

Malaga – Roquetas de Mar- Cartagena – Ibiza- Mahon – Calaforte – Gozo – Valetta – Syracuse – Pilos – Monemvasia – Hydra – Athens

Duration of tours is approximate and may vary depending on traffic and weather conditions. Time spent on site is also given on an indicative basis only.

Minimum number of participants is indicated per coach or group.

Fitness requirements vary according to the chosen activity.

To participate in hiking, biking snorkelling, boating and other physically demanding activities you need to have an average to good level of fitness

ROQUETAS DE MAR, SPAIN

Located 25 km from Almeria, Roquetas does not have the brash, mass tourism of other Spanish resorts. The town used to be a fishing village and the area around the old port is particularly attractive with a sensitive mix of new apartment blocks and old fishermen's houses. Adjacent to the port area is the Castillo Santa Ana, which was built on the site of the old castle, currently used as an exhibition centre. Next to the castle is the old lighthouse.

The main tourist area is called the Urbanización de Roquetas de Mar. Its attractive promenade is fringed with palm trees.



Almeria

By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot
Minimum 15 participants, no maximum
Duration : 3 hours
Euros 39

During the course of its long history many different civilisations chose to settle in Almeria, attracted by the town's strategic location on the Mediterranean. Traces of these lost civilisations can be found in the archaeological remains scattered throughout the province. The Moors founded the current capital in the 10th century using it as a base from which to rule over one of the most important *taifas* or *kingdoms* in muslim Spain. There is a strong Arab influence in Spain as the Moorish occupation lasted nearly 8 centuries.

The city tour will be on foot as no coaches are allowed into the old town. During the tour, which does not include any inside visits, you will see the impressive Alcazaba Palace, fief of the Moorish kings (caliphs) as well as stopping at the cathedral to admire its Gothic architecture and renaissance façades. The cathedral looks rather like a fortress and indeed it was not only a place of worship but also served as a bastion against marauding Berber pirates.

- The drive to Almeria takes 30 minutes
- The tour does not include any inside visits.

Felix village

By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot
Minimum 15 Participants, maximum 25
Duration: 3 hours
Euros 44

Felix is yet another village which bears the stamp of its Moorish past. The clusters of white houses in the centre of the village are dominated by an 11th century Moorish castle. Local legend recounts that the castle is tainted by the blood of the Moors who fought against Christian soldiers in 1568. When all was lost, the Moors hurled themselves from the top of the castle, choosing to die rather than renounce their faith and convert to Christianity.

Felix village is set in a land of contrasts, alternating rugged mountainous areas and open valleys with views down to the sea. There are only 600 souls in Felix and you will be struck by the friendly, hospitable nature of the inhabitants as well as the pervading atmosphere of peace and tranquillity. Take a stroll down the narrow winding streets and admire the picturesque architecture and pristine white houses, while breathing in the pure sweet air.

At the heart of the village lies Encarnacion square where you will see the church of the Encarnacion. The church dates from the XVI century, and was built on the site of a mosque.

- At the end of the tour you will be offered refreshments
- The drive to Felix takes 45 minutes
- The guided tour also takes 45 minutes .



CARTAGENA, SPAIN**A Tale of 2 cities**

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Duration 4h30

Euros 50

Leaving Cartagena, the route into the hinterland first crosses fertile farming plains before winding through the pass of the "Mountains of the Chain" to reach Murcia, the charming capital of the province.

In the heart of the "Old Quarter" of the city, the 13th century Cathedral is visited. The main façade is considered to be one of the best examples of baroque architecture in Spain. In the interior the stone tracery of the late gothic "Velez Chapel" delights the visitor. Next to the Cathedral, a visit to the San Juan de Dios Church will be made. On returning to Cartagena a panoramic walking tour of the city will be made, beautifully situated on the superb natural harbour. It starts with a stroll passing the monument to the Heroes of Cavite and the Town Hall and then continues along the pedestrian "Main Street" to admire the 18th century doorway of the Casino and the delightful modern houses. Parts of Roman excavating can be seen below pavement level through glass panels. An interesting stop is made at the site of the Roman Theatre, discovered by chance in 1897. The rows of seats were built into the side of the Hill of the Conception. The commemorative descriptions indicate that it was built in the late 1st century B.C., the period of maximum urban development in the Roman Colony.



