deluxe cruises

Cruise Details

Name:	Greek Islands from the Corinth Canal to the Bosporus
Reference:	EMERALDE07G250927-1
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Ultra Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Raiya
Regions:	Mediterranean
Departs On:	25 Sep 27
Departs From:	Piraeus
Arrives On:	06 Oct 27
Arrives At:	Piraeus
Cruise Nights:	11
Total Vacation Days:	12

Itinerary

Day 1: Piraeus (Greece)

Your enthralling voyage begins in Greece and the ancient capital of Athens, a historic city that presents a remarkable blend of rich heritage and modern dynamism. From here, you'll be transferred to your luxury Emerald yacht for the start
of your unforgettableMediterranean odyssey. Please book your flight to arrive into Athens prior to 04:00 PM. Docked: 21:00

Arrives On: 25 Sep 27

Day 2: Port information not found

A narrow waterway that connects the Gulf of Corinth with the Saronic Gulf in
Greece, the Corinth Canal is a 19th-century feat ofengineering. As your luxury yacht passes through this slender canal, appreciate the stunning views of the soaring, ochre-
colored cliffs. Afterwards, arrive in the picturesque town of Itea, gateway to the ancient ruins of

Delphi, a World Heritage Site and one of the nation’smost important archaeological and mythological areas. The ancient Greeks considered Delphi to be the centre of the world. DiscoverMORE
Guided tour of Delphi (extra expense, must be pre-booked)
Follow the scenic slopes of Mount Parnassos to Delphi, one of Greece's most important archaeological sites and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, once regarded as the centre of the ancient world. Visit the legendary Sanctuary of Apollo, where the famous oracle Pythia delivered her prophecies to pilgrims from across the ancient world. Walk along the Sacred Way, admire the impressive Temple of Apollo, the ancient Theatre, and the sacred Castalian Spring, where visitors once purified themselves before consulting the oracle. Continue to the Delphi Archaeological Museum, home to an exceptional collection of ancient treasures, including the famous Bronze Charioteer, one of the finest surviving masterpieces of classical Greek sculpture, and the Omphalos, believed by the ancient Greeks to mark the centre of the world. After exploring this remarkable sanctuary, depart for the return journey.
Activity Level: Active, Duration: 4 hours Docked: 14:00 –19:00

Arrives On: 26 Sep 27

Day 2: Itea (Greece)

Arrives On: 26 Sep 27

Day 3: Katakolon (Greece)

Located on the western shores of the Peloponnese peninsula, the small seaside town of Katakolon is best known as the gateway to the ancient archaeological site of Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games and now a World Heritage Site. Explore these important ruins, arguably the most celebrated sacred site of Ancient Greece, which include the Temple of Zeus and the original Olympic stadium. DiscoverMORE
Tour of Olympia (extra expense)
Journey to Ancient Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games, and explore one of Greece's most significant archaeological treasures. Founded as the site of the first Olympic Games in 776 BC, Olympia was both a major religious sanctuary and the centre of athletic competition in the ancient world. During your guided visit, discover the impressive remains of the Temple of Zeus, the Temple of Hera, the Shrine of Pelops, the Treasury, the Palaestra, and the Gymnasium, while learning about the traditions and ceremonies that shaped the ancient Games. Continue to the Archaeological Museum of Olympia, home to one of Greece's finest collections of classical antiquities. Admire remarkable sculptures, mosaics, bronze artefacts, and architectural treasures recovered from the site, including the celebrated Hermes of Praxiteles, widely regarded as one of the masterpieces of ancient Greek sculpture.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours Docked: 08:00 – 13:00

Arrives On: 27 Sep 27

Day 4: Khania (Greece)

