

THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS

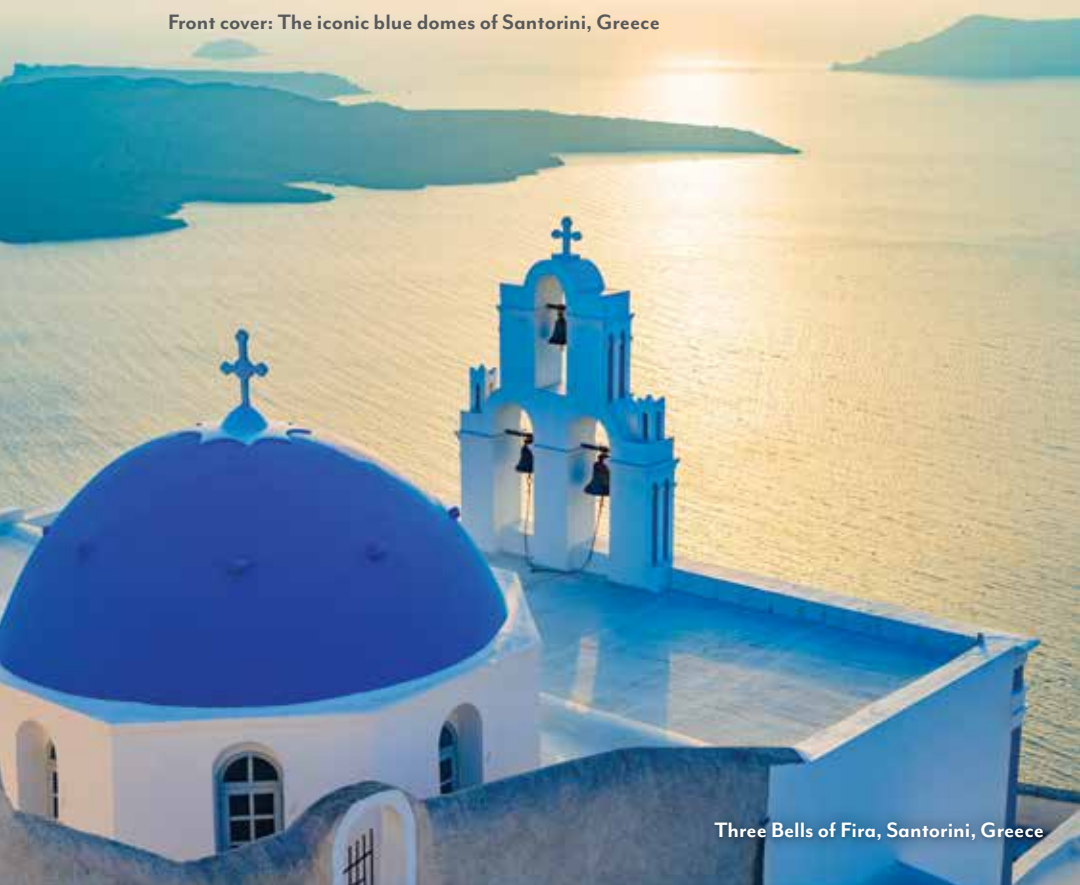
# Island Life® Greek Isles & Ephesus



# Wonders of Antiquity

See the classical world come to life on this Aegean voyage to the ancient sites where Western civilization as we know it was founded. Cruise round-trip Athens for seven nights to experience the mythical landscapes of Greece and Turkey, where you will be immersed in epic stories from antiquity. Traverse the streets of UNESCO-inscribed Delos — legendary birthplace of Artemis and Apollo — and enjoy time at leisure on the island of Mykonos, famous for its whitewashed houses, iconic windmills and cosmopolitan verve. Visit the Terrace Houses of Ephesus, explore the ancient wonder of Pátmos and climb to the clifftop acropolis at Lindos on the island of Rhodes. Discover the mysteries of Santorini, a crescent-shaped island featuring a spectacular caldera shaped by a volcanic explosion about 3,600 years ago — potentially burying what some believe was the lost city of Atlantis. Conclude your tour in the rarely visited island of Milos, where pieces of the world-famous Venus de Milo were discovered and reassembled more than 2,000 years after the Hellenistic statue was created.

