

Athens, Greece

PRE-CRUISE VACATION STRETCHER

OCTOBER 2024



olivia™

USA & CANADA: 800-631-6277 x1 | **INTERNATIONAL:** 415-962-5700 x1



Athens, Greece

Welcome to Athens!

Named after Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom, and home to the Acropolis, a UNESCO World Heritage site, Athens is more than worthy of your extra attention before you begin your seven-day Greek Isles Luxury Cruise. Choose one of our pre-cruise Vacation Stretches—either 3-nights or 1-night at the luxury 5-star boutique hotel, the Athens Capital Center Hotel, MGallery Collection—complete with our custom schedule of tours, which are sure to show you the best of what Athens has to offer. We've chosen an excellent tour operator in Athens, and you will be able to explore Athens exclusively in the company of other Olivians!

We have a limited number of pre-cruise Vacation Stretcher packages available, and we expect them to sell out quickly.

DEADLINE TO BOOK: October 18, 2023 or until sold out.

3-NIGHT ATHENS (OCTOBER 16-19, 2024)

\$1,629 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY— RUN OF HOUSE ROOM

\$2,399 PP SINGLE OCCUPANCY— RUN OF HOUSE ROOM

INCLUDED

- 3-night stay at the **Athens Capital Center Hotel – MGallery Collection** (October 16-19)
- Hotel check-in is at 3 pm on October 16; checkout is at 11 am on October 19
- Full buffet breakfast (October 17, 18, and 19)
- Athens Scenic City Tour and Acropolis Museum, with lunch (October 17)
- Full-day tour to the Temple of Poseidon and Papagiannakos Winery, with lunch (October 18)
- Acropolis and Archaeological Museum with transfer to ship (October 19)
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary
- Round-trip hotel luggage portorage
- All entrance fees, tours in deluxe air-conditioned motor coaches, bottled water on coaches, audio headsets, and professional English-speaking guides and drivers
- Team Olivia assistance throughout

NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare, transfer from airport to hotel, gratuities to guides and drivers, meals where not listed

ACTIVITY LEVEL REQUIREMENTS – IMPORTANT

You must be able to walk on uneven ground, walk up and down stairs, and stand for extended periods of time. Unfortunately, due to the terrain we cannot accommodate guests with limited mobility or who cannot travel without a wheelchair or scooter.

1-NIGHT ATHENS (OCTOBER 18-19, 2024)

\$529 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY – RUN OF HOUSE ROOM

\$759 PP SINGLE OCCUPANCY – RUN OF HOUSE ROOM

INCLUDED

- 1-night stay at the **Athens Capital Center Hotel – MGallery Collection** (October 18)
- Hotel check-in is at 3 pm on October 18; checkout is at 11 am on October 19
- Full buffet breakfast (October 19)
- Acropolis and Archaeological Museum with transfer to ship (October 19)
- Round-trip hotel luggage portage
- All entrance fees, tours in deluxe air-conditioned motor coaches, bottled water on coaches, audio headsets, and professional English-speaking guides and drivers
- Team Olivia assistance throughout

NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare, transfer from airport to hotel, meals where not listed

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YOUR ITINERARY



OCTOBER 17, 2024 – ATHENS SCENIC CITY TOUR, ACROPOLIS MUSEUM & LUNCH (3-night package)

For those visiting Athens for the first time, this 4-½-hour tour is a wonderful introduction to one of the great cities of the ancient world. See the marble stadium built in 144 AD and excavated in 1896 to serve as the home for the modern Olympic Games, in 1896 and again in 2004.

Catch a view of the Parliament Building, which stands proudly on Constitution Square with its colorful *evzones*—ceremonial presidential guards—protecting the Monument to the Unknown Soldier.

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Your scenic tour of Athens will continue to the Acropolis Museum, home to nearly 4,000 artifacts found at the Acropolis dating from between the Greek Bronze Age and Byzantine periods.

After visiting the museum, stroll through the Plaka, the old district of Athens with its numerous, cafés, restaurants, and souvenir shops. Enjoy a guided walking tour of this beautiful area before tucking into a traditional Greek souvlaki lunch. After lunch, choose to return to your hotel with our guide, or stay in the Plaka for time at leisure and make your own way back to the hotel.

