ISTANBUL, TURKEY

IST510PRE: EXPLORING THE VALLEYS, CAVES AND EXTRAORDINARY ROCK FORMATIONS OF MAGICAL, MYSTICAL CAPPADOCIA -
AUGUST 13, 2021 | $999+PP

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS | MEALS: YES

Come explore magical, mystical Cappadocia, with its fairy tale landscape of natural wonders and colorful history.

After arriving in Istanbul, you will transfer to your overnight hotel and check-in. The remainder of the day and evening are at your leisure.

**Day 2** Wake up early and after breakfast, transfer to the airport to catch your flight to Kayseri in central Turkey – the gateway to the Cappadocia region. The area at times seems like something out of a dream, with its deep valleys, fissures, and slopes that were turned into cones and columns as mother nature carved away at the lava rock. The volcanic rock is also perfect for carving entire buildings and the area is famous for these carved homes, stables, churches, and small cells used by hermits and monks. Many people still live in these rock formations, which are naturally cool in the summer.

When you first arrive, you will find yourself in an area that resembles the surface of the Moon and it is here your adventure begins. Start by seeing the natural citadel of Uchisar, which will allow you to get an extraordinary panoramic view of the region. Enjoy lunch at a nearby restaurant before taking the walking path that connects to the Göreme Valley. This valley houses the Göreme Open Air Museum which features churches and monasteries hewn out of rock that are adorned with colorful frescoes. From here, drive to the town of Avanos for check-in at the Anka Cave Suit Hotel where you will spend the night. The evening is at your leisure with dinner on your own.

**Day 3** If you choose, start the day with an early morning optional hot air balloon ride over the region. It’s an unforgettable experience as you silently glide over the dramatic landscape while the sun rises and casts its light on the scenery below. Coming back to earth, have a late breakfast at your hotel and then set out for a full day of exploring. Head first to the south of Nevsehir for a visit to the underground city of Kaymakli. Used for centuries as a place of refuge, these underground cities were mostly abandoned after 1923.

Continue with a drive to the Ihlara Valley with its incredible gorge that has a stunning river running right down the heart of the valley. Near the province of Aksaray, it is still considered part of the southern Cappadocia region. Take an easy walk along a leafy nature trail dotted with numerous cave churches you can explore. Then, following lunch in the picturesque town of Beli Sirma, you will head to Derbent and the Guvercinlik (Pidgeon) Valley for an orientation tour and a chance to do some shopping. At the end of your activities, return to the hotel for dinner and the remainder of the evening is at your leisure.

**Day 4** Your final day starts with breakfast at the hotel and then a transfer to the airport where you will catch your flight back to Istanbul where you will embark the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes a significant amount of moderate to vigorous walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties or other health concerns. Guests should be in reasonably good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs must be covered when entering any religious sites. All shopping and/or carpet demonstrations are optional and at the guest’s discretion.
ISTANBUL’S MOST ICONIC LANDMARKS - AUGUST 14, 2021 | $75pp

IST302: BYZANTINE TREASURES - AUGUST 14, 2021 | MEAL: NONE

5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Istanbul's Byzantine past comes alive on this tour that visits its most iconic highlights and includes time for shopping at the inimitable Grand Bazaar.

Travel first to Hippodrome Square, location of the famous Egyptian Obelisk, Obelisk of Constantine, Serpentine Column, and the German Fountain, which was an important symbol of the close relationship between the Ottoman Empire and Germany at the beginning of the 20th century.

Next, make the short walk to the Byzantine Underground Cistern. The Cistern dates from the sixth century and features a roof supported by 336 Corinthian columns. Marvel at the ancient craftsmanship that created this “Underground Palace” as you tour the illuminated interior with your guide.

Another short walk brings you to the world-famous St. Sophia, the Church of the Divine Wisdom. Built during Emperor Justinian’s reign in AD 537, it remained the greatest church in Christendom until the conquest of Constantinople in 1453 by Sultan Mehmet II who ordered it to be converted into a mosque. The great dome, the semi domes, the north and south tympana, the vaults of the narthex, the aisle and the gallery at one time were all covered with gold mosaics, of which a good number have still survived.

Continue on by boarding your coach and traveling to the legendary Grand Bazaar. The Grand Bazaar is the largest and oldest covered bazaar in Turkey with ninety-two streets that house more than 4,000 shops. Side-by-side you will find shops selling a variety of Turkish handicrafts, Oriental carpets, rare jewels and of course, a wealth of inexpensive souvenirs. It is here where you will best experience Istanbul’s definitive Oriental atmosphere. If you choose, there is an optional carpet weaving demonstration you can attend prior to entering the Bazaar.

Following your visit to the Bazaar, drive back to the port.

Special Note: This tour includes three hours of moderate walking/standing that includes a few steps and some uneven surfaces. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the transportation and have a companion to assist them; however, the Underground Cistern is not wheelchair accessible. We recommend wearing appropriate comfortable clothing; sturdy, flat walking shoes with a closed toe, a sun cap, sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs must be covered when entering religious sites.

IST303: ULTIMATE ISTANBUL - ESSENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS AND GRAND BAZAAR - AUGUST 14, 2021 | MEAL: LUNCH

8 HOURS | MEAL: LUNCH

Explore both the Byzantine and Ottoman highlights of Istanbul on this comprehensive tour that showcases some of the city’s most remarkable attractions, visits the famous Grand Bazaar and includes lunch at a notable restaurant.

Start by driving from the port to Hippodrome Square, location of the famous Egyptian Obelisk, Obelisk of Constantine, Serpentine Column and the German Fountain, which was an important symbol of the close relationship between the Ottoman Empire and Germany at the beginning of the 20th century.

Next, make the short walk to the incredible Blue Mosque. Completed in 1616, it is a triumph of harmony, proportion and elegance. The Mosque’s colorful 260 windows enable the sunlight to reach inside and the blue Iznik Tiles that cover the walls are what gave the mosque its popular name, “Blue Mosque.”

Another brief walk finds you at the stunning Topkapi Palace, residence of the sultans for almost three centuries. Located on a promontory that extends between the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn, the views here are simply magnificent. Not only was the palace the imperial residence of the Sultan and his court, but it was also the seat of the government for the Ottoman Empire and housed upward of 4,000 people.

During your visit, see the general exhibitions that contain artifacts and collection pieces that once belonged to the Ottoman Sultans. Your final journey on foot brings you to the Byzantine Underground Cistern. The Cistern dates from the sixth century and features a roof supported by 336 Corinthian columns. Marvel at the ancient craftsmanship that created this “Underground Palace” as you tour the illuminated interior with your guide.

At this point, rejoin your coach and drive to the legendary Grand Bazaar. The Grand Bazaar is the largest and oldest covered bazaar in Turkey with ninety-two streets that house more than 4,000 shops that sell a variety of Turkish handicrafts, Oriental carpets, rare jewels and of course, a wealth of inexpensive souvenirs. It is here where you will best experience Istanbul's definitive Oriental atmosphere. If you choose, there is an optional carpet weaving demonstration you can attend prior to entering the Bazaar.

Following your visit to the Bazaar, transfer back to the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes over 5.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the transportation and have a companion to assist them; however, the Underground Cistern is not wheelchair accessible. We recommend wearing appropriate comfortable clothing; sturdy, flat walking shoes with a closed toe, a sun cap, sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping and/or carpet demonstrations are optional and at the guest’s discretion. On Fridays, the Blue Mosque may be replaced with the Nuruosmaniye Mosque.
ISTANBUL’S OTTOMAN INFLUENCE - THE BLUE MOSQUE, TOPKAPI PALACE AND GRAND BAZAAR - AUGUST 14, 2021 | $75.00

5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Focused on the Ottoman heritage of Istanbul, this tour will visit the famous Blue Mosque and Topkapi Palace before ending with a visit to the Grand Bazaar.

Make the short drive from the port to the Blue Mosque. Also known as the Sultan Ahmed Mosque, it was completed in 1616 and is a triumph of harmony, proportion, and elegance. The mosque was part of a complex that included tombs, fountains, kitchens, and a bath, while its 260 colorful windows allowed the sunlight to spill into the interior. When you see the multitudes of blue Iznik tiles that cover the walls, you will come to understand how the mosque got its popular name, Blue Mosque.

Next, continue on foot to the nearby stunning Topkapi Palace, residence of the sultans for almost three centuries. Located on a promontory that extends between the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn, the views here are simply magnificent. Not only was the palace the imperial residence of the Sultan and his court, but it was also the seat of the government for the Ottoman Empire and housed upward of 4,000 people. During your visit, see the general exhibitions that contain artifacts and collection pieces that once belonged to the Ottoman Sultans.

At this point, rejoin your coach and drive to the legendary Grand Bazaar. The Grand Bazaar is the largest and oldest covered bazaar in Turkey with 92 streets that house more than 4,000 shops that sell a variety of Turkish handicrafts, Oriental carpets, rare jewels and of course, a wealth of inexpensive souvenirs. It is here where you will best experience Istanbul's definitive Oriental atmosphere. If you choose, there is an optional carpet weaving demonstration you can attend prior to entering the Bazaar.

Following your visit to the Bazaar, transfer back to the ship.

Special note: This tour includes over 3.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the transportation and have a companion to assist them. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; sturdy, flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs, and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping and/or carpet demonstrations are optional and at the guest’s discretion. On Fridays, the Blue Mosque may be replaced with the Nuruosmaniye Mosque.
**CKZ301: ANCIENT TROY – A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE - AUGUST 15, 2021 | $89**

![Ancient Troy]

3.5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Explore 4,000 years of history as you explore one of the most famous archaeological sites in the world on this visit to the ancient city of Troy.

Relax and enjoy the passing scenery as you make the drive to Troy, location of the fabled mythical story of Helen and Paris. As the myth tells us, Helen was the daughter of King Sparta and was abducted by Paris, a Trojan Prince. This action sparked hostilities between the Trojans and the Achaeans which led to the Trojan war. The story goes that unable to take the city, the Trojans left behind the famous Trojan horse filled with soldiers and that is how they conquered the city. While there was in fact a Trojan War that took place around the 12th century BC, it is likely the story of Helen, Paris and the Trojan horse were simply a mythological fable.

Troy is not only a Turkish National Park it is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. While the ruins here comprise one of the world’s most famous archaeological sites, you will not find the usual marble columns and other artistic remains. Instead, the ruins at Troy serve as a poignant reminder of long past wars, the suffering of the people and how once thriving cities were reduced to rubble.

When your visit comes to an end, make the return drive back to the pier.

*Special Note: This tour includes approximately 90 minutes of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.*

---

**CKZ302: THE HISTORIC GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN - AUGUST 15, 2021 | $85**

![Gallipoli]

5.5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Spend the day reliving the history of the most important and dramatic battle of World War I that took place in Gallipoli. This national park preserved with marble and bronze monuments that are strewn about, will no doubt evoke emotionally touching reactions.

From the ship, drive to the ferry port and board a ferry to Eceabat where your exploration of the historic events that took place here commences. Also known as the Canakkale Dardanelles Campaign, it took place from February 17, 1915 to January 9, 1916. Following a failed naval attack, British forces began plans for largescale troop landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula using British, Australian, New Zealand and French forces. Following limited progress and very heavy casualties, the Allied forces finally withdrew with the last of the troops leaving Helles on January 9, 1916.

Today, with your guide narrating, you will see Kilit Bayir and Seddül Bayir, visit Anzac Bay, view the famous battlefields of Nek and the trenches at Johnston’s Jolly, stop at the Lone Pine Cemetery and Memorial, and the New Zealand Memorial at Chunuk Bayir. Before retracing your route back to the port, visit the Gallipoli Museum with its expansive collection of war time memorabilia.

*Special Note: This tour includes approximately 2.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the transportation and have a companion to assist them. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; sturdy, flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.*
Often referred to as the “Diamond of the Dardanelles,” Turkey’s third largest island never fails to delight with its windmills, vineyards, pristine beaches, and laid-back atmosphere. Today, explore the island’s most important and authentic attractions.

Drive with your guide to the heart of town where you will walk along narrow alleys lined with colorful traditional homes and abundant flowers. In some areas it’s as if time has stood still. Your first stop is at Bozcaada Castle which was reconstructed by the Ottoman Sultan Mehmet II in the 15th century and further repaired by Mahmut II in 1815. Interestingly, it has been built over the remains of several other castles. This latest castle is well-preserved, and its sheer size and dominance are more suggestive of a fortress rather than a castle.

From the castle, walk to the Alaybey Mosque which was built on the foundations of a medieval Venetian structure in 1655. As you travel about, one has to wonder what other medieval remnants might be buried beneath your feet! A short walk away is the Aya Paraskevi monastery which faces Ayazma Bay and is home to the annual feast day of Agia Paraskevi, held on July 26th.

Your walk continues on to the island’s small, but unique museum. An independent effort undertaken by M. Hakan Gürüney and his love of Bozcaada, the museum houses an interesting collection of fossils unique to the island, archaeological pieces, coins, maps, items left behind by French soldiers, photos and items that were used in the homes of both the Turkish and Greek residents.

After your museum visit, you will have some free time to further explore the village on your own or make your way back to the tender area and return to the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes over three hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and some uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs must be covered when entering religious sites.

---

**BZC302: BOZCAADA'S EXCELLENT VINICULTURAL HERITAGE – OLD TOWN VISIT AND WINERY - AUGUST 16, 2021 | $69**

The famous Greek historian Herodotus quoted, “God created Bozcaada for those who visited there, to have a long life.” We are certain you will agree at the end of this tour that not only gives you an overview of this charming town, but also showcases its vinicultural heritage.

Meet your guide at the port and travel into Bozcaada’s Old Town for a stroll through its quaint narrow streets. Be delighted by the colorful traditional homes you’ll find here and everywhere you look, there seems to be flowers in bloom. As you walk through these authentic streets, you will be able to witness the harmonious combination of Greek and Turkish architecture evidenced in the buildings.

While the history and architecture of Bozcaada are noteworthy, its crowning glory is undoubtedly its vineyards and local wine production. The grape culture here is an inseparable part of life on the island. The vinicultural heritage here dates back almost 3,000 years and there is virtually no local resident who does not have some type of history or connection with wine making. In fact, archaeologists working on the island found coins dating back to 5 B.C. with the face of Zeus on one side and a bunch of grapes on the other, leading specialists to think that the island’s vinicultural history is perhaps one of the oldest in the world.

The locals are only too happy to have you taste some of their lovingly produced wine and you will get that chance at one of the best wineries on the island. Enjoy touring the winery and learning more about the wine growing and production of Bozcaada’s excellent wines and afterwards, be treated to a tasting of some of their finest varieties.

Leaving the winery, walk back to the town center where you can further explore on your own before rejoining your coach for the drive back to the port.

Special Note: This tour includes nearly four hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs must be covered when entering religious sites.
If you are looking for some sheer relaxation, Bozcaada's pristine golden beaches and crystal-clear waters are just the place to refresh and reenergize yourself.

Drive from the port to one of the island's beach clubs where a sun bed is reserved for you and you'll have a few hours to unwind and soak up the sun. If you like, take a dip in the clear cool waters or simply relax on your lounger and do nothing, the choice is all yours. Complimentary bottled water is provided, and additional beverages and snacks are available for purchase.

Following your beach respite, return to the port feeling rested and ready for the next day's adventures.

Special Note: Walking is primarily at the guests’ discretion during the 3.5 hours at the beach. The surfaces are mainly natural and uneven. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather a swimsuit under your clothes; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Please bring a towel with you. Those who take part in any water activities do so at their own risk and responsibility.
DIK501: BIKE ADVENTURE TO THE PERGAMON RUINS -
AUGUST 17, 2021 | $199pp

4 HOURS | MEALS: NONE

Take your adventure to the road by cycling along a EuroVelo route to the ancient ruins of Pergamon where you will also spend time at the ancient healing center of Asklepion.

Meet your guide at the pier and hop on your bike for the 14-mile cycling trip to Pergamon. The scenery is inspiring as you travel along a route used for centuries and imagine yourself as a traveler from a bygone era. The ride is enough to challenge your endurance, but also achievable for amateur cyclists and along the way there will be a comfort stop.

During the Hellenistic period, Pergamon became the capital of the Kingdom of Pergamon under the Attalid dynasty in 281 – 133 BC and the city was transformed into one of the major cultural centers of the Greek world. As you arrive, tour the site where the remains of impressive monuments can still be seen, including the outstanding masterpiece of the Pergamon Altar. Pergamon was the northernmost of the seven churches of Asia cited in the New Testament Book of Revelation and was referred to as the Throne of the Devil.

The city itself is centered around a 1,099-foot mesa of andesite which formed its Acropolis. The mesa falls away sharply on the north, west and east sides but there are very few traces of the walls today, remains of impressive monuments can still be seen, including the outstanding masterpiece of the Pergamon Altar. Pergamon was the northernmost of the seven churches of Asia cited in the New Testament Book of Revelation and was referred to as the Throne of the Devil.

The city itself is centered around a 1,099-foot mesa of andesite which formed its Acropolis. The mesa falls away sharply on the north, west and east sides but three natural terraces on the south side provide a route to the top; however, it is only accessible by cable car today. To the west of the Acropolis the Selinus River flows through the city, while the Ketios River passes to the east.

At the base of the Acropolis lies Asklepion, the ancient healing center that was founded in the 4th Century BC. The center was constructed around a sacred spring that still flows today. Over several centuries, it became one of the most renowned healing centers in the ancient world and was also notable for being the world’s first psychiatric hospital.

Following a refreshment break, you will travel by van back to the port in Dikili.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately three hours of moderate cycling in warm temperatures and one hour of mild to moderate walking/standing at Pergamon. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with mobility restrictions or other health concerns. Participants should be in good physical condition and be comfortable riding a bicycle for an extended period of time. We recommend wearing lightweight, weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.


5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Explore one of the most popular ancient Greek cities in Turkey, renowned for its theater, Altar and oldest hospital in the ancient world.

From the port, drive along a scenic route that travels through beautiful countryside to the city of Pergamon. First settled by the Aeglic Greeks in the 8th century BC, the city came into prominence following the death of Alexander the Great in 332 BC. Because of its great library, many scholars and teachers made the city their home, and parchment paper was first invented here.

Arriving at Pergamon, first visit the Acropolis, which today is only accessible by cable car. Surrounded by three walls, the city had many public and private buildings, including temples and palaces. While there are very few traces of the walls today, remains of impressive monuments can still be seen, including the outstanding masterpiece of the Pergamon Altar. Pergamon was the northernmost of the seven churches of Asia cited in the New Testament Book of Revelation and was referred to as the Throne of the Devil.

From here, drive to the Kizil Avlu (Red Basilica), perhaps the largest and best-known structure in Pergamon. Made of red brick, the temple was dedicated to the gods of Egypt. Two pools in the temple with towers indicate ritual cleaning rites and a religious background that was neither Greek nor Roman.

Before leaving Pergamon, visit Asklepion which lies at the base of the Acropolis. This ancient healing center was founded in the fourth century BC and was constructed around a sacred spring that still flows today. Over several centuries, it became one of the most renowned healing centers in the ancient world and was also notable for being the world’s first psychiatric hospital. Following your visit, transfer back to the port.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately three hours of moderate walking that includes numerous steps, natural and uneven surfaces, and some inclines. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and not recommended for those with physical limitations or other health concerns. Participants should be in reasonably good physical condition. We recommend wearing lightweight, weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

3.5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Step back into the ancient world with visits to some of Dikili’s most notable landmarks that showcase its illustrious past.

Drive from the port through a scenic countryside landscape of cotton fields and olive trees as you make your way to Pergamon Village. Your first stop here is at the Pergamon Museum which houses over 10,000 archaeological and ethnographic works. The archaeological artifacts belong to the Bronze, Archaic, Classic, Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine ages, and the ethnographic exhibits consist of Ottoman relics and articles from the Pergamum region.

Next, drive to the largest and most well-known attraction in Pergamon, the Kizil Avlu (Red Basilica), a temple constructed of red brick and dedicated to the gods of Egypt. Two pools in the temple with towers indicate ritual cleaning rites and a religious background that was neither Greek nor Roman. It was also one of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor that was addressed by St. John in the Book of Revelation who referred to it as the throne of the Devil. After some time for photos here, you’ll return to the port.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking that includes some steps. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with physical limitations. We recommend wearing lightweight, weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.


3.5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Enjoy a condensed visit to the popular ancient city of Pergamon to view its Acropolis, Library and Zeus Altar.

Drive from Dikili to Pergamon, passing through scenic countryside as you make your way to this impressive and important archaeological site. First settled by the Aeolic Greeks in the eighth century BC, the city came into prominence following the death of Alexander the Great in 332 BC. Because of its great library, many scholars and teachers made the city their home, and parchment paper was first invented here.

Arriving in Pergamon, first visit the Acropolis, which today is only accessible by cable car. Surrounded by three walls, the city had many public and private buildings, including temples and palaces. While there are very few traces of the walls today, remains of impressive monuments can still be seen, including the outstanding masterpiece of the Pergamon Altar. Pergamon was the northernmost of the seven churches of Asia cited in the New Testament Book of Revelation and was referred to as the Throne of the Devil.