Cartagena walking tour

On foot

Minimum 15 participants, no maximum

Duration: 4 hours

Euros 40

The walking tour starts from the pier, and the first stop is Conception Castle high above the city. This stunning view point will be reached via an open air scenic "Panorama lift" built close to the rock face. The castle itself is located on the site of the Moorish "Alcazar" (a Spanish word of Arabic origin denoting a fortified castle) and affords magnificent 360° views of the city below, including the port and the Roman theatre.

The port of Cartagena consists of a deep bay with a natural harbour protected by the surrounding mountains; this ideal strategic location has always attracted settlers and contributed greatly to the development and importance of the city. The Carthaginians established a trading settlement here in the late 3rd century BC and in the 18th century the Bourbon King Carlos III chose Cartagena as one of Spain's main naval bases, a status it still enjoys today.

The Roman theatre is another of the city's "not to be missed" landmarks. It was built between the fifth and first century BC and is a proud reminder of the city's Roman heyday accommodating up to 6000 spectators.

There will then be a break for some authentic Spanish drinking chocolate at a local chocolateria, opposite the city's impressive town hall.

Chocolate was a delicacy brought back from the New World in the XVI century by the Spanish Conquistadors. Christopher Columbus may have discovered cocoa beans in 1502, but he did not realise quite how valuable they were. It was Hernan Cortez who sent the precious beans back to Spain, after sampling the drink in 1544. The Spanish explorers improved the original Mayan and Aztec recipe with the addition of cane sugar and the rest, as they say, is history. Amazingly they kept their discovery from the rest of Europe for almost a century. However, once the secret was out the craze for chocolate spread like wildfire among the nobility. It was only the rich who could afford to indulge in this pleasure as it was made from two expensive imported ingredients, cocoa beans and cane sugar.

The Spanish have always been obsessed with chocolate and enjoy relaxing at "chocolaterias", where the sweet creamy beverage is served with cakes and pastries.

After the "chocolate break", you will walk to the heart of the city and learn something of its history. Cartagena has been a crossroads for many different cultures and a city of major importance for nearly 3000 years. You will visit the Old quarter and see "Modernist" town houses built between the second half of the 19th century and the early decades of the 20th century. A mining boom brought great prosperity to the city during this period, and some of the families involved in the industry commissioned impressive residences to showcase their newly acquired wealth.

You will also visit the newly discovered Roman Forum district, Molinete, and the Decumano Calzada Romana (a section of Roman road that originally linked the forum to the harbour).

The site was first opened to the public in the summer of 2012 and features the remains of a thermal spa and an atrium building used to host ritual banquets in honour of the gods. The archaeological importance of this site is on a par with that of the Roman theatre.



IBIZA, Ibiza town

Ibiza owns a reputation as a boisterous party town where hit the beaches by day and dance all night. But this is only part of the story for this picturesque island, which is part of Balearics near the coast of Spain.

The town was founded by the Carthaginians around the sixth century B.C. and ruled in turn by the Romans, Arabs and Catalans. Evidence of these periods can be seen in the Dalt Vila, or old town, which boasts many historical structures and relics and two notable museums. The medieval walled city and its Gothic cathedral became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1999.

During the day, Ibiza is an ideal place to explore, with trendy shops, interesting restaurants and a growing number of luxury hotels and spas in its beautiful harbor. In addition, the island boasts 56 sandy beaches around its coastline, making it the perfect place to simply relax.

Time at leisure.

