



# SOUTHERN EUROPE CROSSING: BARCELONA TO ATHENS

***Your 20-night journey includes: 15-night small ship cruise to Palma de Mallorca, Cagliari, Palermo, Messina, Syracuse, Valletta, Corfu, Katakolon, Monemvasia, Santorini, Mykonos, Piraeus; 2 nights at a Deluxe hotel in Barcelona; 2 nights at a Deluxe hotel in Athens***

White-sand beaches, cerulean waters, charming villages, and sophisticated cities... Experience all this and more on a Vantage Deluxe World Travel 5-star small ship cruise of southern Europe.

See the surreal masterpieces of visionary architect Antoni Gaudí in Barcelona, tour the birthplace of the Olympics in Katakolon, explore the 6th-century castle town of Monemvasia, and encounter the diversity of cultural influences found in Palermo. With 16 included features and Cultural Discoveries, whether its touring ancient ruins in Athens or viewing magnificent monuments in Malta, there is a breadth of unique experiences to be found throughout your journey. Plus, our ship's small size allows us to navigate to exclusive ports larger ships can't reach.

Along the way, indulge in first-class amenities and personalized service aboard the Ocean Odyssey. Designed with just 77 cabins onboard – including a landmark 15 solo cabins – this elegant vessel seamlessly blends opulent luxury with intimate discoveries. After a day of portside exploration, relax onboard with a pampering spa treatment or a delicious meal cooked over a hot-rock grill. Take in the panoramic views from the top-level sundeck and sit in on engaging onboard lectures and informative port talks. Your onboard Destination Manager can assist with reservations for the ship's spa or salon, and you'll be picture-ready in no time for these glamorous ports of call. Extend your discoveries with optional extensions in Madrid or Istanbul. Step aboard, discover the Mediterranean, and live la dolce vita with Vantage!

Reserve Today! Call Toll-Free **1 800 322 6677** - [WWW.VANTAGETRAVEL.COM/ONY25](http://WWW.VANTAGETRAVEL.COM/ONY25)

# JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

## OCEAN ODYSSEY



Discover the splendor of the Mediterranean aboard the 5-star *Ocean Odyssey*

## ATHENS & ACROPOLIS



Climb to the apex of the Acropolis, perched on a hill overlooking Athens

## BARCELONA



Experience sophisticated Barcelona, as well as the architecture of Antoni Gaudí

## PALMA DE MALLORCA



Explore the lush island paradise of Mallorca, ringed by pristine crescent beaches

## PALERMO



Embark on a fascinating walking tour of Palermo, the capital city of Sicily

## SYRACUSE



Discover UNESCO-listed Syracuse, where Greek ruins and Italian charm merge

## VALLETTA



Go sightseeing in Valletta, the capital of Malta and a UNESCO World Heritage Site

## MYKONOS



Take a panoramic tour of Mykonos, with a stop for Greek meze (small plates) and ouzo

## SANTORINI



Tour the glittery isle of Santorini, where bone-white homes overlook the caldera

## CORFU



Enjoy a splendid day on this scenic island, a UNESCO World Heritage Site adorned with Venetian inspiration the glittery isle of Santorini, where bone-white homes overlook the caldera

# YOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- **Purchase your airfare from Vantage** and your airport transfers, fuel surcharges, and government taxes and fees are included
- **Accommodations for 19 nights**, with 15 nights aboard the 5-star *Ocean Odyssey*, 2 nights at the *Grand Hotel Central Barcelona* (or similar), and 2 nights at the *Divani Caravel* (or similar) in Athens
- **51 meals:** 19 breakfasts, 15 lunches, and 17 dinners, with complimentary wine, beer, and soft drinks during dinner on board
- **16 included features and Cultural Discoveries**
- **3 UNESCO World Heritage Sites and experiences:**  
**3 UNESCO World Heritage Sites and experiences:**  
View the works of Antoni Gaudí in Barcelona; Syracuse and the Rocky Necropolis of Pantalica; and the city of Valletta in Malta
- **The services of a Vantage Cruise Director and Program Manager**, plus shipboard commentary, regional experts, and private motorcoach for excursions
- **Complimentary Destination Manager service** on board ship to assist with all your personal requests such as spa reservations, hotel reservations, and other special requests in port
- **Complimentary Vantage Deluxe Concierge Service** prior to your journey, to plan celebrations, activities, or provide regional expertise. Log into My Portfolio and submit a request, or send an email any time up to two weeks prior to your departure at [Concierge@vantagetravel.com](mailto:Concierge@vantagetravel.com)
- **Complimentary unlimited Wi-Fi**
- **All transfers and baggage handling overseas**
- **Vantage's 5% Travel Reward**, received upon your