Next, visit the Library of Pergamon, built by Eumenes II and considered to be second only to the library in Alexandria, Egypt. Then make your way to the Temple of Trajan, built by Hadrian. The temple was built of marble and most likely on the site of a previous Hellenistic building. While here, you can view the ruins of the Zeus Altar, the finest altar ever built around the time of 180 BC that stood on its own with no temple. Most of the original altar and friezes are now housed in Berlin at the Pergamon Museum. Afterwards, travel back to the port in Dikili.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking that includes numerous steps, natural and uneven surfaces, and some inclines. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and not recommended for those with physical limitations or other health concerns. Participants should be in reasonably good physical condition. We recommend wearing lightweight, weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
KUS301: INTENSE EPHESUS: THE ICONIC ATTRACTIONS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM - AUGUST 18, 2021 | $105

6.5 HOURS | MEAL: LUNCH

Spend a wonderful day exploring all the main highlights of Ephesus and later, enjoy an authentic Turkish lunch.

Your day begins with a drive to the Virgin Mary’s House. Archaeological evidence dates the small house back to the sixth century; however, the foundations date back to the first century. Although there is no conclusive evidence Mary ever lived here, it has become a Catholic shrine and been visited by several Catholic popes and Catholic pilgrims.

Next, make your way to the Ephesus ruins, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that dates to the third-century BC. One of the largest Roman archaeological sites in the area, it was also where the Temple of Artemis once stood, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Today, you are able to see the numerous remains of the city which include the spectacular two-story Library of Celsus, the Odeon Theater and the 24,000 seat Great Amphitheater where St. Paul once preached. The perfect acoustics of this theater still make it a viable venue for magical musical performances today.

The next stop is the Ephesus Archaeological Museum in Selcuk. The small museum houses an incredible collection of Hellenistic and Roman statues, carved reliefs and numerous artifacts unearthed from the ruins of Ephesus. It is also home to the famous statue of Artemis (goddess of fertility).

Leaving the museum, you’ll be treated to a traditional Turkish lunch before continuing on to the ruins of the Basilica of St. John. The Basilica was constructed with four domes along a longitudinal axis and a pair flanking the central dome to form the arm of the cross. Beneath the central dome was the grave of St. John.

Returning to Kusadasi, there will be time for exploring on your own, shopping or an optional carpet demonstration.

Special Note: This tour includes nearly three hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing, walking shoes, a sun cap, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs must be covered when entering the Virgin Mary’s House. All shopping and/or carpet demonstrations are optional and at the guest’s discretion.

KUS302: EPHESUS LANDMARKS AND THE TERRACE HOUSES - HOMES OF THE WEALTHY EPHESIANS - AUGUST 18, 2021 | $85

4 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Enjoy a visit to the Ancient Roman provincial capital and as a bonus, visit newly excavated dwellings that were home to the wealthy and important people of the city as evidenced by how finely they were decorated with exquisite mosaics and frescoes.

Ephesus was an important religious center, second only to Athens and later, Jerusalem. It kept its importance due to its well-placed port and its religious significance, which the locals were not above exploiting. Following Emperor Augustus’ proclamation that Ephesus was the capital of the Asian Province in 27 BC, the city became one of the most important in the extended Roman Empire. The majority of the buildings you will see date from the era when Ephesus had nearly one quarter million inhabitants.

Your visit to the Ephesus site begins at the Magnesia Gate where your guide will then lead you on a leisurely downhill walk through the marble streets of the city. The significance of the sites you are seeing will be explained by the guide and those include the Gymnasion, Odeon, Fountain of Trajan, Temple of Hadrian, Upper Agora, Town hall, Roman baths, a Byzantine house, and surprisingly efficient public toilets. And of course, no visit to Ephesus is complete without seeing the Library of Celsus. This two-story edifice is finely decorated with columns and sculptures and was erected in 135 BC.

A short walk away you will find the 24,000 seat Great Amphitheater where it is believed St. Paul preached to the Ephesians, imploring them to give up their worship of Artemis and embrace the Christian faith. The perfect acoustics of the theater still make it a viable venue for magical musical performances today.

The highlight of your visit may well be entry into the newly opened portion of the historic Terrace Houses which are located on the slopes behind Ephesus, opposite the Temple of Hadrian. These houses were inhabited by wealthy Ephesians and were finely decorated. Archaeological evidence points to them being built in the period of Augustus and continued to be inhabited until the seventh century AD.

Returning to Kusadasi, there will be time for exploring on your own, shopping or an optional carpet demonstration.

Special Note: This tour includes nearly two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. Some of the steps are glass. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties or those with a fear of heights. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing, walking shoes, a sun cap, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping and/or carpet demonstrations are optional and at the guest’s discretion.

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MILD ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE ACTIVITY LEVEL: VIGOROUS
This magical and exclusive evening event at the Celsus Library in Ephesus is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Opened to us by special permission, your after-hours white glove dinner may well become your favorite holiday memory.

On arrival, walk the world-famous Marble Road down to the Harbour Street location where white linen-clad tables are set up against the backdrop of an ancient amphitheater. As you are seated, you will no doubt agree that while the magnificent historic landmarks of Ephesus are incredible sights to behold in daylight hours, when seen lit up under the stars, they simply become both ethereal and breathtaking.

As you bask in the extraordinary ambience of this truly special evening, you will be served an elegant five-course, white-glove dinner, all while enjoying music performed by a trio from the Aegean Chamber Orchestra. It just doesn't get much better than this.

When your evening draws to a close, you will walk back to your transportation and return to the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 30 minutes of moderate walking over a slight incline and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests. Those with walking difficulties should contact the Excursions Desk to arrange alternate transportation. We recommend evening attire. This is not an Ephesus site visit. Each guest will receive a complimentary photo to commemorate the evening.

Explore behind-the-scenes at Ephesus with an archaeological expert as your guide and see areas not usually included in the public tours.

Travel from the pier to St. Paul's prison, which is also known as the Watch Tower. Built by the Romans, its location on a hill by the seaside made it an ideal place to protect the surrounding peninsula. It is unclear if it served as a prison for St. Paul, but it is believed he was held here to protect him from the protests against him taking place in the Great Theater. Your visit here is exclusive in that this area is not open to the general public. The 10-minute walk up the hill is well worth the effort as it affords you a wonderful panoramic view of Ephesus and the surrounding area.

From here, drive to the upper gate of Ephesus where you will commence your guided walking tour of the site conducted by an archaeological expert. See the Grand Theater and Celsius Library and then continue on to the Agora, Domitian Temple, and Curetes Street. The information imparted by the archaeologist gives added insight into what you are viewing as it goes beyond the normal tour narration.

Continuing on, make your way to the Terrace Houses using a less-traveled path up the slope to the houses. Situated across from the Hadrian Temple, these homes of the wealthy Ephesians provide a significant look into their daily lives during the Roman period. Next, your behind-the-scenes walk will pass near St. Paul's Cave, unearthing secret locations in Ephesus along with showcasing some incredible views of the site.

Leaving Ephesus behind, you will next drive to the House of the Virgin Mary. Archaeological evidence dates the small house back to the sixth century; however, the foundations date back to the first century. Although there is no conclusive evidence Mary ever lived here, it has become a Catholic shrine and been visited by several Catholic popes and Catholic pilgrims. Afterwards, you will drive back to the pier in Kusadasi.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 2.5 hours of moderate to vigorous walking/standing that includes a significant incline, numerous steps, and uneven surfaces to negotiate. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with other walking difficulties or mobility concerns. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; walking shoes with a closed toe and non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. We further recommend bringing a bottle of water from the ship. Shoulders, legs, and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping and/or carpet demonstrations are optional and at the guest’s discretion.
While any visit to Kusadasi usually includes time at Ephesus, there are a multitude of wonderful attractions to see beyond there. This tour introduces you to two of those that are equally worth exploring and well-suited for those who have visited Ephesus in the past.

Leaving from the port, you will first set out for the House of the Virgin Mary. It’s a pleasant drive out to Mt. Pagus where a small, tree-lined path leads to a small stone cottage. Clinging to the side of Bulbul Mountain, it is believed to be the last home of the Virgin Mary, who traveled there in the company of St. John sometime around 40 A.D. near the end of her life. The home was officially recognized by the Vatican in 1896 after being described in visions by a German nun who had never seen it. In fact, it had yet to be discovered at that time. Today, both Christians and Muslims make religious pilgrimages to the site. Beside the house you will find a fountain where a sacred spring feeds three founts that each bestow a unique blessing upon visitors.

Continue from here through the countryside to the nearby village of Sirince which is a perfect blend of Turkish and Greek cultures. Enjoy free time here to explore on your own, strolling its narrow streets with their quaint village homes and soaking up the atmosphere of authentic village life. Famous for its fruit wines, you will be given an opportunity to sample some of them at a local café.

Following your time in Sirince, you will transfer back to Kusadasi where you will have the option of being dropped off in the center of town or returning directly to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs, and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites.

Spend time discovering two important and historical cities in the Kusadasi region, Didyma and Miletus.

Start with a scenic one-hour drive from the pier to Miletus, thought to be the oldest of the Ionian cities. The city was home not only to explorers and traders, but many well-known intellectuals as well, such as Anaximenes who contemplated the heavens; Anaximander, the father of geography; Thales, a pioneer of astronomy and geometry who calculated the height of the Pyramids in Egypt; and Hippodamus, the ancestor of modern city planners whose work you can observe in Miletus’ organized, grid-like pattern of streets. Once a great seafaring city, visitors today may wonder how that was given it is 5-miles from the sea. The answer is the Meander River which over the course of time left large deposits of silt that gradually built up the shoreline and distanced the city from the sea. Your visit here will last approximately one-hour, during which you can wander its ancient streets and the ruins of the amphitheater.

Continuing, travel to Didyma and see its famous Temple of Apollo. For as long as one can remember, there has always been a challenge to build the next “world’s tallest building” and that seems to be what the past inhabitants were striving for as they built the temple. Taking over 500 years to build, it was still never completed due to huge costs and engineering setbacks. Travelers from around the ancient world came here to seek the counsel of an oracle who was the voice of Apollo, the God who could not tell a lie. While only three of the original 100 columns remains, it is still possible to imagine the impressive beauty of the site that was the third largest man-made structure in the ancient world.

Returning to Kusadasi, you will have the option of being dropped off in the center of town or returning directly to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes just under two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
Patmos is alive with reminders of its colorful past, mainly relating to St. John as it is reputed to be the location where he wrote his Gospel and the Apocalypse. A monastery dedicated to him was founded in the late 10th century and has since been a place of pilgrimage and Greek Orthodox learning.

Start by making the short drive from the port to the Grotto of St. John where the saint heard the voice of God and wrote the book of Revelation. It was here, in this most sacred spot on the island, that he spent 16 months in exile. The simple cave is now a chapel and place of pilgrimage. Iconostases built into the cave walls depict his visions and where he slept, wrote and heard the voice of God.

Drive next to the Monastery of St. John the Theologian, built on an ancient acropolis. The monastery’s massive 15th-century walls and 17th-century battlements loom over the town and are in contradiction to its intimate and peaceful interior which features graceful archways, inlaid pebble stone floors and white-washed buildings. The charming chapel of Christodoulos here is liberally decorated with frescoes. The Treasury here, which is now a museum, houses a breathtaking collection of jeweled chalices, crowns, crucifixes, vestments, and old manuscripts. Perhaps one of the most important or perhaps the most important artifacts found here, is the Codex no. 67, also known as The Purple Codex, which contains extracts from the Gospel according to St. Mark.

Leaving the monastery, stroll through the nearby winding streets where houses date back to the 16th century and are linked via a maze of steps and quaint lanes that are interspersed with small squares. The silent, shuttered villas you will come across are owned by Athenians who prefer Patmos’ relaxed lifestyle over the hectic pace of Athens.

Next, join your coach and drive to the 300-year-old Simandris House for a visit. Inside you will find a rich collection of antiques and architecture that showcases an interesting combination of Oriental tradition, blended with the Western style that was favored in the 19th century. Afterwards, before returning to the port, relax at a local taverna where you can sample some tasty mezes (appetizers) and Greek wine or ouzo while enjoying a traditional Greek dance performance.

A fascinating stop at the Icon Restoration Chamber allows you to observe the professionals at work as they carefully and lovingly work to restore medieval icons.

Discover the beauty and history of the fabled St. John Monastery and later, observe professionals as they work to restore medieval icons.

Drive the short distance from the port to the marvelous Monastery of St. John where you will have a comprehensive tour of the premises while learning of its fascinating history. The tithes of Byzantine emperors and countless private contributors have made this monastery the richest in the Dodecanese archipelago. Such wealth enabled the monastery to establish the Theological School of Patmos in 1773 which is still attracting students from all over the world today.

The monastery's imposing façade with its massive 15th-century walls and 17th-century battlements loom over the town and are in contradiction to its intimate and peaceful interior which features graceful archways, inlaid pebble stone floors and white-washed buildings. Start by visiting the monastery's five chapels, one of which contains the relics of its founder, St. John. Beautiful frescoes covering the chapel walls depict the story of The Voyages and Miracles of St John the Theologian. Next, visit the Treasury which is now a museum. Housed within its walls is a breathtaking collection of jeweled chalices, crowns, crucifixes, vestments, and old manuscripts that date back to 1073 and record the monastery's 900-year history. Perhaps one of the most important or perhaps the most important artifacts found here, is the Codex no. 67, also known as The Purple Codex which contains extracts from the Gospel according to St. Mark.

A fascinating stop at the Icon Restoration Chamber allows you to observe the professionals at work as they carefully and lovingly work to restore these treasured artifacts.

Following your monastery visit, you are afforded some free time in town to stroll about and perhaps do some shopping, all while enjoying unrivaled views of the Bay of Patmos and the islands in the archipelago beyond. You will have the option of returning to the port with your guide or remaining in town to do some further exploration on your own, returning to the ship on your own and at your own expense.

Special Note: This tour includes just over one hour of moderate walking/standing that includes steps, inclines, and uneven cobblestone surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midrifts must be covered when entering religious sites. Shorts are not permitted.
The island of Patmos is fabled for its myths and legends, but perhaps best known as the place St. John heard the voice of God and wrote the book of Revelation. This tour introduces you to the locations most closely associated with his time on the island.

Begin with a drive to the nearby Grotto of St. John. This small cave which has been converted into a beautiful chapel, is where he lived, saw his amazing visions, and wrote the book of Revelation. Within its walls you will see the stone that is said he used as a pillow, as well as iconostases built into the walls that depict his life there.

Next, travel on to the main town where you will visit the Monastery of St. John. The tithes of Byzantine emperors and countless private contributors have made this monastery the richest in the Dodecanese archipelago. Such wealth enabled the monastery to establish the Theological School of Patmos in 1713 which is still attracting students from all over the world today.

The monastery's imposing façade with its massive 15th-century walls and 17th-century battlements loom over the town and are in contradiction to its intimate and peaceful interior which features graceful archways, inlaid pebble stone floors and white-washed buildings. Start by visiting the monastery's five chapels, one of which contains the relics of its founder, St. John. Beautiful frescoes covering the chapel walls depict the story of The Voyages and Miracles of St. John the Theologian. Next, visit the Treasury which is now a museum. Housed within its walls is a breathtaking collection of jeweled chalices, crowns, crucifixes, vestments, and old manuscripts that date back to 1073 and record the monastery’s 900-year history. Perhaps one of the most important or perhaps the most important of the artifacts found here, is the Codex no. 67, also known as The Purple Codex which contains extracts from the Gospel according to St. Mark.

Following your monastery visit, enjoy a bit of free time in town before driving back to the port. Those who wish to stay in town to further explore on their own, shop or grab a bite to eat are welcome to do so but must make their own way back to the ship at their own expense.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 90 minutes of moderate walking/standing that includes steps and uneven cobblestone surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. Shorts are not permitted.
Discover ancient Iassos, a hidden Lycian city that thrived for centuries due to its advantageous location.

Leaving from the port in Bodrum it’s a leisurely drive through scenic countryside to this remarkable archaeological site. At one time entirely located on an island, it is now connected to the mainland; however, many of the ruins still remain separated on a small rocky island.

Abundant fishing and a wealth of beautiful marble led to it being one of the earliest inhabited cities in the region, having been founded by Greek colonists coming from Argos in the ninth century BC, and later by immigrants from Miletus. However, Italian archaeologists have uncovered Minoan houses and Mycenaean pottery, indications that the city was actually inhabited well before the arrival of the Greeks.

As you tour the site’s many ruins such as the amphitheater, city gate and imposing pillars, you will probably be most impressed with its monumental mausoleum, a Syrian-style temple tomb. A Roman era Corinthian temple with ten stepped platforms was built over the burial chamber and during excavation, numerous skeletons were discovered in the tomb.

Following your guided tour of Iassos, you will make the drive back to the port in Bodrum.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 90 minutes of moderate walking/standing that includes steps and uneven surfaces. The drive to Iassos is approximately 7 -minutes in each direction. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

Step back in time with a visit to historical Bodrum Castle – a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the remains of the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, Bodrum’s oldest antiquity and once one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Make the short transfer from the new port to the imposing Bodrum Castle that dominates its surroundings. Built at the beginning of the 15th century, the Knights of Rhodes tore down the magnificent Mausoleum of Halicarnassus tomb in order to obtain enough stones to construct the Castle. In 1522 it fell under the rule of Suleiman I after his conquest of Rhodes and in the ensuing decades it was used as a military base and prison. In 1915 it received extensive damage when it was bombed by a French battleship and was again used as a military base during WWII. Today, it houses the Museum of Underwater Archaeology, one of the most significant of its kind in the world.

Next, visit the Sunken Boat Museum whose artifacts were found underwater and date from the Bronze Age through the Middle Ages. On display here are remnants from a 13th century BC Syrian trade ship and you will also tour the Carian Princess section to view her beautiful gold tiara.

Continue with a walk to the ruins of the once glorious Mausoleum of Halicarnassus. Artemisia II built the tomb in honor of her husband, King Mausolos and the modern generic term for the large tomb is derived from his name. The structure was a towering 150 feet tall and featured frescoes and other priceless artifacts, some of which are on display in the London Museum.

Your tour concludes at this point and you may either return to town to further explore on your own or go directly back to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 2.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and inclines. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Those who elect to stay in town are responsible for making their own way back to the ship.
Visit some of Bodrum’s most iconic attractions and then relax with a sail around the Bodrum Peninsula in a typical wooden gullet.

Start by driving from the port to the imposing Bodrum Castle that dominates its surroundings. Built at the beginning of the 15th century, the Knights of Rhodes tore down the magnificent Mausoleum of Halicarnassus tomb in order to obtain enough stones to construct the Castle. In 1522 it fell under the rule of Suleiman I after his conquest of Rhodes and in the ensuing decades it was used as a military base and prison. In 1915 it received extensive damage when it was bombed by a French battleship and was again used as a military base during WWII. Today, it houses the Museum of Underwater Archaeology, one of the most significant of its kind in the world.

Next, make your way to the Sunken Boat Museum whose artifacts were found underwater and date from the Bronze Age through the Middle Ages. On display here are remnants from a 13th century BC Syrian trade ship and you will also tour the Carian Princess section to view her beautiful gold tiara.

The afternoon includes a relaxing sail around the magnificent coves of the Bodrum Peninsula. Your wooden gullet is the typical wooden boat of this region that has sailed these waters for centuries. During your sail, you will have the opportunity to swim in some of the pristine bays so be sure to wear your swimsuit under your clothing and bring a towel. Changing cabins will be available for your convenience. Later, a lunch of traditional local specialties will be served on board and alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase.

After a delightful afternoon on the water, return to shore and transfer back to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 90 minutes of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and inclines. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with walking difficulties. Guests must negotiate a narrow ramp to enter and exit the gullet with limited assistance. We recommend wearing a swimsuit under your clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. If you wish to swim, please bring a towel from the ship.
Two marvelous experiences await you on this tour, a cruise down the Dalyan River and a visit to the remarkable archaeological site of Kaunos, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

It's a bit of a drive from the port to Dalyan Village, but the journey is well worth it as you pass through a picturesque landscape of pine forests, plantations of orange groves, and cotton fields. Arriving in this small traditional fishing village, board a motorboat and set-off on a cruise down the Dalyan River Delta, navigating through the river's winding canals and through a maze of reeds. Much like the drive to Dalyan, interspersed with small islands are cotton plantations that stretch beyond the banks of the river. As you approach Kaunos, view the famous and intriguing temple-tombs of ancient kings that are carved into the rocky cliffs.

When you arrive, debark your boat and walk up the bare hillside with your guide to the ruins of this ancient city that was once a strategic merchant port. During your visit, view the Roman theater, a Roman bath, statues, and numerous buildings in varying stages of decomposition. The Kaunosians were an indigenous population of Anatolia and had their own unique language, rituals, customs and even worshipped their own God, Basileus Kaunios. It is truly a mesmerizing experience to imagine the city as it was and reflect on the past inhabitants and what their daily life must have looked like.

Following your time exploring Kaunos, re-board your boat and travel back to Dalyan where your coach awaits to transfer you back to the port in Marmaris.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 75 minutes of moderate walking/standing that includes steps, uneven surfaces, and inclines. The drive to Dalyan Village is approximately 90-minutes in each direction and the boat ride is approximately 30 minutes. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

The word “hamam" originates from the Arabic hamma which means heating up, or essentially, a steam bath created by the heating of cold water. In ancient times, these baths served as health centers for the Greeks and were a part of daily life for the Ottomans and now, the Turks.

Drive the short distance from the port to the location of the Turkish Bath where once you've arrived, you will gather with your group and receive an explanation of what to expect. After being served a refreshment, head to the changing rooms and then take a short sauna to prepare you for your bath.

