



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

**INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY  
OF ANCIENT CULTURES**  
West Asia & North Africa



with Timothy Harrison, Director, Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures

## **Cyprus, Rhodes & Turkey's Lycian Coast**

Epic Journey Across Time Aboard *Emerald Azzurra*

April 9 – 18, 2025

## **Turkey to Greece**

Heroes, Saints & Emperors Aboard *Emerald Azzurra*

April 16 – 26, 2025



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

# INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF ANCIENT CULTURES

## West Asia & North Africa

Dear Alumni, Parents, Families, and Friends,

Unearth the treasures of the ancient world on two extraordinary odysseys aboard the elegant new *Emerald Azzurra*, one in the less-traveled reaches of the Eastern Mediterranean and the other across Homer's "wine-dark sea," the Aegean. I'm excited to invite you on both voyages as Director of the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures. As a scholar who has studied the rise of early social complexity in the ancient Near East over many years, I'm thrilled to serve as your study leader as you experience these regions where the footprints of diverse civilizations overlap.

From **April 9–18, 2025**, set sail on **Cyprus, Rhodes & Turkey's Lycian Coast: Epic Journey Across Time** aboard the elegant new *Emerald Azzurra*. Witness the submerged ruins of an ancient city on glass-bottom boats, explore Neolithic settlements, and marvel at early Christian relics, Lycian cliffside tombs, ornate Roman villas, formidable Crusader castles, and awe-inspiring Byzantine churches. I've conducted field research experience in the Eastern Mediterranean for over 35 years, and I'll share insights that will bring these wonders to life. Also joining you as a lecturer is the Museum Travel Alliance's **Christopher Noey**, an art historian and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker.

You can decide to continue your journey with **Turkey to Greece: Heroes, Saints & Emperors**, from **April 16–26, 2025**. Sail the same sparkling waters that Homer immortalized, following the paths of ancient Greeks, Macedonians, Romans, Jews, Byzantines, Venetians, and Ottomans. Discover how each civilization left its mark, from celebrated Greco-Roman cities like Ephesus and Troy to the unspoiled Greek islands of Samothraki, Skyros, and Amorgos. Explore northern Greece's hidden gems, including Thessaloniki and Aigai, the ancient Macedonian capital. Retrace the steps of St. Paul during his groundbreaking missionary journeys that brought Christianity to Europe. Ascend to Meteora's UNESCO-listed, centuries-old Eastern Orthodox monasteries perched 1,000 feet high on sandstone pillars.

In addition to my guidance as a field researcher, you will gain a well-rounded perspective on the Aegean from other world-renowned lecturers, including Princeton's **Denis Feeney**, an expert on the classics; **The Rev. Dr. Gregory W. McGonigle**, Emory's Dean of Religious Life and University Chaplain; and **Keith Christiansen**, a highly regarded European paintings curator formerly from The Met.

## YOUR STUDY LEADER



**Timothy Harrison** is Director of the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures, West Asia & North Africa (ISAC), University of Chicago, and professor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Harrison's research focuses on the rise of early social

complexity in the ancient Near East. He has more than 35 years of experience conducting field research, primarily around the Eastern Mediterranean littoral, including in Turkey. He earned a Ph.D. and A.M. from the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and a B.A. from Wheaton College.

**To reserve your place on both or either of these back-to-back cruises aboard *Emerald Azzurra***, please contact Arrangements Abroad at 212-514-8921 or [trips@arrangementsabroad.com](mailto:trips@arrangementsabroad.com). I hope you join me and lecturers from other esteemed institutions to uncover the Eastern Mediterranean and the Aegean's multilayered, little-known ancient wonders that will leave you in awe.

Kind regards,  
Timothy Harrison  
Director  
Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures



# Cyprus, Rhodes & Turkey's Lycian Coast

April 9 – 18, 2025

## CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Sail the Eastern Mediterranean from **Cyprus** to **Turkey's Lycian Coast** and the storied **Greek island of Rhodes**—less-traveled shores where remarkable civilizations thrived
- Cruise over seven nights aboard the new, 50-cabin ***Emerald Azzurra***, which *Cruise Critic* editors picked as their "**Best New Luxury Ship**" in 2022
- Uncover the ancient secrets of **Nicosia**, Cyprus, the **world's last divided capital city**, where expert guides will show you ancient Byzantine art amid its Venetian walls and Ottoman architecture
- Visit **Aphrodite's birthplace of Paphos**, Cyprus, where experts will guide you through Greco-Roman ruins with well-preserved mosaic floors
- Immerse yourself in one of the most intriguing cultures of antiquity, the **Lycians**, joining local scholars in Turkey to see the **distinctive rock-cut tombs** in their capital, **Xanthos**
- **Witness** some of the world's finest Byzantine frescoes at **St. Nicholas of the Roof**, a UNESCO-listed church in Cyprus's Troodos Mountains
- Board **glass-bottom boats** as you sail above a **submerged ancient Lycian city** in Turkey's Kekova Bay, gaining a fascinating perspective on the ruins through crystal-clear waters
- Go behind the scenes in ancient cities such as **Perge** and **Aspendos** in Turkey, home to some of the Mediterranean's most impressive ancient theaters and amphitheaters
- Step into the realm of the Knights of St. John in **Rhodes**, exploring **one of Europe's best-preserved medieval walled cities** with local scholars
- Behold remnants of one of the "Wonders of the Ancient World," the **Mausoleum of Halicarnassus**, in Bodrum, Turkey
- Enjoy remnants an inside look at ancient shipwreck treasures in the **Bodrum Museum of Underwater Archaeology**, including Byzantine glassware from an 11th-century ship

