

## ENGAGING ISTANBUL & THE GREEK ISLES - ATHENS TO ISTANBUL 8 DAY CRUISE

The Greek islands come alive with a new island each day and a call on Kusadasi, your gateway to the excavated remains of ancient Ephesus, Turkey. Begin in ancient Athens before stopping in Santorini, where beautiful beaches and stately whitewashed homes are your introduction to an itinerary filled and monumental ruins. ancient history. incredible architecture—in one location more captivating than the next. Call on Paros, Patmos, and Lemnos, Greek islands in the Aegean Sea best known for their beaches and traditional villages and disembark in the bustling city of Istanbul, a heady mix of European and Asian culture straddling the Bosphorus Strait.



### **ITINERARY**

## Day 1 Athens (Piraeus), Greece

Piraeus, roughly translating to "the place over the passage", is an important Greek port located within the Athens agglomeration, in the Attica Basin. It is 12 kilometers from the municipality of Athens, considered the fourth largest and is the third most populous amongst all the municipalities of Greece. Now a peninsula, Piraeus, originally a rocky island, was developed in early 5th Century B.C. when it was initially designated as Athens' import and transit trade port. It is the largest marine-based shipping center of Greece, one of the largest ports in Europe, and considered the second largest passenger port in the world. Inhabited since the 26th Century, it wasn't until the 6th Century B.C. that Piraeus began catching attention. The land of Piraeus was essentially impassable, flooded by the sea most of the year until centuries passed and the flooding ceased. By the 5th Century B.C. it became a navy base for the Athenian fleet for the natural harbors and the strategic potential they carried. Athenian general and politician



Themistocles fortified Piraeus' three harbors Kantharos, Zea and Munichia, created ship houses and completed his walls in 471 B.C., which led to the port becoming a great military and commercial harbor. There are many archaeological sites, points of interest and entertainment available in Piraeus. Most famous for its tavernas and cuisine, several popular events take place in Piraeus, such as the Ecocinema International Film Festival, the Maritime Festival, the Piraeus Rock Wave Festival and the Three Kings' Way Festival. There are also many theaters, including the Municipal Theater, the open air Veakeio Theater, and the Menandreio Theater. Museums in Piraeus include the Archaeological Museum of Piraeus, the Merchant Shipping History Institute Exhibition, the Panos Aravantinos Decor Museum, the Georgios Averof Museum Ship and the Museum of Electric Railways. Be sure to catch the panoramic views available from the hill of Kastella, overlooking Athens and the Saronic Gulf!

## Day 2 Santorini, Greece

Santorini, officially named Thira, is the southernmost Greek island that is within the Cyclades archipelago, in the southern Aegean Sea. Part of the regional unit Thira, the municipality of Santorini is comprised of the island Santorini, Therasia, and other uninhabited islands of Christiana, Palaia Kameni, Aspronisi, and Nea Kameni. The geological history of Santorini is quite complex due to the area's volcanism and is currently a water-filled caldera: a rectangular lagoon that is surrounded by three steep cliffs. The name Santorini is a contraction of the name Santa Irini, which is based on an ancient cathedral found in the island's village of Perissa. This name was given by the Latin Empire in the 13th Century. During the Ottoman Empire, Santorini was called "Santurin" or "Santoron", and in early

times, it was named Kalliste, Strongyle, and Thera. Santorini is the site of the Minoan Eruption (also known as the Thera Eruption), one of the largest eruptions ever in recorded history. The origins of Plato's story of Atlantis is believed to have a connection to this eruption that destroyed the early settlements on what was formerly a single island. The descriptions found of Plato's Atlantis strongly resembles Thera. and seismological, archaeological, and volcanological evidence, these claims are further supported. There is also speculation that the eruption is related to the Exodus of the Israelites, as well as causing the plagues described in the Bible in ancient Egypt. The economy is sustained by two principal industries: tourism and agriculture, and has recently been voted as one of the world's most beautiful islands in various outlets such as the Traveler's Choice Awards in 2015. The wine industry in Santorini is becoming more relevant as well, made up of Assyrtiko, Athiri and Aidani grape varieties, which is best exemplified in Vinsanto ("holy wine") which contains all three Aegean varietals. Although Santorini is highly arid, it's unique ecology and climate allows it to grow unique and prized produce, such as cherry tomatoes, Lathyrus clymenum (a legume), and capers. Thus, tourists indulge in local specialties such as Brantada, Fava, and the traditional dish Santorinio Sfougato.

