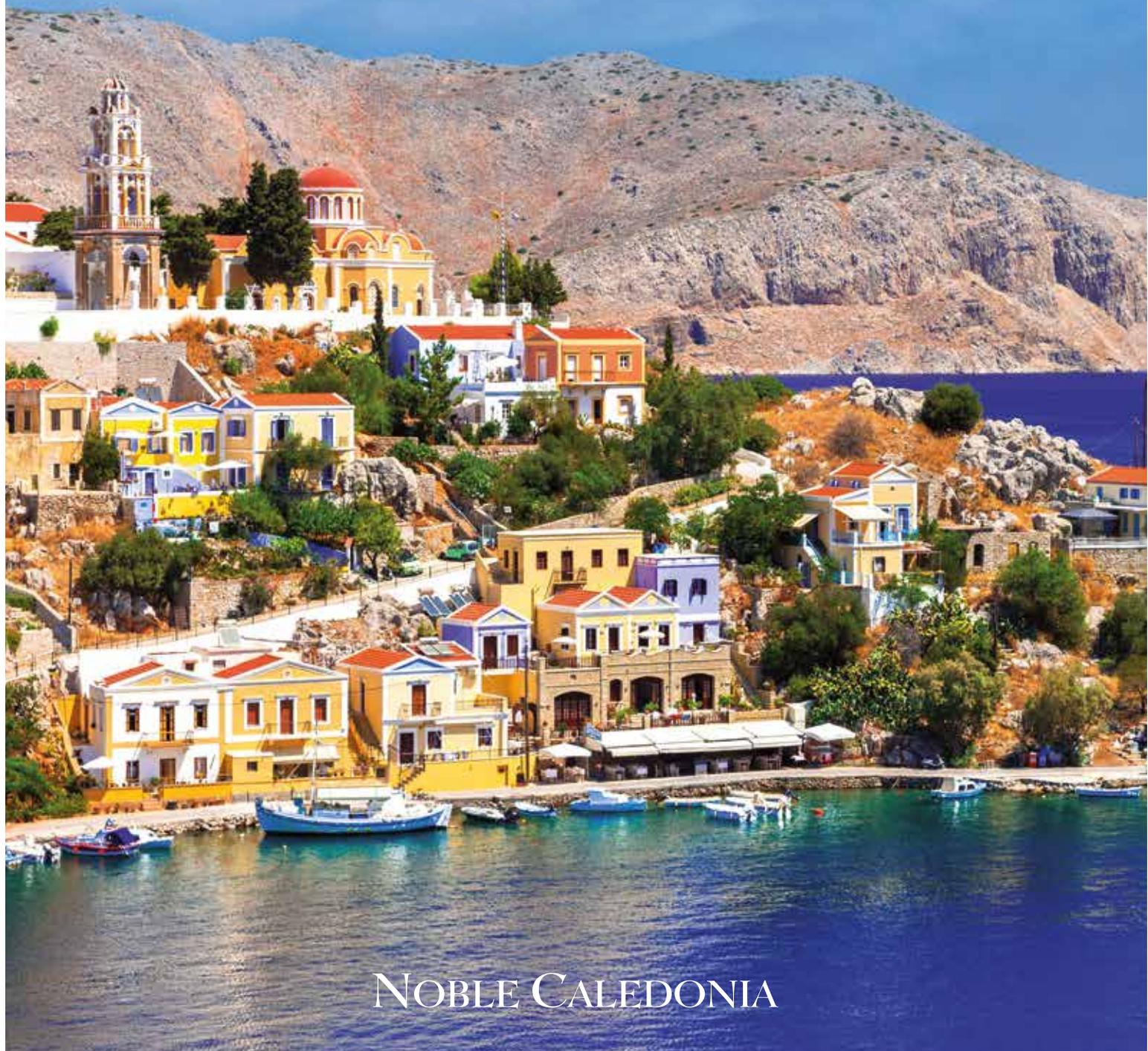


# SMALL SHIP CRUISING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

ABOARD THE 50-PASSENGER MS MONET

APRIL TO NOVEMBER 2027



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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Chora village, Folegandros

# DEAR TRAVELLER



## Small Ship Cruising aboard the 50-passenger MS Monet

Ships of all different sizes and styles can make the selection of a cruise a somewhat hit and miss affair, and whilst some companies attempt to please everybody, we prefer to continue with our focus on small ships and to that end are delighted to have once again chartered the 50-passenger MS Monet for a series of fascinating cruises and some unique journeys in the Mediterranean.

Part of the joy of a cruise aboard a small vessel is its capability to dock in small ports and our custom-made itineraries for the MS Monet focus wherever possible on islands and ports which the larger cruise ships would not be able to access and are planned to take advantage of central moorings allowing for easy individual exploration. Our itineraries are perfect for small ship cruising and our explorations combine some 'must see' sites together with little known and rarely visited places and some delightful islands that are totally unsuitable for vessels larger than ours. In addition to some daytime cruising which allows us to enjoy some magnificent views, we will also remain late in port some evenings allowing for the opportunity to take a stroll after dinner in some marvellous places that are particularly atmospheric in the evening. In addition to our included guided excursions, we have ensured, whenever possible, that you have ample time to discover the charming towns and harbours independently.

In many ways the virtues of small ship cruising are best expressed by detailing what you will not find on board. For instance, there will be no organised entertainment and no black tie events aboard the MS Monet. What there will be is a warm and peaceful atmosphere in which you can learn more about the fascinating culture and ancient civilisations of the regions in the company of like-minded people, in comfortable surroundings and with a high level of service.

Our bespoke itineraries will be appreciated by those who enjoy an eclectic mix of places and an informal style of cruising. Depending on which itinerary you choose, our days will be spent visiting some wonderful Medieval towns, exploring fascinating ancient sites such as the sacred site of Delphi, the ruins of Olympia and the renowned theatre at Epidaurus. There will also be opportunities to explore some wonderful cities in the Adriatic including Split, Dubrovnik and Kotor or discover some hidden Aegean island gems such as Syros, Sifnos and Fourni, wander through the whitewashed villages and spend time in picturesque harbours.

With a maximum of just 50 guests, our included guided excursions will be a pleasure as we explore with local guides who will add immeasurably to our knowledge of the region. Whether you are interested in ancient history, Greek myths or simply the joy of cruising aboard a small ship and experiencing new places and islands, our voyages aboard the MS Monet have something for everyone.

We look forward to welcoming you on board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Cochrane'.

Tim Cochrane  
Managing Director



### NOBLE CALEDONIA CHARITABLE TRUST

During our worldwide explorations over the years, we have come across many situations where help is desperately needed, be it following a natural disaster, civil unrest, abject poverty or to save an endangered species. To this end we established the Noble Caledonia Charitable Trust in 2013 (NCCT). It is our vision to use the Noble Caledonia framework to improve economic, social and environmental conditions in the areas we work and visit. Our onboard teams are uniquely positioned to identify projects and lead fundraising initiatives, whilst many of our guests genuinely care about the people and places we visit and want to make a difference. 100% of all donations go directly to the beneficiaries as Noble Caledonia Ltd covers all the administration costs and donates a percentage of profits annually. Details of our projects can be found on our website [www.noble-caledonia.co.uk](http://www.noble-caledonia.co.uk)





# MS MONET

We are delighted to have chartered the MS Monet, a 220 foot motor yacht accommodating a maximum of 50 guests. 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.



Category A Cabin

## 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. 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.



Category C Cabin – fixed twin cabin



Lounge



Category D Cabin



Restaurant



Lounge

### Life On Board

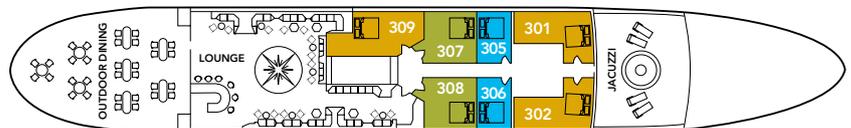
There is a warm and convivial atmosphere on board. During the day, life on board focuses around the indoor lounge area, and the indoor and outdoor dining spaces, as well as the open and inviting deck areas including the Jacuzzi. These are natural gathering places and perfect for enjoying your meals al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



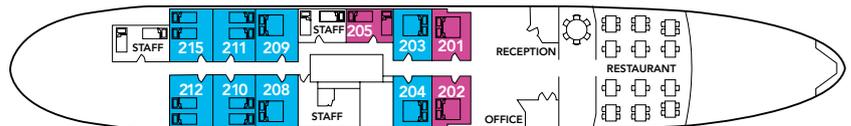
Lumiere Deck

### DECK PLAN

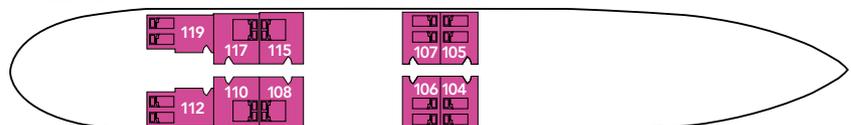
#### LUMIERE DECK



#### PARISIAN DECK



#### CAMILLE DECK



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

# FROM THE ADRIATIC TO THE AMALFI COAST

A voyage from Split to Naples aboard the MS Monet  
8<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> April 2027

Join us aboard the 50-passenger MS Monet for a voyage through a rich collection of archaeological, historical and beautiful sites in Croatia, Montenegro and Italy that combines some 'must see' sites together with little-known and rarely visited places that are totally unsuitable for vessels larger than ours. It is difficult to imagine a better time of year or a more ideally suited vessel for our voyage; just about everything is as perfect as it can be, from the comfortable temperatures to the relatively crowd free sites. This unique area has so much to offer the genuine traveller and our itinerary will be appreciated by those who enjoy an eclectic mix of places and an informal style of cruising. Our days will be varied as we explore UNESCO World Heritage Sites, walk through historic villages and towns, and discover the uniqueness of each region as well as enjoying opportunities to sample the local food and wine. Owing to the fact that our small ship can moor centrally, we have the added advantage of being able to access the towns by foot in many ports of call, and we have also included time at leisure for individual exploration, enabling you to soak up the atmosphere at your own pace.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Split, Croatia.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

**Day 2 Split.** After breakfast we will take a guided walk through the town including the Palace of Diocletian which was built by the emperor in 295-305 AD as his retirement villa. Much of this large building is well preserved and the palace contains Split's Old Town within its walls, making it the only Roman palace that has been continuously inhabited since Roman times and a wonderful spot to wander the maze of streets. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore further at your own pace. Alternatively, join us as we drive the short distance to the ancient site of Salona, the Roman capital of Dalmatia and a city that was once home to over 40,000 people. Archaeologists have excavated remains of temples, amphitheatres, early Christian churches, burial grounds, and baths which we can explore with our local guides.