The process begins in the “Hot Room" which the Turks call the “Sicaklik”. In this stage you will sit on the marble and pour water over yourself. The heat in here is moderate (not quite as hot as the sauna) and the combination of the warmth and the water will serve to relax you. Once it is determined your skin is soft enough, receive a body scrub done with a “kese" or rough towel. Following this, move to the large marble stone set in the middle of the bath that is called the Navel Stone. As you lie on the stone, your body will be soaped and massaged by the expert hands of the attendants. Once your washing is completed, your bathing experience finishes with a shower, after which you can further unwind while enjoying some tea or a soft drink. Optional oil or terrapin massages are available for an extra charge.

When it's time to return to the port, you will no doubt come away thinking this was perhaps the most relaxing experience in your life!

Special Note: The time at the baths is approximately 2.5 hours and is mostly seated. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests. The Turkish Bath is unisex, and men and women will use the same areas. Make sure to bring your swimsuit. Towels are provided.
MRM303: İÇMELER BAY BEACH BREAK - AUGUST 21, 2021 | $59.00

6 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Spend the day relaxing and playing in the crystal-clear waters of the Aegean Sea at İçmeler Bay, located on the southwestern coast of Turkey.

A short drive from the pier brings you to a lovely resort on İçmeler Bay, one of the nicest beaches in the area that has achieved the prestigious Blue Flag status. Arriving at the resort, you will be welcomed and invited to enjoy the private beach facilities here. This unspoiled stretch of beach features the utmost in privacy and natural beauty. Bask in the sun, relax and read or people watch, or take a swim in the inviting waters of the sea. The day is yours to do as you please. Two complimentary soft drinks are provided and there is a restaurant and beach bar where you can purchase food if you like.

After approximately five hours at the beach, you will rejoin your transportation for the drive back to the pier.

Special Note: Walking on this tour is primarily at the guest’s discretion. There will be natural and uneven surfaces at the beach. Optional water activities, an internet café and billiards are available at an additional cost and must be paid directly where provided. Don’t forget to wear comfortable beach shoes, your bathing suit, a sun hat, sunscreen and bring a beach towel.

MRM304: DELIGHTFUL AKYAKA VILLAGE, BOAT RIDE AND MARMARIS CASTLE - AUGUST 21, 2021 | $59.00

4.25 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Come explore the small coastal village of Akyaka, an architectural gem and one of seventeen Turkish cities awarded Cittaslow status. Later, take a boat ride on the Azmak River and then return to Marmaris for a tour of its historic castle.

Leave the port for the scenic drive to Akyaka. This hidden gem of a village lies in the Azmak River Valley and is surrounded by eucalyptus trees. Best known for its distinctive Ottoman architecture that features octagonal shaped homes that feature intricately carved wooden doors, shutters, balconies, and roofs, it has become a popular holiday spot for locals. The town has also been granted Cittaslow status which in order to become eligible, a town must have a population of under 50,000 and meet several criteria for limited growth and preserving a slow-life culture. Enjoy a guided walking tour of the city and then have some free time to further explore on your own and do some shopping before boarding a boat for a leisurely cruise up the Azmak River.

Following your boat ride, return to Akyaka and then make the drive back to Marmaris. On arrival, take part in a guided tour of Marmaris Castle. Thought to have been constructed around 1044 BC it is one of the city’s oldest landmarks. After having passed through the hands of several emperors, the castle now serves as an archaeological monument and houses a museum.

After your tour of the castle, you are free to walk directly back to the port or spend more time in town to stroll about and do some shopping.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately three hours of moderate walking/standing that includes steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)
5 HOURS | MEALS: SNACK

Enjoy a fun day exploring the natural beauty of the Marmaris area by jeep and get a glimpse of local life in several small villages.

Board your jeep in the port and then drive as a convoy through the city and out to İçmeler. The town is perched on the edge of İçmeler Bay which boasts one of the most beautiful beaches in the area. From here, continue on to charming Osmaniye Village where a stop is made for photos.

Next, your route takes you up the slopes of Eren Mountain, passing more small villages before stopping in Bayır. At a small family café here, you will be treated to local gözleme and ayran which is Turkish pancakes and a yogurt drink. Afterwards, enjoy some free time to stroll about and soak in the laid-back ambience of the town.

Climb back aboard your jeep and drive to a nearby waterfall for photostop before driving on to the villages of Orhaniye and Hisarönü where there will be additional time for photos. Heading back down the mountain, there will be one final stop at a viewpoint that offers marvelous views of the city. Reaching the main road, it's a direct drive back to the port.

Special Note: This tour is primarily seated, with limited walking/standing; however, the jeep ride can be bouncy and at times jarring. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with physical limitations, back or neck problems or pregnant women. Those who may suffer from motion sickness are cautioned to take the appropriate precautions prior to the start of the tour. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
FETHIYE, TURKEY

FET501: THRILLING WHITESTREAM RAFTING ADVENTURE ON THE DALAMAN RIVER - AUGUST 22, 2021 | $329pp

5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Don’t miss this fantastic and exhilarating opportunity to go rafting on the grade 3 and grade 4 rapids of the Dalaman River.

The Dalaman River, also called the Indos River, runs through southwest Turkey, close to Fethiye. Your day begins with a scenic drive to the village of Narli where your river adventure begins. After a comfort stop, safety briefing and prepping your equipment, board your raft and start the journey.

Your trip down the river covers eight miles, passing through multiple waterfalls and cascading over and around numerous large rock formations. The excitement never ends as you try to anticipate what obstacles you will next encounter as your raft bobs and weaves its way down the river. Along your route you will come across the ancient bridge “Akköprü” which features a charming Greek inscription, “How lucky a man I am, to have built this wonderful bridge over this enchanting river.” No doubt at the end of the day, you will be thinking how lucky you were to discover this amazing experience.

Arriving at Demirli Village, you will exit the river and after a short break, make the return drive back to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes limited walking. The rafting experience is approximately two hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with physical limitations, other health limitations or pregnant women. Participants should be in reasonably good physical condition. We recommend wearing a swimsuit under clothing that can get wet; flat athletic shoes that can get wet; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. All safety equipment will be provided. Guests will need to sign a waiver before being allowed to take part in the tour.

FET502: TREKKING LYCIA FETHIYE: THE KAYAKÖY AND ÖLÜDENIZ RUINS - AUGUST 22, 2021 | $399pp

4 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Trek along a path that starts at the Kayaköy ruins and winds its way to the ruins of Ölüdeniz, enjoying beautiful views over the valley and getting up close to vestiges of a by-gone era.

Meet your guide at the pier and drive by minivan to Kayaköy, starting point for your hike. The hundreds of ruins here that were built on the site of the ancient civilization of Caria, nothing less than an outdoor museum. Your route begins at the large high church that is situated in the middle of the ruins. If it’s possible to enter the church, you will find pebbled mosaics decorating the floor and a few reminders of the decorative paintwork that used to cover the entire ceiling. Your footpath winds through the ruins and then leads you on a steady climb through what was once the former homes of the Greek population that once inhabited the area. There are a multitude of nooks and crannies tucked away in the ruins and several paths to follow, but you will want to follow the red and yellow striped directional signs.

Aside from a collection of mesmerizing ruins, Ölüdeniz also offers up stunning views of the Mediterranean and the Blue Lagoon from which Ölüdeniz got its name. Descending to your starting point, re-board your mini-van and head back to the pier, stopping for a comfort break and refreshment en route.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately nearly two hours of moderate to vigorous walking that includes negotiating natural and uneven surfaces and inclines. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with physical limitations or other medical limitations such as heart, respiratory, back or neck problems. Participants should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat sport shoes or hiking boots with a closed toe and non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Guests will need to sign a waiver before being allowed to take part in the tour.

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)
**ACTIVITY LEVEL: MILD**

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)

---

**FET302: DISCOVER THE EXTRAORDINARY UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE OF XANTHOS-LETOON - AUGUST 22, 2021 | $69pp**

4 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Take this opportunity to explore Xanthos-Letoon, one of the most remarkable archaeological sites in Turkey and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Take a picturesque drive to the east side of Fethiye where you will find Xanthos, once the capital city of the Lycian Federation that was its most important city throughout most of Lycian history. Discovered by Charles Fellows in the 19th century, it then became famous to the Western world. The city dates back to the eighth century BC, but it's possible it may even date back further to the Bronze Age or the first centuries of the Iron Age.

Situated on a cliff that overlooks the Koca River, the remains of this city with a tragic past include the Lycian acropolis, the Roman acropolis, Roman theater, and a copy of the Harpy Monument, which is a family sarcophagus situated within a rock. The original of this decorated sarcophagus is in the British Museum in London. Nearby, you will find some other fascinating Lycian sarcophagi that date back from the first and sixth centuries BC. These ornate funerary decorations serve to wonderfully display how the Lycian traditions and the Hellenistic influences blended together in the region.

Next, visit Letoon, the sacred cult center of Lycia which was dedicated to the three national deities of Lycia - Leto and her twin children Apollo and Artemis. While less famous than her off-spring, Leto was also worshipped as a family deity and as the guardian of the tomb. The numerous ruins here still offer up a fascinating insight into the importance Letoon once held in the ancient world.

Following your time in Letoon, travel back to the port in Fethiye.

*Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes steps, uneven surfaces, and inclines. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.*

---

**FET503: TANDEM PARAGLIDE SOAR OVER STUNNING OLUDENIZ - AUGUST 22, 2021 | $499pp**

4.5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Step out of your comfort zone and take to the skies as you float over the incredibly beautiful setting of Ölüdeniz. The views are simply outstanding and the flight nothing less than exhilarating as you experience the unforgettable sensation of motor-less flight while riding the currents of the wind.

Babadag Mountain which is located approximately 30 minutes from Fethiye, is one of the highest commercial take-off sites in the world for paragliding at 6,500 feet. With a breath-taking panorama and stable weather conditions, it is truly an ideal location for the sport.

Board your minibus at the pier and make the drive to the launch site on the mountain where you will meet your instructor and receive a briefing on safety and what to expect. Once you are harnessed in with your instructor, the two of you will take off and launch into the void of open air. In the blink of an eye, your canopy will be lifted by the wind currents and you will find yourself floating over the landscape below. Exciting 360-degree turns and wingovers add to the fun and if you are lucky, you might catch some thermal flows that could extend your descent. No worries, your pilot is a professional with many years of paragliding experience on the mountain so you can be assured he will give you the safest and most optimal experience with your flight. Dependent upon the prevailing wind currents, your flight will last approximately 30 minutes and your gentle landing on Oludeniz Beach will be just as easy as your take-off was.

Before driving back to the pier, enjoy a comfort stop and refreshment.

*Special Note: This tour has limited walking. The drive to the launch point is approximately 30-minutes in each direction. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with physical limitations or other medical limitations such as heart, respiratory, back or neck problems, pregnant women or those who suffer from a fear of heights. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing, flat sport shoes with a non-slip sole and sunscreen. Guests will need to sign a waiver before being allowed to take part in the tour.*

---

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MILD  ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE  ACTIVITY LEVEL: VIGOROUS
Take a nature break with a visit to Saklikent National Park and its unbelievably beautiful and mystic canyon.

Start with an incredibly scenic drive to Saklikent National Park that winds between quaint villages and majestic mountains. Arriving, you will have 2.5 hours to explore the park’s gorge, the second largest in Europe. The gorge is 11 miles long and nearly 1,000 feet deep and is how melted snow from the Taurus Mountains finds its way to the Xanthos River each spring. As you walk along a trail that at times has you navigating through water (be sure to wear shoes and clothes you won’t mind getting wet) and over suspended wooden bridges, you can’t help but be awed by the sculpted walls of the canyon that soar high above you and the wondrous natural setting that surrounds you.

Finishing your guided walk, enjoy a rest break that includes refreshments and snacks before driving back to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 2.5 hours of moderate physical activity that includes some inclines, natural and uneven surfaces and possibly walking through shallow water. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with physical limitations or other health concerns. Participants should be in reasonably good physical condition. We recommend wearing a swimsuit under weather appropriate comfortable clothing that can get wet; flat walking shoes with a closed toe that can get wet; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Guests will need to sign a waiver before being allowed to take part in the tour.
Visit the key attractions in the region - the village of Kalekoy and the sunken city of Simena and discover for yourself why the Kekova region was declared a Specially Protected Area in 1990.

Start by taking a local boat to Kalekoy, a small yet colorful village that is only accessible by boat. Built on the acropolis of the ancient city of Simena, from the top of its medieval castle you are treated to splendid views of the entire bay. After you have had time to drink in the views and take some photos from this lofty viewpoint, make your way back to your boat and cruise to the sunken city of Simena. Embraced by gorgeous turquoise waters, most areas of the city can still be seen from the boat and some parts are barely submerged. The crystal-clear waters tend to lend a touch of mystery to the ruins that lie beneath the surface. One of the more extraordinary sights is that of a Lycian tomb sitting in the middle of the water, an emblematic image of this ancient sunken city.

Before returning to the port, some free time will be allotted for those who would like to take a swim in the waters here so be sure to wear your swimsuit under your clothes and bring a towel.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately one hour of moderate walking that includes numerous steps, uneven surfaces, and inclines. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing a swimsuit under weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. If you wish to swim, please bring a towel from the ship.

Explore the ancient city of Myra, one of the most powerful cities in the region during the time of the Lycian confederation.

Take a tender from the ship and travel to the Cayagzi pier in Demre where your ground transportation awaits to transfer you to Myra. In early Byzantine times, the city surpassed Xanthos to become the capital city of Lycia. However, following years of prosperity, in the 12th century the marshy environment, earthquakes and isolation led to it being abandoned by its inhabitants. The ruins here include the largest amphitheater in the region, large rock tombs built into the cliffsides and several historical monuments.

Continue on to the church of St. Nicholas. Born in Patara, he was the patron saint of children and served as bishop in Myra in the fourth century. Regarded as the third-most important Byzantine structure in Anatolia, it is noteworthy for its outstanding frescos and for being the location of his sarcophagus, although his remains were relocated to Italy.

Following the visit to the church, travel back to the pier in Demre in transfer by tender back to the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 75 minutes of moderate walking that includes numerous steps, uneven surfaces, and inclines. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing a swimsuit under weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders and legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites.
EXPLORE THE LUSH SCENERY OF THE AKAMAS PENINSULA ON AN EXHILARATING BIKE TREK THROUGH THE PAPHOS COUNTRYSIDE.

Board your transportation at the port and then enjoy a picturesque 40-minute drive to Inia, a small village whose name is thought to harken back to a vineyard belonging to the Hospitallers. On arrival, meet your escort and receive your helmet and bike. Then, after a short briefing on safety and what to expect, set-off on your two-wheeled trek.

As you pedal your way on the descent to Lara Beach, enjoy sweeping views of the peninsula as you pass through a forested landscape. Arriving at Lara Beach, stop for approximately 1-hour to relax and perhaps grab a bite to eat or take a dip in the sea.

When break-time concludes, hop back aboard your bike and ride along the coast to the sea caves in Pegia. The sea caves are not only beautiful, but unique in their geology. Formed by the corrosive action of the sea over thousands of years, they are an awesome testament to the power of the sea.

Following your stop at the caves, you will be picked up and driven back to the port where your bike adventure concludes.

Special Note: This tour includes just over one hour of moderate to vigorous biking and over 90 minutes of walking/standing that includes natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with physical limitations or other health concerns such as heart, respiratory, back or neck issues or pregnant women. Guests should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing suitable for riding a bike; flat, sturdy walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Those who wish to swim at the beach should wear a bathing suit under their clothes and bring a towel. All equipment will be provided. Guests will need to sign a waiver before being allowed to take part in the tour.

CONTINUE ON TO LEMONA VILLAGE WHERE YOU WILL VISIT THE FAMILY OWNED TSANGARIDES WINERY. WHEN YOU ARRIVE, RECEIVE A WARM WELCOME BY THE OWNER WHO WILL SHARE HIS FAMILY HISTORY AND HOW THE WINE MAKING SKILLS AND EXPERTISE ARE PASSED ON FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION. FOLLOWING A TOUR OF THE WINERY, BE TREATED TO A SAMPLING OF SOME OF THEIR MOST DELICIOUS WINES.

Your final tour stop is in the quaint village of Letymbou for a visit to the traditional House of Sofia. During your visit, view the rooms with their original furniture and décor and then see freshly made bread coming out of the oven. You might also have the opportunity to knead your own bread dough and put it in the traditional oven for baking. There will also be a demonstration of loukoumades and halloumi making followed by a tasting. Afterwards, sit down to a taste-tempting traditional Cyprus breakfast before making the drive back to the port in Paphos.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately three hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites.
A truly comprehensive tour of the many facets of Cyprus, you will explore an impressive archaeological site, experience interactive fruit picking, discover local wine making, and tour an authentic village.

Start your day with a scenic drive to the Fasouri area where at a local fruit plantation, you can try your hand at fruit picking. After a tour of the plantation with the owner, they will show you how the fresh fruits are picked and let you give it a try yourself. This organic experience ends with enjoying some of the fresh fruit you’ve picked along with some freshly squeezed lemon juice.

Next, head north to Troodos Mountain where you will find the Lambouris Winery. For over 300 years, the Lambouris family’s long tradition of winemaking and an unbroken drive for perfection have made the Lambouris Winery a household name for exclusive Cypriot wines. The winery limits production to just 75,000 bottles annually; therefore, the wines are only available on their premises or in selected restaurants and hotels. After touring the winery, enjoy a tasting of some of their finest varieties.

Continuing on, drive to the mountain-ringed village of Omodos. This popular wine town is perfect for a leisurely stroll down its narrow streets with their charming traditional homes and pots of colorful flowers. Your guided walk includes a visit to the Monastery of Holy Cross and a medieval wine press. Afterwards, a tasty Mezze lunch awaits at one of the atmospheric local taverns. Time permitting, browse some local shops in the town’s large main square.

Your tour draws to a close with a final stop at Kourion, one of the most impressive archaeological sites in Cyprus. The main feature is a magnificently restored Greco-Roman Theater with seats facing out to the sea that today is once again used for outdoor performances. Another significant site here is the House of Eustolios, a private Roman villa with superb 5th century mosaic tile floors. From this location you can also view the Roman Agora which dates back to the third century and is surrounded by porticos and marble columns.

Following your time in Kourion, drive back to the pier in Paphos.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 4.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes steps and uneven natural surfaces. While many of the sites are only partially accessible, the tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the transportation and have a companion to assist them; however, the tour may not be suitable for those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

Discover several of Paphos’ marquee attractions that have led to the city being named a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The legacy of Paphos’ remarkable history is such that it is considered nothing less than an open-air museum which led to UNESCO including the entire town as a cultural heritage location.

Begin with a short drive from the pier to the Basilica of Chrysopolitissa and the Pillar of Saint Paul. The Pillar is said to be the location where St. Paul was flogged for preaching Christianity and has become a popular pilgrimage stop. The Basilica was built in the fourth century A.D. and you can still see what remains of several granite and marble Corinthian-styled columns as well as some preserved mosaic tiled pieces of the original floor.

Next, drive to the Tombs of the Kings that dates back to the Hellenistic and early Roman periods. These tombs and underground chambers were carved from rock and were made to resemble the houses of the living. Although the tombs belong to high-ranking officials and aristocracy rather than kings, due to the size and splendor of the tombs, they gained the moniker of Tombs of the Kings.

The final stop is at the House of Dionysos, thought to have been built around the end of the second century AD and later abandoned after the destructive earthquakes of the fourth century AD. The large villa with its central courtyard is perhaps the most impressive archaeological site in Paphos and depicts the life of the wealthiest residents of Paphos during the Roman period. It is also renowned for having what is perhaps the most impressive collection of mosaics in the Mediterranean.

Following your visit, transfer back to the port.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes steps and uneven natural surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)

PFO307: SEA KAYAKING TO THE ISLAND OF YERONISSOS AND SWIM BREAK - AUGUST 24, 2021 | $169PP

4 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

The stunning waters that embrace Cyprus are the perfect location for sea kayaking and appreciating its beautiful natural marine environment.

Leave the port and transfer to the Agios Georgios area where your instructors await with your kayaks and equipment. On arrival, receive instructions on basic paddling technique and a safety briefing and then when you are all ready, set out for the small island of Yeronissos. As you paddle along the island's coastline, your instructor/guide will share information with you about the island and point-out some of the wild birds and sea life that make these waters their home.

After approximately two hours of paddling, you'll stop for some free time during which you are invited to take a dip in the ocean. Afterwards, paddle back to Agios Georgios and transfer back to the port.

Special Note: This tour includes limited walking and approximately two hours of moderate to vigorous paddling. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with physical limitations or other health concerns. Participants should be in good physical condition and good swimmers. We recommend wearing a swimsuit under a cover-up; flat rubber-soled shoes that can get wet; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. All equipment will be provided. Guests will need to sign a waiver before being allowed to take part in the tour.
NOW AVAILABLE! NEW 7 WONDERS OF THE WORLD
ASHH505MS: MAX SHORE: THE ULTIMATE ISRAEL AND JORDAN EXPERIENCE - AUGUST 25, 2021 | COMPLIMENTARY ($3,589pp VALUE)
6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS | MEALS: YES
Explore Israel and Jordan like few have the opportunity to do. All of the highlights and more are included in this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Day 1 - Your first day of this incredible journey of discovery begins when you disembark the ship in Ashdod and make the drive to Jerusalem. A full day of exploration around this remarkable city begins with a drive to the Mount of Olives where a wonderful view of Jerusalem unfolds below you. At the foot of the hill is the Garden of Gethsemane with its ancient olive trees and where it is believed Jesus spent his last night.

