



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

ESSENTIAL *Greece* BY LAND & SEA September 22-30, 2026



WITH A
4-NIGHT AEGEAN CRUISE:
Delos-Mykonos-Ephesus-Crete aboard the 50-Cabin Yacht

Emerald Azzurra

with archaeologists
JACK DAVIS & SHARI STOCKER



Terrace of the Lions, Delos
COVER: Sunset over the Plaka, the old town of Athens, with the Acropolis

Dear Traveler,

JOURNEY THROUGH THE HEART OF CLASSICAL GREECE AND THE AEGEAN WORLD on this marvelous exploration of Athens, several Greek islands, and the vast Greco-Roman site of Ephesus, Türkiye. Begin with three nights in **Athens**, staying near lively Syntagma Square. **Explore with expert local guides** Athens' iconic ancient landmark, the Parthenon, plus the exceptional Acropolis Museum and the Museum of Cycladic Art. Also take a full-day excursion to the stunning sanctuary of Apollo at **Delphi**, once considered the spiritual center of the ancient world.

Next, join **AIA study leaders Jack Davis and Shari Stocker** and embark the **50-cabin luxury mega-yacht Emerald Azzurra**, a privately chartered vessel appointed and staffed for the highest levels of comfort and service, for a **four-night cruise** to archaeologically rich ports. Drs. Davis and Stocker will be part of a **team of onboard experts** available to talk formally and informally about the region's archaeology, culture, history, and other topics.

Arrive early at the sacred island of **Delos**, mythological birthplace of Apollo and Artemis, to enjoy peaceful exploration of its remarkably preserved ruins. Cruise to nearby **Mykonos**, for an opportunity to swim in its azure waters and wander its charming cobblestone streets. Continue on to Türkiye, to walk the marble-lined avenues of ancient **Ephesus**, and experience the lively streets of **Kuşadası**. Return to Greece to explore the partially reconstructed Bronze Age palace of **Knossos** on Crete, before disembarking in Athens.

You may choose to continue your adventure with a **three-night extension** to the storied Peloponnese peninsula. From your seaside base in **Nafplion**, explore ancient **Corinth**, the Bronze Age citadel of **Mycenae**, and the well-preserved theater at **Epidaurus**, before concluding with a final evening in Athens.

This program is co-sponsored by other organizations, so I encourage you to contact AIA Tours today at aia@studytours.org or **800-748-6262** for your preferred cabin on our four-night cruise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Cummings".

Lauren Cummings, Education & Program Manager
AIA Tours | Archaeological Institute of America

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA & 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.

Highlights

Visit **four UNESCO World Heritage Sites** with expert local guides: Athens' Acropolis, the island of Delos, Ephesus in Türkiye, and Crete's Minoan Palace at Knossos.

Delight in the antiquities and iconic sites in **Athens** such as climbing the Acropolis and visiting the Acropolis Museum while accompanied by expert guides.

Cruise with AIA study leaders for **four nights aboard the luxurious Emerald Azzurra**, a privately chartered mega-yacht built, appointed, and staffed at the highest levels of comfort and service.



Mykonos

Swim in azure waters surrounding the beautiful island of Mykonos and explore its beautiful cobblestone streets.

Venture to Türkiye to **walk the ancient streets of Ephesus**, where the Greco-Roman world comes alive at one of the most complete classical cities in the Mediterranean.

Wander the **impressive ruins at Knossos in Crete**, a spectacular Bronze Age site known as Europe's oldest city.

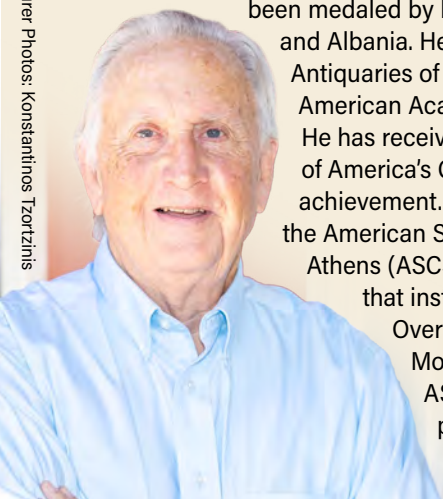
Acropolis, Athens



AIA STUDY LEADERS (Cruise only: Sept. 26-30)

