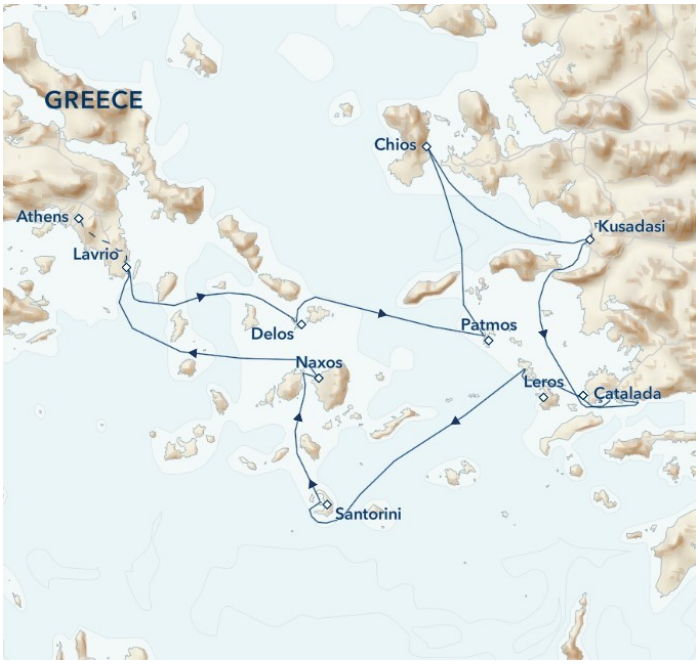


CROSSROADS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD: EXPLORING GREECE AND TÜRKIYE - SMALL SHIP CRUISE

National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions and Food & Wine magazine have combined their expertise to deliver a satiating culinary voyage at the crossroads of the world. Sail along the magnificent isles and rocky coastlines of Greece and Turkey, where a mélange of Greek, Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman influences take us on a fascinating journey through history and cuisine. Encounter glittering marble cities of the ancient past, from Delos to Ephesus; stroll the timeless, whitewashed villages of the Cyclades; and soak up the rhythms of everyday life as you travel age-old trade routes along vibrant Aegean coastlines. A dedicated wine expert joins each voyage to offer insights as we explore the region's rich terroirs through nightly onboard wine tastings.





ITINERARY

DAY 1 Athens, Greece / Embark Ship

Arrive in Athens and transfer to Lavrio, where we embark National Geographic Orion in the afternoon. Settle into your cabin and take in your first Aegean sunset at sea.

Meals Included: Dinner

DAY 2 Delos

The island of Delos is one of the most important mythical and historical sites in Greece and a designated UNESCO World Heritage site. In myth, it's the birthplace of the twin immortals Artemis, goddess of animals and the hunt, and Apollo, god of healing, music, and light. Spend a morning discovering the Terrace of the Lions and exquisite Temple of Apollo, two of the many incredible ruins preserved here.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3 Patmos

In 1999, UNESCO designated three landmarks on the Greek isle of Patmos as World Heritage sites: the Monastery of Saint John the Theologian, the Cave of the Apocalypse, and the town of Chora--all for their significance in Christianity. Patmos is believed to be the island where Saint John the Theologian wrote the Book of Revelation, and the 11th-century monastery has been a pilgrimage site ever since. Tour the monastery and the cave, where Saint John dictated his gospel to his disciple, Prochoros. Later, there are options to explore the island's whitewashed alleyways and lush courtyards, meet local artisans, or simply relax while enjoying a coffee in a local cafe.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4 Chios

For centuries, Chios has exported mastic--a type of plant resin--throughout the world. Cultivated exclusively on the island, the resin is used in liqueurs, beauty products, and chewing gum. The product was once highly sought after by pirates and smugglers, and island villages were fortified with walls and



watchtowers to protect the supplies. These medieval villages are uniquely beautiful, and we will have the opportunity to visit Pyrgi, known as the painted village for the black and gray geometric patterns adorning its buildings.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 Ephesus, Türkiye

Step back in time as we wander through UNESCO World Heritage-listed Ephesus, one of the world's best preserved ancient cities and once home to the Temple of Artemis, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Peer up at the intricately carved ceiling of the iconic Library of Celsus, and marvel at the Temple of Hadrian, where the main keystone arch still holds in place nearly 2,000 years after its construction. Later, enjoy a performance of whirling dervishes--mystical Sufi dancers who spin themselves into a spiritual trance.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 Bodrum

Gracing Bodrum's magnificent waterfront is the Castle of St. Peter, a 15th-century crusader fortress that now houses the Museum of Underwater Archaeology--an impressive collection of antiquities recovered from ancient shipwrecks along the Turkish coast. Explore the exhibits, then delve into the rituals and customs surrounding Turk kahvesi, or Turkish coffee. The tradition is steeped in history and recognized on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list. Enjoy a cup, accompanied by a Turkish delight, a popular local confection.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 Island Exploration