**Day 3 Korcula.** Spend the day on the island of Korcula, the reputed birthplace of the explorer Marco Polo. A morning guided tour will include a walk along Korcula's crooked Medieval streets revealing elegant squares

flanked with palaces of the old nobility. After lunch on board we drive to the interior of the island, past olive groves and vineyards offering views down to the coast below. On our visit to a winery we will learn more about the mainly white wines that have been cultivated on the island for centuries before enjoying a tasting.

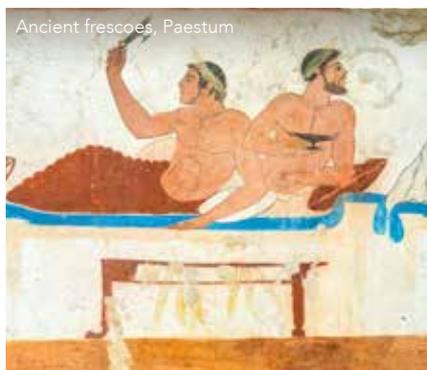
**Day 4 Kotor, Montenegro.** Be on deck as we enter the Gulf of Kotor and sail up the fjord-like entrance to the Medieval town and UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kotor. This really is an extraordinary place full of marvellous architecture and pretty town squares. Our guided walk will include the 12th century Cathedral of St Tryphon, the ancient town gates, the Maritime Museum and Romanesque churches including St Luke's. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon to explore at your own pace.

**Day 5 Monopoli, Alberobello or Ostuni, Italy.** This morning there will be a choice of excursions. You may wish to join the tour into the Puglian countryside which is scattered with 'trulli', limestone dwellings built with dome or conical roofs. Enjoy a pleasant walk in Alberobello, a fairy-tale 'trulli' village and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where we will also visit St Anthony Church, built in the same distinctive style. Alternatively, travel to the 'White City' of Ostuni, so called due to the dazzling sunlight reflected on the walls of its whitewashed dwellings. Ostuni has a privileged position as it was built on three hills and from the top of the town you can enjoy a stunning view of the Adriatic coast from which Ostuni is separated by an ocean of centuries-old olive trees. The town has retained much of its Medieval charm, which we will experience as we wander through the narrow, winding streets of the old town which lead to the impressive 15th century cathedral, a beautiful example of Apulian Romanesque architecture. After lunch on board, enjoy a free afternoon in Monopoli to explore the historic centre, visit the cathedral, or see the Castello di Carlo V.

**Day 6 Otranto for Lecce.** 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. Our guided walk will include a visit to the beautifully decorated Santa Croce Basilica and the Piazza Duomo, regarded as one of the most impressive squares in southern Italy. We return to the ship for lunch, after which you may enjoy a leisurely afternoon exploring Otranto independently, perhaps strolling through the winding streets of the old town or along the seaside promenade. A particular highlight is the magnificent cathedral with its Medieval mosaic floor created by the monk, Pantaleone, between 1163 and 1165.



Ostuni



Ancient frescoes, Paestum



Taormina



Santa Maria dell'Isola, Tropea



Korcula

**Day 7 Crotone.** After a morning at sea we arrive in Calabria and the port of Croton which is on the site of the ancient Greek City of Kroton. Whilst little remains of the Greek city it was one of the most important settlements of Magna Graecia, where Pythagoras set up a school in 530 BC and whose athletes were very successful at the Olympic Games. We will take a scenic drive inland this afternoon to Santa Severina, one of Italy's prettiest towns overlooking the Neto River valley. We will explore the majestic Carafa Castle, which was built by the Normans in 1076 and is surrounded by strong, crenelated walls with a moat on three sides and contains intricate underground labyrinths and stables, with the remains of Medieval frescoes. We will also see the cathedral, the beautiful Byzantine baptistery and there will be the opportunity to wander the town's tangled streets. On our return to the ship, we will stop at a local farmhouse for a tasting of typical Calabrian food served with local wine.

**Day 8 Messina for Taormina or Tindari, Sicily.** From our berth in Messina there will be a choice of excursions. You may travel to the walled town of Taormina, a favoured tourist destination since the 19th century, lying in the shadow of Mount Etna, Europe's highest volcano. Our guided tour will include a walk through the characteristic narrow alleys, a visit to the 15th century Palazzo Corvaja, and the impressive Greek Theatre, from which there are splendid views over the town and coastline. Alternatively, join an excursion to the town of Tindari, founded by Syracusan merchants during the war against Carthage in 396 BC. The ruins of the ancient city are relatively well preserved including the 4th century Greek Theatre which is a marvel of acoustic engineering. However, the foremost attraction is the Sanctuary of the Madonna Nera containing the sculpture of the Virgin and Child, in citron wood, and which is said to have reached Tindari in an attempt by the faithful to keep it safe from the 8th century Byzantine Iconoclast movement. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at sea as we sail towards Stromboli, the 'Lighthouse of the Mediterranean'. This evening, enjoy dinner on board and, weather permitting, we hope to witness the spectacular eruptions of the island's active volcano.

**Day 9 Vibo Valentia, Italy.** Arrive this morning into the Calabrian town of Vibo Valentia. Founded as a Greek colony known as Hipponion and part of Magna Graecia, the town has, over the centuries, fallen under the rule of the Brutti, Romans, Normans, Arabs and Byzantines. This morning we will explore the Medieval historical centre, dominated by the ancient Norman Castle, and now home to the state archaeological museum and the bell tower of San Michele. Later, we drive to nearby Tropea, a cliff-top village voted one of the

most beautiful in Italy. As we explore the historical centre, we see the Norman Cathedral before continuing to the Sanctuary of Santa Maria dell'Isola, an 11th century chapel originally built on an island but now connected to the town by a causeway. We will also sample the town's famous delicacy of sweet red onions. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at sea.

**Day 10 Salerno for Paestum or Cilento.** Overnight we will have sailed along the Amalfi coast to the ancient city of Salerno, our gateway to the Cilento region, a mix of small villages, coastal paths, archaeological sites, national parks and renowned as the home of the Mediterranean diet. You may wish to visit the site of Paestum, founded by Greeks in 600 BC. This well preserved and fascinating site was rediscovered in 1752, and during our guided tour we will see the impressive Temple Poseidon, the Basilica, Amphitheatre and Aethenian before spending some time in the museum adjacent to the site. Alternatively, learn about one of the Cilento region's main exports during a visit to a farm to hear about the production of the local Mozzarella di Bufala.

**Day 11 Naples to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

**SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY**

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck	£5595	£5295
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£5995	£5695
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£6295	£5995
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£6995	£6695
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	£7295	£6995

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

# TIMELESS MEDITERRANEAN

A voyage from Malta to Athens aboard the MS Monet

28<sup>th</sup> April to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2027

Discover some of the wonders of the Mediterranean as we cruise to some of the most fascinating sites of the ancient world and spend time in charming towns and coastal ports. Our itinerary has been devised to include a rich collection of archaeological, historical and beautiful sites in Sicily and along the shores of Italy including the beautiful city of Syracuse, the Baroque city of Gallipoli, known as ‘The Florence of the South’, in addition to a visit to a Calabrian vineyard to sample the delicious local food and wine. We will also visit the marvellous site of Butrint in Albania where settlement can be traced back to the 8th century BC and in Greece we will explore the sacred site of Delphi, Ancient Corinth and spend a morning on the culturally rich island of Corfu. Finally, ensure you are on deck when we transit the Corinth Canal which, whilst only built in the 19th century, was conceived as long ago as the 7th century BC, and is a wonderful end to our cruise and only possible on a small ship such as the 50-passenger MS Monet.



This heady mix of ports is certainly one of our most fascinating itineraries combining as it does some ‘must see’ sites together with little known places that are perfectly suited for the MS Monet. We have also included ample time at leisure for some independent exploration and by the end of the voyage you will have seen and learnt so much whilst exploring in small groups with our excellent guides.

## Guest Speaker – Professor Roderick Beaton



Sir Roderick Beaton is a leading authority on the history and culture of Greece and the eastern Mediterranean and the author, most recently, of *Europe: A New History* (soon to be a Penguin paperback), which takes a new look at the history of our continent, from the ancient Greeks to war in Ukraine. Born and bred in Edinburgh, he went on to Cambridge to take his BA degree in English Literature, followed by a doctorate in Modern Greek. For thirty years he served as Koraeas Professor of Modern Greek and Byzantine History, Language and Literature at King's College London and is now Emeritus. He is also Chairman of the British School at Athens, an institute of advanced research in Greece supported by the British Academy. Roderick is the author of many books, among them *Byron's War: Romantic Rebellion, Greek Revolution* (2013); *Greece: Biography of a Modern Nation* (2019) and *The Greeks: A Global History* (2021). He has travelled very widely in Greece, the eastern Mediterranean and much of mainland Europe, and has many years' experience of lecturing on cruises. He is a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA); a Fellow of King's College; an Honorary Fellow of his old College at Cambridge, Peterhouse; and Commander of the Order of Honour of the Hellenic Republic. In 2023 he received honorary citizenship of Greece and an honorary doctorate from the University of Patras. In February 2025 he was knighted by King Charles III for services to History and UK/Greek relations.

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Valletta, Malta.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Agrigento for Valley of the Temples, Sicily.** Although handsome in its own right and awash with Medieval atmosphere, Agrigento is not our main reason for calling at this southern coast port. Close by is the Valle dei Templi, a series of Doric temples and the most captivating of Sicilian Greek remains, a grouping unique outside Greece. Surrounded in greenery of olive and almond trees, we can admire the Temple of Hera, the Temple of Concordia, the Dioscuri Temple, the Temple of Olympic Jove and the Temple of Hercules. After lunch on board the afternoon is free to explore Agrigento and shuttles will run from the port to the town and the excellent archaeological museum which you can explore at leisure.

**Day 3 Syracuse.** Syracuse was founded by the Greeks in 734 BC and by the 5th century was a political and military power throughout the Mediterranean, rivalling Athens as the largest and most beautiful city in the Greek world. This morning there will be a choice of excursions, visit the Neapolis Archaeological Park to discover the well-preserved Greek theatre with seats carved from limestone. 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 vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. Alternatively, drive to Noto, a picturesque city built in 1703 located on the terraced slopes of Mount Iblei. A guided walk along the central streets will reveal the 18th century Palazzo Ducezio and some of the Baroque churches. After lunch on board we have an afternoon at leisure to explore independently before we sail this evening.

