



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

Value
Pricing!

The Aegean Islands, Athens & Ephesus

Aboard the 26-cabin *M/V Athena*

September 1-16, 2018 (16 days) with lecturers Nancy Wilkie & Chico Zimmerman

Athens, Delphi, Meteora & the Greek Islands of Delos, Santorini, Syros,
Mykonos, Patmos, & Naxos plus Ephesus, Turkey

16 days including airfare: \$7,595 to \$8,395

Pre-trip extension: Athens, Olympia, Nafplion, Mycenae & Epidaurus

5 nights: \$1,595

"I enjoyed the intensity of the trip and the knitting together of excursions and lectures. The sites we visited were amazing in their complexity and variety." - Mary, Minnesota

Explore the cultural treasures of Greece, including six UNESCO World Heritage sites (*), and cruise the glittering Aegean Sea aboard the private, 26-cabin *M/V Athena*. Start off with several days on the mainland to take in stunning sites set in dramatic landscapes, including the ancient oracle of Delphi* and monasteries set atop towering peaks at Meteora.* Embark the *M/V Athena* in Athens for a seven-night cruise, visiting the iconic islands of Syros, Mykonos, Patmos,* Naxos, and Santorini; the sacred ancient ruins on Delos,* and the vast Greco-Roman city of Ephesus* in Turkey. Along the way, engage in a series of onboard lectures and informal discussions with AIA lecturer and host Nancy Wilkie and Carleton College faculty leader Chico Zimmerman. Also enjoy special activities such as a Greek cooking class and a lunch and dinner at the homes of local Greek families, plus a visit to an icon-painting workshop. Return to Athens, where you disembark and have two days to visit the iconic Acropolis* and explore independently.



Itinerary

(B)= Breakfast, (L)= Lunch, (D)= Dinner

Saturday, September 1, 2018: Depart Home

Fly from the U.S. to Athens, Greece.

Sunday, September 2: Arrive Athens, Greece

Upon arrival in Athens, you will be met at the airport and transferred to our Athens hotel. This afternoon, enjoy a walk to get acquainted with the area around our hotel, and then gather for a welcome drink and briefing at the hotel. Dinner is on your own this evening. *Overnight at the Hera Hotel, St. George Lycabettus Hotel, or similar.*

Monday, September 3: Athens | Arachova

Travel overland to Arachova, stopping en route for lunch on your own. After checking in to our hotel in Arachova, learn to prepare classic Greek specialties at a cooking class. Gather this evening for dinner. *Overnight at the Domotel Anemolia Mountain Resort, or similar, for two nights.* (B,D)

Tuesday, September 4: Arachova | Delphi | Arachova

Explore the famous oracle of Delphi, which the ancient Greeks believed to be the center of the Earth and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Walk along Delphi's Sacred Way, past the monuments and treasures, theater, and stadium where the Pythian Games were held. Take a guided tour of the Delphi Archaeological Museum, including the famous bronze Charioteer and a colossal marble group of three dancing women. The balance of the day is at leisure. (B)

Wednesday, September 5: Arachova | Kalambaka

This morning, travel overland to Kalambaka, a town surrounded by rocky pinnacles, stopping along the way for lunch on your own. After checking in to our hotel, situated just outside Kalambaka, the afternoon is at leisure. Gather this evening for dinner at our hotel. *Overnight at the Meteora Hotel, or similar, for two nights.* (B,D)

Thursday, September 6: Kalambaka | Meteora | Kalambaka

Perched precariously atop towering rock columns, the Meteora ("rocks in the air") monasteries are truly awe-inspiring and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Tenth-century ascetics sought peace in the many caves, and the first monastery was built in 1336. A winding road provides access to several in their splendid isolation; examine their paintings, carvings, and icons. Have lunch on your own, then discover a Byzantine tradition during a visit to a nearby icon-painting workshop. This evening, a local Greek family will host us for dinner at their home. (B,D)



Above, the theater at Delphi, site of the ancient Greeks' most important oracle. Below, one of the many medieval monasteries built atop the pinnacles of Meteora.



