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16 Day Sailing The Greek Isles Private Yacht Luxury Adventure



CUSTOM ITINERARY – YOUR DATES – FLEXIBLE INCLUSIONS – 7-16 Day ITINERARY

Uncover the enchanting world of Greece with a yachting adventure through some of Greece's most enchanting islands. Explore the islands surrounding Santorini, Mykonos, Crete and other enticing destinations.

The Greek Islands comprise more than 6,000 islands and islets covering much of the eastern Mediterranean. Only about 230 Greek islands are inhabited and, of these, just 80 or so have more than 100 permanent inhabitants.

The Greek islands are traditionally grouped into six major clusters:

Ionian: Found off the north-west coast of mainland Greece in the Ionian Sea these contain the popular holiday islands of Corfu, Kefalonia and Zante.

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Saronic: These lie in the Saronic gulf near Athens and the main islands here are Aegina and Poros.

Cyclades: A large, dense group of islands in the central Aegean Sea that include the popular holiday islands of Mykonos and Santorini.

North Aegean: A loose island group to the north-east of Greece. The main holiday destinations here are Thassos, Lesbos and Samos.

Sporades: A small, tightly-knit island group just off the east coast of Greece that include Skiathos and Skopelos.

Dodecanese: A long and loose string of islands that roughly follow the Turkish coast and include the popular holiday beaches on Kos and Rhodes.



Each island group has its own flavor and each island within a group has its own character. The Ionian, for example is characterized by lush greenery, the Cyclades are 'typical' Greek islands of whitewashed cube houses on windy, rocky outcrops; the Dodecanese, close to the Turkish mainland, are the hottest, particularly in the south.

“Every perfect traveler always creates the country where he travels.” - Nikos Kazantzakis

Day 1 Arrival Athens: US – Athens

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Arrive in Athens and meet your English-speaking Professional Representative in customs. You will receive a VIP escort to help you traverse customs and the airport.

You will be escorted to baggage claim where you will meet your English-speaking private driver who will transfer you to your hotel (TBD).

Upon arrival at the hotel, you will enjoy a VIP check-in. If your room is not ready you will leave

your luggage with the concierge. It will meet you in your accommodation later.

This morning we have arranged a special treat for you to recover from your long flight. You will enjoy a couple's massage in the spa to help refresh and rejuvenate you from your travels. Afterwards, you can relax in the spa until your room is ready. Additional treatments can be booked for this time period to relax, decompress, and rejuvenate in preparation of your exploration of Greece.

Lunch is on your own today. We recommend a leisurely champagne brunch or a relaxing lunch in the hotel.

After lunch it's time to get moving again. You will meet your private English-speaking driver & Professional Local Guide in the lobby of your hotel for an afternoon full of exciting sites, history & culture in Athens.

You will enjoy an exclusive and private City Tour. This introductory tour is crafted from your passions and preferences, so you will enjoy the places we visit today. Below is a sample itinerary for the city tour.

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Along the Saronic Gulf stands Athens, the capital of Greece and the birthplace of Western Civilization. Named after the Greek goddess Athena, Athens has been a center of democracy, philosophy, art and architecture for over 7,000 years.

Step through history on a private overview tour of Athen's ancient sites, including the Parthenon, Keramikos, Agora, the Temple of Olympian Zeus, the Arch of Hadrian and the Kalimarmaro.

Visit the sculpture collections at the Metropolitan Museum and the British National Museum.

Afterwards, stop by Athens' Central Market for an authentic browse through the source of Greece's fresh cuisine and spices.

Conclude your day with shopping in the Kolonaki District, a trip to the Kaisairini Monastery, or a visit to Voukourestiou Street, renowned for its vast selection of jewelry stores.

After the tour, you will be returned to your hotel where you will be at leisure for the remainder of the day.

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Dinner is on your own this evening. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Athens.



Day 2 Athens: Athens – Santorini

Breakfast in your hotel (included)

After breakfast this morning, check out of your hotel and meet your private English-speaking Driver in the lobby for your private transfer to the airport for your flight to Santorini.

Flight: 45 minute flight - details TBD. At the southern side of the Cycladic Islands lies the spectacular Santorini Island, a short forty-minute flight from Athens.

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Upon arrival in Santorini, you will be met by your private English-speaking Driver in the baggage claim area, to transfer you to the Marina where you will meet your private yacht and crew to begin your sailing adventure through the Greek Isles.