**Day 4 Crotona, Italy.** After a morning at sea, we arrive in Calabria and the port of Crotona which is on the site of the ancient Greek City of Kroton. Whilst little remains of the Greek city it was one of the most important settlements of Magna Graecia, where Pythagoras set up a school in 530 BC and whose athletes were very successful at the Olympic Games. We will take a scenic drive inland this afternoon to Santa Severina, one of Italy's prettiest towns overlooking the Neto River valley. We will explore the majestic Carafa Castle, which was built by the Normans in 1076 and is surrounded by strong, crenellated walls with a moat on three sides and contains intricate underground labyrinths and stables, with the remains of Medieval frescoes. Also see the cathedral, the beautiful Byzantine baptistry and a chance to wander the town's tangled streets. On our return to the ship, we will stop at a local farmhouse for a tasting of typical Calabrian food served with local wine.

Temple of Concordia, Valle dei Templi, Agrigento





**Day 5 Gallipoli.** This morning we 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. After lunch on board the afternoon is free to explore historic Gallipoli, with its whitewashed houses and attractive old quarter that still has a Greek air about it.

**Day 6 Sarande, Albania.** The port of Sarande is our base to discover the ancient city of Butrint, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. On a guided tour 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 ship for lunch and spend the afternoon exploring at your own pace.

**Day 7 Corfu, Greece.** Praised by Homer in 'The Odyssey' and selected by Shakespeare as the setting for 'The Tempest', Corfu 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 enjoy a leisurely afternoon sailing.

**Day 8 Itea for Delphi.** 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 5,000 seat theatre dating from the 4th century BC. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon sailing to Corinth.

**Day 9 Corinth & Corinth Canal.** 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. On a morning tour we 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. Be on deck later this afternoon 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.

**Day 10 Athens to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

## Malta Pre-cruise Extension

26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> April 2027



If you would like to spend some time in Malta before embarking the MS Monet, we are offering a two night hotel extension.

### The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Valletta, Malta.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to our hotel and check in for a two night stay. Meet this evening for dinner. (D)

**Day 2 Valletta.** Enjoy a morning walking tour of Valletta, the 16th century 'Fortress City' built by the Knights of St John. Our morning tour will include the highlights of Valletta with its stunning views across the harbour from the Barakka Gardens. We will explore Merchants Street, containing the surviving auberges built by the Knights of St John of Jerusalem, together with the palace where Napoleon Bonaparte is believed to have stayed in 1798. Our final stop will be at St John's Cathedral. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure. (B)

**Day 3 Mdina.** This morning we will tour the city of Mdina. Known as the 'Silent City' at the heart of the island, Mdina was the fortified capital of the island before the arrival of the Knights. Enjoy a local lunch before transferring to the MS Monet which will be moored in Valletta. (B, L)

#### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£695** Single: **£895**

**Price Includes:** Two nights hotel accommodation in Valletta, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner), tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

#### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

#### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck	£5095	£4795
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£5495	£5195
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£5795	£5495
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£6495	£6195
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	£6795	£6495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • Nine nights aboard the MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# ISLAND HOPPING IN THE AEGEAN

Discover the beautiful Greek Isles aboard the MS Monet

27<sup>th</sup> May to 6<sup>th</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June\*, 15<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September  
& 25<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October\* 2027

Join us for a relaxing and informative voyage to some of the most idyllic islands in the Aegean. Part of the joy of a cruise aboard a small vessel is its capability to dock in small ports and cruising aboard the delightful MS Monet is a wonderful way to experience the lesser known islands of the southern Aegean and encounter their timeless quality. In addition to some day time cruising which allows us to enjoy some magnificent views, there will also be some overnight moorings. These afford the opportunity to take a stroll after dinner in some marvellous places that are particularly atmospheric in the evening. For those who wish to swim in the intensely blue Aegean there will also be time at leisure to explore the local beaches.



We have devised our itinerary to allow ample time to wander through the whitewashed villages and picturesque harbours of some hidden Greek island gems such as Sifnos, Lipsi, Nisyros, Fourni and Symi. In addition, whilst ensuring a relaxing time will be had by all, we could not devise an itinerary in this wonderful region without including visits to at least some of the wonderful ancient sites in the area and we will discover the fascinating site of Ephesus where St Paul preached and spend some time on Patmos where we will visit the grotto of St John.

With a maximum of just 50 guests, our trips ashore will be a pleasure as we explore with local guides who will also join us on board for our cruise, adding immeasurably to our knowledge of the region. Whether you are interested in ancient history, Greek myths or simply the joy of cruising aboard a small ship and experiencing new places and islands in this beautiful region, our island hopping voyage has something for everyone.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Athens, Greece.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Folegandros & Sifnos.** Arrive this morning at the little known island of Folegandros. Visit the clifftop capital of Chora, a wonderfully picturesque village with alleys lined with bougainvillea and hibiscus and a dramatic seascape over an edge which drops some 700 feet directly into the Aegean. Return to the ship for lunch and a relaxing afternoon at sea as we sail to Sifnos arriving in the early evening. This corner of the Cyclades is far from the well-trodden tracks of the big ships and you will be greeted by traditional white houses, picturesque churches and narrow lanes and alleys. Maybe take the chance for a pre or post-dinner drink ashore as we will moor overnight.

**Day 3 Sifnos & Syros.** A morning tour of Sifnos will include Apollonia, the island's tiny capital, the Virysianni Monastery and the villages of Kastros and Artemos, both delightful places to wander and admire the traditional architecture. Sail during lunch to Syros which was the largest cultural and trade centre of the Aegean in the 19th century and the capital Ermoupolis was Greece's principal port. Enjoy a leisurely afternoon with a stroll in the town of Ermoupoli, the capital of the Cyclades. The prosperity of the island in the 19th and early 20th century created through commerce and shipping is reflected in the architecture with a beautiful square, town hall and theatre. We will sail late this evening allowing time for those who wish to take an after-dinner stroll.

**Day 4 Fourni.** After a morning at sea we arrive at one of the best kept secret islands in the Aegean, Fourni. Once a haven for pirates who enjoyed the island's remote setting and little changed for centuries, it has a



wonderfully peaceful atmosphere. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to walk up from the harbour to the charming main square and enjoy a drink whilst observing island life.

**Day 5 Samos.** Today we explore Samos which lays claim to be the birthplace of Hera, the mathematician Pythagoras and philosopher Epicurus. From the port of Vathy we will visit the excellent archaeological museum with one of the richest collections in Greece including the five metre tall Kouros rescued from the Heraion and dedicated to the god Apollo. Continue to the Sanctuary of Hera, the second largest temple ever built in Greece dating from the 6th century BC before arriving at the charming village of Pythagorio. Return to the MS Monet for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon in Vathy where you may wish to learn about the local wine production at the museum of Samos wines, visit a local beach or wander through the historic quarter of Ano Vathy. We moor overnight for anyone wishing to take an after dinner stroll.

**Day 6 Kusadasi, Turkey.** Arrive in Kusadasi over breakfast. From our berth we will drive to the nearby ancient city of Ephesus, a stunning and partially excavated site where digging has been taking place for over a century. Broad streets are lined by impressive buildings including the Library of Celsus and the temples of Serapis and Hadrian. Once the capital of Ionia, St Paul preached here on his second missionary journey and we will see the Church of the Virgin Mary, the most important Christian monument in Ephesus. Also see the spectacular Grand Theatre, originally built in the 3rd century BC by the Greeks, and later expanded by the Romans to its present capacity of 24,000. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before we return back to Kusadasi for an afternoon at leisure.

**Day 7 Patmos, Greece.** Of all the Greek islands, Patmos is the most sacred to Christians both Orthodox and Western and it was here that St John received his revelation. This morning we will make our way to the grotto of St John. This small cave, now converted into the beautiful chapel, is where the Saint lived, had his revelation and wrote 'Book of the Apocalypse'. From here continue to the village of Chora, with its simple houses and Byzantine churches and climb to the Monastery of St John the Theologian. Upon entering into the courtyard, admire the intricate pebbled laid floor, decorated arches and frescoes adorning the entrance to the chapel of Christodoulos. Return to the MS Monet for lunch and this afternoon and evening are at leisure to explore the picturesque town of Skala or maybe enjoy a swim at a nearby beach. Over dinner we sail the short distance to Lipsi where we moor overnight.

**Day 8 Lipsi & Leros.** Today we can use our small ship to visit two of the less visited islands of the Dodecanese. Spend the morning on Lipsi. At just eight kilometres long, the tiny island of Lipsi is popular with yachts and has avoided the development of many surrounding islands. It is a wonderful place to spend a few hours walking amongst the whitewashed houses or take the opportunity to visit a local beach for a swim. Over lunch we sail to Leros, the island of Artemis the God of hunting. We will drive to the capital, Platanos to see the Pandeli Castle which overlooks Agia Marina offering wonderful views

from the ramparts to the harbour below and islands beyond. The Battle of Leros was a central event in World War II and we will also visit the War Museum and Commonwealth Cemetery before returning to the vessel.

**Day 9 Nisyros & Symi.** Arrive this morning at the small island of Nisyros. From the port of Mandraki we drive to the Polyvotis Volcano named after the Titan imprisoned under the rock of Nisyros during the battle with the gods. Here we will learn more of the legends and have the chance to walk into the caldera. Alternatively, maybe wander through the village, climb to the Monastery of Panagia Spiliani or visit the archaeological museum. We sail this afternoon to the island of Symi where we moor overnight.

**Day 10 Symi & Rhodes.** Spend the morning on the island of Symi, a small, mountainous and much indented pretty island. The harbour of Gialos is particularly attractive and we have time to stroll through the colourful cobbled streets. The Simians were famous boat builders and are mentioned in the Illiad as sending boats to assist the siege of Troy but are better known today for their sponge diving. In the mid afternoon we sail to Rhodes arriving in the late afternoon and moor overnight.

**Day 11 Rhodes to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

**\*Please note** that the itinerary for the 6th June & 25th September departure dates operates in the reverse direction from Rhodes to Athens. Full details can be viewed on our website.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck	£5295	£4995
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£5695	£5395
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£6195	£5895
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	£6795	£6495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard the MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# AEGEAN SECRETS

Island hopping in the Greek Isles aboard the MS Monet

16<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June 2027

Join us aboard the MS Monet for a relaxing and informative voyage to some of the most idyllic islands in the Aegean. Setting sail from Athens, the cradle of Western civilisation, we will cruise through the turquoise waters of the Aegean on a journey through the playground of the Greek Gods, learning of the myths and legends that surround the enchanted islands. Some of the islands we have included are very difficult to access without relying on the local ferry network, and it is during our time on such islands that you will truly be able to appreciate the unique atmosphere and island life. When combined with the dramatic scenery and clear waters of the Aegean, it is evident why this region has inspired writers, poets and artists since the time of Homer.

