

From the city of Gods to the Eternal city

From **2/9/2022**
to **9/9/2022**

Ship: **LE LYRIAL**

From **Athens**
to **Civitavecchia (Rome)**



Starting in **Athens**, step aboard **Le Lyrial** for an **8-day cruise** between Greece and the majestic Italian coast.

You will discover **Delos**, a minuscule island in the Cyclades archipelago. According to mythology, Apollo was born here. Like an **open-air museum**, Delos offers unique testimony of the civilisations that followed one another in the Aegean world.

Next comes **Mykonos**, its beaches and windmills, with **Alefkandra**, a district that is typical of the island, with houses built right on the water's edge. The unique **Santorini**, one of the pearls of the **Cyclades** awaits you, unfurling the grandiose circle of its caldera.

You will follow a memorable crossing of the **Corinth Canal** and make a port of call at **Itea**, not far from the marvellous **Delphi** archaeological site.

Then, you will make your way to **Katakolon**. On the slopes of Mt Cronion, you can enjoy the unique experience of visiting the UNESCO World Heritage listed **Olympus archaeological site**.

In **Taormina**, the streets will lead you to the impressive **ancient theatre**, where the quality of the acoustics is exceptional. And as a constant backdrop: the majestic Mount Etna.

During your stop in **Naples**, one of the oldest cities in the world, visit the baroque churches, the romantic plazas and the ancient palaces. The host of monuments and landmarks bear witness to the richness of this city dominated by Mount Vesuvius, which stands over 1,000 metres tall.

You will continue to sail along the Italian coast to **Civitavecchia**, the final stop on your trip to these lands brimming with history.



The information in this document is valid as of 18/3/2021

From the city of Gods to the Eternal city

YOUR STOPOVERS :

ATHENS

Embarkation 2/9/2022 from 18h00 to 19h00

Departure 2/9/2022 at 20h00

The Greek capital city is located on the edge of the Saronic gulf, in the east of the country. It bears a plural name in reference to the first villages that surround the **Acropolis**. You will be enchanted by the rocky plateau presided by its monuments listed as UNESCO World Heritage. In the city below, you can visit some of the liveliest districts in Athens: **Plaka**, with its maze of colourful streets, and where, in the evenings the drifting aroma of moussaka and garlic prawns will tickle your taste buds. The **National Archaeological museum** and the Cycladic Art Museum are also some of the city's key attractions and allow visitors to discover Athens' cultural past.

DELOS

Arrival 3/9/2022 early morning

Departure 3/9/2022 midday

This legendary Cyclades island of Delos stands just a few miles southwest of Mykonos. The ceremonial solemnity of this **ancient holy sanctuary** will not leave you indifferent. The sheer size and importance of this UNESCO World Heritage site which covers over half of the island is thrilling in itself. From the Stoa of Antigonos, the **Terrace of the Lions**, to the carved marble animal statues, you will make discovery after discovery, against a backdrop of the Aegean stretching to the horizon. The theatre steps on the hillside are a particularly good place from which to enjoy the expansive view.

MYKONOS

Arrival 3/9/2022 midday

Departure 3/9/2022 early evening

Nicknamed "little Venice", Mykonos is famous for its **Alefkandra** district where houses are built right on the water's edge. Their multi-coloured loggias are emblematic of this Cyclades island, as are the **pelicans** and **windmills**. You can get close up to the birds on the quaysides of the old port. Up on the hillside, you can see the windmill sails turning. In the cobbled streets of the pedestrian centre, bougainvillea bedeck immaculate facades. As you weave in and out of the little streets, snatches of coastline will undoubtedly call you to the island's beaches, the quietest of which can be found on the northern coast.

SANTORINI

Arrival 4/9/2022 early morning

Departure 4/9/2022 late afternoon

The spectacular volcanic island of Santorini stands out proud in the Cyclades. Its basalt cliffs offer particularly expansive views of the Aegean. To enjoy these views, you can head for the capital, **Fira**. Its floral belvederes of bougainvillea provide a bird's-eye view of several thousand metres of coastline. Further away, the gorgeous village of **Oia** looks like a stairway of blue and white houses on the slopes of the volcano. In the south of the island, you will be able to visit the stunning ruins of **Akrotiri**, an ancient city destroyed by an eruption and covered with a thick layer of lava stone.

CROSSING THE CORINTH CANAL

Arrival 5/9/2022

Departure 5/9/2022

The Corinth Canal cuts through the Isthmus of Corinth, turning the Peloponnese into an island as it separates the region from the Greek mainland. Inaugurated in 1893, the canal is a little over six kilometres long and enables merchant vessels and passenger to avoid a long 400-km detour around the peninsula. The two sides of the canal reach a height of approximately fifty metres. From the exterior decks, don't miss this unique opportunity to watch the ship as it navigates along the narrow strip of water encased between tall, ochre cliffs. What an experience!

ITEA

Arrival 5/9/2022 midday

Departure 5/9/2022 early evening

Tucked away in the Gulf of Corinth, this **little port** is situated in continental Greece, north-west of Athens. Take an easy stroll along the old cobblestone quays, while gazing at the summits encircling the **Bay of Itea**. We wouldn't be surprised if you are tempted by a visit to the **Delphi Sanctuary**. The sanctuary is located on a plateau on the slope of Mount Parnassus, just ten kilometres from Itea. A listed UNESCO World Heritage site, this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience whose ancient ruins are surrounded by steep mountains.

KATAKOLON

Arrival 6/9/2022 early morning

Departure 6/9/2022 midday

This picturesque village stretches along the Ionian sea in the west of the Peloponnese. Its main harbour offers a vast panorama of the coastline's wooded hillsides. Dazzling white, the **church of Saint-Nicolas** houses a selection of sumptuous icons. You can also pay a visit to the **archaeological site of Olympus** on the slopes of Mount Kronos.

TAORMINA, SICILY

Arrival 7/9/2022 midday

Departure 7/9/2022 early evening

Located on Sicily's eastern coast, in the province of Messina, the seaside town of Taormina is Sicily's Saint-Tropez, boasting heritage sites, secluded beaches and luxury shopping. You can visit its medieval centre, suspended 300 metres above sea level, where terraces offer a spectacular view of the Mediterranean Sea. Another vestige from its past are the ruins of the **Greco-Roman theatre**. This extremely well-preserved site attracts visitors who are fascinated

by the natural beauty of the area which overlooks a **turquoise bay**.

NAPLES

Arrival 8/9/2022 midday

Departure 8/9/2022 late afternoon

More Italian than Italy itself, **Naples** is the capital of the beautiful region of **Campania**, and is an unusual city to say the least. Its gulf, dominated by Vesuvius, is one of the world's marvels. Built by the Greeks and then occupied by the Romans, the city has retained the memory of antiquity, as **Castell dell'Ovo** illustrates. But Naples has another side to it with its hustle and bustle, narrow streets, clothes hung out to dry at windows, **Caravaggio** paintings on the walls of a church, and incessant rumour in an sleepless city. This is a head-spinning city to visit and savour: don't forget to eat a slice of **pizza Margherita**.

CIVITAVECCHIA (ROME)

Arrival 9/9/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 9/9/2022 at 07h30

Built on an Etruscan site, between the Tyrrhenian sea and the Monti della Tolfa, Civitavecchia respires the **dolce vita**. This very modern and easy going town combines art and history with panache. You can also visit superb historical sites like **Fort Michelangelo** or the Cathedral of Saint Francis of Assisi. Just 80 kilometres from Rome, the town is a beautiful first step to the Italian capital.