

Ancient Treasures of the Aegean Sea & Mythical Istanbul

**Friday, April 25, 2025
to
Thursday, May 8, 2025**



**Sail with us on the *Celebrity Infinity* plus . . .
Enjoy a *2 Night Pre-Cruise Stay* in Athens**

We invite you to be our special guest in Athens, Ephesus, Kusadasi and Istanbul, all with Private, Included Excursions & Dining Experiences.

Join us on this very special journey featuring incredible history, legendary architecture, unusual landscapes, unsurpassed hospitality and dining experiences, that you will remember forever.

Our journey will start with overnight flights from the Cleveland Airport to Athens, Greece. After check-in at our centrally located hotel in **Athens**, the day will end with a Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant. We'll start our journey off right with a glass of wine or beer and a toast to the discoveries of this trip! You will unpack and pack once while we are in Athens. This is a small group tour.

All the "must see and must do" attractions are on our agenda as we enjoy Athens on our private coach with a local guide. Following the visits to the **Acropolis, Acropolis Museum**, and famous historical **Agora**, we will top the day off with a local dining experience.

The Cruise Itinerary Aboard the *Celebrity Infinity*

After leaving Athens with unforgettable memories, we board **Celebrity Cruise Line's** ship **INFINITY** for our **10-night Greece and Turkey Cruise**. Again, only unpacking & packing once for the rest of the journey!

The itinerary includes **Volos** (Greece), **Ephesus** (Kusadasi-Turkey), **Istanbul** (Turkey 2 days), the Iconic Islands of **RHODOS, SANTORINI & MYKONOS** are all on our ports of call. Note that these historical sights involve uneven surfaces when walking, climbing stairs and standing. Comfortable shoes are a **MUST**.

We are excited to share that all our guests will be accommodated in **CONCIERGE CLASS CABINS with a Verandah on Deck # 8** featuring dedicated Concierge Service, luxurious cabin amenities and more and . . . yes, we included the **Classic Beverage Package** for the duration of the cruise to include your alcoholic/nonalcoholic beverages.

A 6:00 PM dinner time has been requested for our group while onboard. Smart Casual wear is recommended throughout this trip. Shorts and ball caps are not allowed at shrines or religious sites. Ladies are required to have their heads covered at most religious sites.

A Little About the Ports:

Volos:

This beautiful, coastal town is the third largest port city (after Piraeus and Thessaloniki) in the country's largest agricultural region, located approximately 200 miles north of Athens.

In addition to the features included during our stay in Athens, Greece, we have the following **private arrangements** for you in Turkey.

Ephesus - port city Kusadasi:

Included Private Full Day Excursion and Lunch

A full day of sightseeing with a private coach and a local guide in **Kusadasi** visiting **Ephesus Archeological** site and the **House of Virgin Mary**. One of the 7 Churches of Asia addressed in the Book of Revelation and one of the 7 wonders of the world "**Temple of Artemis**". The Gospel of St. John may have been written there.

Following our visit, you will be treated to lunch in the historic delightful village of Sirince (meaning cute). Originally it was called Cirkince (means ugly).

Next – Istanbul Day #1:

Included Private Full Day Excursion, Lunch and Dinner

A city where the old and the new are blended, a city that is home to almost 20 million people and indescribable, challenging traffic. A city spread across two continents, Europe, and Asia.

Our Full Day excursion with a private coach and local guide will start following your breakfast on board.

Don't miss the ship's **grand entrance** from the **Sea of Marmara into the Bosphorus Strait** early in the morning. Our visits today include the **Blue Mosque**, constructed between 1609 and 1617 with stunning blue tiles and six minarets and **St. Sophia** which stands for Holy Wisdom. It was the principal church of the Byzantine Empire. Our next stop is **Topkapi Palace** where construction started in 1460 and served as the administrative center of the Ottoman Empire until 1856.

A change of pace takes us to a food tasting at the **Spice Bazaar** (also known as Egyptian Bazaar, built in 1664), then to **Pera Palace** for a light lunch with some surprising treats (just like in Murder on the Orient Express). Pera Palace Hotel which opened in 1895, was the first building in the Ottoman Empire to be powered by electricity, (other than the Ottoman Palaces) with hot running water and electric lift.

We will end our day with another included dining experience at a traditional Kebab restaurant and a glass of wine or a beer on us.

Istanbul Day #2:

Included Private Full Day Excursion, Light Lunch and Dinner

Today, we are going to take it easy and have some fun since we learned a lot about the history of the destination yesterday. Let's all meet again after breakfast on board. This time, we will experience the city and its skyline, from the Bosphorus, on a boat ride, followed with a visit to the world-famous **Grand Bazaar**. It is known as one of the oldest covered markets in the world with 61 covered streets and over 3000 stores, often regarded as one of the first shopping malls of the world. We will grab a light lunch in the area.

