

ROME TO ISTANBUL

“I FOUND **ROME** A CITY OF BRICKS
AND LEFT IT A CITY OF MARBLE”

EMPEROR AUGUSTUS

18-DAY CRUISE-TOUR FROM \$5,495
DEPARTS JULY 3 & OCTOBER 13, 2013

In 31BC, the Emperor Augustus embarked on a massive building program in Rome. A new Forum was constructed (the remains of which can still be seen), the temples of Saturn, Concord and Castor and Pollux were restored and the Basilica Julia was rebuilt after being destroyed by fire. Augustus had, indeed, created a city of marble. Exploring the architectural legacy of Augustus and his successors is the starting point of this journey.

This cruise will then take you to some of the most impressive and memorable ancient Greek and Roman monuments in the world including the ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum, the Greek theater at Taormina in Sicily, the treasures of classical Athens, ancient Delos and the magnificent city of Ephesus in Turkey.

No other city has played a more important role in the fortunes of the eastern Mediterranean than Istanbul and it is here, most fittingly, that this journey ends. A two-night hotel stay gives you the perfect opportunity to visit some of the greatest buildings and works of art in the world including the Topkapi Palace.



DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
DAY 1	Depart North America		
DAY 2	Arrive ROME Italy Transfer to hotel		overnight hotel
DAY 3	ROME Italy		overnight hotel
DAY 4	ROME/CIVITAVECCHIA Italy Transfer to Civitavecchia to board <i>Aegean Odyssey</i>		6.00pm
DAY 5	SORRENTO (Pompeii) Italy	8.00am	overnight
DAY 6	SORRENTO Italy Cruise past Capri and Amalfi Coast		2.00pm
DAY 7	PALERMO (Monreale) Sicily	8.00am	overnight
DAY 8	PALERMO (Segesta) Sicily		8.00pm
DAY 9	TAORMINA Sicily	8.00am	7.00pm
DAY 10	At Sea		
DAY 11	NAUPLIA (Mycenae) Greece	8.00am	6.00pm
DAY 12	PIRAEUS (Athens) Greece	8.00am	9.00pm
DAY 13	DELOS Greek Islands MYKONOS Greek Islands	7.00am 2.00pm	noon 6.00pm
DAY 14	IZMIR (Ephesus) Turkey	7.00am	7.00pm
DAY 15	LEMNOS Greek Islands Cruising the Dardanelles	8.00am	1.00pm
DAY 16	ISTANBUL Turkey Disembark and transfer to hotel	7.00am	overnight hotel
DAY 17	ISTANBUL Turkey		overnight hotel
DAY 18	ISTANBUL Turkey Transfer to Istanbul Airport for flight home		

18 DAYS FROM \$5,495 PER PERSON

Including 2-night hotel stays in
ROME and ISTANBUL plus overnight stays
on board in SORRENTO and PALERMO



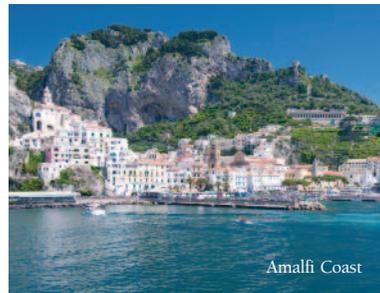
Neptune, Trevi Fountain, Rome



VOYAGE HIGHLIGHTS

THE GLORIES OF ROME & THE RUINS OF POMPEII

A half day tour begins with the great monuments of ancient Rome and ends with a visit to the most important church in Christendom. Your day starts at the largest and most famous Roman amphitheater, the Colosseum. Then a view of the Forum Romanum, the ceremonial, social and civic center of ancient Rome. Finally, to the sumptuous Basilica of St Peter's in Vatican City. Then you've free time to visit some of the city's other wonderful sites (the Pantheon should be at the top of your list).



Amalfi Coast

Sorrento is an excellent base from which to visit two wonderful sites. The first is a place that, as they say, needs no introduction: Pompeii. The town, some of which dates back to the 6th century BC, was engulfed by lava erupting from Vesuvius in August 79AD. Later, you will visit the nearby town of Herculaneum that also perished during the eruption and was engulfed by a sea of mud. A number of buildings survived virtually intact

including the famous Villa of the Papyri. Cruise past the beautiful island of Capri and along the Amalfi Coast on the way to Palermo, Sicily.

PALERMO AND THE TREASURES OF SICILY

Sicily is a celebration of the greatest achievements of western civilization: the superbly well-preserved Greek temple of Segesta, the Norman Royal Palace and Palatine Chapel in Palermo, the dazzling mosaics of Monreale Cathedral and the Graeco-Roman theater at Taormina with its mountainous backdrop and spectacular views of Etna.

CLASSICAL GREECE AND LEGENDARY ISLES

From the port of Nauplia you can visit two of the great sites of classical Greece: Agamemnon's "well-built citadel" of Mycenae and the theater at Epidaurus. From the next port of Piraeus, you take the short drive to Athens for a full-morning's tour of the city's ancient sites including the Acropolis. You will also visit the wonderful Acropolis Museum and have plenty of free time to explore the city's other remarkable sites such as the ancient Agora and the National Archaeological Museum.

Next is a morning in Delos, one of the most interesting archaeological sites in Greece and the paramount religious sanctuary of the ancient Greek world. In the afternoon there's time to relax ashore in the quintessential Greek island of Mykonos and explore the shops and cafes of this vibrant little town.

TREASURES OF TURKEY

From the port of Izmir there is the opportunity to visit some of the most spectacular sites of antiquity to be found anywhere. Ephesus was the ancient Roman capital of the province of Asia and today is rightly celebrated for its remarkably well-preserved ruins. There is also the opportunity to visit another excellent classical site. Pergamon was founded by the Greeks in the 8th century BC and once rivaled Athens and Alexandria as a center of culture and learning.

The volcanic island of Lemnos controls the approaches to the Dardanelles and the morning tour will center on the capital Myrina, which is overlooked by the fortifications of the impressive kastro. This was a stronghold in turn fought over by the Byzantines, Venetians and Ottomans. In the afternoon, the ship cruises through the Dardanelles and the Sea of Marmara.

THE WONDERS OF ISTANBUL

Byzantium, Constantinople, Istanbul – in this city you will find some of the greatest buildings and works of art in the world. Your first morning's sightseeing will take in the Byzantine sixth-century cathedral of Hagia Sophia, the Topkapi Palace – residence of the early sultans – and the Sultan Ahmet Camii (Blue Mosque). In leisure time you can also visit the Süleymaniye mosque built for Süleyman the Magnificent and a late Byzantine masterpiece, the Church of St Saviour in Chora.