

# AEGEAN VOYAGE

## Cyprus to Athens

aboard *Crystal Esprit* • April 15–23, 2017





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Dear Traveler,

The isles that dot the Mediterranean and Aegean Seas offer long sunny days, brilliant cerulean waters, classic ports of call, and hidden gems waiting to be discovered. There is no better way to visit this part of the world than aboard the privately chartered 31-cabin *Crystal Esprit*. Starting in Cyprus, the third-largest island in the Mediterranean, we cruise a region historically noted for its mariners to view phenomenal archaeological sites, sheltered coves, and unspoiled villages where daily life continues as it has for centuries.

Experience the pinnacle of luxury on board the newly refurbished *Crystal Esprit*, a nimble yacht-like vessel that features a private butler for each suite, innovative and locally sourced cuisine from award-winning chefs, all-inclusive beverages and premium spirits, a variety of water equipment for enjoyment of the sky-blue waters, and a full slate of impeccable touches throughout our stay. The compelling educational program will explore the rich and enduring history of the Hellenes, the current political and economic relationship between Greece and the rest of the European Union, and the impact of migration.

This is a shared voyage with Stanford and National Trust travelers, and the ship's guest capacity is limited to just 48, so I encourage you to reserve your space now!

Sincerely,

Steve Ridgway  
President, Criterion Travel



## Program Highlights

- ❖ Discover the striking beauty and rich histories of the less frequently visited Greek isles of **Nisyros**, **Astypalaia**, **Tinos**, and **Syros**.
- ❖ Enjoy a panoramic view of the picturesque **Santorini** caldera from the quintessentially Greek whitewashed, blue-roofed cliffside village of Oia.
- ❖ Visit the **Palace of the Grand Master of the Knights of Rhodes**, a 7th-century Byzantine citadel that served, centuries later, as a holiday retreat of Benito Mussolini.
- ❖ Explore **Delos**, birthplace of the Greek gods Artemis and Apollo and home to some of the Mediterranean's most extensive archaeological excavations.



## CRYSTAL ESPRIT

Launched in 2015, this newly refurbished, 31-stateroom yacht offers an atmosphere of classic elegance mixed with modern comfort. Each suite features a master bedroom with a at-screen high-definition TV and interactive bedside iPad, lounge area and custom-designed bathroom with high-end finishes and modern technology. Wi-Fi and a private butler are provided for each suite. The ship's two restaurants feature innovative and locally sourced cuisine from award-winning chefs, and the ship's recreational facilities include a swimming pool, sauna, gym, spa and a variety of aquatic equipment. The *Crystal Esprit* does not have an elevator between decks.





## TRIP ITINERARY

### SATURDAY–SUNDAY, APRIL 15–16 HOME / LIMASSOL, CYPRUS

Depart home on an overnight flight to Larnaca, Cyprus, and transfer to the *Crystal Esprit* in Limassol. Depart for the Dodecanese islands.

CRYSTAL ESPRIT (R,D)

### MONDAY, APRIL 17 AT SEA

Enjoy the ship's amenities and the onboard lecture presentations en route to Rhodes.

CRYSTAL ESPRIT (B,L,D)

### TUESDAY, APRIL 18 RHODES

Rhodes, the historic capital and largest of the Dodecanese islands, was renowned for the Colossus of Rhodes, a 98-foot-tall bronze statue of the Greek god Helios now lost to history. Explore the island's medieval Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site that was once the headquarters of the crusading Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. Lining the Avenue of the Knights are the inns where the warriors lived according to their country of origin. Visit the Palace of the Grand Master, the 15th-century hospital, and the Jewish and Turkish quarters, a blending of Byzantine, Turkish, and Latin architecture. Then head south to the picturesque white-washed town of Lindos, whose ancient acropolis dominates the skyline.

