

# Athens, Greece

PRE-CRUISE VACATION STRETCHER

OCTOBER 2022



**USA & CANADA:** 800-631-6277 x1 | **INTERNATIONAL:** 415-962-5700 x1



### **Welcome to Athens!**

Named after Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom, and home to the Acropolis, a UNESCO World Heritage site, Athens is more than worthy of your extra attention before you begin your seven-day Greece, Cyprus & Israel Luxury Cruise. Choose one of our pre-cruise Vacation Stretchers—either three nights or one night at the well-appointed Hotel Grande Bretagne—complete with our custom schedule of tours, which are sure to show you the best of what Athens has to offer. We've chosen an excellent tour operator in Athens, and you will be able to explore Athens exclusively in the company of other Olivians!

## **3-NIGHT ATHENS (OCTOBER 19-22, 2022)**

**\$1,299 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY – CLASSIC ROOM**

**\$1,829 PP SINGLE OCCUPANCY – CLASSIC ROOM**

**\$1,459 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY – DELUXE ROOM**

**\$2,099 PP SINGLE OCCUPANCY – DELUXE ROOM**

### **INCLUDED**

- 3-night stay at the **Hotel Grande Bretagne**, a Luxury Collection Hotel (October 19-22)
- Hotel check-in is at 3 pm on October 19; checkout is at 12 pm on October 22
- Full buffet breakfast (October 20, 21, and 22)
- Athens Scenic City Tour and Acropolis Museum, with lunch (October 20)
- Full-day tour to the Temple of Apollo, sanctuary to the priestess Oracle of Delphi, with lunch (October 21)
- Acropolis and Archaeological Museum with transfer to ship (October 22)
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary
- Round-trip hotel luggage portorage
- All entrance fees, tours in deluxe air-conditioned motor coaches, bottled water on coaches, audio headsets, and professional English-speaking guides and drivers
- Team Olivia assistance throughout

### **NOT INCLUDED**

- Airfare, transfer from airport to hotel, gratuities to guides and drivers, meals where not listed

### **ACTIVITY LEVEL REQUIREMENTS – IMPORTANT**

You must be able to walk on uneven ground, walk up and down stairs, and stand for extended periods of time. Unfortunately, due to the terrain we cannot accommodate guests with limited mobility or who cannot travel without a wheelchair or scooter.

# 1-NIGHT ATHENS (OCTOBER 21-22, 2022)

**\$399 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY – CLASSIC ROOM**

**\$599 PP SINGLE OCCUPANCY – CLASSIC ROOM**

**\$469 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY – DELUXE ROOM**

**\$699 PP SINGLE OCCUPANCY – DELUXE ROOM**

## INCLUDED

- 1-night stay at the **Hotel Grande Bretagne**, a Luxury Collection Hotel (October 21)
- Hotel check-in is at 3 pm on October 21; checkout is at 12 pm on October 22
- Full buffet breakfast (October 22)
- Acropolis and Archaeological Museum with transfer to ship (October 22)
- Round-trip hotel luggage portage
- All entrance fees, tours in deluxe air-conditioned motor coaches, bottled water on coaches, audio headsets, and professional English-speaking guides and drivers
- Team Olivia assistance throughout

## NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare, transfer from airport to hotel, meals where not listed

## ACTIVITY LEVEL REQUIREMENTS – IMPORTANT

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## YOUR ITINERARY



*Athens, Greece*



*Parliament Building*



*Acropolis Museum*

### **OCTOBER 20, 2022 – ATHENS SCENIC CITY TOUR, ACROPOLIS MUSEUM & LUNCH (3-night package)**

For those visiting Athens for the first time, this 4-½-hour tour is a wonderful introduction to one of the great cities of the ancient world. See the marble stadium built in 144 AD and excavated in 1896 to serve as the home for the modern Olympic Games, in 1896 and again in 2004.

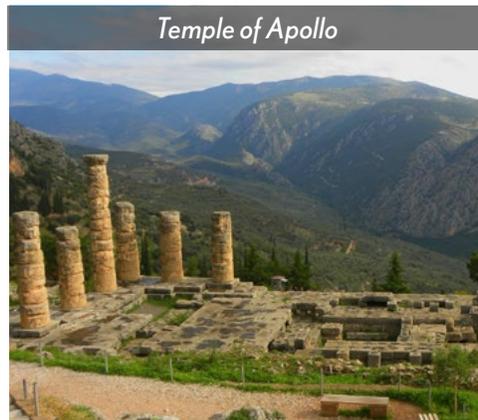
Catch a view of the Parliament Building, which stands proudly on Constitution Square with its colorful evzones—ceremonial presidential guards—protecting the Monument to the Unknown Soldier. Your scenic tour of Athens will continue to the Acropolis Museum, home to nearly 4,000 artifacts found at the Acropolis dating from between the Greek Bronze Age and Byzantine periods.