Welcome to Chania, a charming coastal town located on the northwest coast of the island of Crete. Chania is known for its picturesque Venetian harbour, narrow winding streets and vibrant atmosphere. The town boasts a rich history that is evident in its eclectic blend of architectural styles, with Venetian, Ottoman and Greek influences. Here, spend your day relaxing on one of the beautiful beaches, exploring historical sites, or hiking through lush landscapes. Today choose between our EmeraldACTIVE or DisoverMORE
option. EmeraldACTIVE
Guided visit of Chania and Botanical Gardens
Discover the Botanical Park, a lush oasis nestled in the Cretan countryside. Wander among fruit trees, aromatic herbs, and ornamental plants while learning about the island’s diverse flora. Breathe in the fresh air, enjoy the colors and scents of nature, and take in the peaceful surroundings.Continue with visit of charming Chania, a lovely town built around its Venetian Harbour and iconic 15th-century lighthouse. Stroll through a maze of picturesque narrow streets, where the architecture reflects centuries of Venetian, Ottoman, and Greek influence. Follow your guide through the vibrant Old Town and central marketplace, where stalls overflow with local delicacies — from aromatic herbs and Cretan honey to handmade crafts. After the guided walk, enjoy some free time to explore or relax at your own pace.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours 30 minutes DiscoverMORE
Walking Tour of Chania with Cretan Olive Oil Tasting (extra expense)
Immerse yourself in the flavours and history of Crete as you combine an authentic olive oil experience with a visit to the charming town of Chania. Begin with a visit to a traditional olive estate, where you will learn about the cultivation, harvesting, and production of premium extra virgin olive oil. Discover both an innovative stone mill with hydraulic press and a modern cold-extraction system before enjoying a guided tasting of four distinctive olive oils, exploring the unique characteristics of different olive varieties and naturally infused oils. Continue to the picturesque Old Town of Chania, where Venetian, Ottoman, and Greek influences blend around the historic Venetian Harbour and its iconic 15th-century lighthouse. Enjoy a guided walk through the atmospheric streets before free time to browse the lively Municipal Market area, known for its herbs, local honey, olive products, and traditional Cretan delicacies.
Activity Level: Active, Duration: 3 hours 45
minutes EmeraldPLUS
Local folklore performance on board
Experience the vibrant spirit of Crete through an authentic onboard folklore performance celebrating the island's rich musical and dance traditions. Enjoy an hour of captivating entertainment featuring four talented dancers performing a lively repertoire of traditional Greek dances. Accompanied by live traditional music, the performance showcases the rhythm, colour, and diversity of regional folklore, offering a memorable cultural experience inspired by the heritage of Crete.
Event duration: 1 hour Anchored: 09:00 – 21:00

Arrives On: 28 Sep 27

Day 5: Santorini (Greece)

One of the world’s most photogenic islands, Santorini enchants with its whitewashed buildings cascading down dramatic cliffs overlooking the Aegean. Arriving by sea at Santorini offers a breathtaking first impression. Visit the main town of Fira for breathtaking caldera views or charming Oia, where blue-domed churches and cascading bougainvillea create postcard-worthy scenes in narrow lanes. Relax on distinctive volcanic-sand beaches or sample crisp local wines cultivated in mineral-rich soil. As you sail away, the sun sinks into the Aegean and Santorini’s legendary sunset paints the sky in hues of gold and crimson – a moment to cherish forever. Included Excursion
Round-trip cable-car ticket to Thira
Experience one of Santorini’s most iconic journeys with a roundtrip cable car ride between the Old Port of Gialos and Fira, offering spectacular views over the island’s dramatic caldera. After tendering from the ship, proceed to the Old Port of Gialos, where the Santorini Cable Car (Teleferico) provides a quick and scenic ascent up the steep caldera cliffs, connecting the port with Fira, the island’s lively capital. As the gondola rises, enjoy sweeping views of volcanic rock faces, whitewashed villages perched high above the cliffs, and the deep blue Aegean Sea below. Upon arrival in Fira, time is available to explore independently—stroll along the caldera rim, browse local shops, enjoy panoramic viewpoints, or relax at a café overlooking the breathtaking scenery. When ready, use the return cable car ticket to descend comfortably back to the Old Port and tender back to the ship.
Activity Level: Easy, Duration: At your leisure DiscoverMORE
Akrotiri, Winery & Oia (extra expense)
Journey through the history, flavours, and iconic landscapes of Santorini as you discover one of the Aegean's most captivating islands. Begin with a visit to the remarkable archaeological site of Akrotiri, often referred to as the "Greek Pompeii." Buried beneath volcanic ash following the island's great eruption, this exceptionally preserved Bronze Age settlement reveals sophisticated multi-storey buildings, advanced drainage systems, and fascinating insights into one of the ancient Mediterranean's most advanced civilisations. Continue to a traditional Santorini winery, where you will learn about the island's unique volcanic viticulture and enjoy a tasting of locally produced wines while overlooking the spectacular caldera. Complete your excursion in the picturesque village of Oia, famous for its whitewashed houses, blue-domed churches, and breathtaking views across the volcanic caldera and Thirassia Island. Afterwards, continue to Fira, where you may either return with the group or remain to explore the island's capital independently before taking the cable car back to the Old Port at your convenience.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 5 hours 30 minutes Anchored: 08:00 – 22:00

