








Mediterranean Aboard National Geographic Orion, Mediterranean, Europe & Greece
37° 57' N 23° 43' E

Greek Isles Odyssey: Mythology, History, and Cerulean Seas

Legends come to life in the Greek Isles, where sun-drenched shores hold ancient relics and the rich cultural and culinary traditions of an illustrious civilization. Embark on an Aegean odyssey designed as part of an exclusive wine collaboration with the experts at *Food & Wine* magazine, and discover Cycladic islands both storied and secret, from dramatic Santorini to laid-back Naxos and Paros. Delve into the region’s legendary culinary delights—from silky cheeses and savory pies to spicy volcanic wines—and explore the mythology and archaeology that make these islands iconic. Bask in the beauty of whitewashed villages, and experience the Aegean’s inviting turquoise waters while swimming, paddleboarding, and kayaking. Nightly tastings guided by our onboard wine expert feature more than 40 bottles personally selected by *Food & Wine* magazine’s Executive Wine Editor, Ray Isle.

From
\$ 7,493 / per person
Does not include flights

 DATES May, Jul, Aug and Sep	 DURATION 8 Days
 SHIPS <i>National Geographic Orion</i>	
 STARTS AT Athens, Greece	→  ENDS AT Athens, Greece

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

Highlights

- ★ Swim, kayak, or paddleboard in the turquoise waters of the Cyclades, and take in classic Aegean sunsets from the beautiful open deck of *National Geographic Orion*
- ★ Indulge in gourmet menus guided by the rhythms of the season, featuring sustainable ingredients primarily sourced from the Mediterranean
- ★ Sail the sapphire waters of Santorini's volcanic caldera, and go ashore to explore the enchanting town of Oía, with its sugar-cube buildings and world-famous sunsets
- ★ On Milos, visit the Bronze Age settlement of Phylakopi and the farm where the famed Greek sculpture of 'Venus de Milo' was evacuated





Day by day

DAY 1

Athens, Greece / Embark Ship

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

Meals included: dinner

◇ DAY 2

Island Exploration

Today, we will introduce you to the beauty and history of Greece. Our day begins with a Zodiac exploration of the many sea caves, bays, and tiny islands that dot the southern end of the island of Antiparos, including a peek at the active archaeological site on the uninhabited island of Despotiko. This afternoon finds us near the three islets of Tigani, Panteronisi, and Glaropounta, where we will spend the afternoon swimming, kayaking, or stand-up paddleboarding in the crystal-clear, turquoise waters of the Blue Lagoon.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 3

Sifnos

Sifnos—a local favorite—is a peaceful, rugged island known for its sandy beaches, plethora of churches, and trendy food scene. With a scenic upper *chora* (village) that invites exploration, visit quaint little churches that sit precariously on the edge of the sea, participate in a cooking class at a local farm, or spend the afternoon swimming, kayaking, or paddleboarding. Whatever your pace, this is the ideal place to explore on foot, whether it's a brisk walk or a lazy stroll along the beach.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 4

Milos

Spend the morning exploring the sea caves at Kleftiko, and if conditions allow, get in the water. This afternoon, on the charming volcanic island of Milos, see the ancient city of Phylakopi, a Bronze Age settlement and famous archaeological site. Capture stunning photos of Papafragas, a unique beach cove surrounded by towering white walls and natural caves. In the small town of Trypiti, visit the 1820 excavation site of 'Venus de Milo,' one of the most famous works of ancient Greek sculpture, now exhibited in the Louvre.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 5

Nea Kameni / Santorini

On the uninhabited island of Nea Kameni, hike to the crater or swim in the hot springs. Later, in the afternoon, 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, then drive through windswept vineyards to reach the spectacular hilltop town of Oía. 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 6

Paros / Naxos

This morning, choose to go on an early hike on Naxos, participate in an olive press tour and tasting, experience a walking tour of the Kastro, or enjoy a hands-on pottery experience. Spend the afternoon hiking, visiting a local winery, or walking the land

with a local farmer to hear how they make dry-land farming work. Afterward, taste the fruits of the bounty. The natural beauty, incredible food, and less-touristy vibe of Paros and Naxos provide an authentic Greek experience.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 7

Delos / Syros

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 surveying the Terrace of the Lions and exquisite Temple of Apollo, two of the many incredible ruins preserved here. Experience the town of Hermoupolis as the afternoon sunlight highlights its neo-Classical architecture. A walking tour takes you by the customs house, the main square, and stops at the Apollon Theatre and St. Nikolas Church on the hill. Enjoy a regional dance performance, and then join the performers when the time is right.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

■ DAY 8

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.