Since 1993, **JACK DAVIS** has held the endowed post of Carl Blegen Professor of Greek Archaeology at the University of Cincinnati and, since 2015, he has co-directed the team that discovered the spectacular grave of the Griffin Warrior and two Mycenaean beehive tombs at the Palace of Nestor at Pylos. Davis has authored or edited a dozen books and has written or co-authored some 120 articles in scholarly journals. For his work he has been honored by the German and Finnish archaeological institutes in Greece, and by the Archaeological Society of Athens. He is an honorary citizen of Pylos, and has been medaled by both the presidents of Greece and Albania. He is a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has received the Archaeological Institute of America's Gold Medal for lifetime achievement. Davis is a former director of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (ASCSA). He is at present a Trustee of that institution as well as an Overseer of its Gennadius Library. Most recently the Trustees of the ASCSA have awarded him its prestigious Athens Prize.

Lecturer Photos: Konstantinos Tzortzinis



SHARON R. STOCKER has worked on archaeological projects in the U.S. and Greece and, since 1996, has been directing archaeological excavations at Pylos and in Albania. Since 2011 she has lived year-round in Pylos, where she is an honorary citizen, initially to direct a U. of Cincinnati team collaborating with the Greek Ministry of Culture in improving touristic facilities at the Palace of Nestor. That collaboration resulted in the construction of the magnificent shelter that today protects the Mycenaean palace's remains. Stocker co-directed the team that discovered the unparalleled grave of the Griffin Warrior in 2015 and two previously unknown Mycenaean beehive tombs in 2018. She continues to supervise that work on a year-round basis. Stocker coordinated efforts that brought exhibits of finds from these excavations to the Museum of Messenia, the J. Paul Getty Villa, and the National Museum of Athens in 2025-26. She has been honored for her work by the president of Greece, who appointed her a commander in the Order of the Phoenix, and by the Giuseppe Sciacca Foundation of Vatican City. She is a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and served for several years as President of the Archaeological Institute of America's Cincinnati society.



EXPERTS FROM CO-SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS Harvard Alumni Travels, Princeton Journeys, and Princeton Theological Seminary will also offer lectures throughout the program.



Mykonos

Itinerary

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 & 23 HOME ≈ ATHENS, GREECE

Depart home on overnight flights to Athens. Upon arrival, transfer to the *Grand Bretagne*, a 5-star deluxe hotel in the refined Kolonaki district, just steps from Syntagma Square. Gather with fellow travelers for a welcome reception and dinner at the hotel. *GRANDE BRETAGNE* (R,D)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 ATHENS

Begin the day with a lecture to set the stage for your exploration of ancient Greece, and set out to explore Plaka (Athens' oldest neighborhood) and the ancient Agora, once the bustling heart of civic life in classical Athens. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, visit the Museum of Cycladic Art, a remarkable repository of ancient Aegean treasures, or the Byzantine & Christian Museum, which houses some of the most important collections of Byzantine icons, mosaics, and religious artifacts in the world. Dinner is on your own this evening, with many excellent restaurants just steps from the hotel. *GRANDE BRETAGNE* (B,L)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 ATHENS ≈ DELPHI

Travel to Delphi for a full-day excursion to one of the most important sacred sites of the ancient Greek world. Explore the Sanctuary of Apollo, the Temple of Athena Pronaia, and the site's theater, then tour the nearby museum, home to the renowned bronze Charioteer and other masterpieces. Return to Athens in the late afternoon. Dinner is on your own this evening. *GRANDE BRETAGNE* (B,L)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

