

# IONIAN ODYSSEY

**EXCLUSIVE SHORE EXCURSIONS PACKAGE 2026  
ATHENS TO ATHENS INCLUDING CANAL CROSSING**

**IMPORTANT NOTE: TOURS REQUIRE PREBOOKINGS UP TO 14  
DAYS AHEAD OF CRUISE**





DAY 2

## KEFALONIA

### UNCOVER THE ISLAND'S DIVINE BEAUTY

Natural Wonders, Warm Hosts and Local Crafts.

**THIS TOUR REQUIRES PREBOOKING 14 DAYS AHEAD OF CRUISE**

- Duration approx. 5 hours
- Includes Transportation/ Local Guide/all fees and tastings
- Per Person: Euro 94

This tailor-made Kefalonian **experience** begins with a visit to the enchanting **Melissani Cave**, one of the island's most breathtaking natural wonders. Entering the cave by boat, sunlight streams through a natural opening in the roof, illuminating the crystal-clear lake below and revealing luminous shades of blue, with visibility reaching depths of up to **30 meters**, making it one of Greece's most extraordinary natural landmarks.

We then continue inland, traveling along the forested slopes of **Mount Ainos** toward Lakithra village. Discover nearby a **beautiful local organic farm**, where the welcoming owners will guide us around and will share their homemade local delicacies.

*Depending on seasonality and availability, this visit may be substituted with a stop at Orealios Gaea-Vine growers of Robola to enjoy a tasting of Kefalonia's renowned wines.*

Our journey concludes in the **Sami area**, a town with deep maritime roots, with a visit to the private **Nautical Museum of Mr. Sotiris Marketos**. Here, we will be warmly welcomed and invited to admire his remarkable hand-crafted wooden models of traditional Greek ships—created over many years as a tribute to Kefalonia's seafaring heritage.



DAY 4

## CORFU

### THE PRINCESS OF THE IONIAN SEA

Corfu old town (**Unesco** World Heritage site) – visit a noble 19<sup>th</sup> century Mansion now a living history museum - Kanoni Viewpoint –

**THIS TOUR REQUIRES PREBOOKING 14 DAYS AHEAD OF CRUISE**

- Duration approx. 3,5-4 hours
- Includes Transportation/ Certified Guide/Entry fees and a Corfiot refreshment
- Per Person: Euro 82

After a short drive, begin your experience with a guided stroll through **Corfu's enchanting Old Town**, dramatically set beneath a **14th-century Venetian fortress**. With its harmonious mix of European architectural influences, elegant mansions, lively squares, and historic fortifications, it is easy to see why Corfu is considered one of the most beautiful towns in Greece. Throughout the walk, our expert local guide brings the town's rich past to life, revealing its hidden stories and fascinating details.

Step back into **19th-century Corfu** at **Casa Parlante**, an immersive museum housed in a noble mansion where history truly comes alive. Animated figures, authentic period furnishings, and even the aromas of traditional cooking recreate daily life within a Corfiot aristocratic household. This is more than a museum visit—it is a multisensory journey through time.

Following some free time to enjoy the charm and atmosphere of the Old Town at your own pace, we continue to the iconic **Kanoni viewpoint**. From here, admire and photograph breathtaking views of **Mouse Island (Pontikonisi)** and the picturesque **Vlaherna Monastery**, two of Corfu's most iconic landmarks. Enjoy a refreshing local drink as you take in the scenery before returning to the port.