## ALSO TRAVELING WITH YOU



**Christopher Noey** is an art historian, author, and Emmy Award-winning producer of films on art and culture. At The Metropolitan Museum of Art, he created video installations for a diverse array of exhibitions and was series director of the innovative online

features *82nd & Fifth* and *The Artist Project*, in which he interviewed 120 contemporary artists on how they are inspired by The Met and its collections. Mr. Noey has taught at Williams College and the City College of New York.



# Cyprus, Rhodes & Turkey's Lycian Coast

## Epic Journey Across Time

### Aboard *Emerald Azzurra*

April 9 – 18, 2025

Kourion, Cyprus



An optional prelude in Istanbul and the Turkish region of Cappadocia is offered from April 4-10, 2025.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9: DEPARTURE

Depart for Larnaca, Cyprus, on an overnight flight.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 10: LARNACA, CYPRUS

Arrive this morning and transfer to the Radisson Blu Larnaca for check-in. Guests who opt for the suggested flights will meet our representatives at the airport and join the group transfer to the hotel. This evening, attend a **special welcome reception** with dinner at leisure. R

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 11: LARNACA / NICOSIA OR KITION & KOURION OR TROODOS MOUNTAINS / LIMASSOL / EMBARK EMERALD AZZURRA

Before setting sail on *Emerald Azzurra* today, you may choose between three enriching tour options highlighting Cyprus's Byzantine, Venetian, and Ottoman history. Your first option is an exciting tour of ancient **Nicosia**, "the world's last divided capital," with a UN-monitored buffer zone between the Greek Cypriot-controlled south and the self-proclaimed Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in the north.

This morning, explore the **Cyprus Museum's** collection of ancient Cypriot and Byzantine art. After lunch take a guided look at 18th-century wall paintings in the **Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist**. Then visit the 16th-century **Büyük Khan, Cyprus's largest caravanserai (roadside inn)**, and the elaborately beautiful **Selimiye Mosque**, which has 13th-century roots as a Catholic cathedral.

As a second option, explore the ancient city of **Kition**, where Mycenaean Achaeans arrived in the 13th century B.C., followed by Phoenicians in the ninth century B.C. Explore Kition's remains, including the Phoenician-built **Temple of Aphrodite-Astarte** and a 60-foot-long Roman mosaic. In the village of **Kiti**, admire the **11th-century church of Panagia Angeloktisti** and its splendid early Christian mosaics.

Then discover the **Neolithic settlement of Choirokoitia**, with its mudbrick houses and protective walls, and gain a special look at local traditional baskets at the **Petros Nikolaou Basketry Workshop and Museum**, hosted in a traditional 19th-century house. Sample local cheeses and enjoy lunch. In the afternoon, visit the well-preserved ruins of the ancient Greek site of **Kourion**, including its impressive amphitheater, bathhouses, mosaic floors, and breathtaking views of the island's coast.

A third option takes you to the Troodos Mountains, where you'll find the UNESCO-listed, 11th-century **St. Nicholas of the Roof**, one of Cyprus's most fascinating Byzantine churches. Inside, behold the island's most significant surviving set of Byzantine frescoes from the 11th to the 17th centuries.

Continue to the village of Omodos and visit the **Monastery of Timios Stavros (Holy Cross)**, one of Cyprus's oldest monasteries, founded before 327 A.D. Encounter the brilliance of Byzantine art as you peruse the intricate frescoes and meticulously crafted icons depicting saints and biblical scenes.

Afterwards, experience Omodos's long tradition in winemaking, stopping to sample local wines and liqueurs. Then savor a *mezze* lunch of local dishes at a traditional *taverna* in the village.

All participants will transfer to Limassol to embark *Emerald Azzurra*. Enjoy a private Cypriot dance performance and raise a Champagne flute on deck as we sail out of the harbor in the late afternoon. B,L,D

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 12: PAPHOS

Step ashore in **Paphos**, the mythical birthplace of the goddess Aphrodite. Established by Greek settlers during the Mycenaean era, the city was eventually captured by Ptolemy I of Egypt and later the Romans, who claimed it as the island's capital.