Front cover: The iconic blue domes of Santorini, Greece



Three Bells of Fira, Santorini, Greece



Palace of the Grand Master, Rhodes, Greece



## Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF  
The Association of Former Students



Howdy, Ags!

Journey to the cradle of civilization as you explore the preserved treasures of ancient Greece and Turkey. Cruise round-trip Athens for seven nights to fabled halcyon islands aboard the exclusively chartered, first-class **Wind Star**. This four-masted sailing yacht can moor in small ports of call inaccessible to larger vessels.

Our epic tour calls at Delos; Mykonos; Pátmos; Rhodes; Santorini; and Milos — ancient destinations steeped in myth and history. Sail Turkey's sun-drenched coast to visit Ephesus, the most spectacularly preserved Greco-Roman city in the world. Behold wonders from antiquity, from the Monastery of St. John in Pátmos to the majestic Sacred Way in Delos — the legendary birthplace of Artemis and Apollo.

Enjoy time on your own to explore the island of Mykonos, where according to Greek mythology, Hercules lured giants into battle and the large rock formations that remain are evidence of their defeat. Your journey concludes on the remote island of Milos, where the famous Venus de Milo statue was found.

An excellent value at the best time of year where all accommodations, meals, and an excursion every day are included, and you only need to unpack once! Make your reservations while space and early booking savings are still available!

Gig 'em!

Julie Scamardo

Manager of Traveling Aggies

The Association of Former Students

*No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by our tour supplier.*

**To secure your spot, call Gohagan and Company at 800-922-3088  
or visit [gohagantravel.com/reserve](http://gohagantravel.com/reserve)**



Arete Kelsou statue at Celsus Library, Ephesus, Turkey

# Legends of Ephesus



Ancient Ephesus is a city of stories, ones that trace from as far back as 1050 B.C. through the Roman Imperial era to the age of early Christian evangelism. A port city and center of trade on the Mediterranean for millennia, its first settlers were Anatolian people who would later be captured by Ionian tribes, who were unseated by the Persians, who were then conquered by legendary Greek leader Alexander the Great. However, most of the well-preserved ruins you will see today in this UNESCO-inscribed Turkish city are remnants of an age of extreme wealth and prosperity enjoyed under the first century reign of Caesar Augustus. As the new capital city of the Roman Empire, the Hellenistic Great Theatre was renovated with lavish Roman aesthetics; the grand, two-story Library of Celsus was constructed; and elaborate villas known as the Terrace Houses were built for its most elite residents. Very close to Ephesus you may also see what remains of the Temple of Artemis, one of the “Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.” This temple to the goddess Artemis, built in the sixth century B.C., was set on fire, then rebuilt several times only to be destroyed by a Christian mob around 401 A.D. Believing that the Virgin Mary lived here after the death of Jesus, Ephesus has since become a site of Christian pilgrimages that continue to this day.



Ephesus, Turkey



# Journey Through Time



Lions Terrace, Delos, Greece

The Roman writer Cicero observed of Athens that “wherever you set your foot, you encounter some memory of the past.” In Greece and Turkey, the stories of antiquity come to life. St. John the Apostle is believed to have penned the Book of Revelation on Patmos; the legend of the lost utopian city of Atlantis lives on in Santorini; and it is on these mythological islands that Odysseus sought redemption in the Underworld and where Orpheus retrieved his first love. Walk the Sacred Way of Delos and discover ancient Akrotiri — the “Minoan Pompeii.” Enjoy exclusive cultural enrichments, including a classical concert at the historical Caravanserai building in Kusadasi and a traditional Greek folklore performance on this immersive itinerary.



Grand Theater, Ephesus, Turkey

## INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



## 2025 | 9-DAY/8-NIGHT ITINERARY

### Depart Home City

#### Day 1 | May 9

Depart your home city.