MINORCA, BALEARIC ISLANDS, PORT MAHON

Magic of Minorca

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Duration 3 hours

Euros 47

The first stop on the tour is Monte Toro; at 357m above sea level it is the highest point of the island and the views are absolutely breathtaking, on a clear day you can even see Mallorca to the south-east. The site is considered to be the spiritual centre of Minorca and has been a place of pilgrimage since the 13th century. The remains of an old Augustinian monastery are still visible and there is a little church with a carved wooden image of the Virgen del Toro, patron saint of Minorca. Legend has it that Monte Toro, takes its name from a bull (el toro) which led a group of monks to a statue of the Virgin Mary carved in the rock face.

The excursion continues to Taula de Torralba, a prehistoric talaiotic settlement dating from 2000 – 1000 BC. The Taula consists of two slabs of rock, one placed on the other to form a "T". The monument is more sophisticated than many other prehistoric constructions, and is generally considered to have been used as a sanctuary. The Taula is exclusive to Minorca and despite their shared Talayotic heritage, there is nothing comparable in Mallorca.

Thereafter the tour bus returns to Mahon and participants will leave the coach and walk through the 18th century town (mostly downhill) before returning to the ship. After exploring the city centre you can chose to either walk back (this involves steps) or return by coach.



Mountain bike tour

Transfer by van, then by bike

Minimum 10 participants, Maximum 15

Duration : 3hours

Euros 69

Cycling and mountain bike riding have long been enjoyed on Minorca and are now becoming popular with visitors of all ages and abilities. The island's quiet roads, rolling hills and many kilometres of unpaved trails are ideally suited to the activity and our mountain bike tour is a great way to explore the hidden nooks and crannies of this unspoiled island.

New well signposted cycle routes have been created along some of the oldest trails on the island, dating back to the first human settlement. These ancient paths, bordered by dry stone walls, run past meadows and pastures which are covered by a carpet of wild flowers in the springtime and early summer. The newly opened "Cami de Cavalls" is a bridle path which rings the entire island and is the perfect way for experienced mountain bikers to explore the coastal areas.

- The tour involves a lot of physical activity and requires stamina; participants should be in good condition
- The total distance covered by the tour is approximately 12 km
- Participants may at times have to pick up their bikes and walk for short distances
- Please remember to wear suitable shoes and take sun screen
- During July and August the tour will be scheduled for the late afternoon

Hiking in S'Albufera Nature park

Transfer by van, then on foot

Minimum 10 participants, Maximum 20

Duration : 3hours

Euros 50

A short 15 minute drive will take you to a typical Minorcan fishing village, Es Grau, located within the boundaries of the S'Albufera Nature reserve. The park covers the wetlands, a marshy coastal area consisting of a 2km lagoon, enclosed by a system of dunes, and a river which flows into the sea.

You will be taken on an itinerary designed to showcase the flora and fauna of the wetlands. The park is home to a wide variety of bird life; waterfowl such as ducks, common coots, herons and European shags live alongside birds of prey including osprey's, kites and booted eagles, while the torrents and ponds of the wetlands are populated by Iberian green frogs and toads. The vegetation consists mainly of wild olive trees, holm oak, lentisk shrubs, jasmine box and tree spurge.

The hike will take you on the "Cami de Cavalls", a bridle path which goes right round the island, through woodland, and then along the water reserve which leads to Es Grau beach. From here you will proceed along a winding path up to the headland overlooking Isla Colom off the north coast. You will continue down to Cala Tamarells before heading back along the beach to Es Grau village.

- This excursion is a must for all nature lovers, the wild life is abundant in this protected area and the coastal views are simply stunning.
- The tour involves a fair amount of walking over uneven ground (5km)
- Please wear good walking shoes and take a bottle of water and some sun screen with you
- During the months of July and August this excursion will be scheduled in the late afternoon.



