

SPECIAL
OFFER – SAVE
£200
PER PERSON

IONIAN TO THE ADRIATIC

A voyage from Athens to Bari aboard the MS Monet

14th to 24th October 2026

NOBLE CALEDONIA

The Ionian and Adriatic seas have always been an important sea route, straddling the boundary between the Eastern and Western Mediterranean. Over the centuries trade, warfare, and cultural exchange have informed the rise and fall of many nation states along these storied shores, and during our voyage between Athens and Bari aboard the 50-passenger MS Monet, we will discover the lasting legacies of these civilisations. Autumn is a wonderful time to be in the region and you can expect bright warm days which allow for plenty of exploration, without the intense heat and crowds of summer. It is the perfect time to explore the rich archaeological history that remains left by Greeks, Romans and many other distinct cultures over the millennia.

Upon leaving Athens, our exploration begins with a transit of the Corinth Canal which, whilst only built in the 19th century was conceived as long ago as the 7th century BC. It is only possible to transit the canal on a small ship like the MS Monet and the experience offers a wonderful start to our cruise. Our journey onwards to Puglia in the heel of Italy will introduce you to the history, archaeology and cultures of this corner of the Mediterranean through expertly guided shore excursions and interesting onboard lectures combined with ample time at leisure to explore some of the charming towns independently.

Our guided excursions include impressive ancient Greek sites such as the sanctuary of Delphi, the little known ancient Roman city of Nikopolis, Albania's fascinating site of Butrint with its remains from multiple eras and the wonderfully atmospheric hillside town of Berat with its Ottoman style houses. Our voyage ends with three days in Italy's charming region of Puglia where we will witness the Baroque grandeur of Lecce, enjoy a trip into the countryside to the trulli village of Alberobello and discover the Medieval walled old town in Bari. In addition to our guided tours, we have designed our itinerary to ensure there is ample time for you to discover the pretty harbours and picturesque towns at leisure.

This is a journey very much for the connoisseur of romantic landscapes and ancient history and will be particularly enjoyable as, with a maximum of just 50 guests, our trips ashore will be a pleasure as we explore with our Guest Speaker and local guides, adding immeasurably to our knowledge of the region.



Apollonia

Guest Speaker – James Renshaw



With a degree in Classics from Oxford University, James has taught classical subjects at school level since 1998, including for 15 years at St Paul's School and then nine years at the Godolphin and Latymer School, where he also ran the school's unique Ancient World Breakfast Club. He has written a number of books, including *In Search of the Greeks* (Bloomsbury, 2015) and *In Search of the Romans* (Bloomsbury, 2019), and is currently writing *The Marathon: an Epic History* (Bloomsbury, forthcoming in 2027), a history of the marathon race from the first epic run of Pheidippides in 490 BC. James is an experienced lecturer, representing both the Arts Society and the V&A Academy, and most recently speaking on the V&A's *Classicism: Antiquity to Christianity and Enlightenment to Modernity* courses. Committed to the promotion of the study of the ancient world, he has been a Council Member for both the Hellenic Society and the Roman Society and serves on the Classical Association Teaching Board.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Athens, Greece. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet in Piraeus and embark. Enjoy a welcome dinner on board as we moor overnight.

Day 2 Corinth Canal & Corinth. Sail this morning across the Saronic Gulf and be on deck later this morning as we navigate the narrow Corinth Canal. Completed in 1893 and only 6.4 kilometres long and 21.5 metres wide, it is only small ships like the MS Monet which can now make this journey. We will moor in Corinth this afternoon for our guided tour. Corinth flourished under both Greek and Roman rule due to its significant location on the Isthmus of Corinth which controlled trade routes as well as being home to the naval power which took colonies in Syracuse and Corfu. It has also been closely linked to St Paul who lived here for a number of years and is known through his letters to the Christian community. During our afternoon tour we will explore the site of Ancient Corinth seeing the Temple of Aphrodite, the 6th century BC Temple of Apollo, built on a hill overlooking the marketplace and the Roman Forum.

Day 3 Itea. The port of Itea is our gateway to the sacred site of Delphi, one of Greece's most important sites of antiquity. The hillside ruins here are exceptional and we will explore the Sanctuary of Apollo, the site of the sacred Delphic Oracle and walk along Delphi's Sacred Way, visiting the Treasury of the Athenians and the 5000-seat theatre dating from the 4th century BC. After our visit you can choose to enjoy lunch in a local restaurant and drive through breathtaking mountain scenery to the Ossiou Loukas Monastery, one of the finest examples of a 12th century Byzantine Church. Alternatively return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon on board, take a stroll in Itea or maybe visit one of the nearby beaches.