Today you will explore - Palia Kameni, Thirassia, Aspronissi

An island characterized by its blue-domed churches the color of the sky, a shade known as Santorini blue, this Greek destination was formed after a Minoan explosion 3,600 years ago. Be introduced to this enchanting island on a cruise through its enormous lagoon alongside its steep, breathtaking cliffs.

In Santorini, you will Set sail from Vlihada Marina from the lava cliffs of Red Beach to Palia Kameni, where you can swim and snorkel in the azure waters.

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Cruise alongside the caldera with a stop at a volcanic hot spring. Enjoy the springs as your **private chef prepares a gourmet Greek barbecue**, paired with local Santorini wines.

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After lunch, sail past the islands of Thirassia and Aspronissi. You are at leisure today, so if there is time you can stop for a visit on these islands or just continue on and head back to the Marina.

Dinner is on your own tonight. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Santorini.

Day 3 Santorini: Santorini

Breakfast on your yacht (included)

After breakfast this morning, meet your private English-speaking Driver & your Professional Local Guide at your yacht for an in-depth tour of some important places here in Santorini. Today we will visit and explore Mesa Gonia, Panagia Episkopi, Megalochori.

Uncover the secret villages and wineries of this legendary island with a private guided day trip of Santorini.



Begin with a tour of Mesa Gonia, a ghost village deserted after the earthquake of 1956.

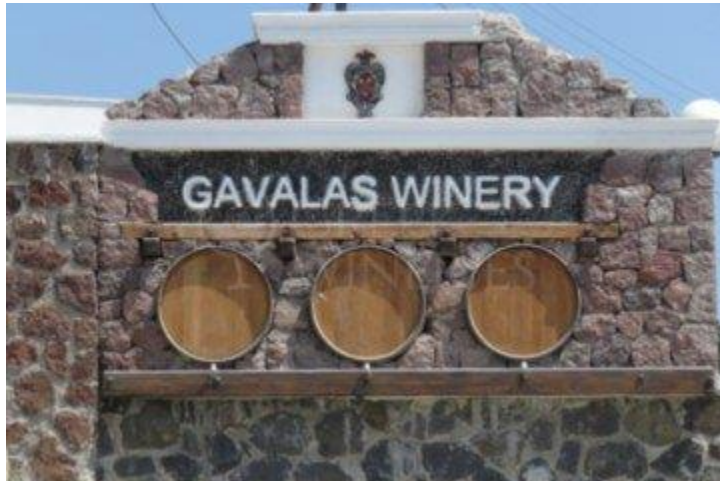
Nearby stands the oldest church on Santorini, a Byzantine church, known as the Panagia Episkopi. Built by the Emperor Alexios A' Komnenos in the 11th century, it is the long-time home of the Panagia Glykofilousa, one of the most valuable religious icons in the world.

Lunch is on your own today. Your guide will offer suggestions for dining in the area you are visiting.

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Atop a high plain sits the village of Megalochori. **Visit the Gavalas Winery**, one of Greece's oldest vineyards, for a tasting of their full-bodied whites, produced from Santorini's native Assyrtiko and Aidani grapes.

After the tour you will be returned to your yacht where you will be at leisure for the remainder of the day.

Dinner is on-board your yacht or if you prefer on your own in Santorini this evening. See Celebration

Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Santorini.

Day 4 Santorini: Santorini - Mykonos

Breakfast on your yacht (included)

After breakfast this morning, meet your private English-speaking Driver & your Professional Local Guide at your yacht for a morning at the Megalochori Village.



Enjoy an authentic taste of local life with a visit to the colorful neo-classical square of Megalochori.

Built in the 17th century, the village retains an old-world charm, and locals gather to play tavli or backgammon as they have done for generations.

Meander through its maze of cobblestone streets and explore the town and all it has to offer to its inhabitants and tourists.

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You will head over for a cooking experience at the acclaimed Fegera Restaurant.

There, you will be instructed by the restaurant's chef on the preparation and cooking of a traditional Greek meal.

Once your meal is ready you will enjoy the meal, paired with local wines.

After Lunch, you will be returned to your yacht where you will sail on to Mykonos.

Dinner is on your yacht this evening.

Day 5 Mykonos **Mykonos**



Breakfast on your yacht (included)

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After breakfast this morning, you will be met at your yacht by your private English-speaking Driver and Professional Local Guide for a highlight tour of Mykonos. Today you will visit and explore Old Port and Little Venice.