### Arrive in Athens, Greece

#### Day 2 | May 10

Arrive in Athens, Greece, where you will embark the first class *Wind Star*. (D)

### Delos/Mykonos, Greece

#### Day 3 | May 11

This morning, visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of Delos — the legendary birthplace of Artemis and Apollo. Walk along the Sacred Way to the Sanctuary of Apollo, a spectacularly rich archaeological site with remains of three separate temples from the fifth and sixth centuries B.C. See the legendary Terrace of the Lions, dedicated to Apollo, where hand-carved marble statues guarded the island for nearly 2,600 years. After lunch on board the ship, explore the island of Mykonos, where

according to ancient legend, its craggy hills and clefts were formed from the petrified bodies of giants defeated by Hercules. Join fellow travelers for the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening. (B,L,R, D)

### Kusadasi, Turkey, for Ephesus

#### Day 4 | May 12

Arrive in Kusadasi and drive to Ephesus, a vast archaeological site of Greek, Roman and Byzantine ruins including the restored and reconstructed Celsus Library and the Great Theater. Visit the Terrace Houses and the Ephesus Archaeological Museum, which showcases artifacts that were retrieved from Ephesus during excavations in the late 19th and early 20th centuries — including the famous statue of Artemis. Later this evening, enjoy a classical concert at the historical Caravanserai building. (B,L,D)

### Pátmos

#### Day 5 | May 13

On the island of Pátmos, tour the Greek Orthodox Monastery of St. John, a UNESCO World Heritage site. See the Cave of the Apocalypse, where St. John the Apostle most likely wrote the Book of Revelation in 95 A.D. Return to the ship for lunch on board and a culinary demonstration. (B,L,D)

### Rhodes/Lindos

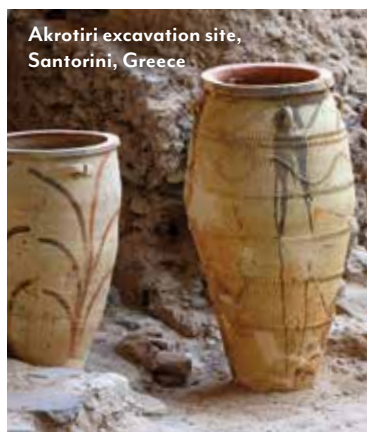
#### Day 6 | May 14

Dock in Rhodes at the wall of Rhodes Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, with a stop at its ancient port — where the mighty Colossus of Rhodes statue stood before it was destroyed by an earthquake in the third century B.C.

Explore the medieval old town as it was built by the Order of St. John, which occupied Rhodes from the early 14th century through the 16th century.



Cave of the Apocalypse, Pátmos, Greece



Akrotiri excavation site, Santorini, Greece





Village of Lindos and the Acropolis, Rhodes, Greece

Visit the Palace of the Grand Masters, a formidable Gothic castle that houses a treasure trove of art, furniture and icons from that era.

You will be able to choose from two activities this afternoon. One is an excursion to the ancient village of Lindos to see its Church of Panagia and clifftop Acropolis. At a height of 535 feet, this iconic site offers breathtaking views and photo opportunities of the village. Alternatively, you may opt to indulge in an afternoon at leisure in Rhodes. Enjoy a traditional Greek folklore show with local musicians and dancers, followed by dinner on board the ship this evening. (B,L,D)

### Santorini

#### Day 7 | May 15

Be on deck as the ship cruises into the port of Santorini, beneath which some believe

to be the legendary lost city of Atlantis. From the port we will drive to the southern end of the island for a tour of Akrotiri — a unique archeological site that dates to prehistoric times. Tour these spectacular Minoan ruins, held intact by layers of pumice and ash for over 3,500 years.

Visit the Museum of Prehistoric Thera, which houses finds excavated from Akrotiri. Continue to the town of Fira, renowned for its whitewashed buildings, stunning views and vibrant energy. Enjoy an afternoon with time to explore Santorini at your own pace. (B,L,D)

### Milos, Greece

#### Day 8 | May 16

Today the ship arrives in Milos, a largely undeveloped volcanic island in the East Cyclades known for its abundance of sandy beaches and stunning topography.

