deluxe cruises

Cruise Details

Name:	Ultimate Voyage: Ancient Empires, Adriatic & Amalfi Coast
Reference:	SCENIC903G120828-2
Operator:	Scenic Ocean Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Ultra Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Ikon
Regions:	Mediterranean
Departs On:	12 Aug 28
Departs From:	Istanbul
Arrives On:	13 Sep 28
Arrives At:	Civitavecchia
Cruise Nights:	32
Total Vacation Days:	33

Itinerary

Day 1: Istanbul (Turkey)

Welcome to Istanbul, a city where East meets West in a vibrant blend of history, culture and stunning architecture.

This afternoon, step on board Scenic's new, next-generation Discovery Yacht, Scenic Ikon. Your journey into wonder begins with a warm greeting from the Captain and crew. Meet your butler and settle into your spacious suite with a glass of champagne. Then join your fellow guests on deck to toast the start of an unforgettable Mediterranean cruise. Please book your flight to arrive into Istanbul prior to 02:00 PM.

Arrives On: 12 Aug 28

Day 2: Istanbul (Turkey)

Istanbul is a mesmerising city that straddles two continents. Founded by the Greeks as Byzantium in the 7th century BC, it became Constantinople under the Romans in 330 AD before

falling to the Turks of the Ottoman Empire in the 1400s. Thanks to this rich and complex history, it boasts a breathtaking blend of architecture including iconic landmarks like the Hagia Sophia and Topkapi Palace. Wander the narrow lanes of the famed Grand Bazaar, savour Turkish delicacies along picturesque waterways, sip fragrant mint tea, and embrace the dynamic blend of ancient traditions and modern energy that defines this legendary destination.

Arrives On: 13 Aug 28

Day 3: Dardanelles (Turkey)

Begin your day with a graceful sail through the legendary Dardanelles Strait, a narrow passage where history and natural beauty converge between Europe and Asia. This narrow passage links the Aegean Sea to the Sea of Marmara and is best known as the site of the Gallipoli campaign in WWI. Take in the marvellous views from the deck as you cruise past rugged shorelines, ancient ruins and rolling hills. After lunch, you'll arrive in Kepez, ready to explore this charming seaside town.

Set on the eastern coast of the Dardanelles, this popular destination comes steeped in history, with ancient sites such as the Old Town and Hadrian's Gate, and famed for its culture and culinary traditions. Kepez also offers numerous outdoor pursuits, including hiking and cycling in the surrounding parks and verdant forests, or simply relaxing on the enticing beaches.

Arrives On: 14 Aug 28

Day 3: Port information not found

Arrives On: 14 Aug 28

Day 5: Dikili (Turkey)

Today, your yacht will arrive in Dikili, an authentic Turkish coastal town that is the modern port for the ancient city of Pergamon. Once an important cultural, scientific and political centre, the site is well known for its impressive ruins, including the famous Acropolis, ancient theatre, and the remarkable Altar of Zeus, one of the most significant archaeological sites of the Hellenistic period. Afterwards, enjoy the relaxed vibe of Dikili's waterfront, where you can stroll along the marina or savour local Turkish cuisine at a seaside café.

Arrives On: 16 Aug 28

Day 6: Kusadasi (Turkey)

Wander lively bazaars and savour Turkish cuisine in the popular seaside resort town of Kusadasi. The port also serves as the gateway to the World Heritage-listed ancient city of Ephesus, renowned for its breathtaking Greco-Roman ruins dating back as far as the 10th century BC. Marvel

at Ephesus' grand Library of Celsus and the majestic ruins of the Temple of Artemis, one of the original Seven Wonders of the World, echoes of antiquity's splendour.

Arrives On: 17 Aug 28

Day 7: Naxos (Greece)

This morning, arrive in Naxos, the largest island in the Cyclades, known for its breathtaking beaches, deep-rooted history and enchanting villages. The picturesque old town is bigger and busier than other island capitals, a tangle of steep laneways with distinctive Venetian architecture and a vibrant atmosphere. The island's most famous site is the ancient Temple of Apollo, a vast marble gate dating back to 560 BC. Naxos perfectly blends cultural heritage with natural beauty. Whether you're exploring historic sites, tasting local delicacies, or relaxing by the turquoise waters, Naxos offers a quintessential Greek island experience.

