



National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

UNESCO TREASURES OF ANCIENT GREECE

SEPTEMBER 17-26, 2026



CIRCUMNAVIGATING
THE PELOPONNESE

by Private Luxury Yacht

aboard the 50-Cabin

Emerald Azzurra



Mosaic detail in Athens.
COVER: Delphi

Dear Traveler,

YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS in the heart of historic Athens. Spend the night at the stylish and contemporary Athens Capital Hotel – MGallery Collection, ideally located on Syntagma Square. The following morning, explore the richness of Greek antiquity with a private visit to either the Goulandris Museum of Cycladic Art, featuring Aegean figurines and artifacts from the Early Bronze Age, or the Benaki Museum of Greek Culture, which traces Greece's long history through finely curated collections. Then, enjoy lunch at a traditional Greek restaurant.

That afternoon, board the luxurious 50-cabin *Emerald Azzurra* for a private seven-night voyage. Its sleek design grants access to hidden harbors and a rare full circumnavigation of the Peloponnese. The itinerary centers on archaeological exploration, with visits to five UNESCO World Heritage sites: Mycenae, where the Mask of Agamemnon was found; Epidaurus, known for its perfectly preserved ancient theater; Mystras, a remarkable Byzantine city; Olympia, birthplace of the Olympic Games; and Delphi, once home to the most influential oracle in the ancient world.

Along the way, enjoy exclusive access to Nestor's Palace, one of the best-preserved Mycenaean palaces on the mainland. Take a peaceful boat ride through the Diros Caves, whose chambers show signs of Neolithic habitation. Between guided visits, explore coastal towns such as Nafplion, Gythio, and Pylos, each with deep historical roots. Conclude the voyage with a spectacular passage through the Corinth Canal before returning to Athens.

Travelers may also opt for a two-night pre-tour extension in the capital.

With kind regards,



Meg Annacone-Poretz
Director, National Trust Tours





Gythio

Highlights

Visit five UNESCO World Heritage sites with expert local guides: Epidaurus, Mycenae, Mystras, Olympia, and Delphi.

Transit of the Corinth Canal, whose history extends back into classical times, including an unsuccessful attempt to build it in the 1st century AD.

Cruise for seven nights aboard the luxurious *Emerald Azzurra*, a state-of-the-art mega-yacht privately chartered and expertly staffed for unparalleled comfort and service.

Gain special access to one of the most important Mycenaean sites in Greece, Nestor's Palace at Pylos dating back before 1200 BCE.

Wander through charming seaside towns like Nafplion, Gythio, and Pylos, where cobblestone streets, whitewashed buildings, and vibrant harbors create picturesque settings perfect for exploration.



STUDY LEADERS EXPERTS FROM CO-SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS, including the Archaeological Institute of America, the American Horticultural Society, Colorado College, and Yale Alumni Academy, will offer lectures throughout the program.

Ancient Messene





SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

NAFLION ≈ MYCENAE ≈ EPIDAUROS

Spend the day visiting two incredible UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Explore Mycenae, the fabled Bronze Age citadel that, according to Homer, was ruled by King Agamemnon. Then head to Epidauros to see the historic Asclepeion and experience the remarkable acoustics of the 4th-century B.C. theater. Enjoy lunch at Skouras, a renowned local estate, with the option to stay a bit longer afterward for a vineyard tour. Later in the afternoon, choose between exploring the grounds and ramparts of Palamidi Fortress or taking a guided walking tour through the charming streets of Nafplion, a picturesque seaside town beneath the Venetian castle. *EMERALD AZZURRA* (B,L,D)

ITINERARY

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 & 18

HOME ≈ ATHENS, GREECE

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Athens, Greece. Arrive Friday, September 18, and transfer to the centrally located Athens Capital Hotel—MGallery Collection, situated at Syntagma Square. This elegant boutique hotel blends contemporary design with classic Greek touches. In the evening, gather for a welcome orientation and reception.