Day 4 Preveza. Sail to the port of Preveza from where we head to the little-known ancient city of Nikopolis. One of the largest and most important sites in the whole of Greece, Nikopolis was built by the Roman Emperor Octavianus Augustus following his victory over Anthony and Cleopatra at Actium in 31 BC. Inside its extensive walls are the Odeum, the Theatre, the Nymphaeum and the monument to Augustus. Later the city flourished in the early Christian period, but earthquakes and invading Goths and Vandals led



Corfu



Bari



Trulli Houses, Alberobello



Otranto



Butrint

to its demise. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon exploring the pretty, yacht lined harbour town of Preveza.

Day 5 Corfu. Arrive this morning on the island of Corfu, one of the most richly endowed of all the Greek Isles. Praised by Homer in 'The Odyssey' and selected by Shakespeare as the setting for 'The Tempest', the island retains evidence of cultural heritage from each of its past rulers - Byzantium, Venice, France, Russia and Great Britain. Our guided tour will include the famous Byzantine Monastery of the Virgin at Paleokastritsa which is still inhabited by a community of monks. The small museum houses some priceless Byzantine icons. Spend some time in the serene monastery gardens that afford a splendid view over the turquoise waters of the bay. Continue to Mon Repos Palace, the summer residence of the British Governors of Corfu which now houses a museum, including many Ionian treasures, and is surrounded by a large park. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is free to explore Corfu Town with its idyllic pastel coloured Venetian mansions and fine museums.

Day 6 Sarande, Albania. The port of Sarande is our base to discover the ancient city of Butrint, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. During our guided tour we will explore the ruins that feature the remains of many eras and cultures. From the Hellenistic period there are temples, the promenade and the 4th century BC theatre. From the Roman era are the public baths, gymnasium and fountains. From the Byzantine era we see chapels and the large Basilica of St Peter and St Paul, whilst the Venetians are represented by a watchtower and a small castle with commanding views over the Straits of Corfu. Return to the MS Monet for lunch and spend the afternoon exploring at your own pace.

Day 7 Vlore, Albania. We will sail overnight to Vlore where on arrival we will drive inland to another of Albania's UNESCO treasures, the hillside town of Berat which artist Edward Lear visited in 1848. Some of his most important works were painted here and even today it is an artist's dream with its steep cobbled streets and Ottoman style houses surrounded by mountains and olive and grape groves. On a guided walking tour we will explore the oldest quarter of the city known as Kalaja, where the castle has presided over the city for 2000 years and enjoy a local lunch here. En-route to Berat, we plan to visit Apollonia, once a great city and an important port. Founded by the Corinthians in 588 BC, it prospered under Greek colonisation and Roman rule. It was here Octavian learned of the assassination of his great uncle Caesar and set upon his bid for power ultimately becoming emperor. Archaeological excavations by successive French missions dating back to Napoleon III mean a large area of the site is now visible, certainly considerably more than Lear witnessed after spending a draughty night in a 13th century monastery. For a more leisurely option today you can choose to visit Apollonia in the morning followed by a free afternoon.

Day 8 Otranto & Lecce, Italy. From our berth in Otranto we will drive to Lecce, often referred to as 'The Florence of the South' with its amazing

collection of Baroque architecture. A guided walk will include a visit to the beautifully decorated Santa Croce Basilica and Piazza Duomo, considered one of the finest and most impressive squares in southern Italy. We return to the ship for lunch and a leisurely afternoon to explore Otranto independently, maybe walk the winding streets or along the seaside promenade. The highlight is the wonderful cathedral with its Medieval mosaic floor created by the monk, Pantaleone, between 1163 and 1165.

Day 9 Monopoli & Alberobello. From the port of Monopoli, enjoy a trip into the Puglian countryside which is scattered with 'trulli', limestone dwellings built with dome or conical roofs. We will enjoy a pleasant walk in Alberobello, a fairy-tale trulli village and a UNESCO World Heritage Site and see St Anthony Church also built in trullo style. This afternoon, enjoy some time at leisure in Monopoli where you can wander through the historic centre, visit the cathedral or see the Castello di Carlo V.

