



Istanbul and the Sporades

Ideal family cruise

Europe & Mediterranean coasts / **Istanbul to Athens**

From 08/03/2024 to 08/10/2024 - 8 days / 7 nights

◆ EXTEND YOUR STAY IN A CLUB MED RESORT: **Gregolimano**



Cruises Club Med 2

Welcome aboard Club Med 2, for a unique experience that provides a gateway to the world. Elegance and comfort are the essence of this magnificent 5-masted sailing ship

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Your cruise

Days	Stages	Arrival	Departure	Nautical Hall
1 - Saturday	Istanbul			Closed
2 - Sunday	Istanbul		14:00	Closed
3 - Monday	Lemnos	09:00	18:00	Without waterskiing
4 - Tuesday	Volos	07:00	18:00	Closed
5 - Wednesday	Skiathos	08:00	18:00	Closed
6 - Thursday	Paros	08:00	18:00	Open*
7 - Friday	Syros	08:00	18:00	Open*
8 - Saturday	Athens	07:00		Closed

Day 1: Boarding from 16h to 18h
Day 8: Landing from 9h to 11h





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Itinerary of your cruise

Day 1 - Saturday ISTANBUL	On the banks of the majestic Bosphorus, this is a city that straddles continents. With Sultanahmet influenced by the East and Beyoglu by the West, Istanbul is teeming with stunning sights. The city feels at ease with its cultural heritage, creating an atmosphere that blends the cosmopolitan with the traditional. Ship docked, no water sports. Boarding and disembarkation port of call.
Day 2 - Sunday ISTANBUL	To dazzle seems to be the millennial vocation of the hinge city between Europe and Asia. At ease in her cultural heritage, she fuse with cosmopolitan and traditional atmospheres. Ship docked in port.
Day 3 - Monday LEMNOS	Ignored by classical circuits, this island abounds in natural attractions and archaeological sites. Its beaches with crystal clear waters are the most tempting of the northeastern Aegean. Ship at anchor Water sports. No beach.
Day 4 - Tuesday VOLOS	Commercial port built in front of the famous Mount Pelion, Volos is a crossroads between Europe, the Middle East and Asia. We leave this hectic city for the massive Meteora and its monasteries perched at the top of giant monoliths. Ship docked, no water sports.
Day 5 - Wednesday SKIATHOS	Most famous for its magnificent beaches, Skiathos has lots more to offer. For example, attractive traditional houses, or the Evangelistria Monastery with its stunning wall paintings. Ship at anchor. No water sports, beach.
Day 6 - Thursday PAROS	The sweetness of its orchards and its still authentic villages captivate the senses. Its white marble quarries have given life to remarkable statues dating back to antiquity and ensured its prosperity. Ship at anchor. Water sports.
Day 7 - Friday SYROS	Syros, the capital of the Cyclades, has a gorgeous port. The city, with its blend of neo-classical architecture, typical Cyclades-style streets, marble-paved squares and private villas, has a charming bourgeois feel. Ship at anchor. Water sports.
Day 8 - Saturday ATHENS	The Greek capital opens the pages of its age-old history. In the heart of modernity, the Acropolis and the narrow streets of the Plaka district reveal their splendour and charm. Ship docked. Passengers may board and disembark here.



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Excursions of your cruise

Day 1 - Saturday ISTANBUL / ISTANBUL BOSPHORUS (2 hours)*	It wouldn't be a trip to Istanbul without a cruise on the Bosphorus. Where the Sea of Marmara meets the Black Sea, soak in the city's beauty as you admire the rich and varied architecture of the residences and mosques that line the banks.
Day 1 - Saturday ISTANBUL / HISTORICAL ISTANBUL*	Discover the historic heart of Istanbul, home to the most iconic sights in the capital. Visit the Grand Bazaar, the biggest market in the world with 58 internal streets, the remains of the Constantinian hippodrome and the Blue Mosque, with its 6 minarets. You will visit then Hagia Sophia, an immense structure, once the Sancta Sophia basilica, now the Hagia Sophia mosque. Appreciate the sheer size of this monument, and its history as part of Byzantium, then Constantinople, and now Istanbul. Grand Bazar is closed on sundays and replaced by Spice Market.
Day 1 - Saturday ISTANBUL / PIERRE LOTI AND GRAND BAZAAR (1/2 day, morning)*	Follow in the footsteps of Pierre Loti, the French writer with a passion for Turkey. Climb aboard the cable car that takes you straight up into the hills of Istanbul so, like Loti, you can enjoy the amazing view over the city and the Golden Horn. You can refresh yourself at the top of the hill with a cup of tea or a puff on a hookah before heading back down to the city's Grand Bazaar for a spot of shopping or just to soak up the unique ambiance of one of the largest and oldest covered markets in the world. Grand Bazar closed on sundays and replace by the Spice Market.
Day 1 - Saturday ISTANBUL / TOPKAPI (1/2 day, morning)*	Lose yourself in the 700,000m ² of Topkapi Palace, the biggest palace in the world. Discover the many facets of this former official residence of the sultans, which served as the seat of government and the ministerial council, the treasury, mint and state university. Finish your visit in the harem, within the Sultan's private apartments. Due to restoration works, some rooms may be closed to visitors.
Day 1 - Saturday ISTANBUL / TOPKAPI BY NIGHT*	Pour la première fois, le palais de Topkapi ouvre ses portes aux visiteurs la nuit. Cette occasion unique vous permet de découvrir la beauté majestueuse du palais à la lueur enchantée des lumières du soir. Vous serez captivé par les minarets illuminés et les vues à couper le souffle sur le quartier de Sultanahmet. Préparez-vous à vivre une expérience inoubliable avec votre guide. Valable uniquement le 3 août 24.
Day 2 - Sunday ISTANBUL / ISTANBUL BOSPHORUS (2 hours)*	It wouldn't be a trip to Istanbul without a cruise on the Bosphorus. Where the Sea of Marmara meets the Black Sea, soak in the city's beauty as you admire the rich and varied architecture of the residences and mosques that line the banks.
Day 2 - Sunday ISTANBUL / ISTANBUL BYZANTINE*	You will start with a visit to the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and then visit one of Istanbul's curiosities: the cistern-basilica before venturing freely into the maze of the Spice Market with its colorful atmosphere.
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Day 3 - Monday LEMNOS / BOAT TOUR*	You'll board a traditional caique to discover the island's indented coastline and best beaches not accessible by road. You'll sail along the coast, stopping to cool off in some of the island's beautiful natural coves. From Myrina, even your taste buds will enjoy the local flavors, with carefully selected sweet and savory platters served with local wine. And enjoy live commentary from your local guides during your cruise!
Day 4 - Tuesday VOLOS - THE METEORA (day)*	We'll leave Volos to travel through the agricultural plain of Thessalia, via Larissa and Trikala to Kalambaka and Meteora. You can visit the famous monasteries perched on the top of rocky outcrops up to 600 metres above sea level. The history of the Meteora goes back to the 11th century, when the first hermits came looking for peace and solitude in the caves and rocks, but the first monasteries were built around the 14th century and reached their height in the 16th century. This is a day you'll never forget!
Day 4 - Tuesday VOLOS - THE VILLAGES OF PELION (1/2 day, morning)*	The Pelion peninsula is a stunning combination of summits and sea, dominated by Mount Pelion, the legendary home of centaurs. Discover the unique beauty of the region, typified by traditional villages built from local grey stone and surrounded by dense forest. Your first stop will be the Archaeological Museum of Volos. Leaving the city, you will reach Portaria, a village that had particular importance during the Turkish occupation. Perched on the side of a rock, it's nicknamed the "balcony of Pelion" thanks to its magnificent views over the bay surrounding Volos.
Day 5 - Wednesday SKIATHOS - MONASTERY AND BEACH (1/2 day)*	Departing from the port of Skiathos, we'll head for the center of the island to visit the charming monastery of Evangelistria (replaced by Iconistria due to renovation work). Following the coast, we'll take you to the superb beach of Koukounaries. The pine forest, golden sand and crystal-clear waters of the most beautiful beach in the Sporades will welcome you for a moment of relaxation and swimming.

