

CRITERION
travel

ATHENS TO ROME

CRUISING THE MEDITERRANEAN
BY LUXURY YACHT
ABOARD THE 50-CABIN
EMERALD SAKARA

SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 5, 2024





Theater at Taormina

DEAR TRAVELER,

I invite you to join us aboard the luxury 50-cabin yacht, *Emerald Sakara*, for a **seven-night Mediterranean cruise**. This unique educational program highlights archaeological sites that are remnants of the grand civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome.

Begin the program in **Athens**, with a special visit to the private Goulandris Museum of Cycladic Art, then embark the spectacular, new *Emerald Sakara* at the Port of Piraeus. Launched in 2023, this beautiful, modern vessel is designed to allow **access to smaller ports not accessible to larger cruise ships**. Cruise through the **Corinth Canal** to see where the Oracle spoke to Greek citizens at **Delphi**. If you wish, go for a run on the original track at **Olympia**. Call at 2,700-year-old **Siracusa**, rich with Greek and Roman history, and stay for a late departure that allows an evening stroll or sightseeing excursion. Marvel at the 3rd c. BC Greco-Roman amphitheater at **Taormina** and the stunning Greek Temple of Neptune at Paestum before visiting fascinating Pompeii for a glimpse into what Roman life was like before Mt. Vesuvius erupted. There will also be opportunities to participate in optional **pre- and post-trip extensions in Athens and Rome**.

You will be joined by **expert study leaders** throughout this program: Tom Moriarity, expert on architecture and historic preservation; Laetitia La Follette, archaeologist and Immediate Past President of the AIA; and Gordon Teskey, Francis Lee Higginson Professor of English at Harvard University will offer a **series of illustrated lectures and informal discussions** along the way. With only 50 cabins available, we encourage you to reserve your space by calling our office at (888) 328-2089 or emailing res@critteriontravel.com today!

Sincerely,

Steve Ridgway
President, Criterion Travel

STUDY LEADERS



Archaeological Institute of America lecturer and host Laetitia La Follette is Professor of Greek and Roman Art and Architecture, founding chair of the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and Immediate Past

President of the Archaeological Institute of America. She earned her B.A. in Classics at Harvard-Radcliffe and her Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology at Princeton. Laetitia has published in the field of ancient art and archaeology as well as cultural heritage policy. She has excavated in Greece and Israel, and her research interests include Greek and Roman architecture, Roman religion, Roman sculpture, and Roman women. Recipient of the College Outstanding Teacher Award, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, UMass Amherst, she is currently finishing a book on the portraits of an ancient Roman noble family that were discovered in (and smuggled out of) Rome in the 1880s. Laetitia looks forward to accompanying this program, during which we will explore some of her favorite places in the world.



Tom Moriarity is a nationally recognized preservationist and urban development specialist. Trained as an architect, Tom was one of the founders of the National Trust's pioneering Main Street Program. As Managing Principal at Retail & Development Strategies LLC, Tom has been

involved in major restoration and urban rehabilitation projects across the U.S. and the world. He will bring his expertise on architecture, architectural history, historic preservation, and adaptive use that will help each traveler better understand the beauty and significance of the places we will visit. Tom holds two degrees in Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin.

Gordon Teskey, Francis Lee Higginson Professor of English, will be joining as the Harvard-affiliated study leader.



Pompeii and Mount Vesuvius



Ortygia



Sorrento, Amalfi Coast

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ **CRUISE** the Mediterranean for seven nights aboard the elegant, new 50-cabin luxury yacht *Emerald Sakara*, small enough to dock city-center with other yachts.
- ▶ **MARVEL** at major historical sites of ancient Greece in Athens, Delphi, and Olympia.
- ▶ **DELVE** into ancient Greek and Roman history on the Mediterranean island of Sicily.
- ▶ **EXPLORE** the spectacular UNESCO World Heritage sites of Greek Paestum and Roman Pompeii as you cruise north toward Rome.



The ancient Plaka below the Acropolis in Athens

ITINERARY

THURSDAY–FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26–27

HOME / ATHENS, GREECE

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Athens, Greece. Arrive Friday, September 27, and transfer to the centrally located Athens Capital Hotel—MGallery Collection located at Syntagma Square for an orientation, welcome reception, and dinner.