DAY 5

## ITHACA

### THE SECRETS OF REMOTE NORTHERN ITHAKI

Monasteries, Homeric Tales and Seaside villages

**THIS TOUR REQUIRES PREBOOKING 14 DAYS AHEAD OF CRUISE**

- Duration approx. 4 hours
- Includes transportation/ local escort/ all fees & a local drink
- Per Person: Euro 79

Departing from **Vathy**, we travel through the scenic landscapes of northern **Ithaki**, beginning with a visit to the **Monastery of Panagia Kathariotissa**. Dramatically perched high on **Mount Niritos**, this revered spiritual site offers sweeping panoramic views across the island and holds deep religious significance for the local community. We then continue to the small village of **Stavros**, where stories and legends of **Ulysses** are woven into the fabric of everyday life, bringing Ithaki's mythological past vividly to mind. Passing through the picturesque port of **Frikes**, we arrive in **Kioni**, one of Ithaki's most idyllic seaside villages. With its traditional architecture, tranquil alleys, and proximity to beautiful beaches such as **Filiatro** and **Sarakinari**, Kioni invites a relaxed pace. Enjoy a short stroll, some free time, and a refreshing local drink at a waterfront café while soaking in the peaceful atmosphere. Our journey concludes with a scenic drive back to **Vathy** along the island's dramatic western coastline, crossing the narrow isthmus that visually and geographically connects the two halves of Ithaki.



DAY 7

## AEGINA

### PISTACHIOS, SAINTS & ANTIQUITIES.

The ancient temple of Athina Aphaia & the lively town of Aegina

- Duration approx. 3,5 hours
- Includes Transportation/Certified Guide/Entry fees
- **Per Person: Euro 92**

As we depart the port, the road gently winds through endless **pistachio groves**—Aegina’s emerald treasure—leading us to our first highlight and photo stop, the **Sanctuary of Saint Nektarios**. One of Greece’s most important pilgrimage sites, it draws thousands of visitors each year and offers a serene setting.

We continue past the hill of **Palaiochora**, the island’s former medieval capital, now an evocative landscape of historic ruins. Driving through a fragrant **pine forest**, we reach one of Greece’s great archaeological treasures—the **Temple of Aphaia**. Dramatically perched on a hilltop and dating back to **480 BC**, this beautifully preserved Doric temple was dedicated to **Athena**. With **25 of its original 32 columns still standing**, it offers a powerful glimpse into classical antiquity. On clear days, the views are spectacular, stretching all the way to the **Acropolis of Athens** and the **Temple of Poseidon at Cape Sounion**.

We then return to **Aegina Town**, celebrated for its authentic island atmosphere and elegant **neoclassical architecture**. Stroll through lively squares, browse local shops and souvenir stalls, or relax at a cozy seaside café or traditional taverna along the waterfront. As you explore, look out for the former home of **Nikos Kazantzakis**, the famed author of *Zorba the Greek*.

No visit to Aegina would be complete without sampling its **world-famous pistachios**, a prized local delicacy with protected designation status. Be sure to take some home—they truly live up to their reputation.

*In case the ship docks in Agia Marina port, the tour will be done in a reversed order.*



## IMPORTANT NOTE:

**Our curated tours are pre-arranged, therefore we kindly ask you to pre-book your tours at least 14 days before your cruise.**

No prepayment is needed. However, please note that pre-bookings communicated to us are considered as firm, and your account will be charged accordingly.

A minimum of **14 participants** is required for each tour to operate.

Cancellation fees apply for any cancellations made less than **48 hours** before the tour. Cancellations must be acknowledged by our Cruise Coordinator.

### Further remarks:

- Our tours are offered exclusively for Variety' small groups. If a tour cannot operate due to low participation, our team will suggest suitable alternatives. Please note that descriptions, rates, and inclusions may vary for groups of less than 14 guests.
- All tours are designed to match our cruise itinerary and are led by local certified English-speaking guides or professional escorts. We'll take you to the "must-see" highlights while also revealing lesser-known gems.
- Tours may change due to site restorations, weather, traffic, or other conditions. If a site or museum is closed during our visit, an alternative experience will be provided.
- Tours are active and require a good level of physical fitness. Because some sites may be slippery, we recommend comfortable shoes, sunscreen, a hat, and water.
- Please protect your mobiles and cameras during tender rides.
- A modest dress code applies for visits to churches and monasteries.
- Gratuities for drivers and guides are not included.