Temple of Poseidon



Temple of Poseidon



Papagiannakos Winery



OCTOBER 18, 2024—TEMPLE OF POSEIDON AND PAPAGIANNAKOS WINERY & LUNCH

Today, you will have a chance to experience the highlights of the Attica region as you depart from your hotel towards Cape Sounion, the southernmost point of the Attica region where the famous Temple of Poseidon lies. Made entirely of white marble, and perched atop the dramatic cliffs, the temple was built in the middle of the 5th century BC and is surrounded the by sea on three sides.

After visiting Cape Sounion and the Temple built in honor of Poseidon, god of the sea, you will board your coach for a drive to one of the most well known wineries of the Attic peninsula. Located in the Mesogeia wine region, Papagiannakos Winery is a family-owned winery that has more than 100 years of history. Famous for their Savatiano, the region's native varietal, the winery also produces small amounts of Malagouzia, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Agirorgitiko. All these varietals thrive in this hot, dry region with 320 days of sunshine and breezes from the nearby Aegean Sea.

The winery is dedicated to the pure essence of wine and follows innovative methods of bioclimatic architecture, a way of designing the winery based on the local climate, with the aim of ensuring thermal comfort using environmental resources. Here, we will enjoy a wine tour and tasting before enjoying lunch together. After the wine tasting experience, you will board your coach for the ride back to your hotel in Athens.

Acropolis



The Propylaea



Porch of Maidens, the Caryatids



OCTOBER 19, 2024—ACROPOLIS & ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Board your deluxe air-conditioned motor coach for a short drive to the National Archaeological Museum, one of the world's great museums. With more than 11,000 exhibits, it provides a panorama of Greek civilization from the beginnings of Prehistory to Late Antiquity. Then continue your drive to the Acropolis, a symbol of the glory of ancient Greece. Climb its smooth marble steps as visitors have for centuries. History opens before you as you reach one of the masterpieces of classical architecture, the Propylaea, which serves as the entrance to the complex. See the Temple of Athena Nike, or Wingless Victory, and the Erechtheum with its classical Porch of Maidens, the Caryatids.

Stand in awe of what is considered the most perfect example of classical architecture in the world, the Parthenon, designed as a shrine to Athena and at one time housing a massive gold and ivory statue of the warrior goddess. Looking down from the Acropolis see the two ancient theaters in its shadow—the Greek theater of Dionysus where the masterpieces of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes debuted to delighted audiences, and the grand Roman theater of Herod Atticus, restored and used for concerts and classical plays during the summer Athens Festival. After our full visit to the Acropolis, board your coach and drive to Piraeus port for embarkation on the beautiful *Azamara Pursuit*.

ABOUT YOUR HOTEL

Athens Capital Center Hotel—MGallery



Mappemonde Restaurant Bar & Lounge



Run of House Room



ATHENS CAPITAL CENTER HOTEL—MGALLERY COLLECTION

With breathtaking views of the fabled Acropolis, and nestled in Athens's upmarket Kolonaki district, this luxury 5-star hotel is in an unrivaled spot for discovering the cradle of Western civilization. Step out onto Syntagma Square, a site of historical interest with its neoclassical Old Royal Palace housing the Hellenic Parliament, its ceremonial Presidential Guard and its famed Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Around the hotel, enjoy high-end boutiques, trendy bars, art galleries, and the picturesque Plaka neighborhood.

On-site amenities include Mappemonde Restaurant Bar & Lounge (with breathtaking panoramic views), MFlavours Restaurant, fitness studio, and outdoor swimming pool.

In-room amenities include LED television, hair dryer, safe, complimentary wifi, turndown service, complimentary bottle of water, coffee/tea maker, espresso machine, blackout curtains, minibar, robe and slippers, and iron and ironing board.

NEED MORE INFO? READY TO BOOK?

Our Travel Consultants can be reached from the US at 800-631-6277 x1 or from outside the US at 415-962-5700 x1. Due to high demand, our Vacation Stretchers sell out very quickly!

DEADLINE TO BOOK IS OCTOBER 18, 2023 OR UNTIL SOLD OUT.

Cancellation Policy: Olivia Companies, LLC is required to honor their contractual agreements with hotels, ground operators, and other outside vendors; therefore, the following cancellation fees apply: All Vacation Stretcher packages are non-refundable. A handling fee of \$75 will be charged for any name changes to hotel and tour packages. Your booking/payment for Vacation Stretchers with Olivia Companies, LLC indicates your compliance with the above policies.

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