# SPECIAL INTEREST



## SMALL SHIP CRUISING HIGHLIGHTS

Our 5-star fleet offers an authentic sailing experience to make your journey unforgettable. While onboard, indulge in a relaxing massage at the spa, or try hot-rock cooking at the onboard restaurant. Then, disembark for an eye-opening visit to a local winery or a walking tour of some of the world's most iconic cities and undiscovered gems. All the while, enjoy these world-class ship amenities:

- 77 cabins, including a landmark 15 solo cabins, most of which have full walk-out balconies, for the most flexible style of travel — plus, suites designed for comfortable triple-occupancy as well as adjoining room options
- A culinary program offering gourmet dining incorporating regional fare, with wine and beer included at dinner
- Spa, massage, and hair services available at the onboard spa
- Sauna
- Two hot tubs
- Fitness center
- Curated lectures, programs, musical performances, and cultural events
- Low passenger-to-crew ratio, plus onboard Destination Manager
- Knowledgeable staff by region
- Onboard medical doctor (travelers are responsible for medical fees associated with doctor visit and medications)
- Gift Shop
- Library with over 200 titles
- Separate, intimate dining space for groups or special events (available upon request)
- Complimentary unlimited WiFi (WiFi on certain segments of trips may not be available)
- Entertainment programming with 100 movie titles
- Environmentally friendly standards with reduced emissions into air and sea and lower energy consumption
- Dynamic positioning technology
- State-of-the-art safety technology, Polar Code 6 compliant, and fully compliant with the latest SOLAS requirements in expedition cruising
- Rolls-Royce stabilizer system; "Safe Return to Port" technology



## ART & CULTURE HIGHLIGHTS

- Circumnavigate Sicily and learn about the unique culture and cuisine of this fascinating island
- Enjoy two nights of local entertainment on board
- See the surreal architectural masterpieces of Antoni Gaudí during your time in Barcelona, including his famous Sagrada Família basilica
- Behold the distinctive architecture of Malta and Syracuse
- Sample tasty Greek appetizers and sip ouzo during a tour break

on Mykonos

- Admire a breathtaking collection of art and antiquities at the Acropolis Museum in Athens



## UNESCO & HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Circumnavigate Sicily and visit three of its most interesting coastal towns
- Uncover Maltese history in its historic capital, Valletta, and in a 5D movie experience
- Admire the UNESCO-designated architecture of visionary Antoni Gaudí in Barcelona
- While in UNESCO-listed Olympia, find remains of various sporting venues from the festive games that began in 776 BC

- See the iconic Acropolis, crowned by its breathtaking Parthenon, where Poseidon and Athena were said to have fought to determine who would be patron of the city
- Marvel at the massive La Seu Cathedral of Palma de Mallorca



**PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS** The magnificent Mediterranean is a wonder for the senses, from its sprawling landscapes to its ancient landmarks. Here are a few tips to help you capture beautiful and memorable pictures:

- Take your time to capture an image. Think like a photographer and slow down to compose your shot. Remember: tourists take pictures, while photographers make images
- From the Acropolis in Athens to Sicily's Mount Etna, you'll encounter large landmarks on this trip, which might create pressure to fit everything into one shot. Instead, try focusing on

a distinctive feature rather than trying to incorporate everything into frame

- Incorporate your surroundings. Don't try to edge out other tourists from your photos, but use them to enhance the scene. Try tilting the camera at your target, including tourists and the real scene in the background or forefront, and the image instantly is more intriguing than a generic snapshot
- Pursue quirky composition — shooting off-center makes for a more artsy, unique shot



**SOLO TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS** On this small ship ocean cruise, independent travelers will enjoy solo-friendly features, such as:

- Onboard Destination Manager to personalize your expedition
- Water-sport opportunities, depending on the location
- Solo-friendly social activities, including a Solo Connection mixer
- Onboard entertainment, lectures, and cooking demonstrations
- Health and wellness options, including onboard spa, hot tubs, and a gym