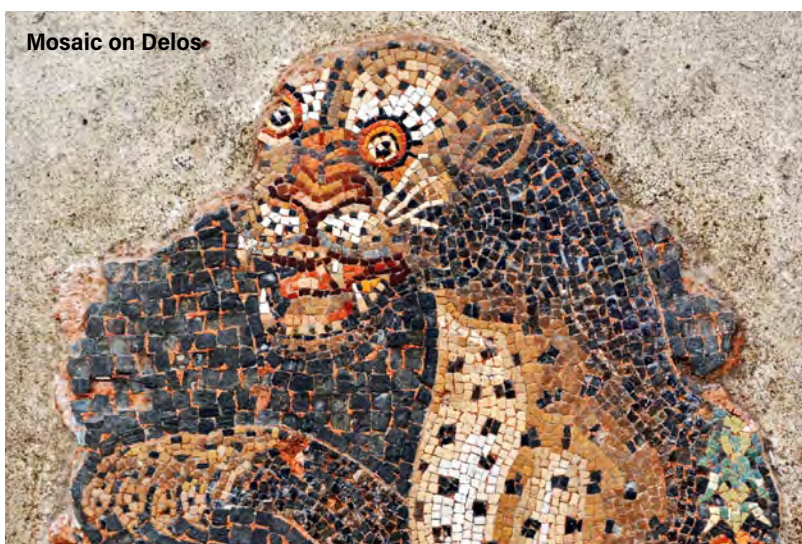
ATHENS ≈ EMBARKATION

Visit the Acropolis to admire the iconic Parthenon, followed by a visit to the outstanding Acropolis Museum. After an authentic Greek lunch, continue to Piraeus to embark the *Emerald Azzurra*. In the evening, join the Captain and meet your AIA study leaders for a welcome reception and dinner aboard the mega-yacht. *EMERALD AZZURRA* (B,L,R,D)

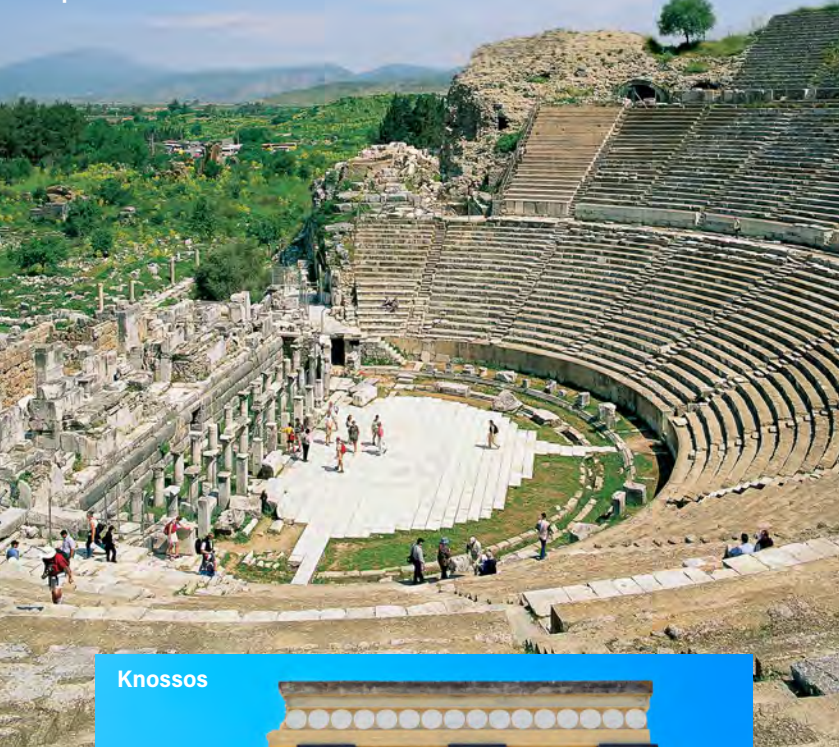
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

DELOS ≈ MYKONOS

After a morning lecture, step ashore on the sacred island of Delos, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and mythological birthplace of twin gods Apollo and Artemis. A guided tour reveals the island's remarkably preserved temples, homes, and mosaics, offering a vivid picture of life in a once-thriving religious and commercial hub. Enjoy lunch as you cruise to nearby Mykonos. There's time to swim, relax or explore onshore. *EMERALD AZZURRA* (B,L,D)



Mosaic on Delos



Knossos



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 KUŞADASI, TÜRKİYE

Arrive in Kuşadası and set out for a guided exploration of Ephesus, one of the most spectacular archaeological sites in the eastern Mediterranean. Walk the marble-paved streets of this ancient Greco-Roman city, passing temples, baths, and homes, and visit the impressive Library of Celsus and the Great Theater. In the afternoon, choose between visiting the Ephesus Museum, showcasing stunning artifacts from the nearby ruins, or enjoying free time in Kuşadası. Return to the ship for dinner on board and an evening sail toward Crete. *EMERALD AZZURRA* (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 HERAKLION, CRETE, GREECE