In the Cycladic Islands, snow-white windmills dot the idyllic landscape on the island of Mykonos. Constructed during the 16th century by Venetian settlers to grind wheat, they serve as a symbol

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of the island's agricultural past. Enjoy a private guided tour of this radiant island, known for its sparkling beaches and sophisticated feel.



Begin in Mykonos' old port, featuring its signature whitewashed houses. Tour this town and see the lovely sites that make up this little piece of heaven.

Lunch is on your own today here in town. Your Guide will offer suggestions for dining today.

Then travel to Little Venice, named for its architectural resemblance to Venice, Italy, where balconies hang over the sea. Explore various archaeological places of interest.

Next you will go to the island's acclaimed 15th century bakery, where breads and sweets are still baked in its ancient wood-fired ovens.

You will continue your day of exploration with opportunities for shopping at local boutiques.

You will conclude your tour with a tasting of traditional Greek delicacies paired with a chilled glass of local ouzo.

After the tour you will be returned to your yacht where you are at leisure to relax on-board.

Dinner is either on-board your yacht or on your own in Mykonos this evening. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Mykonos.

Day 6 – 7 Mykonos: Mykonos Islands

Breakfast in your hotel (included)

After breakfast this morning, you will begin your cruise through the islands surrounding Mykonos. Over the next few days You will visit Naxos, Donousa, Tinos, Paros, Inkaria and Amorgos.

On-board your yacht, you will cruise through the endless blue of the Aegean Sea with a full-day boat journey.

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Donousa, a small island with few inhabitants, is recommended for privacy and relaxation. Ideal for windsurfing is the idyllic Paros, featuring its trademark golden beaches. Named “Zeus Island” by Homer.



Naxos has been inhabited since the 4th century B.C. and retains much of its original architecture and churches. The home of the miraculous original Virgin Mary icon.



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Tinos features magnificent beaches and over 52 villages against a mountainous backdrop.



The remote island of Ikaria possesses pristine beaches and the Roman hot spring known as Therma, along with the Byzantine castle of Koskina.



Snorkel in the clear waters of Amorgos, a tiny island featured in the film, "The Big Blue."

Your private chef will have Lunch ready for you to enjoy on the boat, with plenty of snacks and delicacies arranged for you throughout the day. Your fully stocked bar is at your disposal throughout your trip. You can also choose to take a picnic to one of the islands for lunch if you desire.

A glorious sunset will prevail as you start your return to Mykonos from your island adventures.

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You will enjoy a wonderful dinner on board the boat, prepared by your private chef. A glorious sunset will prevail as you cruise the Aegean waters and enjoy a candle lit dinner as you cruise by islands and watch the sun go down.

You will be at leisure for the remainder of the evening.

Day 8 Mykonos: **Mykonos**

Breakfast on-board your yacht (included)

After breakfast this morning, meet your private English-speaking professional local guide at your yacht for your day cruising through more of the Greek Isles. Today you will visit Dragonisi Island, Ancient Delos.



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Just southeast of Mykonos stands the uninhabited private island of Dragonisi. Encounter its caverns, spectacular natural rock formations created over thousands of years, where rare monk seals frolic. Spend a morning discovering this island and swim in its crystalline waters.

Lunch is included today (TBD)

Visit Ancient Delos, the Island of Light in the Cyclades archipelago. There, the goddess Lito found a safe haven to bear her twin children, Apollo and Artemis, after being hunted by Hera, the wife of Zeus.

A UNESCO World Heritage, Delos' architectural splendors are exemplary and include over 50 acres of exquisite monuments, including the sanctuary of Dionysus, funerary statues and a terrace of seven marble lions often compared to Egyptian sphinxes.

Your guide will be returned to Mykonos and you will end the day back at the Marina.

Dinner is on-board your yacht or if you prefer on your own this evening in Mykonos. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Mykonos.

Day 9 Crete: Mykonos - Heraklion



Breakfast on-board your yacht (included)

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After breakfast this morning, you will set sail for the island of Crete.

Upon arrival in Heraklion, you will be met at the Marina by your private English-speaking Driver & Professional Local Guide to begin a full day tour of this important Capital City.



Explore Minoan ruins at Knossos Palace, one of the must-see archaeological sites of Greece, presenting a rare view into ancient Minoan civilization. Be guided on a private tour through this complex of rooms, halls, passages, myths and legends, all dating back to 2500 B.C., before traveling to the nearby-restored village of Archanes.

Surrounded by an enormous medieval wall, visit the Cretan capital of Heraklion, which houses an extraordinary Archaeological Museum, acclaimed for its representative artifacts from Neolithic to Roman times, alongside rare Minoan cultural masterpieces.