**CONCIERGE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS**

Prior to your expedition cruise, our complimentary Concierge service will be available to help you customize your journey. Here are just a few services your Concierge can provide:

- Do you have a special birthday, anniversary, family reunion or other important event you want to celebrate on board? Let your Concierge know and he or she can make all the special arrangements, whether it's a private reception in your suite, a

gathering in the lounge, and more

- Restaurant reservations. Just notify your Concierge of your interests, and he or she will be happy to make recommendations, and will call ahead to reserve your table
- Special excursions. Would you like a limo to take you for a special night in the city? Perhaps you'd like to look up long-lost relatives. Your Concierge is here to help!
- Extend your stay! Your Concierge can help modify your hotel reservations and flights if you decide to stay on
- Tickets to local concerts, exhibits, theater, sporting events, and more

Take advantage of this free, start-to-finish service by making your requests prior to your journey. Call 1-888-982-6824 or email [Concierge@vantagetravel.com](mailto:Concierge@vantagetravel.com) to speak to a Concierge today, or simply log into My Portfolio up to two weeks prior to departure. During your journey, your onboard Destination Manager can assist with any special requests such as spa reservations, hotel reservations, and more.

Reserve Today! Call Toll-Free **1 800 322 6677** - [WWW.VANTAGETRAVEL.COM/ONY25](http://WWW.VANTAGETRAVEL.COM/ONY25)

# BARCELONA TO ATHENS

DAY 1:	Fly overnight to Barcelona	DAY 16:	Explore medieval Monemvasia today <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 2:	Welcome to Barcelona! <i>Grand Hotel Central or similar</i>	DAY 17:	Be dazzled by sensational Santorini <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 3:	Design your own day in Barcelona <i>Grand Hotel Central or similar</i>	DAY 18:	Breathtaking Mykonos awaits you today <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 4:	Embark the Ocean Odyssey today <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>	DAY 19:	Disembark the Ocean Odyssey and head to Athens <i>Divani Caravel Hotel or similar</i>
DAY 5:	Visit Palma de Mallorca, the jewel of Spain's Balearic Islands <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>	DAY 20:	Uncover the classical wonders of Athens <i>Divani Caravel Hotel or similar</i>
DAY 6:	Delight in your ship's amenities during a day at sea <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>	DAY 21:	Return home today
DAY 7:	Cagliari's medieval wonders are yours to explore <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		
DAY 8:	Relax on board and enjoy your ship's amenities <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		
DAY 9:	Explore Palermo's crossroads of culture <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		
DAY 10:	Marvelous Messina greets you today <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		
DAY 11:	See more of Sicily in Syracuse and Ortigia <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		
DAY 12:	Embark on a walking tour of Valletta, then experience Malta in 5D <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		
DAY 13:	Enjoy another day at sea aboard the Ocean Odyssey <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		
DAY 14:	Spend the day in vibrant Corfu <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		
DAY 15:	See the birthplace of the Olympics in Katakolon <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>		





**DAY 1:** Fly overnight to Barcelona

Today you'll board an overnight flight to Barcelona. Or, depart earlier for your optional pre-trip extension to Madrid, Spain.

**DAY 2:** Welcome to Barcelona!

Arrive in Barcelona, the vibrant capital of Spain's Catalonia region. If you purchased your airfare from Vantage, a representative will meet you at the airport to assist with transfers to your hotel. Following check-in, you'll have the afternoon at your leisure. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Dinner at your hotel.

Included meals: Dinner  
*Grand Hotel Central or similar*

**DAY 3:** Design your own day in Barcelona

Today, you'll enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour of a few of Barcelona's highlights, including Montjuïc Hill, the Plaza de España, and Gran Via. You'll also have an opportunity to discover Paseo de Gracia and have free time for shopping at Las Ramblas, before continuing on to the La Sagrada Família for a photo stop of its exterior.