Friday, September 7: Kalambaka | Athens | Embarkation

After breakfast we return overland to Athens, stopping en route for lunch on your own. We embark *M/V Athena* late this afternoon and settle in before enjoying our first dinner onboard. Overnight, we cruise toward the island of Syros. *Overnight aboard M/V Athena for seven nights.* (B,D)

Saturday, September 8: Syros | Mykonos

On Syros we take a walking tour of Ermoupolis, the administrative capital of the Cyclades Islands, and enjoy a local sweet called *loukoumi*—the Greek equivalent of Turkish Delight. Return to the ship for lunch as we cruise to Mykonos, arriving in the afternoon. *M/V Athena* will remain moored in Mykonos overnight, allowing plenty of time to explore independently and watch the sun set over one of the most picturesque of the Cyclades Islands. (B,L,D)

Sunday, September 9: Delos | Kuşadası, Turkey

This morning arrive in Delos, the mythological birthplace of Apollo and Artemis, and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Dating back to 1000 B.C., this tiny, uninhabited island is one of Greece's most significant ancient religious sites, with extensive marble ruins, statues, mosaics, and a museum. While enjoying lunch onboard, we cruise to Kuşadası, Turkey, arriving late tonight. The time at sea is yours to relax and enjoy lectures onboard. (B,L,D)

"It was an amazing experience to see such wonderful sites enhanced by our lecturer's knowledge...A fabulous experience!"

- Barbara, Maryland

Monday, September 10: Kuşadası | Ephesus | Kuşadası

Early this morning we drive to Ephesus, a UNESCO World Heritage site that is considered one of the world's best-preserved and most extensive classical Greco-Roman cities. After lunch, visit the Ephesus Archaeological Museum in nearby Selçuk. Return to our ship in early afternoon and start cruising toward the island of Patmos. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 11: Patmos, Greece

Rugged, volcanic Patmos is most notable as the place where one of the twelve apostles, St. John the Evangelist, is said to have received his vision of fire and brimstone and dictated the Book of Revelation. This morning we visit the Monastery of St. John and the Holy Cave of the Apocalypse, a UNESCO World Heritage site, to see where the holy man lived and worked, followed by a short walk through Patmos Town. After lunch onboard, enjoy free time to stroll around the quaint harbor town of Skala before returning to the ship for dinner. Late this evening we begin cruising toward Santorini. (B,L,D)



Above, the Temple of Isis on Delos. Below (1), the Library of Celsus at Ephesus, Turkey. Below (2), a seafood restaurant on Naxos, Greece. Bottom, our 26-cabin ship docked at Patmos, Greece.



Wednesday, September 12: Santorini

This morning we arrive in Santorini, one of the world's most breathtaking islands, with whitewashed houses and churches perched on cliffs nearly 1,000 feet above an immense, drowned volcanic crater. See splendid Minoan art at the Museum of Prehistoric Thira, in the center of Fira town. Discover Santorini's "Pompeii," the haunting Minoan town of Akrotiri, preserved for millennia under volcanic ash. In the picturesque town of Oia, enjoy panoramic views of the caldera and town of Fira below. Time-permitting, there may be time to explore Fira independently. This evening we dine aboard ship while cruising onward to Naxos. (B,D)

Thursday, September 13: Naxos

Enjoy a full day on Naxos, the largest of the Cyclades Islands, with orchards amidst rugged mountains. Take a short hike from the village of Kourounochori to Melanes, a village rich with fruit and olive trees, ending in a garden with a 20-foot-long, 6th-century B.C. marble Kouros statue. Then, return to the town of Naxos for a home-hosted lunch with a local family. The balance of the afternoon is free to further explore Naxos, such as the Venetian castle overlooking the town, or the churches, monuments, and pleasant cafés lining the waterfront. Return to our ship in time to freshen up and attend the Captain's farewell cocktail reception and dinner. Late this evening we begin cruising toward Athens. (B,L,D)