Spend the morning exploring the ruins of Knossos, the center of the Bronze Age Minoan civilization and legendary home of the labyrinth and the Minotaur. Then visit the Heraklion Archaeological Museum, which houses a superb collection of Minoan art. Celebrate the journey with a farewell reception and dinner on board. *EMERALD AZZURRA* (B,L,R,D)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 ATHENS ≈ HOME

Disembark in Athens this morning and transfer to Athens International Airport for flights home. Travelers joining the optional post-tour extension to the Peloponnese peninsula will continue on by motorcoach. (B)

OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSION: Peloponnese Discovery

Continue your journey with three nights in Greece's Peloponnese, a region where layers of history unfold amid striking landscapes. Explore the ruins of Corinth, stand before the legendary citadel of Mycenae, and marvel at the ancient theater of Epidaurus, celebrated for its remarkable acoustics. Balance these encounters with time to unwind in the seaside beauty of Nafplion. Conclude your travels in Athens with a visit to the National Archaeological Museum, home to one of the world's most important collections of ancient art.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 CORINTH & NEMEA ≈ NAFPLION

Disembark in Piraeus and travel into the Peloponnese, stopping to explore ancient Corinth and the archaeological site of Nemea before continuing to the port town of Nafplion. Along the way, pause for a leisurely lunch featuring fresh local specialties. In the evening, enjoy time at leisure to experience Nafplion by night, whether strolling through its lamplit squares, dining at a seaside restaurant, or simply soaking in the romantic atmosphere of Greece's first capital. *AMPHITRYON HOTEL* (B with main program, L)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 MYCENAE & EPIDAUROS ≈ NAFPLION

Discover the Lion Gate and the monumental beehive tombs of Mycenae, once the seat of Agamemnon and central to Homeric legend. Continue on to Epidaurus to experience the extraordinary acoustics of its 4th-century B.C. theater. Pause midday for lunch and a wine tasting at a local estate, where native grape varieties and time-honored traditions highlight the distinct character of Greek wines. Return to Nafplion in the evening and enjoy free time for dinner at one of its inviting seaside tavernas. *AMPHITRYON HOTEL* (B,L)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 ATHENS

Return to Athens and check in to the *Xenodocheio Milos Hotel*, set overlooking Old Parliament Square and within walking distance of the National Gardens. Enjoy free time with lunch at leisure before an optional guided visit to the National Archaeological Museum, which houses masterpieces including the celebrated gold artifacts of Mycenae. Conclude your travels with a festive farewell dinner. *XENODOCHEIO MILOS* (B,D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 ATHENS ≈ HOME

Transfer to Athens International Airport for flights home. (B)

PROGRAM RATES

Per person, double occupancy	\$2,990
Per person, single occupancy	\$3,890

GROUP SIZE

A minimum of 12 people is required to operate the extension; maximum of 22.