Arrives On: 29 Sep 27

Day 6: Mykonos (Greece)

Arrive in glamorous Mykonos today, where Cycladic charm meets a cosmopolitan flair. Lose yourself in the maze of narrow lanes lined with whitewashed houses and chapels. Discover chic

boutiques, waterfront tavernas and the island’s iconic windmills overlooking the Aegean. As evening falls, Mykonos reveals its vibrant energy, offering the perfect blend of tradition and modern sophistication. DiscoverMORE
Explore Mykonos Town Highlights on Foot (extra expense)
Discover the timeless charm of Mykonos on a leisurely walking tour through the island’s enchanting capital, where traditional Cycladic architecture, rich history, and stunning coastal scenery come together. Explore the maze of whitewashed streets in Mykonos Town (Chora) as your guide shares fascinating insights into the island’s culture and history. Along the way, admire the iconic Panagia Paraportiani, one of Greece’s most photographed churches, and the charming Church of St. Nicholas, overlooking the old harbour. Continue through the picturesque waterfront district of Little Venice, where elegant historic houses line the sea, before reaching the famous Mykonos Windmills, offering panoramic views across the town and the sparkling Aegean. Pause to enjoy a traditional Greek cheese pie at a local bakery and a refreshing drink before free time to browse the boutiques, relax at a café, or continue exploring Mykonos Town at your own pace.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes Anchored: 08:00 – 19:00

Arrives On: 30 Sep 27

Day 7: Kusadasi (Turkey)

Set along Turkey’s western Aegean coast, Kusadasi is a lively Turkish coastal town rich in history and culture. Its strategic location has made it a crossroads of civilisations for thousands of years. From here, you may explore the nearby ancient city of Ephesus, one of the best-preserved classical cities in the Mediterranean. Wander along marble streets lined with grand columns, temples, and the magnificent Library of Celsus. Back in Kusadasi, vibrant bazaars and seaside promenades offer a colourful taste of Turkish hospitality. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Ephesus with folkloric show and tasting
Step back in time at the extraordinary ancient city of Ephesus, one of the best-preserved classical cities in the Mediterranean and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Travel along the scenic Aegean coastline before entering Ephesus through the historic Magnesia Gate. Follow your guide through magnificent ruins, including the grand Forum, the iconic Library of Celsus, and the impressive Great Theatre, while learning about the city's importance as one of the greatest centres of the ancient world. Continue to the remarkable Terrace Houses, where beautifully preserved mosaics, frescoes, and luxurious private residences provide a fascinating insight into the lives of Ephesus' wealthy citizens. Before returning, enjoy a visit to a local cooperative featuring a traditional Turkish folklore performance, accompanied by a selection of regional delicacies, local drinks, and wine in a relaxing garden setting.
Activity Level: Active, Duration: 5 hours 30 minutes Docked: 08:00 – 16:00