CARLOFORTE, SARDINIA

Carloforte is an attractive small town with graceful palazzi, crowded cafes and palm trees line along the waterfront while, behind, a creamy curve of stately buildings rises in a half-moon up the green hillside. A slow wander through the quaint, cobbled streets makes for a pleasant prelude to an aperitif and a fine seafood meal at one of the town's wonderful restaurants.

Time at leisure.

GOZO, MALTA

Highlights of Gozo

By air conditioned motor coach

Minimum 15 participants, no maximum

Duration 4 hours

Euros 39

The Ggantija Temples are one of the world's most valued archaeological finds and date back to 3600 BC. Take a wander around the site and explore the archaeological ruins, which hold a fascinating past. Afterwards, you'll head to the capital of Gozo, Victoria, which is spread beneath the old citadel, the walled castle that dominates the island. Here, you can enjoy a walk within the city walls and view the imposing cathedral.

Leaving Victoria, you'll drive to the Basilica of Ta Pinu, a centre of pilgrimage. The origin of this magnificent church dates back to 1932 and is an important holy shrine. Explore the church and enjoy the sweeping coastal views.

Your next stop is to view Fungus Rock and the Azure Window, collectively known as the Dwejra Seascapes. Admire these unique rock formations, before continuing across the east coast to capture the coastal views of Ramla l-Hamra (the Red Beach). On the return drive to the pier, a photo stop will be made to enjoy the views across to Comino Island, also a location used for the movies 'Troy' and the 'Count of Montecristo'.

Discover Gozo by 4X4

Minimum 8 participants, maximum 32

Duration 4 hours

Euros 56

One of the best ways to discover the beautiful, hidden corners of Gozo is by 4x4 vehicle. Dramatic photo opportunities abound as you journey through the hilltop villages of Qala, Nadur and Xaghra. Next, cross the Ramla Valley and head up to Calypso's Cave to take in the panoramic view over Gozo's most beautiful beach. From here, you will drive to Dwejra to see the Fungus Rock, the Inland Sea and the Azure Window. In this untouched part of the island, both time and nature seem to have stood still.

Continuing on, the road leads around the north side of the island, where you will see the dazzling mosaic formed by the salt pans. Your coach will stop in Victoria before returning you to the pier.



VALETTA, MALTA**Malta's Capitalls: Mdina & Valetta**

By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot

Ends at the airport or at the port : Minimum 10 participants, no maximum

Duration 4h30

Euros 48

Take the scenic route to Malta's old capital, Mdina - one of the world's finest examples of a living medieval city. Stroll through the city's streets and let your guide give you an introduction to the history and orientation. Enjoy the sweeping views from the bastions, over the valley and the surrounding areas. After your walking tour, you will be given free time during which you can either visit the cathedral or choose to relax at one of the pavement cafes or do a souvenir shopping. Ride by coach to Valletta - the present day capital. You'll walk to St John's Cathedral, complete with elaborate in-laid marble tombstones and monumental artwork. View the Grand Master's Palace from the outside - it now houses the Parliament and the President's Office. Your last stop will be at the Barracca Gardens on the highest point of the 16th-century bastion walls that the Knights of St John built to protect their city. Take in the splendid view of the Three Cities and Fort Ricasoli

SYRACUSA, SICILY**Princess Borghese's Gardens, and lunch in a farmhouse**

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30

Duration 5hours

Euros 94

Lunch included

Departing the port, your drive takes you on the coastal road toward Catania. Here you will turn inland, heading toward the village of Lentini. Just outside Lentini lies the Borghese Estate granted to the family in 1392 by King Martino. You will be welcomed by the Princess Borghese, who will take you around her beautiful gardens. Established in 1967, the gardens bordering a lake, feature a broad variety of Mediterranean species as well as more exotic and rare plants from different parts of the world. During your visit, the Princess Borghese will delight you with her comments as she acquaints you with her lovely garden, followed by a visit to her home.