On a guided walking tour of the UNESCO-recognized **Archaeological Park of Nea Paphos**, visit exquisite ancient Roman villas built from the second through the fifth centuries A.D. Marvel at their beautifully well-preserved mosaic floors depicting mythological and hunting scenes. View the medieval ruins of the **Castle of Forty Columns**, a seventh-century fortress named for its many granite columns.

Transfer to the **Church of Chrysopolitissa**, originally founded by the apostles Paul and Barnabas in 46 A.D. See the ruins of its fourth-century basilica and medieval Ottoman baths. View the modest yet famous **St. Paul's Pillar**, said to mark the spot where the apostle Paul was whipped during his first missionary journey to Cyprus.

Enjoy lunch at leisure in the town of Paphos or opt for lunch aboard the ship. In the afternoon, visit the Tombs of the Kings, followed by a visit to the **Monastery of St. Neophytos**. Carved out of the mountains, it houses a noteworthy ecclesiastical museum containing icons dating from the 16th century. Return to the ship and set sail for Turkey. B,L,D

### SUNDAY, APRIL 13: ANTALYA, TURKEY / PERGE / ASPENDOS

Attend a morning lecture as the ship sails to **Antalya**, Turkey's largest Mediterranean city, renowned for its Greek, Roman, and Byzantine landmarks against a backdrop of the Taurus Mountains. First head south along the coast to the ancient trade center of **Perge**, once claimed by Lycians, Greeks, and Romans. Perge's archaeological site features well-preserved bath complexes, an agora, basilicas, a theater, a stadium, and impressive fortifications.

Nearby is the **Antalya Archaeological Museum**, notable for its collection of sculptures unearthed from Perge. In **Aspendos**, stop at the renowned **Roman amphitheater** built during Marcus Aurelius's reign, known for its acoustics. Return to Antalya and *Emerald Azzurra*, gathering for the captain's welcome reception and dinner this evening. B,L,R,D



Old Town, Kas, Turkey

### MONDAY, APRIL 14: KAS / KEKOVA BAY / SIMENA

Anchor off Turkey's fabled **Lycian Coast** and board a tender into **Kas**, an ancient Lycian trading port. Explore the remarkably restored, **4,000-seat limestone Hellenistic Theater**, a rare relic of the ancient Lycian city, constructed in the first century B.C. Also, behold a well-preserved Lycian tomb located in Kas's historical center.

After lunch at leisure ashore or aboard the ship, transfer to Kekova Bay. Upon arrival, **step into glass-bottom boats** and cruise for a mesmerizing perspective on the ancient submerged city of **Simena**, a once-thriving Lycian and Byzantine port. In the clear turquoise waters below, peer into the depths and observe foundations of buildings, staircases, and broken columns that hint at the city's former grandeur. In the early evening, sail to Fethiye. B,L,D

### TUESDAY, APRIL 15: FETHIYE / XANTHOS / LETOON / AFTERNOON AT SEA

The ancient Lycians, initially nomads, settled in mountainous southwestern Turkey in the eighth century B.C. and became known for their cliffside rock-cut tombs. Arrive in **Fethiye** and transfer to the UNESCO-listed ancient Lycian capital of **Xanthos**, set on a cliff overlooking the Xanthos River.

Join an expert guide to explore Xanthos's acropolis, Byzantine basilica, theater, and rock-cut tombs, remnants of its cosmopolitan past as a cultural, commercial, and political hub for the Lycians, Greeks, Persians, and Romans. While here, discover the **Nereid Monument**, an ornately crafted tomb built in the fourth century B.C. An early example of Greek-style temple-tombs, the monument was named after sea nymphs from Greek mythology.

Next, continue to nearby **Letoon**, the ancient Lycian sanctuary dedicated to the goddess Leto and her twin children, Artemis and Apollo. See Letoon's temples and colonnaded galleries that shed light on the religious practices and mythological beliefs of the Lycians.

Return to the ship and either choose to have lunch on board or enjoy lunch at the many seafood restaurants along the port. Set sail for Rhodes in the afternoon. B,L,D



Roman statue, Antalya Archaeological Museum, Turkey

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16: RHODES, GREECE

The island of **Rhodes** was known in antiquity for its schools of philosophy, rhetoric, and sculpture, including its Colossus of Rhodes, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Upon morning arrival, explore the **UNESCO-listed fortified town**, one of Europe's best-preserved medieval cities, occupied by the Knights of St. John from 1309 to 1523.

Walk along the **Street of the Knights** to see its abundant mosaics, finely carved portals, balconies, and coats of arms. Then visit the **Archaeological Museum of Rhodes**, housed in the medieval Hospital of the Knights, and see its collection of vases, figurines, Hellenistic mosaic floors, and more. A vibrant Jewish community thrived on the island for 2,300 years, with many Sephardic Jews settling in La Juderia quarter after their 1492 expulsion from Spain. Visit the island's last remaining synagogue, the Ottoman-style, 16th-century **Kal Kadosh Shalom Synagogue**, and the **Jewish Museum of Rhodes** (visits pending schedules).

