

Epic Mediterranean and Greek Isles Voyage

Explore the Mediterranean on a far-reaching journey that reveals the tastes and traditions linking the sea's storied shores. Offered in collaboration with the experts at *Food & Wine*, this voyage invites you to explore culturally rich islands and coastal towns, and experience the enduring rhythms of life along these age-old waterways. As you sail, the region's layers come into view—mythology embedded in dramatic landscapes, architecture shaped by successive empires, and daily life unfolding in harbors and hillside villages. Regional flavors further enrich the journey, from fresh local ingredients to distinctive wines that reflect the terrain. Aboard the nimble *National Geographic Orion,* you'll navigate narrow passages like the Corinth Canal and enjoy curated wine tastings as you sail these storied maritime crossroads.

From

$ 22,230 / per person

Does not include flights

DATES
Apr and Jun

DURATION
20 Days

SHIPS
National Geographic Orion

STARTS AT
Athens, Greece

→

ENDS AT
Barcelona, Spain

Highlights

- Explore vestiges of Greek, Roman and Talayotic civilizations across the Mediterranean alongside expert historians and archaeologists
- 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 featuring fresh, sustainable ingredients and classic regional dishes—from the seafood and pasta of Sicily and Sardinia to the grilled meats of Greece
- Step back in time at UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Delphi—home of the most famous ancient Oracle—and Sicily's historic city of Ortigia








NETHERLANDS
POLAND
GERMANY
BELGIUM
LUXEMBOURG
CZECHIA
SLOVAKIA
FRANCE
AUSTRIA
HUNGARY
MOLDOVA
SWITZERLAND
CROATIA
ROMANIA
SERBIA
MONTENEGRO
BULGARIA
ITALY
NORTH MACEDONIA
ALBANIA
GREECE
Barcelona
Bonifacio
Golfo Aranci
Mahón
Corfu
Kefalonia
Taormina
Athens
Delos
Serifos
Milos
Siracusa
MALTA
ALGERIA
LIBYA
EGYPT
mapbox
© Mapbox, © OpenStreetMap

Day by day

■ DAY 1

Athens, Greece / Lavrio / Embark Ship

Arrive in Athens, the capital city of Greece, and transfer to Lavrio, where you'll embark the ship in the afternoon. Settle into your cabin and take in your first Aegean sunset at sea as you pass the Temple of Poseidon. Or explore more on a pre-voyage extension in Athens.

Meals included: dinner

◇ DAY 2

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, view the Ancient Theater and enjoy an island tour, including a visit to the stunning Sarakiniko, a majestic other-worldly beach cove surrounded by large white volcanic stones. 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. This evening, enjoy dinner on board or explore Adamantas on your own. Be sure to stop by the famous ice cream shops.

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. This morning, go on a scenic hike and then join a walking tour of the Kastro, with an optional cooking class at a local farm. Our Sifnos visit also offers an optional hands-on pottery experience. Spend the afternoon on board or enjoying the water at a local beach. 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

Serifos

On Serifos, one of the smaller Cycladic islands, visit the Chora for views across the Aegean Sea. Enjoy a stop at the Mineralogy and Petrology Museum, the Monastery of Taxiarches or spend time in the water enjoying a local beach or kayaking.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 5

Paros

In Paros, explore the charming Kastro, visit quaint villages along the harbor like Parikia and Naoussa that offer a maze of streets and alleyways to explore, or join an optional excursion with a local farmer to learn about dry-land farming and taste the fruits of their bounty.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 6

Naxos

This morning, choose to go on an early hike on Naxos. Visit an olive press museum and meet the fifth-generation owners while sampling cake, oil and marmalades, or enjoy a self-guided tour of the Kastro. This afternoon, choose to explore on your own, or join an optional marble carving class.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 7

Delos / Tinos

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 the morning surveying the Terrace of the Lions and exquisite Temple of Apollo, two of the many incredible ruins preserved here.

