

Türkischer Zauber mit Aurora Expeditions

Reisetermin
19.08. - 31.08.2026
Reederei
Aurora Expeditions
Schiff
Douglas Mawson
Reisecode
GRT001D



	Aurora Stateroom Triple Share Dreibettbelegung	 € 5.298 pro Person
	Aurora Stateroom Twin Share Doppelbelegung	 € 5.398 pro Person
	Gemeinschaftsbelegung	 € 5.398 pro Person
	Einzelbelegung	 € 8.097 pro Person
	Aurora Stateroom Superior Doppelbelegung	 € 5.698 pro Person
	Gemeinschaftsbelegung	 € 5.698 pro Person
	Einzelbelegung	 € 8.547 pro Person

	Balcony Stateroom Category C		
	Doppelbelegung		€ 5.848 pro Person
	Gemeinschaftsbelegung		€ 5.848 pro Person
	Einzelbelegung		€ 8.772 pro Person
	Balcony Stateroom Category B		
	Doppelbelegung		€ 6.148 pro Person
	Gemeinschaftsbelegung		€ 6.148 pro Person
	Einzelbelegung		€ 9.222 pro Person
	Balcony Stateroom Category A		
	Doppelbelegung		€ 6.648 pro Person
	Gemeinschaftsbelegung		€ 6.648 pro Person
	Einzelbelegung		€ 9.972 pro Person
	Balcony Stateroom Superior		
	Doppelbelegung		€ 7.248 pro Person
	Gemeinschaftsbelegung		€ 7.248 pro Person
	Einzelbelegung		€ 10.872 pro Person
	Junior Suite		
	Doppelbelegung		€ 9.098 pro Person
	Einzelbelegung		€ 13.647 pro Person



Aurora Stateroom Single

Einzelbelegung



€ 12.695
pro Person



Aurora Stateroom Superior Single

Einzelbelegung



€ 13.895
pro Person



Balcony Stateroom Category A - Solo

Einzelbelegung



Nicht
verfügbar



Captain's Suite

Einzelbelegung



Nicht
verfügbar

Doppelbelegung



Nicht
verfügbar



Day 1 Athens,
Greece

Welcome to Athens. On arrival at Athens airport make your way to the Arrivals Hall to meet our representative, followed by a transfer to our group hotel. At the hotel, visit our hospitality desk in the lobby to meet our team who will provide you with useful information regarding pre-embarkation procedures and about your time in Athens. You will also receive cabin tags for your luggage. Please clearly label the tags with your name and your cabin number on the ship. This evening offers time to relax in preparation for tomorrow. Accommodation: Athens Hotel.

Day 2 Athens

After breakfast, enjoy a morning 'Your Choice' experience. Walk in Socrates' footsteps, explore the ancient wonders of the Acropolis, or immerse yourself in Athens' vibrant food scene with a local guide. You can then rejoin the coach to return to our hotel or take a leisurely stroll to the nearby Plaka district. This charming area is filled with streets and alleys lined with restaurants, cafes, and shops—ideal for a bite to eat or picking up gifts (lunch at your own expense). Tonight, we kick off our journey with a Welcome Event, celebrating Greek style. With a rich recorded history spanning 3,500 years, Athens is a city brimming with stories. Widely hailed as the 'cradle of civilisation' and revered as the birthplace of democracy, philosophy and theatre, Athens seamlessly merges its illustrious past with its vibrant present. This bustling metropolis, home to three million inhabitants, is adorned with a wealth of ancient sites that punctuate its landscape like temples, iconic columns and former city centres. Athens' influence in antiquity transcended its borders, ushering in a Golden Age characterised by political discussion, education and philosophy, hosting luminaries such as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. The democratic principles forged in Athens laid the groundwork for modern governance systems worldwide. Yet, Athens is more than just a relic of ancient history. As a historical seat of power, it has weathered waves of invasions, shaping its contemporary identity with a diverse fusion of architectural styles, culinary delights and cultural traditions. Whether you are wandering amid ancient ruins or indulging in the flavours of modern Greek cuisine, Athens offers a captivating journey through the ages, beckoning travellers from across the globe to explore its timeless allure. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences.