Our custom-made itinerary focuses on many islands that the mega cruise ships cannot access and, in addition to our included guided excursions, there will be ample time at leisure for some independent exploration or to swim in the intensely blue Aegean from the local beaches. We have scheduled some daytime sailing so as to enjoy our time ashore in the cooler hours of the day as we wander through the whitewashed villages and picturesque harbours of some hidden Greek island gems such as Fourni, Lipsi, Halki, Kasos and Folegandros. There will also be some late departures from port and overnight moorings, allowing for the opportunity to enjoy the evening atmosphere of some delightful harbour towns. With a maximum of only 50 guests, our trips ashore will be a pleasure as we explore with local guides who will also join us on board for our cruise, adding immeasurably to our knowledge of the region.



Agia Marina, Leros



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Athens, Greece.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Naxos & Syros.** Naxos offers a blend of ancient ruins, mountainous landscapes and sandy beaches. Across the harbour lies the ancient Portara, all that remains of an ancient temple built for Apollo and according to mythology where Theseus abandoned his love Ariadne after killing the Minotaur in Crete. After breakfast we can stroll through the narrow alleys to the old castle of Hora, built by an Italian adventurer in the 13th century, and walk past 14th century mansion houses, the cathedral and maybe visit the archaeological museum that provides a journey through Naxian history. Return to the MS Monet and sail to Syros over lunch. Enjoy a leisurely afternoon with a stroll in the town of Ermoupoli, the capital of the Cyclades. The prosperity of the island in the 19th and early 20th century created through commerce and shipping is reflected in the architecture

with a beautiful square, town hall and theatre. We will sail late this evening allowing time for those who wish to take an after-dinner stroll.

**Day 3 Fourni.** After a morning at sea we arrive at one of the best kept secret islands in the Aegean, Fourni. Once a haven for pirates who enjoyed the island's remote setting and little changed for centuries, it has a wonderfully peaceful atmosphere. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to walk up from the harbour to the charming main square and enjoy a drink whilst observing island life.

**Day 4 Patmos.** Of all the Greek islands, Patmos is the most sacred to Christians both Orthodox and Western and it was here that St John received his revelation. This morning we will make our way to the grotto of St John. This small cave, now converted into the beautiful chapel, is where the Saint lived, had his revelation and wrote 'Book of the Apocalypse'. From here continue to the village of Chora, with its simple houses and Byzantine churches and climb



Gialos, Symi



Naxos



Apollonia, Sifnos



Kasos beach

to the Monastery of St John the Theologian. Upon entering the courtyard, admire the intricate pebbled laid floor, decorated arches and frescoes adorning the entrance to the chapel of Christodoulos. Return to the MS Monet for lunch and this afternoon and evening are at leisure to explore the picturesque town of Skala or maybe enjoy a swim at a nearby beach. Over dinner we sail the short distance to Lipsi where we moor overnight.

**Day 5 Lipsi & Leros.** Today we can use our small ship to visit two of the less visited islands of the Dodecanese. Spend the morning on Lipsi. At just eight kilometres long, the tiny island of Lipsi is popular with yachts and has avoided the development of many surrounding islands. It is a wonderful place to spend a few hours walking among the whitewashed houses or take the opportunity to visit a local beach for a swim. Over lunch we sail to Leros, the island of Artemis the God of hunting. We will drive to the capital, Platanos, to see the Pandeli Castle, which overlooks Agia Marina offering wonderful views from the ramparts to the harbour below and islands beyond. The Battle of Leros was a central event in the Second World War and we will also visit the War Museum and Commonwealth Cemetery before returning to the vessel.

**Day 6 Nisyros & Symi.** Arrive this morning at the small island of Nisyros. From the port of Mandraki we drive to the Polyvotis Volcano named after the Titan imprisoned under the rock of Nisyros during the battle with the gods. Here we will learn more of the legends and have the chance to walk into the caldera. Alternatively, maybe wander through the village, climb to the Monastery of Panagia Spiliani or visit the archaeological museum. We sail over lunch to Symi, a small, mountainous and much indented pretty island. The harbour of Gialos is particularly attractive and we have time to stroll through the colourful cobbled streets. The Simians were famous boat builders and are mentioned in the Iliad as sending boats to assist the siege of Troy but are better known today for their sponge diving. We will moor overnight for those wishing to take an after-dinner stroll.

**Day 7 Halki.** Enjoy a few hours of free time in Gialos before we sail to the little-known island of Halki arriving in the port of Nimporio in the afternoon. The rest of the day is free to explore at your own pace through the maze of alleyways, see the picturesque houses, the church of Agios Nikolaos and the clock tower. Those feeling active may wish to walk to a local beach or climb to the old capital of Horio perched on a hill and where you can see the Castle of the Knights of St John and enjoy the wonderful views. We will sail late this evening allowing time for those who wish to take an after-dinner stroll.

**Day 8 Kasos.** The southernmost island in the Dodecanese, the tiny island of Kasos is only accessible by a small ship such as ours. Known for the

friendliness of the local people, we will spend the morning in the pretty harbour, see the Church of Aghios Spyridonas with its ornate bell tower and maybe try the local delicacies in one of the tavernas. There will also be the chance to swim at one of the picturesque beaches before we sail in the afternoon and spend the rest of the day at sea.

**Day 9 Folegandros & Sifnos.** Today we return to the Cyclades and the island of Folegandros. Visit the clifftop capital of Chora, a wonderfully picturesque village with alleys lined with bougainvillea and hibiscus and a dramatic seascape over an edge which drops some 700 feet directly into the Aegean. Return to the ship for lunch and a relaxing few hours at sea as we sail to Sifnos arriving in the early evening. This corner of the Cyclades is far from the well-trodden tracks of the big ships and you will be greeted by traditional white houses, picturesque churches and narrow lanes and alleys. Maybe take the opportunity to enjoy a post-dinner drink ashore as we will moor overnight.

**Day 10 Sifnos.** A morning tour of Sifnos will include Apollonia, the island's tiny capital, the Virysianni Monastery and the villages of Kastro and Artemos, both delightful places to wander and admire the traditional architecture. After lunch we have some free time before we sail in the late afternoon.

**Day 11 Athens to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

### LIMITED AVAILABILITY – SAVE £300 PER PERSON

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck	£5295	£4995
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£5695	£5395
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard the MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# JOURNEY THROUGH ANTIQUITY

A voyage from Athens to Split aboard the MS Monet with Guest Speaker David Stuttard  
26<sup>th</sup> June to 7<sup>th</sup> July 2027

Anyone who has sailed through the Peloponnese and along the Adriatic Coast will tell you that it is one of the most beautiful places on earth. The combined effect of the natural beauty with the intriguing history and stunning architecture of the towns and cities makes for a fascinating voyage. During our voyage between Athens and Split, we will sail through turquoise waters, admire rugged landscapes and visit some of the region's greatest sites in the company of our knowledgeable Guest Speaker.

Setting sail from Athens, our time in the Peloponnese will introduce you to the picturesque ports of Nafplio and Gytheio, the famous citadel of Mycenae, the ancient site and renowned theatre at Epidaurus, the Medieval castle town of Monemvasia, and the sporting history of Olympia. After a relaxing day at sea, we will then arrive at the heel of Italy we will spend two days exploring some of Puglia's gems. Sailing across to Montenegro a highlight for many will be our arrival into Kotor, a 14th century walled fortress town fronted by a sublime bay and surrounded by limestone cliffs. Our final days will be spent in Croatia visiting the delightful islands of Hvar and Brac before our voyage ends in the historic city of Split.

The rich legacy of multiple civilisations, each building atop another, is evident everywhere during our itinerary and our guided trips ashore will be a pleasure as we explore in small groups with our excellent local guides. This is not an itinerary that a large cruise ship could operate but one which is ideal for the 50-passenger MS Monet. Whether your interest lies in ancient history, modern politics or simply the joy of experiencing new places, this journey has much to offer.

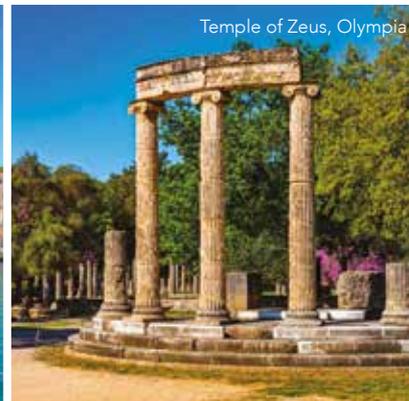




Epidaurus, Greece



Pucisca, Brac



Temple of Zeus, Olympia



Gytheio

## Guest Speaker – David Stuttard



With a degree in Classics from St Andrews University followed by three years of postgraduate research, David taught for eleven years in Edinburgh, St Andrews and York. To date he has written 19 books on classical history and literature including *A History of Ancient Greece in 50 Lives* (Thames and Hudson) and *Nemesis: Alcibiades and the Fall of Athens* (Harvard University Press), and his translations of Greek drama are published in Bloomsbury Press' Looking at series, for which he is series editor. David also has a long background in drama, having toured his own productions of Greek plays throughout the UK as well as to Graeco-Roman theatres including Ephesus and Butrint. His *Women and Troy* (with Dame Siân Phillips and Rachel Donovan) and *It's All Greek* (with Dame Siân Phillips, Robert Powell and Alex Jennings) are currently being staged in London and the South of England. David lives near Lewes in Sussex and is a fellow of Goodenough College.

Trulli Houses, Alberobello



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Athens, Greece.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Nafplio.** Looking out across the translucent water of the bay towards the Arcadian Mountains, Nafplio's sheltered location below a rocky headland and large natural fortress crowned by a Venetian castle is perhaps unrivalled in Greece. After a relaxing morning at sea and lunch on board, we will head to the famous citadel of Mycenae which is located high above the confluence of two boulder-strewn ravines and accessed by way of the Lion Gate. Once inside the gate, we will explore the Royal Palace, the shaft graves and the remains of the city walls. An archaeological briefing within the Treasury of Atreus (also known as the Tomb of Agamemnon) will add to our understanding and appreciation of the sights. We moor overnight in Nafplio allowing time for an after-dinner stroll.

**Day 3 Nafplio.** After breakfast we depart on a tour to one of the most renowned of Greece's ancient sites. Situated on the slopes of a beautiful and wooded valley, Epidaurus was known throughout the Hellenic world for its unique medical facilities and healing treatments. Dedicated to Asclepius, the god of healing, the city was filled with curative spas and baths and only priests had access to certain secret rites. Most of the ruins of Epidaurus have been reduced to their foundations, with the exception of the astonishing theatre. Still used for special performances, the theatre is in an admirable state of preservation. Return to the MS Monet for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon in Nafplio to wander the twisting labyrinthine streets and admire the Venetian and Turkish architecture of this charming town.