Lunch is on your own today. Your guide will offer suggestions for dining in the capital in the area you are visiting.

After lunch, Venture to Karouzanos village, where you will discover the delicacies of Cretan cooking with a regional food and wine excursion highlighting local specialties, including wine

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and olive oil. Bask in the warm sun on a private cruise through St. George and Sissi Village, where you will have the opportunity to snorkel and swim in the crystal clear Aegean waters.

After your tour, you will be returned to your yacht where you will be at leisure for the remainder of the day.

Dinner is on-board your yacht or on your own this evening. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Heraklion.

Day 10 Crete: Heraklion - Elounda

Breakfast on-board your yacht (included)

This morning you will sail to three of the secret & exotic islands surrounding Crete.

If you look at the map of Crete you will notice that it is surrounded by small and larger specs of land in the middle of the sea. Overall these "specs of land" number over 100, which most of them situated off the East coast. Most of them are pieces of deserted land, with no special interest, however a great number of those tiny islands constitute a wild life refure and even hold evidence of life during antiquity of great cultural interest.

Today, you will have the opportunity to visit one, two or all three of the most dreamy and exotic islands surrounding Crete:



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Gavdos, the island of Calypso

Gavdos island is Ancient Ogygia, the island of Calypso who detained Odysseus for several years. Most of the island is surrounded by a wild and unspoiled environment with pines trees and endless sand beaches. You can access Gavdos by local ferry from the port of Palaiochora or Sphakia on the South coast of Chania county Crete.

According to Callimachus, Gavdos was the island of Calypso, the one known from the epic Ogygia. You can actually see on your own the nymph's "palace" near a cave.

Gavdos, apart from its mythological glamour was also used as a place of exile "hosting" famous Greek fighters, such as Aris Velouchiotis, Markos Vafiadis, Partsalidis and many others and the houses in which they lived still remain. Other sights of the island are the tombs found in Lavraka Bay, in northwest of Gavdos. These are dated back to the Minoan age, even though edifices of the same period have not been found.

In the same location remains of a settlement of the Roman period were discovered and it is considered that it is related with Gortyna of Heraklion. In the area you will see remains of the aqueduct as well as the oven that was used for the exploitation of iron ore. Besides, it is believed that the essential deforestation of Gavdos is dated back to the Roman period, when its trees were used as firewood for the production of iron.



The iron was exported from the Lavraka harbour which today is found three meters under the sea.

South-eastern from Lavraka, in the region of Agios-Yiannis there are the ruins of the city from the First Byzantine Period. During this period, the city of Agios-Yiannis had 8,000 residents, whilst the prominence of Gavdos is proved by the fact that it had its own archbishop.

In Agios-Yiannis you will also see the famous chapel that was erected from 900 A.D. In the village of Vatsiana you will find a notable Folklore Museum and in the settlement Ampelo you'll have a chance to see the vineyards of Minoan. Also, in Psathi, findings prove the existence of Minoan settlement.

Kastri is the island's capital, where you will take beautiful walks in the picturesque alleys with the houses built out of stone and the beautiful gardens.

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In Gavdos you will find wonderful beaches in Sarakiniko, in Agios-Yiannis, in Pyrgos, in Potamos, and in the pebbly beach of Lavraka, as well as the sandy beach in the cape of Tripiti with the three natural consecutive arches in the rock that is joined with the sea and it is believed that it was in this place that Ulysses was held in captivity by Calypso.

In the same cape you will also see an abandoned lighthouse, the second most visible lighthouse in the world after that in the Land of Fire in Argentina.

The tower's height was 14 m., while its focal height was 360 meters. It was built from the French Company of Ottoman lighthouses in 1880 and it was incorporated into the Greek lighthouse network after the Balkan Wars of 1912-13, but it was destroyed by a German bombardment in 1942.

It was replaced by the lighthouse that is currently operating today just a little bit more to the south in the same cape. Wherever you prefer to camp, you will find easily a tree – a pine, a cedar, a plane tree - to put up your tent and rest assured that no one will disturb your peacefulness. Also, nothing during your sojourn in Calypso's island will remind you in which age you live in.

Chrysi, the Windy Island



Approaching the island you will witness the sea taking every single shade of blue, green and turquoise. This is just a warm up for what is coming when one gets there! Soon as you reach the shore you will witness one of the most exotic beaches on earth.

