

# Vassar Travel Program

EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS FOR ALUMNAE/I, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

ISLAND LIFE®

## ANCIENT GREECE AN AEGEAN ODYSSEY

aboard the Exclusively Chartered,  
Five-Star LE BOUGAINVILLE

October 15 to 23, 2022



EARLY BOOKING  
SAVINGS  
UP TO \$4000  
PER COUPLE!

BOOK BY  
APRIL 22, 2022

## Vassar Travel Program

Vassar College Box 14  
161 College Avenue  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
845.437.5453  
[alums.vassar.edu/services/travel](mailto:alums.vassar.edu/services/travel)

Dear Vassar Travelers:

Journey to the cradle of Western civilization and the classical world on this comprehensive Aegean voyage. Explore the exquisitely preserved treasures and mythical landscapes of ancient Greece, uncovering layers of architectural history. Cruise to fabled halcyon islands from antiquity aboard the exclusively chartered, state-of-the-art, Five-Star LE BOUGAINVILLE, featuring the exclusive *Blue Eye*, the world's first multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge. This elegant and elite small ship has only 92 Suites and Staterooms, each with a private balcony, and is able to moor in small ports of call inaccessible to larger vessels.

Our epic tour calls on Delos, Mykonos, Pátmos, Rhodes and the Peloponnese Peninsula—ancient destinations steeped in myth and history—along with Santorini. Enjoy opportunities to visit six magnificent UNESCO World Heritage sites. Tour the scenic wonder of Meteora, where 24 Orthodox monasteries, built in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, crown dramatic, soaring natural sandstone cliffs. Walk through the Sanctuary of Asclepios at Epidaurus, where the history of early Hellenic and Roman natural healing practices is engraved onto the ancient stelae and the theater's original fourth-century B.C. acoustics continue to resonate for audiences today. Learn more about contemporary life on the Greek Isles during the exclusive ISLAND LIFE® FORUM, where you will meet and engage with local residents. Enjoy guided tours in these legendary destinations and experience the time-honored traditions and delights of authentic Greek villages during the best time of the year.

The Vassar Travel Program is pleased to offer the ISLAND LIFE® Ancient Greece at an excellent value. All accommodations, meals, exclusive CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS and an excursion every day are included, and you only need to unpack once! Make your reservations while space and early booking savings are still available!

Sincerely,

Barbara Olsen

Associate Professor of Greek and Roman Studies

### Faculty Host

Professor Olsen holds a B.A. in Classics from Cornell University and a Ph.D. in Classical Studies from Duke University. She specializes in Greek history and archaeology, especially the study of women in the ancient world. She is the author of *Women in Mycenaean Greece: The Linear B Tablets from Pylos and Knossos* (Routledge 2014) and of *Women in the Classical World: A History* (ABC-CLIO forthcoming). This will be her fifth Vassar Travel Program for our alumnae/i.

*The safety and well-being of our travelers remains our highest priority. All passengers traveling on our programs are required to present confirmation of a full COVID-19 vaccination, and, as well may have to produce evidence of a recent negative COVID test. All our staff are committed to adhering to all health and safety protocols from the start of your trip to the end as directed by the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention, overseas health officials, as well as those protocols mandated by your cruise company (if applicable). All passengers over 65 are required to have a third vaccine (booster) if their second vaccination was administered 6 months ago. Detailed protocol information tailored to your travel program will be mailed to you along with additional pre-departure information.*