CRYSTAL ESPRIT (B,D)

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19 NISYROS / ASTYPALAIYA

Nisyros is a uniquely fertile island due to ancient volcanic activity, which deposited a layer of rich soil that supports rare flora and fauna. Visit the Volcanological Museum of Nisyros in Nikia and view the caldera and the five craters within it before stopping for a taste of the island's plentiful produce. Continue to the island of Astypalaia and dock in Chora, one of the most picturesque towns in the Aegean. Visit the 13th-century Venetian Guerini Castle, which towers over the town, before cruising to the Cyclades islands.

CRYSTAL ESPRIT (B,L,D)

### THURSDAY, APRIL 20 SANTORINI

Crescent-shaped Santorini's spectacular and much-photographed landscape was forged by ancient volcanic eruptions. Visit the Akrotiri archaeological site, a Minoan Bronze Age settlement that was preserved in volcanic ash until its discovery in the late 19th century. Enjoy a tasting of the island's white wines, in particular the sweet and strong Vinsanto, a dessert wine that enjoys global acclamation. End the day in the dramatic cliffside village of Oia to take in postcard-perfect views of whitewashed houses, blue-domed churches, and the sweeping caldera.

CRYSTAL ESPRIT (B,D)

### FRIDAY, APRIL 21 DELOS / MYKONOS

Explore the UNESCO World Heritage-designated island of Delos, spiritual sanctuary and mythical birthplace of Apollo and

Artemis. Today its marble and mosaic treasures are part of the most extensive archaeological excavations in the Mediterranean region. Continue to Mykonos for an afternoon and evening at leisure. "Little Venice," a particularly picturesque neighborhood, is replete with elegant homes that hug the sea, art galleries, chic boutiques, lively bars, and tempting restaurants.

CRYSTAL ESPRIT (B,L)

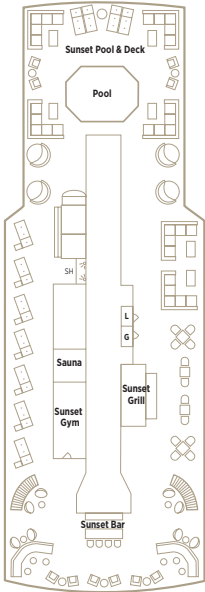
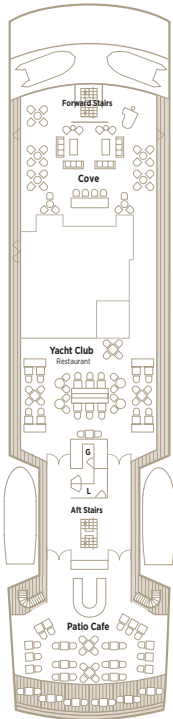
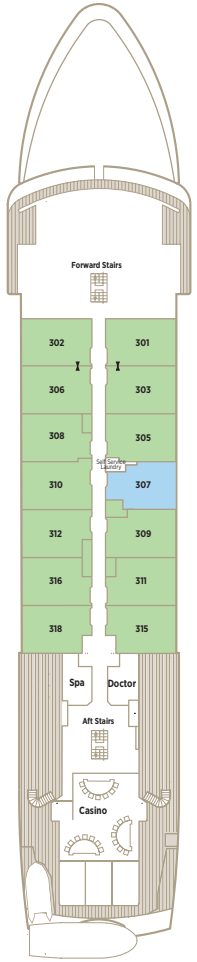
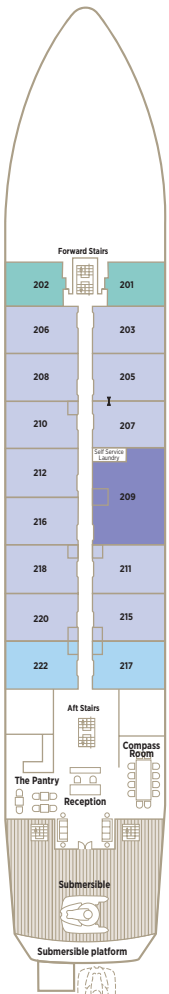
### SATURDAY, APRIL 22 TINOS / SYROS

Tinos, spiritual center of modern Greece, is known for its landmark Church of Panagia Evangelistria, its many windmills, nearly 1,000 artistic dovecotes, and Venetian fortifications. In the village of Pyrgos, admire the marble streets, arches, churches, and monuments crafted by local artists, and visit the School of Fine Arts, where students become accomplished marble sculptors. Cruise to Syros, the capital of the Cyclades, and disembark at the port of Ermoupolis for music, mezes, and ouzo in the town square. Stroll past the ornate churches and neoclassical mansions of the historic center en route to a reception at a private home, followed by a festive farewell dinner back on board the ship.