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From the moment a visitor comes to Chrissi, he gets magnetized by the exotic natural landscape dominated by cedar, the golden sand and the light aquamarine water.

The Natural images and the rhythms of nature, immediately give the visitor a newfound sense of liberation.

- A walk in the woods, swimming in crystal clear water combined with the soft smell of cedar and fresh oxygen, complete the holiday experience of the visitor, offering him a deep relaxation feeling that becomes unforgettable. This is the reason why Chrissi Island welcomes more and more visitors from around the world every summer.
- The island has a small bar on the north side of the island, a small tavern on the south side, an Orthodox church of St. Nicholas, a lighthouse on the northwest side, and a house on the northeast side. There are three recognized permanent residents on the island until now.
- The island has a large number of shells, mainly in the north, which is one of the distinguishing features of the island.
- For six months a year - from mid-May until late October there are timetables with small boats, departing from the ports of Ierapetra and Makrigialos, to the island on a **daily basis**. After an hour's trip around, the vessels approaching the southern side of the island, which is usually calmer. The exit is in the "Vougiou Eye" where there is a small pier, reception, and the tavern.

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Cretan Koufonisi, a special paradise.



Koufonisi is an uninhabited Greek islet, located 3 nautical miles south of cape Goudero on the coast of Lasithi, eastern Crete, in the Libyan Sea. The island is roughly 6 kilometres long and 5.5 kilometres across.

The modern name Koufonissi, meaning “hollow island”, is due to the many hollows carved out by wind and sea with the patience of centuries.



Koufonissi is separated from the rest of Crete by a narrow strip of sea, but it's often rough here, so boat trips may be cancelled unless the weather is really fine.

Koufonissi is one of a group of five small desert islands (the others are Makroulo, Stroggylo, Trachila and Marmara), a handful of land in the sea, often collectively called Koufonissia. Along with Gavdos and Chryssi, these are the southernmost pieces of Greek soil, the

southernmost frontiers of Europe.

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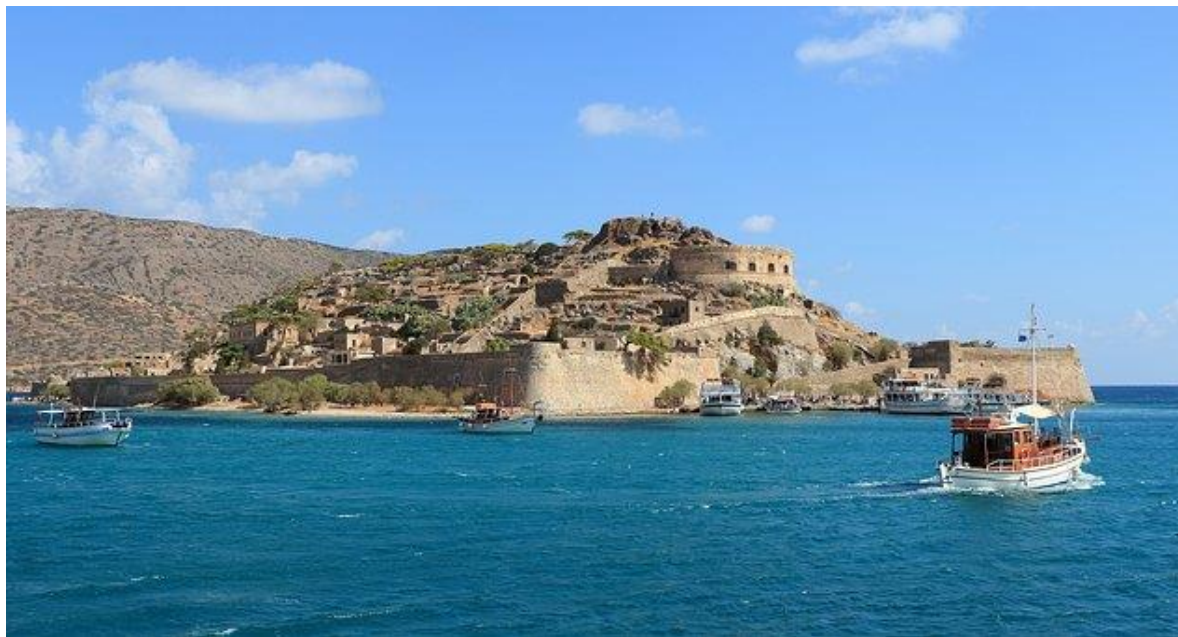
The hermit, exotic landscape of this island will take your breath away. It is situated opposite Makrigualos port on the south of Herakleion county and it is filled with white sand dunes and beaches with crystal clear turquoise waters. During antiquity the island was called Leuki and it was one of the most significant centers producing Porphyra pigment out of shells as well as sponge fishing.

