

Salisbury Cruise Club
Greek Isles Cruise - October 13 - 22, 2023
Group Excursions

As an alternative to the Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) excursions, the *Salisbury Cruise Club* has made arrangements for special group excursions in each port. We believe that these excursions offer much the same, if not more than similar tours offered by NCL, at a discounted price and with the people you know. However, given that each balcony and ocean view cabin receives a \$50 excursion credit in each port to be used towards excursions booked through NCL during our cruise (that's one \$50 credit per cabin per port - so up to \$300 per cabin if you redeem your credit in each port), the net prices for excursions offered by NCL are a little more affordable and we won't be offended if you opt to book with NCL rather than booking our Group Excursions in some ports. Details will be reviewed at our meeting on Thursday, June 8, 2023. If you are interested in any of the *Salisbury Cruise Club* group excursions, **please send in your registration as soon as possible, since space is limited.** Please return the reservation form by email or US Mail **no later than Thursday, June 15, 2023** so I can confirm our reservations with the tour providers.

Tickets and Instructions - Tickets for each of the excursions that you have registered for will be provided to you at our meeting on Thursday, September 28 at 7:00 pm along with your cruise documents and other information about our cruise. In addition, at that time you will receive detailed instructions on when and where to meet on the pier in each port of call. You will also receive a few tips on what to expect and how to prepare for each excursion. Any last minute changes and/or reminders about our excursion for the next day will typically be provided to the group each night for those joining us at dinner in the main restaurant.

Responsibility and Liability - These group excursions have been arranged by the *Salisbury Cruise Club* as a convenience to our group members. These excursions are provided by independent tour operators and the *Salisbury Cruise Club* and its officers and agents will not be responsible or liable for any loss, damage, injury, costs or delays resulting from, or in conjunction with, your use of these services. **By registering for these excursions, you assume such responsibility and liability in conjunction with your participation in these tours and agree that neither the *Salisbury Cruise Club* nor its officers or agents are liable for any loss, damages, injuries, costs or delays.**

Tour Protection Insurance - Because we have booked these group excursions with independent tour operators, they must be paid in advance and are therefore **non-refundable**. Since everyone in our group has already purchased the Comprehensive Trip Protection Policy, we recommend that you consider purchasing an add-on policy, subject to the same terms and conditions for cancellation, to cover the cost of your excursions should you need to cancel. The add-on policy costs \$50 per person and can be added to your total excursion payment.

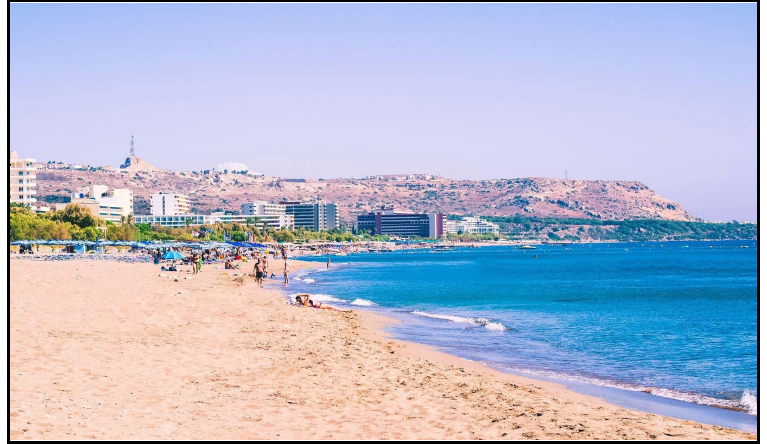
Please Register Early as These Tours Will Sell Out

Deadline for Excursion Registration is June 15, 2023

Tour 1 - Rhodes, Greece - A Day at the Beach

Date - **Monday**, October 16, 2023 - Rhodes, Greece
Tour Time - 10:30 am to 3:00 pm - (4.5 hours)
Ship In Port - 10:00 am to 7:00 pm - (9 hours)
Tour Cost = **\$50**