You may enjoy lunch and time at leisure in the main town of Rhodes or lunch aboard *Emerald Azzurra*. The ship sails in the early evening. B,L,D

### THURSDAY, APRIL 17: BODRUM, TURKEY

After morning arrival into Bodrum, visit an ancient wonder, the **Mausoleum of Halicarnassus**. Built for the ruler Mausolus by Greek master sculptors, this archaeological site has a still-palpable grandeur with its tombs, the shadowed entrance to Mausolus's burial chamber, ingenious ancient drainage systems, fragmented boundary walls, and mammoth marble column drums visible. Then join an expert for a tour of the **Bodrum Museum of Underwater Archaeology**. This museum is housed in **Bodrum Castle**, built by the Knights of St. John from 1496 to 1522.

Marvel at this excellent museum's vast collections of ancient artifacts from shipwrecks in the Aegean. Highlights include exhibits on *amphorae*, clay jars used to transport goods across the Mediterranean; ancient glass objects, some dating back to 1400 B.C.; and finds from the wreck of 11th-century *Serce Limani*, a Byzantine merchant ship. Have lunch on board as the ship sails to Izmir. After an afternoon at sea, celebrate your journey at the captain's farewell reception and dinner. B,L,R,D

### FRIDAY, APRIL 18: IZMIR / DISEMBARK / RETURN

Disembark this morning in Izmir and transfer to the airport for your flights home. Travelers continuing on the second program can remain in their cabins, disembarking in the morning to choose between expert-guided excursions to Izmir or Ephesus. Read on for more details. B

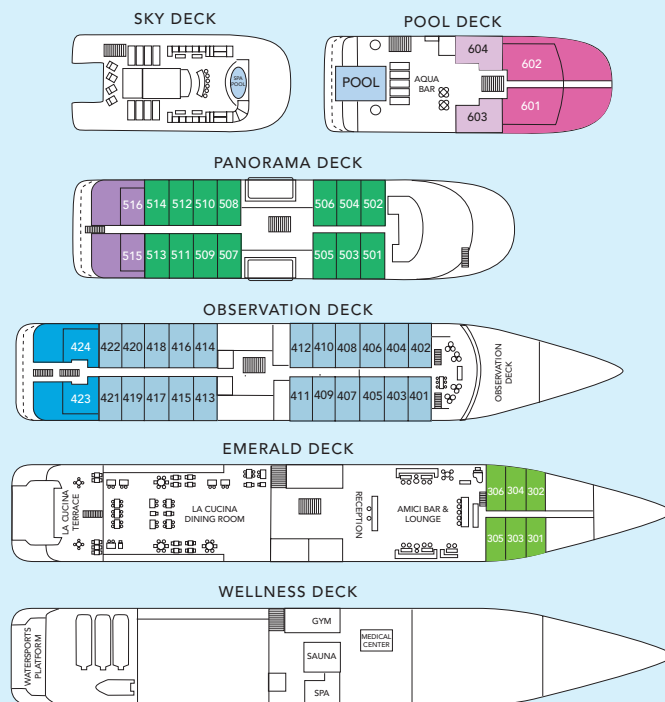
Activity Level:

Pace Level:



Visit [Arrangements Abroad's website](#) for more information about Activity and Pace Levels [here](#).

## EMERALD AZZURRA



## CYPRUS, RHODES & TURKEY'S LYCIAN COAST CRUISE RATES

Cabins	Decks	Double	Single
301 to 306	Emerald Deck	\$8,999	\$13,499
Oceanview Stateroom, 205 sq. ft.			
401 to 422	Observation Deck	\$11,999	\$17,999
Balcony Suite, lower floor, private balcony, 285 sq. ft.			
501 to 514	Panorama Deck	\$12,999	\$19,499
Balcony Suite, higher floor, private balcony, 305 sq. ft.			
603 & 604	Pool Deck	\$14,999	Inquire
Deluxe Balcony Suite, private balcony, 390 sq. ft.			
515 & 516	Panorama Deck	\$17,999	Inquire
Terrace Suite, outside terrace, 650 sq. ft.			
423 & 424	Observation Deck	\$19,999	Inquire
Yacht Suite, outside terrace, 720 sq. ft.			
601 & 602	Pool Deck	\$21,999	Inquire
Owner's Suite, outside terrace, separate bedroom and lounge area, 1180 sq. ft.			

Combine both cruises back to back and receive a 10% discount off the cost of each program. Please call 212-514-8921 for details.