Upon leaving the Borghese Estate, a short drive will take you to your lunch venue. The farmhouse, built from lava rock, dates from the early 1800s, overlooking Lentini Lake and a scenic landscape with Mount Etna as an imposing background. Enjoy a hearty Sicilian lunch in this serene rural setting. After lunch, you are welcome to check out the farm's local products which may be purchased. Then, an hour's drive takes you back to the port in Siracusa.

Highlights of Syracuse

By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Duration 4h30

Euros 49

Departing the port, begin your tour with a 15 minute drive to the archaeological park. During a 1 ½ hour walking tour, your guide will acquaint you with the site's major highlights: Paradise Quarry with the "Ear of Dionysius," an ear-shaped cavern with unusual acoustics. Legend has it that Dionysius used to listen in on prisoners' conversations to learn about any planned conspiracies. The Greek Theater: this is the largest and most complete theater remaining from antiquity. The Roman Amphitheater: the ruins of this fine Roman Theater give an idea of the enormous arena.

Following your visit of the Archaeological Park, you will drive back to the old town of Ortygia. As buses are not allowed inside the historic part, you will leave the coach in the mandatory parking lot and continue on foot. Follow your guide during the walk of the historic town center. Starting with the Arethusa Fountain, you will proceed with a brief visit to the cathedral, and view other attractions such as the ruins of the Apollo Temple, Archimedes' Square with the Fountain of Diana, and Corso Matteotti, the main and most elegant shopping area of Ortygia. At the end of your visit, return to the parking area and rejoin your coach for the short drive back to the pier.



PILOS, GREECE

Palace of Nestor and Methone Fortress

By air-conditioned motor coach and on foot

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Duration 4 hours

Euros 62

From the port of Pylos is a twenty minutes drive to the hill of Ano Eglianos and the remains of the Palace of Nestor. The site dates from the Mycenaean Era. The buildings, burnt down in the 12th century BC., were decorated with frescoes. Hundred of clay tablets bearing inscriptions were found during the excavations. This contributed to our understanding of the Mycenaean language - an early form of the Greek language.

Continue on to the fortress of Methone - 11 km away from Pylos. The Castle of Methone lies at the southernmost end of the west Peloponnesian Coast. The site was fortified as early as the 7th century B.C., and in the period between 395 A.D. and 1204 A.D. it was used as a Byzantine fortress.

The area was dominated by the Franks for a very short period and in 1206 was captured by the Venetians who strengthened the fortification, incorporating the pre-Christian defensive structures. In 1500 Methoni was captured by the Turk Bayazit Pasha, again came under Venetian occupation from 1685 until 1715, and was for a second time dominated by the Turks who kept it under their control until 1829, when it was liberated by the French General Maison, along with other towns of the Peloponnese.

- It is 30 minute drive to the remains of Nestor's palace
- It is 45 minute drive to Methoni fortress
- It is 25 minute drive back to the port
- Due to some uphill walking during the visits, guests are advised to wear non-slip, comfortable shoes.
- There are only some remains from Nestor's palace

MONEMVASSIA, GREECE

The Pelopponese city of Monemvasia was fortified during the thirteenth century under Byzantine rule. The Byzantines also established a successful trading port here linked to Constantinople. From 1460 to 1464 the Pope ruled the city before the Venetians took over. The Venetians built a 535-foot long bridge that was fortified to protect them from the enemy. During this empire, the population of the city reached 30,000 and the city expanded with the building of many houses and churches. The city fell to the Turks who ruled for nearly three hundred years, from the mid sixteenth to early nineteenth centuries, with the exception of a short-lived takeover by the Venetians.

The wall-encircled Lower Town extends along the slopes of a 985-foot-high crag that projects into the sea on the east side of the Peloponnese. For centuries an impressive stronghold, the village was very much depopulated over the years as many of its inhabitants moved to the mainland. But with the beginning of a restoration program aimed to preserve Monemvasia's heritage, the Lower Town experienced a new lease on life, and people from the mainland have started to return to this now fairly busy and attractive tourist center.