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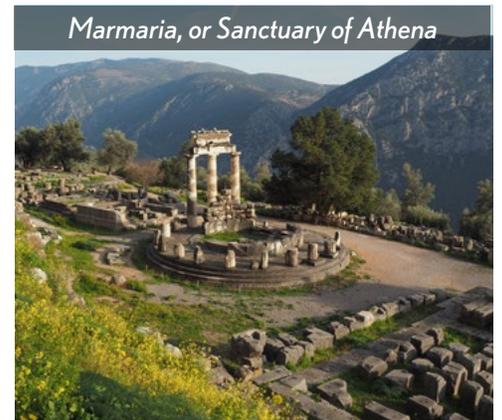
After visiting the museum, stroll through Plaka, the old district of Athens with its numerous, cafes, restaurants, and souvenir shops. Enjoy a guided walking tour of this beautiful area before tucking into a traditional Greek souvlaki lunch. After lunch, choose to return to your hotel with our guide, or stay in Plaka for time at leisure and make your own way back to the hotel.



*Delphi*



*Temple of Apollo*



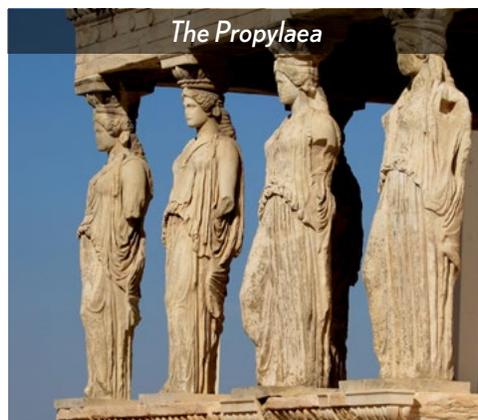
*Marmaria, or Sanctuary of Athena*

### **OCTOBER 21, 2022—TEMPLE OF APOLLO, SANCTUARY TO THE PRIESTESS ORACLE OF DELPHI & LUNCH**

The grandeur of Delphi has to be seen to be believed. Nature and ancient ruins blend in an extraordinary way, enhancing the beauty of one another against a setting of mountains, terraces, and trees. Board your deluxe air-conditioned motor coach and head to Delphi from Athens via the National Highway, passing by the towns of Thebes and Levadia, where we will make a short rest stop. Situated on the slopes of Mount Parnassos at a height of 700 meters, Delphi was once believed to be the center of the earth. Begin your guided tour from the Sanctuary of Apollo, where you will follow the paved Sacred Way to reach the Doric Temple of Apollo. In its *adyton* (small chamber), the High Priestess Pythia sat on a tripod and delivered the oracles. The theatre and the stadium used for the main events of the Pythian Festival are on terraces above the temple. To the right of the entrance to the sanctuary is the Castalian fountain, where Pythia washed before speaking her prophecies. Across and below the road from the spring is the Marmaria, or Sanctuary of Athena, with the conspicuous building of Tholos. Your visit continues to the museum, which contains a rare and exquisite collection of archaic sculptures, including the world-famous Charioteer. After your tour of Delphi, enjoy a three-course lunch at a local area restaurant and then board your coach back to your hotel.



*Acropolis*



*The Propylaea*



*Porch of Maidens, the Caryatids*

### **OCTOBER 22, 2022—ACROPOLIS & ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM**

Board your deluxe air-conditioned motor coach for a short drive to the National Archaeological Museum, one of the world's great museums. With more than 11,000 exhibits, it provides a panorama of Greek civilization from the beginnings of Prehistory to Late Antiquity. Then continue your drive to the Acropolis, a symbol of the glory of ancient Greece. Climb its smooth marble steps as visitors have for centuries. History opens before you as you reach one of the masterpieces of classical architecture, the Propylaea, which serves as the entrance to the complex. See the Temple of Athena Nike, or Wingless Victory, and the Erechtheum with its classical Porch of Maidens, the Caryatids.