Looking to extend your stay? Opt for our [3-day post-voyage extension in Crete](#) .

Meals included: breakfast

Expedition

Athens, Greece → Athens, Greece

2025 Departure Dates

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

24 May				
05 Jul				
02 Aug				
06 Sep				



National Geographic Orion

Guests 102	Cabins 53
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Joining the Lindblad fleet in 2013, the state-of-the-art *National Geographic Orion* serves as a luxurious base camp for voyages to the far-flung corners of the planet.

Built in Germany by the Cassens shipyard, the 102-guest *National Geographic Orion* was created with a high-ice class to be able to venture safely into polar regions. A ship of her size is seldom built with such ice-cutting ability, which makes her a rarity. She is yacht-scale, yet rugged enough to venture far afield, making her a perfect addition to the Lindblad fleet, which she joined in 2013. Her size and nimbleness offer the perfect combination of safety and liberty to voyage untrammelled locations. In fact, *National Geographic Orion* currently holds the distinction of having sailed further south than any other Lindblad vessel.

Her menu, created by famed Australian chef, Serge Dansereau, owner of Sydney's acclaimed Bather's Pavilion restaurant, enormously popular with *National Geographic Orion's* guests, so impressed Sven Lindblad, that Serge, a chef-owner who shared the Lindblad commitment to serving local and sustainable food, was enlisted to design the dining program for the entire Lindblad-National Geographic fleet.

National Geographic Orion is gracious and intimate, with a rewarding, almost clubby feeling. Of her many amenities and features, the most appealing is her outside deck space which beckons in the balmy reaches of the Pacific, and on those days in Antarctica when the midnight sun and the spectacle of the ice makes going indoors, let alone going to bed, impossible.



Cabin Categories

Category 1

Main Deck: #316, 318-321

Cabins feature a luminous oval window and configurable beds: two single beds that can be converted to a queen. An armchair, reading lamps, a flat screen TV, two bedside tables, coffee table, desk, and climate controls complete the amenities. Marble bathrooms are generously sized and include a spacious shower stall with a glass door.



Category 2

Main Deck: #302-312, 314, 315, 317

Cabins feature a luminous oval window and configurable beds: two single beds that can be converted to a queen. An armchair, reading lamps, a flat screen TV, bedside table, coffee table, desk, and climate controls complete the amenities. Marble bathrooms are generously sized and include a spacious shower stall with a glass door.



Category 3

Upper Deck: #401-412, 414-419

These suites feature a sitting area with a large window, a sofa—except slightly smaller #401 & #402—an armchair or two, writing/laptop desk, reading lamps, coffee table, flat screen TV, bedside table, & climate controls. Beds are configurable (call for details). Marble bathrooms include a spacious shower stall with a glass door.



Category 4

Bridge Deck: #511, 515

These two suites feature separate sleeping and sitting areas, with a chair and armchair, coffee table, and a two-cushion sofa facing an expansive window. Beds are configurable (call for details). Ample storage, reading lamps, a flat screen TV, and climate controls complete the amenities. Marble bathrooms are generously sized and include a spacious shower stall with a glass door.



Category 5

Bridge Deck: #501, 503-506, 508

These spacious suites feature open living areas and sliding glass doors opening to a shared French balcony. Beds are configurable (call for details). A separate sitting area with armchairs and a sofa, a writing/laptop desk, coffee table, well-placed reading lamps, a flat screen TV, and climate controls complete the decor. Marble bathrooms are generously sized and include a spacious shower stall with a glass door.



Category 6

Bridge Deck: #502, 507, 509*, 510

These large, elegant suites feature a French balcony, except for #509 which has double windows. Each provides a separate living area with a sofa and two armchairs, coffee table, except for #502, which uniquely offers a 'soaking tub with a view' in addition to a shower stall and expansive vanity. All cabins have reading lamps, a flat screen TV, and climate controls. Marble bathrooms are generously sized and include a spacious shower stall with a glass door.



Category 1 Solo

Main Deck: #301, 322, 323

These solo cabins feature a window or two portholes, a queen-size bed, except for #301 which has a double bed, writing desk and chair, climate controls, reading lamps, coffee table, two bedside tables, and a TV. Marble bathrooms are generously sized and include a roomy shower stall with a glass door.