**Day 4 Gytheio & Monemvasia.** We arrive in picturesque Gytheio this morning and board our coach heading east towards magical Monemvasia. A massive rock rises dramatically out of the sea and on top there is a fortress. However, the real attraction is the Medieval town with its narrow cobbled streets and winding stairways which lead to a warren of stone houses with walled gardens and courtyards, and the main square dominated by an old cannon and the cathedral. During our guided walking tour we will visit the town castle, followed by a short transfer to Liotrivri mansion. The estate here was cultivated by the family of Eleftherios Ritsos (the father of Greek poet Yiannis Ritsos), and it was used as a summer house by the poet's family. We will have the opportunity to sample the local specialities during an olive oil tasting followed by a buffet lunch of local products and wines. After lunch we will return to the ship for a free afternoon in Gytheio.



**Day 5 Katakolon for Olympia.** We enjoy a relaxing morning at sea while we sail to Katakolon, arriving over lunch. The port of Katakolon will be our base for our afternoon excursion to Olympia. Pastoral and lush, Olympia's plentiful ruins are shaded by Aleppo pines and olive trees. The fame of Olympia rests upon the Olympic Games. During the celebrations that accompanied the Games, competitors, while not forgetting that they were Athenians, Spartans or from other city states, remembered that they were Greeks and regarded an Olympic victory as the highest honour. We will see the gymnasium, the stadium and the palestra or wrestling school. We will also explore the Altis, or sacred precinct of Zeus, which houses structures including the Temple of Zeus, one of the largest temples on the Greek mainland and the Archaeological Museum which houses some fine sculptures and artefacts from the site.

**Day 6 At Sea.** Enjoy a relaxing day at sea as we sail to Italy.

**Day 7 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 8 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 9 Kotor, Montenegro.** Be on deck as we enter the Gulf of Kotor and sail up the fjord-like entrance to the Medieval town and UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kotor. This really is an extraordinary place full of marvellous architecture and pretty town squares. Our walk will include the 12th century Cathedral of St Tryphon, the ancient town gates, the Maritime Museum and Romanesque churches including St Luke's. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon to explore at your own pace. Those feeling active may wish to take the strenuous climb to the Castle of San Giovanni which offers wonderful views over the bay and town below.

**Day 10 Hvar, Croatia.** After a morning sailing, we will arrive on the island of Hvar during lunch. From here we take a short coach ride across the island to the attractive Old Town of Hvar for a guided walk. We will begin in the main square which is the largest piazza in Dalmatia, see the cathedral, the Franciscan Monastery and the Benedictine Nunnery where we hear about the aloe lace still produced today by the nuns. Return to the ship and enjoy dinner on board. We will sail late tonight allowing time for an after-dinner stroll in this tranquil locale.

**Day 11 Brac.** Awake on the island of Brac and the attractive port of Pucisca located at the end of a long bay. Brac is world renowned for the quality of its stone which was used for the Diocletian's Palace in Split as well as the White House in Washington and other parliament buildings in Europe. Spend the morning in the charming small town, voted one of the prettiest in Europe, where the buildings' white roofs create an ambient atmosphere. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon exploring at your own pace or head to one of the nearby beaches for a swim. We will moor overnight, for those wishing to enjoy an after-dinner stroll.

**Day 12 Split to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

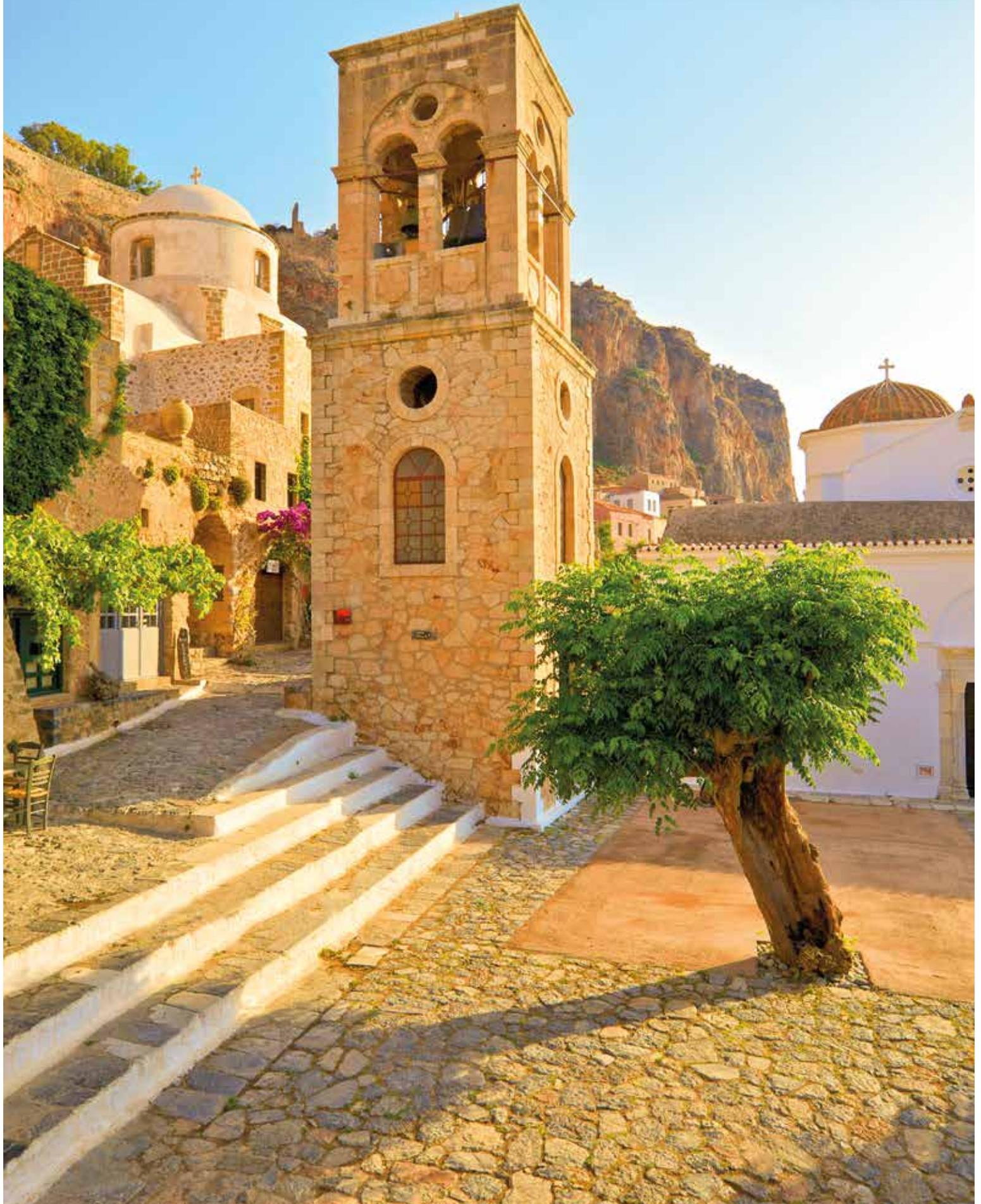
## PRICES PER PERSON

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/Parisian Deck	£5595	£5395
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£5995	£5795
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£6695	£6495
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£7195	£6995
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	£7395	£7195

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 11 nights aboard the MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance.



# AEGEAN & ADRIATIC ODYSSEY

A voyage between Split & Athens aboard the MS Monet

4<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2027

Anyone who has sailed through the Aegean and along the Adriatic Coast will tell you that it is one of the most beautiful places on earth. The combined effect of the natural beauty with the intriguing history and stunning architecture of the towns and cities makes for a fascinating voyage. During our voyage between Split and Athens, we will sail through turquoise waters, admire rugged landscapes and visit some of the region's greatest sites in the company of our knowledgeable Guest Speaker.

This is not an itinerary that a large cruise ship could operate but one which is ideal for the 50-passenger MS Monet. Our fascinating cruise begins in Croatia and the historic city of Split, followed by a call into the beautiful islands of Brac and Korcula before we spend time exploring the magnificent city of Dubrovnik. Sailing across to Montenegro a highlight for many will be our arrival into Kotor, a 14th century walled fortress town fronted by a sublime bay and surrounded by limestone cliffs. Arriving at the heel of Italy we will then explore some of Puglia's gems before we continue to Albania and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Butrint, whose ruins span some 2,500 years. Our final days are spent in Greece including a visit to the ancient Sanctuary of Apollo in Delphi before our transit of the remarkable Corinth Canal, a fitting end to our voyage.

The rich legacy of multiple civilisations, each building atop another, is evident everywhere during our itinerary and our guided trips ashore will be a pleasure as we explore in small groups with our excellent local guides. Whether your interest lies in ancient history, modern politics or simply the joy of experiencing new places, this journey has much to offer.



Fiskardo, Kefalonia



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Split, Croatia.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

**Day 2 Split & Brac.** A morning guided walk includes the Diocletian's Palace, built by the emperor in 295-305 AD as his retirement villa. Much of this large building is well preserved and the palace contains Split's old town within its walls, making it the only Roman palace that has been continuously inhabited since Roman times. It is a wonderful spot to wander the maze of streets. We sail over lunch to the island of Brac and the attractive port of Pucisca located at the end of a long bay. Brac is world renowned for the quality of its stone which was used for the Diocletian's Palace in Split as well as the White House in Washington and other parliament buildings in Europe. Spend a few hours in the charming small town, voted one of the prettiest in Europe, where the buildings' white roofs create an ambient atmosphere.

**Day 3 Korcula.** Spend the day on the island of Korcula, the reputed birthplace of the explorer Marco Polo. A morning guided tour will include a walk along Korcula's crooked Medieval streets revealing elegant squares flanked with palaces of the old nobility. After lunch on board we drive to the interior of the island, past olive groves and vineyards offering views down to the coast below. On our visit to a winery we will learn more about the mainly white wines that have been cultivated on the island for centuries before enjoying a tasting.

**Day 4 Dubrovnik.** Dubrovnik is a breathtaking sight and its many historic and cultural treasures have earned it the designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Founded by the Romans in the 7th century, it eventually came under the influence of the Byzantine Empire, then Venice, Hungary and finally Turkey. This morning our local guides will lead us through the bustling old town taking in the beautiful civic buildings, the Rector's Palace, the Romanesque-Gothic Dominican and Franciscan Monasteries and the Sponza Palace. This afternoon is free to relax on board or explore independently. Maybe take a walk on the city walls or ride the cable car up Mount Srd for the wonderful views over the city.

**Day 5 Kotor, Montenegro.** Over breakfast we enter the Gulf of Kotor and sail up the fjord-like entrance to the Medieval town and UNESCO World



Butrint



Dubrovnik



Monopoli

Heritage Site of Kotor. This really is an extraordinary place full of marvellous architecture and pretty town squares. Our walk will include the 12th century Cathedral of St Tryphon, the ancient town gates, the Maritime Museum and Romanesque churches including St Luke's. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon to explore at your own pace. Those feeling active may wish to take the strenuous climb to the Castle of San Giovanni which offers wonderful views over the bay and town below.