This afternoon, go ashore in Tinos, a smaller and less-visited Cycladic island, for a hike. Visit the artistic heart of Tinos, Pyrgos Village, or the Tinos Marble Museum. Explore the small towns and artisan crafts that make this island so unique.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 8

Lavrio / Athens / Lavrio

Arrive in Lavrio and, after breakfast on board, transfer to Athens. Explore the city on a guided tour, then sit down to lunch at a local restaurant. This afternoon, return to the ship in Lavrio and settle back into your cabin. Enjoy the Aegean sunset as you sail toward the Adriatic.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 9

Corinth Canal / Delphi

Navigate the historic Corinth Canal, slipping between the 300-foot limestone walls that tower above both sides of the vessel. Built in the late 19th century, the canal is too small for most modern-day ships, but *National Geographic Orion* is perfectly sized for the transit to the Gulf of Corinth and Ionian Sea.

Later, visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of Delphi, the center of the ancient Greek world. The ruins here are home to the Temple of Apollo—Greece's most important shrine—where the Oracle of Delphi delivered divine prophecies. Learn about the city's storied past and explore the temple and other important sites.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 10

Kefalonia

Start the day with an early morning hike in Kefalonia. Later this morning visit the natural marvels of Melissani Lake and Drogarati cave. Enjoy lunch onboard before transferring overland to a nearby beach for a sun-filled afternoon. Soak in the vivid blue waters—a true photographer's delight. Stroll along the shoreline, or swim, kayak or paddleboard in the beautiful sea (weather permitting).

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 11

Corfu

Known for its strong cultural heritage, Corfu is home to many of the country's firsts: the first university, theatre and opera. Learn about the island's history, including its triumphant defense against the Ottoman empire, and spend time around Spianada, the old city's main square—and the largest one in Greece—built in the 16th and 17th centuries by the Venetians. Discover the island's most iconic landmarks and signs of foreign influences. Or meander through the old town's charming city streets tasting local delicacies such as kumquats and olive oil.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAYS 12-13

At Sea / Siracusa, Italy

Spend the following day at sea, relaxing aboard *National Geographic Orion* as she makes her way toward Italy.

Head ashore at Siracusa, one of the most powerful cities in the classical world. Explore the archaeological park where a well-preserved Greek amphitheater with carved limestone seats is still used today. Paradise Quarry, now an attractive garden and orange grove, was the primary source of that limestone, and is the site of the curious Ear of Dionysius—a huge cave with incredible acoustics. Make the most of your time in port: explore the city's excellent market or join a walking tour of the adjacent island of Ortigia, where a stunning cathedral was built on the columns of the 6th-century Temple of Athena.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 14

Taormina, Sicily

This morning, drive up to the beautiful town of Taormina, perched 250 meters above the sea. With Mount Etna dominating to the south, this medieval town boasts the pedestrian-friendly Corso Umberto, lined with exquisite buildings and one of the world's most interesting cultural sites: the Greco-Roman Theater. This remarkable theater was built right into the cliffside, overlooking the vast sea below, in the third century B.C. Enjoy lunch at a nineteenth-century estate at the foot of Monte Serra in Viagrande.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 15

At Sea / Aeolian Islands

Enjoy the day at sea as you sail toward the Aeolian Islands—not only famous for the winds of the god Aeolus, but also for some of the most well-known classical volcanoes. With a bit of luck, you will witness the pyrotechnics of the active volcanic island of Stromboli. Pass through the narrow Strait of Messina overnight, the purported location of Homer's monsters Scylla and Charybdis: the rock and the hard place through which Odysseus had to sail.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 16

Golfo Aranci, Sardinia / Bonifacio, Corsica, France

Step ashore on Sardinia's east coast, known for its stunning and remote landscapes, including grottos and mountain peaks. Populated since pre-historic times, the landscape is dotted with Roman village ruins and monasteries from the Middle Ages. Venture into the mountains to visit the archeological discoveries, including tombs and village remains or spend the morning in San Pantaleo, visiting local artisan shops that showcase the handicrafts of painters, goldsmiths, sculptors and potters.

Arrive into Bonifacio this evening.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAYS 17-18

Bonifacio / At Sea

Wake up to the sunrise over the layered cliffs of Bonifacio, one of the Mediterranean's most beautiful towns. Begin your day with a walking orientation to the citadel, established by the powerful margraves of Tuscany in the ninth century, and enjoy a hike or travel to a charming mountain village. In the afternoon, enjoy some time relaxing onboard or exploring at your own pace. Later, enjoy a musical performance at a majestic church in town.