It was on this remote island that the world-famous Venus de Milo marble statue was found in pieces in 1820. Though most of it was reassembled and presented to King Louis XVIII, the arms of the ancient female figure believed to represent Aphrodite were never found. Visit the Archaeological Museum of Milos, which features exhibits that date from the Neolithic period through late antiquity. After lunch on board, enjoy time at leisure at the beach or participating in maritime activities. Attend a Captain's Farewell Reception and dinner this evening. (B,L,R,D)

### Athens/Return to Home City

#### Day 9 | May 17

Arrive in Athens this morning. Disembark and continue on the Delphi Post-Tour Extension or transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)



Mykonos, Greece



Milos, Greece



### Wind Star

The intimate, four-masted **Wind Star** offers an unforgettable first class sailing experience. This small ship is designed to sail from deep seas into lagoons inaccessible to larger vessels. The **Wind Star's** gourmet dining and wide teak deck with unobscured views provides the ultimate sailing experience to each guest. Complimentary alcoholic/nonalcoholic beverages and Wi-Fi access are available throughout the cruise. All meals on board the ship are included. Each of the 74 ocean-view staterooms features one queen bed or two twin beds (Owner's Suite has a queen bed), private bathroom with shower, luxury hotel amenities, individual climate control, flat-screen television with DVD player, safe, minibar, vanity table, hair dryer, plush robes and slippers.



### 2025 DEPARTURE DATE

**May 9 to May 17, 2025**

(Embarkation: May 10)

Category-Description		Standard Rate	Early Booking Savings*
B	Stateroom with two portholes. Deck 1, aft and forward.	\$7,190	\$6,190
BX Deluxe	Stateroom with two portholes. Deck 1, midship.	\$8,390	\$7,390
A	Stateroom with two portholes. Deck 2, aft and forward.	\$9,290	\$8,290
AX Deluxe	Stateroom with two portholes. Deck 2, midship.	\$10,290	\$9,290
Owner's Suite	Suite with four portholes, queen bed, and sitting/dining area. Deck 1, aft.	\$11,390	\$10,390

**\*Early Booking Savings of \$1,000 are available when you book by 10/29/24 and pay in full at time of booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$500 per person.**

All rates are per person, based on double occupancy, including taxes.  
Single supplements apply to category BX Deluxe at 160% of the per person double price and subject to availability.  
All other categories are at 200%.  
Port taxes in the amount of \$295 per person are included in the above prices. Deck plans available upon request.

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## PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

### Athens

**May 7 to 10, 2025** (Tour Begins: May 8)

Begin your journey with an immersive experience in the ancient city of Athens. Explore the monumental Acropolis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and its perfectly proportioned Parthenon, a graceful example of Doric architecture. Tour the archaeological treasures of the Acropolis Museum and enjoy the colorful neighborhood of Plaka, the oldest section of Athens. Discover the idyllic coves and sparkling Aegean waters of Cape Sounion and follow the ancient route of Pericles to the Temple of Poseidon — where 15 of the original 34 Doric columns are remarkably still standing. Accommodations are for two nights in an ideally located hotel.

**Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,195**

**Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,495**

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*



## POST-TOUR EXTENSION

### Delphi

**May 17 to 19, 2025** (Tour Ends: May 19)

Extend your journey with a two-night itinerary exploring Delphi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and Thiva, or Thebes — featuring a visit to the Archaeological Museum of Thebes, where exhibits span from the Neolithic era to the end of the Ottoman rule. Tour Delphi and visit the Delphi Archaeological Museum. Walk on the Sacred Way to see the Treasury of Athens, the Temple of Apollo, the theater and the impressive stadium. Spend one night in the **Domotel Anemolia Hotel** and one night in the **Sofitel Athens Airport Hotel**.

**Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$995**

**Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,295**

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

**Early Booking Savings\* available | Save \$2,000 per couple!**

*Celsus Library, Ephesus, Turkey*



  
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