ATHENS CAPITAL HOTEL (R)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

ATHENS ≈ PIRAEUS ≈ EMBARKATION

After breakfast, enjoy the first lecture of the trip. In the morning, choose between a visit to the Goulandris Museum of Cycladic Art, the Benaki Museum of Greek Culture, or a guided exploration of the historic Athens National Garden. Savor a delicious Greek lunch. In the afternoon, embark the *Emerald Azzurra* in the port of Piraeus. The day concludes with the Captain's welcome reception and dinner aboard. *EMERALD AZZURRA* (B,L,D)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

GYTHION ≈ MYSTRAS ≈ SPARTA ≈ DIROS CAVES

Start the day with a morning lecture before visiting the UNESCO World Heritage site of Mystras, a beautifully preserved medieval walled town, and the legendary city of Sparta. As an afternoon alternative, return to Gythio for lunch on board the ship or on your own at one of the town's inviting seaside tavernas. Then set out on a small-boat cruise through the Diros Caves, where dramatic stalagmites and stalactites reveal an ancient shelter and sacred place of worship. *EMERALD AZZURRA* (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

KALAMATA ≈ MESSENE

Begin the day with a morning lecture, followed by a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site of ancient Messene, a classical city-state re-founded in 369 BC. Wander through its remarkably well-preserved ruins including ancient walls, a theater, temples, and a stadium set against rolling hills and olive groves. Explore the ongoing excavations and restoration projects and visit the onsite museum showcasing remarkable archaeological finds. Or visit



Athens
Acropolis



Diros Cave



Corinth Canal

the gardens of the Patrick Leigh Fermor House in Kardamyli, set on terraces overlooking the sea. Conclude with lunch aboard the ship and time to cruise or swim in the crystal-clear waters nearby. *EMERALD AZZURRA* (B,D)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

PYLOS

Explore the remarkable Bronze Age site of Nestor's Palace, where storerooms once held vast jars of olive oil, and learn about life in the Mycenaean world. Visit a working olive farm to see traditional cultivation practices and sample fresh, organic oils. Alternatively, explore historic landmarks such as Methoni Castle, one of the largest fortresses in the Mediterranean, or the Pylos Archaeological Museum. Enjoy free time to stroll through the charming streets of Pylos' historic center, browsing local shops or simply taking in the town's atmosphere.

EMERALD AZZURRA (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

KATAKOLON ≈ OLYMPIA

Begin the morning with a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Olympia, the iconic location of the ancient Olympic Games. Explore its remarkable temples, stadium, sanctuary, stoa, and museum. Experience history first-hand by partaking in a foot race on the original Olympic track. Choose to tour the Botanical Garden, where plant species are selected based on descriptions in Greek literature, or dive deeper into the past at the Archaeological Museum, home to statues, votive offerings, and treasures from the ancient sanctuary. In the afternoon, relax with a scenic cruise along the stunning Gulf of Corinth.

EMERALD AZZURRA (B,L,D)

Methoni Castle



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

ITEA (DELPHI) ≈ CORINTH CANAL

Start the day with a morning lecture before docking at Itea for a climb to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Delphi, famed for the Oracle whose pronouncements were sought for centuries. In the afternoon, cruise through the breathtakingly narrow Corinth Canal, where teal crystal-clear waters meet dramatic cliffs. The day concludes with the Captain's farewell reception and dinner aboard.

EMERALD AZZURRA (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

ATHENS, GREECE ≈ HOME

Disembark in Athens this morning and transfer to Athens International Airport for flights home. (B)

OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP EXTENSION

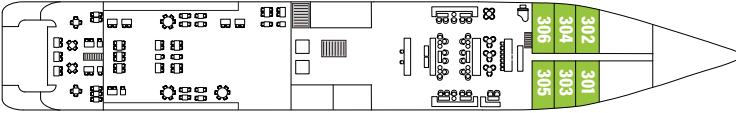
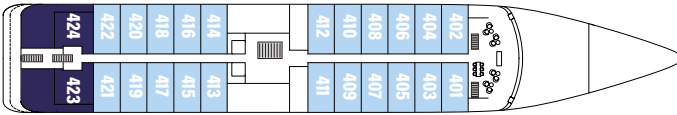
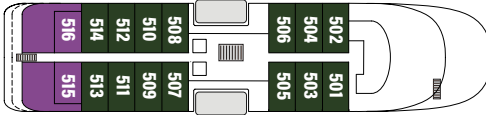
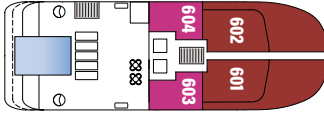
TUESDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15-18

HOME ≈ ATHENS, GREECE

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Athens, Greece. Arrive Wednesday, September 16, and transfer to the centrally located Athens Capital Hotel—MGallery Collection. Experience the treasures of Athens on this two-night pre-tour extension. Explore ancient landmarks from the bustling Agora and lively Plaka to the iconic Acropolis and its acclaimed museum. Savor authentic Greek meals, visit the National Archaeological Museum, and enjoy time to wander this vibrant city at your own pace.

EMERALD AZZURRA

In March 2022, Emerald Cruises launched the *Emerald Azzurra*, a sleek mega-yacht designed to explore ports and harbors inaccessible to larger ships. Measuring 360 feet in length with just 50 spacious cabins, this stunning vessel offers a modern, Scandinavian-inspired ambiance. Forty-four cabins feature step-out balconies, and each cabin includes convertible beds, flat-screen TVs, stocked mini-bars, and bathrooms equipped with hair dryers, plush robes, and premium bath products. The *Azzurra* offers inviting public spaces designed for relaxation and comfort, including multiple lounges and outdoor areas where you can soak in the views. Delight in fresh, locally sourced cuisine prepared by expert chefs, served either in the elegant Reflections Restaurant or al fresco on The Terrace. Indulge in a range of luxurious amenities: unwind with a dip in the infinity pool or soak in the outdoor hot tub. Savor handcrafted cocktails at the open-air Sky Bar or in the elegant Horizon Bar & Lounge (which also converts to a lecture room with full A/V capabilities). Rejuvenate your body and mind at the Wellness Center with soothing massages, revitalizing facials, and a cutting-edge infrared sauna. Stay connected with complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the yacht, and explore onshore with a selection of bikes available for guests.



CATEGORY	PROGRAM RATES (Per Person)
D OCEANVIEW STATEROOM 183-205 ft ² , window	
double occupancy	\$10,990
single occupancy	\$15,990
B BALCONY SUITE 260 ft ² , sliding glass door to 45 ft ² private balcony	
double occupancy	\$13,990
single occupancy	\$19,990
A BALCONY SUITE 260 ft ² , sliding glass door to 45 ft ² private balcony	
double occupancy	\$14,990
S DELUXE BALCONY SUITE 305 ft ² , sliding glass door to oversized 100 ft ² balcony	
double occupancy	\$16,990
T TERRACE SUITE 260 ft ² , sliding glass door to 410 ft ² private terrace	
double occupancy	\$19,990
Y YACHT SUITE 345 ft ² , sliding glass door to 375 ft ² private terrace	
double occupancy	\$21,990
SA OWNER'S SUITE 580 ft ² , sliding glass door to 600 ft ² private terrace	
double occupancy	\$26,990

GENERAL INFORMATION

Fees Include All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary including one hotel night and seven nights aboard *Emerald Azzurra* ■ Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures and presentations ■ Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates ■ Baggage handling ■ Gratuities to porters, waitstaff, guides and drivers ■ Gratuities to shipboard personnel ■ Port charges ■ Entrance fees ■ Welcome and farewell wine receptions ■ House wine, beer, liquor, mini bar drinks, and soft drinks with group lunches and dinners and onboard *Emerald Azzurra* ■ Filtered water on motorcoaches ■ Professional tour manager throughout the program