Category 3 Solo

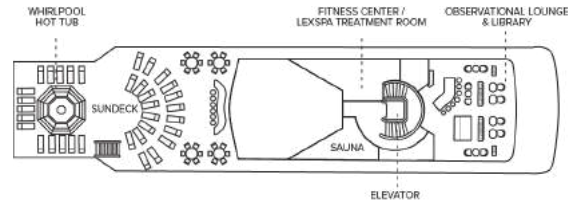
Upper Deck: #512

This solo suite features two single beds and two large windows, plus two armchairs and a small table, reading lamps, coffee table a flat screen TV, and climate controls. The marble bathroom is generously sized and includes a spacious shower stall with a glass door.



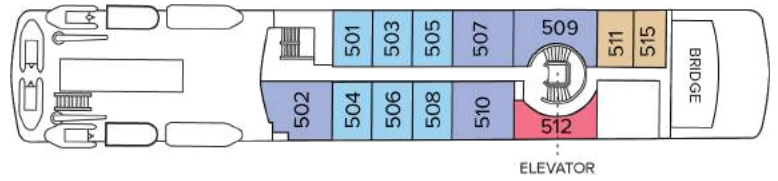
Deck Plans

Observation Deck



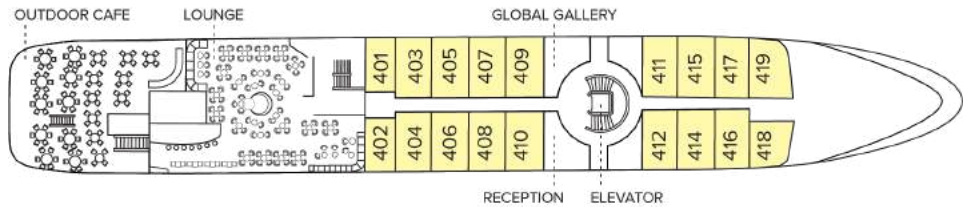
Bridge Deck

- Category 4
- Category 5
- Category 6
- Category 3 Solo



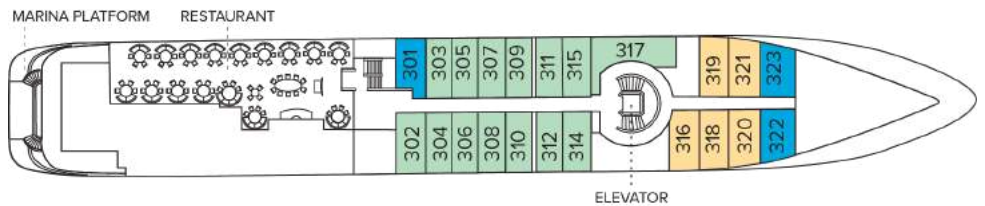
Upper Deck

- Category 3

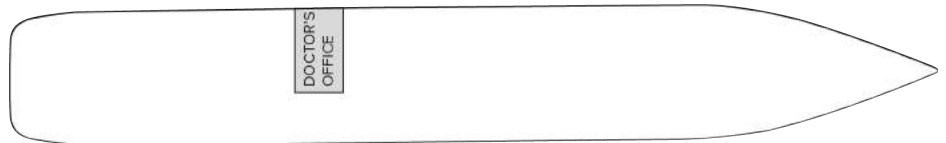


Main Deck

- Category 1
- Category 2
- Category 1 Solo



Expedition Deck



Ship amenities

Public Areas

Reception; two dining areas; lounge with bar and state-of-the-art presentation facilities; B&H Photo locker; sundeck with a whirlpool hot tub that doubles as a plunge pool in warm climates; observation lounge and library; global gallery; a marina platform; plus open access to the Bridge, the Captain, officers and on-duty wildlife spotters.

Meals

Meals are served in the dining room, or weather permitting, the outdoor café, at a single seating with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Menus feature sustainable choices, local where possible.

Cabins

All cabins face outside with windows or portholes, private bathroom, and climate controls. Cabins feature a coffee table, lounge chair, desk, phone, TV with on demand entertainment, multiple outlets and USB, mini refrigerator, and safe. Luxury linens and pillows. Botanically inspired shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, and lotion are all available in cabin bathrooms, as well as an Expedition Essential Kit. Hair dryers, complimentary insulated water bottles and a National Geographic Atlas is available in each cabin.