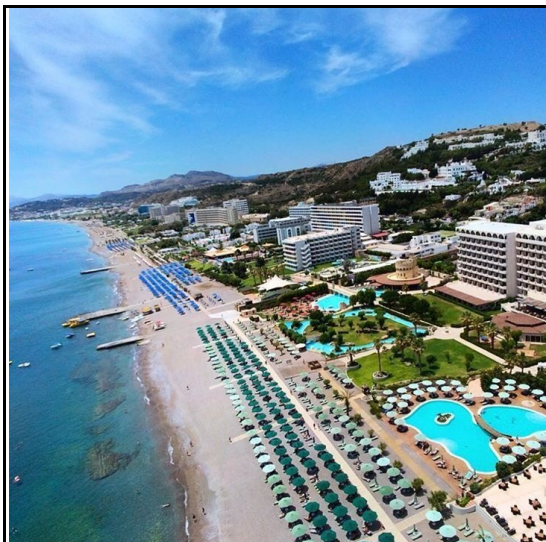
Today we visit the beach for a relaxing start to our Greek Isles cruise. Board our deluxe air-conditioned bus for a 45-minute drive from the cruise ship pier to Faliraki Beach on the northeast coast of Rhodes. Enjoy the panoramic view of the city of Rhodes as we pass by the Palace of the Grand Master of the Knights, Mandraki Port, and Monte Smith (the Acropolis of Rhodes) on our journey south to the beach. Please note that there will be sufficient time after our tour to further explore the City of Rhodes and the many shops and cafes before you return to the ship.



We plan to arrive at Faliraki Beach by 11:15 am where we will have 3-hours to enjoy the sun, take a swim in the Mediterranean Sea, snorkel, or enjoy some of the other activities available. This three-mile stretch of coastline will welcome you to its golden sands with well-maintained amenities and charming Greek hospitality. There are sunbeds aplenty, with beach bars, cafes, and restaurants along the length of the beach. The calm, clear waters stay shallow a long way out, perfect for swimming and snorkeling (although don't expect to see much coral or colorful fish in the Mediterranean Sea). Water sports are available, including paragliding and banana boating. We have arranged for sunbeds and beach umbrellas for our group as well as a bottle of mineral

water to keep you hydrated. There's also a nearby restaurant if you wish to purchase lunch or perhaps a snack or drinks while you enjoy your relaxing day at the beach.

We plan to leave the beach by 2:20 pm to return to the ship by 3:00 pm so you will have plenty of time for shopping and exploration before all aboard at 6:00 pm. The ship will be docked just outside the walled entrance to the city of Rhodes, so you can either head straight to the city, or you can board the ship to change into more comfortable dry clothes for your stroll through the city. Either way, we highly recommend spending at least an hour in the city of Rhodes as the shopping and cafes were lively and plentiful when we visited in September 2021.



Tour 2 - Bodrum Turkey - Turkish Village Tour

Date - **Tuesday**, October 17, 2023 - Bodrum, Turkey
Tour Time - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm - (5 hours)
Ship In Port - 8:00 am to 6:00 pm - (10 hours)
Tour Cost = **\$100** - (includes authentic Turkish meal)

Today we have arranged a tour of the Bodrum area, but also including a visit to a traditional Turkish Village where you will experience an authentic look at life in Turkey and enjoy a Turkish meal prepared by the locals. From the pier, our buses will take us up the hill for a spectacular view of the city of Bodrum, the port area and Bodrum Castle where our guides will explain the history of the city and the castle while we take a few photographs. Then we will take a scenic 45-minute drive



through the forest to a beautiful little Turkish village where we will experience first-hand the traditional daily life in Turkey including: farming, boating/fishing, and preparing the wool for the famous Turkish Rugs in which the entire village participates.



The villagers will prepare an authentic Turkish meal for us at the local café including: olives, cheeses, two types of salad, Greek meatballs (known as Keftedes), grilled chicken and lamb, potatoes and yogurt with special herbs and dips, as well as a few vegetarian dishes. We will also be served a sweet homemade Pita bread and homemade pie for dessert along with a traditional Turkish Coffee experience. After lunch, we will enjoy some free time to stroll around the village before we depart for our scenic return to Bodrum where you will have a couple of hours for shopping and exploring Bodrum on your own before all aboard at 5:00 pm.



Tour 3 - Mykonos, Greece - Scenic Island Tour

Date - **Wednesday**, October 18, 2023 - Mykonos
Tour Time - 9:00 am to 1:30 pm - (5 hours)
Ship Anchored (Tender)- 7am to 9:30pm - (14.5 hours)
Tour Cost = **\$65**



This morning, our ship will anchor just off the coast of Mykonos where we will take the 9:00 am tender to meet our tour guides and buses at 9:30 am for our island tour. Please note that this tour will require a 10-minute walk, approximately ½ mile on relatively flat paved sidewalks from the pier to the bus parking area. The 1-hour walking tour in

the historical center of Mykonos is optional for anyone with mobility issues who may prefer to relax in a café or return to the ship after our morning bus tour.