**Included Feature:**

- Half-day sightseeing in Barcelona
- Destination Enhancement: Customize your journey when you add an optional excursion. Choose from a Barcelona sightseeing tour that includes access to the interior of La Sagrada Familia, or an alternate tour of the UNESCO-listed works of Antoni Gaudí and a visit to Montserrat. Learn more  
Included meals: Breakfast  
*Grand Hotel Central or similar*

**DAY 4:** Embark the Ocean Odyssey today

Today, you'll embark the Ocean Odyssey to begin the cruise portion of your exciting Mediterranean voyage. Get settled in your sumptuous stateroom, then explore the Ocean Odyssey's many amenities, including the sundeck and fitness center. See your Destination Manager to reserve an appointment at the onboard spa. Later, gather for the first of your daily port talks to hear about tomorrow's exciting destination. In the dining room, savor a special Welcome Dinner.

Included meals: Breakfast & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 5:** Visit Palma de Mallorca, the jewel of Spain's Balearic Islands

The ship arrives in Palma de Mallorca this morning. Ringed by pristine crescent beaches and cloaked in lush green forest, Mallorca is an island paradise for both residents and visitors alike. On a panoramic city tour, you'll explore the stunning circular Bellver Castle, built in the 14th century for the Kings of Mallorca. Later, step inside the massive La Seu Cathedral. This honey-colored, Gothic masterpiece boasts a cavernous interior designed by Antoni Gaudí and a 144-foot-high nave. Return to the ship for lunch before an afternoon at leisure in Palma de Mallorca.

**Included Feature:**

- Palma de Mallorca highlights tour
- Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 6:** Delight in your ship's amenities during a day at sea

One of the true pleasures of a luxurious, small ship cruise is the onboard experience as you sail from one incredible destination to another. From

indulgent spa treatments and soothing hot tubs to elegant dining and personalized service, you'll find everything you need to feel relaxed, pampered, and entertained today.

**Onboard Enhancement:** Customize your journey when you add an optional onboard experience. Enhance your time on board with one of our Vantage-exclusive activities, including wine and whiskey tastings, a multicourse Chef's Table Dinner, or an exclusive wine-pairing dinner.

**Learn more**  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 7:** Cagliari's medieval wonders are yours to explore

Cagliari, like many of Italy's great cities, wears its well-worn history on its sleeve. From the ancient ruins and centuries-old churches to the museums packed with prehistoric artefacts and the elegant palazzi, you'll encounter this charming city's rich past at every turn.

Today, you'll explore Castello, the most ancient of Cagliari's historic districts, on an included walking tour. Surrounded by fortress walls that have defended the city for centuries, you'll pass through Castello's ancient doors to begin your explorations.

**Included Feature:**

- Quartiere Castello walking tour
- Destination Enhancement:** Customize your journey when you add an optional excursion. Dig into the fascinating history and culture of Sardinia with a half-day tour of the UNESCO-listed Su Nuraxi di Barumini and Giara di Gesturi. **Learn more**  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 8:** Relax on board and enjoy your ship's amenities

Relax with a day at sea — refresh, renew, and relish in your ship's world-class amenities. Perhaps you'll join a morning workout class. You could enjoy a facial at the spa, meet friends in the lounge for a game of bridge, attend a lecture about the places you'll visit, or simply soak in the hot tub with the cocktail of the day — the choice is yours!

**Onboard Enhancement:** Customize your journey when you add an optional onboard experience. Enhance your time on board with one of our Vantage-exclusive activities, including wine and whiskey tastings, a multicourse Chef's Table Dinner, or an exclusive wine-pairing dinner.

Learn more

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 9:** Explore Palermo's crossroads of culture

Today, you'll explore Palermo, Sicily's capital city. A walking tour of this diverse destination reveals the heady mix of Byzantine mosaics, Arabesque domes, souk markets, and Gothic palaces found here. Its bustling neighborhoods, winding streets, and stucco chapels make a charming backdrop to your time spent exploring this vibrant town.

**Included Feature:**

- Palermo walking tour

**Destination Enhancement:** Customize your journey when you add an optional excursion. Visit the charming old fishing village of Cefalù on an optional half-day excursion. Learn more  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 10:** Marvelous Messina greets you today

Messina, the gateway to Sicily, is a city that can be easily explored on foot. That is exactly what you will do today on an included walking tour. Stroll through the historic city center around the Duomo, representative of the city's Belle Époque era. The Duomo's almost 200-foot-tall Norman bell Tower contains the world's largest mechanical clock. Near the cathedral, you will also find Florentine Montorsoli's grand 16th-century Orion Fountain, honoring the city's founder. Following the tour, you'll return to the ship for lunch, then have the rest of the day at your leisure.