CRYSTAL ESPRIT (B,L,D)

### SUNDAY, APRIL 23 ATHENS / HOME

Disembark in Piraeus and transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)



**PROGRAM RATES (per person)**

CATEGORY	DOUBLE	SINGLE
<b>4</b> SEABREEZE DECK 223 square feet, queen or twin beds, shower	\$10,995	\$17,295
<b>3</b> SEABREEZE DECK/HORIZON DECK 280 square feet, king or twin beds, shower, sofa	\$11,495	\$18,145
<b>2</b> SEABREEZE DECK 280 square feet, king or twin beds, shower, sofa	\$11,995	\$18,995
<b>1</b> HORIZON DECK 280 square feet, king or twin beds, shower, sofa	\$12,995	—
<b>Owner's Suite</b> SEABREEZE DECK 515 square feet, king bed, bathtub, separate shower, sofa	\$19,995	—

To reserve a place on the **Aegean Voyage**, please call (888) 328-2089 or (650) 328-2089, or email [res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com)

**PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE**

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary • Full program of briefings, lectures, and presentations • Group transfers on arrival day in Cyprus and on departure day in Athens • Butler service in every stateroom on board the *Crystal Esprit* • Full complement of shipboard water-based activities, including kayaking, jet-skiing, and snorkeling • Baggage handling • Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel • Entrance fees • Welcome and farewell receptions • Complimentary beverages aboard *Crystal Esprit*—wine, beer, champagne, and premium spirits • Complimentary non-alcoholic beverages aboard *Crystal Esprit*—soft drinks, bottled water, and specialty coffee drinks • Room service • Bottled water on motor coaches • Professional tour manager throughout

**PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE**

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Travel insurance • Optional use of on-board SCUBA equipment and submersible • Optional excursions or

deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, email, and fax charges • Other items of a personal nature

**AIRFARE**

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Information about making flight arrangements will be sent to all participants.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

We consider this program to be moderately strenuous and at times physically demanding and busy. Daily excursions involve up to two miles of walking, with tours lasting as long as three hours. You will be required to walk along ancient city streets, which can be uneven, cobblestoned, and slippery, and over uneven, rocky ground at archaeological sites. Travel by motor coach is often over narrow, winding roads. Guided tours at castles require climbing up and down several flights of stairs, which may not have handrails. Guided tours at museums may require standing in one place for 40 to 50 minutes at a time. Many sites and buildings do not have elevators

and also do not allow buses to pull up in front, thus requiring a walk of several minutes, sometimes uphill, to reach the entrance. Participants must be physically fit, in good health and able to keep up with an active group of travelers.

**GROUP SIZE**

This program is limited to 48 participants, including travelers from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Stanford.

**INSURANCE**

Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended, and we hope that you will obtain it for this expedition. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Please be sure to carry the details of your travel insurance coverage with you on the program. Travelers are free to purchase the travel insurance of their choice. It is recommended that travelers clearly understand the difference between "primary" and "secondary" travel insurance.

**RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS**

To reserve space, please call (888) 328-2089 or email [res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com). Final payment deadline is December 16, 2016, 120 days prior to departure.

**CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS**

Upon payment of a \$1,000 deposit per person, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of reservation; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Final payment is due December 16, 2016 (120 days prior to departure). Cancellations within 120 days of departure are 100% nonrefundable. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. If the program is cancelled by Criterion Travel, you will receive a full refund, without further obligation on our part. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate. Note:

Criterion Travel does not accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

**ITINERARY CHANGES**

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by 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, Criterion Travel reserves 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.

California Seller of Travel Program CST #2088800-40

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