The following day is spent at sea: listen to talks by your onboard experts, get photo tips from a National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions certified photo instructor or spend some time on

the bridge with officers who are happy to answer questions. A massage from the wellness specialist is another inviting option, or relax with a book in the observation lounge.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 19

Mahón, Menorca, Spain

The Vandals, the Moors and the British Empire have ruled over this stunning little island where prehistoric civilizations left intriguing rock mounds and megalithic monuments dating back some 4,000 years. Walk through the Bronze Age village of Torralba d'en Salord and see the characteristic T-shaped stone monuments left by the Talayotic peoples. This evening, set a course west toward Barcelona.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

■ DAY 20

Barcelona / Disembark Ship

Disembark in Barcelona and transfer to the airport for flights home.

Departure Time: Depart after 12:00 p.m. local time.
Departure City: Barcelona, Spain

Meals included: breakfast

Westbound

Athens, Greece → Barcelona, Spain

2027 DEPARTURE DATES

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

06 Jun				

Alternative Routes

Visit Expeditions.com for more information.

2027 Departure Dates

07 Apr



National Geographic Orion

GUESTS	CABINS
102	53

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 untrammeled 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 National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions 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.





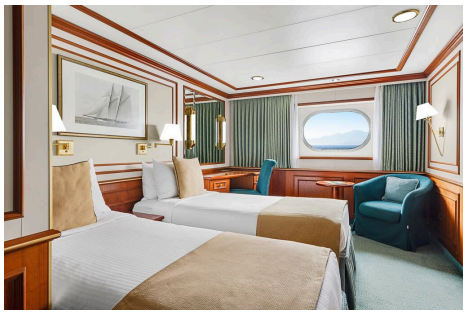


Cabin Categories

Category 1

MAIN DECK **#316, 318-321**

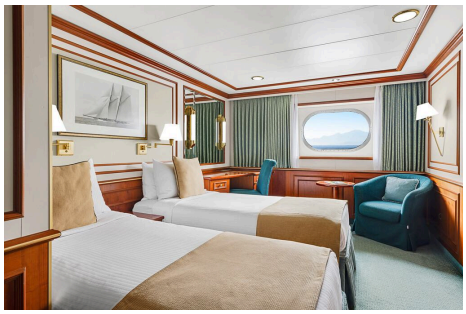
Cabins feature a luminous oval window and configurable beds: two single beds that can be converted to a queen. An armchair, reading lamps, a flat screen TV, two bedside tables, coffee table, desk and climate controls complete the amenities. Marble bathrooms are generously sized and include a spacious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



Category 2

MAIN DECK **#302-312, 314, 315, 317**

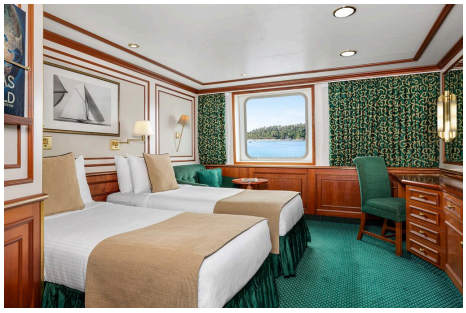
Cabins feature a luminous oval window and configurable beds: two single beds that can be converted to a queen. An armchair, reading lamps, a flat screen TV, bedside table, coffee table, desk and climate controls complete the amenities. Marble bathrooms are generously sized and include a spacious shower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



Category 3

UPPER DECK **#401-412, 414-419**

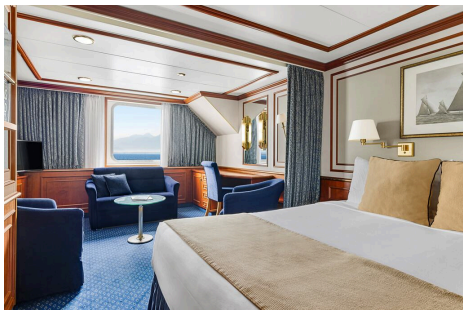
These suites feature a sitting area with a large window, a sofa—except slightly smaller #401 & #402—an armchair or two, writing/laptop desk, reading lamps, coffee table, flat screen TV, bedside table and climate controls. Beds are configurable (call for details). Marble bathrooms include a spacious shower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