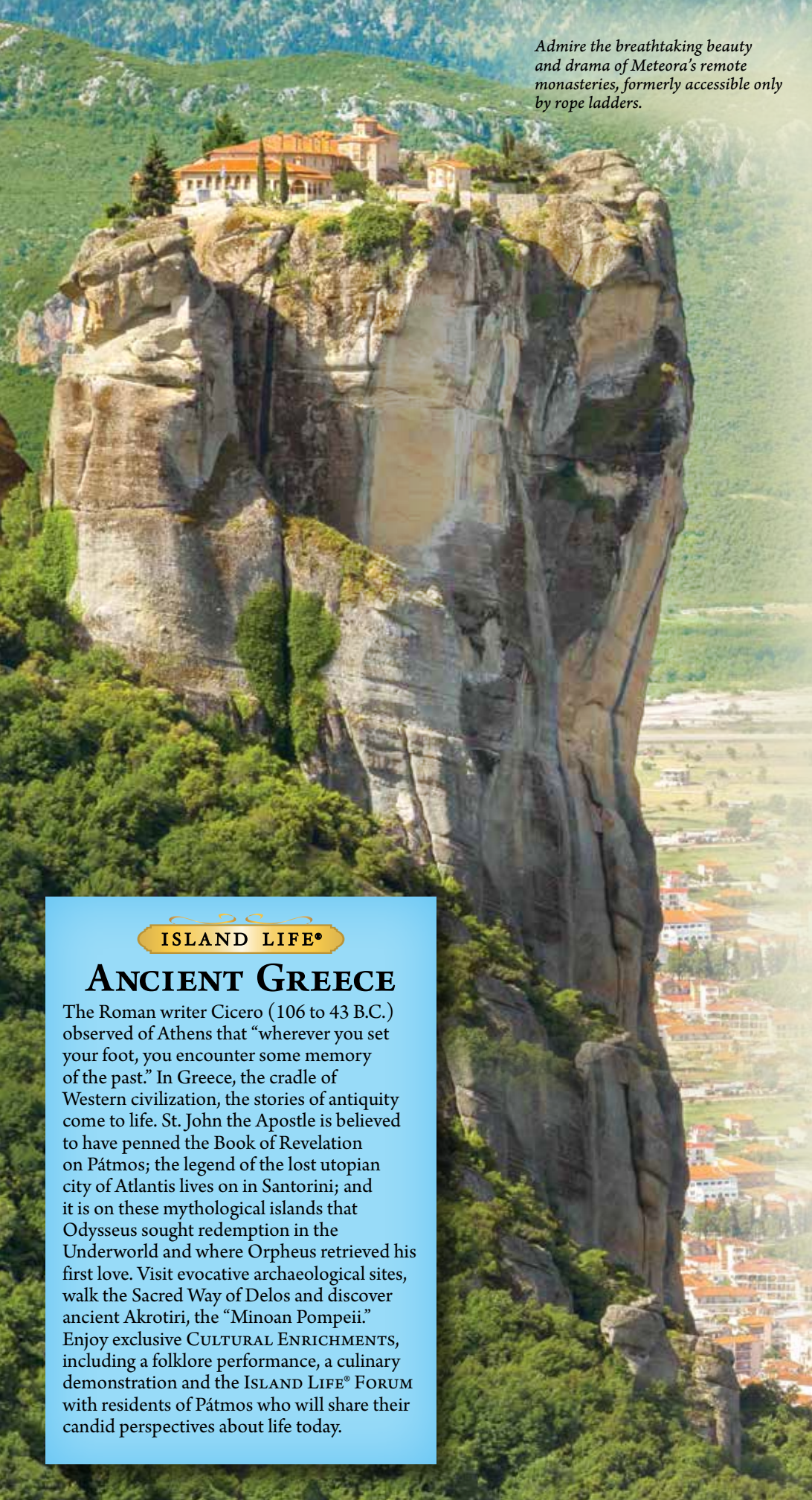
Cover photo: Admire Santorini's dazzling whitewashed villages with their famous architecture in crisp hues of white and blue.

PHOTO CREDITS: Alamy, Bridgeman Art Library, Dreamstime, Ponant®, Shutterstock; all images are rights managed and cannot be used without permission.



*The bronze stag symbolizes the Colossus of Rhodes, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.*





*Admire the breathtaking beauty and drama of Meteora's remote monasteries, formerly accessible only by rope ladders.*

#### ISLAND LIFE®

## ANCIENT GREECE

The Roman writer Cicero (106 to 43 B.C.) observed of Athens that “wherever you set your foot, you encounter some memory of the past.” In Greece, the cradle of Western civilization, the stories of antiquity come to life. St. John the Apostle is believed to have penned the Book of Revelation on Pátmos; the legend of the lost utopian city of Atlantis lives on in Santorini; and it is on these mythological islands that Odysseus sought redemption in the Underworld and where Orpheus retrieved his first love. Visit evocative archaeological sites, walk the Sacred Way of Delos and discover ancient Akrotiri, the “Minoan Pompeii.”