Arrives On: 01 Oct 27

Day 8: Dardanelles (Turkey)

The Dardanelles is a breathtaking strait that connects the Aegean Sea to the Sea of Marmara, a small inland sea within the borders of Turkey. As you cruise through this narrow waterway and take in the breathtaking views, you can learn all about the region's rich history, including its importance in various conflicts throughout the centuries. Later, you'll arrive in Kepez, the port for Çanakkale, the historic gateway to the fabled city of Troy. Explore the moving World War I memorials at Gallipoli or visit Troy's archaeological ruins. DiscoverMORE
The Legendary City of Troy (extra expense)
Journey into the world of myth and archaeology with a visit to Ancient Troy, one of history's most legendary cities and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Travel to the archaeological site where the excavations of Heinrich Schliemann revealed that the city immortalised in Homer's Iliad was more than legend. Explore the remarkable ruins as your guide explains the fascinating history of Troy, a city rebuilt nine times over more than 3,000 years. Admire the ancient defensive walls, learn about the famous Trojan War, and see the modern replica of the iconic Wooden Horse, symbolising the legendary Greek strategy that led to the city's fall. Continue to the award-winning Troy Museum, located beside the archaeological site. Through its impressive collection of artefacts, interactive displays, and multimedia exhibits, discover over 5,000 years of history and the civilizations that flourished in this region, highlighting Troy's role as a meeting point between Eastern and Western cultures.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours 30 minutes DiscoverMORE
Guided Tour of ANZAC Cove and Gallipoli Peninsula (extra expense)
Follow the story of one of the First World War's most significant campaigns with a moving visit to the Gallipoli Peninsula Historical National Park, where the courage and sacrifice of thousands are remembered. Your journey begins at Anzac Cove, where Australian and New Zealand forces came ashore on 25 April 1915. Continue to Lone Pine Cemetery, overlooking the historic battlefield, where your guide will recount the events that unfolded across these hills and the enduring legacy of the ANZAC campaign. The tour continues to Beach Cemetery, the resting place of many of the campaign's fallen, and the 57th Regiment Memorial and Cemetery, dedicated to the Ottoman soldiers who defended the peninsula. Finally, visit Chunuk Bair, one of the campaign's most strategically important positions, where the New Zealand Memorial stands alongside a statue of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, whose leadership during the battle marked a defining moment in Turkish history. Throughout the excursion, your guide will provide insight into the events, personal stories, and lasting significance of the Gallipoli Campaign for both Türkiye and the ANZAC nations.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 5 hours Docked: 12:00 – 19:00

Arrives On: 02 Oct 27

Day 8: Port information not found

Arrives On: 02 Oct 27

Day 9: Istanbul (Turkey)

Resting at the crossroads of Europe and Asia for 8,500 years, Istanbul is a dynamic city drenched in history, the former legendary capital of Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman empires. This rich tapestry of history is reflected in the city's classic architecture, with iconic landmarks such as the magnificent Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque and Topkapi Palace. Included Excursion
Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, and Grand Bazaar
Explore the timeless treasures of Istanbul on a privately guided journey through the heart of the historic Sultanahmet district.Begin at the site of the ancient Hippodrome, once the sporting and social centre of Constantinople. Today, Sultanahmet Square is home to remarkable monuments including the Egyptian Obelisk, the Serpentine Column, and the German Fountain, each reflecting the city's rich Byzantine heritage.Continue to the magnificent Blue Mosque (Sultan Ahmed Mosque), renowned for its elegant domes, six slender minarets, and stunning interior adorned with thousands of blue Iznik tiles. A short walk then brings you to the iconic Hagia Sophia, one of the world's greatest architectural masterpieces. Originally built as a Byzantine cathedral in the 6th century, it has served as a cathedral, mosque, museum, and today once again as a mosque, symbolising Istanbul's remarkable cultural and religious history. Conclude your tour at the legendary Grand Bazaar, one of the oldest and largest covered markets in the world. Wander its atmospheric lanes lined with nearly 4,000 shops offering carpets, ceramics, jewellery, spices, textiles, and traditional handicrafts before returning to the port.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 5 hours Docked: 11:00 - Overnight