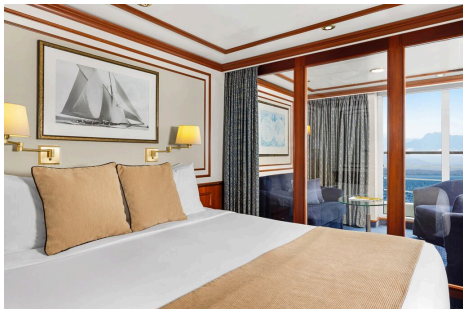
These spacious suites feature open living areas and sliding glass doors opening to a shared French balcony. Beds are configurable (call for details). A separate sitting area with armchairs and a sofa, a writing/laptop desk, coffee table, well-placed reading lamps, a flat screen TV and climate controls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

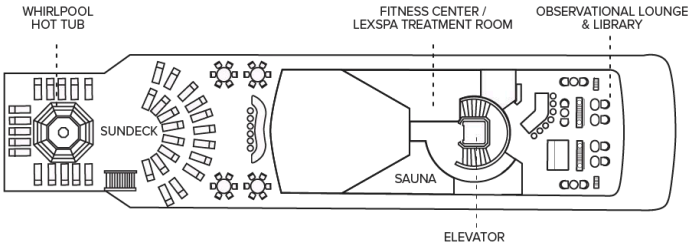
UPPER DECK **#512**

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.



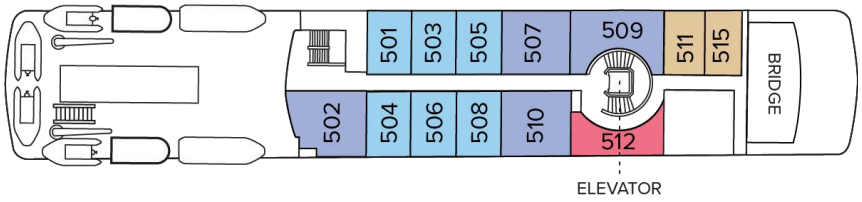
Deck Plans

Observation Deck



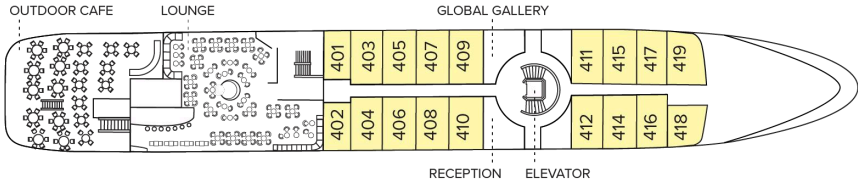
Bridge Deck

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



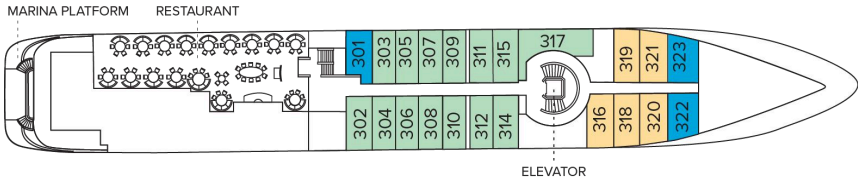
Upper Deck

- Category 3

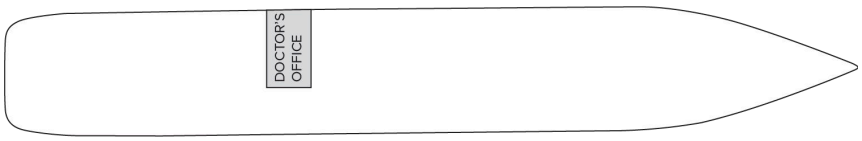


Main Deck

- 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; OM System 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 are 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 and National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions certified photo instructor. A central staircase and elevator reach all decks. Enjoy daily teatime and the smoothies served after the sunrise stretch sessions on the sundeck in Polynesia.

Wellness

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

Self-Disinfecting Ships

ACT Clean CoatTM 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

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.

SAVE 5% TRAVELING AS A GROUP

Save 5% when traveling as a group of 8 or more people. Valid for new bookings only on select departures, subject to availability, not applicable on extensions, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

10% OFF BACK-TO-BACK VOYAGES

Save 10% on consecutive departures, applicable on voyage fares only and not valid on extensions or airfare. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

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/