Expedition Equipment

Zodiac landing craft, a fleet of double kayaks, a crow's nest camera, a hydrophone, underwater video cameras, video microscope, and an ROV. Plus, for South Pacific voyages: snorkeling gear for all guests, scuba gear for a number of pre-qualified guests, stand-up paddleboards, glass-bottom Zodiac, and splash-cam.

Special Features

A full-time doctor, undersea specialist, National Geographic photographer, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and video chronicler. On all South Pacific voyages, there are a minimum of two dive masters. A central staircase, and elevator reaches all decks. Enjoy teatime, daily. And the smoothies served after the sunrise stretch sessions on the sundeck in Polynesia. Don't miss either opportunity.

Wellness

A fitness center, LEXspa treatment room and sauna, staffed by wellness specialists.

Self-Disinfecting Ships

ACT Clean Coat™ is a light-activated, self- disinfecting cleaning process that continuously breaks down viruses, bacteria, mold, and airborne allergens across all ship surfaces. This non-toxic, chemical-free system also helps us save over one million gallons of water each year in our cleaning procedures.

Special Offers

MEDITERRANEAN CREDIT

Book between July 31 - September 30, 2024.
Receive \$1,500 per cabin credit, deducted from cabin fare prior to any additional applicable savings with the purchase of cabin fare. Valid on select 2025 departures, for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers and is not applicable on airfare or extensions. Credit valid on 2025 voyages only. Call for details.

2026-2027 EARLY BOOKING OFFERS

2026-2027 EARLY BOOKING OFFERS

Booking and deposit must be made by Nov. 1, 2024. Valid for new bookings only on departures from Jan. 1, 2026 through Mar. 31, 2027, subject to availability, may not be combinable with other offers, and not applicable on airfare or extensions.

Book Early to Lock in Current Rates on All

2026-2027 Departures: Pricing will increase on Nov. 2, 2024. Not applicable on airfare or extensions.

Bringing the Kids - Save \$1,000 Per Child Up To 22:

We believe sharing an expedition with children is a life-enhancing experience. Take \$1,000 off for each child under the age of 23 on any departure.

Save Up To 20% on Back-to-Back Voyages: Save up to 20% on voyage fares on consecutive back-to-back departures. Applicable on select departures only.

Book Two or More Voyages and Save 10%: Save 10% on the lowest priced departure when you book two or more expeditions.

Bring a Friend and Save 5%: Save 5% when you book two or more cabins on the same departure. Valid on voyage fares only. Deposit, final payments, and

cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies when you book 8 or more guests.

SUITE EXCLUSIVES

Spacious living areas and incredible views immerse you in the beauty of your marine surroundings. Our new Suite Exclusives package helps make your voyage all the more memorable. [Learn more](#)

CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES

Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, US\$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking.

COMBINING OFFERS

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.

Included in price

All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; beer, wine, cocktails, and spirits aboard the ship (except certain super premium brands which are available for purchase); hors d'oeuvres, 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages, and filtered water; excursions and airport transfers to and from recommended flights, as indicated in the itinerary; crew gratuities; exploration tools curated to destination, such as Zodiacs, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, snorkeling equipment (including wetsuits, masks, and fins); guidance and company of our leading expedition staff; assistance by the National Geographic Photography Expert and Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor; access to the OM System Photo Gear Locker; presentations by expedition staff and expert guest speakers; complimentary reusable water bottle; services of a physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, or paramedic; morning stretch classes and 24-hour access to exercise equipment; 24-hour access to lounges, observation decks, library, and other shared spaces; park and site entrance fees, special access permits, and port taxes. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

Not included in price

Airfare (except flights when indicated as included); pre- and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights (except when indicated as included); private transfers; laundry, spa treatments, scuba diving for pre-qualified divers on select voyages*, Wi-Fi, and phone services (except when indicated as included); travel protection plans; and passport, visa, and immigration fees.

*Scuba Diving Requirements

- Dives can be challenging so divers must have ample previous experience
- Divers need at least 25 lifetime dives if you're advanced open water and at least 35 if you're just open water
- Divers need to have a completed an open water dive or professional refresher course within 12 months of the voyage
- Divers need to receive medical clearance to dive from a doctor (form provided upon registration) and provide proof of dive insurance

Travel protection plan

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: <https://www.expeditions.com/terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/>

Cancellation policy

Review our cancellation policy: <https://www.expeditions.com/cancellation-policy/>