Fees Do Not Include U.S. domestic and international airfare ■ Passport/visa expenses ■ Medical expenses and immunizations ■ Private airport transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure dates ■ Travel and trip cancellation insurance ■ Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options ■ Airline baggage charges ■ Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; premium alcoholic drinks ■ Laundry or dry cleaning ■ Telephone, fax, Internet, and email charges ■ Room service ■ Other items of a personal nature

Air Arrangements U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754 or by e-mail at tourflights@vwvti.com. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

What to Expect The pace of this tour is moderately active with considerable walking each day, often over very uneven and cobblestoned terrain, and extended periods of standing. The ship has two elevators. Participants must be in good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by National Trust Tours or Criterion Travel, our tour operator; local staff; and host country laws. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply.

Reservations & Payments A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. If you have questions, or to register using a credit card

(preferred method), please call (888) 484-8785 or email info@nationaltruststours.com. Final payment deadline is **May 20, 2026**. For those who register on or after May 20, 2026, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment may be made by check, bank transfer, or credit card (credit card payments will incur a 2% fee).

A Note About Rates

Program rates are based upon current fuel prices, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

Passenger Cancellations & Refunds

Upon payment of a deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After May 20, 2026 final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate.

NOTE: Neither the National Trust for Historic Preservation nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of nonrefundable tickets.

Travel Insurance National Trust Tours strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to covered illness or accident. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. USI Travel Insurance Services offers a plan designed specifically for National Trust Tours travelers, providing coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical, and more. Plus, you can upgrade your plan with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage for the utmost flexibility. CFAR allows you to cancel your trip for ANY reason at all and be reimbursed up to 75% of your pre-paid, nonrefundable trip

costs (conditions apply, see plan for details). To purchase travel insurance today, call: (800) 937-1387. For additional information, please contact National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785. Complete Terms and Conditions including a Statement of Responsibility will be made available at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

Itinerary Changes The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

Eligibility National Trust for Historic Preservation tours are open to members only. Membership dues for 2025/2026 are \$30 for family and \$20 for individual membership. The minimum age limit for the program is 14. Children must pay the full price, and those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There is no maximum age limit.

Please Note: Participants must be in excellent health and able to participate in tour activities. Any physical condition that may require special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation. If you have any doubt about your ability to participate fully due to health conditions or disabilities, contact the National Trust at (888) 484-8785 or (202) 588-6300. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and Criterion Travel reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of this tour at any time. In such case, the refund will be limited to the recoverable cost of unused tour services.

California Seller of Travel
Program CST #2088800-40

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UNESCO TREASURES OF ANCIENT GREECE

SEPTEMBER 17-26, 2026

Reservations

For more information or to register by phone (preferred method of registration), please call National Trust Tours at **(888) 484-8785**.

NAME #1 (as it appears on passport) DATE OF BIRTH

NAME #2 (as it appears on passport) DATE OF BIRTH

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

HOME PHONE

MOBILE PHONE

EMAIL #1

EMAIL #2

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes, _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel) for _____ place(s) on **UNESCO Treasures of Ancient Greece**.
- Please charge my deposit of \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person) to my (*circle one*): VISA/MC/AMEX

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CARD #

EXP. DATE / CVV SECURITY CODE

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE

DATE

ACCOMMODATIONS (not guaranteed)

Cabin category preference: 1st _____ 2nd _____

Bed Preference: One bed Two beds

SINGLE TRAVELERS (choose one)

- I prefer single accommodations (*limited availability*)
- I plan to share accommodations with:

I'd like to know about roommates. *I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of May 20, 2026, I will pay the single rate.*

I/We have read the tour information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated therein.

SIGNATURE #1

DATE

SIGNATURE #2

DATE

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ANCIENT
GREECE

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CIRCUMNAVIGATING
THE PELOPONNESE

by Private Luxury Yacht aboard the 50-Cabin

Emerald & Azzurra



National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

105 Loudoun Street, SW, Unit 1, Leesburg, Virginia 20175

www.nationaltrusttours.com

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info@nationaltrusttours.com

Find us on  National Trust Tours