Enjoy exclusive CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS, including a folklore performance, a culinary demonstration and the ISLAND LIFE® FORUM with residents of Pátmos who will share their candid perspectives about life today.



## ITINERARY

### *Classical Athens and Mythical Cape Sounion Pre-Program Option*

- 1 Depart the U.S.
- 2 **Athens®, Greece**
  - ◆ Embark LE BOUGAINVILLE.
- 3 **Volos for Meteora®**
  - ◆ Visit the 14<sup>th</sup>- to 15<sup>th</sup>-century monasteries of Meteora, built atop towering sandstone pillars.
- 4 **Delos®/Mykonos**
  - ◆ Walking tour of the archaeological site of Delos.
  - ◆ Time at leisure to explore Mykonos.

- 5 **Pátmos®**
  - ◆ Visits to the Monastery of St. John and the Cave of the Apocalypse.

#### CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:

- ◆ ISLAND LIFE® FORUM.
- ◆ Special culinary presentation by the ship's pastry chef.

- 6 **Rhodes®/Lindos**

- ◆ Walking tour of Rhodes Town.

#### CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:

- ◆ Tour of the Acropolis of Lindos.
- ◆ Folklore performance on board.

- 7 **Santorini for Akrotiri and Fira**

- ◆ Cruise into Santorini's harbor.
- ◆ Tour of the Museum of Prehistoric Thera in Fira.
- ◆ Afternoon at leisure in Fira.

#### CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:

- ◆ Tour of the Bronze Age ruins of Akrotiri.

- 8 **Nafplion for Mycenae® and Epidauros®**

#### CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:

- ◆ Excursion to the ancient citadel of Mycenae.
- ◆ Visit to Hellenic Sanctuary of Epidauros.

- 9 **Athens/Disembark ship/  
Return to the U.S.**

### *Oracle of Delphi and Antiquities of Thebes Post-Program Option*

*Visit Mykonos' classic round windmills, which were once used to grind wheat on the island.*



## Athens, Greece

The birthplace of democracy and home to many of the greatest philosophers and historians—from Socrates to Herodotus—Athens is unmatched in its contributions to early Western civilization.

## Meteora

From the attractive port city of Volos, birthplace of legendary Argonaut Jason, cross the fertile Plain of Thessaly to the natural wonder of Meteora—Greek for “suspended in the air”—an extraordinary enigma of virtually uncharted Orthodox monasteries. This breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage site was constructed dramatically atop soaring natural sandstone pillars 1,300 feet above the valley floor in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. The early Christian traditions of these monasteries have continued uninterrupted for hundreds of years. Visit two of the six active monasteries, originally accessed by precarious use of long ladders and baskets suspended on ropes. Today, a modern road to the top offers majestic sights overlooking the verdant Peneas Valley.

## Delos

The mythical birthplace of Apollo and Artemis, today Delos is a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is considered one of the most sacred islands in the Greek world, as central to Grecian spiritual life as Olympia and Delphi. Walk along the Sacred Way to the Sanctuary of Apollo, a spectacularly rich archaeological site with remains of three separate temples from the fifth and sixth centuries B.C. Delos' awe-inspiring ruins also showcase an entire district of Hellenistic and Roman-era houses and a 5,500-seat theater (300 B.C.), the site of choral competitions during the Delian *panegyris* and the ancient quadrennial festival honoring Apollo.

See the legendary Terrace of the Lions, dedicated to Apollo, where the stately hand-carved marble statues have guarded the island for nearly 2,600 years; the original lions are in the Delos Archaeological Museum.

## Mykonos

According to ancient legend, the craggy hills and clefts of Mykonos were formed from the petrified bodies of giants defeated by Hercules.