Dining Room



Balcony Suite A

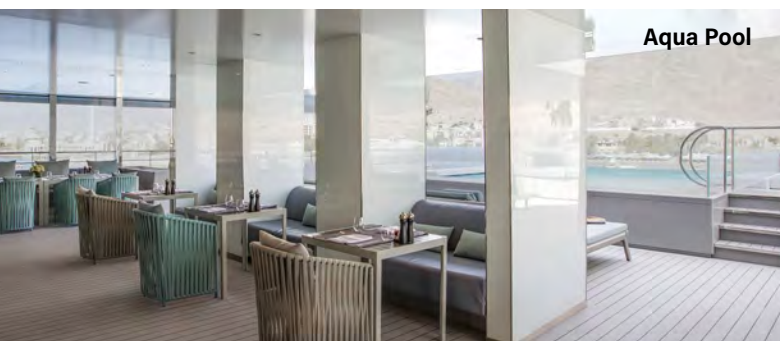


Sky Deck

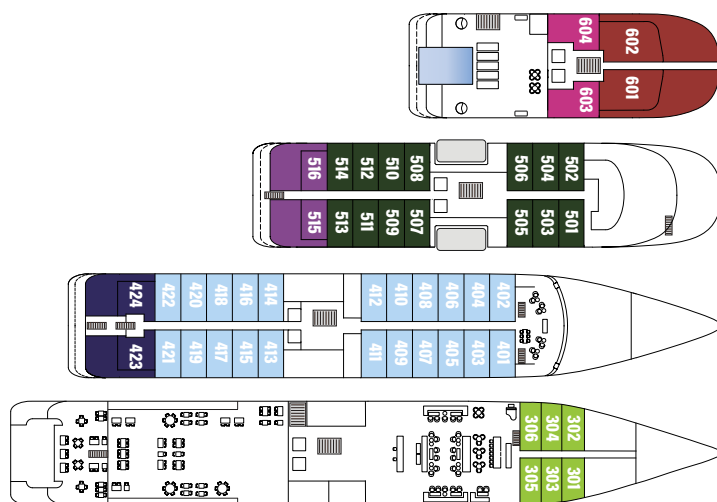
EMERALD AZZURRA

In March 2022, Emerald Cruises launched the *Emerald Azzurra*, a sleek mega-yacht designed to explore ports and harbors inaccessible to larger ships. Measuring 360 feet in length with just 50 spacious cabins, this stunning vessel offers a modern, Scandinavian-inspired ambiance. Forty-four cabins feature step-out balconies and modern amenities. All cabins, except the premium suites, have beds that can be configured as either two twins or a queen, while the premium suites feature fixed king beds. Each cabin also includes flat-screen TVs, stocked mini-bars, and bathrooms equipped with hair dryers, plush robes, and premium bath products.

The *Azzurra* offers inviting public spaces designed for relaxation and comfort, including multiple lounges and outdoor areas where you can soak in the views. Delight in fresh, locally sourced cuisine prepared by expert chefs, served either in the elegant Reflections Restaurant or *al fresco* on The Terrace. Indulge in a range of luxurious amenities: unwind with a dip in the infinity pool or soak in the outdoor hot tub. Savor handcrafted cocktails at the open-air Sky Bar or in the elegant Horizon Bar & Lounge (which also converts to a lecture room with full A/V capabilities). Rejuvenate your body and mind at the Wellness Center with soothing massages, revitalizing facials, and a cutting-edge infrared sauna. Stay connected with complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the yacht, and explore onshore with a selection of bikes, including e-bikes, available for guests.



Aqua Pool



CATEGORY

PROGRAM RATES (Per Person)

D OCEANVIEW STATEROOM

183–205 sq. ft., window

double occupancy	\$7,990
single occupancy	\$11,985

B BALCONY SUITE

260 sq. ft., sliding glass door to 45 sq. ft. private balcony

double occupancy	\$9,990
single occupancy	\$14,995

A BALCONY SUITE

260 sq. ft., sliding glass door to 45 sq. ft. private balcony

double occupancy	\$10,990
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S DELUXE BALCONY SUITE

305 sq. ft., sliding glass door to oversized 100 sq. ft. balcony

double occupancy	\$11,990
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T TERRACE SUITE

260 sq. ft., sliding glass door to 410 sq. ft. private terrace

double occupancy	\$13,990
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Y YACHT SUITE (premium suite)

345 sq. ft., sliding glass door to 375 sq. ft. private terrace

double occupancy	\$14,990
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SA OWNER'S SUITE (premium suite)

580 sq. ft., sliding glass door to 600 sq. ft. private terrace

double occupancy	\$17,990
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GENERAL INFORMATION

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE All accommodations, included meals, and excursions as specified in the Itinerary, including seven breakfasts, six lunches, five dinners, three hotel nights, and four nights aboard *Emerald Azzurra* ■ Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations ■ Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates ■ Baggage handling ■ Gratuities to porters, waitstaff, guides, and drivers ■ Gratuities to shipboard personnel ■ Port charges ■ Entrance fees ■ Welcome and farewell wine receptions ■ House wine, beer, and soft drinks with group lunches and dinners and on board *Emerald Azzurra* ■ Filtered water on motorcoaches ■ Complete packet of predeparture information ■ Professional tour managers throughout the program

