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Cruise Details

Name:	Ancient Treasures And The Aegean Lifestyle
Reference:	HAPAGEUX2818
Operator:	Hapag-Lloyd Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	MS EUROPA 2
Regions:	Mediterranean
Departs On:	07 Aug 28
Departs From:	Istanbul
Arrives On:	19 Aug 28
Arrives At:	Piraeus
Cruise Nights:	12
Total Vacation Days:	13

Itinerary

Day 1: Istanbul (Turkey)

Arrives On: 07 Aug 28

Day 2: Istanbul (Turkey)

Istanbul, a fascinating metropolis that combines historical splendour and modern lifestyle, lies at the borders of Europe and Asia. The iconic landmarks of Hagia Sophia, the Blue Mosque and Topkapi Palace are UNESCO World Heritage Sites and provide impressive insights into the city's rich history. A stroll through the old city takes you through a labyrinth of narrow streets and bustling bazaars, with the Grand Bazaar at its centre, inviting you to forget the time as you browse and admire the many stands and products. The banks of the Bosporus, the city's lifeline, offer a picturesque backdrop: a ride in a traditional water taxi reveals unforgettable panoramas of the historic skyline and allows you to absorb the unique blend of East and West.

Arrives On: 08 Aug 28

Day 3: Bozcaada (Turkey)

Some 20 km (12.4 mi.) from the Dardanelles lies Bozcaada, an unspoilt island paradise in the northern Turkish Aegean. From the slopes of the highest mountain, Goztepe, breathtaking views of secluded coves with clear water and scattered pine forests unfold. The imposing Bozcaada Castle, which guards the harbour, probably dates back to the early 18th century. It bears witness to the island's turbulent history. Today, Bozcaada is best known as Turkey's most important wine-growing region, producing almost a third of the country's wine. Every year, the vines attract visitors from all over the world to the island, who come to taste the wine and its special aromas, enjoying the laid-back atmosphere as well.

Arrives On: 09 Aug 28

Day 4: Kusadasi (Turkey)

Kusadasi's long, palm-lined promenade immediately evokes a holiday feeling – a refreshing dip in the crystal-clear waters of the Aegean Sea is enough to make you forget the daily grind. A few kilometres away, the historic site of Ephesus, where the splendour of ancient Rome is still reflected in the impressive ruins of the Celsus Library and the great theatre, takes you back to a distant time. Kusadasi itself, founded in the 13th century by Italian traders, offers a mix of Turkish charm and Mediterranean ease – a place where history and the present gently merge. Thanks to the long lay time, you'll enjoy relaxed experiences.

Arrives On: 10 Aug 28

Day 5: Bodrum (Turkey)

With scenic bays, azure-blue water and warm hospitality, Bodrum welcomes you to the "Turkish Riviera". Even in ancient times, the historic port city was famous as the site of the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus, one of the seven wonders of the world. Today Bodrum Castle and the amphitheatre bear witness to the city's great past, but you can also enjoy the modern atmosphere at Milta Bodrum Marina or on a shopping spree in the trendy boutiques. The city's diverse beaches invite you to swim and relax: whether you want to relax at the beach club or dream away surrounded by unspoilt nature, you are sure to find your favourite spot.

Arrives On: 11 Aug 28

Day 6: Agios Nikólaos, Kríti (Greece)

Set on picturesque Mirabello Bay, Agios Nikolaos attracts visitors thanks to its picturesque location and small inland lake at the port. The name of this enchanting resort goes back to the Byzantine Church of Saint Nicolas, one of the oldest churches in Greece, which stands as testament to the deep historical roots of the region. The island of Crete itself shows its best side: long sandy beaches, deserted bays, high mountain ranges and remote gorges ensure a varied and

impressive backdrop. Agios Nikolaos combines these natural riches with its charming character, inviting you to enjoy the beauty of Crete in peace and tranquillity. The long lay time time allows you to relax and unwind at the end of the day.

Arrives On: 12 Aug 28

Day 7: Santorini (Greece)

With its iconic blue-and-white houses and deep caldera, Santorini is an architectural and geological gem in the southern Cyclades. The town of Thira sits high above the old harbour on a tuff stone plateau and offers magnificent views of the sea. Hikers can climb the serpentine path with around 600 steps, but a cable car also conveniently takes visitors to the top. A special highlight is watching the sunset over the caldera, shining in golden-purple colours and showing off the island's unique Cycladic beauty. The ship will stay overnight – perfect for enjoying your time to the fullest.

Arrives On: 13 Aug 28

Day 8: Santorini (Greece)

Arrives On: 14 Aug 28

Day 9: Naxos (Greece)

From fragrant cedar forests to imposing mountain ranges and whitewashed houses: Naxos combines everything that the Cyclades stand for on a single island. There are just as many ways to spend a Greek summer's day as there are ways to enjoy it. Relax on the fine sandy beaches of Agia Anna or set off to explore Naxos town: even from a distance, the Portara, the gate of the unfinished Temple of Apollo, attracts attention. For further insights into history, stroll through the narrow streets up to the medieval castle of Kastro. Want to discover the Cyclades through its cuisine? Then follow the wonderful aromas into one of the rustic taverns, where freshly caught fish is served.

Arrives On: 15 Aug 28

Day 10: Milos (Greece)

Fishing boats gently bobbing on the water and the deep blue of the Aegean Sea shape the atmosphere of Adamas on the Cycladic island of Milos. Lined with beautiful beaches, the town offers an idyllic setting for a perfect day's holiday. Enjoy a stroll along the pretty promenade, wander through the winding streets and sample Mediterranean specialities on the terrace of a tavern while soaking up the Greek sun. Perhaps you would also like to learn more about the history of the island on a visit to the catacombs, which remain a mystery to this day? As the EUROPA 2 will remain off the coast of Milos until the evening, you will have plenty of time for extensive

explorations.

Arrives On: 16 Aug 28

Day 11: Náfplion (Greece)

Nauplia, once the capital of Greece and still an insider tip in the Peloponnese, enjoys a scenic location on the Argolic Gulf. The city is nestled against a rocky promontory and offers impressive views from the two fortresses that watch over it: Palamidi Castle from the 18th century and Akronafplia Castle, the ruins of which house the Nafplia Palace Hotel today. Syntagma Square, with its charming cafes and restaurants, invites you to while away some time. With its wonderful blend of history and Greek way of life, Nauplia enchants its visitors and is a quieter alternative to better-known destinations in Greece. Enjoy the atmosphere in complete relaxation thanks to a long lay time.

Arrives On: 17 Aug 28

Day 12: Hydra (Greece)

The whitewashed houses of Hydra are gracefully nestled into the hillside of the island of the same name: the dreamy fishing village is considered one of the most beautiful places in Greece. Thanks to the exceptionally peaceful atmosphere – there are no cars on the island – the conditions are perfect for a relaxing break and for exploring on foot, by donkey or by water taxi. Whether you stroll along the beautiful promenade, let your gaze wander over the Aegean Sea from one of the street cafes or admire cultural treasures such as the cathedral: the soul of Greece is within reach everywhere on this exceptionally unspoilt island.

Arrives On: 18 Aug 28

Day 12: Piraeus (Greece)

Arrives On: 18 Aug 28

Day 13: Piraeus (Greece)

Arrives On: 19 Aug 28

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