Archaeologists have revealed a very well preserved ancient theater, ancient housing, Porphyra workshops and many other significant findings.

Day 11 Crete: Heraklion - Elounda

Breakfast on-board your yacht (included)

After breakfast this morning, you will sail to the the island of Spinalonga, where you will be met by your private English-speaking professional Local Guide at the harbor to begin a tour of this area.



Enjoy a guided walking tour of this circular, walled fortress. Carved out of the coast of Crete, this former Venetian fortress fell to the Ottoman Empire in 1715 and later served as a leper colony until 1957. Admire its spectacular ruins of the island, then wander amongst its pebbled.

Lunch is on-board your yacht today. As you make your way on the water to the Gulf of Mirabello.

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After lunch you will explore the area. Nestled within the Gulf of Mirabello, the enclosed bay is home to one of Greece's most famous relics, the ancient sunken city of Olous that mysteriously sank 12,000 years ago. You can snorkel or scuba dive this area for a closer exploration of the sunken city.

Later meet your private English-speaking Driver and Professional Local Guide in the harbor where you will spend an afternoon exploring this picturesque region and its charming harbor side shops.



Drive through the spectacular ravine of Saint George to Kritsa. Surrounded by olive groves, this whitewashed mountain village is acclaimed for its long tradition of spectacular hand-woven and embroidered textiles.

After your tour, you will be returned to your yacht. You will sail back to Elounda this evening.

Dinner is on-board your yacht or if you prefer go into town for dinner on your own this evening.

See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Elounda.

Day 12 Crete: Elounda - Aghios Nikolaos - Sitia - Vai



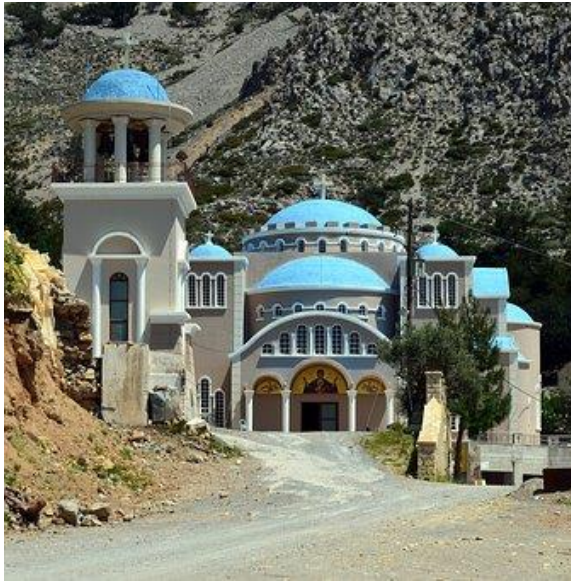
Breakfast in -board your yacht (included)

After breakfast this morning, meet your private English-speaking Driver & Professional Local Guide in the Marina of Aghios Nikolaos for your tour.

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Just south of Elounda on the island of Crete lies the sapphire waters of Aghios Nikolaos, the picturesque city with its landmark Voulismeni Lake at the center of it.

Delight in panoramic views of this enchanting town, then wind through its narrow streets that offer an excellent selection of authentic Greek delicacies and fine jewelry.

Continue your tour past Aghios Nikolaos stands Sitia, a peaceful coastal town, built in a semicircle on the western side of the Bay of Sitia. In a guided

tour, explore its 15th century Monastery Toplou.

This medieval monastery possesses a superb collection of Byzantine artifacts and frescos by the icon painter, Manolis Betinakis.

Lunch is on your own today. Your guide will offer suggestions for dining in the in the area you are visiting.

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After lunch, Conclude your day trip by traveling to the palm-strewn oasis of Vai. The palm beach of Vai is one of the largest attractions of the Mediterranean island of Crete. It features the largest natural palm forest in Europe, made up of Cretan Date Palm. Over 5,000 palm trees sway above the beach's golden sands, one of Europe's only natural palm forests in existence.

The heavenly palm grove is planted in a wide valley watered by the local river for centuries. An exotic sandy beach with whitish sand is formed near the shore, backed by the edenic palm forest, reminding of African and Caribbean seascapes.