The Upper Town is situated on top of the Rock of Monemvasia. It is reached via a zigzagging, paved lane. An almost impregnable bastion in earlier days, it has been void of its population for centuries, but still manages to preserve its magnificent appearance. Visitors today can explore the remains of the ancient citadel-castle and have a look inside the church of Hagia Sofia. From the summit there is also a fantastic view of the surrounding area.



HYDRA, GREECE

According to legend this beautiful island was once the home of the Hydra, the many headed monster killed by Heracles, hence its name. These days it is considered the most cosmopolitan of the Greek islands and many celebrities from Greece and abroad spend their vacations here. It is also beloved by artists from all over the world for its natural beauty and distinctive architecture, which have also made it a favourite film making location.

The town rises up like an amphitheatre from the port area, remaining hidden until the very last moment for those approaching by sea. It owes its unique character to the impressive mansions that were built in the late 18th century for wealthy Hydriot ship-owners by architects from Venice and Genoa. These houses differ from the usual Greek island architecture because of their individuality, size and sloping tiled roofs. During this period, Hydra possessed an important fleet and was sometimes called "Little England" because of its seafaring prowess and flair for commerce. The old ship's canons in front of the harbour bear witness to this glorious past. In some measure the long naval tradition is upheld to this day, as the island is home to the Merchant Navy Officer's training school.

No motor vehicles are allowed on Hydra, a designated Landmark Preservation area, and all transport is by boat, on foot or by donkey.

The island is an irresistible mixture of old and new with night clubs, bars, waterfront cafés, restaurants, and boutiques blending harmoniously with picturesque lanes and bare hills dotted with dazzling white chapels and windmills.

ATHENS, GREECE

The earliest Athenians were of Ionian stock, arriving on the peninsula in about 2000 BCE. Of the early rulers little is known except that they were kings. By the 7th century BCE they had been superseded by Eupatrids, the aristocracy of the eleven noble families of Attica. The next development from the aristocratic rule came with Solon, the "Father of Democracy", who initiated the idea of rule by the people, creating assemblies of ordinary citizens. Following Solon's democracy came the age of the Tyrants, a system of rule largely established by Peisistratus in about 546 BCE. The idea was to remove much of the power of the nobles and to favor merchants, farmers, and the ordinary people. Athens, particularly the Acropolis, became one of the chief centers of religion in Greece, and by 600 BCE there were many temples, fragments of which are in the Acropolis Museum. The year 450 BCE saw the beginning of Pericles and his "Golden Age". In the 1830s, the Greek architect Cleanthes and the German Schaubert planned the new city around Otto's austere Palace. From a small proximity above the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Palace dominates Syntagma Square (Constitution Square).

From Syntagma Square, Amalia Avenue leads past the National Garden and the Zappion Park to Hadrian's Arch. Behind the park, the Stadium, built on a natural ravine for the first modern Olympic Games held in 1896, occupies the same site used in ancient times. The mountainous region of Attica and Athens, though barren and infertile, has a superb climate.



Athens and the new Acropolis museum

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 10 participants / max. unlimited, end at the airport, Euros 69 (duration 5hours)

(possibility to be dropped off in Athens, Euros 55 (duration 4hours))

From the port of Piraeus you pass the charming yacht harbour of Zea with visible foundations from the 5C BC dock. Next is attractive Mikrolimanon's waterfront lined with inviting al fresco fish restaurants. It is a short drive into cosmopolitan Athens, where, in the midst of modern structures are great monuments to be seen, such as: Temple of Zeus, Panathenaic Stadium, Parliament at Syntagma (Constitution) Square, National Academy, University, the Library, Hadrian Arch and finally we arrive at the New Acropolis Museum, located only 300 meters southeast of the Rock of the Acropolis. It was designed by Bernard Tschumi. The museum was opened to the public in 2009 and nearly 4,000 objects are exhibited on three levels with an area of 14,000 square metres. Displayed are the findings from the Acropolis archaeological site as well as artifacts from the Greek Bronze Age to Roman and Byzantine Greece. For those who will return to the ship, the tour will end in Athens centre and then the rest of the passengers will be transferred to the Airport.