Arrives On: 18 Aug 28

Day 8: Santorini (Greece)

One of the most photogenic islands in the world, and known for its world-famous sunsets, Santorini is simply breathtaking. Whitewashed buildings perch atop soaring cliffs, overlooking the caldera of a partially submerged ancient volcano that shaped the island with a thunderous explosion more than 3,600 years ago. The island is celebrated for the beauty of its Cycladic architecture with cubic buildings, blue-domed churches and narrow alleyways.

Arrives On: 19 Aug 28

Day 9: Heraklion (Iraklion), Crete (Greece)

Crete's dynamic capital is best known for its Minoan legacy. This fascinating Bronze Age civilisation has left behind a wealth of archaeological wonders, including the famed Palace of Knossos, a sprawling Minoan masterpiece. Explore the lively old town's bustling markets, admire the historic Venetian harbour, and savour authentic Cretan cuisine and fresh seafood in charming waterfront tavernas.

Arrives On: 20 Aug 28

Day 10: Milos (Greece)

Welcome to Milos, a Greek island known for its unique terrain and often referred to as the 'Island of Colours' thanks to its diverse soil shades. This extraordinary landscape, extending to unique rock formations of yellow, orange, red and dazzling white, appears even more dramatic set against the backdrop of sparkling turquoise waters. Milos is also famous as the original home of

the iconic marble statue, Venus of Milo, an ancient sculpture believed to represent the Goddess Aphrodite and now displayed in the Louvre Museum in Paris, France.

Arrives On: 21 Aug 28

Day 11: Hydra (Greece)

Renowned for its stunning natural beauty and historic charm, this picturesque island dazzles with its rugged terrain, clear turquoise waters, and lush greenery. The main centre, also named Hydra, is a charming and bustling port town of narrow cobblestone streets and traditional, whitewashed buildings adorned with bougainvillea-covered balconies. There are no cars or motor vehicles allowed on the island, making it a peaceful and low-key getaway from the usual hustle and bustle of city life.

Arrives On: 22 Aug 28

Day 12: Piraeus (Greece)

This morning, your next-generation Discovery Yacht, Scenic Ikon, will arrive in Piraeus, the vibrant port city that opens the door to the rich history and culture of Athens. Prepare to explore iconic landmarks such as the famous Acropolis, a fortified hill dominated by the Parthenon, atmospheric ruins of a white marble temple built during the height of the ancient Greek Empire. Enjoy authentic Greek cuisine and experience the lively atmosphere of this bustling ancient city.

Arrives On: 23 Aug 28

Day 13: Náfplion (Greece)

Discover the rich tapestry of history as you wander through Nafplion’s charming streets adorned with neoclassical architecture, Venetian fortresses and Turkish mosques. Explore the winding alleys of the Old Town, where traditional tavernas and quaint cafes beckon you to indulge in local delicacies. Climb the steps to Palamidi Fortress for breathtaking views of the town and sea below or relax on the shores of Arvanitia Beach. See the World Heritage-listed Epidaurus Theatre and archaeological site of Mycenae, dating back to the second century BC.

Arrives On: 24 Aug 28

Day 14: Nydri, Lefkada Island (Greece)

Arrives On: 25 Aug 28

Day 15: Corfu (Greece)

The ruggedly beautiful island of Corfu is dotted with whitewashed houses and olive groves, creating an enchanting Mediterranean allure. The World Heritage-listed Old Town boasts a rich history and stunning Renaissance and Baroque architecture. Wander the vibrant Spianada, Greece’s largest square, and immerse yourself in Corfu’s timeless charm and cultural treasures.

Arrives On: 26 Aug 28

Day 16: Monopoli (Italy)

A true gem of the Adriatic, Monopoli charms with its whitewashed buildings, vibrant fishing port and maze of narrow streets. Wander the historic old town, explore magnificent churches, or unwind by the sea with a gelato in hand. This coastal town captures the heart of Puglia in every detail.

Arrives On: 27 Aug 28

Day 17: Kotor (Montenegro)

Today, arrive in Kotor, a fortified city nestled between towering mountains and the shimmering Adriatic. This World Heritage-listed town is brimming with Venetian palaces, cobblestone lanes and café-hemmed squares. Guarded by medieval walls, Kotor is a place of ancient stories and modern culture.