On our bus tour, we will set off to discover the many facets of the island of Mykonos, the "Greek Saint-Tropez". The island has a lot to offer which you will realize during the relaxing first part of this excursion which will take place mainly by coach. The island of Mykonos is world famous for its stunning scenic beauty comprised of windmills, sparkling bays, superb beaches, white houses and churches with their colorful blue and red domes. Our first photo stop will be the panorama, a viewpoint that will give you a splendid view of the city of Mykonos and the old port. Then during our scenic drive we will pass by the cosmopolitan beach of Ornos and the picturesque villages of Agios Ioannis and Kalafatis. A stop is planned in the heart of Mykonos at the village of Ano Mera, the largest settlement on the island, whose center houses the monastery and the church of Panagia

Tourliani that we will admire from the outside and perhaps tour inside too. The cloister, believed to have been founded in the 16th century and later renovated in 1767, is one of the main attractions in the area. Finally, relax and admire other beautiful landscapes on our return journey to Mykonos where we will continue with a 1-hour guided walking tour of the historical center of Mykonos and free time for lunch (on your own). After our guided tour, you will have plenty of time for shopping and further exploring in Mykonos before you take one of the continuously running tenders back to the ship.



Tour 4 - Paros - Greek Villages and Wine Tasting

Date - **Thursday**, October 19, 2023- Paros, Greece
Tour Time - 9:00 am to 1:30 pm - (4.5 hours)
Ship In Port - 7:00 am to 6:00 pm (11 hours)
Tour Cost = **\$85**

Today, we board our air-conditioned coach for a panoramic drive to the traditional village of **Lefkes**, a beautiful village built in an amphitheatrical style, up the main mountain with wonderful vistas all around. The town hall is especially nice being built with the



famous Marble of Paros. Our next stop will be the traditional **Moraitis Winery**, located close to the beautiful picturesque fishing village of Naoussa, in the northern part of Paros. We can roam around the vineyards, take a tour around the production areas where we may see old objects of the wine making art as well as visit the old winery basement where the famous red wines of Moraitis are still aged. We will finally have the chance to taste its wines together with some Greek snacks. We will then continue to the close by village of **Naoussa**, considered to be one of the prettiest in the Greek



Isles, which despite the development of tourism has managed to keep its authenticity, its character and its charm, with its whitewashed and flowered little houses and its tiny whitewashed churches and chapels, surrounded by labyrinth-like narrow, stone-paved streets. We will have 50-minutes of free time in Naoussa for lunch (on your own) or shopping before we continue our tour. Our last stop will be back in **Paros**, to visit the famous Church of Ekatontapiliani (Our lady of a Hundred Doors). This church is the holy place of Paros and is linked to the history and myths of Byzantium (now known as Constantinople). Tradition and history state that the church began life in the reign



of Constantine the Great (280 - 337 A.D.) or Justinian (527 - 565). After its restoration in 1959, this church, the brightest jewel in the crown of the Greek Orthodox Church, became the third most important Christian building in Greece, after the Church of the Acheiropietos and St. Demetrios in Thessaloniki. Following our tour, you will have 3.5 hours of free time for shopping and further exploration on your own in Paros before all aboard at 5 pm.

Tour 5 - Crete - Knossos and Heraklion City Tour

Date - **Friday**, October 20, 2023 - Heraklion, Greece

Tour Time - 9:00 am to 12:30 or 3:30 pm - (3.5 to 6.5 hours)

Ship In Port - 7:00 am to 6:00 pm - (11 hours)

Tour Cost = **\$65**

Note - This Tour involves a path on uneven ground and is therefore NOT recommended for those with mobility issues.

Today we visit Crete's most famous historical attraction, the **Palace of Knossos**, the grand capital of Minoan Crete, located just 3 miles south of Heraklion (aka Iraklio). It was the court of the legendary King Minos, father of the mythological **Minotaur**, half-bull, half-man. The setting is evocative and

the ruins and

recreations impressive, incorporating an immense palace, courtyards, private apartments, baths, lively frescoes and more. The original palace was built around 2,000 B.C., and after being destroyed by an earthquake, was replaced with a more complex one, which strongly resembled a labyrinth. We will enjoy a guided tour of the Palace of Knossos, including: the West Court, which may have been a marketplace or the site of public gatherings; the South Propylaion, where you can admire the Cup Bearer Fresco; the Piano Nobile, where the reception and staterooms were located and where giant pithoi (clay jars) once held oil, wine and other staples; the Fresco Gallery, with replicas of Knossos' most famous frescoes, including

the Bull Leaper, the Ladies in Blue and the Blue Bird; the Throne Room with walls decorated with frescoes of griffins (mythical beasts regarded by the Minoans as sacred); the King and queen's quarters, featuring the queen's megaron (bedroom),

with a copy of the Dolphin fresco; then on to the north entrance with the Charging Bull

fresco and the

place where people gathered to welcome important visitors arriving by the Royal Road. After our 1.5 hour visit, we will return to Heraklion City by 11:30 am for a 1-hour guided walking tour, followed by 3-hours of free time for lunch (on your own) or to further explore Heraklion, perhaps visiting the Fountain of Morosini at Lions Square near the colorful fruit and vegetable market, or to shop for some Cretan souvenirs before our bus returns us to the port to board the ship at 3:30 pm. Please note that our bus will be available at 12:30 pm for those of you who prefer to return to the ship after the walking tour, and will return to pick up the rest of our group at 3:30 pm.



