy beach shaded by Tamarisk trees

including a picturesque waterfront with traditional coffee houses and restaurants.

Great place

to chill out after taking a swim - an excellent conclusion to the tour.

- **(SOB) SOLD ON BOARD ONLY**