Arrives On: 03 Oct 27

Day 10: Istanbul (Turkey)

Istanbul is also known for its vibrant markets, such as the Grand Bazaar and Spice Bazaar, where you can enjoy shopping for local goods and sample traditional Turkish cuisine. DiscoverMORE
Tour of Topkapi Palace and Cisterns (extra expense)
Step into the heart of the Ottoman Empire with a visit to Topkapi Palace, the magnificent residence of the sultans for almost 400 years. Perched on a promontory overlooking the Bosphorus, the Golden Horn, and the Sea of Marmara, the palace was built between 1465 and 1478 and served as the political and ceremonial centre of the Ottoman Empire. Explore its elegant courtyards before visiting the fascinating Harem, where the private lives of the sultans and their families unfolded behind ornate walls. Continue to the remarkable Basilica Cistern, an atmospheric underground reservoir commissioned by Emperor Justinian I in 532 AD to supply water to the Great Palace. Wander among its impressive forest of 336 marble columns and admire the famous Medusa head column bases, one of Istanbul's most intriguing archaeological treasures.
Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours DiscoverMORE
Turkish Bath Experience (extra expense)
Step into a centuries-old Ottoman tradition at the magnificent Hurrem Sultan Hamam, one of Istanbul's most prestigious historic bathhouses. Commissioned in the 16th century

by Hurrem Sultan (Roxelana), the influential wife of Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent, and designed by the renowned Ottoman architect Mimar Sinan, this beautifully restored hamam stands between the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia on the site of the ancient Baths of Zeuxippus. Enjoy an authentic Turkish bathing ritual in elegant surroundings. Your experience begins with time to relax in the warm marble hammam before a traditional full-body cleansing ritual and a soothing foam massage. This timeless wellness tradition is designed to cleanse the skin, improve circulation, and leave you feeling refreshed and rejuvenated.
Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 3 hours Docked: Overnight - 18:00

Arrives On: 04 Oct 27

Day 12: Piraeus (Greece)

Your luxurious cruise concludes as you return to the Greek capital, Athens, the ancient birthplace of democracy and Western civilisation. After saying farewell to your fellow guests and crew, you'll be transferred to the airport for your return flight home, or to continue your holiday. DiscoverMORE
Athens City tour with Acropolis (extra expense, must be booked on board)
Experience the timeless wonders of Athens, where ancient history and authentic Greek flavours come together in an unforgettable journey through the city's most iconic landmarks. Begin with a guided visit to the magnificent Acropolis, ascending the sacred hill to admire the Parthenon, Erechtheion, Temple of Athena Nike, and Propylaea, while enjoying panoramic views over Athens and nearby landmarks including the Odeon of Herodes Atticus.Continue into the charming neighbourhood of Plaka, where narrow streets, neoclassical houses, and family-run shops create the perfect setting to experience traditional Athenian life. Stroll through the lively market streets while sampling a variety of authentic Greek specialities, including local cheeses, olives, savoury pies, pastries, olive oil, wine, and regional spirits, as your guide shares the story behind Greece's celebrated culinary traditions.
Activity Level: Active, Duration: 5 hours

Notes: This excursion is available for guests continuing on the next cruise and for disembarking guests with flights departing after 5:00 pm. After the visit to Plaka, disembarking guests will transfer directly to the airport, while in-transit guests will return to the ship by separate vehicle. Please book your flight to depart out of Athens after 01:00 PM. Docked: 06:00 The itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons. As such, Emerald Cruises cannot guarantee the cruise will be operatedunaltered from the itinerary stated above.

Arrives On: 06 Oct 27

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