From here, enter the Old City for a visit to the Western (or Wailing) Wall and views of the Al-Aksa Mosque and Dome of the Rock. Next, make your way to the Pool of Bethesda (where the angel ruffled the waters) and then on to St. Anne’s Church, known as the traditional birthplace of Jesus’ mother Mary.

Mid-day you will pause for lunch at a local restaurant and then resume your tour of the Old City and travel along the Via Dolorosa and on to the Convent of Zion Sisters (formerly the Antonia Fortress), the huge cistern and the Lithostrotos (pavement) considered to be the location where Jesus suffered at the hands of the Roman soldiers and where the trial by Pontius Pilate took place. Onward from here, make your way through the bazaars and on to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre – the site of Jesus’ crucifixion, burial and resurrection.

In the Jewish Quarter you will see the Cardo, the Roman street that served as the hub of the city, and then leave the Old City at Mt. Zion to visit St. Peter in Gallicantu, which was built over the palace of the High Priest Caiaphas and where Peter denied Christ. Your first day of touring comes to a close with a transfer to your Jerusalem hotel where you will have dinner and overnight.

Day 2 - Begin with breakfast in the hotel and then head out and travel along the Dead Sea to Masada. Arriving, take the cable car up to the top of this sandstone mountain that was the last stronghold of the Zealots. Some 2,000 years ago, Roman legions stormed one of the two paths to the top to reach the Jewish Zealots headquartered there. The brave Israeliite soldiers held out for three years against the invading Roman army before taking their own lives to avoid capture and enslavement. Many of the fortifications here that were originally built by King Herod, still stand.

After visiting Masada, stop at the Qumran Caves, located on the Dead Sea’s northern shore, and the place where the Dead Sea scrolls were found. Now a national park, the caves were used for storage purposes by the Essenes, a mystical sect that produced the Dead Sea Scrolls. In 1947, a young Bedouin shepherd discovered manuscript fragments in the caves that were hidden for centuries in airtight jars. The fragments from the Books of Exodus, Isaiah and Psalms are now on exhibit in the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. Travel back to Jerusalem in the afternoon for your final dinner and overnight there.

Day 3 - Following breakfast in the hotel, drive to the Allenby Bridge (known as the King Hussein Bridge on the Jordan side) and cross into Jordan. Following your crossing, a Jordanian English-speaking guide will join you and you will head to Mount Nebo. Mount Nebo is the mountain mentioned in the bible where Moses was granted a view of the Holy Land but was not allowed to enter it. Nowadays the mountain is a memorial site where the "Church of Moses" stands.

Ever since the first days of Christianity this mountain has been a holy place and a destination for pilgrimage. The location offers a magnificent view over Jordan, the Dead Sea and Israel. When the weather is clear, you may even be able to see Jerusalem, which is about 37 miles away.

Leaving Mount Nebo, continue on to nearby Madaba, known as the City of Mosaics. Perched on an archaeological site with more than 4,000 years of history buried beneath it. The quality and quantity of the mosaic flooring found here has made Madaba one of the most prominent cities in the world for mosaics. St. George’s Church here houses a world-famous mosaic floor containing a large mosaic map of Palestine, which also features a detailed map of Jerusalem as it was during the sixth century. At the Church of the Apostles, found at the southern entrance of the city, there is a mosaic floor attributed to the craftsman Salamanos. The mosaic depicts the sea, with the central figure of a woman encircled with a selection of creatures, vegetation, and an inscription.

Haret Jdoudna represents an authentic village in the city of Madaba, offering everything from amazing traditional food, to entertainment, to local crafts, mosaics and souvenirs. Enjoy lunch here at the Haret Jdoudna Restaurant, housed in a 19th century house that has retained its original features and floors. The excellent menu offers local mezza dishes, oven-baked delicacies and traditional home-made meals. Following lunch, travel to the Seven Wonders Luxury Camp in Petra for check-in and dinner. The balance of the evening is at your leisure. Enjoy stargazing by the fire with your fellow travelers before retiring for the night to your well-appointed tent.

Day 4 - After breakfast at the camp check-out and transfer to the Petra Visitors’ Center where your tour of Petra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1985, will commence. Petra has also been included as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. You may begin the visit with an optional horse ride from the main gate of Petra to the entrance of the old city. From there, walk on foot along to the Siq (entrance). The ancient city of Petra was built between 800 BC and AD 100 by Nabatean Arabs. In this era Petra was a fortress, carved out of the jagged rocks in an area which was virtually inaccessible. In the first and second century, after the Romans invaded, the city had reached the peak of its fame.

Petra covers an area of about 62 miles, and over 800 monuments can be found here. When shipping slowly displaced caravan routes, the city’s importance gradually dwindled and it fell into disuse and was lost to the world until 1812, when it was re-discovered by the Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhart. Nowadays, Petra is a popular tourist attraction, known as the “rose-red city half as old as time”. The Khazneh (the Treasury), was featured in the Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade film. Lunch will be served at the Basin Restaurant which is found amid the ruins of Petra. Here, nestled within the splendor of Petra's monuments, enjoy a chance to check in and have lunch before continuing your afternoon of touring.

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)
Leaving Petra behind, transfer to Wadi Rum. Otherwise known as Valley of the Moon, Wadi Rum is the largest - and most magnificent - of Jordan's desert landscapes and has been virtually untouched by humans. A maze of monolithic rock formations rises up from the desert floor to heights of 5,740 feet, creating a natural challenge for serious mountaineers. However, Wadi Rum may be best known for its connection with British officer T. E. Lawrence, who passed through several times during the Arab Revolt of 1917–1918. In the 1980s one of the rock formations in Wadi Rum was named "The Seven Pillars of Wisdom" after Lawrence's book that was penned in the aftermath of the war. However, the 'Seven Pillars' referred to in the book have no connection with Wadi Rum.

Your day draws to a close with a ninety-minute desert exploration in a 4x4 that is driven by a local Bedouin. It ends just before sunset at a location where you can appreciate an exclusive view of the beautiful Wadi Rum desert as the sun sets. Afterwards, proceed to your desert camp Aicha Memories Luxury Camp where you will enjoy a second night of desert “glamping” under the stars that includes dinner and overnighting in a luxury tent.

**Day 5** - After rising and enjoying breakfast at your camp, make the drive from Wadi Rum to the Allenby Bridge and cross back into Israel, enjoying a snack on the coach. Here, after crossing, join your Israeli guide and travel to Tel Aviv. On arrival, check-in to your hotel and have the remainder of the afternoon at your leisure with dinner in the hotel.

**Day 6** - Your final day starts with breakfast at the hotel and then you will set-out to explore the dynamic city of Tel Aviv. Your first stop is at Rabin Square, located in the eastern part of the city, it is named after the former Prime Minter, Yizhak Rabin. The square is a popular location in the city for concerts and mass gatherings. Continue with a drive through the “White City”, deemed a UNESCO World heritage site because of its Bauhaus and Art Deco architecture. Before leaving Tel Aviv, visit Shuk Hacarmel - The Carmel Market, known in Israel as “Shuk Ha’Carmel”. It is the city’s largest marketplace and a fascinating, enjoyable place to visit. The market is basically one crowded narrow alley with long line of colorful stalls standing on either side, and where vendors proudly (and loudly) present their goods.

The remainder of your afternoon is spent in the ancient city of Jaffa, one of the oldest seaports in the world. Jaffa is a restored city, interesting for its antiquities and archaeological excavations, with many shops, art galleries and restaurants. Atop the hill is the old, restored stone quarter which now thrives as an artists’ enclave that delights with its maze of alleys and courtyards, galleries, restaurants, and “new” antique shops. The Jaffa area was an important city throughout centuries and today retains a very typical eastern flavor integrated with North African local Arabic and Jewish heritage.

At the end of your time in Jaffa, you will be dropped off at the nearby Ashdod port where you will rejoin the ship and continue your voyage.

Special Note: This tour includes a mixture of moderate to vigorous physical activity over a period of several days that includes significant walking, inclines, steps, natural and uneven surfaces in hot climates. Some of the activities may not be suitable for wheelchair guests, those with physical limitations or other health concerns. Guests should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat, sturdy walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
Experience some of the world’s most incredible scenery and historical finds as you journey first to Masada, a mountain fort that is now a national Jewish shrine, and then follow-up with visits to the Dead Sea, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem to see some of history’s most sacred sites.

**Day 1** - Start off from the port and commence a three-hour drive into the Negev Desert to the mountain fortress of Masada, which looms high above the Dead Sea’s desolate landscape. It has often been described as the most spectacular archaeological site in Israel and is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is here that King Herod built a luxurious refuge complete with magnificent palaces, swimming pools and excavated rock cisterns to provide water supplies. Around AD 73, after a three-year long Roman siege, more than 950 Jews took their own lives at Masada rather than face the brutal Romans and a future of slavery. On arrival, a cable car will convey you to the summit where you can explore the vestiges of what was the last stand for hundreds of Jews. Among the fascinating sights you can see are the wall, bathhouses, the upper palace, synagogue, western palace, and the Roman ramp and siege camp.

After your visit, descend back down the mountain and drive to Ein Bokek where you will have lunch at a hotel on the shores of the Dead Sea. After lunch, you can take a swim in these waters that are so mineral-rich you can’t sink. Following your Dead Sea experience, drive north past Jericho and Qumran. At Qumran, stop for photos of the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947. Continue on to Jerusalem where you will check-in to your hotel for the night and have dinner. After dinner, re-board your coach and enjoy a panoramic tour past the illuminated walls and monuments of Jerusalem and make a stop at the Western (Wailing) Wall. The Wall is the remaining remnant of the ramparts that once surrounded the Holy Temple. Afterwards, return to your hotel where you will have dinner and the remainder of the evening at your leisure.

**Day 2** - Get off to an early start with breakfast in the hotel, followed by a drive to the Mount of Olives where you are afforded a magnificent view over the Golden City. Walk the sacred paths of the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest, visit the beautiful church here and marvel at the grove of olive trees which are the oldest that remain in Jerusalem.

From here, make the short drive to Mt. Zion and visit the room of The Last Supper. Next, enter the Old City on foot via the Zion Gate, walking through the Jewish Quarter and the Roman Cardo to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher which sits on the site of Christ’s resurrection. The original vast sanctuary that was built here by Emperor Constantine was destroyed centuries later, but a replacement was eventually rebuilt by the Crusaders. In the church you will be able to see the last five Stations of the Cross. Your walk then continues through the colorful bazaar to the Jaffa Gate.

At this point, pause for lunch at a local restaurant before driving to Bethlehem where you will visit the Church of the Nativity. Built above the place that Christ is said to have been born, the actual Cave of the Nativity is a small crypt with a vaulted masonry roof. Poor Bethlehem families used the rocky hollows of the region as stables or dwellings, so the tradition that places the Nativity in a cave is not at odds with the story of the manger. Before heading back to rejoin the ship in Ashdod, there will be an opportunity to shop for souvenirs.

**Special Note:** This tour includes two days of significant moderate to vigorous walking that can include inclines, steps, natural and uneven cobblestone surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, or those with physical limitations or other health concerns such as heart, respiratory, back or neck issues and may not be suitable for pregnant women. Guests should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate modest attire (knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered); flat, sturdy walking shoes with a closed toe (aqua shoes are recommended for the Dead Sea as well as wearing an old bathing suit as the water there can cause discoloration); a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Towels and lockers are provided at the Dead Sea. All participants must carry their passport with them to enter Bethlehem. It is each guest’s sole responsibility to obtain (before traveling) any visas, vaccinations and/or tourist cards that are required for participating in overland adventures or overnight tours.
Day 1 – Debark the ship and drive to Masada, described as the most spectacular archaeological site in Israel and recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is here that King Herod built a luxurious refuge complete with magnificent palaces, swimming pools and excavated rock cisterns to provide water supplies. Around AD 73, after a three-year-long Roman siege, more than 950 Jews took their own lives at Masada rather than face the brutal Romans and a future of slavery. During your visit, some of the fascinating sights you can see are the wall, bathhouses, the upper palace, synagogue, western palace, and the Roman ramp and siege camp. When your visit draws to a close, take the cable car down to the desert floor and then return to the hotel for breakfast and some free time before checking out and driving back to the ship.

Following your nature walk, re-board your coach and drive to the Dead Sea where you will enjoy lunch at a local hotel and afterwards, check-in to your room and then have free time to just relax, visit the spa, take a dip in the hotel’s pool or swim in the Dead Sea. The evening is at your leisure and we suggest making it an early night as Day 2’s adventure starts pre-dawn!

**Day 2** Meet in the lobby of the hotel at 4:00 a.m. and make the 30-minute drive to Masada. While there is a cable car that operates during daylight hours, today you will make the trek to the summit via the Snake Trail. The hike up usually takes about 75 minutes and will be well worth the effort when you reach the top and are rewarded with watching the sun rise majestically over the desert. Masada has often been described as the most spectacular archaeological site in Israel and is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is here that King Herod built a luxurious refuge complete with magnificent palaces, swimming pools and excavated rock cisterns to provide water supplies. Around AD 73, after a three-year-long Roman siege, more than 950 Jews took their own lives at Masada rather than face the brutal Romans and a future of slavery. During your visit, some of the fascinating sights you can see are the wall, bathhouses, the upper palace, synagogue, western palace, and the Roman ramp and siege camp. When your visit draws to a close, take the cable car down to the desert floor and then return to the hotel for breakfast and some free time before checking out and driving back to the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes 2-days of significant moderate to vigorous walking, hiking and climbing that includes steep inclines, steps, natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, or those with physical limitations or other health concerns such as heart, respiratory, back or neck issues or pregnant women. Guests should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate modest attire (knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered); flat, sturdy athletic shoes or hiking boots with a closed toe (aqua shoes are recommended for the Dead Sea as well as wearing an old bathing suit as the water there can cause discoloration); a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

**TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)**
TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)
**ASH306: ICONIC JERUSALEM AND THE IMPRESSIVE YAD VASHEM MUSEUM**

**AUGUST 25, 2021 | $175pp**

**10.5 HOURS | MEAL: LUNCH**

This full-day excursion to Jerusalem explores the history of the Jewish people during visits to some of the city’s most important and renowned landmarks.

From the pier, drive to Jerusalem via the scenic Judean Mountains. Your first stop will be at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum - a sanctuary and temple of memories dedicated to the millions of Jews who died during World War II. Housed here is a remarkable documentary collection which illustrates the persecution that took place from 1933 to 1945. A visit to the Children’s Memorial is also included.

Next, drive to the Israel Museum where you will visit the Second Temple Model of Jerusalem, which reconstructs the topography and architecture of the city at the time of its destruction in AD 70. Must-see exhibits here include the Shrine of the Book and the Dead Sea Scrolls, possibly Israel’s most important archaeological find of the 20th century.

Rejoining your coach, pass the Knesset, Israel’s Parliament while driving to a local restaurant for lunch. Afterwards, drive up Mt. Scopus for a marvelous panoramic view of the Old City and the Temple Mount. Then, continue on to Mt. Zion, where you commence your walking tour. Starting at Zion Gate, make your way through the Jewish Quarter, which was renovated after the 1967 war. Visit the second-century Roman Cardo and walk down the hill to the Western (Wailing) Wall where you can touch the Herodian Stones that were once part of the Second Temple. Your enriching tour of Jerusalem then concludes, and your coach will transfer you back to Ashdod and your awaiting ship.

**Special Note:** This tour includes approximately five hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps, stairs, and inclines to negotiate. Time spent driving on the coach is approximately 4 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping is optional and at the guest’s discretion. There is no restroom stop on the approximately 90-minute drive between Ashdod and Jerusalem. All visitors to Bethlehem must have their passport with them.

**ASH307: THE LEGENDARY FORTRESS OF MASADA AND DEAD SEA EXPERIENCE**

**AUGUST 25, 2021 | $225pp**

**11 HOURS | MEAL: LUNCH**

Experience some of the world’s most incredible scenery and historical finds as you journey first to the Dead Sea and then on to Masada, a mountain fort that is now a national Jewish shrine, and world famous for its recognition by UNESCO for its unique structure and history. From the lofty heights of Masada to the lowest point on earth at the Dead Sea, this tour truly takes you to the heart of Israel.

Leave Ashdod port and make the 2.5-hour drive to the Masada Fortress via Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. The landscape is both desolate and mesmerizing as you descend through the Judean desert into the valley of the Dead Sea. Towering high above this is the legendary Masada. In King Herod’s day, it was a luxury refuge complete with magnificent palaces and excavated rock cisterns to supply water. Around AD 73, after a three-year-long Roman siege, more than 950 Jews took their own lives at Masada rather than face a future of slavery.

When you arrive, a cable car will convey you to the summit for a walk around the site of this famous and historical last stand. Among the fascinating sights are the wall, northern palace, synagogue, western palace, Roman ramp, and siege camps. After spending nearly two hours here, return via cable car to the floor of the valley where you will have some time for photos.

Continue from here to the Dead Sea where you will be treated to lunch at hotel that overlooks this remarkable body of water. After lunch, those who wish may choose to take a swim in the mineral-rich waters that are so salty you cannot sink!

After a day steeped in history, transfer back to the pier in Ashdod.

**Special Note:** This tour includes approximately three hours of moderate walking/standing on primarily flat surfaces. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately 6.5 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. If you plan to take a dip in the Dead Sea, bring an old swimsuit as the water can cause discoloration. Aqua shoes are also recommended. Towels and lockers are provided at the hotel. In the event of flash floods in the Judean Desert the tour will not pass by Qumran.
ASH309: JOURNEY TO HISTORICAL BEIT GUVRIN - AUGUST 25, 2021 | $99

5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Travel to Beit Guvrin, an historical town well-known for its famous caves on this half-day tour.

From the pier, you will drive past the Valley of Elah, location of the famous battle between David and Goliath while en route to Beit Guvrin. Referred to by Josephus Flavius as one of the most important towns taken by the Romans in 68 CE, this once small village grew in importance.

On arrival, enjoy a guided walk through the amazing caves, which have been used as cisterns, animal pens, burial grounds, pigeon housing and for oil production. Some caves served as churches, as evidenced by the crosses that can still be seen carved on the walls. The columbarium, or the niche that holds the funeral urn, is not only one of the most spectacular of its type, it is also one of the oddest. A few feet above eye level are hundreds of small alcoves, where pigeons were kept in ancient times.

For another glimpse into the past, view a remarkable ancient olive press and then visit the Sidonian Burial Cave, the only cave in the area that is beautifully restored and boasts interior decorative paint.

Lastly, enter the enormous bell caves. Dug between the 7th and 10th centuries, these spacious caves might remind you of a cathedral or large concert hall as they feature superior acoustics.

Special Note: This tour includes a significant amount of moderate to vigorous walking that includes steps, natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other mobility issues. We recommend weather appropriate clothing; sun cap; sunglasses; sunscreen; and flat, walking shoes with a closed toe. Head coverings are required. It is further suggested that guests bring a bottle of water from the ship.

---

ASH301 ESSENTIAL ISRAEL: BETHLEHEM, VIEW OF JERUSALEM AND THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE - AUGUST 26, 2021 | $145

9.5 HOURS | MEAL: LUNCH

Discover the ancient beauty of Jerusalem and Bethlehem while visiting some of history's most sacred sites during this scenic, full-day sightseeing tour of Israel's capital city and Bethlehem - birthplace of Jesus.

Israel radiates history, both secular and religious to the extent that familiar names will catch your attention all the way from Ashdod to Jerusalem. Arriving in Jerusalem enjoy a panoramic drive through the capital, passing the Knesset (Israel's parliament), the Supreme Court and the Shrine of the Book.

Continue to the Mount of Olives for a magnificent view over the Golden City and then drive to the Valley of Kidron where you will follow in the footsteps of Jesus as you walk through the Garden of Gethsemane. It was in this garden of olive trees that Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest and early Christians were already holding gatherings here before the first church was built around AD 380. While here, visit the Church of All Nations and see some of the oldest olive trees in Jerusalem.

Re-board your coach and head to a local venue for a hearty lunch, followed by a drive to Bethlehem. Here, in the city of Jesus’ birth, visit the Church of Nativity, built above the place where Christ is said to have been born. The actual cave of the Nativity is a small crypt with a vaulted masonry roof. Poor Bethlehem families used the rocky hollows of the region as stables or dwellings, so the tradition that places the Nativity in a cave is not at odds with the story of the manger.

After visiting the church, there's an opportunity to shop for souvenirs at a local shop. On the way back to Jerusalem, a stop for photos is made at the Sherover Promenade which affords a wonderful panoramic view of the city and the Temple Mount. From here, it's a direct transfer back to the ship in Ashdod.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately four hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps, stairs and inclines to negotiate. Time spent driving on the coach is approximately 4 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping is optional and at the guest's discretion. There is no restroom stop on the approximately 90-minute drive between Ashdod and Jerusalem. All visitors to Bethlehem must have their passport with them. This tour does not visit the Old City of Jerusalem or the Wailing Wall.
Israel's capital city comes alive on this mostly panoramic tour that showcases some of its most historical and sacred sites without the need for extensive walking.