**Included Feature:**

- Messina walking tour

**Destination Enhancement:** Customize your journey when you add an optional excursion. Enjoy a coach tour of Mount Etna and its surrounding wineries. Learn more  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 11:** See more of Sicily in Syracuse and Ortigia

More Sicilian discoveries begin today in UNESCO-listed Syracuse, where ancient Greek ruins and antique Italian charm fuse into one splendid island called Ortigia. On a walking tour, head to the Old Town with its narrow, cobblestoned lanes and welcoming piazzas. You'll visit an archaeological area to view the remains of the Temple of Apollo and the gorgeous Fountain of Arethusa, a natural spring with roots in Greek mythology. You'll also get a look into Jewish life here — Judaism was present here long before the arrival of Christianity in Sicily. You'll also see the oldest mikveh (ancient ritual bath) to survive in Europe, and one of the first few in what's now known as Italy.

Return to the ship for lunch, then enjoy the afternoon at leisure to continue your explorations in Syracuse.

**Included Feature:**

- Guided tour of Syracuse & Ortigia

**Cultural Discovery:**

- Onboard evening entertainment  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 12:** Embark on a walking tour of Valletta, then experience Malta in 5D

Arrive in Malta this morning and go sightseeing in Valletta, the island's capital and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Valletta, Europe's smallest capital, is an open-air museum of 16th-century buildings built by the Knights Hospitaller. Your private guide will regale you with tales of the city's history while leading you down charming narrow streets to visit the Valletta City Gate, Triton Fountain, the new Parliament building, and St. John's Co-Cathedral, which was dedicated to Saint John the Baptist and is considered one of the finest examples of high Baroque architecture. Your walking tour concludes with a 5D show exploring the history and culture of Malta in an interactive and exciting way. You'll return to the ship for lunch, then have the remainder of the afternoon to spend at your leisure.

**Included Feature:**

- Valletta sightseeing & Malta 5D show  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 13:** Enjoy another day at sea aboard the *Ocean Odyssey*

Indulge in your ship's amenities today with another relaxing day at sea. Pamper yourself

with a soothing massage at the spa, participate in an instructor-led fitness class, take a comforting soak in the outdoor hot tub, savor a refreshing cocktail at one of the shipboard lounges, or visit the gift shop and pick up a few souvenirs.

Onboard Enhancement: Customize your journey when you add an optional onboard experience.

Enhance your time on board with one of our Vantage-exclusive activities, including wine and whiskey tastings, a multicourse Chef's Table Dinner, or an exclusive wine-pairing dinner.

Learn more

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 14:** Spend the day in vibrant Corfu

**Enjoy a splendid day on the scenic island of Corfu, a UNESCO World Heritage Site adorned with Venetian inspiration and a lively local lifestyle. During your time in Corfu, you'll indulge in a tour of one of its most well-known attractions: the elegant Achilleion Palace. Dating back to 1890, this property was the brainchild of Empress Elizabeth of Austria, who was fond of the island and visited often. Each floor is adorned with lavish decor, including bronze and stone statues of fabled Greek gods in the palace and on the surrounding garden grounds. After your tour, enjoy lunch back on board and a relaxing afternoon at leisure.**

**Included Features:**

- Corfu city tour & Achilleion Palace  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

**DAY 15:** See the birthplace of the Olympics in Katakolon

This morning, we'll sail into Katakolon and a enjoy scenic drive through the Peloponnese peninsula. Then, you'll have a full-day exploring Olympia, site of the original Olympic Games. This UNESCO World Heritage Site dates back to the 8th century BC, where it first became a sanctuary for the gods and a place to worship Zeus. Alongside ancient temples, there are remains of various sporting venues from the festive games that began in 776 BC. Following your tour, you'll enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before returning to the ship. The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure.

**Included Feature:**

- Ancient Olympia tour  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
[Ocean Odyssey >](#)

**DAY 16:** Explore medieval Monemvasia today

Located on a small Greek island off the eastern coast of the Peloponnese, Monemvasia is one of the most interesting places to visit in Greece. Carved entirely on the backside of a sea rock, this medieval castle town was hidden from the mainland and only accessible via boat, allowing its residents protection against enemy invasion. While a newer, more modern town has been constructed on the mainland, much of the original 6th-century village still remains and you will explore it on today's walking tour. Navigate the narrow, cobblestoned streets as you make your way through the castle and to the Church of Elkomenos Christos. Dating back to 1697, the church was constructed on the site of a former 6th-century temple and features dual thrones dedicated to the Byzantine emperor and empress. At the conclusion of your tour, you'll return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at

leisure.