*Be inspired by spectacular coastal views from the Lindos Acropolis, built 380 feet above the town.*

Today Mykonos' iconic 16<sup>th</sup>-century windmills, bright-white cubist Cycladic architecture, picturesque harbor and azure bays epitomize the striking beauty of the Greek Isles.

## Pátmos

The Greek Orthodox Monastery of St. John, a UNESCO World Heritage site on the Sacred Island of Pátmos, is one of Christianity's oldest pilgrimage destinations. Tour the fortified monastery, built in 1088 and still occupied by monks who continue to preserve it as a pilgrimage site and place of religious study. See the Cave of the Apocalypse, where St. John the Apostle is believed to have written the Book of Revelation in A.D. 95.

### CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:

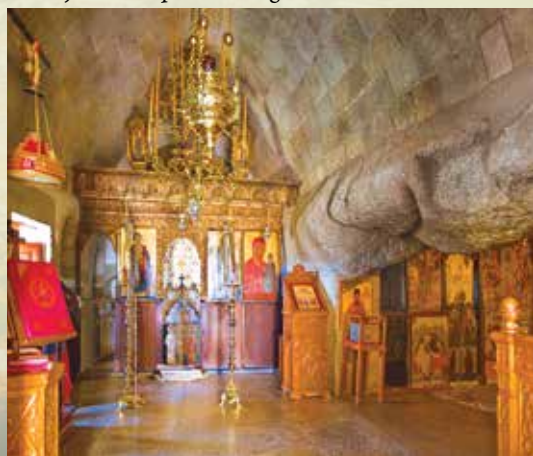
Meet and engage with local residents who will discuss contemporary daily life during the specially arranged ISLAND LIFE® FORUM.

Enjoy a culinary demonstration by the ship's pastry chef.

## Rhodes/Lindos

The island of Rhodes, the largest of the Dodecanese islands, has been one of the most prosperous and strategic strongholds in the eastern Mediterranean since the Neolithic Period. Dock at the fortified wall of Rhodes Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and step into arguably Europe's most impressive continuously inhabited medieval walled city—built over a great Hellenistic metropolis and a major Christian outpost during the Crusades.

*See the Cave of the Apocalypse, the home of St. John the Apostle during his exile.*



*Enjoy the near-perfect natural acoustics of the theater at Epidaurus, built in the fourth century B.C.*

Visit the splendid 14<sup>th</sup>-century Palace of the Grand Masters, built by the Knights of St. John and a rare example of Gothic architecture in Greece.

### CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:

Join an excursion to ancient Lindos, one of Greece's most picturesque villages. In its center, see the magnificent 15<sup>th</sup>-century frescoes adorning the Byzantine-style Church of Panagia. Ascend stone stairs to the clifftop Acropolis where the elaborate porticos and lofty stoa of the Doric Temple of Athena Lindia command a breathtaking sweep of the Aegean Sea.

Delight in a traditional folklore performance aboard the ship.

## Santorini for Akrotiri and Fira

Be on deck as the ship cruises into the alluring main harbor of Santorini, a natural caldera, beneath which some believe to be the legendary lost city of Atlantis. Later, by cable car, descend from the elevated town of Fira, where stunning white-walled houses stand in stark contrast against the dark volcanic cliffs.

### CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:

Tour the remarkable Bronze Age ruins of Akrotiri. Held intact by layers of pumice and ash for over 3,500 years, Akrotiri's streets reveal the architectural sophistication and advanced culture of its Minoan inhabitants.

In Fira, visit the Museum of Prehistoric Thera, which exhibits findings from Akrotiri.

## Nafplion for Mycenae and Epidaurus

Cruise to the Peloponnese Peninsula, known for its tremendous literary importance and treasured antiquities. Mycenae is bountiful in allusions to the age of Agamemnon, from its secret passages to its Cyclopean walls.

### CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:

Tour two UNESCO World Heritage highlights—the ancient citadel of Mycenae, the classical stage of Homer's *The Iliad*; and the Sanctuary of Asklepios in Epidaurus, an equally iconic Hellenic site. Both of these ruins bear testimony to Greco-Roman natural healing and medicinal knowledge.







