

### **UNDER SAIL: GREECE AND THE DALMATIAN COAST**

Unique, immersive style of travel From the ancient temples of Olympia to the medieval walled city of Hvar, immerse yourself in the history and culture of some of Europe's most spectacular places--aboard a legendary tall ship. Perfect symmetry: tall ship sailing in historic waters Experience something many people don't know exists in the 21st century--the thrill of life under sail--in a region where the ancients sailed millennia ago. With the winds filling Sea Cloud's sails, you'll have ample opportunities to stand on deck and watch the orchestrated frenzy of 16 crew members going aloft in the web of riggings to hand-set 30 sails. See what it's like. Experience culture & ancient wonders from Greece to the Dalmatian Coast This is an encompassing expedition in the Aegean, Ionian, and Adriatic seas; and our beautiful sailing ship is one of the most exhilarating ways to explore the region. Discover Olympia, birthplace of the Olympic games and an important sanctuary of ancient Greece. Wander the medieval market in Kruje, Albania's ancient capital. Drive to the top of Montenegro's fjord for staggering views. In Croatia, explore Dubrovnik's Old Town and enjoy a private performance of klapa music, a traditional form of a cappella singing. At Kor ula we stroll the waterfront cafes and see a traditional sword performance. Hvar is a stunning coastal town, backed by lavender fields and pine-covered hills. A walking tour with our guides leisurely reveals key sites; or you can choose a more vigorous hike up to Hvar's Citadel. Learn first-hand about contemporary life along these historic shores. Active daily outings are balanced with restorative time on the Lido deck or in the Blue Lagoon of our magnificent tall ship. Every day is active and engaging Each day offers half- or full-day

explorations on land, as well as time aboard ship. Our historian, naturalist and local guides ensure you gain an insider's perspective and insight into the fascinating places we visit. Scenic drives, hikes on hilly terrain, market visits, cruises along idyllic shores, and free time to walk in charming seaside villages are the ways you'll pass the time. And you may choose to stay aboard Sea Cloud, for some relaxation and glorious views. The point is, you can do as much, or as little as you like. Travel in excellent company Explore under the sure guidance of a veteran expedition leader, a historian, and a naturalist who will also serve as your National Geographic certified photo instructor. Their knowledge and passion for the unique marvels of Greece and the Dalmatian Coast is the key to your once-in-a-lifetime





experience.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1: Athens/Piraeus/Embark

Make your way to the Electra Palace Hotel for a buffet lunch. We'll then explore the new Acropolis Museum, which displays some of the finest sculptures and other art of Ancient Greece, including many items brought in from the Acropolis to protect them from the elements. We then transfer to Piraeus and

embark the majestic Sea Cloud. Cast off this afternoon, and take in our first Grecian sunset at sea. (L, D)

DAY 2: Sailing Aboard Sea Cloud

Today the sails are set and will be up all day long as we sail along the Peloponnesian Peninsula. Sails are raised the old fashioned way, by hand, and the excitement is palpable. Hear presentations from our historian and naturalist, catch up on reading and experience the 5 star service for which the Sea Cloud is famous. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: Katakolon/Olympia

Dock at Katakolo and depart for the ancient site of Olympia, home of the Panhellenic Festival that was held here every four years beginning in 776 BC. See the excavations of Olympia, the Temple of Hora, the famous temple of Zeus in which the statue of Zeus (one of the seven wonders of the ancient world) stood, the Olympic Stadium and the superb Archaeological Museum, along with other sites. (B,L,D)

DAY 4: Ithaca

Sail to Odysseus's home of Ithaca (Ithaki). Today, the island remains off the beaten track, with gems of small Ionian villages. Drive around the island to explore the sites that link it to the era described by Homer. This afternoon we sail southward. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: Sarandë And Butrint, Albania





Today we visit the ancient city of Butrint, one of the great sites of antiquity and now a UNESCO World Heritage site where monuments date from the 4th century BC to the 5th century AD. Its Hellenic theater, Byzantine basilica and Venetian towers lie in a lakeside setting. Continue to Sarande, with its blend of religions, cultures and landscapes. Drive up to Lekursi Castle for a view of the harbor below. Set sail in the afternoon. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: Krujë