Day 10 Bari. Over breakfast we arrive in Bari, capital of the region of Puglia. We will explore the walled old town, which dates to the Middle Ages, and displays influences from the various empires and cultures that controlled this key port over the centuries. Admire the architecture of ancient churches, basilicas and theatres hidden amongst the ancient streets, and marvel at the imposing Swabian fortress that has defended the city and its port since the 12th century. This afternoon is free to explore further independently, perhaps visit Bari's three kilometre long ocean promenade or seek out some of the culinary delights of Puglia, including the local orecchiette pasta.

Day 11 Bari to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisien Deck	£4995	£4795
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisien/Lumiere Deck	£5395	£5195
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£5895	£5695
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£6495	£6295
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisien Deck for sole use	£6495	£6295

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Port taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance.



Category A Cabin - 309



MS Monet



Restaurant

MS MONET

We are delighted to have chartered the MS Monet, a 220 foot motor yacht accommodating a maximum of just 50 guests, for a series of cruises in the Mediterranean. Originally built in 1970, MS Monet was converted and launched as a passenger ship in 1998, fully renovated in 2016 and upgraded again in 2018. If you find large resort style vessels accommodating many thousands of passengers attractive then of course this isn't the vessel for you. However, if you prefer an informal and warm atmosphere more akin to a private yacht combined with an itinerary dedicated to both discovery and relaxation then you need look no further.

Your Cabin

All the cabins on board the MS Monet are designed for comfort and have a warm and inviting feel with light fabrics and wood trimmings. Cabins range in size from 9 to 22 square metres and Categories A, B & C are equipped with windows, while those in Category D have portholes. Cabins 104-107, 112, 119, 205 and 210-215 feature twin beds and all other cabins have fixed double beds. Facilities include en-suite bathroom with shower, television, minifridge, safety deposit box, air-conditioning and hairdryer.

Your Space

The public areas include a main lounge and bar with comfortable sofas on the Lumiere Deck, a restaurant located on the Parisian Deck and the Lumiere Open Deck al fresco dining area where meals can be enjoyed when weather permits. The Lumiere Sun Deck provides a delightful sun exposed space with sun loungers and a Jacuzzi, ideal for relaxation and wonderful views.

Your Dining

Located on the Parisian Deck, the glass enclosed indoor dining room seats all passengers in a single sitting with unassigned seating and allows for wonderful panoramic views of the stunning scenery as we sail. The Lumiere Open Deck provides a covered area where guests can enjoy meals al fresco on some days, weather permitting. Food is served at the table or displayed on the hot and cold buffet stands. The menu is international, with a focus on local specialties. A choice of house wine, beer and soft drinks are served with lunch and dinner.

Life On Board

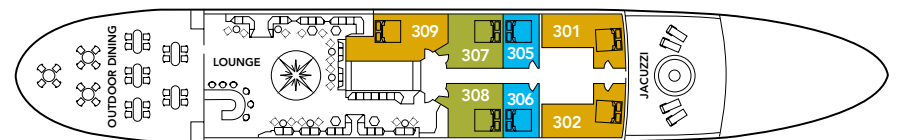
During the day, life on board focuses around the indoor lounge area, and the indoor and outdoor dining spaces, as well as the open and inviting deck areas including the Jacuzzi. These are natural gathering places and perfect for enjoying your meals al fresco, relaxing in a comfortable chair with a good book or socialising with your fellow passengers and enjoying the views.



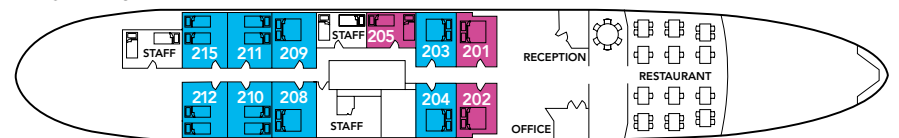
Lounge

DECK PLAN

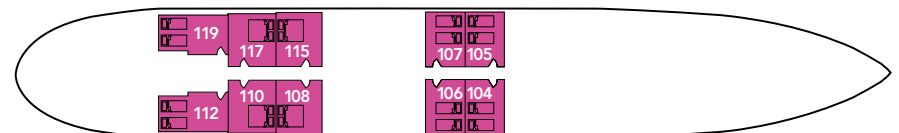
LUMIERE DECK



PARISIAN DECK



CAMILLE DECK



■ CATEGORY A ■ CATEGORY B ■ CATEGORY C ■ CATEGORY D



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