## Day 3 Paros, Greece

Paros is an island of Greece in the central Aegean Cyclades group. With the popularity and sometimes overcrowding at Santorini and Mykonos, Paros offers a quieter, unspoiled Cyclades option. Historically, Paros was once known for its fine white marble, which gave rise to the term "Parian" to describe marble or china of similar qualities. Some consider Paros the most beautiful in this island group – you be the judge! It has



beautiful beaches and charming villages. Most visitors make an effort to see the famous Church of Ekatontapyliani (Our lady of a Hundred Doors). This church is the holy place of Paros and is linked to the history and myths of Byzantium. Tradition and history state that the church began life in the reign of Constantine the Great (280 - 337 A.D.) or Justinian (527 - 565). After its restoration in 1959, this church, the brightest jewel in the crown of Orthodoxy in the Aegean, became the third most important Christian building in Greece, after the Panayia Akheiropoietos and St. Demetrios in Thessaloniki.

## Day 4 Patmos, Greece

Patmos is in the South Aegean Islands, particularly a member of the Dodecanese Islands of Greece. It is north of Leros and is most known for its connection to John the Apostle from the Book of Revelations; therefore Christian pilgrims frequent this destination. In mythology, Patmos was named "Letois", which is another named for the goddess Diana, Leto's daughter. Since ancient authors seldom mention Patmos in early text, information on early inhabitants is limited. It is widely believed the original people of Patmos were the Carians from Asia Minor, as discovered by the earliest archaeological findings date back to the Bronze and Mycenaean periods. The mountain in the country of Caria was named Latmos, which is where historians believe the name Patmos is derived from. Dorians also colonized in Patmos, and over time, Ionians followed suit. The primary port in Patmos is Skala, which was one of the most important sea ports in the Mediterranean around the 16th century. Early Christian basilicas were constructed in the name of John of Patmos, however between the 7th and 9th century when Saracen attacks were still problematic, the Grand Royal Basilica was destroyed. A monastery began construction in 1101 when Christodoulos assumed authority over Patmos. The population began expanding as immigrants from the fall of Constantinople and Candia to place in the 15th and 17th centuries, respectively. The island was under the Ottoman rule for years and was interrupted by Venice during the Candian War, Russia during the Orlov Revolt, and Greece during their War of Independence. During the Italo-Turkish War, Italy occupied Patmos until 1943, when Nazi Germany held power over the island until 1945. Since Patmos rejoined in 1948, it has become the tranquil and frequented destination it is now. Tourists visit the Monastery of St. John, Chora, the Cave of Apocalypse, Psili Ammos Beach and other beautiful points of interest in "Europe's most idyllic place to live," as named by Forbes in 2009.

#### Day 5 Kusadasi (Ephesus), Turkey

Kusadasi is a resort town on Turkey's Aegean coast and the center of the seaside district of the same name in Aydin Province. Some visitors simply want to go shopping at the grand bazaar and see a carpet demonstration. Hopefully you have practiced your negotiating skills for these authentic copies, original reproductions as well as the real deal. Others will make time to see the Wonders of Ephesus. This comprehensive SeaDream Land Adventure includes a guided tour of the stunning archaeological site of Ephesus including the recently excavated Terrace Houses, but also adds a visit to the House of the Virgin Mary. For any traveler arriving to this region, it simply can't be missed!

#### Day 6 Myrina, Lemnos, Greece

Located on the northern Aegean Sea, Myrina, Lemnos is a true hidden gem. The island and its beaches remain uncrowded even during the popular summer season. The capital of Lemnos,





Myrina, is stretched between two bays and offers two distinct districts to explore. Nestled in between the bays is the Byzantine Castle of Myrina, a major tourist attraction overlooking the peninsula. The stone-paved streets of Myrina provide a picture-perfect backdrop as guests stroll through this charming destination. No trip to Myrina is complete without spending time relaxing at one of its beautiful and peaceful beaches.