### RATES INCLUDE

- One night hotel accommodations at the Radisson Blu Larnaca
- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *Emerald Azzurra*
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; premium cocktails, thoughtfully selected wine, and beer with onboard lunches and dinners
- Complimentary shipboard Wi-Fi
- Airport/hotel/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATES:** International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; optional Istanbul & Cappadocia prelude; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



# Turkey to Greece

April 16 – 26, 2025

## CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the Aegean as an ancient melting pot on this journey through the ages aboard the sleek ***Emerald Azzurra*** from Izmir to Athens
- Marvel at the ancient city of **Ephesus** with its ornate **Library of Celsus**, and enjoy a rare inside look at the restoration of ancient Roman residential villas and their mosaics and frescoes
- Walk in the footsteps of Homer's heroes with an expert at UNESCO-listed **Troy**, envisioning battles of the Trojan War
- Celebrate Orthodox Easter at an **optional dawn service in Kavala** before a guided tour of **Philippi**, where you'll trace the path of St. Paul and witness his legacy in its early Christian ruins
- Uncover the secrets of the enigmatic **Sanctuary of the Great Gods** with a guide on **Samothraki**, where ancient kings and influential figures were initiated into the mysteries of ancient cults
- Step behind the scenes at the UNESCO-listed **Museum of Royal Tombs in Aigai**, the ancient capital of Macedon, featuring the opulent solid-gold tomb of King Philip II, father of Alexander the Great
- Ascend to the cloud-high **Eastern Orthodox monasteries of Meteora**, cinematic sanctuaries perched atop towering rock pillars, and view their sacred relics and frescoes with an expert
- Unravel the Greek myths and Byzantine history of **Skyros** as you explore the Greek island's imposing Venetian castle with a local scholar, hearing tales of Achilles and Theseus
- Immerse yourself in the Byzantine heritage of **Amorgos**, exploring the **11th-century clifftop Monastery of Hozoviotissa** and its miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary that has attracted pilgrims for 1,000 years

## ALSO TRAVELING WITH YOU



**Keith Christiansen** is Curator Emeritus, formerly the John Pope- Hennessy Chairman of the Department of European Paintings at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. He began work at The Met in 1977, and, during his 44 years there, organized numerous exhibitions on Renaissance and Baroque painting.



**Denis Feeney** is the Giger Professor of Latin and Professor of Classics, Emeritus, at Princeton University, where he taught classes and published on Latin literature and Roman culture more broadly, focusing on Roman religion and time. He retired in 2022 after 22 years of distinguished teaching and service.



**The Rev. Dr. Gregory W. McGonigle** was appointed Dean of Religious Life and University Chaplain at Emory in 2019. His duties are to support all religious and philosophical life at the university, to lead the team in the university's Office of Spiritual and Religious Life, to provide pastoral care, and to promote interfaith engagement initiatives.



# Turkey to Greece

## Heroes, Saints & Emperors

### Aboard *Emerald Azzurra*

April 16 – 26, 2025

Ephesus, Turkey



**Extend the adventure with an optional Istanbul prelude, April 14-17, 2025. More details and pricing will be shared with confirmed participants.**

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16: DEPARTURE

Depart on an overnight flight to Izmir, Turkey.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 17: IZMIR, TURKEY

Upon arrival in Izmir, transfer to the hotel for check-in. Later, gather for a welcome cocktail reception at the hotel. R

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 18: IZMIR / SMYRNA OR EPHEBUS / EMBARK EMERALD AZZURRA

Before boarding the ship in the late afternoon, choose between excursions to Izmir or Ephesus. In Izmir, explore the **Izmir Archaeological and Ethnography Museum**, with its impressive collection of ancient Greek and Roman artifacts, including statues, pottery, and ornate sarcophagi. Then visit the fourth-century B.C. ruins of the **Smyrna Agora**, one of the world's largest ancient marketplaces, in a city founded by Alexander the Great, according to legend.

Alternatively, join an expert guide in **Ephesus**, whose history spans classical Greece, the Roman Empire, and early Christianity. St. Paul, who spread the Gospel in Ephesus for three years (circa 53-56 A.D.), addressed the city's Christian community in his famous Epistle to the Ephesians.

Stand before Ephesus's awe-inspiring Roman edifices, including the **Library of Celsus**, the **Temple of Hadrian**, and a 25,000-seat amphitheater. Enjoy **an exclusive look at archaeologists restoring "terrace houses,"** the city's luxurious, ancient residential villas, with their colorful mosaics and frescoes.

Climb the hill to the domed **Basilica of St. John**, the final resting place of Jesus's beloved disciple, who spent his last years in Ephesus preaching the Gospel. After lunch, all participants will transfer to Izmir and the awaiting *Emerald Azzurra*. B,L,D

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 19: MORNING AT SEA / KEPEZ / TROY

From the port of Kepez, transfer to **Troy**, the city immortalized by Homer's epic poem *The Iliad*. Trace the paths of Heinrich Schliemann, the famous German archaeologist, who used Homer's narrative as his guide when he excavated Troy in the late 19th century.