Stand in awe of what is considered the most perfect example of classical architecture in the world, the Parthenon, designed as a shrine to Athena and at one time housing a massive gold and ivory statue of the warrior goddess. Looking down from the Acropolis see the two ancient theaters in its shadow—the Greek theater of Dionysus where the masterpieces of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes debuted to delighted audiences, and the grand Roman theater of Herod Atticus, restored and used for concerts and classical plays during the summer Athens Festival. After our full visit to the Acropolis, board your motor coach and drive to Piraeus port for embarkation on the beautiful Azamara Quest.

## ABOUT YOUR HOTEL



*Hotel Grande Bretagne*



*GB Roof Garden Restaurant*



*Deluxe Room*

### **HOTEL GRANDE BRETAGNE, A LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL**

With breathtaking views of the fabled Acropolis, regal Syntagma Square and the Parliament, lush Lycabettus Hill or the original Olympic Stadium, the multi-award-winning 5-star Hotel Grande Bretagne offers an unrivaled perspective of Athens' mythical history. Situated right in the heart of the city since 1874, the landmark hotel is within walking distance of the Plaka, exclusive shopping areas, museums, and the business district.

On-site amenities include GB Roof Garden Restaurant (with uninterrupted views of the Acropolis, Lycabettus Hill, and the Parliament), Winter Garden Restaurant, Alexander's Bar, GB Spa, fitness studio, steam room, and indoor and outdoor swimming pools.

In-room amenities include LED television, hair dryer, safe, complimentary wifi, turndown service, complimentary bottle of water, blackout curtains, minibar, robe and slippers, and iron and ironing board.

### **Classic Room: Courtyard View**

Dressed with fine furnishings and upscale fixtures, each Classic guest room is thoughtfully crafted, showcasing high ceilings and decorative features. A gentle color palette of cream and taupe extends across plush carpets, sumptuous fabrics, and muted decor, with gold accents adding a palatial touch. Historic, oversized windows, framed with elegant drapes, reveal refined views across the private courtyard. Topped with a generous arrangement of plump pillows and super-soft duvet, The Luxury Collection king or queen-size bed creates an enriching—and comfortable!—centerpiece. The intelligent in-room technology, including high-speed wifi, cable TV, individually-controlled bedside lights, and telephone, are subtly integrated for a seamless and modern experience.

Marble-clad and sleek, the en-suite bathroom has a spacious rainfall shower, separate bathtub, and twin basins, as well as useful illuminated vanity mirror. Equipped with luxuriant bathrobes, slippers, and an indulgent array of Gilchrist & Soames products, it is the ideal space for pampering and relaxation.

Features and amenities:

- Courtyard view
- Wifi
- Air conditioning
- Flat-screen television
- In-room safe
- Refreshment center
- Gilchrist & Soames bath products
- Telephone
- Hair dryer
- Kettle and tea facilities
- Espresso coffee machine
- Ironing board and iron

**Deluxe Room: City View**

With captivating views of Mount Lycabettus, Deluxe guest rooms combine a matchless panorama view with refined living. Expertly decorated with hand-picked furniture, exquisite fabrics, and a graceful color scheme of buttery cream and taupe, each guest room is appointed with a king-size bed from The Luxury Collection. Dressed in fine Frette linen and topped with ample supply of plump pillows and feather-soft duvet, this stunning centerpiece encourages restorative sleep and deep relaxation. A writing desk perfectly positioned to look out onto the birthplace of democracy is an inviting spot for quiet contemplation.

Spacious and indulgent, the wall-to-wall marble-clad bathroom is furnished with oversized rainfall shower and useful illuminated vanity mirror. Pure cotton bathrobes, plush slippers, and custom products from Gilchrist & Soames inspire enhanced pampering and an enriched perspective.

Features and amenities:

- Views of city or Mount Lycabettus
- Wifi
- Air conditioning
- Flat-screen television
- In-room safe
- Refreshment center
- Gilchrist & Soames bath products
- Telephone
- Hair dryer
- Kettle and tea facilities
- Espresso coffee machine
- Ironing board and iron

**NEED MORE INFO? READY TO BOOK?**

**Our Travel Consultants can be reached from the US at 800-631-6277 x1 or from outside the US at 415-962-5700 x1. Due to high demand, our vacation stretchers sell out very quickly!**

*Cancellation Policy: Olivia Companies, LLC is required to honor their contractual agreements with hotels, ground operators, and other outside vendors; therefore, the following cancellation fees apply: All Vacation Stretcher packages are nonrefundable. A handling fee of \$75 will be charged for any name changes to hotel and tour packages. Your booking/payment for Vacation Stretchers with Olivia Companies, LLC indicates your compliance with the above policies.*

*While we do our best to confirm hotels and itineraries in advance, they are always subject to change.*

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