It's now time to say *Farewell* to this part of our journey and celebrate by having another traditional dinner at another local venue. *Cheers to all!!*

As the second half of the cruise starts, you may choose to explore the islands of **Rhodes, Santorini and Mykonos** at your own pace or book one of the excursions offered onboard. Whether you choose to take a leisurely walk with your camera or take a short excursion we know you will love these intriguing and beautiful islands.

Rhodos:

Has been shaped by Romans, Byzantine, Genoese, Ottoman, and Italian influences. It's Medieval Old Town with winding cobbled streets of the walled city is breathtaking. In ancient days, Rhodes was famous worldwide for the **Colossus of Rhodes**, which was one of the 7 wonders of the world.

Santorini:

This crescent shaped island and its neighboring islands are the remnants of a largely submerged dormant volcano, which was responsible for one of the largest eruptions in recorded history around 3600 years ago. Many may recall pictures of this island with its blue domed rooftops. A funicular ride is your basic pattern to get to the town center from the pier or MAYBE YOU WILL WANT TO EXPERIENCE THE ALTERNATIVE WAY TO TRAVEL, ON A MULE OR DONKEY.

Mykonos:

A lively island day and night with its 16th century windmills. The best and the only way to get around the island is to walk. The streets may be convoluted but getting lost in them is part of the fun.

The order of activities, itinerary details & ports are subject to change due to reasons beyond our control.

Important Notes

- **Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended** and available at Palmer Vacations or, a source of your choice, on request. Insurance takes effect from the time it is purchased and is nonrefundable.
- **Citizens of the United States of America are required to have a valid passport** to participate on this trip. The passports must be valid for at least 6 (six) months beyond the conclusion of the trip. For further information, please refer to www.travel.state.gov
- The cruise itinerary may change as conditions warrant. Celebrity Cruises reserve the right to impose a fuel supplement on all guests if the price of West Texas Intermediate fuel exceeds \$ 65 a barrel. The fuel supplement for 1st and 2nd guests would be no more than \$10 per day per guest to a maximum of \$140 per cruise, additional guests would be no more than \$5 per person per day to a maximum of \$70 per cruise
- Once announced, all flight schedules are subject to change by the carrier/s without notice until the day of travel. Seats are assigned at the discretion of the airlines, and they are subject to availability
- Cost and rules of air travel may change with reasons beyond our control.
- **After final payment deadline, airline tickets are nonrefundable/nontransferable.**

Upscale Excursions & Discovery Tours

Price: \$ 8,829 pp dbl occupancy
\$ 11,867 single occupancy

Deposit: \$ 750 pp confirms reservation
Second deposit: \$750 due October 05, 2024
Final Payment Due: December 19, 2024

Checks Payable to:
Palmer Vacations
5366 Fulton Dr. NW
Canton, OH 44718

Cancellation Policy

The following Terms and Conditions will apply for cancellations.

- ✓ All monies and/or deposits listed above are refundable if the trip is canceled by the participant on or before final payment date of **December 19, 2024**
- ✓ 50% of the total trip cost is non-refundable if the trip is canceled by the participant on or before **December 20, 2024**
- ✓ 75% of the total trip cost is non-refundable if the trip is canceled by the participant on or before **March 13, 2025**
- ✓ Total trip cost is non-refundable if the trip is canceled by the participant on or after **March 14, 2025**

If a traveling companion sharing the hotel and/or cabin cancels the trip on or after December 20, 2024, a single supplement will apply to the trip cost and is the responsibility of the person who is still traveling. The remaining traveler has the exclusive use of the hotel room and or cabin, which is considered SINGLE OCCUPANCY. The single supplement in this case, will be the difference between the double occupancy and the single occupancy price listed on the trip flyer.

Great Package Inclusions

Air transportation - Cleveland to Athens on scheduled airlines, connecting flights, in Economy Class

Round-trip motor coach transportation to Cleveland airport & parking at St. Michaels Church (or similar) during the trip

NOTE: Airline schedules allowing, we will make every effort to arrange flights from Akron/Canton. In this case, parking at the Akron Canton Airport will be participants responsibility

Airport hotel, hotel pier, pier airport transfers in Athens, Greece.

2 Nights Pre Cruise Stay at a centrally located First Class hotel in Athens, including daily breakfast and baggage handling for 1 piece of luggage per person

10-night cruise aboard Celebrity INFINITY. (C1) Category Concierge Class with a verandah

All Meals on Board, except specialty restaurants with a cover charge

WI-FI on board for only 2 guests sharing a cabin. (cannot be held responsible for service disruptions)

Classic Beverage Package on board, includes most fountain beverages, non-premium bottled water, certain brand beers, wines, and spirits. *Package does not cover in stateroom private bar and beverages ordered through room service* (restrictions apply)

Gratuities to dining room staff and cabin stewards on board. **Gratuities** to local guides and bus drivers with included tours in Athens, Ephesus, and Istanbul. **Gratuities** to servers at the restaurants on land with included meals.

Taxes, port charges, government fees. Transfers and sightseeing as outlined above.