With your expert guide, observe how Troy's fortifications vary through its many historical periods, including some that date to the Bronze Age. Take a closer look at Trojan artifacts on a guided tour of the strikingly modern **Museum of Troy**. In the late afternoon, sail north to the Greek port of Kavala. B,L,D

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 20: KAVALA, GREECE / PHILIPPI

As *Emerald Azzurra* arrives in **Kavala** early on Easter morning, you may choose to celebrate this sacred holiday like a local: Attend **a profoundly moving Easter dawn service at an Orthodox church** in this city where St. Paul first set foot in Europe.





After breakfast, travel to nearby **Philippi**, an archaeological wonderland that spans the Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine eras. Walk through **the ancient theater and grand Roman forum**. Amid the remains of **the fourth-century A.D. church** dedicated to St. Paul, hear how he baptized Lydia, a wealthy cloth merchant, in a nearby river—the first recorded Christian convert on the continent. After time for lunch at leisure in Kavala, set sail this evening for Samothraki. B,D

### MONDAY, APRIL 21: SAMOTHRAKI

An island long shrouded in mystery, **Samothraki** was once home to the Cabeiri cult, whose secret rites and initiation ceremonies drew the powerful and influential from across the ancient world. Your expert guide will lead you through the **Sanctuary of the Great Gods**, sharing tales of figures who once passed through its gates. Notably, Philip II met his future queen, Olympias, here during their initiation.

Near the ancient city of Paleopoli, archaeologists have uncovered what may be one of the world's oldest churches, built to commemorate Paul's visit in 50 A.D. and the arrival of Christianity in Europe. Make your way to the modern monument near the site, which honors this turning point in the spiritual history of the West. Before the ship sails, you may choose to have lunch on board or a meal at leisure ashore. B,L,D

### TUESDAY, APRIL 22: THESSALONIKI / VERGINA / VERIA

Arrive in **Thessaloniki**, Greece's second-largest city, with Greek, Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman roots. Transfer to **Vergina** and the ruins of **Aigai**, the ancient capital of Macedon. Join experts behind the scenes at the subterranean, UNESCO-listed **Museum of the Royal Tombs** and its collections of precious gold jewelry, weapons, furniture, and frescoes unearthed from the tombs of the



Monastery, Meteora, Greece

Macedonian royal family. The showstopper is Philip II's splendid golden larnax, which held his remains.

After lunch, you have a choice between two excursions. You may join an expert along the winding streets of **Thessaloniki's Ano Poli (Upper Town)**, with its UNESCO-listed **Byzantine Walls**. Visit the fifth-century A.D. **Church of Saint Demetrius**, one of Greece's largest churches, then join an expert for a guided tour of the **Museum of Byzantine Culture**, whose rare textiles, glasswork, and funerary paintings offer a glimpse into the lives of the empire's elite.

The more intrepid may opt to travel to **Veria**, an ancient city where St. Paul once preached. Enjoy a hike up to the 14th-century **Byzantine Monastery of Timios Prodromos**. Afterwards, all travelers will return to *Emerald Azzurra* in the port of Thessaloniki. B,L,D

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23: VOLOS / MAKRINITSA OR KALABAKA / METEORA

As *Emerald Azzurra* glides across the Pagasetic Gulf and arrives in the port city of **Volos**, trace the mythical voyage of Jason and his Argonauts on their quest for the Golden Fleece. Volos was originally the ancient city of Pagasae, where Jason and the Argonauts set sail.

Visit the **Volos Archaeological Museum**, where ancient stories come to life through intricately painted *stelae* dating from the third century B.C. Then choose between two expert-led excursions. You may ascend to the heavenly heights of **Makrinitza** atop Mount Pelion, the mythical homeland of the half-man, half-horse Centaurs. At the top, stroll along honeysuckle-scented cobblestone paths past grand mansions and enjoy lunch at leisure.

Alternatively, prepare for a journey to a gravity-defying realm of spiritual wonder at **Meteora**, an important Byzantine center. Here, colossal stone pillars rise from the earth like the fingers of a giant, each crowned by a monastery that appears

Sanctuary of the Great Gods, Samothraki, Greece







to float in the sky. Marvel at the courage of the monks who built these cloud-high Eastern Orthodox monasteries over 500 years, starting in the 14th century.

