# 7 Day Cruise and Athens combined

## Day 1: Tuesday - Depart USA

Depart the USA to Greece. Your flight includes meals, drinks and in-flight entertainment for your journey.

## Day 2: Wednesday - Arrive in Athens

Arrive in Athens and transfer to your hotel. Balance of the day at leisure.

## Day 3: Thursday - Tour Athens

Your morning tour of Athens includes visits to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Panathenian Stadium, the ruins of the Temple of Zeus and the Acropolis. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure in Athens.

#### Day 4: Friday - Day at Sea

Morning at leisure. Afternoon transfer to the pier in Piraeus for embarkation. The ship departs for Istanbul at 6:00 p.m.

## **Day 5: Saturday - Arrive in Istanbul**

Enjoy daylight sailing on the Aegean Sea. Arrive in Istanbul in the late afternoon (6 p.m.) and enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure.

# Day 6: Sunday - Full-day at Istanbul

Enjoy a full day at leisure in Istanbul, the "Capital of the Greatest Empires." With the day at leisure, we suggest visiting the famous Sultanahmet Mosque (Blue Mosque), or the Topkapi Palace, the former residence of the Ottoman Sultans. The two sites are prominent national landmarks and highly sought by travelers to Istanbul. The Mosque is renowned for its distinctive Iznik tiled interior, and the Palace for its Treasury Rooms, which house over 700 years of priceless Endurun antiquities. The ship departs at 6:00 p.m. for an overnight cruise to Mykonos.

# Day 7: Monday - Day at Sea, Arrive Mykonos

En route to Mykonos (Greece), awake to breakfast on the Aegean Sea and prepare for an afternoon and evening (3 p.m. to midnight) on one of Greece's most adored islands. Aside from Mykonos' landmark windmills and whitewashed homes, the island is most famous for its unique architecture, particularly the Paraportiani (molded) church, first begun in 1475, and Delos, one of Greece's oldest archaeological sites. Upon boarding your ship for an overnight cruise to Patmos, be sure to bid farewell to the island's celebrity mascot, Petros the Pelican.

# Day 8: Tuesday - Morning at Patmos, Afternoon in Kusadasi

Morning in Patmos (Greece) from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Enjoy breakfast on board and time at leisure in Patmos, before an afternoon in Kusadasi, Turkey (2:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.), a city renowned for its beaches and attractive view of the Aegean. Situated on Turkey's west coast, Kusadasi is close to several historical sites including Ephesus, the Temple of Artemis and the House of the Virgin Mary. Sail to Rhodes this evening.

## Day 9: Wednesday - Full Day Rhodes

Enjoy a full-day on the island of Rhodes (Greece) from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is the largest island of the Dodecanese archipelago. Explore the island's medieval Old Town, preserved in and around the walls of a Venetian castle, built by the 14th century Knights of St. John. Declared by UNESCO a World Heritage Site, the citadel of Rhodes, located at the far northern end of the island, is considered one of the best preserved medieval towns in the Mediterranean. Cruise in the early evening to Heraklion.

# **Day 10: Thursday - Arrive in Heraklion**

Arrive this morning in Heraklion (Crete, Greece) at 7:00 a.m., the capital town of one of the four prefectures that constitute the island of Crete. Enjoy a half day at leisure to explore the island on your own. At noon, cruise to Santorini, and enjoy an evening on Santorini Island. Known for its breathtaking Caldera, Santorini is also famous for its sandy beaches, colorful sunsets, and whitewashed buildings along the sea-cliffs.

# Day 11: Friday - Depart for USA

Disembark in Piraeus at 6:00 a.m. Transfer to the airport for your departure flight.