The entire region is owned by the powerful Toplou Monastery, which is the largest landowner in eastern Crete. The 15th-century monastery is built like a fortress, and hosts a great collection of Byzantine icons.

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Vai was totally unknown until the early 1970s, when a popular commercial for the Bounty chocolate with coconut was filmed here, using the magical background of palm trees. In the advert, coconuts were falling from trees, however Vai palms produce dates. Consequently coconuts had to be falsely hung to create the right impression. The ad made this unknown earthly paradise renowned throughout the world. Thus, hundreds of hippies started to stay here on their holidays. In the 1980s, when hippism faded out, Vai was invaded by backpackers and rapidly degenerated into a rubbish-strewn campground. The palm grove was consequently fenced off and proclaimed a conservation area, being open to public only during the day light.

The beach has whitish sand and flat turquoise waters. In a few places, there are slippery smooth rocks, while on the opposite there are small islets that beautify the landscape. The beach is slightly organized (whatever the protection scheme allows) with umbrellas, showers, water sports and a canteen.

Enjoy an afternoon on the beach and exploration of the area at your leisure. Your yacht will meet you in Vai. This evening you will sail back to Heraklion.

Dinner is on-board your yacht or you may prefer to dine on your own this evening. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Heraklion.

Day 14 Crete: Heraklion – Rhodes

Breakfast on-board your yacht (included)

After breakfast this morning, you will sail to Rhodes.

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Rhodes is located in the southeast side of the Aegean Sea and constitutes one of the top summer destinations. There, historic sights and long-standing traditions combine with stunning natural landscapes and a vibrant nightlife, producing a unique result.

Rhodes, the largest of Greece's Dodecanese islands, is known for its beach resorts, ancient ruins and remnants of its occupation by the Knights of St. John during the Crusades. The city of Rhodes has an Old Town featuring the medieval Street of the Knights and the castlelike Palace of the Grand Masters. Captured by the Ottomans and then held by the Italians, the palace is now a history museum.

This morning you will meet your Private English-speaking professional local guide at the Marina for a tour of Rhodes.



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The long beaches with pure crystal waters, and the modern bars and restaurants further captivate tourists.

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Lunch is on your own today in Rhodes. Your guide will offer suggestions for dining in Rhodes.

After lunch, you will return to your yacht and continue sailing to Karpathos. Karpathos is the second largest of the Greek Dodecanese islands, in the southeastern Aegean Sea. Together with the neighboring smaller Saria Island it forms the municipality of Karpathos, which is part of the Karpathos regional unit.

Spend an afternoon exploring on your own, or just relaxing on one of these beautiful beaches.

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This beautiful island, where tourists can explore the incredible golden beaches, the clear azure waters and the picturesque villages of the countryside.



In close proximity to Karpathos, there is a very small island called Kassos. This is a peaceful destination, ideal for ultimate relaxation. It would be a good idea to include Kassos in your Crete island hopping plans.

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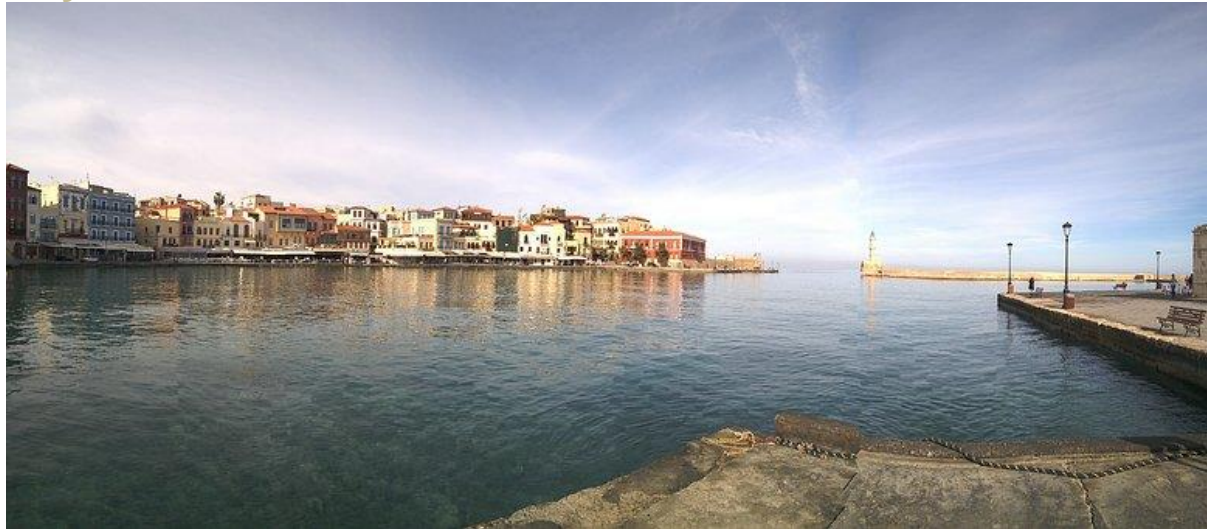
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Dinner is on-board your yacht or you may prefer to dine on your own this evening. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Heraklion.