Travel from the port in Ashdod via the Judean Mountains to the top of Mount Scopus which affords an amazing panoramic view of the city. Then walk through the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus spent his last moments before his arrest. Early Christians were already holding gatherings here before the first church was built around AD 380. Visit the beautiful church and see some of the oldest olive trees remaining in Jerusalem.

Next, drive to a local restaurant for a relaxing lunch before commencing your afternoon of touring. Reboarding your coach, drive around the old city walls and then enter Jerusalem via the Dung Gate. Stop here for a quick view of the Western (Wailing) Wall, the last vestige of the ramparts that surrounded the holy temple of the Jews that was built by King Solomon. From here, enjoy a narrated panoramic tour past many of the city’s famous landmarks that include the Knesset (Israel’s Parliament), the Shrine of the Book and the Supreme Court.

When your driving tour concludes, you will make the transfer back to the port in Ashdod.

Special Note: While this tour is substantially less vigorous than other Jerusalem tours, it still includes approximately 2.5 hours of mild to moderate walking/standing over mostly flat surfaces. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately five hours. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the coach and have a companion to assist them. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. There is no restroom stop on the approximately 90-minute drive between Ashdod and Jerusalem and the tour does not actually visit the Wailing Wall or the Old City of Jerusalem.

Discover the beauty of historic ancient Jaffa and the vibrant city of Tel Aviv which is a fusion of modern city and iconic sacred sites.

Drive 90 minutes from the pier in Ashdod to Old Jaffa where your walking tour commences. Once the only entry port into Israel, today it is a microcosm encircled by the city of Tel Aviv, yet it still retains its colorful character and due to a restoration project in the 1960s, is very well preserved.

With your guide, travel on foot amongst old stone buildings and arches, and narrow, winding cobblestone alleys filled with artists’ galleries. You can even view Andromeda’s Rock in the distance. This is where the prophet Jonah boarded the ship for Tarshish, St. Peter stayed in the house of Simon the Tanner, and Andromeda, the daughter of Jaffa’s king, was tied to a rock, awaiting the sea monster. Next, visit the new Jaffa Tales Visitor Center to learn about archaeological finds through a virtual performance that brings past heroes to life.

Continuing on, re-board your coach and sit back and relax during a narrated panoramic driving tour of modern Tel Aviv. Rothschild Boulevard is known for its 1930s Bauhaus buildings and the extraordinary balconies that lend Tel Aviv its ‘White City’ nickname and earned its status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Upon reaching the Tel Aviv Sea Promenade and the lively port area, step off your coach for a bit and join the crowds strolling among the many trendy cafés and restaurants, absorbing the city’s lively atmosphere all around you before it’s time to drive back to the port in Ashdod.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes steps, stairs, uneven and gravel surfaces to negotiate. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately 2 ½ hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
JERUSALEM (HAIFA), ISRAEL

HFA503: JORDAN RIVER RAFTING EXPERIENCE -
AUGUST 27, 2021 | $359 pp

For rafting enthusiasts, or just those looking to experience the more unusual when in Israel, this experience is sure to deliver.

The mountainous Jordan River is one of the most beautiful and fascinating places in Israel. Your rafting adventure will navigate down 7.5 miles of the Jordan River that falls more than 600 feet to its origin in the valley of the Sea of Galilee.

From the port in Haifa, drive inland to the Jordan River where you will get to experience the pleasure of rafting over small cascades, through narrow passages and over short drops, all making for a terrific rafting experience. After receiving your safety briefing and equipment, take off in your raft and let the fun begin!

In addition to the rafting, the Jordan River also offers a scenic natural landscape of picturesque rocky canyons, colorful flowers, birds, and wildlife, all combining to make your day on the river even more perfect.

When you reach the end of your rafting path route, disembark the raft and have a quick lunch before joining your transportation for the drive back to Haifa.

Special note: This tour has limited walking. The rafting may include bouncing and jarring. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with limited mobility or other health restrictions which may include heart, back or neck issues or pregnancy. Guests should be in reasonably good physical condition, be able to swim and have some flexibility. Those who suffer from motion sickness should take the necessary precautions. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

HFA301: KING HEROD’S TRIUMPH – HISTORICAL CAESAREA MARITTIMA -
AUGUST 27, 2021 | $149 pp

Come discover the magnificent story of Caesarea, the historical port city built by Herod the Great on the ruins of an ancient anchorage known as Stratton’s tower.

Driving from Haifa Port, first ascend Mount Carmel for a breathtaking view of Haifa Bay, the golden dome of Haifa’s Baha’i Shrine and Acre off in the distance. Continue driving south along the coast to Caesarea - the city that Herod the Great dedicated to Caesar Augustus more than 2,000 years ago. Stopping at the new Visitor Center, enjoy an immersive multi-media presentation that gives you a chance to meet virtual figures from the past and ask them questions after hearing their stories.

Next, tour the city’s amazing archaeological excavations that include Herod’s palace, the theater, the hippodrome, the deep harbor, the Byzantine market, medieval streets, Roman baths and the Crusaders’ fortifications and moat.

Before driving back to Haifa, make a final stop to view the impressive aqueduct which supplied plentiful water to the residents ancient Caesarea Maritima.

Special Note: This tour includes over 90 minutes of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Any shopping is optional and at the guest’s discretion.
Discover historic Zippori’s Christian connections that include the belief that the parents of the Virgin Mary were from Zippori. The city was an influential Christian community during Byzantine times and today is famous for its collection of intricate mosaics that were discovered during excavations and give insight to this once prosperous Roman city and its co-existing Jewish and Christian population.

Begin by driving from the pier to the top of Mt. Carmel where you will stop to take in the scenic views of Haifa Bay. Continue on from here to Zippori, located approximately 4 miles from Nazareth. Aside from its connections to the Virgin Mary, it was also an ancient center of Jewish religious and spiritual life.

Most notable today is its collection of over 40 intricate mosaics, the most famous being the hauntingly beautiful "Mona Lisa of the Galilee", which is housed in a restored 3rd-century villa. Other Zippori sights you’ll see include the 4,500-seat Roman theater, which has been partially restored; the Talmudic-era residential quarter; the Crusader fortress; the first-century underground water system; and the remains of a sixth-century synagogue that have been uncovered in the lower section of the site.

As you drive back to Haifa, once more enjoy the scenic views of Haifa Bay and the magnificent Bahá’í Hanging Gardens from Mt. Carmel.

Special Note: This tour includes over 2.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. Any shopping is optional and at the guest's discretion.
HFA308: EXPLORING NAZARETH AND CANAAN - AUGUST 27, 2021 | $79

5 HOURS | MEALS: NONE

Guests with a general interest in theology and world history will be fascinated by this excursion that encompasses two very special places related to the life of Jesus Christ.

It's a one-hour drive from the port in Haifa to Nazareth, the largest city in the North District of Israel and the childhood home of Jesus, according to the New Testament. While here, take the opportunity to visit the surprisingly modern "Basilica of the Annunciation," a church built on the site where Gabriel announced the news of Jesus' birth to the Virgin Mary. You can also view the underground grotto where Mary received the Annunciation. Other attractions here include Mary's Well and the Church of Joseph which was allegedly built over the site of Joseph's carpentry shop.

Continuing on, the second half of your tour will take you to Canaan, an Arab city in the region of Galilee. Situated at the crossroads of several cultures, its history reflects this in both art and language. Perhaps more famously known in today's world as the place where Jesus "turned water into wine" during the famous Canaan Wedding as depicted in the Bible. Following your visit here, transfer back to the port in Haifa.

Special Note: This tour includes a significant amount of moderate to walking that covers approximately one mile and includes steps, natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other mobility issues. Conservative attire is recommended for entering religious sites. All shopping is optional and at the guest's discretion.
TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)

HFA309: THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE OF MEGGIDO AND BEIT SHERIM NATIONAL PARK - AUGUST 27, 2021 | $85PP

5.5 HOURS | MEAL: NONE

Visit several of the most important archaeological sites in Israel and walk among the excavations, viewing the remains of several civilizations, including those of the Romans, Egyptians, Canaanites, Israelites, and Assyrians.

Travel from the pier to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Megiddo, at one time a strategic stronghold on the trade route between Egypt and Assyria. It is also the location where St. John predicted Armageddon – the last great battle on earth would take place. While here you can see the ivory palace where the world’s richest Canaanite treasure was discovered. Other points of interest include stables from King Ahab’s time and a fascinating system of waterworks that leads to several springs.

Next, make your way to Beit She’arim National Park, where the remains of this ancient Jewish city and underground Jewish cemetery are revealed. The necropolis here contains large stone coffins decorated with Jewish symbols and inscribed in Hebrew, Aramaic, Palmyran and Greek, shedding light on what life was like during this time in history. After a fascinating visit here, you’ll re-board your coach and travel back to the pier in Haifa.

Special Note: This tour includes a significant amount of moderate to vigorous walking that includes steps, natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other mobility issues. Conservative attire is recommended for entering places of religious significance and additionally, we suggest a sun cap, sunglasses, sunscreen; and flat, walking shoes with a closed toe. Head coverings may be required. It is further suggested that guests bring a bottle of water from the ship.

---

HFA310: THE BEST OF JERUSALEM AND THE HISTORIC OLD CITY - AUGUST 27, 2021 | $185PP

11 HOURS | MEALS: LUNCH

Discover the ancient beauty of Jerusalem and Bethlehem while visiting some of history’s most sacred sites during this scenic, full-day sightseeing tour of Israel’s capital city.

Israel radiates history, both secular and religious to the extent that familiar names will catch your attention all the way from Haifa to Jerusalem. Arriving in Jerusalem, you will first make your way to the top of Mount Scopus which affords an amazing panoramic view of the city, then walk through the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest. Early Christians were already holding gatherings here before the first church was built around AD 380. Visit the beautiful church and see some of the oldest olive trees remaining in Jerusalem.

Next, make your way to a local venue for lunch before making the short drive to Mt. Zion. Visit the Room of the Last Supper and then walk by King David’s Tomb before entering the Old City via the Zion Gate. Your walking tour here takes you through the Jewish Quarter and the Roman Cardo to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on the site of Christ’s resurrection. The original vast sanctuary built here by Emperor Constantine was destroyed centuries later, but a replacement was eventually rebuilt by the Crusaders. Inside the church you will see the last five Stations of the Cross. Continue your walk passing through the colorful bazaar on your way to the Western (Wailing) Wall. This is the last vestige of the ramparts that surrounded the Holy Temple of the Jews, built by Solomon, destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, rebuilt by Babylonian exiles, and burned down by Titus.

Following your walking tour, you will head back to the pier in Haifa.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately five hours of moderate to vigorous walking that includes steps, stairs, slopes, and uneven natural surfaces to negotiate. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately 5.5 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not suitable for those with other walking difficulties. Participants should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing, flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole, a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Knees, shoulders, and midrifts must be covered when entering religious sites. There is no restroom stop on the drive between Haifa port and Jerusalem.
HFA504OVD: JOURNEY TO JORDAN: ICONIC RUINS OF PETRA AND WADI RUM AND OVERNIGHT GLAMPING ADVENTURE - AUGUST 29-31, 2021 | $1,399 pp

3 DAYS / 2 NIGHTS | MEALS: YES

Travel to Jordan and explore the iconic sites of Petra and Wadi Rum, highlighted with an overnight glamping experiences under the stars in Petra and Wadi Rum.

**Day 1** Debark the ship and drive to the shores of the Dead Sea – the lowest place on the surface of the earth, where you will be treated to a buffet lunch at one of the area’s nicest hotels. Following lunch, there will be an opportunity to take an ‘unsinkable’ swim in the extremely salty, mineral rich water of the Dead Sea. In the late afternoon, you will re-board your coach and drive south to the Arava Border Crossing where you will pass security and enter into Jordan. From here, travel to the Seven Wonders Luxury Camp in Petra for check-in and dinner. Afterwards, relax by the fireside under a canopy of desert stars as you share stories with your fellow travelers and then retire for the evening to your well-appointed luxury tent.

**Day 2** Following breakfast at the camp, make the drive to Petra. On arrival, take part in a guided tour of this ancient marvel. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is often referred to as the Rose Red city due to the hue of the rocks here and was once the capital for the Nabataean Arabs. The city thrived until a major earthquake in 363 AD and that, coupled with changing trade routes, led to its eventual downfall and abandonment. While here, view the iconic Treasury and enjoy lunch at the Basin Restaurant located within the site.

In the late afternoon, you will transfer to your Wadi Rum Luxury Camp (Aicha Memories Camp or similar) for check-in and have the remainder of the afternoon to relax before dinner. Enjoy another peaceful evening under the desert stars before retiring for the evening.

**Day 3** Your day starts with an early breakfast at the camp and after check-out, make the drive to Wadi Rum. The landscape here is nothing short of striking, with towering sandstone cliffs and miles of sweeping red sand dunes which have let to it being tagged for being similar to the landscape on Mars. Within the site, stone age petroglyphs have been uncovered and offer up a glimpse into the area’s earliest beginnings. Nomadic Bedouin tribes still make their home here and it continues as a main stopping point on a migratory path through the desert. When your visit concludes, transfer to Allenby Bridge to cross back into Israel. Meet your bus and guide on the Israeli side and then drive directly to Ashdod port to rejoin the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes a significant amount of moderate to vigorous walking that includes steps, stairs, slopes, and uneven natural surfaces to negotiate. There are several hours of driving time in the coach. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not suitable for those with other walking difficulties. Participants should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Those who wish to swim in the Dead Sea should bring a swimsuit and towel. There are limited restroom stops on the drive between the two countries.

HFA503: JORDAN RIVER RAFTING EXPERIENCE - AUGUST 29, 2021 | $359 pp

7 HOURS | MEALS: LUNCH

For rafting enthusiasts, or just those looking to experience the more unusual when in Israel, this experience is sure to deliver.

The mountainous Jordan River is one of the most beautiful and fascinating places in Israel. Your rafting adventure will navigate down 7.5 miles of the Jordan River that falls more than 600 feet to its origin in the valley of the Sea of Galilee.

From the port in Haifa, drive inland to the Jordan River where you will get to experience the pleasure of rafting over small cascades, through narrow passages and over short drops, all making for a terrific rafting experience. After receiving your safety briefing and equipment, take off in your raft and let the fun begin!

In addition to the rafting, the Jordan River also offers a scenic natural landscape of picturesque rocky canyons, colorful flowers, birds, and wildlife, all combining to make your day on the river even more perfect.

When you reach the end of your rafting path route, disembark the raft and have a quick lunch before joining your transportation for the drive back to Haifa.

Special note: This tour has limited walking. The rafting may include bouncing and jarring. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with limited mobility or other health restrictions which may include heart, back or neck issues or pregnancy. Guests should be in reasonably good physical condition, be able to swim and have some flexibility. Those who suffer from motion sickness should take the necessary precautions. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
ACTIVITY LEVEL: MILD

HFA301: KING HEROD’S TRIUMPH - HISTORICAL CAESAREA MARITTIMA - AUGUST 29, 2021 | $149P

5 HOURS | MEALS: NONE

Come discover the magnificent story of Caesarea, the historical port city built by Herod the Great on the ruins of an ancient anchorage known as Stratton’s tower.

Driving from Haifa Port, first ascend Mount Carmel for a breathtaking view of Haifa Bay, the golden dome of Haifa’s Baha’i Shrine and Acre off in the distance. Continue driving south along the coast to Caesarea - the city that Herod the Great dedicated to Caesar Augustus more than 2,000 years ago. Stopping at the new Visitor Center, enjoy an immersive multi-media presentation that gives you a chance to meet virtual figures from the past and ask them questions after hearing their stories.

Next, tour the city’s amazing archaeological excavations that include Herod’s palace, the theater, the hippodrome, the deep harbor, the Byzantine market, medieval streets, Roman baths and the Crusaders’ fortifications and moat.

Before driving back to Haifa, make a final stop to view the impressive aqueduct which supplied plentiful water to the residents ancient Caesarea Maritima.

Special Note: This tour includes over 90 minutes of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Any shopping is optional and at the guest’s discretion.


9.5 HOURS | MEALS: LUNCH

This comprehensive tour showcases several iconic sites in Nazareth and then travels to the Sea of Galilee where you will visit the historical Yardenit Baptismal site.

Leaving the pier, make the scenic one-hour drive through the Jezreel Valley to Nazareth, childhood home of Jesus and the City of the Annunciation. Nazareth is revered as the spot where the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, telling her that she would bear the Son of God. When you arrive, first visit the Basilica of the Annunciation built on the site where Mary is said to have lived and where she received Gabriel’s message. Also visit the adjacent Church of St. Joseph, dedicated to the earthly father of Jesus and built where Joseph’s carpentry workshop is believed to have stood. Below ground level, there is an important Judeo-Christian baptismal basin which has been preserved. Afterwards, take a guided walk through the Bazaar and past Mary’s Well.

Next, drive through Cana en route to lunch in Tiberius. Cana is best known for being the location where Jesus performed his first miracle of turning water into wine at a wedding. Arriving in Tiberius, enjoy a lovely lunch at a restaurant that overlooks the Sea of Galilee before continuing on to Tabgha. In Tabgha, visit the church of Peter’s Primacy by the lake before driving on to Capernaum where you will see the ancient synagogue where Jesus taught and St. Peter’s house. From here, drive to the Mount of Beatitudes where Jesus gave his Sermon on the Mount.

The last of your stops will be at the Yardenit baptismal site on the Jordan River. The site is visited each year by thousands of Christian pilgrims. An opportunity exists here to shop for souvenirs.

Your exploration of the Galilee region draws to a close as you re-board your coach for the drive back to Haifa.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately five hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping is optional and at the guest’s discretion.
Discover historic Zippori’s Christian connections that include the belief that the parents of the Virgin Mary were from Zippori. The city was an influential Christian community during Byzantine times and today is famous for its collection of intricate mosaics that were discovered during excavations and give insight to this once prosperous Roman city and its co-existing Jewish and Christian population.

Begin by driving from the pier to the top of Mt. Carmel where you will stop to take in the scenic views of Haifa Bay. Continue on from here to Zippori, located approximately 4 miles from Nazareth. Aside from its connections to the Virgin Mary, it was also an ancient center of Jewish religious and spiritual life.

Most notable today is its collection of over 40 intricate mosaics, the most famous being the hauntingly beautiful “Mona Lisa of the Galilee”, which is housed in a restored 3rd-century villa. Other Zippori sights you’ll see include the 4,500-seat Roman theater, which has been partially restored; the Talmudic-era residential quarter; the Crusader fortress; the first-century underground water system; and the remains of a sixth-century synagogue that have been uncovered in the lower section of the site.

As you drive back to Haifa, once more enjoy the scenic views of Haifa Bay and the magnificent Baha’i Hanging Gardens from Mt. Carmel.

Special Note: This tour includes over 2.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. Any shopping is optional and at the guest’s discretion.

Explore the ancient city of Acre, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that dates back almost 5,000 years and also visit the Crusader’s underground city.

From the port in Haifa, make the one-hour drive to Acre. The Old City of Acre was inscribed in 2001 as an exceptionally well-preserved fortified Ottoman city of the 18th and 19th centuries. The city still has the intact remains of an earlier medieval Crusader town, both above and below street level. Start with a drive to Mt. Carmel and a visit to Acre’s large and elaborate Baha’i Gardens. These are the largest hanging gardens in the world and part of the seven-site Baha’i Holy Places in Haifa and the Western Galilee, which was inscribed in 2008 and is itself a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your route affords you outstanding views of the city, Haifa Bay, and all of northern Israel.

Next, head back down Mt. Carmel and cross the bay to Akko (Acre), the oldest city in the northern region. More than 4,000 years of recorded history will unfold before your eyes as you walk through Acre’s narrow cobblestone passageways and its colorful bazaar. The present-day town was built in the 18th century over the ruins of the 12th-century Crusader city. Acre has changed hands and names many times over the millennia, but since 1948 it has returned to its biblical name of Akko.

While here, visit the Crusaders’ Halls, built by the Knights Hospitaller (the Knights of St John) and the surreal subterranean Crusader city. Continue with a walk past Al Jazzar’s Mosque, built in the 18th century, through the bazaar and on to Khan el-Umdan (Inn of the Pillars), an impressive 18th-century caravanserai which was a medieval roadside inn.

At this point, descend to the 12th-century level again, this time to visit the unforgettable Templars’ Tunnel. This amazing engineering feat is a tunnel more than a thousand feet long, carved through solid stone, that connected the fortress (no longer standing) to the port. As its name implies, the tunnel was constructed by the Knights Templar - the Crusaders charged with guarding the temple in Jerusalem. The Mameluks had forced the Templars to retreat to Acre, which was their last bastion in Israel until the Fall of Acre in 1291. As you exit the tunnel, you will find yourself at the lighthouse and the sea wall.

Before driving back to Haifa, there will be a final stop to do some shopping in the Bazaar.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes numerous steps, uneven surfaces, and small narrow tunnels to negotiate. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties, those who cannot bend and walk at the same time, or those who suffer from claustrophobia. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs, and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping is optional and at the guest’s discretion.
Guests with a general interest in theology and world history will be fascinated by this excursion that encompasses two very special places related to the life of Jesus Christ.

It's a one-hour drive from the port in Haifa to Nazareth, the largest city in the North District of Israel and the childhood home of Jesus, according to the New Testament. While here, take the opportunity to visit the surprisingly modern "Basilica of the Annunciation," a church built on the site where Gabriel announced the news of Jesus' birth to the Virgin Mary. You can also view the underground grotto where Mary received the Annunciation. Other attractions here include Mary's Well and the Church of Joseph which was allegedly built over the site of Joseph's carpentry shop.