Please note: Today's tour will require walking over unpaved, uneven cobblestone streets.

**Included Feature:**

- Monemvasia walking tour  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
[Ocean Odyssey >](#)

**DAY 17:** Be dazzled by sensational Santorini

Santorini has been called the most magnificent of the Greek Isles. With its soaring cliffs, turquoise waters, and oft-photographed buildings, this is the most instantly recognizable destination in Greece. This vision of whitewashed and pastel houses clinging to dark volcanic rock was once home to wealthy seafarers. You will experience this popular destination firsthand on an included bust tour today.

**Included Feature:**

- Santorini bus tour  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
[Ocean Odyssey >](#)

**DAY 18:** Breathtaking Mykonos awaits you today

Mykonos is big on discovery and beauty, and is renowned for its pure-white houses, blue-domed churches, charming windmills, and pristine beaches. You'll see what captivated Jackie Onassis — and other celebrity yachters — during a driving tour to one of its most stunning beaches — Agios Ioannis. Along the way, you'll pass the beaches of Ornos, Kalafatis, and Agia Anna. Then, visit the magnificent, white-washed village of Ano Mera. After stopping at its unique 1542 Panagia Tourliani Monastery, we'll pop into a local taverna to enjoy an appetizer and a bit of ouzo. A guided walking tour reveals the narrow passages and cobbled lanes of Mykonos before

you return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure.

**Included Feature:**

- Half-day panoramic Mykonos tour

**Cultural Discovery:**

- Onboard evening entertainment  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey >*

**DAY 19:** Disembark the Ocean Odyssey and head to Athens

Arrive in Piraeus this morning and disembark the Ocean Odyssey as the cruise portion of your journey comes to an end. You'll transfer to your centrally located hotel, taking in the sights of Athens along the way. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to explore Athens as you wish.

Included meals: Breakfast  
*Divani Caravel Hotel or similar*

**DAY 20:** Uncover the classical wonders of Athens

Following breakfast at your hotel, you'll depart for a thrilling tour of Athens, the sophisticated capital of Greece where mythology and ancient history come alive. You'll visit the iconic Acropolis, where it was said that Poseidon and Athena fought over who would be patron of the city. This was the architectural pinnacle of Athens, crowned by its breathtaking Parthenon. You'll also visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Parliament House on Constitution Square, the Panathenaic Stadium, and the Presidential Palace. Along the famed Panepistimiou Avenue, pass the Catholic Cathedral, Academy of Athens, the University of Athens, and the National Library. The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure with dinner at the hotel tonight.

**Included Feature:**

- Athens sightseeing & walking tour with  
Acropolis visit  
Included meals: Breakfast & dinner  
*Divani Caravel Hotel or similar*

**DAY 21:** Return home today

After breakfast, transfer to the Athens airport for your return flight home. Or, continue on to your optional post-trip extension in Istanbul.

Included meals: Breakfast

**Please Note:** Ocean cruising is not the same experience as river cruising; as such, you may experience fluctuating tides and weather patterns that may involve some rocking of your vessel. Itineraries will include all activities as planned except in extreme cases that can't be controlled by your shipboard crew. Day-by-day itineraries are preliminary and therefore subject to change. If changes occur while on tour, you will be notified by your Cruise Director or regional expert.

# ACCOMMODATIONS



## Ocean Odyssey

The intimate *Ocean Explorer* and *Ocean Odyssey* are the cruise industry's newest and most premier small ships built for global expedition travel, and ready to go to some of the world's most far-reaching destinations. Accommodating just 134 guests, the ship is outfitted with the latest satellite, sustainability, and navigation capabilities, including SOLAS "Safe Return to Port" requirements and ULSTEIN X-BOW® technology, a significant enhancement for smooth sailing in polar seas. On all Vantage expedition cruises, education is an essential component of the journey. Enjoy talks from notable scholars, onboard historians who travel alongside you, and handpicked regional experts. On polar expeditions with Vantage, you'll attend lectures, lessons, and activities offered by a 17-member Expedition Team of experts in fields ranging from biology to oceanography.