As your next-generation Discovery Yacht departs, enjoy the breathtaking sail away through the Bay of Kotor, Europe’s southernmost fjord-like bay, with its rugged mountain backdrop and charming, red-roofed villages lining the shores.

In the evening, you’ll sail on to Dubrovnik, where your ship will stay overnight, giving you ample time to soak in the city's medieval charm and vibrant evening atmosphere.

Arrives On: 28 Aug 28

Day 17: Dubrovnik (Croatia)

Arrives On: 28 Aug 28

Day 18: Dubrovnik (Croatia)

Known as the ‘Pearl of the Adriatic’, Dubrovnik is a compelling historic city along Croatia's Dalmatian Coast. Its walled Old Town is one of the finest examples of medieval citadel architecture in Europe. With its storied history and breathtaking views of iconic terracotta rooftops and the alluring Adriatic Sea, Dubrovnik offers the perfect blend of cultural exploration and serene seaside strolls.

Arrives On: 29 Aug 28

Day 19: Korčula (Croatia)

Korcula, Croatia, is the Adriatic’s sixth-largest island and has been dubbed the ‘Emerald Isle’ for its lush, green landscape. It is renowned for its medieval Old Town, often called ‘Little Dubrovnik’. Famed as Marco Polo’s birthplace, it boasts Gothic-Renaissance architecture and quaint squares, whilst vineyards grace nearby Cara and Smokvica, yielding the prized Croatian wine, Pošip.

Arrives On: 30 Aug 28

Day 20: Sibenik (Croatia)

Šibenik, a Dalmatian treasure, was founded in the ninth century and is one of the oldest Croatian cities on the Adriatic. It’s famous for the World Heritage-listed Cathedral of St. James, a Renaissance masterpiece as well as medieval fortresses like St. Michael’s and the winding cobblestone alleys of its car-free Old Town. It also neighbours Krka National Park, home to a series of seven stunning waterfalls.

Arrives On: 31 Aug 28

Day 21: Piran (Slovenia)

Piran, a lesser-known coastal gem on Slovenia’s Adriatic shore, enchants with its medieval charm. Clustered on the Piran peninsula, its red-tiled, white-washed buildings reflect a vibrant Venetian heritage, shaped by the Venetian empire from the late 13th to late 18th century. Elegant gothic-style architecture and narrow cobblestone streets invite exploration.

Arrives On: 01 Sep 28

Day 22: Venice (Italy)

Arriving in Venice by luxurious yacht is pure magic, a stunning introduction to a city where enchanting canals, rich culture, and timeless beauty await your discovery. Stroll through St. Mark’s Square, admire the artistry of the Doge’s Palace, glide along quiet canals by gondola, or simply lose yourself in the charm of hidden alleyways and artisan boutiques.

Arrives On: 02 Sep 28

Day 23: Rovinj (Croatia)

Today, explore Rovinj, a picturesque coastal town on Croatia’s Istrian Peninsula. Known for its charming old town with cobblestone streets, colourful buildings and a bustling harbour, Rovinj offers a perfect blend of history, culture, and seaside beauty. Wander through quaint alleys, visit the hilltop Church of St. Euphemia, and enjoy a coffee at one of the vibrant cafés along the waterfront.

Arrives On: 03 Sep 28

Day 24: Zadar (Croatia)

Discover Zadar, a vibrant city on the Dalmatian Coast where history meets the sea. Enjoy a walk along the waterfront to hear the sounds of the Sea Organ, a unique wave-powered creation; explore the charming old town filled with ancient Roman ruins and lively streets, and take in the beautiful views that make this a truly special destination.

Arrives On: 04 Sep 28

Day 25: Hvar Island (Croatia)

Explore Hvar, Dalmatia’s gem, founded as Pharos in the fourth century BC. Admire its vibrant Pjaca (main town square) and ornate Venetian architecture, and inhale the scent of the nearby fragrant lavender fields. The sunniest spot in Croatia and consistently ranked among the world’s most popular islands, Hvar captivates with stunning beauty surrounded by the deep blues of the Adriatic Sea.