**Day 6 Monopoli, Italy.** Spend the morning at sea as we cross the Adriatic Sea to Italy. From our berth in Monopoli we have the option to drive 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. Alternatively spend the afternoon in charming Monopoli where you can wander through the historic centre, visit the cathedral or see the Castello di Carlo V.

**Day 7 Otranto & Lecce.** After breakfast 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 the afternoon is free 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. You can also see the Chapel of the Dead which shows the bones and skulls of 813 martyrs killed by the invading Turks in 1480.

**Day 8 Sarande, Albania.** The port of Sarande is our base to discover the ancient city of Butrint, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. On a guided tour 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 ship for lunch and spend the afternoon exploring at your own pace.

**Day 9 Preveza, Greece.** We arrive into Greece at the port of Preveza from where we head for the little known ancient city of Nikopolis, one of the largest and most important sites in the whole of Greece. Built by the Roman Emperor Octavianus Augustus following his victory at Aktium in 31 BC over Antony and Cleopatra, 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 as the seat of the archbishop of old Epiros, but earthquakes and invading Goths and Vandals led to its demise. Returning to the ship for lunch the afternoon is free to explore this pretty, yacht lined harbour town.

**Day 10 Argostoli, Kefalonia.** The largest of the Ionian Islands, Kefalonia is immortalised in the novel Captain Corelli's Mandolin and has great charm. From our berth in Argostoli we have a choice of excursions. A half day tour

will drive to the famous lighthouse of Agioi Theodori, the remarkable Venetian castle of Saint George and the 16th century Monastery of Agios Gerasimos. St Gerasimos is the patron saint of Kefalonia, and his relic is kept in the monastery, in a silver urn. Near to the monastery we find the Robala vineyards. Wines have been grown here since the 12th century and we will learn about the processes and enjoy a tasting before we return to the ship. The afternoon is free to explore the town of Argostoli. Alternatively, a full day tour will drive to the north of the island passing the famous Myrtos beach as we drive to the village of Assos. With just 100 residents it is one of the most charming spots on the island. Built on a small peninsula the town dominated by the ruins of a 16th century Venetian castle. After time to wander the streets viewing the traditional architecture, pretty harbour and pebbled beaches we continue to the small port of Fiskardo which curves serenely beside coral-blue waters, gazing out towards Ithaki. Thanks to its colourful crop of Venetian villas, spared from earthquake damage because they rest on a sturdy bed of flat rock, Fiskardo is home to upscale restaurants built around the small harbour where yachts jostle for space to dock. After lunch in the port and some free time to explore we return to the MS Monet.

**Day 11 Itea & Corinth Canal.** 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. Alternatively, enjoy some free time in Itea or visit one of the nearby beaches. Sail over lunch and in the late afternoon we transit the Corinth Canal. Completed in 1893 and only 6.4 kilometres long and 21.5 metres wide, it is only small ships like ours which can now make this journey. We will arrive into Lavrion late this evening and berth overnight.

**Day 12 Athens to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return 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/Parisian Deck	£5595	£5395
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£5995	£5795
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£6695	£6495
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£7195	£6995
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	£7395	£7195

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 11 nights aboard the MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# HALCYON DAYS ON AEGEAN ISLANDS

A voyage between Athens & Istanbul aboard the MS Monet  
5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October & 15<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October\* 2027

Join us for a relaxing and informative voyage to some of the most idyllic islands in the Northern Aegean. A cruise aboard a small ship like the MS Monet is a wonderful way to experience the region, allowing access to many of the delightful, yet often overlooked islands with ease and without having to rely on the local ferries.

Mighty civilisations, including Macedonians, Thracians, Romans, Byzantines, Slavs and Turks, have left their mark on the islands of the Aegean and during our ten night itinerary we will truly be able to appreciate the fascinating history, undisturbed natural splendour, scenic towns and villages, and beautiful uncrowded beaches.

Setting sail from Athens, we have devised our itinerary to allow ample time to wander through the whitewashed villages and picturesque harbours of some hidden Greek island gems such as Chios with its fortress-like Medieval villages, distinctive architecture and fragrant mastic trees, the volcanic landscapes of Limnos with its alluring capital of Myrina and the emerald paradise of Thassos, the most northerly of the Greek islands. Amongst the many ancient world highlights of our voyage are our visits to Thessaloniki, home to an array of Byzantine churches, featuring important early Christian mosaics, and Samothrace, where we visit the Sanctuary of the Great Gods temple complex, one of the great sites of the ancient world. In addition, we will visit one of Greece's most extraordinary sights, Meteora, the 'monasteries in mid-air'; the sheer spectacle of these dramatic rock formations will most certainly provide you with a lasting memory. Before our journey concludes in the captivating Turkish city of Istanbul, we will spend time in Canakkale where you can choose to visit the First World War trenches and cemeteries at Gallipoli or spend time exploring the ruins of the ancient city of Troy.



Our custom-made itinerary focuses on many islands that the mega cruise ships cannot access and, in addition to our included guided excursions, there will be ample time at leisure for some independent exploration. Beyond the fascinating sites, there is pristine coastline, beautiful mountainous scenery, pine forests, charming villages and superb beaches and with a maximum of only 50 guests, our trips ashore will be a pleasure as we explore with local guides.



Great Meteora Monastery



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Athens, Greece.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Naxos.** The largest island of the Cyclades, Naxos offers a blend of ancient ruins, mountainous landscapes and sandy beaches. Arriving this morning we will sail by the ancient Portara, all that remains of an ancient temple built for Apollo and according to mythology where Theseus abandoned his love Ariadne after killing the Minotaur in Crete. After docking in the town we can stroll through the narrow alleys to the old castle of Hora, built by an Italian adventurer in the 13th century and walk past 14th century mansion houses, the cathedral and maybe visit the archaeological museum providing a journey through Naxian history. The afternoon is free to explore further at your own pace and we sail late for anyone wishing to try some of the island's delicacies ashore this evening.

**Day 3 Chios.** The birthplace of Homer, Chios remained a significant Aegean island into the Byzantine period. Homer mentions the island by name several times in the Odyssey, calling it 'paipaloessa', or craggy, a richly deserved epithet. The island is rich in ancient ruins and this morning we will visit the 11th century Monastery of Nea Moni, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most important ecclesiastical monuments in Greece. Return to the MS Monet for lunch and this afternoon is free to explore the town of Chios independently. Alternatively, join a tour to the south of the island where we visit the beautifully preserved, 14th century fortress village of Mesta and the elaborately decorated houses of Pirgi enjoying time to wander through the maze-like streets.

**Day 4 Skopelos.** This morning we cruise across the Aegean to the Sporades Islands arriving into the picturesque island of Skopelos at lunchtime. An afternoon walking tour will explore the labyrinthine streets lined with whitewashed houses with picture-perfect courtyards and colourful balconies. Those feeling active can walk to the Church of Panagitsa of Pirgos and the 13th century Venetian castle offering panoramic views over the town below and islands across the waters. We also learn about the rich history of the island at the Folklore Museum, housed in a renovated 18th century stately building which displays a fine collection of ceramics, paintings, frescoes and photos. We sail late tonight for anyone who wishes to take an after dinner stroll.

**Day 5 Volos for Meteora.** Arrive today in Volos, the starting point of the expedition of Jason and the Argonauts from Greek Mythology, located in the Pagasetic Gulf at the foot of Mount Pelion. Leaving the port we will head through the fertile plains of Thessaly towards Meteora ("monasteries in midair"), one of the most extraordinary sights in Greece and in all of Europe. Rising from Thessaly's valley are gigantic rocks on top of which are monasteries built by hermits some 600 years ago and which are now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the monastery of Varlaam, originally founded in the 14th century and covered in fine frescoes and the monastery of Roussanou. We will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before we return to Volos where you may want to take a walk along the pedestrianised seaside promenade, the Argonauts Way.

**Day 6 Thessaloniki.** Since its foundation by King Cassander of Macedonia in 315 BC and named after his wife and stepsister of Alexander the Great, Thessaloniki has always been a metropolis. The long history of the city is evident in the varied architectural forms from the Hellenistic era up to the end of the 20th century as well as an astonishing Byzantine artistic heritage. This morning explore the city seeing the White Tower, the symbol of the city, the Galerius Arch, the Rotunda, St Dimitrios Church, the Citadel and the City Walls, from where you will have a marvellous view of the city and the Thermaic Gulf with Mount Olympus in the background. Alternatively drive to the Vergina Royal Tombs Museum which displays the superb, decorated facades of the temple-like tombs of King Philip II and a young prince (thought to be Alexander IV), the treasures found within them and a reconstruction of the Great Mound that originally marked the site of the Royal Tombs. The tombs were discovered in 1977-78 by the archaeologist Manolis Andronikos and until that time they were covered by a protective tumulus 13 metres high and 110 metres across. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore the city at your own pace.

**Day 7 Samothrace.** After a morning at sea we arrive on the small island of Samothrace. This rarely visited island contains one of the ancient world's great sites, the Sanctuary of the Great Gods, the site of important religious ceremonies. We will visit the main archaeological site including the Greek theatre, ruined temples and the ruins of a rotunda built for Arsinoe, one of the largest circular buildings from ancient Greece. Also see the replica of the statue of Nike, the original of which was discovered here in 1863 and now resides in the Louvre Museum.

**Day 8 Thassos.** The most northerly of the Greek Islands, Thassos is also known as the Emerald Isle due to the dense woodland and pine forests which slope down to the sea. This morning an island drive will include the well preserved 18th century Monastery of Archangel Michael. Located on a cliff with lovely views over the Aegean and Thassos coastline, it has retained a collection of religious articles, the most important being a part of the Holy Nail from the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Return to the ship for lunch and the afternoon is free to explore the port town of Limenas at your own pace. Maybe visit the archaeological museum, the remains of the ancient agora or walk to one of the nearby beaches. We sail late for anyone wishing to take a stroll this evening.

**Day 9 Limnos.** Awake in Myrina, the small capital of Limnos, an island steeped in mythology being the domain of the Greek god Hephaestus, the god of fire and metalworking, who fell on Limnos when his father, Zeus, threw him from Mount Olympus. A morning tour will cross the island to the archaeological site of Hephaestia, one of the island's principal cities in Antiquity and an important religious centre. We can see the ruins of the ancient baths, theatre and palace as well as the sanctuary devoted to the Great Goddess of Limnos. Spend the afternoon at leisure in pretty Myrina, known for its romantic castle built over the rocky promontory. Maybe explore the castle or the picturesque Romeikos Gialos, which is lined with charming Neoclassical houses one of which contains the Archaeological Museum.