## Days 7 - 8 Istanbul, Turkey

Istanbul historically known as Constantinople is the largest city in Turkey and 5th largest city proper in the world with a population of over 14 million, also making it the second largest metropolitan area in Europe by population. Istanbul was selected as a European Capital of Culture for 2010. Historic areas of the city were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1985. Istanbul is a transcontinental city, straddling the Bosporus, one of the world's busiest waterways in northwestern Turkey. It is situated between the Sea of Marmara and the Black Sea. Its commercial and historical center lies in Europe, while a third of its population lives in Asia. SeaDream calls to this wonderful destination both as an embarkation point and a destination offering several land adventures. Please check the Land Adventures tab for all of the possibilities as well as embarkation and transfer information.

## Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



## YOUR SHIP: SEA DREAM I & II

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**VESSEL TYPE:** 

LENGTH:

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:** 

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:** 

Named "Best Small Luxury Cruise Ship of 2015" in ForbesLife, twin mega-yachts SeaDream I & II are intimate boutique ships that provide a unique travelling experience unlike any other cruise vacation. The expression "yachting" is not only a statement about size; it's a lifestyle aboard our intimate vessels with the service of 95 crew members and 112 guests that make each guest feel like they are on their very own private luxury yacht. Chic and stylish, SeaDream's 56-stateroom yachts are favored for its elegant informality, highly personal service, inclusive open bar and gratuities, all ocean views staterooms and suites, luxury accommodations and world-class cuisine. Highly Personalized, Award-Winning Service SeaDream's award-winning 5-star service is second to none. From the moment you are welcomed aboard by the Captain, it feels as if you are being welcomed onto your own private luxury yacht. With a maximum of 112 guests and an award-winning crew of 95, the crew to guest ratio provides each guest with SeaDream's incomparable style and expert attention to detail. The service aboard either of SeaDream's twin mega-vachts is comfortably transparent, like the way the bartender knows your name and what you would like to drink, or how the waiter knows how to

surprise you with your favorite dessert. Your crew is passionate about delivering highly personalized and anticipatory service. Once you experience SeaDream's inimitable service, you will be. "Splendidly Spoiled" and you may never want to go on a cruise ship again. A Gastronomical Experience Experience what wining & dining on your very own yacht would be like with our expert chefs and sommeliers. We are dedicated to offer the best experience possible for each of our guests, including excellent gourmet dishes and the finest wine selection at sea. Our multi-course menu is specially designed with elegant, light portions in mind so that an entire service may be enjoyed, from introductory first courses, to decadent desserts, to expertly paired wines. It's a gastronomical experience that will have you indulging in every bite. Bon Appetit! Watersports Marina Platform What is yachting without the proper toys? SeaDream's Marina is equipped with all of the water sports equipment required for a proper yachtsman's vacation. Multiple Marina days allow for more time to enjoy the Personal Sailboats, Hobie Cat™ Catamarans, Kayaks, Banana Boat , Tube, Wakeboards & Waterskis, Snorkeling Gear, Floating Island & Trampoline, Stand-up Paddleboards and Wave Runners/Jet Skis . The Marina crew is always available to ensure your safety and enjoyment (weather permitting). Balinese Dream Beds Take time to watch the world go by on SeaDream's Signature Balinese Dream Beds. These specially designed beds are the perfect place to catch the views, read a book and sip your favorite beverage. Select a cozy corner of the yacht and take that little catnap you have missed all year. Our comfortable outdoor platform beds are designed with afternoon naps and sunbathing