Arrives On: 05 Sep 28

Day 27: Siracuse, Sicily (Italy)

Spend the day in the city of Syracuse on the Ionian coast of the island of Sicily, a tapestry of lush citrus orchards, golden stone buildings and sparkling blue seas. Explore the remnants of ancient civilisations in the Archaeological Park of Neapolis, where the Greek Theatre and Roman Amphitheatre stand as testaments to the city's rich history. Stroll through the charming streets of Ortigia, the historic heart of Syracuse, with its baroque architecture and bustling markets. Indulge in authentic Sicilian cuisine at traditional waterfront trattorias, savouring local delicacies like arancini and cannoli.

Arrives On: 07 Sep 28

Day 28: Giardini Naxos (Italy)

Known as the ‘Jewel of Sicily’, Taormina is one of Sicily’s most popular resort towns. Once a stop on the famed Grand Tour of the 19th century, today it is synonymous with luxury hotels, exceptional restaurants and designer boutiques. It’s also the gateway to World Heritage-listed Mount Etna, the largest active volcano in Europe, which dominates the picturesque backdrop. This charming small town set high above the Ionian Sea is known for its ancient Greco-Roman theatre, beautifully restored medieval buildings, astonishing vistas and exclusive atmosphere.

Arrives On: 08 Sep 28

Day 29: Palermo (Italy)

Welcome to Palermo, a vibrant and historic city located on the northern coast of Sicily. The island’s capital reveals a mix of cultures, including Italian, Arabic, and Norman influences, which is evident in its diverse architectural styles and cuisine. Palermo's historic centre is a World Heritage-listed site, brimming with beautiful churches, royal palaces, and bustling squares. Palermo is also known for its street food scene, with markets like Mercato Ballarò and Mercato Vucciria serving up a wide range of local specialties, such as arancini, panelle, and sfincione.

Arrives On: 09 Sep 28

Day 30: Lipari (Italy)

The World Heritage-listed Aeolian Islands are seven volcanic outcrops set off the north coast of Sicily with a rich history dating back to 5000 BC. As you sail into the islands this morning, look out for the huge rock formations that rise dramatically from the water. Lipari is the largest and most popular of the islands, known for its pebbled beaches, hiking trails and historic harbour. From its panoramic position, a castle overlooks the seafront of pastel-coloured townhouses, with windswept highlands and steep cliffs in the distance.

Arrives On: 10 Sep 28

Day 31: Amalfi (Italy)

This morning you’ll arrive in the historic town of Amalfi, which gave this region its name. Nestled between mountains and the sea, Amalfi was one of the four Maritime Republics of Italy in the Middle Ages, bringing great wealth and power. Wander along its meandering alleyways to admire historic buildings, grand churches and ornate fountains, or just relax at one of the many cafes that spill out onto the street. The nearby village of Ravello offers spectacular views of the Bay of Salerno and peaceful gardens surrounding medieval ruins.

Arrives On: 11 Sep 28

Day 32: Capri (Italy)

Capri’s mythic charm has captured hearts for more than 2,000 years. Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus fell in love with the island in 29 BC, building villas, temples and gardens for his own private paradise. Today, its jaw-dropping beauty still draws royalty, celebrities and fashionable travellers from all over the world.

Wander through the Piazzetta and listen to the melodious chiming of the clock tower, admire the impossibly blue ocean as it crashes onto the cliffs, and taste its famous flourless chocolate cake or a fresh caprese salad.

Arrives On: 12 Sep 28

Day 33: Civitavecchia (Italy)

Your Signature Yacht Cruise concludes this morning in Civitavecchia, an ancient port dating back to the second century and the gateway to Rome. Explore the timeless beauty of Rome, the Eternal City, where historic monuments and ornate churches sit alongside busy cafes and famous designer boutiques, and every corner tells a story of empires past.

After savouring a final breakfast on board, it will be time to disembark and commence your onward journey or return home, carrying cherished memories with you. Please book your flight to depart out of Rome after 12:00 PM. #Spa treatments and services at additional cost. Daily activities may be subject to change; please consult your Daily Wonder for updates. +All drinks on board, including those stocked in your mini bar, are included, except for a very small number of rare, fine and vintage wines, Champagnes and spirits. Specialty restaurants require a reservation, enquire on board.
^Experiences on board our helicopters and submersible are at additional cost, subject to regulatory approval, availability, weight restrictions, medical approval and weather conditions. Submersible not operational in Europe. The itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons. As such Scenic cannot guarantee the voyage will operate unaltered from the itinerary stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions for further information.

Arrives On: 13 Sep 28

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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