- The tour will end at Syntagma square in Athens. The guide will leave the tour at that moment and the coach will then continue to the airport (arrival 13h/13h30).
- A minimum of 6 guests going to the airport is requested to operate the tour until the airport
- Passengers staying on board the following cruise will be dropped off in Athens (return on your own to the pier).
- The duration of the tour very much depends on the traffic in Athens, would there be no traffic, the tour will end earlier at the airport
- You will spend about 2 hour in the museum
- The use of cameras and video-cameras is free of charge, but flash is forbidden in the museum.



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The earliest Athenians were of Ionian stock, arriving on the peninsula in about 2000 BC. Little is known of the early rulers, apart from the fact that they were kings. By the 7th century BC they had been superseded by Eupatrids, the aristocracy of the eleven noble families of Attica. The next development from aristocratic rule came with Solon, the “Father of Democracy”, who initiated the idea of rule by the people, creating assemblies of ordinary citizens. Following Solon’s democracy came the Age of the Tyrants, a system of rule largely established by Peisistratus in about 546 BC. The idea was to remove much of the power from the nobles and to favour merchants, farmers, and ordinary people. Athens, particularly the Acropolis, became one of the chief religious centres in Greece, and by 600 BC there were many temples, fragments of which are to be found in the Acropolis Museum. The year 450 BC saw the beginning Pericles and his “Golden Age”.

In 1832 Otto, a Bavarian prince descended from the Greek imperial dynasties of Komnenos and Laskaris through his ancestor the Bavarian Duke John II, became the first modern King of Greece. The new city of Athens was planned by the Greek architect Cleanthes and the German, Schaubert, around Otto’s austere palace. Situated on a small promontory above the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the palace dominates Syntagma Square (Constitution Square). From Syntagma Square, Amalia avenue (named after Otto’s Queen Consort) leads past the National Garden and the Zappion Park to Hadrian’s Arch. Behind the park the stadium built for the first modern Olympic Games held in 1896 occupies the same site as that used in ancient times. The mountainous region of Attica and Athens, though barren and infertile enjoys a superb climate.

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Minimum 10 participants, maximum unlimited

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Possibility to be dropped off in Athens, €55 (duration 4 hours)

From the port of Piraeus you pass the charming yacht harbour of Zea where the foundations of the dock dating from the 5th century BC are clearly visible. Next is the attractive Mikrolimanon waterfront lined with inviting al fresco fish restaurants. It is but a short drive into cosmopolitan Athens, a mixture of modern buildings and great monuments. You will pass by the Temple of Zeus, the Panathenaic Stadium, the Parliament at Syntagma (Constitution) square, the National Academy, the University, the Library and Hadrian’s Arch before you finally arrive at the New Acropolis Museum. This building, located only 300m south east of the Rock of the Acropolis, was designed by Bernard Tschumi.

The museum was opened to the public in 2009 and nearly 4000 objects are exhibited on three levels with an area of 14000 square metres. Exhibits include findings from the Acropolis archaeological site as well as artifacts from the Greek Bronze Age to Roman and Byzantine Greece.

For those returning to the ship, the tour ends in the centre of Athens; the rest of the passengers will be transferred to the airport.

- The tour will end at Syntagma square in Athens. The guide will then leave and the coach will continue to the airport (arrival 13h00/13h30)
- For the tour to carry on to the airport a minimum of 6 departing guests is required
- Passengers staying on board for the following cruise will be dropped off in Athens (return on your own to the pier).
- The duration of the tour very much depends on the traffic in Athens; if traffic is light the coach will arrive sooner at the airport
- You will spend about 2 hrs in the museum
- The use of cameras and video cameras is free of charge, but flash photography is forbidden in the museum.