Continuing on, the second half of your tour will take you to Canaan, an Arab city in the region of Galilee. Situated at the crossroads of several cultures, its history reflects this in both art and language. Perhaps more famously known in today's world as the place where Jesus "turned water into wine" during the famous Canaan wedding as depicted in the Bible. Following your visit here, transfer back to the port in Haifa.

Special Note: This tour includes a significant amount of moderate to walking that covers approximately one mile and includes steps, natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other mobility issues. Conservative attire is recommended for entering places of religious significance and additionally, we suggest a sun cap; sunglasses; sunscreen; and flat, walking shoes with a closed toe. Head coverings are required. It is further suggested that guests bring a bottle of water from the ship.

Visit several of the most important archaeological sites in Israel and walk among the excavations, viewing the remains of several civilizations, including those of the Romans, Egyptians, Canaanites, Israelites, and Assyrians.

Travel from the pier to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Megiddo, at one time a strategic stronghold on the trade route between Egypt and Assyria. It is also the location where St. John predicted Armageddon – the last great battle on earth would take place. While here you can see the ivory palace where the world’s richest Canaanite treasure was discovered. Other points of interest include stables from King Ahab’s time and a fascinating system of waterworks that leads to several springs.

Next, make your way to Beit She'arim National Park, where the remains of this ancient Jewish city and underground Jewish cemetery are revealed. The necropolis here contains large stone coffins decorated with Jewish symbols and inscribed in Hebrew, Aramaic, Palmyran and Greek, shedding light on what life was like during this time in history. After a fascinating visit here, you’ll re-board your coach and travel back to the pier in Haifa.

Special Note: This tour includes a significant amount of moderate to vigorous walking that includes steps, natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other mobility issues. Conservative attire is recommended for entering places of religious significance and additionally, we suggest a sun cap; sunglasses; sunscreen; and flat, walking shoes with a closed toe. Head coverings may be required. It is further suggested that guests bring a bottle of water from the ship.
HFA310: THE BEST OF JERUSALEM AND THE HISTORIC OLD CITY - AUGUST 29, 2021 | $185pp

Discover the ancient beauty of Jerusalem and Bethlehem while visiting some of history’s most sacred sites during this scenic, full-day sightseeing tour of Israel’s capital city.

Israel radiates history, both secular and religious to the extent that familiar names will catch your attention all the way from Haifa to Jerusalem. Arriving in Jerusalem, you will first make your way to the top of Mount Scopus which affords an amazing panoramic view of the city, then walk through the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest. Early Christians were already holding gatherings here before the first church was built around AD 380. Visit the beautiful church and see some of the oldest olive trees remaining in Jerusalem.

Next, make your way to a local venue for lunch before making the short drive to Mt. Zion. Visit the Room of the Last Supper and then walk by King David’s Tomb before entering the Old City via the Zion Gate. Your walking tour here takes you through the Jewish Quarter and the Roman Cardo to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on the site of Christ’s resurrection. The original vast sanctuary built here by Emperor Constantine was destroyed centuries later, but a replacement was eventually rebuilt by the Crusaders. Inside the church you will see the last five Stations of the Cross. Continue your walk passing through the colorful bazaar on your way to the Western (Wailing) Wall. This is the last vestige of the ramparts that surrounded the Holy Temple of the Jews, built by Solomon, destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, rebuilt by Babylonian exiles, and burned down by Titus.

Following your walking tour, you will head back to the pier in Haifa.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately five hours of moderate to vigorous walking that includes steps, stairs, slopes, and uneven natural surfaces to negotiate. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately 5.5 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not suitable for those with other walking difficulties. Participants should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Knees, shoulders, and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. There is no restroom stop on the drive between Haifa port and Jerusalem.
DAY 1
Meet in the lobby of the hotel at 4:00 a.m. and make the 30-minute drive to Masada. While there is a cable car that operates during daylight hours, today you will make the trek to the summit via the Snake Trail. The hike up usually takes about 75 minutes and will be well worth the effort when you reach the top and are rewarded with watching the sun rise majestically over the desert. Masada has often been described as the most spectacular archaeological site in Israel and is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is here that King Herod built a luxurious refuge complete with magnificent palaces, swimming pools and excavated rock cisterns to provide water supplies. Around AD 73, after a three-year long Roman siege, more than 950 Jews took their own lives at Masada rather than face the brutal Romans and a future of slavery. During your visit, some of the fascinating sights you can see are the wall, bathhouses, the upper palace, synagogue, western palace, and the Roman ramp and siege camp. When your visit draws to a close, take the cable car down to the desert floor and then return to the hotel for breakfast and some free time before checking out and driving back to the ship.

Special Note: This tour includes 2-days of significant moderate to vigorous walking, hiking and climbing that includes steep inclines, steps, natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, or those with physical limitations or other health concerns such as heart, respiratory, back or neck issues or pregnant women. Guests should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate modest attire (knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered); flat, sturdy athletic shoes or hiking boots with a closed toe (aqua shoes are recommended for the Dead Sea as well as wearing an old bathing suit as the water there can cause discoloration); a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

DAY 2
Meet in the lobby of the hotel at 4:00 a.m. and make the 30-minute drive to Masada. While there is a cable car that operates during daylight hours, today you will make the trek to the summit via the Snake Trail. The hike up usually takes about 75 minutes and will be well worth the effort when you reach the top and are rewarded with watching the sun rise majestically over the desert. Masada has often been described as the most spectacular archaeological site in Israel and is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is here that King Herod built a luxurious refuge complete with magnificent palaces, swimming pools and excavated rock cisterns to provide water supplies. Around AD 73, after a three-year long Roman siege, more than 950 Jews took their own lives at Masada rather than face the brutal Romans and a future of slavery. During your visit, some of the fascinating sights you can see are the wall, bathhouses, the upper palace, synagogue, western palace, and the Roman ramp and siege camp. When your visit draws to a close, take the cable car down to the desert floor and then return to the hotel for breakfast and some free time before checking out and driving back to the ship.

Experience some of the world’s most incredible scenery and historical finds as you journey first to Masada, a mountain fort that is now a national Jewish shrine, and then follow-up with visits to the Dead Sea, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem to see some of history’s most sacred sites.

DAY 1
Start off from the port and commence a three-hour drive into the Negev Desert to the mountain fortress of Masada, which looms high above the Dead Sea’s desolate landscape. It has often been described as the most spectacular archaeological site in Israel and is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is here that King Herod built a luxurious refuge complete with magnificent palaces, swimming pools and excavated rock cisterns to provide water supplies. Around AD 73, after a three-year long Roman siege, more than 950 Jews took their own lives at Masada rather than face the brutal Romans and a future of slavery. On arrival, a cable car will convey you to the summit where you can explore the vestiges of what was the last stand for hundreds of Jews. Among the fascinating sights you can see are the wall, bathhouses, the upper palace, synagogue, western palace, and the Roman ramp and siege camp.

After your visit, descend back down the mountain and drive to Ein Bokek where you will have lunch at a hotel on the shores of the Dead Sea. After lunch, you can take a swim in these waters that are so mineral-rich you can’t sink. Following your Dead Sea experience, drive north past Jericho and Qumran. At Qumran, stop for photos of the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947. Continue on to Jerusalem where you will check-in to your hotel for the night and have dinner. After dinner, re-board your coach and enjoy a panoramic tour past the illuminated walls and monuments of Jerusalem and make a stop at the Western (Wailing) Wall. The Wall is the remaining remnant of the ramparts that once surrounded the Holy Temple. Afterwards, return to your hotel where you will have dinner and the remainder of the evening at your leisure.

DAY 2
Get off to an early start with breakfast in the hotel, followed by a drive to the Mount of Olives where you are afforded a magnificent view over the Golden City. Walk the sacred paths of the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest, visit the beautiful church here and marvel at the grove of olive trees which are the oldest that remain in Jerusalem.

From here, make the short drive to Mt. Zion and visit the room of The Last Supper. Next, enter the Old City on foot via the Zion Gate, walking through the Jewish Quarter and the Roman Cardo to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher which sits on the site of Christ’s resurrection. The original vast sanctuary that was built here by Emperor Constantine was destroyed centuries later, but a replacement was eventually rebuilt by the Crusaders. In the church you will be able to see the last
five Stations of the Cross. Your walk then continues through the colorful bazaar to the Jaffa Gate.

At this point, pause for lunch at a local restaurant before driving to Bethlehem where you will visit the Church of the Nativity. Built above the place that Christ is said to have been born, the actual Cave of the Nativity is a small crypt with a vaulted masonry roof. Poor Bethlehem families used the rocky hollows of the region as stables or dwellings, so the tradition that places the Nativity in a cave is not at odds with the story of the manger. Before heading back to rejoin the ship in Ashdod, there will be an opportunity to shop for souvenirs.

**Special Note:** This tour includes two days of significant moderate to vigorous walking that can include inclines, steps, natural and uneven cobblestone surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, or those with physical limitations or other health concerns such as heart, respiratory, back or neck issues and may not be suitable for pregnant women. Guests should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate modest attire (knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered); flat, sturdy walking shoes with a closed toe (aqua shoes are recommended for the Dead Sea as well as wearing an old bathing suit as the water there can cause discoloration); a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Towels and lockers are provided at the Dead Sea. All participants must carry their passport with them to enter Bethlehem. It is each guest's sole responsibility to obtain (before traveling) any visas, vaccinations and/or tourist cards that are required for participating in overland adventures or overnight tours.

---

**ASH503: BEIT GUVRIN CAVES EXPLORATION, ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG AND ROWING IN THE POOL OF ARCHES -**

**AUGUST 30, 2021 OR AUGUST 31, 2021 | $199**

**6 HOURS | MEAL: LUNCH**

Explore the underground wonders of the Beit Guvrin caves and archaeological site and then travel to an underground water cistern in Ramla where you can row through its numerous arches and corridors.

Drive approximately 40 minutes from Ashdod to the Beit Guvrin – Maresha National Park. This important archaeological site and national park is where you will find the ancient city of Tel Maresha and the amazing caves of Beit Guvrin. The Caves at Beit Guvrin encompass at least 800 bell-shaped caves, the most famous being the Bell Cave. Originally, they were quarried for their chalk to make roads, plaster, and mortar during the 4th to 9th centuries and later some were used for defensive hideouts and storage. Some of the most impressive are the Sidonian painted burial chambers.

During your visit you may also take the opportunity to join in an active archaeological dig as a special program here will allow you to dig for the day on a real site that is still producing artifacts that date back to the Roman era. Some of the ruins here include an amphitheater and the remains of several Christian churches. The mosaics that have been uncovered point to this area having been a Roman civilization at one time.

Next, travel to a local restaurant for lunch before arriving at the underground cistern in Ramla. Built in 789 AD, it is a testament to its excellent construction as it has survived intact despite earthquakes that damaged the town of Ramla. Fed by a central aqueduct, it is believed the pool was constructed here because of a small spring in the area.

Descend a few stairs down to the pool where you will find three rows of columns, all built from stone. Each row also has five columns which support the curved arches that support the roof. See the square hatches in the ceiling where it is thought the residents were able to draw their water using pails suspended on ropes. Then take advantage of the opportunity to board a rowboat and further explore the cavern of this historical site that exudes a somewhat other-worldly atmosphere.

Returning to above-ground, rejoin your coach and make a brief stop at the Ramla Market before traveling back to the pier in Ashdod.

**Special Note:** This tour includes approximately 2.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes steps, stairs, and uneven natural surfaces to negotiate. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately 3 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other walking difficulties or mobility concerns. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
Discover the ancient beauty of Jerusalem and Bethlehem while visiting some of history's most sacred sites during this scenic, full-day sightseeing tour of Israel's capital city and Bethlehem - birthplace of Jesus.

Israel radiates history, both secular and religious to the extent that familiar names will catch your attention all the way from Ashdod to Jerusalem. Arriving in Jerusalem enjoy a panoramic drive through the capital, passing the Knesset (Israel's parliament), the Supreme Court and the Shrine of the Book.

Continue to the Mount of Olives for a magnificent view over the Golden City and then drive to the Valley of Kidron where you will follow in the footsteps of Jesus as you walk through the Garden of Gethsemane. It was in this garden of olive trees that Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest and early Christians were already holding gatherings here before the first church was built around AD 380. While here, visit the Church of All Nations and see some of the oldest olive trees in Jerusalem.

Re-board your coach and head to a local venue for a hearty lunch, followed by a drive to Bethlehem. Here, in the city of Jesus' birth, visit the Church of Nativity, built above the place where Christ is said to have been born. The actual cave of the Nativity is a small crypt with a vaulted masonry roof. Poor Bethlehem families used the rocky hollows of the region as stables or dwellings, so the tradition that places the Nativity in a cave is not at odds with the story of the manger.

After visiting the church, there's an opportunity to shop for souvenirs at a local shop. On the way back to Jerusalem, a stop for photos is made at the Sherover Promenade which affords a wonderful panoramic view of the city and the Temple Mount. From here, it's a direct transfer back to the ship in Ashdod.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately four hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps, stairs and inclines to negotiate. Time spent driving on the coach is approximately 4 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping is optional and at the guest's discretion. There is no restroom stop on the approximately 90-minute drive between Ashdod and Jerusalem. All visitors to Bethlehem must have their passport with them. This tour does not visit the Old City of Jerusalem or the Wailing Wall.

Discover the ancient beauty of Jerusalem and Bethlehem while visiting some of history's most sacred sites during this scenic, full-day sightseeing tour of Israel's capital city.

Israel radiates history, both secular and religious to the extent that familiar names will catch your attention all the way from Ashdod to Jerusalem. Arriving in Jerusalem, you will first make your way to the top of Mount Scopus which affords an amazing panoramic view of the city.

Then walk through the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest. Early Christians were already holding gatherings here before the first church was built around AD 380. Visit the beautiful church and see some of the oldest olive trees remaining in Jerusalem.

Next, make your way to a local venue for lunch before making the short drive to Mt. Zion. Visit the Room of the Last Supper and then walk by King David’s Tomb before entering the Old City via the Zion Gate. Your walking tour here takes you through the Jewish Quarter and the Roman Cardo to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on the site of Christ's resurrection. The original vast sanctuary built here by Emperor Constantine was destroyed centuries later, but a replacement was eventually rebuilt by the Crusaders. Inside the church you will see the last five Stations of the Cross. Continue your walk passing through the colorful bazaar on your way to the Western (Wailing) Wall. This is the last vestige of the ramparts that surrounded the Holy Temple of the Jews, built by Solomon, destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, rebuilt by Babylonian exiles, and burned down by Titus.

Following your walking tour, drive to the Sherover Promenade for another stunning view of Jerusalem and then head back to the pier in Ashdod, stopping en route to capture a panoramic view of Bethlehem.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 5.5 hours of moderate walking that includes steps, stairs, and uneven natural surfaces to negotiate. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately 4 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not suitable for those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. There is no restroom stop on the 90-minute drive between Ashdod and Jerusalem.
Experience some of the world’s most incredible scenery and historical finds as you journey first to the Dead Sea and then on to Masada, a mountain fort that is now a national Jewish shrine, and world famous for its recognition by UNESCO for its unique structure and history. From the lofty heights of Masada to the lowest point on earth at the Dead Sea, this tour truly takes you to the heart of Israel.

Leave Ashdod port and make the 2.5-hour drive to the Masada Fortress via Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. The landscape is both desolate and mesmerizing as you descend through the Judean desert into the valley of the Dead Sea. Towering high above this is the legendary Masada. In King Herod’s day, it was a luxury refuge complete with magnificent palaces and excavated rock cisterns to supply water. Around AD 73, after a three-year-long Roman siege, more than 950 Jews took their own lives at Masada rather than face a future of slavery.

When you arrive, a cable car will convey you to the summit for a walk around the site of this famous and historical last stand. Among the fascinating sights are the wall, northern palace, synagogue, western palace, Roman ramp, and siege camps. After spending nearly two hours here, return via cable car to the floor of the valley where you will have some time for photos. Continue from here to the Dead Sea where you will be treated to lunch at hotel that overlooks this remarkable body of water. After lunch, those who wish may choose to take a swim in the mineral-rich waters that are so salty you cannot sink!

After a day steeped in history, transfer back to the pier in Ashdod.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately three hours of moderate walking/standing on primarily flat surfaces. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately 6.5 hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites. All shopping is optional and at the guest’s discretion. In the event of flash floods in the Judean Desert the tour will not pass by Qumran.
Discover the beauty of historic ancient Jaffa and the vibrant city of Tel Aviv which is a fusion of modern city and iconic sacred sites.

Drive 90 minutes from the pier in Ashdod to Old Jaffa where your walking tour commences. Once the only entry port into Israel, today it is a microcosm encircled by the city of Tel Aviv, yet it still retains its colorful character and due to a restoration project in the 1960s, is very well preserved.

With your guide, travel on foot amongst old stone buildings and arches, and narrow, winding cobblestone alleys filled with artists’ galleries. You can even view Andromeda’s Rock in the distance. This is where the prophet Jonah boarded the ship for Tarshish, St. Peter stayed in the house of Simon the Tanner, and Andromeda, the daughter of Jaffa’s king, was tied to a rock, awaiting the sea monster.

Next, visit the new Jaffa Tales Visitor Center to learn about archaeological finds through a virtual performance that brings past heroes to life.

Continuing on, re-board your coach and sit back and relax during a narrated panoramic driving tour of modern Tel Aviv. Rothschild Boulevard is known for its 1930s Bauhaus buildings and the extraordinary balconies that lend Tel Aviv its ‘White City’ nickname and earned its status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Upon reaching the Tel Aviv Sea Promenade and the lively port area, step off your coach for a bit and join the crowds strolling among the many trendy cafes and restaurants, absorbing the city’s lively atmosphere all around you before it’s time to drive back to the port in Ashdod.

Special Note: This tour includes moderate walking/standing that includes steps, natural and uneven surfaces. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately 2 ½ hours. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with other walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)
Israel's capital city comes alive on this mostly panoramic tour that showcases some of its most historical and sacred sites without the need for extensive walking.

Travel from the port in Ashdod via the Judean Mountains to the top of Mount Scopus which affords an amazing panoramic view of the city. Then walk through the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus spent his last moments before his arrest. Early Christians were already holding gatherings here before the first church was built around AD 380. Visit the beautiful church and see some of the oldest olive trees remaining in Jerusalem.

Next, drive to a local restaurant for a relaxing lunch before commencing your afternoon of touring. Re-boarding your coach, drive around the old city walls and then enter Jerusalem via the Dung Gate. Stop here for a quick view of the Western (Wailing) Wall, the last vestige of the ramparts that surrounded the holy temple of the Jews that was built by King Solomon. From here, enjoy a narrated panoramic tour past many of the city's famous landmarks that include the Knesset (Israel's Parliament), the Shrine of the Book and the Supreme Court.

When your driving tour concludes, you will make the transfer back to the port in Ashdod.

Special Note: While this tour is substantially less vigorous than other Jerusalem tours, it still includes approximately 2.5 hours of mild to moderate walking/standing over mostly flat surfaces. Time spent aboard the coach is approximately five hours. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the coach and have a companion to assist them. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a non-slip sole; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Knees, shoulders and midriffs must be covered. There is no restroom stop on the approximately 90-minute drive between Ashdod and Jerusalem and the tour does not actually visit the Wailing Wall or the Old City of Jerusalem.
**ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE**

**ACTIVITY LEVEL: VIGOROUS**

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)

---

**LMS305: ROCK OF APHRODITE, TOMBS OF THE KINGS AND HOUSE OF DIONYSOS - SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 | $85 pp**

**4 HOURS | MEAL: NONE**

All of the must-see sites in Paphos are packed into this comprehensive half-day tour that is sure to please.

Begin with a drive from the port to the Rock of Aphrodite where you will stop to capture some photos. Known as Aphrodite’s mythical birthplace, this interesting geological formation of rocks is found along one of the most beautiful coastlines in Cyprus. Following your stop here, head to Paphos town. The storied legacy of this town is nothing short of remarkable and the multitude of historical sites viewpoints await you here, so does the starting point for your water trekking, the Roudia Venetian Bridge. Barely known or visited by locals, the bridge used to be part of the main road that traders used to carry the ore found in the surrounding mines to Paphos for exportation. Built during the Venetian era, the bridge was restored in the 1970s.

From here, drive to a local kafenio (coffee shop) where you will enjoy a traditional Cretan brunch before heading out for the rest of your adventures which begin with a dramatic drive into the upper Xeros Potamos River Valley. Not only do spectacular viewpoints await you here, so does the starting point for your water trekking, the Roudia Venetian Bridge. Barely known or visited by locals, the bridge used to be part of the main road that traders used to carry the ore found in the surrounding mines to Paphos for exportation. Built during the Venetian era, the bridge was restored in the 1970s.

Your trek into the fresh, cold stream water has you navigating water with varying depths that constantly change, but none higher than chest level. Dependent on the amount of annual rainfall, some spots along the channel may allow for a brief swim. Be aware that you will most likely encounter several forms of freshwater ecology, including snails, freshwater crabs and an occasional wild Rainbow Trout that may just swim between your legs! The area is also home to Cyprus Moufflon (endemic wild sheep) which might also be sighted. This is a pristine, virgin forest area with no modern settlements or human activity nearby, so it is kindly requested that all participants respect the environment and not leave any plastic or non-organic materials behind, including cigarette butts.