ATHENS CAPITAL HOTEL—MGALLERY COLLECTION (R,D)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

ATHENS / EMBARKATION

Visit the private Goulandris Museum of Cycladic Art in Athens, a collection specializing in prehistoric art from the Cyclades islands of the Aegean Sea. Drive to the Port of Piraeus, the largest port in Greece, and board the luxurious *Emerald Sakara*. This evening attend the Captain's welcome reception and dine aboard the ship. *EMERALD SAKARA* (B,L,R,D)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

CORINTH CANAL / DELPHI

Cruise through the dramatic Corinth Canal, whose steep limestone walls soar nearly 300 feet overhead, before docking at Itea to climb the spectacular ruins of Delphi. Located on the slopes of Mt. Parnassus, Delphi was the influential oracular sanctuary to Apollo, considered by the ancient Greeks to be the center of the world and where the Oracle's pronouncements were sought for centuries. Its stunning setting and architecture evoke the same reverence today as they did thousands of years ago.

EMERALD SAKARA (B,L,D)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

OLYMPIA

Today visit Olympia, the iconic site of the ancient Olympic Games. During the Games, the Greek city-states were bound by a truce that forbade hostilities and focused attention strictly on athletic competition. Here visit the temples, stadium, sanctuary, and stoa and view the museum's impressive statues and artifacts. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to race on the original Olympic track. *EMERALD SAKARA* (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

SIRACUSA, SICILY, ITALY

Founded around 734 B.C. by Greek Corinthians, Siracusa was conquered and ruled by Romans, Saracens, Byzantines, Normans, and Ottomans, who each left a legacy of archaeological treasures that have earned the city UNESCO World Heritage status. Tour the expansive archaeological park, home to the stunning Greek theater and Roman amphitheater that combine to make this one of the greatest archaeological sites in all of Italy. Continue to the adjacent fortified island of Ortygia with highlights including a lively morning market, Cathedral Square, Santa Lucia Church with a famed Caravaggio, and a Jewish *mikveh* (bath). Later, in a nearby private palazzo dating back to the Middle Ages, enjoy a reception hosted by a nobleman and view a collection of etchings of ancient Siracusa and Sicily. This evening either join an after-dark architectural walk or explore independently before returning to the ship. *EMERALD SAKARA* (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

TAORMINA, SICILY

Today choose between three excursion options:
1) An early departure for the slopes of Mt. Etna to see the Silvestri Crater and have an opportunity

Port of Piraeus



Ancient stadium entrance, Olympia





Corinth Canal



Harbor of Civitavecchia

to ride the cable car to the summit; 2) A visit to the 3rd century B.C. Greco-Roman theater at Taormina followed by free time in town; 3) A journey through the Sicilian countryside for a hike in Alcantara Gorge, an impressive canyon formed by the Alcantara River and lava flows from Mt. Etna. *EMERALD SAKARA* (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

SALERNO / AMALFI COAST

Dock this morning in Salerno for a short drive to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Paestum, an ancient Greek city famous for its three excellently preserved Doric Greek temples, dating from 550 to 450 BC. Admire the magnificent Temple of Neptune—the most complete of the three temples—which is said to be modeled after the Temple of Zeus in Olympia. This afternoon cruise along the picturesque Amalfi Coast to Sorrento, a small coastal city famous for its sea cliffs. *EMERALD SAKARA* (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

SORRENTO / POMPEII

Sorrento, with its spectacular views over the Bay of Naples, is the base for today's excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Roman Pompeii. This ancient city was buried by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in AD 79 and its well-preserved ruins continue to provide a unique glimpse into ancient Roman daily life. Explore the fascinating ruins of Pompeii and discover an ancient city frozen in time. This evening attend the Captain's farewell reception and dinner. *EMERALD SAKARA* (B,L,R,D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

CIVITAVECCHIA / HOME

Disembark at Civitavecchia this morning and transfer to Rome-Fiumicino International Airport for flights home, or begin the optional post-tour extension in Rome. (B)

Roman amphitheater, Siracusa



PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

SEPTEMBER 23–27, 2024

NAFPLIO, CORINTH, MYCENAE & EPIDAUROS

This three-night pre-trip extension features visits to the fascinating archaeological sites of Corinth, Mycenae, and Epidaurus. Begin in Athens and continue to Corinth to view the remains of this strategically important city that connects the Peloponnese to the mainland. Arrive at the seaside town of Nafplio with ample time to explore the Old Town and to stroll along its seaside paths. Venture to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Mycenae, the legendary home of King Agamemnon, and marvel at its Cyclopean walls, Lion Gate, and royal tombs. At Epidaurus, visit the renowned Ancient Theatre built around 340 BCE and the healing Sanctuary dedicated to Asclepius, the ancient Greek god of medicine. Return to Athens and take a guided tour of the National Archaeological Museum, home to one of the largest and most important collections of ancient Greek art. *ATHENS CAPITAL HOTEL—MGALLERY COLLECTION; GRAND BRETAGNE NAFPLIO* (3B,2L,D)