After the steep ascent, arrive first at the **Great Meteoron Monastery**, whose museum houses treasures beyond compare—ancient manuscripts, soul-stirring icons, and vestments threaded with silver and pearls. As you explore the six remaining cliff-top monasteries, peruse their collections of religious artifacts, frescoes, icons, and libraries. Return to Volos for a late afternoon sail. B,L,D

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 24: SKYROS / AFTERNOON AT SEA

Welcome to **Skyros**, the mythical birthplace of Achilles’s son Neoptolemus, who played a key role in the fall of Troy. Discover its seaside villages and distinctly Cycladic cube-shaped houses, then stop for a guided look at the **Archaeological Museum of Skyros**. Visit the **Faltais Museum**, a lovingly preserved, historic Skyrian house filled with rare ceramics and other local folkloric artifacts. Stroll to the **Byzantine Monastery of St. George**, a pilgrimage

site for more than a thousand years. As you enter the 17th-century chapel, the glow of candlelight will reveal vividly colorful 18th-century frescoes.

Perched atop a cliff overlooking the main town, the island’s **ancient citadel** will truly capture your imagination. It was here that King Lycomedes held court, where Theseus drew his last breath, and where Achilles donned women’s clothing to avoid the call to war. Before you bid farewell to Skyros in the mid-afternoon, enjoy lunch on the ship or at leisure in a local taverna ashore. B,L,D

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 25: AMORGOS

Step ashore on **Amorgos**, a rugged island steeped in myth and history. Inhabited since prehistoric times, Amorgos flourished during the Cycladic, Hellenistic, and Roman periods before becoming an important monastic center during the Byzantine era. Choose to return to the ship or opt to take lunch ashore.

This afternoon, take a look at a magnificent treasure the Byzantines left behind. Accompany an expert guide up to the 11th-century **Monastery of Hozoviotissa**, a stark white







Icon, Monastery of Hozoviotissa, Amorgos, Greece

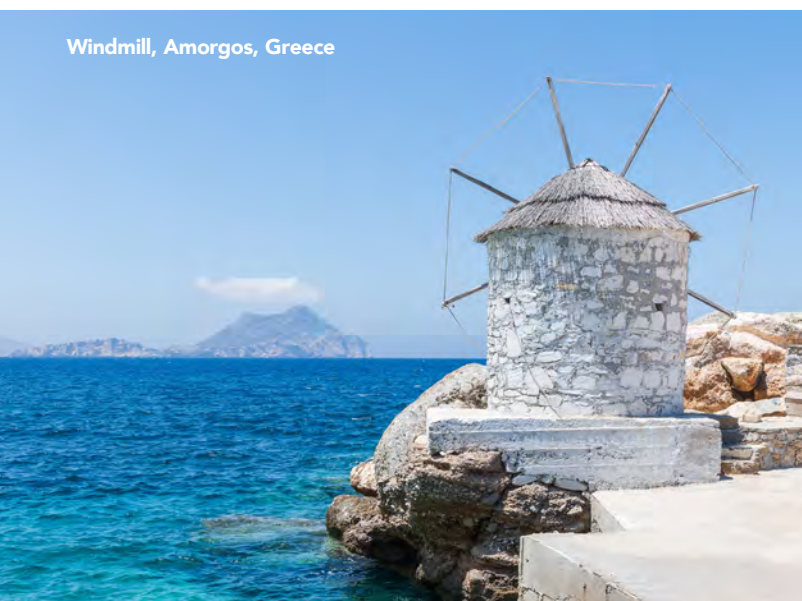
structure atop precipitous cliffs facing out to sea. For more than a thousand years, pilgrims have traveled here to venerate its miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary. Return to *Emerald Azzurra*, where you'll attend the captain's farewell reception and dinner this evening as the ship sails to Piraeus. B,L,R,D

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26: PIRAEUS / DISEMBARK / ATHENS / RETURN**

Disembark in Piraeus this morning and transfer to the Athens airport for your flights home. B

*This itineraries are subject to change at the discretion of Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at [arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://arrangementsabroad.com/terms).*

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Windmill, Amorgos, Greece

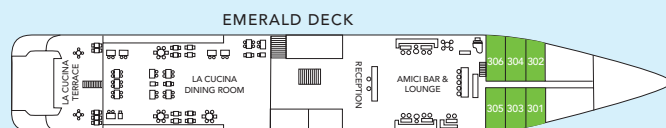
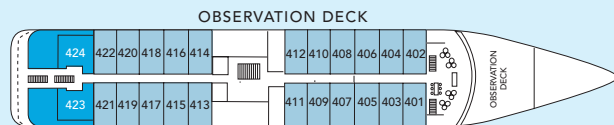
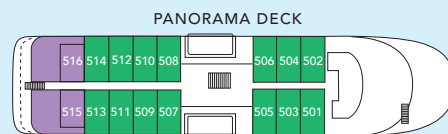
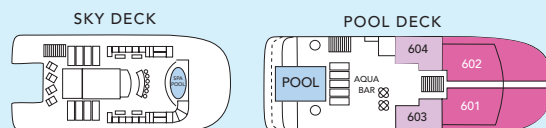
Activity Level:

Pace Level:



Visit Arrangements Abroad's website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels [here](http://arrangementsabroad.com/terms).