Option 1 – Morning experience: A Taste of Athens. For foodie fans, travellers who have visited Athens before, and those who enjoy a personal view of Athens, this experience is perfect. We begin our guided walk at Syntagma Square, where Greece's Parliament building stands, guarded by traditionally attired Evzone guards. Our local expert warmly welcomes you to their home city, leading you on an intriguing walking tour through Athens' historical areas. With passion and knowledge, they unveil authentic Athens and its secrets. Stroll through Plaka, the charming 'old quarter' of Athens nestled at the base of the Acropolis. Admire its eclectic neoclassical architecture, picturesque alleys, and inviting tavernas. Pause at a colourful local cafe to indulge in Greek delicacies such as olives, fragrant cheeses and cured meats. Continue through Monastir Aki, famous for its bustling flea market and vibrant shops brimming with local crafts and souvenirs. From there, we wander to Thission, offering the best panoramic views of the Acropolis, Ancient Agora, and the majestic Temple of Hephaestus. Here, we treat ourselves to a traditional Greek coffee, accompanied perhaps by a sweet delight like baklava, a favourite among Greeks for its rich layers of pastry, nuts and honey. Our morning offers us a taste of this fascinating city.

Option 2 – Morning experience: Ancient Athens. This comprehensive tour combines a visit to the Acropolis with the city's major landmarks. Begin with a view of the Greek parliament at Syntagma Square, once a royal residence, where the iconic Evzones still stand guard in traditional attire. Next, enjoy a brief photo stop at the Panathenaic Stadium, the site of the first modern Olympic Games in 1896, where athletes revived the ancient Olympic spirit. Perched high above the city, the Acropolis is not only an architectural marvel, but also a symbol of the birthplace of democracy. This ancient citadel stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of Greek culture and ideals, representing advancements in art, architecture and political thought that originated in Athens. Feel the essence of civic pride and religious devotion in ancient Greek society, at the city's centre for political and cultural life. The Parthenon exemplifies the height of classical Greek architecture, adorned with Doric columns and intricate sculptures. Built under the leadership of Pericles, the Parthenon symbolised the city's wealth and power, with friezes and statues depicting various mythological scenes. After touring the Acropolis, take a short walk to the Acropolis Museum. This modern museum houses over 3,000 artefacts from the Athenian Acropolis, offering unique insights into ancient Greek life and including an archaeological excavation beneath it. (Note: Entrance time to the Acropolis is a local government stipulated time slot. The sequence of the above itinerary may change once the specific time slot is allocated.)

Option 3 – Morning experience: 'In the Sandals of Socrates'. Blending philosophy with the rich history of Athens', 'In the Sandals of Socrates' is the ultimate walking tour of the city. Our journey begins at the hilltop agora, where Athenians once gathered to freely express their opinions and debate issues of the day. Ancient Greece birthed Western philosophical ethics, thanks to Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, ensuring its place in history. Next, we head to Philopappos Hill, a significant place in the life of Socrates. Here, you'll find the prison where he was held for corrupting the youth of Athens, and the Pnyx, the birthplace of democratic ideals. The view of the Acropolis from the hilltop is stunning. Strolling down a pedestrian street lined with cafes and vendors, we make our way to Hadrian's Arch and the Temple of Olympian Zeus. Our walk continues to the Lyceum, Aristotle's school, passing by the National Garden and Zappeion Hall. The tour concludes at the Lyceum, excavated and opened to the public in 2014. Here, we walk in the footsteps of great philosophers, linking ancient and modern Athens in this fascinating journey. Accommodation: Athens Hotel. Meals: Breakfast, Welcome Event canapés.