"Having the 'private' archaeologist on the tour changed it from a good vacation to a great one. They provided amazing insight into history that the books and guides could not provide. Well done!" - Ron, British Columbia

Friday, September 14: Athens | Disembarkation

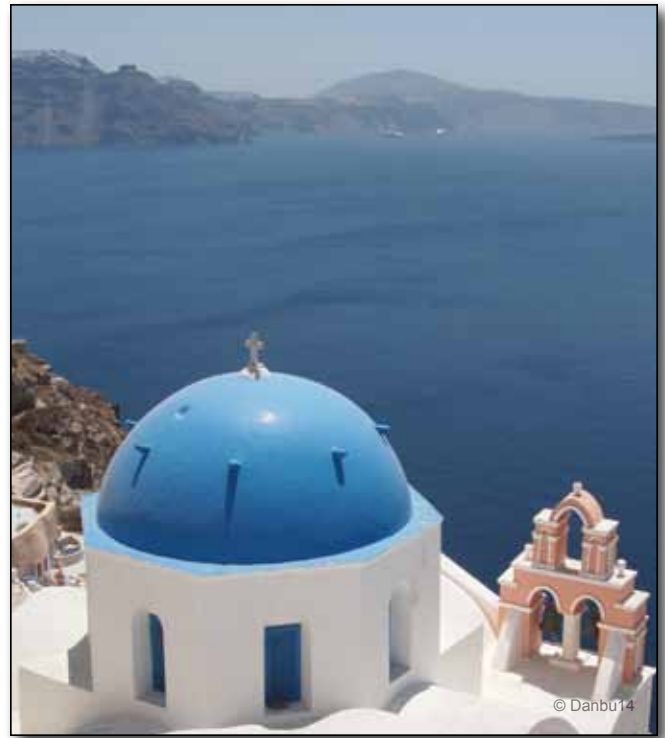
Bid *adieu* to our ship this morning for a full day of discoveries in Greece's capital, beginning with a tour of the Acropolis, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Stroll through the neighborhood of Plaka, nestled comfortably in the Acropolis' shadow. Plaka is both Athens' oldest district and one of its most picturesque. Our stroll concludes at Monastiraki Square, where we will enjoy lunch. The balance of the day is at leisure. *Overnight at the Hera Hotel, St. George Lycabettus Hotel, or similar, for two nights.* (B,L)

Saturday, September 15: Athens

After breakfast, enjoy the day at leisure in Athens. Gather this evening for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

Sunday, September 16: Athens | Fly Home

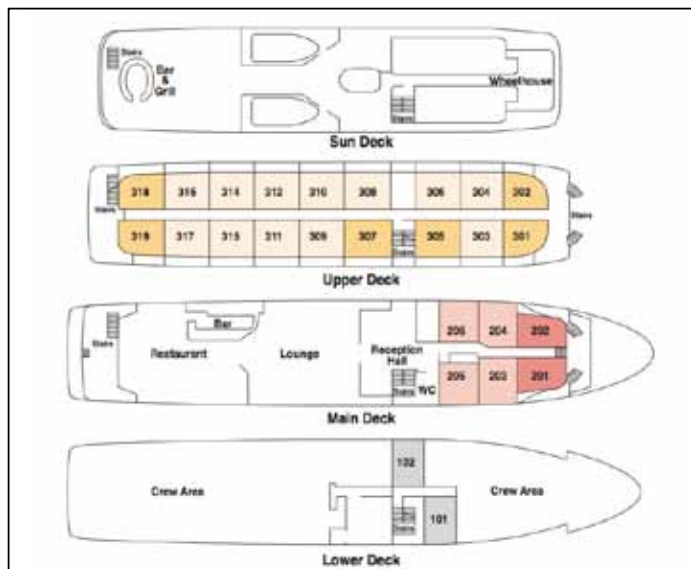
After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights homeward. (B)



Above, a church perched above the drowned volcanic crater of Santorini. Below, a Venetian castle at Naxos, Greece. Bottom, the Parthenon atop Athens' Acropolis.