**Day 10 Canakkale, Turkey.** Arrive in Turkey at the port of Canakkale, our base for a choice of excursions. Maybe visit the ancient city of Troy, where ongoing archaeological excavations have revealed nine different layers of cities superimposed in rings on a massive mound rising above the Plain of Ilium. It was at one of these cities, as legend has it, that the Greeks fought the Trojans as told by Homer in the Iliad. We will walk the walls that held Helen of Troy and look down at the plain where Achilles dragged the dead body of Hector. We can also visit the onsite Troy Museum. Alternatively, there will be an excursion to the Gallipoli Peninsula to see the World War I memorials which commemorate the Gallipoli campaign. It was here in 1915 that allied troops, mainly from Australia and New Zealand, landed intending to quickly defeat the Ottomans and facilitate ships to pass through to Dardanelles to capture Istanbul. However, the landings were contained by the Ottoman troops and trench warfare soon took hold leading to thousands of deaths. We will visit the memorials at Anzac Cove and Chunuk Bair. Return to the ship and spend the afternoon at sea as we cruise through the Dardanelles Strait.

**Day 11 Istanbul to London.** Be on deck this morning as we cruise into Istanbul. We will disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

\*Please note that the 15th October 2027 cruise operates in the reverse direction to that shown, from Istanbul to Athens. Full details can be viewed on our website.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

### LIMITED AVAILABILITY – SAVE £300 PER PERSON

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck	£5295	£4995
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£5695	£5395
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£6795	£6495
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard the MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

## Istanbul Post-cruise Extension

15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> October & 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October\* 2027



Hagia Sophia

If you would like to spend some time in Istanbul, we are offering a two night hotel extension inclusive of guided tours.

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 Istanbul, Turkey.** Disembark after breakfast and spend the morning at the impressive Topkapi Palace. After lunch we will check in to our hotel and have the remainder of the day at leisure. (B, L)

**Day 2 Istanbul.** Our exploration of Istanbul begins this morning with a visit to the Hippodrome, the centre of civic life during the Ottoman Empire, the Blue Mosque, named for its glorious 17th century painted tiles, and the Hagia Sophia, first a Byzantine patriarchal basilica and now an imperial mosque. After lunch in a local restaurant a short walk brings us to the Basilica Cistern, one of the most magnificent, covered cisterns in Istanbul. Return to the hotel for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

**Day 3 Istanbul to London.** After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)

\*Please note that the extension departing on 13th October 2027 operates as a pre-cruise extension. Full details can be viewed on our website.

## THE BANK HOTEL, ISTANBUL

Nestled in the historic neighbourhood of Karakoy, The Bank Hotel is ideally situated for discovering the treasures of Sultanahmet and beyond. Originally built in 1876 in the grand Neo-Renaissance style, this former bank has been exquisitely restored, blending its rich heritage with timeless elegance. A Member of Design Hotels, The Bank Hotel offers 62 rooms, a rooftop restaurant with magnificent views of Old Istanbul, a gym and spa, and provides guests with a truly unforgettable stay.



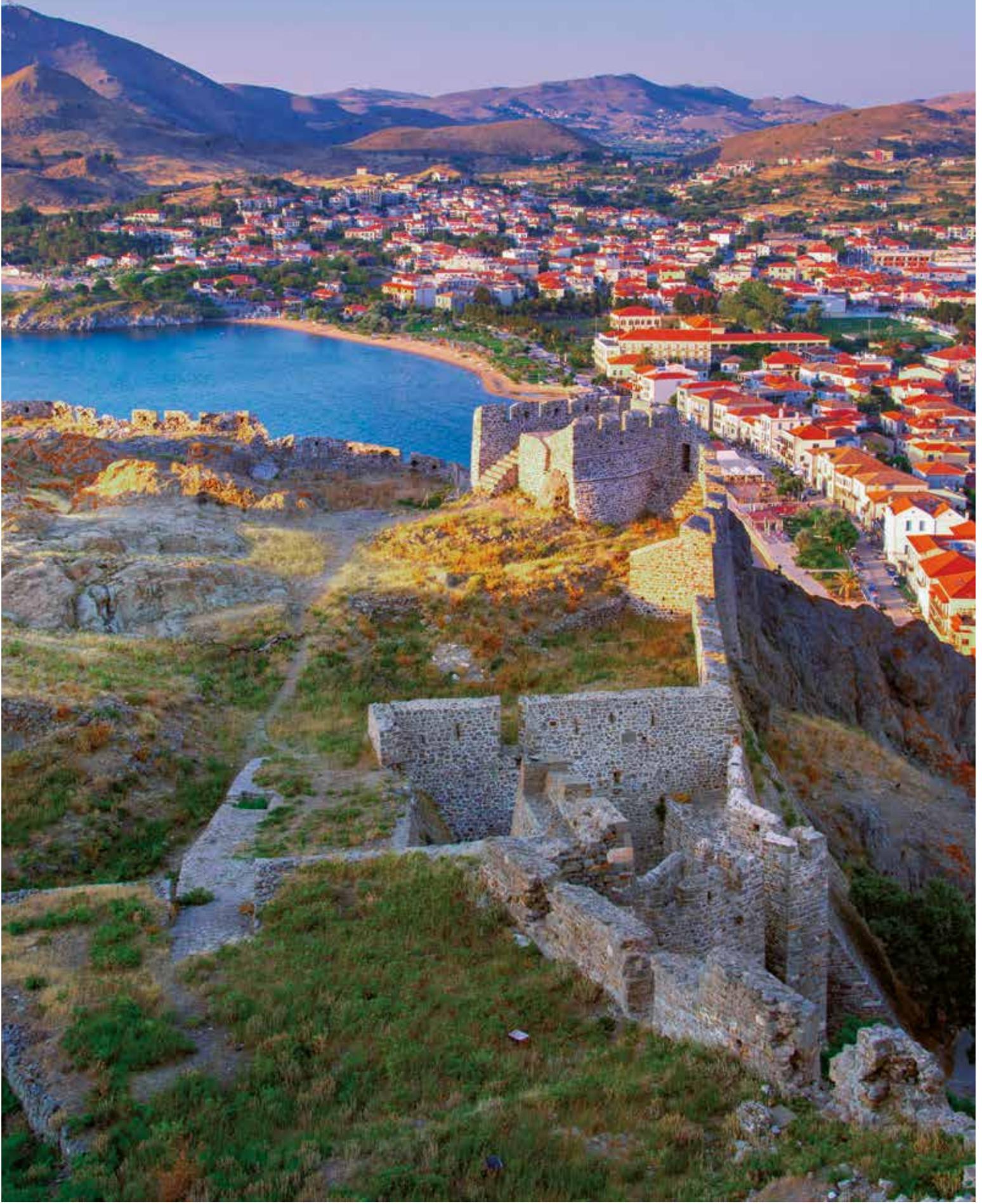
## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£895** Single: **£1145**

**Price Includes:** Two nights accommodation at The Bank Hotel Istanbul, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch), tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.



# ANCIENT WONDERS OF THE CLASSICAL WORLD

A voyage tracing the ancient routes between Athens & Larnaca aboard the MS Monet  
25<sup>th</sup> October to 6<sup>th</sup> November & 6<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November\* 2027

Join us for this relaxing and informative voyage exploring the ancient wonders of the Eastern Mediterranean as we cruise between Greece and Cyprus, visiting some of the most fascinating sites of the ancient world and spending time in some of the scenic towns and coastal ports along the way. Our itinerary has been devised to include a rich collection of archaeological, historical and beautiful sites in Greece, Turkey and Cyprus, and combines some 'must see' sites together with charming ports where the laid back atmosphere will complement our small ship as we explore the delightful towns.



The awe-inspiring sites of Greece and Turkey have fascinated travellers throughout the centuries and during this voyage we will explore some of the most historic and scenically beautiful sites of the region, we will learn about the great cities that flourished and fell, and the intriguing civilisations that so coveted these ancient lands. Our itinerary includes some truly wonderful places such as Nafplio, a beautiful coastal city in the Peloponnese from where we will visit the ancient Greek city of Epidaurus, famed as a place of miraculous healing, and we spend a day on Patmos where we will visit the grotto of St John. Continuing to the Turkish Coast we will visit some truly magnificent ancient sites including Ephesus, one of the most famous Graeco-Roman sites in the Mediterranean. We will also discover the ancient cities of Perge and Side, the town of Silifke which dates back to the 3rd century BC, and Tarsus, the birthplace of St Paul. Our enthralling voyage concludes in Cyprus with our final days spent exploring some of the island's ancient sites including the Temple of Apollo and the ruins of Kourion with its Graeco-Roman Theatre and lovely coastal views.

Our itinerary represents small ship cruising at its best and is timed for autumn when the pleasant temperatures and absence of high summer crowds will contribute towards making this a very memorable journey during which over 3000 years of history can be viewed in relative peace. With a maximum of only 50 guests aboard the MS Monet, our trips ashore will be a pleasure as we explore with excellent local guides and by the end of the voyage you will have seen and learnt so much.

## Guest Speakers



### The Right Reverend Nick Baines 25<sup>th</sup> October 2027 Departure

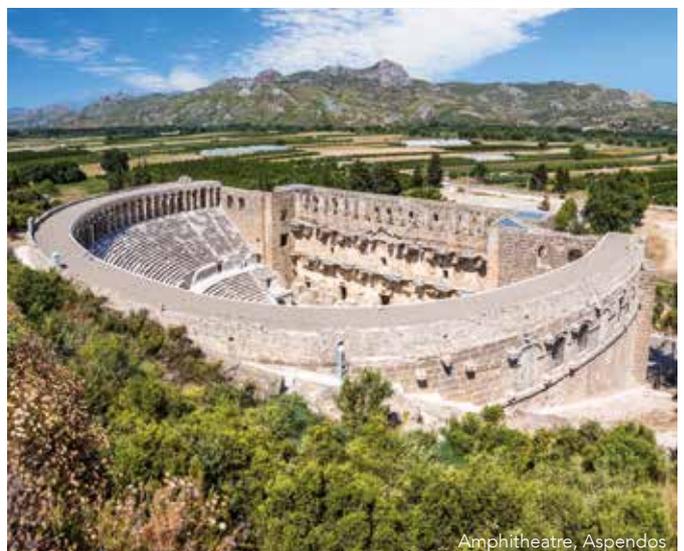
The Rt Revd Nick Baines has been the Bishop of Leeds since 2014. He was previously the Bishop of Bradford and the Bishop of Croydon. He read German and French at Bradford University and, before ordination, worked for four years as a

Russian linguist at GCHQ. Nick is regularly heard on BBC Radio 2 and BBC Radio 4, is often asked to comment nationally on topical issues, and has written seven books on Christian faith. Nick has been a member of the House of Lords since 2014, leading on Europe, Russia, Sudan, security & intelligence. He has represented the Archbishop of Canterbury at international faith conferences and for 11 years was the English Co-chair of the Meissen Commission which develops relationships between the Church of England and the EKD (Protestant Church in Germany).