**Stateroom with Balcony**



**Panoramic Restaurant**

## EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED, FIVE-STAR LE BOUGAINVILLE

### Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design

LE BOUGAINVILLE ushers in a new generation of Five-Star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships, where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you.

### *Blue Eye* –World's First Multisensory, Underwater Observation Lounge

View the beauty of marine life through the large, subaquatic windows and integrated digital screens providing live images from underwater cameras, and enjoy the sensory experience of listening to the ocean's unique underwater universe in the comfort of the exclusive *Blue Eye* lounge.

### Respect for the Environment

A new addition to the Ponant "Clean Ship" fleet, an important certification among ocean-cruising vessels, LE BOUGAINVILLE is energy efficient and eco-friendly, protecting fragile marine ecosystems.

### World-Class Service

The highly trained, English-speaking crew is personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and a nurse.

### Chic and Casual Dining

Dine indoors or al fresco on international and regional cuisine served in the stylish, spacious indoor-outdoor restaurant, at the casual pool deck grill or from 24-hour room service. Daily meals include breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and four-course dinner, with wine and beer served at lunch and dinner.

### Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies

Each of the 92 Five-Star Staterooms and Suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand Deluxe Suites have a floor-to-ceiling panoramic window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, private bathroom with a shower and luxury hotel-style amenities.

### Life on Board

Enjoy sweeping views from the lounges—which open to the outdoors—and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. Relax in the spa or infinity swimming pool. The ship has a beauty salon, a fitness room and three elevators. Complimentary Wi-Fi access is available.

### Observation Lounge



### Sun Deck



## Included Features

### On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star, Small Ship **LE BOUGAINVILLE**

- ◆ Seven-night cruise round trip Athens, Greece.
- ◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom.
- ◆ Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- ◆ **Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.**
- ◆ All meals aboard ship.
- ◆ **Complimentary Wi-Fi access.**
- ◆ *Blue Eye*—the world's first luxury, multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge.

### Expert-Guided Excursions and Exclusive **CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS**

- ◆ Tour of **Santorini**—which some consider mythology's lost city of Atlantis—featuring a visit to the renowned Museum of Prehistoric Thera and a cable car ride.
- ◆ Guided tour of the remarkable Minoan site of Bronze Age **Akrotiri**.
- ◆ Half-day excursion in **Lindos** to the Acropolis.
- ◆ **ISLAND LIFE® FORUM** with local residents who will discuss contemporary life on the Greek Isles.
- ◆ Traditional Greek music and dance performance.
- ◆ Special Greek culinary presentation aboard the ship.

### UNESCO World Heritage Site Highlights

- ◆ Excursion to extraordinary **Meteora**, where 14<sup>th</sup>- and 15<sup>th</sup>-century Greek Orthodox monasteries were built atop towering natural sandstone massifs, with lunch in a nearby restaurant.
- ◆ Walking tour of medieval **Rhodes Town**, with a visit to the 14<sup>th</sup>-century **Palace of the Grand Masters of the Knights of St. John**.
- ◆ Tour of the Cave of the Apocalypse and the **Monastery of St. John** on the island of Pátmos.
- ◆ Walking tour of **Delos'** splendid classical ruins, including the Sanctuary of Apollo and the theater quarter.
- ◆ Tour of the ancient archaeological site of **Mycenae**.
- ◆ Excursion to **Epidaurus**, featuring the Sanctuary of Asklepios and its perfectly preserved theater.



### **Always Included**

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard ship.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Program Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

# Classical Athens and Mythical Cape Sounion

## Pre-Program Option

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



# Oracle of Delphi and Antiquities of Thebes

## Post-Program Option

One of the most spectacular of all ancient Greek sites—UNESCO-inscribed Delphi—formed the center of the Greek world in the sixth century B.C. Tour the magnificent Archaeological Museum, a treasure trove of ancient artifacts, including the life-size, fifth-century B.C. bronze statue of the Charioteer of Delphi. Walk the Sacred Way to the Panhellenic sanctuary of Delphi, second only to the Athens Acropolis in importance. Stand at the marble Altar of the Chians, where the common and the mighty alike awaited the oracle's pronouncements.