in mind. These thick cushion beds, with throw pillows and individual reclining backs, are the perfect spot on the yacht to stretch out and enjoy unobstructed ocean views and cool sea breezes. Yoga, Pool & Golf Start the day off right with complimentary morning Yoga on deck. Offered daily, channel your inner yogi and inhale and exhale the fresh sea breezes. Led by our Thai-certified crew members, rejuvenate your mind and body. The generous teak decks and lounge chairs are waiting for you pool side. A saltwater pool and fresh water Jacuzzi®, fresh towels, refreshing drinks and cocktails served by SeaDream's award-winning crew will ensure you will enjoy your time spent on deck. In the mood to practice your golf skills? You may do just that on SeaDream's Golf Simulator on Deck 6. Equipped with his and hers clubs, select from over 30 world-renowned golf courses and enjoy them in air-conditioned comfort. Top of the Yacht Whether you are the first one to greet the day at the Early Risers Coffee or you enjoy a fine cigar and cognac after dinner, the Top of the Yacht Bar is the social heart of the yacht. Take in the sea breeze and 360° views. Before the sunrise, make your way to the Top of the Yacht Bar to greet the day at the Early Risers Coffee. Throughout the day, you may enjoy your favorite drink or request a special SeaDream cocktail from our expert bartenders. They are perhaps the most loved crew members on board. For those meals in between, order a light bite off the Insuite & Ondeck menu. Gourmet cheese platter anyone? Starlit Movies <sup>™</sup> The pool deck becomes your cinema under the open night sky. Get comfortable in a reclining lounge chair and watch a concert or movie on the outdoor big screen. Your port of call becomes your grand backdrop. Pillows, blankets, fresh popcorn and bar service make this a movie experience like no other. Casino, Piano Bar & Library If you're feeling lucky, begin your evening entertainment with a hand at the Blackjack table in the

casino on Deck 4. Just steps away, enjoy an after dinner drink at the Piano Bar, a relaxed and social lounge area where you enjoy listening to live guitar and piano music. Request your favorite tune and feel free to sing along. Or should you wish for something more quiet, take refuge in the Library. Enjoy a good read from our large selection of books or challenge a fellow yachtsman in a selection of board games. Computer and printer are also available. Balinese Dream Beds at Night Our signature Balinese Dream beds may be transformed at night to sleep and gaze upon the stars. Curl up in luxurious comfort with plush belgian bed linens and admire the starry night sky on a clear night. The soothing sound of the sea and cozy setting make this a magical, unforgettable experience. Dessert Extravaganza An elegant, after dinner gathering. The star of this party is the delectable display of desserts including baked treats, tarts, pies. cakes, ice cream and bananas foster. Your favorite libation, music, fresh ocean air and the twinkle of candles and stars make this the perfect ending to another special SeaDream day. Top of the Yacht As day turns to night, enjoy the picturesque sunsets at the Top of the Yacht Bar. The night sky transforms the deck to a memorable night with accompanying music and a social atmosphere. Mingle with friends you meet on board for a night of cocktails, live guitar music, dancing and 360° views of the twinkling stars. SeaDream Spa & Salon Escape and unwind peacefully onboard with our very own version of paradise, the SeaDream Spa. Spoil your mind, body and soul with the only Thai-certified spa service at sea. A sanctuary of relaxation and tranquility, the SeaDream Spa is an indulgent experience to complete any SeaDream vacation. Our highly trained Thai-certified therapists offer an extensive range of spa favorites including Sisley Paris treatments, Radiant Facials, Detoxifying treatments, Soothing Aroma Massage and Traditional Thai



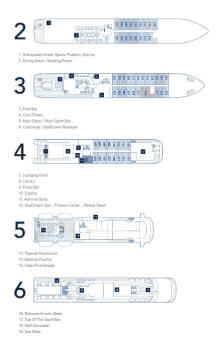
Massage for men, women, and couples. Hair & Nail services are also offered in our full-service salon with our experienced beauty stylist onboard. We use the finest beauty brands to meet your desires including Sisley Paris, MOROCCANOIL®, Wella, and Essie® products. You may also enjoy some of our treatments in our open-air private massage area. Experience these exceptional services cooled by gentle sea breezes only possible on an exclusive mega yacht (weather



permitting).



# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**





# **PRICING**

Government, Port, Document
Issuance, Handling & Service fees

ADDITIONAL CHARGES: 427 USD pp