The electric blue sea around Bodrum is a water lover's paradise, with a crystalline quality that is ideal for swimming, paddleboarding, and kayaking. Your Expedition Leader and captain will select one of the nearby islands (either Orak or Çatalada) to anchor off for a day of exploring above and beneath the water's surface.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8 Leros, Greece

Laid-back Leros, one of the Dodecanese Islands, is dotted with picturesque windmills and medieval castles that make great photography subjects. Set out on a photo walk as the early sun rises above the hillcrests.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9 Santorini

Venture to remarkable Santorini--an island archipelago formed from a single volcanic cone that erupted 3,600 years ago, burying the resident Minoan culture in ash. Sail directly into the caldera and then drive through windswept vineyards to reach the



spectacular hilltop town of Oi a. Tour the Archaeology Museum and excavations at Akrotiri, an important Minoan town preserved under volcanic ash much like Pompeii, with remarkably intact houses, streets, pottery, and more.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 10 Paros / Naxos

Spend the morning hiking to the lighthouse on the laid-back island of Paros, followed by water activities in the bordering turquoise sea. This afternoon, venture to Naxos and choose from several activities, including a cooking class, wine tasting, a walking tour of the citadel, or a pottery demonstration. The natural beauty, incredible food, and relaxed vibe of Paros and Naxos provide an authentic Greek experience.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 11 Athens / Disembark Ship

Arrive in Athens this morning. Enjoy a farewell breakfast on board before disembarking and transferring to the airport for your flight home.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Please note:
Routing may vary and stops may be subject to modification and/or permitting.



YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ORION

YOUR SHIP:	**National Geographic Orion**
VESSEL TYPE:	**Luxury Expedition**
LENGTH:	**103 metres**
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	**102 (in 53 cabins)**
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	**2003 / Refurbished 2014**

Engineered for maximum comfort and safety, _Orion_ is equipped with the latest technology including large retractable stabilizers, sonar, radar, and an ice-strengthened hull. A shallow draft plus bow and stern thrusters provide the convenience of being able to maneuver close to shore. 14 Zodiacs ensure quick disembarkation and offer the ideal transport for up-close exploration. _National Geographic Orion_ meets strict specifications for environmental protection and the on board waste management systems meet the stringent Antarctic operational standards enabling us to travel to the most pristine environments. A host of advanced design features and technology ensures sustainable marine environmental practices. _National Geographic Orion_ accommodates 102 guests in 53 cabins, including several with balconies. She is spacious and modern, with a variety of public rooms that offer panoramic views of the passing landscape. Friendly and informal, _Orion_ fosters a welcoming atmosphere where like-minded guests share in exceptional experiences and enrichment. Her public rooms include a dramatic window-lined main lounge, as well as an observation lounge and library perched at the very top of the ship, with plentiful observation decks. The spacious lounge is the heart of our expedition community, and is suited for spirited cocktail hours, informative presentations and our nightly tradition of Recap. In addition, a dedicated theater provides a unique setting for specialist presentations or films and slideshows. Both the main dining room and outside buffet easily accommodate all guests at once for open seating dining. On selected nights, weather permitting, our dining room menu is also available on the outside deck. While _Orion_ interiors are elegant, life aboard is always casual, with no need for formal clothing. And you'll find shipboard services like laundry, in-room cabled internet, and public-area wifi make packing and traveling more





convenient.

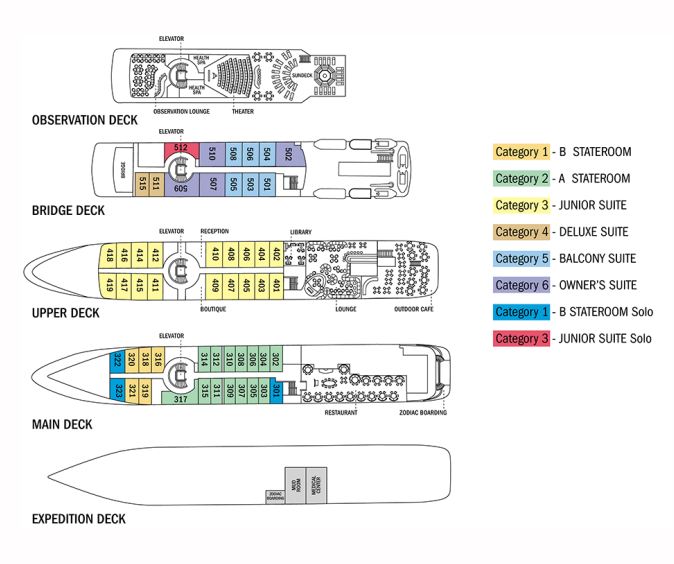
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