M/V Athena Deck Plan



What to Expect

This program is co-sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America and Carleton College. We will spend seven nights aboard the 26-cabin, four-star *M/V Athena*, and have three two-night hotel stays as well as one single-night hotel stay. The hotels are luxurious boutique or four-star hotels chosen for their excellent locations and generous comfort. Daily excursions will be undertaken in two groups of up to 25 participants apiece, each with its own Program Director. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. Participants should be able to walk three miles unassisted and participate in 6-8 hours of physical activities each day, including several sets of stairs (up to 60 stairs, consecutively). The *M/V Athena* does not have elevators onboard, and the gangway incline can be steep when docked at a pier. Greece is a mountainous country, with hills and rocky slopes, and archaeological sites as well as towns often comprise uneven walking surfaces, unpaved paths, and stairs that may sometimes be uneven. Anyone who is not able to walk unassisted for extended periods is kindly advised not to join this tour unless accompanied by a companion who will be available to assist them at all times. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand, and discuss whether or not the program is appropriate for you. At this time of year, average daily temperatures in Greece tend to range from the high 60s to low 80s (°F), while for our day in Turkey we can anticipate temperatures about ten degrees (F) lower. *Complete pre-departure details, such as what to take with you and more of what to expect, will be sent to participants.*

The AIA and the AIA Tours Program

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA Tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA's network of scholars and worldwide contacts.

For questions, and reservations, please contact us:

Archaeological Institute of America Tours

800-748-6262

Toll: 603-756-2884 • Fax: 603-756-2922

Email: aia@studytours.org • Website: www.aiatours.org
P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608

14-Night Main Program Pricing (Per Person)

Deck	Category	Land/Voyage	Air/Land/Voyage
Upper	A	\$7,295	\$8,395
	B	\$7,095	\$8,195
Main	C	\$6,795	\$7,895
	D	\$6,495	\$7,595
Lower	Singles	\$6,495	\$7,595

Cabin descriptions available online at: archaeological.org/tours/ship/24602

Five-Night Pre-Tour Extension Pricing

DOUBLE Occupancy (Per Person).....\$1,595

Rates Include:

- Round-trip airfare from many North American gateways, all government fees, airline surcharges, and air ticket taxes;
- Transfers abroad to and from the ship or hotel on group arrival and departure dates when buying the air/land/voyage package;
- Seven-night cruise aboard *M/V Athena* and seven hotel nights as per itinerary;
- Meals aboard ship, including house wine, beer, soft drinks, coffee and tea with lunch and dinner, plus other meals as per itinerary;
- Daily excursions as indicated in itinerary;
- Gratuities to porters, restaurant staff, and drivers;
- Lectures and discussions with Nancy Wilkie and Chico Zimmerman;
- Portage of luggage;
- Service charges and port fees, embarkation and local taxes.

Rates Do Not Include: Gratuities to ship crew and guides; optional excursions; items of a personal nature; passport and visa fees; airport taxes where payable locally; baggage and travel insurance; independent meals; telephone/fax/internet charges; airfare add-ons; and airport transfers for those making their own air arrangements or not traveling on the group dates.

Airfare: Included roundtrip airfare is economy class and from select gateway cities only. All government and airline fees and taxes are included. A confirmed flight itinerary can be provided within 60 days of deposit for most departures. Some non-standard gateways may incur additional charges and some gateway cities require departures one day prior to or one day later than group departure dates. Any fees associated with traveling on dates other than the group dates, and any upgrades, are at an additional cost. Airline-imposed personal charges such as baggage fees may apply. The air itinerary is subject to change and is not considered final until Grand Circle has issued the airline ticket. You may not be able to change your confirmed flight arrangements without an additional fee. Contact us for information regarding available select gateway cities.