Tour 6 - Santorini Highlights Tour and Wine Tasting

Date - **Saturday**, October 21, 2023 - Santorini, Greece
Tour Time - 9:00 am to 4:30 pm - (7.5 hours)
Ship Anchored (Tender) - 8 am to 9:30 pm - (13.5 hours)
Tour Cost = **\$110**

This morning, our ship will anchor just off the coast of Santorini where we will take the ship's tender at 9:00 am



for our tour. After a short boat trip to Athinios port, we will continue by coach to explore the history, capital and scenic landscape of Santorini. Our first stop will be the ancient **Akrotiri**, a flourishing town at the time of the Minoan Bronze Age, but which was subsequently buried by the ashes towards the middle of the

second millennium BC. Since the excavation began in 1967, many beautifully preserved artifacts have been unearthed, including frescoes and even three-story buildings. We will have a little more than an hour to admire the fascinating prehistoric site of Akrotiri. Following our visit, we will proceed to **Fira**, the capital of Santorini, where we will have about an hour of free time for lunch (on our own) at one of the many cafes where you can relax and enjoy the spectacular panorama of the Kamenis, the two volcanic islands in the bay flanking our ship. After lunch, sit back and relax as we take a scenic drive to the northern tip of Santorini to the village of **Oia**, perched on the edge of the caldera. Oia features the picturesque white and blue Cycladic-style houses typically made of stone, with thick walls and flat roofs. These traditional homes were designed to resist the intense



Mediterranean climate and shield against strong winds during summer yet they are quite the photographer's dream. After a guided tour along Oia's charming cobbled streets, we will make a stop at a nearby wine shop where other delights await us to whet our appetites. But that's just the beginning as we will then visit to a local winery for a guided wine tasting led by a wine expert, allowing us to get to know the distinctive volcanic terroir of the wines including the Assyrtiko grape producing crisp white wines which are unique to Santorini. After our wine tasting we will return to Fira to explore at our leisure. Here you will find intriguing alleys filled with shops of all sorts, including one that offers fish pedicures which involves dipping your feet into a basin of water filled with Garra rufa fish that eat the dead skin revealing smooth, callous-free skin, and cleaner-looking cuticles. Trust me, I'm not making this up. After your final shopping (and perhaps with your refreshed feet), you can take the funicular down to the pier where the tenders will be waiting to take you back to the ship.



Salisbury Cruise Club
Greek Isles Cruise - October 13-22, 2023
Group Excursions – Registration Form

To register for any of these Exclusive Group Excursions offered by the *Salisbury Cruise Club*, please complete and return this registration form together with full payment in the form of a **check made out to “Salisbury Cruise & Travel”** as soon as possible, but no later than Thursday, June 15, 2023, and mail to: **Salisbury Cruise & Travel, 3911 Five Friars Road, Salisbury, MD 21804.**

Name(s) of Participants (please print): _____

Please sign me up for the following excursion(s):	<u># of Tickets</u>	x	<u>Price per person</u>
Tour 1 - <u>Rhodes, Greece - A Day at the Beach</u>	_____	x	\$50/person = \$ _____
Tour 2 - <u>Bodrum, Turkey - Turkish Village Tour</u>	_____	x	\$100/person = \$ _____
Tour 3 - <u>Mykonos, Greece - Scenic Island Tour</u>	_____	x	\$65/person = \$ _____
Tour 4 - <u>Paros - Greek Villages and Wine Tasting</u>	_____	x	\$85/person = \$ _____
Tour 5 - <u>Crete - Knossos and Heraklion City Tour</u>	_____	x	\$65/person = \$ _____
Tour 6 - <u>Santorini Highlights Tour and Wine Tasting</u>	_____	x	\$110/person = \$ _____
Optional Tour Protection Insurance Coverage (circle one) Yes or No	_____	x	\$50/person = \$ _____

Total Number of Tickets = _____ **Grand Total = \$** _____

Remember, all tours will be filled on a first registered basis.
So please register early to be sure that you get the tours that you want.
Deadline for registration is June 15, 2023

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