Day 15 Crete: Rhodes – Chania – Kythira



Breakfast on-board your yacht (included)

After breakfast this morning, you will sail to Chania. You will meet your private professional English-speaking local guide in the Marina for your tour of Chania.



Chania is a city on the northwest coast of the Greek island of Crete. It's known for its 14th-century Venetian harbor, narrow streets and waterfront restaurants.

At the harbor entrance is a 16th-century lighthouse with Venetian, Egyptian and Ottoman influences. Opposite, the Nautical Museum has model ships, naval objects and photographs. The former monastery of St. Francis houses the Archaeological Museum of Chania.

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Lunch is on your own today in town. Your guide will offer suggestions for dining in Chania.

After lunch, you will return to your yacht and set sail for Kythira. Kythira is an island in Greece lying opposite the south-eastern tip of the Peloponnese peninsula. It is traditionally listed as one of the seven main Ionian Islands, although it is distant from the main group



Kythira is a small yet beautiful island with magnificent mountain scenery, crystal turquoise waters, golden beaches, Monastery of Panagia Myrtidiotissa, **Archaeological Museum of Kythira**, Fonissa waterfalls, and the **Cave of Agia Sofia** being the highlights of this island.

You can explore on your own or we can secure a private guide for you this afternoon.

The cave of Agia Sofia has impressive formations of stalactites and stalagmites, but

the highlight of the cave is the little church you will find inside, dedicated to Agia Sofia. The church houses holy icons and beautiful frescoes. Remains dating from the early Christian period have been found in this cave, showing that Christian cults were held there.

Near the village of Mylopotamos lies a lush valley where you will find cascading waterfalls. Only the brave dare to swim here as the water is quite cold, even in summer. This magical and green area, also called Neraida, includes a few abandoned watermills, stone bridges and towering trees. If you continue along the ravine, you will reach the beach of Kalami where you can take a refreshing dip and relax before heading back.

Housed in a beautiful historical building in Hora, the Archaeological Museum of Kythira traces the history of the island with exhibits in two halls. The first houses important artifacts from prehistory to the Classical period, including a white marble statue in the form of a lion from the 6th century excavated in the 19th century in Paleokastro. The second room showcases findings from the Venetian period and more recent periods, such as a Renaissance marble statue of Aphrodite with Eros and tombstones from the English occupation.

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The largest monastery in Kythira, the Monastery of Panagia Myrtidiotissa, is located on the western side of the island, near Kalokairines. Dedicated to the patroness of the island, Panagia Myrtidiotissa (the Madonna of Myrtle), the monastery is considered the spiritual heart of the island.

Legend has it that the icon of Panagia Myrtidiotissa appeared to a shepherd leading his flock to the water. He took the icon home with him, but the next day, the icon miraculously reappeared under the myrtle tree where he found it. The shepherd decided to build a small chapel for the Virgin, which still exists to this day, next to the current church. While you are there, don't forget to visit the Stavros, a large cross offered by a sailor, located on one of the western hills of Kythira, which is an ideal spot to watch the sunset.

Built on the southern tip of the island, on a hill overlooking the beach of Kapsali, Hora, with its Venetian buildings, is made up of stunning churches filled with splendid icons and frescoes, little squares and lush gardens. Offering splendid views over the beach, it is a very picturesque town you will surely enjoy visiting. End your wanderings at a café on the main square or with a refreshing dip at the beach.

Dinner is on-board your yacht tonight. You will enjoy a very special dinner on-board tonight prepared especially for your last night sailing back to Heraklion.

Day 16 Crete: Heraklion –US & Home

Breakfast is on-board your yacht (included)

After breakfast this morning, you will meet your private English-speaking Driver at your yacht for your transfer to the airport to meet your flight back to the US and onward to Home.

End of Services.

Ready to plan your journey? Contact us today ! 678-500-9548

Schedule Your Creative Planning Session Now!