POST-TOUR EXTENSION

OCTOBER 5–7, 2024

ROME

Upon conclusion of the main tour, experience two nights of deluxe accommodation in the heart of Rome. Take a guided tour of the striking Borghese Gallery, one of the most fascinating museums in Italy. Housed in a splendid 17th-century villa, this museum contains bas reliefs and mosaics of outstanding quality, preserving works of beauty without equal. Here admire paintings by Titian and Caravaggio and sculptures by Canova and Bernini, before enjoying an afternoon at leisure to explore the city independently. Visit the Domitian Stadium ruins, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which holds all that remains of the only masonry athletics stadium known in Roman history. Delve into the underground archaeological complex of the Basilica Clemente, one of the best locations to observe the history of Rome through the ages. *HOTEL ROSE GARDEN PALACE* (2B,L,D)

Further details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.



EMERALD SAKARA

Cruise on the elegant luxury yacht *Emerald Sakara*, launched in 2023. A full 360 feet in length but with only 50 cabins, she has ample space and a relaxed atmosphere on board. The staterooms and suites are uniquely designed and offer views of spectacular scenery. Forty-four of the fifty cabins have step-on balconies or terraces. Dining onboard includes menus with fresh locally sourced ingredients. With its panoramic observation lounge, navigation bridge, marina platform, multiple pools, and wellness area—along with several fine dining, bar, lounge, and café areas and even a gym, spa, sauna, and boutique—this state-of-the-art vessel offers grandeur and opulence. Perhaps best of all, *Sakara* can tie up next to the promenades with other superyachts, rather than being banished to the commercial cruise piers where larger ships must dock.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary including **one hotel night and seven nights aboard *Emerald Sakara*** • Full 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 Sakara*** • Filtered water on motorcoaches • Criterion Tour Manager

PROGRAM RATES (PER PERSON)

		DOUBLE	SINGLE
D	CATEGORY D, OCEANVIEW STATEROOM Twins or queen bed; 183–205 sq. ft.; includes ocean-view window	\$7,990	\$12,790
B	CATEGORY B, BALCONY SUITE Twins or queen bed; 260 sq. ft. + 45 sq. ft. private balcony	\$9,990	\$15,990
A	CATEGORY A, BALCONY SUITE Twins or queen bed; 260 sq. ft. + 45 sq. ft. private balcony	\$10,490	—
S	CATEGORY S, DELUXE BALCONY SUITE Twins or queen bed; 305 sq. ft. + 100 sq. ft. private balcony	\$11,990	—
T	CATEGORY T, TERRACE SUITE Twins or queen bed; 260 sq. ft. + 410 sq. ft. private terrace	\$13,990	—
Y	CATEGORY Y, YACHT SUITE Twins or queen bed; 345 sq. ft. + 375 sq. ft. private terrace	\$14,490	—
SA	CATEGORY SA, OWNER'S SUITE Twins or queen bed; 580 sq. ft. + 600 sq. ft. private terrace	\$19,990	—