In your downtime, you'll find relaxation and luxury aboard the *Ocean Explorer* and *Ocean Odyssey*. Visit the gym or onboard spa for a facial, massage, even a haircut. Soak in the hot tub after a rewarding day of sightseeing. Enjoy gourmet fare for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus outstanding culinary experiences built into your journey. And because there's no more than 134 fellow travelers on expedition cruises, you'll enjoy small group outings by day and share meals, stories, and fun with new friends by night. These fabulous expedition vessels offer:

- 77 cabins, including a landmark 15 solo cabins
- 30 triple-ready cabins available
- Vantage offers FREE roommate-matching services if you'd like to be paired while you travel
- Spacious, all outside-facing cabins
- 134-guest capacity
- Zodiac trips to get as close as possible to nature
- The latest satellite and navigation capabilities, including ULSTEIN X-BOW® technology
- Intimate crew-to-passenger ration, plus onboard Destination Manager

- Environmentally friendly standards with reduced emissions into air and sea and lower energy consumption

### **Amenities:**

- A culinary program offering gourmet dining and regional fare, with wine and beer included at dinner
- Hot-rock cooking restaurant
- Multistory lounge and lobby
- Three bars and various lounges
- Top deck observation deck for gatherings, lectures, performances, and more
- Spa, massage, and hair services available at the onboard spa
- Sauna
- Two hot tubs
- Fitness center
- Curated lectures, programs, musical performances, and cultural events
- Low passenger-to-crew ratio, plus onboard Destination Manager (not available on expeditions)
- Onboard medical doctor (travelers are responsible for medical fees associated with doctor visit and medications)
- Gift Shop
- Library with over 200 titles
- Separate, intimate dining space for groups or special events (available upon request)
- Complimentary unlimited WiFi (WiFi on certain segments of trips may not be available)
- 20+ live TV channels featuring popular U.S. news channels, the Food Network, the Travel Channel, and National Geographic
- Entertainment and video on demand for 250 classic movies



### **Grand Hotel Central ★★★★★**

This upscale hotel is a 2-minute walk from the Jaume I metro station, a short walk from the medieval Gothic Quarter and the iconic Sagrada Família. The modern rooms provide minibars, free Wi-Fi and flat-screen TVs; some feature views of the Gothic Quarter. Upgraded rooms add Nespresso machines, while suites include separate tubs and walk-in showers, sitting areas and/or kitchenettes. Room service is available 24/7. There's a stylish Mediterranean bar/restaurant, as well as a seasonal rooftop bar by an infinity pool overlooking the city. Other amenities include a gym, a sauna and spa.





## Divani Caravel Hotel ★★★★★

A member of the Leading Hotels of the World, the stunning Divani Caravel Hotel offers an unbeatable location just minutes away from Constitution Square in the heart of Athens. Elegant guest rooms reveal modern amenities and classical charm, while the hotel features a variety of restaurants and lounge/bars, a rooftop health club and spa, and an indoor/outdoor swimming pool with amazing views of Athens and the Acropolis.



## Meliá Madrid Princesa ★★★★★

Located in the cultural and business heart of Madrid, the Meliá Madrid Princesa is a boutique hotel that's been recently renovated to combine tradition with a surprising cutting edge "Level" Rooms, meaning high floors, with better views. Only 10 minutes from the Plaza de Espana, Plaza Mayor, Gran Vía and Puerto del Sol, the hotel's guest rooms feature Wi-Fi, satellite TV channels, and air-conditioning, and the on-site Uno Restaurant serves delicious meals for its visitors.



## The Marmara Taksim ★★★★★

This Superior First-Class hotel has a contemporary interior design and is located in the high central point in Istanbul, Taksim Square, with views of Bosphorus or the Golden Horn estuary. Hotel facilities include two restaurants, cafe, room service, business center, currency exchange, concierge services, barber/hair stylist, laundry/dry cleaning service, gift shop, outdoor pool, and health club with spa/massage and hot tub. Guest rooms feature air conditioning, cable/satellite TV, phone with voicemail, high-speed Internet access, minibar, coffee maker, in-room safe, and private bathroom.