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE U.S. domestic and international airfare ■ Passport/visa expenses ■ Medical expenses and immunizations ■ Private airport transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure dates ■ Travel and trip cancellation insurance ■ Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options ■ Airline baggage charges ■ Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; premium alcoholic drinks ■ Laundry or dry cleaning ■ Telephone, fax, Internet, and email charges ■ Room service ■ Other items of a personal nature

AIR ARRANGEMENTS U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754 or by e-mail at toufflights@vwti.com. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT Daily activities can involve up to two miles of walking, and many walking tours will take place in older quarters and historic sites, where the terrain is often cobblestone or uneven. Many historic buildings do not have elevators and you'll encounter steps without handrails. While the ship has elevators that connect all passenger decks, participants should be capable of navigating stairs in rolling seas. Some shore excursions may require boarding a tender to go ashore. Staff and crew will be available to assist as needed.

GROUP SIZE This program is limited to 84 participants, including travelers from the Archaeological Institute of America, Princeton Journeys, Harvard Alumni Travels, and Princeton Theological Seminary.

TRAVEL INSURANCE Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this travel program are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

A NOTE ABOUT RATES Tour rates are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed rates, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TERMS & CONDITIONS Complete Terms and Conditions, including Statement of Responsibility, will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required

from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS To reserve space, return the completed reservation form with your \$1,000 per person deposit to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938 or fax to 603-756-2922. Balance of payment is due 120 days prior to departure (**May 25, 2026**). We accept checks, payable to "Eos AIA-EssentialGreeceCRI9/26" as well as VISA, MasterCard, and American Express for deposits. Reservations will be processed in order of receipt. Credit cards are NOT accepted for final payment.

PARTICIPANT CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS Cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After the May 25, 2026 final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not participate in any part of the program, who do not complete the tour for whatever reason, or whose entry into any country and/or hotel or aboard any cruise vessel on the itinerary is delayed or denied.

TRIP CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

If the program is cancelled by AIA Tours or Criterion Travel, our tour operator, you will receive a full refund, without further obligation on our part. However, if trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, the participant shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by AIA Tours or Criterion, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as AIA Tours and Criterion are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Neither AIA Tours nor Criterion shall have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing.

HEALTH All participants should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants.

ITINERARY CHANGES The itinerary and study leaders presented for this tour are subject to modification and change by AIA Tours and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, AIA Tours and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

RESPONSIBILITY By submitting your deposit, you are bound to the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure. Due to space limitations these are not AIA Tours' complete Terms & Conditions, which are available upon request, can be viewed on-line at www.aiatours.org, and will be sent to you along with a Release of Liability requiring your signature.

California Seller of Travel Program CST #2088800-40

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ESSENTIAL
Greece
BY LAND & SEA

September
22-30, 2026

RESERVATIONS

To reserve your space, please complete this form and send it to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938. Deposit checks should be made payable to "Eos AIA-EssentialGreeceCRI9/26." You may also call AIA Tours at (800) 748-6262 or (603) 756-2884. **Fax:** (603) 756-2922 **Email:** aia@studytours.org **Website:** www.aiatours.org

NAME #1 (as on passport) DATE OF BIRTH

NAME #2 (as on passport) DATE OF BIRTH

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

HOME PHONE

MOBILE PHONE

EMAIL #1

EMAIL #2

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? ☐ Yes _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person, payable to "Eos AIA-EssentialGreeceCRI9/26") for _____ place(s) on *Essential Greece by Land and Sea*.

☐ Please charge my deposit of \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person) to my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE / SECURITY CODE

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE

ACCOMMODATIONS (not guaranteed)

Cabin category preference:

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

Bed preference:

☐ Queen ☐ Twin

SINGLE TRAVELERS (choose one)

☐ I prefer single accommodations (limited availability)

☐ I plan to share accommodations with:

☐ I'd like to know about roommates.

I am a ☐ non-smoker ☐ smoker

*I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of **May 25, 2026** I will pay the single rate.*

I/We have read the General Information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms & Conditions stated therein.

SIGNATURE

DATE

SIGNATURE

DATE



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(800) 748-6262 ■ aia@studytours.org ■ www.aiatours.org

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SEPTEMBER 22-30, 2026

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aboard the 50-Cabin Yacht

Emerald Azzurra

with archaeologists

JACK DAVIS and **SHARI STOCKER**