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

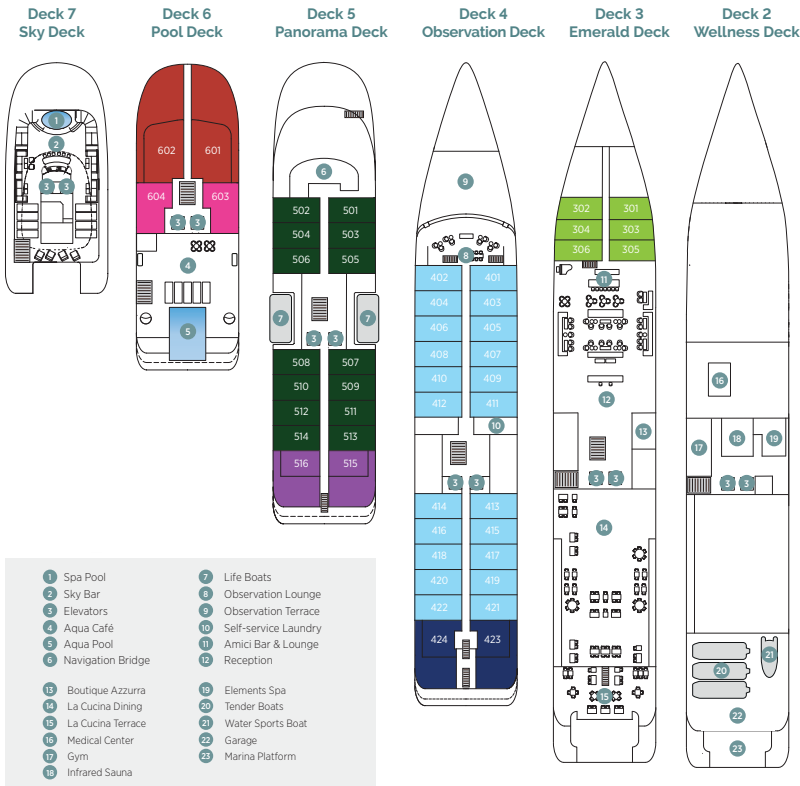
U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site,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

WHAT TO EXPECT

The pace of this tour is moderately active with considerable walking each day, often over very uneven and cobblestoned terrain, and extended periods of standing. The ship has two elevators. Participants must be in good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff. All participants will be required to follow safety/ sanitization protocols set forth by Criterion Travel, local staff, and host country laws. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply.

GROUP SIZE

This program can accommodate 90 participants.



**PROGRAM RATES
DO NOT INCLUDE**

U.S. domestic and international
airfare • Passport/visa
expenses • Medical expenses,
immunizations, and Covid-19
testing if required at the time
of travel • Private airport
transfers or airport transfers
outside of group arrival and
departure days • 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;
liquor or soft drinks except
as noted • Laundry or dry
cleaning • Telephone and fax
charges • Room service • Other
items of a personal nature.

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 expedition 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, please
email Criterion Travel at
res@criteriontravel.com
or return the completed
reservation form with your
\$1,000 per person deposit to:
Criterion Travel, 4250
SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR
97005, or fax to (650) 560-
6400. Balance of payment
is due May 29, 2024. After
May 29, 2024, full payment is
due upon registration. Final
payment must be made by
check or bank transfer.

**PASSENGER
CANCELLATIONS
& REFUNDS**

Upon payment of a deposit,
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 admin fee) if
written notice of cancellation
is received within 30 days of
booking; after that, deposits
are 100% nonrefundable. After
the May 29, 2024 final payment
deadline: All payments
are 100% nonrefundable,
regardless of booking date.
For this reason, we strongly
urge participants to purchase
trip cancellation insurance. 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.

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 passenger
certifies that he/she does not
have any physical or other
condition or disability that
would create a hazard for him/
herself or other passengers.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this
tour is subject to modification
and change by Criterion
Travel, the tour operator.
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, the tour
operator 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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BY LUXURY YACHT EMERALD SAKARA
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RESERVATION FORM

For more information or to reserve by phone (preferred
method), please call **(888) 328-2089** or (650) 328-2089;
or email **res@criteriontravel.com**. You may also complete
and return this reservation form with your deposit of
\$1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel, to:
Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005,
or fax the completed form to (650) 560-6400.

NAME #1 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT) BIRTHDATE

NAME #2 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT) BIRTHDATE

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP OR POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE MOBILE PHONE

EMAIL 1

EMAIL 2

PAYMENT

Please charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):
VISA MasterCard American Express

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CREDIT # EXP. DATE SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$1,000 per
person, payable to Criterion Travel to reserve _____
place(s) on *Athens to Rome*.

SINGLE TRAVELERS (choose one)

I prefer to have single accommodations. (*limited availability*)
 I plan to share accommodations with:

I'd like to know about roommates

*I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by
the final payment deadline of May 29, 2024 I will pay
the single rate.*

ACCOMMODATIONS (not guaranteed)

Cabin category preference:

1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Bed Preference (not guaranteed): One bed Two beds

*//We have read the tour information section of the brochure
and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated herein.*

SIGNATURE DATE

SIGNATURE DATE

A THENS TO ROME

CRUISING THE MEDITERRANEAN
BY 50-CABIN YACHT *EMERALD SAKARA*

SEPTEMBER 26 – OCTOBER 5, 2024



4250 SW Hall Blvd.
Beaverton, OR 97005

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criteriontravel.com