

Embrace the history of the greatest ancient civilisations, legendary cities at the crossroads of eastern and western cultures, and picturesque islands in the glistening Aegean. Discover some of the world's most spectacular classical legacies, from Athens, the birthplace of democracy and crucible of civilisation, theatre and philosophy to the exotic mystique of Istanbul, with its wondrous architecture and intriguing Eastern ambience.





## **Your itinerary**

# DAY 1 - Arrival in Istanbul

Fly to Istanbul and transfer to your hotel in Istanbul for 2 nights.

## DAY 2 - Istanbul

Istanbul was the eastern capital of the Roman Empire and the Ottoman Empire. We visit Topkapi Palace, the glittering imperial residence of the Sultans for a thousand years and now a spectacular museum. The treasury is breathtaking too. Continue on foot to the Hippodrome, site of Byzantium's political, sporting and social life for a thousand years before enjoying a browse around the Spice Market. (B) + Included Experience – Istanbul's Topkapi Palace, Hippodrome and Spice Market

### DAY 3 - Istanbul & board the Star Clipper/Flyer

This morning marvel at the breathtaking Haghia Sophia, one of the world's greatest architectural achievements. Built in the 6th century, gaze at the Byzantine mosaics. Next visit the Blue Mosque, one of Istanbul's most iconic sights. Also experience the 14th century Grand Bazaar, which has over 4,000 shops along its 61 streets. Later we head to Istanbul port to board the Star Clipper/Flyer and settle in as she sails towards Dikili. (B,D)



+ Included Experience – Istanbul's Haghia Sophia, Blue Mosque and Grand Bazaar

## DAY 4 - Day at sea on Star Clipper/ Flyer

Head up on deck and relish the coastal vistas, perhaps read or swim in the saltwater pool. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 5 - Pergamon

We dock in the port of Dikili and explore the ancient Acropolis of Pergamon on a guided tour. See the remains of the Temple of Trajan, the altar of Zeus, the steepest ancient amphitheatre in the world and the Asclepion sanctuary. (B.I.D)

+ Included Experience - Guided tour of Pergamon

#### DAY 6 - Chios

As well as producing Greek shipping entrepreneurs, Chios has been known since ancient times for cultivating the mastic plant (precursor to chewing gum) and we'll see the Mastic trees. We'll also stop at the well-preserved living medieval village of Mesta. (B,L,D)

+ Included Experience - Guided tour of Chios

## DAY 7 - Patmos 🕕

In Patmos, St. John the Theologian wrote the Book of Revelation and our tour visits the Grotto of the Apocalypse, where he lived. See also the 11th-century fortified monastery of St. John and its museum, housing 5th century manuscripts and a work by El Greco. Then we visit the four-hundred-year-old mansion of the Simandiris family. (B,L,D) + Included Experience - Guided tour of Patmos

## DAY 8 - Santorini\* 🕕

Stand on deck as we sail into the vast caldera of Santorini where multi-hued, 1,000- foot cliffs rise above the azure sea, crowned by typical Greek white cubist architecture. The main town of Fira is easily reached by cable car. We visit the island's highest point, as well as

some of the small villages. (B,L,D)
+ Included Experience - Guided tour
of Santorini

#### DAY 9 - Monemvasia 🕕

After a morning at sea, arrive at Monemvasia, a wonderful time-capsule of a medieval Greek town. Wander through the maze of narrow pedestrian streets and relax in a taverna. Or climb the steep path up to the ruins of the Upper Town. (B,L,D)

+ Included Experience - Visit to Monemvasia

#### DAY 10 - Athens

Disembark the Star Clipper and enjoy a walking tour of Athens, visiting the Acropolis and the Parthenon. We also see the Acropolis Museum with its amazing glass floor displaying ancient houses and streets below. Later we visit Plaka, crammed with neo-classical mansions, balconies overflowing with geraniums and twisting cobbled lanes lined with homely tavernas. (B)

+ Included Experience - Guided tour of Athens



**11** 

FROM **£3,099**PP

# UNBEATABLE VALUE

## which always includes:

with local guides



Direct flights from 5 airports with no regional supplements, plus transfers 7 nights on board the Star Clipper/



Flyer, 2-night hotel stay in Istanbul plus 1-night hotel stay in Athens Insightful excursions and <u>visits</u>



Delicious full board dining on board, plus afternoon tea (lunch excluded on shore excursions)



Expert Riviera Tour Manager looking after you throughout



20kg+ luggage allowance



Port charges and taxes

# included experiences

8 visits and tours including guided tours of the Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace, the Hippodrome and Haghia Sophia in Istanbul, Pergamon, Chios, Patmos, Santorini (2025) or Milos (2026), Athens with the Acropolis and Pantheon, and a visit to Monemyasia

## DAY 11 - Return flight

Transfer to Athens airport for your flight home. (B)

At ports marked with an 🕕 guests will be required to tender ashore.

\*Santorini will be replaced with the port of Milos for 2026 including a guided tour.

Please note in 2025, this cruise will operate on the Star Clipper and in 2026 it will operate on the Star Flyer.



PRICING & DEPARTURES 2025 & 2026							
CATEGORY	CAT 6	CAT 5	CAT 4	CAT 3	CAT 2	CAT 1	OWNER'S SUITE
DECK	Clipper	Commodore	Clipper/ Commodore	Clipper/Commodore	Clipper	Main	Clipper
22/05/2025 from	£3,099	£3,299	£3,599	£3,799	£4,099	£4,599	£5,099
28/05/2026 from	£3,199	£3,399	£3,699	£3,899	£4,199	£4,699	£5,199
Prices are per person based on two people charing. For all availability and timings, call us or visit our website.							