Passenger Cancellation Penalties: All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least one hundred twenty one (121) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of six hundred dollars (\$600) per person. Cancellations received between one hundred twenty (120) and ninety (90) days prior to departure are subject to a fee equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the tour cost. Cancellations received between eighty nine (89) and sixty (60) days prior to departure are subject to a fee equal to fifty percent (50%) of the tour cost. Cancellations received ninety (59) days or less before departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost.

You are strongly encouraged to obtain trip cancellation insurance (*an application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit*).

Payments: A non-refundable deposit of \$600 per person is required to reserve your place on the tour and is payable by Visa, Mastercard or American Express, or check payable to "Eos Passenger Account – AIA-GreeceGCT9/18." Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure and must be by personal check only.

Prices, itinerary and leaders are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation, are available upon request or may be found on our website.

Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer and Host



Dr. Nancy Wilkie is a distinguished archaeologist who has lectured on numerous study tours worldwide, especially in the Mediterranean. She is William H. Laird Professor of Classics, Anthropology, and the Liberal Arts, Emerita, at Carleton College where she was co-coordinator of the Archaeology Concentration. Nancy has worked on archaeological projects in Greece, Egypt, and Nepal, authored more than 30 articles, and co-edited three books on archaeology. From 1998-2002 she served as President of the AIA, and in 2009-10 she was the AIA's Charles Eliot Norton lecturer, one of the highest honors that the Institute bestows. In April 2003 the President appointed Nancy to the Cultural Property Advisory Committee of the U.S. State Department, on which she continues to serve. In April 2013 she was elected President of the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield, an organization dedicated to the protection of cultural property in times of armed conflict.

Carleton College Faculty Leader



Chico Zimmerman has been a member of the Classics Department at Carleton College since 1989. He is the Hazel Lillian Amland Grose Professor of Classics and currently serves as the Chair of the department. A philologist by training, Zimmerman specializes in poetry of all periods of antiquity, including Archaic, Classical, and Hellenistic Greek epic, lyric, and tragedy. His current research explores the Homeric and Platonic inter-textual aspects of the Roman poet Ovid. Zimmerman is also interested in learning, cognition, metacognition, and brain science. Having served as the Coordinator of the Perlman Center for Learning and Teaching, he is an avid consumer of the scholarship of teaching and learning and has an abiding interest in faculty development around issues of pedagogy and course design. Zimmerman lives in a geodesic dome that he built with his wife when he was much younger and more adventurous.



Optional Pre-Cruise Extension: Athens & the Peloponnese

August 27-September 2, 2018 (5 nights)

Delve into Greece's prehistory, mythology, architecture, and arts while admiring the stunning natural beauty of the Peloponnese peninsula. Spend two nights in Athens, visiting the superb Acropolis Museum, with an option to visit the spectacularly-situated Temple of Poseidon at Cape Sounion. Transfer to Nafplion for a full day of sightseeing, from the Corinth Canal to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Epidauros, with its magnificent ancient theater, and back to the charming seaside town of Nafplion for a walking tour. En route to Olympia, where we spend two nights, visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of Mycenae, the impressive Bronze Age fortress/palace of legendary King Agamemnon. At ancient Olympia, another UNESCO World Heritage site, visit the original Olympic stadium, ruins of the Temple of Zeus, its excellent site museum, and more. Further details will be provided to confirmed participants or upon request.

26-Cabin M/V Athena



There are four decks on the *M/V Athena*. The lower deck has single cabins, each with two portholes. The Main deck has double cabins, each with portholes, as well as the restaurant and reception hall. The Upper deck has double cabins with small private balconies. The Sun Deck has outdoor seating, as well as a bar and an outdoor grill.



All cabins have an ocean view, two twin beds that can be converted to one double bed, private bathrooms with shower, hair dryer, flat screen television, telephone, safe, mini-refrigerator, and individually controlled air-conditioning and heat. There is free WiFi, and wine is complimentary with lunches and dinners aboard ship.