Following your water trek, re-board your 4X4 and head to a small canyon comprised of volcanic pillow lava where you will have the rare opportunity to explore Hellenistic – Byzantine period copper mines in what is referred to as “archaeology for thrill-seekers.” While the ancient mineshafts are horizontal, not vertical so you can just walk into them, there will be short amounts of time where you will need to climb over some steep rock surfaces using natural hand and footholds to reach the mine areas. You will no doubt notice that the canyon walls are stained a bright blue-green in places and this is from the oxidized copper salts.

After your mine visits, head back to the port on your 4X4.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 2.5 hours of moderate to vigorous physical activity that includes steep inclines, natural and uneven surfaces and trekking through water. The 4X4 portion travels over bumpy tracks. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with physical limitations or other health concerns such as heart, back or neck issues or pregnant women. Participants should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat, sturdy walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. All safety equipment will be provided. Guests will need to sign a waiver before being allowed to take part in the tour.

---

**LMS501: 4X4 SAFARI WITH EXHILARATING WATER TREK AND MINESHAFT EXPLORATION - SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 | $199 pp**

**6.5 HOURS | MEALS: BRUNCH**

This full day adventure offers up a diverse range of activities designed to introduce you to off-the-beaten-track locations in Cyprus such as an abandoned monastery and ancient mineshafts, along with challenging your spirit of adventure with a 4X4 safari, water trekking and some hands-free climbing.

Start the day by boarding your 4X4 at the pier and then head off with your guide into the wilderness areas of Cyprus. Your first stop at the Panagia tou Sinti abandoned monastery is reached by driving over dirt tracks, a riverbed and small asphalt roads. Situated on the banks of the Xeros River, it is surrounded by a spectacular landscape. Founded in the 16th century, the monastery remained in operation until 1927 and was closed for several decades. Efforts to restore it to its original character using modern restoration techniques earned it the Europa Nostra Award in 1997.

From here, drive to a local kafenio (coffee shop) where you will enjoy a traditional Cretan brunch before heading out for the rest of your adventures which begin with a dramatic drive into the upper Xeros Potamos River Valley. Not only do spectacular viewpoints await you here, so does the starting point for your water trekking, the Roudia Venetian Bridge. Barely known or visited by locals, the bridge used to be part of the main road that traders used to carry the ore found in the surrounding mines to Paphos for exportation. Built during the Venetian era, the bridge was restored in the 1970s.

Your trek into the fresh, cold stream water has you navigating water with varying depths that constantly change, but none higher than chest level. Dependent on the amount of annual rainfall, some spots along the channel may allow for a brief swim. Be aware that you will most likely encounter several forms of freshwater ecology, including snails, freshwater crabs and an occasional wild Rainbow Trout that may just swim between your legs! The area is also home to Cyprus Moufflon (endemic wild sheep) which might also be sighted. This is a pristine, virgin forest area with no modern settlements or human activity nearby, so it is kindly requested that all participants respect the environment and not leave any plastic or non-organic materials behind, including cigarette butts.

Following your water trek, re-board your 4X4 and head to a small canyon comprised of volcanic pillow lava where you will have the rare opportunity to explore Hellenistic – Byzantine period copper mines in what is referred to as “archaeology for thrill-seekers.” While the ancient mineshafts are horizontal, not vertical so you can just walk into them, there will be short amounts of time where you will need to climb over some steep rock surfaces using natural hand and footholds to reach the mine areas. You will no doubt notice that the canyon walls are stained a bright blue-green in places and this is from the oxidized copper salts.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes steps and uneven natural surfaces. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the transportation and have a companion to assist them. Please be advised the sites visited are only partially wheelchair accessible. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)
ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

ACTIVITY LEVEL: VIGOROUS

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)

The ideal tour for history buffs, discover the must-see archaeological sites around Limassol which include the Sanctuary of Apollo Hylates, the Kourion Ancient Theater, House of Eustolios and the Kolossi Castle.

Begin your day with a morning drive to the Sanctuary of Apollo Hylates, which was dedicated to Apollo, the God of Woodland who was worshipped here from the eighth century BC to the fourth century AD. Believed to be an important religious site from ancient times, you guide will share with you all of the myths and stories connected to the Sanctuary.

Next, travel to Kourion, one of the most impressive archaeological sites in Cyprus. While here, admire the magnificent and fully restored Greco-Roman Theater with its half-moon of seats that face out to the sea. Today, it is once again used for outdoor performances. Another significant site here is the House of Eustolios, a private Roman villa with superb fifth century mosaic tile floors. From this location you can also view the Roman Agora which dates back to the third century and is surrounded by porticos and marble columns.

Your final tour stop is the impressive Kolossi Medieval Castle, an outstanding example of military architecture that was built in the 13th century. It was later rebuilt in the 15th century to its present form. The Castle originally served as the Grand Commandery of the Knights of the Order to St. John of Jerusalem and later in the 14th century, came under the domain of the Knights Templar. Interestingly, the Knights produced and exported a sweet wine known as the "Vin de Commanderie." Today Commandaria wine is one of the oldest name wines in the world and Cyprus' traditional wine.

Following your visit, transfer back to the port in Limassol.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 2.5 hours of moderate walking/standing that includes steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is available to wheelchair guests; however, the Kolossi Castle is not wheelchair accessible and only an exterior visit is possible for those guests. Those with walking difficulties should carefully evaluate their own level of stamina and ability. All guests must be able to enter and exit the vehicle with limited assistance. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)
The Larnaca region of Cyprus is as authentic as it gets on the island and this tour has you exploring its largest and most well-known village, Lefkara. Later, be treated to wine and honey tastings that showcase two of the area's local products.

From the pier, drive to Lefkara Village, situated at the foot of Troodos Mountain. Famous for its local lace and filigree silverware, it's an architecturally protected village with picturesque houses built with stonewalls, red tiled roofs and tranquil inner courtyards. On arrival, commence a guided walking tour through its narrow streets where you will learn interesting facts about the village and the Larnaca region.

Re-boarding your coach, you will next head to the Defermou Winery in Pano Lefkara. Once greeted by your hosts, you will explore the vineyard on foot and learn all about the art of growing grapes from the vineyard’s owner and winemaker. Then, tour the winery itself and discover what goes into making the perfect bottle of wine. Afterwards, be treated to a tasting of some of their finest varieties while nibbling on some local cheeses.

Your final visit is to a honey making workshop in a nearby village. The professional beekeeper here will enlighten you with interesting facts about the art of beekeeping and honey making along with sharing some of his secrets and the story of his company. Before you leave, enjoy a tasting of his pure honey at its best. Leaving the workshop behind, transfer directly back to the port.

Special Note: This tour includes nearly 3-hours of mild to moderate walking/standing that includes some steps along with uneven, natural, cobblestone and gravel surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other walking difficulties. We recommend casual, comfortable clothes and walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses, and insect repellent.
**PSD060OVD: ESSENTIAL CAIRO AND FAYOUM OASIS**

The journey begins with a three-hour drive to Cairo, the largest city in Africa. On arrival, visit the Citadel of Salah El Dine which is located at the foot of the Mukattam Hills. This imposing fortress, which commands a splendid view of the city, contains the Mohamed Ali Mosque, a 19th century structure which is also known as the Alabaster Mosque.

Following the Citadel visit, enjoy a delicious lunch before making your way to the famous Great Pyramids of Giza, the only remaining wonder of the ancient world. The three main pyramids were constructed as tombs to preserve each of the pharaohs’ mumified bodies for eternity and viewing them up-close is an unforgettable thing to behold. Just southeast of here you will find the Great Sphinx, a mythical creature with the body of a lion and the head of a man that was carved out of limestone around 2650 BC.

Your first day of touring draws to a close with a visit to the Grand Egyptian Museum. This fantastic museum houses a plethora of important archaeological discoveries that showcase Egypt’s ancient history and specifically, the incredible King Tut collection. Leaving the museum, you will head to your Cairo hotel for the night where dinner is included. Afterwards, enjoy the evening at your leisure.

**Day 2**

Start with breakfast in the hotel and afterwards check-out and get under way for the day’s activities. Drive two hours into the beautifully stark West Desert of Egypt to the Fayoum Oasis. Famous for its palm trees, lakes, sand dunes and some attractions from a bygone era. Your first stop of the day is at the Wadi El Rayan Waterfalls. A man-made haven where three lakes were created that has become a popular spot to visit. While here, have an opportunity to take one of the feluccas and row on your own across the lake. Next, amp up the excitement when you board a 4X4 and drive toward Mudawara Mountain, location of your sandboarding experience. After some instruction, hop aboard and hang ten down the sand dunes, or at least try to! No doubt the laughs will be many as you “surf” down your wave of sand, either mastering it all the way down, or losing your balance and falling into the soft sand. Either way, it’s sure to be the highlight of your day.

From the dunes, drive to Fayoum Oasis where a lunch of typical Egyptian cuisine awaits you. Afterwards, head to Tunis Village, a small village nestled on a hill that faces Qarun Lake. Originally a small fishing village, in 1980 a Swiss potter visited the village and decided to build her own house there and start her pottery studio. That evolved into a potter school and transformed the sleepy fishing village into a reputable center of modern pottery.

When your visit in Tunis comes to a close, re-board your coach and make the 3.5-hour drive to Alexandria port where you will rejoin your ship.

* The Grand Egyptian Museum is still under construction. In the event the opening is delayed, the tour will visit the existing Egyptian Museum.

**PSD060OVD: AMAZING PYRAMIDS AND VALLEY OF THE KINGS OVERLAND EXPERIENCE**

Explore the most remarkable locations in Egypt - the Valley of the Kings, Luxor Temple, the famous Pyramids of Giza, and the Grand Museum of Egypt on this comprehensive tour.

**Day 1**

Leave from the port and make the 3-hour drive to the Cairo International Airport where you will catch a one-hour flight to the old capital of Egypt, Thebes. Now called Luxor, it is considered to be the largest open-air museum in the world. Once you've touched down, you may wish to grab a quick bite to eat at the airport before commencing your drive to the Valley of the Kings, location of the tombs of Egypt’s ancient kings, their families and other Egyptian nobility. Following your time here, two photo stops will be made, the first at the Queen Hatshepsut Temple. The only woman to rule as a Pharaoh, this impressive temple was built into the mountainside and discovered in 1894 under the ruins of a monastery. Your second photo stop will be at the Colossi of Memnon, two massive statues that originally flanked the entrance to Amenhotpe III’s mortuary temple. Afterwards, you will drive to your Luxor hotel, check-in and have dinner.

Following dinner at the hotel, have an evening visit to Luxor Temple to watch the Sound and Light show. This renowned ancient structure was originally built during the reign of Amenophis III, and later expanded by Ramses II who added a stone statue of himself and two obelisks. Today, only one of them remains at the Temple with the other was given by Mohamed Ali to Louis Philippe in 1831 and is displayed at the Concorde in Paris. After your visit, return to your hotel for the night.
Day 2 After an early wake-up call, enjoy breakfast in the hotel before transferring to the airport for your one-hour flight to Cairo. Your day in Cairo begins with a drive to the Great Pyramids of Giza, the only remaining wonder of the of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World. The three main pyramids were constructed as tombs to preserve each of the pharaohs' mummified bodies for eternity and viewing them up-close is an unforgettable thing to behold. Just southeast of here you will find the Great Sphinx, a mythical creature with the body of a lion and the head of a man that was carved out of limestone around 2650 BC.

Continuing on, stop for lunch before visiting the Grand Egyptian Museum. This fantastic museum houses a plethora of important archaeological discoveries that showcase Egypt's ancient history and specifically, the incredible King Tut collection. Leaving the museum make the 3-hour drive to Alexandria port where you will rejoin your ship.

Special Note: This tour includes several combined hours of moderate physical activity that includes some steps and some natural and uneven surfaces at some of the attractions. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests or those with physical limitations. Participants should be in reasonably good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes with a closed toe (no flip-flops or sandals); a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders and knees must be covered, and you must remove your shoes when visiting the Mosque.

* The Grand Egyptian Museum is still under construction. In the event the opening is delayed, the tour will visit the existing Egyptian Museum.
Spend the day exploring the famous Egyptian city of Ismailia and then experience the amazing technical achievement of the Suez Canal that connects the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea. Start off with a one-hour drive to Ismailia, referred to by the Egyptians as “the City of Beauty and Enchantment.” The city was founded in 1863 during the construction of the Suez Canal and is situated on the West Bank of the canal, mid-point between Port Said and Suez. Today, it is the location of the headquarters of the Suez Canal Authority.

Your first stop will be at the Ismailia Museum. While small, it has an extensive collection of artifacts that range from the Pharaonic era through to the Greek and Roman eras. There is a wealth of information here about how the canal was built and there is also a marvelous mosaic that depicts characters from Greek mythology.

Following your museum visit, enjoy a delicious lunch before making your way to the famous Great Pyramids of Giza, the only remaining wonder of the ancient world. The three main pyramids were constructed as tombs to preserve each of the pharaohs’ mumified bodies for eternity and viewing them up-close is an unforgettable thing to behold. Just southeast of here you will find the Great Sphinx, a mythical creature with the body of a lion and the head of a man that was carved out of limestone around 2650 BC.

Before driving back to the pier in Port Said, you will have a short stop for shopping so that you can pick up some mementos of this unforgettable day.

* The Grand Egyptian Museum is still under construction. In the event the opening is delayed, the tour will visit the existing Egyptian Museum.
ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT

ALY301: THE MARVELOUS ALEXANDRIA MUSEUM AND ICONIC ANCIENT LIBRARY - SEPTEMBER 3, 2021 | $69.00

4 HOURS | MEALS: NONE

Visit two of the most notable attractions in Alexandria that showcase the historical past of not only Egypt, but this great city that was founded by Alexander the Great.

Start with a drive from the pier to Alexandria’s National Museum. Each of the museum’s three floors depict a different period of Egyptian history, including the Pharaonic and Greco-Roman periods, the Coptic Era and Islamic times. During your tour of the museum, be sure not to miss the displays of artifacts that were retrieved from the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea.

Continue from here to the iconic Alexandria Library or Bibliotheca Alexandrina, as it was called in ancient times. Built at the beginning of the 3rd century BC, the library was not only a repository of books, but it was also a museum, school and the world’s foremost center for learning and scholarly research. There is a lot of speculation about what destroyed the library with many believing it was a fire. However, there is also the theory that the library was only partially destroyed by fire but later succumbed to decline over the course of several centuries when scholars were forced to leave the city. During your visit, you will learn more about its history and architecture and take a walk on the grounds where you will find a museum and galleries.

Following your time at the library, transfer back to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 2.5 hours of moderate walking that includes a few steps. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the transportation and have a companion to assist them. There are elevators at the museum and library for wheelchair users. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; sturdy, flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

ALY305: ALEXANDRIA HIGHLIGHTS BY HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE AND CITADEL VISIT - SEPTEMBER 3, 2021 | $69.00

3.5 HOURS | MEALS: NONE

Discover some of Alexandria’s most well-known attractions in a more intimate and non-traditional way as you relax and take it all in from your horse-drawn carriage.

Your tour starts with a coach transfer from the port to the Citadel of Qait Bay, which is considered one of the most important defensive strongholds, not only in Egypt, but also along the Mediterranean Sea coast. Built by Sultan Al-Ashraf Sayf al-Din Qait Bay in 1477 A.D., he established the citadel to defend the city of Alexandria from the advances of the Ottoman Empire, unfortunately his efforts were in vain as they eventually took control of the city 1512 A.D. Spend an hour here exploring this historic fortress before it’s time to embark your horse carriage for a delightful ride along the Mediterranean coast toward the city center. Along the way you will pass by the Abu El Abbas Mosque and the Unknown Soldier Monument.

Arriving in the city center, leave your carriage behind and enjoy an hour of free time here to explore on your own or do some shopping before being driven back to the port.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately one hour of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps and uneven surfaces, plus any additional discretionary walking during free time. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. Shoulders, legs and midriffs must be covered when entering religious sites.
The battle of El Alamein was one of the deadliest battles of WWII. During this informative tour, you will learn about how this historic battle unfolded and visit several sites that were significant in the battle as well as the military museum with its extensive exhibits.

Fought in the deserts of North Africa, the Battle of El Alamein is seen as one of the decisive victories of WWII. It was primarily fought between two of the war’s most outstanding commanders, Montgomery who succeeded the dismissed Auchinleck, and Rommel. The Allied victory at El Alamein led to the retreat of the Africa Corps and the German surrender in North Africa in May 1943.

Starting from the port, it’s a drive of just under two hours west to the village of El Alamein. Renowned for its tranquil, scenic beauty and soft, white-sand beaches, it’s also the site of one of the most pivotal battles of the war. Today, it is home to a museum and several war cemeteries that commemorate what took place here and those who lost their lives in the battle.

Your first stop is at the Commonwealth War Cemetery. This sobering location is covered with more than 7,000 tombstones that are spread out over a slope that overlooks the desert battlefield. Soldiers from the U.K., Australia, New Zealand, France, Greece, South Africa, East and West Africa, Malaysia and India who fought for the Allied cause were laid to rest here and their gravesites are maintained by The War Graves Commission.

Continuing on, drive to the nearby military museum. Four main halls represent the various countries that participated in the battle and a joint hall displays weapons, tanks and a series of paintings that depict the battle and Egypt’s role during the war. Additional exhibits include busts of the generals who planned the battle and maps and charts showing troop deployments.

Next, travel to a bluff that overlooks the sea where you will find what looks like a hermetically sealed sandstone fortress. Within its walls are the tombs of German and Italian servicemen and at its core is a memorial obelisk. Following this stop, drive back to the port, enjoying a boxed lunch on the coach.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately 1.75 hours of moderate walking that includes a few stairs. The tour is available to wheelchair guests who have a collapsible wheelchair, are able to make their own way on and off the transportation and have a companion to assist them. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; sturdy, flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

Your day of touring starts with a drive to the Catacombs of Kom El Shauquafa. Discovered in 1900, the catacombs represent the largest Roman cemetery in Alexandria and include the remains of more than 300 who perished in the city. The catacombs are comprised of three levels that have been carved 90 feet deep into the rock and are accessed by a series of descending steps.

Up next on your day’s touring agenda is a visit to Pompey’s Pillar, an 82-foot red Aswan granite column with a circumference of 29 feet and was constructed to honor Emperor Diocletian. From here, drive to the Roman Theater. Unearthed during excavations in 1960, this well-preserved Roman theater features galleries, sections of mosaic flooring and marble seating for up to 800 spectators.

Your morning ends with a relaxing lunch at one of Alexandria’s famous restaurants that overlooks the brilliant blue waters of the Mediterranean. Following your lunch break, your tour resumes with photo stops at the Citadel of Qait Bay, the stunning Abu El Abbas Mosque, and finally a stop at the unknown soldier monument.

Your final stop for the day is at the Alexandria Library. First commissioned in 295 BC by the Egyptian ruler Ptolemy I Soter, it was one of the cultural wonders of the ancient world. Representatives of Ptolemy traveled the world collecting books for the Library and it was filled not only with books pertaining to Egypt and Greece, but the entire ancient world. At one time the Library even held the original works of Euripides and Sophocles. Along with being a repository for books, it was also a museum, a school, and a center for scholastic research. Sadly, in 48 BC the city fell under attack from Julius Caesar and a massive fire engulfed large parts of the library, destroying at least 40,000 scrolls. There is a lot of speculation about what finally completely destroyed the library with many believing it was this fire. However, there is also the theory that the library was only partially destroyed by fire but later succumbed to decline over the course of several centuries when scholars were forced to leave the city. In recent years, the Egyptian government and UNESCO joined forces and brought the library back to life as a cultural center for the world.

Filled with memories of a day not soon forgotten, you will drive back to the pier and your waiting ship.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately three hours of mild to moderate walking that includes some steps and natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other mobility concerns. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; sturdy, flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
HERAKLION, CRETE, GREECE

HER501: CANYONING ADVENTURE IN STUNNING TSOUTSOUROS GORGE - SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 | $259pp

5 HOURS | MEAL: SNACK

Satisfy your quest for adventure on this tour that will have you conquering a wonderful gorge that is perfect for the sport of canyoning.

Drive from the pier to the Asterousia Mountains, location of the Tsoutsouros Gorge, one of the most beautiful canyons in southern Crete. On arrival, don your provided equipment, receive a safety and instructional briefing and then set out on your trek. The canyon is well belayed, making it perfect for beginners, but enough of a challenge for the more experienced to fully enjoy. It’s easy to cross and fairly narrow, especially toward the end where there are bigger descents and more beautiful rocks to scale.

You may find water running a course through the floor of the gorge, but this is primarily in early summer and does not hinder your progress and you can cross it throughout the year with no difficulty. When you reach the end of the gorge, you will find yourself on the south coast at Tsoutsouros Village where you can relax and swim at the sandy beach. While a light snack is provided during your journey down the canyon, there are restaurants and cafés in the village where you can purchase lunch and a refreshment.

Special Note: This tour includes several hours of hiking, climbing and rappelling. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with mobility issues or health conditions such as heart, back or neck issues or pregnant women. Guests should be in good health and good physical condition and not be afraid of heights or suffer from vertigo. We recommend wearing a swimsuit under your clothes and sport or trekking shoes that can get wet; a hat; sunscreen and sunglasses. Please bring along a backpack that should include an additional pair of shorts and t-shirt; a towel; a bottle of water; and an additional pair of shoes. The itinerary may be altered for reasons beyond our control (e.g., harsh weather, trail conditions) to ensure the safety and the well-being of the group. The final canyoning selection is left up to the trip leader.