* Excursion available at a preferential rate when booking your cruise. Subject to a minimum number of participants.



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**Day 6 - Thursday
PAROS / ISLAND TOUR***

On this island tour, you will discover the two key towns on Paros: Naoussa and Parikia. Naoussa is a little fishing port filled with charming narrow streets, nestled in the middle of a dramatic bay. In Parikia, the island's capital, the winding streets and bright white buildings will soon have you under their spell. The stunning Byzantine Panagia Katapoliani, or the Church of a Hundred Doors, is a miniature Hagia Sophia, built in the 6th century.

**Day 7 - Friday
SYROS - SYROS OF
YESTERDAY AND
TODAY (1/2 day)***

Explore Syros and get a taste of life in the Cyclades. You will begin by visiting Ano Syros, the island's Catholic bastion with the Church of Saint George and the ancient Jesuit and Capuchin monasteries. Next, you will head off to discover the island's capital Ermoupoli and its neoclassical architectural heritage: the Apollo Theatre, the miniature replica of Milan's La Scala, the City Hall, the Vaporia quarter where the sea captains traditionally lived, the church of the Virgin where an icon by El Greco is exhibited. Lastly, you will visit a Turkish delight and nougat factory, specialities of the island.

**Day 8 - Saturday
ATHENS/LAVRIO -
ACROPOLIS MUSEUM
(1/2 day, morning)***

before your departure, we will offer you the chance to take an amazing tour of the latest discoveries made below the Acropolis Museum. You will be able to explore the remains of the private buildings, narrow streets and public places that made up this great city in ancient times, below the modern city of Athens
Next, you will see major pieces from the Golden Age of Athens, including the Caryatids and the Parthenon Frieze. Transfer back to the airport

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Formalities

CUSTOMS FORMALITIES

For all UK citizens, a valid passport is essential when you travel abroad. A full 10-year passport is required for holidays to all countries featured on our website. The passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your return date with one blank visa page. Make sure your passport is valid and check with the embassy or the consulate of your destination country if you need a visa for your chosen destination prior to travel. It is vital that the name given when booking your holiday (printed on the ticket and itinerary) is exactly the same as written on your passport. Any child, however old, must have his/her own passport. Please note Club Med cannot be held responsible for any issue with regards to passport or visas.

HEALTH FORMALITIES

Safe Together.

Club Med has implemented new hygiene and safety measures to offer you peace of mind and a most joyful experience.

As part of the fight against Covid-19, health measures at the borders are being reinforced and may in particular require a virological screening test (for example PCR test) depending on your country of origin, transit or destination before your departure and/or before your return.

We suggest you obtain more information from the consular services of the countries concerned or on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of your nationality and/or place of residence.

Recommended vaccinations: diphtheria, polio, tetanus, hepatitis A and B and typhoid.

Pregnant women who do not need constant medical supervision may come aboard, upon presentation of a medical certificate showing their due date and certifying that their pregnancy is compatible with the cruise.

The final day of the cruise must be before the end of the 26th week of pregnancy.

A doctor and a nurse are present on board.

Meeting place for boarding

Galataport Istanbul Kılıçali Paşa Mah. Meclis-i Mebusan Cad. No: 8 İç Kapı No: 102, 34433 Beyoğlu/Istanbul

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- Our Resort Gregolimano