**EMERALD AZZURRA**



**TURKEY TO GREECE CRUISE RATES**

Cabins	Decks	Double	Single
301 to 306	Emerald Deck	\$8,999	\$13,499
Oceanview Stateroom, 205 sq. ft.			
401 to 422	Observation Deck	\$11,999	\$17,999
Balcony Suite, lower floor, private balcony, 285 sq. ft.			
501 to 514	Panorama Deck	\$12,999	\$19,499
Balcony Suite, higher floor, private balcony, 305 sq. ft.			
603 & 604	Pool Deck	\$14,999	Inquire
Deluxe Balcony Suite, private balcony, 390 sq. ft.			
515 & 516	Panorama Deck	\$17,999	Inquire
Terrace Suite, outside terrace, 650 sq. ft.			
423 & 424	Observation Deck	\$19,999	Inquire
Yacht Suite, outside terrace, 720 sq. ft.			
601 & 602	Pool Deck	\$21,999	Inquire
Owner's Suite, outside terrace, separate bedroom and lounge area, 1180 sq. ft.			

Combine both cruises back to back and receive a 10% discount off the cost of each program. Please call 212-514-8921 for details.

**RATES INCLUDE**

- One night hotel accommodations at the Izmir Marriott Hotel
- Eight nights cabin accommodations aboard *Emerald Azzurra*
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; premium cocktails, thoughtfully selected wine, and beer with onboard lunches and dinners
- Complimentary shipboard Wi-Fi
- Airport/hotel/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATES:** International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; optional Istanbul prelude; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

# EMERALD AZZURRA



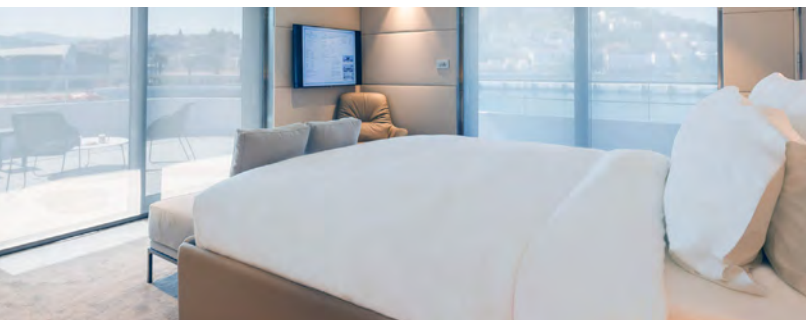
Emerald Azzurra

Discover why *Cruise Critic* editors picked *Emerald Azzurra* as their "Best New Luxury Ship" in 2022. Reaching an impressive 360 feet in length with only 50 cabins, this spectacular cruising vessel will exceed your yacht cruising expectations. Relax in your spacious, modern surroundings and enjoy a collection of luxurious amenities. Discover a secluded spot to read a book, enjoy unimpeded views of the unspoiled landscapes, or take a relaxing dip in the infinity-style pool.

Savor fresh, locally sourced meals thoughtfully crafted by expert chefs and appreciate the ocean breeze from the large *al fresco* terrace. Have a nightcap in the plush, relaxed atmosphere of the Horizon Bar & Lounge. Unwind completely in the onboard Wellness Center, rejuvenating yourself with a selection of spa treatments and even a hairdresser. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available and a full selection of bikes is on board for your use.



Photos clockwise from top left: Pool; Dining room; and a Yacht Suite



## INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF ANCIENT CULTURES

### CYPRUS RHODES & TURKEY'S LYCIAN COAST

APRIL 9 – 18, 2025

TURKEY TO GREECE

APRIL 16 – 26, 2025

### RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place on either or both of these cruises, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; email: [trips@arrangementsabroad.com](mailto:trips@arrangementsabroad.com); or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

#### I WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE A CABIN ON THE FOLLOWING CRUISE(S) - SELECT BOTH FOR THE BACK-TO-BACK OPTION:

\_\_\_ Cyprus, Rhodes & Turkey's Lycian Coast: Epic Journey Across Time

\_\_\_ Turkey to Greece: Heroes, Saints & Emperors

#### ACCOMMODATIONS

Emerald Azzurra cabin preference (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to share a room/cabin with \_\_\_\_\_

#### OPTIONAL ISTANBUL & CAPPADOCIA PRELUDE ON CYPRUS, RHODES & TURKEY'S LYCIAN COAST

I/ we would like to join the Optional Istanbul & Cappadocia Prelude Hotel Room Preference  One bed  Two beds  Single

#### OPTIONAL ISTANBUL PRELUDE ON TURKEY TO GREECE

I/ we would like to join the Optional Istanbul Prelude Hotel Room Preference  One bed  Two beds  Single

**To note:** It is not possible to join the Istanbul prelude on Turkey to Greece if you are participating in both cruises.

#### FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad)  
 Debit card  Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms) to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date