Discover the importance of ancient Thebes to Greek civilization, from the Bronze Age and Mycenaean eras until its destruction by Alexander the Great in 335 B.C., at the splendid Archaeological Museum of Thebes. Accommodations are for one night in the HOTEL AMALIA DELPHI and one night in the SOFITEL ATHENS AIRPORT HOTEL.

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*





LE BOUGAINVILLE



Category	LAND/CRUISE TARIFF <i>excluding taxes</i> <i>Per person, based on double occupancy</i>	Early Booking Tariff through Apr. 22, 2022	Tariff after Apr. 22, 2022
8	Picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. <i>Deck 3, forward. (limited availability)</i>	\$4895	\$5630
7	Picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i>	\$5395	\$6195
6	Expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 4, forward.</i>	\$5995	\$6895
5	Expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 4, midship.</i>	\$6395	\$7355
4	Expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Decks 5 and 6, aft. (limited availability)</i>	\$6995	\$8045
3	Expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 5, forward. (limited availability)</i>	\$7395	\$8495
2	Expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 5, midship.</i>	\$7995	\$9195
1	Expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$8895	\$10230
Deluxe Suite	Suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>large private balcony,</b> sitting area with sofa. <i>Decks 3, 4, 5 and 6. (limited availability)</i>	\$10395	\$11955
Prestige Suite	Two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony,</b> two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 5. (limited availability)</i>	\$11695	\$13450
Privilege Suite	Large Suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony,</b> sitting area with sofa. <i>Decks 5 and 6. (limited availability)</i>	\$11995	\$13795
Grand Deluxe Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom Suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, <b>spacious private terrace,</b> full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. <i>Deck 6, aft. (limited availability)</i>	\$12995	\$14945
Owner's Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom Suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, <b>spacious private terrace</b> with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. <i>Deck 5, aft. (limited availability)</i>	\$13495	\$15495

Singles supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.

Taxes are an additional \$440 per person.

LE BOUGAINVILLE has been specially contracted for this program, and the deck plan is available online or at request from Gohagan & Company.

ISLAND LIFE® ANCIENT GREECE AN AEGEAN ODYSSEY RESERVATION FORM

Send to: Gohagan & Company  
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446  
(312) 609-1140 063-10/15/22-172

Title Full Name Class Year

Title Full Name Class Year

Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)

City State Zip Code

Home Telephone Cell Phone

Email Address Business Telephone

Program reservations require a deposit of \$800 per person.  
☐ Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
Make check(s) payable to **2022 Island Life Ancient Greece.**  
☐ I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to:  
☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa  
☐ I/We request that you contact me/us via telephone or email for payment by ACH.

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risk inherent therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/ her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth at gohagantravel.com/terms and to release and hold harmless Vassar College and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licensees or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries or death or for the loss of or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, the tour.

Each participant must sign:

First participant's signature Today's date

Second participant's signature Today's date

Please make my/our reservation(s) :

Category: 1<sup>st</sup> Choice 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

- ☐ Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- ☐ Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- ☐ Single accommodations.
- ☐ Single but prefer to share and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Athens and Cape Sounion  
Post-Program Option

- ☐ Double at \$995 per person.
- ☐ Single at \$1295 per person.
- ☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

Delphi and Thebes  
Post-Program Option

- ☐ Double at \$745 per person.
- ☐ Single at \$895 per person.
- ☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

☐ I/We want you to book my/our air from:

(fill in departure city)

☐ I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

FINAL PAYMENT due July 12, 2022; make by make by check, ACH, or credit card. No cancellation fees until 96 days prior to October 15, 2022!

Vassar Travel Program  
Vassar College Box 14  
161 College Avenue  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
[alums.vassar.edu/services/travel](mailto:alums.vassar.edu/services/travel)

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