HER502: VIA FERRATA CLIMBING CHALLENGE IN KOFINAS - SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 | $259pp

5 HOURS | MEAL: SNACK

Calling all adventure seekers! This Via Ferrata experience is the only one in Crete and sure to satisfy your craving for a challenge of mind and body.

Transfer from the pier to a remote location in the Asterousia Mountains on the south side of Crete. On arrival, gear-up in your safety equipment and receive a briefing before setting off to conquer this spectacular Via Ferrata. Via Ferrata is best explained as a protected climbing route that employs steel cables, ladders and other anchors that are affixed to the rock. The climber attaches to these anchors by means of a harness with two leashes, thus limiting any falls.

Your route will traverse the south face of Mount Kofinas which offers breath-taking views to Crete's south coast and the Mediterranean Sea. The activity not only pushes you to step outside your comfort zone, but in doing so, builds your self-confidence and a sense of camaraderie with your fellow participants. And in addition to all of that, it’s fun!

When you reach the endpoint, you will transfer back to the pier, no doubt amazed at what you have just accomplished.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately three hours of hiking and climbing. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with mobility issues or health conditions such as heart, back or neck issues or pregnant women. Guests should be in good health and good physical condition and not be afraid of heights or suffer from vertigo. We recommend wearing a swimsuit under your clothes and sport or trekking shoes that can get wet; a hat; sunscreen and sunglasses. Please bring along a backpack that should include an additional pair of shorts and t-shirt; a towel; a bottle of water; and an additional pair of shoes. The itinerary may be altered for reasons beyond our control (e.g., harsh weather, trail conditions) to ensure the safety and the well-being of the group. The final canyoning selection is left up to the trip leader.
Spend the day visiting the ancient settlement of Olounda - a favorite of Minoan luminaries and the historical island of Spinalonga.

Start your day with a drive from the port to the village of Elounda, situated on the southern coast of the Gulf of Elounda and just east of the ancient settlement of Olounda from which it has taken its name. Once a location favored by illustrious figures from Minoan Crete and even some of the more historical figures of our time, this popular fishing village turned resort town still retains its authentic charm.

Boarding a small boat in Elounda, you will enjoy a scenic cruise to the island of Spinalonga. A leper colony until 1957, the island today has gained notoriety as the location featured in author Victoria Hislop’s best-selling novel The Island. Your guided tour around the island includes a stop at the Venetian Fortress with its centuries of history. After the 1571 Ottoman conquest of Cyprus, the Venetians built the fortress in fear the Ottomans would then try to use the sandy shores here to land in Crete.

Sailing back to Elounda, enjoy a buffet of traditional Cretan snacks that include mini pies, meatballs and salads. There is plenty of free time afforded here to explore the shops and perhaps visit the nearby Blue Flag beach, so you may want to wear swimwear under your clothes and bring a beach towel with you.

At the end of your visit, you will rejoin your coach for the drive back to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes approximately two hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.

Visit the legendary Palace of Knossos and later the Archaeological Museum of Heraklion, one of the most important museums in Greece.

Travel twenty-five minutes from the pier to Knossos, the most renowned palace of the Minoan civilization which was the seat of power and home to King Minos. Your visit will immerse you into the myths, legends and secrets of the Minoans and reveal why this ancient civilization still casts its magic on all who come to witness the splendor of that era. There are numerous legends associated with the palace, such as the Labyrinth and Minotaur, and the story of Daedalus and Icarus. As you walk about the site, be enchanted by the elegance of its elaborate design and colorful frescoes which bear witness to Minoan life.

Next, drive back to Heraklion where you will enjoy a visit to its extraordinary Archaeological Museum. The museum houses a remarkable collection of artifacts from the Minoan era, such as the Phaistos Disk, the Snake Goddess, Bull-Leaping and King of the Lilies frescoes. Following your time here, return to the pier.

Special Note: This tour includes nearly three hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
This tour combines a visit to the legendary Palace of Knossos and Arolithos, a reproduction of a traditional Cretan village.

Travel 25 minutes from the pier to Knossos, the most renowned palace of the Minoan civilization which was the seat of power and home to King Minos. Your visit will immerse you into the myths, legends and secrets of the Minoans and reveal why this ancient civilization still casts its magic on all who come to witness the splendor of that era. There are numerous legends associated with the palace, such as the Labyrinth and Minotaur, and the story of Daedalus and Icarus. As you walk about the site, be enchanted by the elegance of its elaborate design and colorful frescoes which bear witness to Minoan life.

Next, travel to Arolithos, an authentic reproduction of a Cretan village that allows you to step back in time and experience what life would have looked like in a bygone era. The village is nestled in a breathtakingly beautiful location amongst the rugged grandeur of the surrounding mountains. With its cobbled streets and Cretan architecture, it wonderfully recreates the past with Cretan artisans that include an ironsmith, potter and weavers. While here, be sure to visit the folklore museum that houses a nice collection of pottery and other crafts. Before driving back to the pier, there will be an opportunity to shop for some mementos and enjoy some traditional Cretan food and drink.

Special Note: This tour includes three hours of moderate walking/standing that includes some steps and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and is not considered suitable for those with walking difficulties. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing; flat walking shoes; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen.
Day two of your adventure offers up a spectacular river trek alongside and within the Neda River, interestingly, one of the few rivers in Greece with a female name. Your trekking route passes through stone bridges, alongside narrow cliffs, underwater caves, and impressive waterfalls. Scramble over rocks, balance on natural stone surfaces and in some of the narrower parts of the river gorge, make a short swim in order to continue on. Stop along the way to rest and enjoy a picnic lunch along the banks of the river before resuming your trek. The effort is well worth it as you will find yourself at the end of your trail in the midst of a breathtakingly beautiful setting, complete with a cascading waterfall and natural river pool where you can go swimming. Transfer back to lodge in Stemnitsa where you will spend the night.

Your final day has you hiking into the untouched nature that surrounds the Lousios River gorge, also referred to as the "Mount Athos of the Peloponnese" on account of the monasteries that appear to be literally hanging from the surrounding cliffs. It is hard not to be awed by how these monasteries seem to cling to the sheer cliff faces and have done so for centuries.

During your hike, you will visit the St. John Prodromos monastery which is open to the public. End your adventure at the fascinating archaeological site of Ancient Gortyna which is nestled along the rushing Lousios River that in ancient times was actually called the Gortynios River. Afterwards, transfer to Athens where you will overnight in a hotel there before catching your flight home the next day.

Special Note: This tour includes three days of moderate to vigorous physical activity that includes inclines, scrambling over rocks, natural and uneven surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests, those with physical limitations or other health concerns. Participants should be in good physical condition. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing, flat walking shoes with a closed toe that can get wet, a sun cap, sunglasses and sunscreen. For water activities, we suggest wearing a swimsuit under your clothes and bringing a towel. All safety equipment will be provided. Guests will need to sign a waiver before being allowed to take part in the activities.

TO BOOK YOUR ATLAS ASHORE LAND EXCURSIONS, CALL OUR VOYAGE SPECIALISTS AT 1.844.44.ATLAS (28527)
Following your time at the summit, you will travel back down the mountain and visit the superlative Acropolis Museum that was opened in 2009. There is an immense amount of exhibition space and the way it has been laid out coupled with expansive windows can give the impression of crossing the ancient settlements nestled on the slopes of the Acropolis. Next, travel to the Plaka, the colorful old quarter of Athens that is rich with neoclassical architecture, ancient monuments, and Byzantine churches, not to mention a plethora of shops and cafés. Following lunch here, there will be free time to do some shopping and explore on your own before transferring to your hotel, the Saint George Lycabettus (or similar) for check-in. Located in the heart of Athens, it is notable for having stunning views of the Acropolis. After check-in, relax before dinner and then have the rest of the evening at your leisure.

**Day 2** After breakfast, change things up and head toward the Athens Riviera. Once here, it’s time to climb aboard a bike and be introduced to this other side of the city. As you bike along colorful side streets, soak in the local ambience and experience an uplifting bond with the surrounding sea. Mid-day stop for lunch by the beach and enjoy some free time to take a dip in the ocean or bask in the warmth of the sun before transferring back to the hotel.

Your final night takes you to the picturesque Mikrolimano area of Piraeus where you will be treated to dinner at the Varoulko restaurant. The restaurant’s menu was created by Lefteris Lazarou, Greece’s top-awarded Michelin Star chef, so you can expect an extraordinary dining experience. Later, with a satisfied palate and sense of contentment, head back to the hotel for the night.

**Day 3** Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, check-out and then join your transfer to the airport to catch your flight home.

*Special Note: This tour includes three days of moderate to physical activity that includes steps, inclines, natural and cobblestone surfaces. The tour is not available to wheelchair guests and may not be suitable for those with other physical limitations or health concerns. Participants should be in good physical condition and comfortable riding a bike. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable clothing, flat walking shoes with a closed toe that can get wet, a sun cap, sunglasses, and sunscreen. For water activities, we suggest wearing a swimsuit under your clothes and bringing a towel. All safety equipment will be provided. Those who take part in any water activities do so at their own risk and responsibility.*
ISTANBUL, TURKEY
- IST510PRE: Exploring the Valleys, Caves and Extraordinary Rock Formations of Magical, Mystical Cappadocia | August 13, 2021 | Price: $999
- IST302: Byzantine Treasures – Istanbul’s Most Iconic Landmarks | August 14, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $75
- IST306 Istanbul’s Ottoman Influence – The Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace and Grand Bazaar | August 14, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $75

KEPEZ, TURKEY
- CKZ301: Ancient Troy – A UNESCO World Heritage Site | August 15, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $89
- CKZ302: The Historic Gallipoli Campaign | August 15, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $85

BOZCAADA, TURKEY
- BZC301: The Gems of Bozcaada – Bozcaada Castle, Alaybey Mosque and Museum | August 16, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $65
- BZC302: Bozcaada’s Excellent Vinicultural Heritage – Old Town Visit and Winery | August 16, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $69
- BZC303: Bozcaada Beach Break | August 16, 2021 | Price: $85

DIKILI, TURKEY
- DIK501: Bike Adventure to the Pergamon Ruins | August 17, 2021 | Price: $199
- DIK303: Pergamon’s Key Attractions: The Acropolis, The Library and The Zeus Altar | August 17, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $69

EPHESUS (KUSADASI), TURKEY
- KUS301: Intense Ephesus: The Iconic Attractions and Archaeological Museum | August 18, 2021 | Price: $105
- KUS302: Ephesus Landmarks and The Terrace Houses - Homes of the Wealthy Ephesians | August 18, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $85
- KUS306: Dinner Under the Stars at Ephesus - A Private Event | August 18, 2021 | Price: $299
- KUS310: Historic Sirince Village and the House of the Virgin Mary | August 18, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $85
- KUS311: The Ancient Ionian City of Miletus and the Sanctuary of Didyma | August 18, 2021 | Price: $79

PATMOS, GREECE
- PMS301: Discover the Iconic Sites of Patmos | August 19, 2021 | Price: $99
- PMS302: In-Depth View of the Monastery of St. John and Icon Restoration | August 19, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $79
- PMS303: In the footsteps of St. John | August 19, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $75

BODRUM, TURKEY
- BXN301: Explore the Archaeological Treasures of Ancient Iassos | August 20, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $69
- BXN303: Historical Bodrum Castle and the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus | August 20, 2021 | Price: □ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR □ $69
- BXN304: Bodrum’s Essential Landmarks and Relaxing Gulet Cruise | August 20, 2021 | Price: $269

MORE EXCURSIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

WORKSHEET PAGE 1

NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE #
BOOKING #
NOTES

All images are representative and may not exactly depict every land excursion. Atlas Ocean Voyages reserves the right to correct any errors or omissions at any time. All ports, except embarkation and disembarkation, offer a selection of complimentary excursions. Excursions are capacity controlled. © 2021 Atlas Ocean Voyages. Ship’s Registry: Portugal.
MARMARIS, TURKEY

☐ MRM301: Dalyan River Cruise and Visit to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kaunos | August 21, 2021 | Price: $69

☐ MRM302: Authentic Turkish Bath Experience | August 21, 2021 | Price: $59

☐ MRM303: İçmeler Bay Beach Break | August 21, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $59

☐ MRM304: Delightful Akyaka Village, Boat Ride and Marmaris Castle | August 21, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $59


FETHİYE, TURKEY


☐ FET502: Trekking Lycia Fethiye: The Kayaköy and Ölüdeniz Ruins | August 22, 2021 | Price: $399

☐ FET503: Tandem Paraglide Soar Over Stunning Oludeniz | August 22, 2021 | Price: $499

☐ FET301:激 力 桑 次 岩 森 山 瀑 流 冒 险 于 阿 拉 马 丹 河 | 兆 月 22, 2021 | 价 格: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $69

☐ FET302: Discover the Extraordinary UNESCO World Heritage Site of Xanthos-Letoon | August 22, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $69

KEKOVA ISLAND AND DEMRE, TURKEY

☐ KEK301: Kalekoy’s Medieval Castle and the Surreal Sunken City of Simena | August 23, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $79

☐ KEK302: Historical Ancient Myra and St. Nicholas Church | August 23, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $85

PAPHOS, CYPRUS

☐ PFO502: Mountain Bike Adventure in the Paphos Countryside | August 24, 2021 | Price: $189

☐ PFO301: Authentic Paphos - Neofytos Monastery, Tsangaras Winery and Sofia's Traditional House | August 24, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $89

☐ PFO305: Discover Paphos’ Past and Present – Fruit Plantation, Winery, Omodos Village and Kourion Ruins | August 24, 2021 | Price: $79

☐ PFO306: Incredible Paphos – A UNESCO World Heritage Site and Archaeological Park | August 24, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $85

☐ PFO307: Sea Kayaking to the Island of Yeronisos and Swim Break | August 24, 2021 | Price: $169

MASADA (ASHDOD), ISRAEL

☐ ASH505MS: MAX SHORE - The Ultimate Israel and Jordan Experience | August 25, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY ($3,589 Value)

☐ ASH050VD (Double) ASH050OVS (Single): Masada and Jerusalem – An Immersion in Israeli History | August 25, 2021 | Price: Double: $1,199 | Single: $1,999


☐ ASH502VD: Journey to Jordan - Iconic Ruins of Petra and Wadi Rum and Overnight Glamping Adventure | August 25, 2021 | Price: $1,499

☐ ASH503: Beit Guvrin Caves Exploration, Archaeological Dig and Rowing in the Pool of Arches | August 25, 2021 OR August 26, 2021 | Price: $199

☐ ASH504: Jerusalem Landmarks and Walking Through the Colorful and Historic Old City | August 25, 2021 | Price: $169


☐ ASH307: The Legendary Fortress of Masada and Dead Sea Experience | August 25, 2021 | Price: $225

☐ ASH309: Journey to Historical Beit Guvrin | August 25, 2021 | Price: ☐ COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR ☐ $99

MORE EXCURSIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

WORKSHEET PAGE 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHONE #</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOOKING #</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOTES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that all excursions are limited capacity and will be assigned based on date received. So, don't wait!

Complete this form and mail/email to:
ATLAS OCEAN VOYAGES · GUEST SERVICES
1 EAST BROWARD BLVD, SUITE 800 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
1.844.44.ATLAS (28527) · RES@ATLASOCEANVOYAGES.COM

Let your journey begin!

At Atlas, every port includes a complimentary land excursion (shown in red). Feel free to take advantage of any, or all of these. But if you want something different to check off your bucket list, just let us know which excursions you want to purchase.

All images are representative and may not exactly depict every land excursion. Atlas Ocean Voyages reserves the right to correct any errors or omissions at any time. All ports, except embarkation and disembarkation, offer a selection of complimentary excursions. Excursions are capacity controlled. © 2021 Atlas Ocean Voyages. Ship’s Registry: Portugal
MASADA (ASHDOD), ISRAEL

- **ASH501OVD (Double): Ein Gedi Nature Park and Masada Morning Snake Trail Climb** | August 30, 2021 | Price: **$999**
- **ASH050OVD (Double) / ASH050OVS (Single): Masada and Jerusalem – An Immersion in Israeli History** | August 30, 2021 | Price: **Double: $1,199 / Single: $1,999**
- **ASH503: Beit Guvrin Caves Exploration, Archaeological Dig and Rowing in the Pool of Arches** | August 30, 31, 2021 | Price: **$199**
- **ASH301: Essential Israel: Bethlehem, View of Jerusalem and the Garden of Gethsemane** | August 30, 2021 | Price: **$145**
- **ASH302: Jerusalem Landmarks and Walking Through the Colorful and Historic Old City** | August 30, 2021 | Price: **$169**
- **ASH306: Iconic Jerusalem and the Impressive Yad Vashem Museum** | August 30, 2021 | Price: **$175**
- **ASH307: The Legendary Fortress of Masada and Dead Sea Experience** | August 30, 2021 | Price: **$225**
- **ASH309: Journey to Historical Beit Guvrin** | August 30, 2021 | Price: **COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR $99**
- **ASH304: Easy Jerusalem Panorama** | August 31, 2021 | Price: **$239**
- **ASH305: A Study in Contrasts – Walking Ancient Jaffa and Panoramic Modern Tel Aviv** | August 31, 2021 | Price: **COMPLIMENTARY OPTION OR $99**

MORE EXCURSIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

WORKSHEET PAGE 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHONE #</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOOKING #</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

All images are representative and may not exactly depict every land excursion. Atlas Ocean Voyages reserves the right to correct any errors or omissions at any time. All ports, except embarkation and disembarkation, offer a selection of complimentary excursions. Excursions are capacity controlled. © 2021 Atlas Ocean Voyages. Ship’s Registry: Portugal.
**LIMASSOL, CYPRUS**

- **LMS501**: 4X4 Safari with Exhilarating Water Trek and Mineshaft Exploration
  
  September 1, 2021 | Price: $199

- **LMS305**: Rock of Aphrodite, Tombs of the Kings and House of Dionysos
  
  September 1, 2021 | Price: $85

- **LMS307**: The Outstanding Salamis Archaeological Site and The Ghost Town of Famagusta
  
  September 1, 2021 | Price: $125

- **LMS308**: Limassol's Must-See Archaeological Sites: Sanctuary of Apollo Hylates, Kourion Ancient Theater and Kolossi Medieval Castle
  
  September 1, 2021 | Price: $79

- **LMS309**: Delightful Lefkara Village & Gastronomic Pleasures
  
  September 1, 2021 | Price: $99

**CAIRO (PORT SAID), EGYPT**

- **PSD501OVD**: Essential Cairo and Fayoum Oasis with Sandboarding Overland Adventure
  
  September 2, 2021 | Price: $1,299

- **PSD060OVD**: Amazing Pyramids and Valley of the Kings Overland Experience
  
  September 2, 2021 | Price: $1,199

- **PSD061OVD**: Iconic Egypt: Cairo, Sakkara and the Giza Pyramids
  
  September 2, 2021 | Price: $1,199

- **PSD302**: Cairo's Exceptional Grand Egyptian Museum and The Iconic Pyramids of Giza
  
  September 2, 2021 | Price: $79

- **PSD307**: Leisurely Horse-Drawn Carriage Ride
  
  September 2, 2021 | Price: $89

- **PSD308**: Journey to Ismailia and the Remarkable Suez Canal
  
  September 2, 2021 | Price: $95

**HERAKLION, CRETE, GREECE**

- **HER501**: Canyoning Adventure in Stunning Tsoutsouros Gorge
  
  September 5, 2021 | Price: $259

- **HER502**: Via Ferrata Climbing Challenge in Kofinas
  
  September 5, 2021 | Price: $259

- **HER301**: Explore the Cretan Landmarks of Elounda and Spinaloga
  
  September 5, 2021 | Price: $89

- **HER302**: The Remarkable Palace of Knossos and Archaeological Museum
  
  September 5, 2021 | Price: $79

- **HER303**: Legendary Knossos and Delightful Arolithos
  
  September 5, 2021 | Price: $85

**ATHENS (PIRAEUS), GREECE**

- **PIR510PST**: Spectacular Peloponnese Adventure Challenge
  
  September 6, 2021 | Price: $1,999

- **PIR401PST**: Experience Athens' Historical Past and Vibrant Present
  
  September 6, 2021 | Price: $2,260

**ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT**

- **ALY301**: The Marvelous Alexandria Museum and Iconic Ancient Library
  
  September 3, 2021 | Price: $69

- **ALY305**: Alexandria Highlights by Horse-Drawn Carriage and Citadel Visit
  
  September 3, 2021 | Price: $69

- **ALY306**: A Look Back at the Historic Battle of El Alamein
  
  September 3, 2021 | Price: $69

- **ALY307**: Explore the Wonders of Alexandria in Depth
  
  September 3, 2021 | Price: $129

---

**WORKSHEET PAGE 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>PHONE #</th>
<th>BOOKING #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**NOTES**

---

All images are representative and may not exactly depict every land excursion. Atlas Ocean Voyages reserves the right to correct any errors or omissions at any time. All ports, except embarkation and disembarkation, offer a selection of complimentary excursions. Excursions are capacity controlled. © 2021 Atlas Ocean Voyages. Ship's Registry: Portugal.