Dock in Durres, drive to the ancient capital of Kruje, and visit the medieval market and Ethnographic Museum. Also visit the Skanderbeg Museum, dedicated to Albania's national hero. Have lunch in Albania's contemporary capital, Tirane, and back aboard Sea Cloud, take in a display of traditional Albanian music and dance. (B,L,D)

Day 7: Kotor, Montenegro

At Kotor we visit the historic town of Perast, and take a local boat to the islet of Gospa od Skrpjela, home to the Church of Our Lady of the Rock. This tiny islet was created by fishermen dropping rocks from their rowboats. See medieval Kotor or join us for a drive up the 27 serpentine switchbacks to the top of the fjord for an unrivaled view. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: Dubrovnik, Croatia

Dubrovnik, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is regarded as the best preserved medieval town in the world. Stroll marble paved streets to the 15th century Rector's Palace and the Franciscan Monastery, then walk the ramparts that circle the town. This afternoon see a private performance of traditional Croatian klapa music in a monastery courtyard. (B,L,D)

DAY 9: Kor ula

At Kor ula, we'll visit the town including the house believed to be Marco Polo's birthplace; enjoy free time to take in cafes and waterfront; and see a private performance of the traditional Moreška sword dance. There's time for a drink in a local cafe in the evening. (B,L,D)

DAY 10: Hvar/At Sea

This morning we arrive at Hvar, one of the most attractive of Croatia's historic Venetian towns. A walking tour takes us through the Franciscan monastery, the stunning main street arsenal and the oldest active theater in Croatia. Those who want some exercise can hike up to the Citadel. Today is a day to hoist the Sea Cloud's sails, an experience that is sure to have everyone on deck. (B,L,D)

DAY 11: Dubrovnik/Disembark

Disembark for flights home, or join the optional extension to Mostar and Split. (B)





Please Note:

All day-by-day breakdowns are a sampling of the places we intend to visit, conditions permitting.



### **YOUR SHIP: SEA CLOUD**

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**VESSEL TYPE:** 

LENGTH:

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:** 

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:** 

Sea Cloud is a ship with a soul, imbued by the original owners, Marjorie Merriweather Post and her husband E.F. Hutton in the 1930's. The ship has played host to royalty, known service in wartime, and sailed the world over. She is a vessel of incomparable grace that harks back to the golden age of ship travel. Once you've been on Sea Cloud under full sail, you'll begin your own love affair. Welcome aboard a legend Sea Cloud accommodates 58 guests in 28 outside cabins including two original owner's suites that still feature original marble baths and fireplaces. At 360 feet she is an expansive ship with extensive public spaces on the top deck, where we luxuriate in deck chairs and watch the crew of 18 go aloft in the web of riggings to hand-set her 30 sails. Her dining room is hung with marine oil paintings of the period and accommodates all guests at once for a single seating. We'll gather in the lounge each evening for Recap. Life aboard is a uniquely pleasing mix of elegance and informality--a return to the golden age of sailing in shorts and deck shoes. You'll find all shipboard services impeccable. Discover the romance of tall ship sailing Experience something many people don't know exists in the 21st century--the romance of life under square sails. Discover the

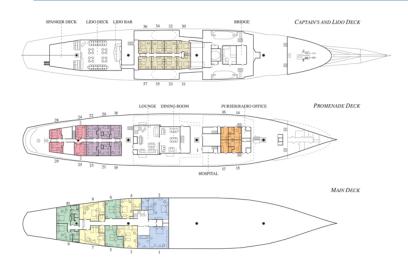
thrill of standing on deck as Sea Cloud gently glides through the water, her crew aloft in the riggings, running out and reefing sails. Settle in to your favorite areas on the top deck and bask in the incomparable experience of traveling aboard the finest tall ship to ever sail the seas. Lose yourself in an adventure that, in this day and age, is almost



unimaginable.



# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**





## **PRICING**