### Dr Steve Kershaw 6<sup>th</sup> November 2027 Departure

Dr Steve Kershaw is a tutor in Classics for Oxford University Department for Continuing Education, an accredited lecturer for The Arts Society (ex- NADFAS), and lectures for the Victoria and Albert Museum's Early Medieval: 300 - 1250 and The Classical World and Classical Revivals courses. His publications include *The Penguin Dictionary of Classical Mythology*, *A Brief Guide to the Greek Myths*, and *A Brief Guide to Classical Civilization*. Steve is the author and tutor for Oxford University's online courses in Greek Mythology, The Fall of Rome, and Minoans and Mycenaeans. In 2016 he appeared as an Expert Contributor to The History Channel's Barbarians Rising series, and he has travelled widely in the world of the Greeks and Romans, both physically and intellectually.



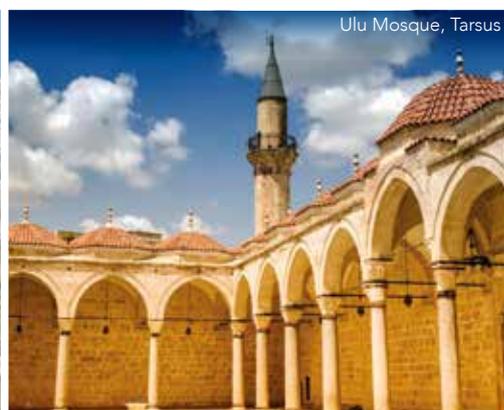
Amphitheatre, Aspendos



Old Fortress, Alanya



Syros



Ulu Mosque, Tarsus



Patmos



Kourion

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Athens, Greece.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet in the port of Lavrion and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Nafplio.** After breakfast we depart on a tour to Epidaurus, one of the most renowned of Greece's ancient sites. Situated on the slopes of a beautiful, wooded valley, Epidaurus was known throughout the Hellenic world for its unique medical facilities and healing treatments. Dedicated to Asclepius, the god of healing, the city was filled with curative spas and baths, and certain secret rites were accessible only to priests. Most of the ruins of Epidaurus have been reduced to their foundations, with the exception of the astonishing theatre. Still used for special performances, the theatre is in an admirable state of preservation. Return to the ship for lunch and the afternoon is at leisure in Nafplio to explore at your own pace, perhaps wandering through its labyrinth of narrow streets and admiring the Venetian and Ottoman architecture of this charming town.

**Day 3 Syros.** After a relaxing morning at sea, we arrive at Syros which was the Aegean's foremost cultural and trading centre in the 19th century and the capital Ermoupoli was Greece's principal port. Enjoy a leisurely afternoon with a stroll through the town of Ermoupoli, the capital of the Cyclades. The prosperity of the island in the 19th and early 20th centuries is reflected in the architecture, with its grand town hall, theatre and beautiful square. Overlooking Ermoupoli stands hill-top Ano Syros, the original Medieval district with narrow lanes and whitewashed houses.

**Day 4 Patmos.** Of all the Greek islands, Patmos is the most sacred to Christians, both Orthodox and Western alike, as it was here that St John received his revelation. This morning we will make our way to the Grotto of St John. This small cave, now converted into a beautiful chapel, is where the Saint lived, had his revelation and wrote 'Book of the Apocalypse'. From here we continue to the village of Chora, with its simple houses and Byzantine churches, and climb to the Monastery of St John the Theologian. Upon entering the courtyard, admire the intricate pebbled-laid floor, decorated arches and frescoes adorning the entrance to the chapel of Christodoulos. Return to the MS Monet for lunch and this afternoon and evening are at leisure to explore the picturesque town of Skala.

**Day 5 Kusadasi, Turkey.** Arrive in Kusadasi over breakfast. From our berth we drive to the nearby ancient city of Ephesus, a stunning and partially excavated site where archaeological work has been taking place for over a

century. Broad streets are lined with impressive buildings including the Library of Celsus and the Temples of Serapis and Hadrian. Once the capital of Ionia, St Paul preached here on his second missionary journey and we will see the Church of the Virgin Mary, the most important Christian monument in Ephesus. Also visit the spectacular Grand Theatre, originally built in the 3rd century BC by the Greeks, and later expanded by the Romans to its present capacity of 24,000. After lunch in a local restaurant we will return to the MS Monet in Kusadasi where the remainder of the afternoon will be at leisure.

**Day 6 Fethiye.** Enjoy a relaxing morning at sea. After lunch on board, we arrive in Fethiye and travel southeast to discover the rich Lycian towns of the past. Drive along the Esme River to the ancient city of Xanthos, Lycia's prominent capital city built on a high cliff overlooking the river. Xanthos boasts several significant ruins, including the Nereid Monument, an exquisite classical building whose figured friezes are in the British Museum. Continue to Letoon, a city named after Leto, the mother goddess of Lycians. The history of Letoon is closely linked with that of Xanthos. It is known to have been one of the most important religious centres of the Lycian region in Anatolia. Due to the rising water level, archaeological digs have been suspended. The remains unearthed indicate they belong to the period between the 7th century BC and the 6th century AD. We will see the ruins of the temples dedicated to Leto, Artemis and Apollo, and the amphitheatre.

**Day 7 Antalya.** This morning from Antalya we will explore the principle Roman ruins along Turkey's southern coast. We pass the modern city of Antalya en route to the ancient city of Perge, which dates back to 1000 BC and was founded by Mopsus and Calchas after their retreat from Troy. See the Basilica of Perge, which played an important role in the spread of Christianity, the 2nd century AD stadium, the baths complex and two magnificent round towers of the Greek Gate. We drive further east for a visit to Aspendos, whose amphitheatre built in the 2nd century AD is considered the best preserved in the Mediterranean. After lunch in a local restaurant, continue to visit the excellent Archaeological Museum or return to the ship for some free time.

**Day 8 Alanya.** After breakfast we drive along the beautiful Turkish Riviera towards the ancient city of Side, once one of the leading Pamphylian cities on the south coast of Anatolia. Visit the Grand Theatre, a perfect example of a Roman theatre built on vaults on flat land. Walk through the town, view the old harbour and see the remains of the Temple of Apollo. We drive back to



Alanya with views of the Taurus Mountains in the east, then continue towards Incekum along the Turkish Riviera to the west. Our drive passes citrus and banana plantations before arriving at Damlatas Cave - a masterpiece of nature, renowned for its curative properties for asthma. After lunch on board, we visit the Archaeological Museum in the city centre, which displays artefacts from Perge and the Pamphylian coast of Turkey. Continue on to the Alanya Castle, a Seljuk era citadel dating from 1226. Inside the castle is the Suleymaniye Mosque and Caravanserai, built by Suleiman the Magnificent. We end our day with a visit to the Kizil Kule (Red Tower). This is the last of Alanya Castle's 83 towers that protects the Tersane (arsenal) and still remains one of the finest examples of Medieval military architecture.

**Day 9 Tasucu.** Our morning tour starts with a drive into the Taurus Mountains to Uzuncaburc, where the remnants of Roman Diocaesarea are located within the village. Originally the ancient city of Olba, the most conspicuous remains are those of the ancient Temple of Zeus Olbius and a great watch tower. After lunch on board there will be an afternoon tour to Silifke. Silifke, the ancient Seleucia, is situated at the foot of the town hill on both sides of the Goksu River, known in antiquity as the Calycadnus, and was founded between 296 and 280 BC by Seleucus Nicator, one of the most famous generals of Alexander the Great. We will visit the underground church of St Thecla, a Christian site dedicated to St Thecla, one of St Paul's early devotees. Thecla is said to have spent her later years here trying to convert the locals of Seleucia to Paul's teachings and it is one of the most famous pilgrimage sites in Turkey. We continue to Silifke Archaeological Museum which displays Roman and Byzantine objects, as well as local folk costumes. Continue along the shore to Corycos where, in 191 BC, the fleet of Antiochus the Great was defeated by the Romans. See the ancient tombs and view the castle of Kiz Kalesi from the shore.

**Day 10 Mersin.** This morning we arrive in Mersin, the capital of Icel province, which borrows its name from myrtle, the evergreen vegetation which grows in the area. From here it is a short drive to Tarsus, the birthplace of St Paul which was an important part of the trade route to the interiors of Asia Minor. We will see the well dedicated to St Paul and the church built in 1862 to his name. Walk through the narrow streets of old Tarsus with typical stone and timber-built houses, see the Roman road in the north of the city and visit the Tarsus Museum where we will see the relics from Gozlukule excavations. We end at the Ulu Mosque and Makami-Sherif Mosque, both converted from ancient churches. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon sailing.

**Day 11 Limassol, Cyprus.** Today we drive to Paphos, the ancient capital of Cyprus and birthplace of Aphrodite, the Goddess of Love and Beauty symbolised by the legendary Aphrodite's Rock. We will visit the 13th century Chrysopolitissa Church which is shared by the Anglican and Catholic congregations. Saint Paul visited Paphos in AD 45 in an attempt

to convert the ruler of the time to Christianity. He was successful in his efforts, but not before being tied and whipped to an otherwise unremarkable lump of stone, the Pillar of Saint Paul, which we will see during our visit. After lunch in a local restaurant and some free time in the picturesque fishing harbour of Paphos, we continue to the archaeological park, known as the House of Dionysus with the fabulously preserved mosaics which date back to the 2nd century AD.

**Day 12 Limassol.** This morning we drive to the Temple of Apollo, one of the main religious centres of ancient Cyprus. We will continue to the ruins of Kourion, a city built in 1200 BC. The most spectacular site at Kourion is the Greco-Roman Theatre which has been completely restored and is used today for open-air musical and theatrical performances. We will also visit Kolossi Castle, which was built in the 15th century on the ruins of a former fortress dated to the beginning of the 13th century. Some of these ruins can still be seen east of the present castle. After lunch on board, the afternoon is at leisure to explore further at your own pace.

**Day 13 Larnaca to London.** Disembark in Limassol after breakfast and transfer to Larnaca Airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

\*Please note that the 6th November departure operates in the reverse direction from Larnaca to Athens. Full itinerary can be viewed on our website.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck	£6295	£5995
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£6695	£6395
B	Superior Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£7295	£6995
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	£8095	£7795

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 12 nights aboard the MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance.





# NOBLE CALEDONIA

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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.  
Cover image: Symi, Greece.