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Day 3 Embark
Athens (Port:
Piraeus)

Enjoy a leisurely morning in Athens with your hop-on-hop-off bus pass. Revisit your favourite sites, browse the city's markets and shops, or uncover hidden treasures at your own pace. This convenient pass makes independent exploration easy, while warm Greek hospitality ensures you are never far from helpful advice on how to make the most of your time. Mid-afternoon, we transfer from our hotel to the port of Piraeus to board the Douglas Mawson and sail towards the island of Chios, located close to the Turkish coast. This evening, we enjoy a 'Welcome Aboard' dinner where we meet our crew and Aurora Expeditions team.

Day 3 Excursion
Introduction

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Day 4 Chios
(Port: Chios)

Today's port of call is an island that remains "off the tourist trail" gifting us a true insight into Greek island life. Chios, an island steeped in history and myth, draws its name from Chios, the son of Poseidon. In antiquity, it was a pioneering city-state, known for minting coins and developing a democratic system akin to Athens. The island played a significant naval role, initially allied with Athens and later gaining independence, before numerous invasions finally handed it to Greece. Today, Chios blends its ancient legacy with a tight-knit community life. Explore the streets of our port of call, Myrina, this afternoon to admire Ottoman fountains, a picturesque town square with marble works and palm trees, and a lively waterfront, all clad with the unique mastic resin that defines the island's character. This morning, we will enjoy an excursion to the heart and soul of the island. Option 1 – Morning experience: Masters of Mastic This island is renowned for its mastic-producing villages, where you will find houses adorned with intricate patterns created by this unique resin. No visit to Chios is complete without a trip to a traditional mastic farm and the Mastic Museum. At the farm, our host demonstrates the meticulous process of preparing the ground beneath mastic trees. Mastic tears, sticky droplets that form on the tree's trunk and branches, are harvested to create this unique product. The Mastic Museum offers an insight into the significance of mastic to the islanders, showcasing how this unique resin has shaped the local culture and environment. Experiencing the charm of the mastic villages, where traditional houses reflect the island's rich heritage and artistry, is a true insight into the island's psyche. Option 2 – Morning experience: A Celebration of Souma Discover the charm of Chios with a visit to Mesta, where the traditional craft of making souma—a cherished local spirit—still thrives. Built as a fortified medieval settlement to protect its residents from pirate raids, Mesta reveals a striking blend of Genoese influence and traditional island architecture, with narrow vaulted passages, stone-built houses, and hidden squares unfolding at every turn. Once offered as a warm welcome to visitors, souma remains an important part of Chios's cultural identity and is still celebrated enthusiastically across the island with annual festivals. At Mesta, you'll explore this local tradition through a souma tasting, experiencing firsthand the distinctive flavours and longstanding methods behind its production. This visit to the atmospheric village of Mesta offers an authentic glimpse into Chios's rich cultural and culinary heritage. Option 3 – Full day experience: The 'Ghost Town' of Anavatos A 45-minute drive from Myrina takes us to the 'ghost town' of Anavatos. Standing as a haunting reminder of Chios's troubled past, this abandoned village, with its grey-stone houses and narrow, winding streets, sits precariously atop a steep cliff. Built for military defence, Anavatos became a tragic symbol during the 1822 Ottoman invasion. Faced with the threat of capture, villagers leapt from the cliffs, choosing death over surrender. Today, the village preserves its medieval appeal capped by its fortress, the Church of Taxiarchis, and an old school. Despite its eerie silence, a few locals remain in the lower part of the town, offering insights into the village's history and showcasing local products like honey and cheese. Our journey continues to Nea Moni, one of Chios' most important monuments and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Founded in the 11th century, this remarkable Byzantine monastery is renowned for its exquisite mosaics, considered masterpieces of Middle Byzantine art. Set within a tranquil forested valley, Nea Moni offers a striking contrast to Anavatos' stark landscape, inviting reflection on faith, resilience, and artistic brilliance. Together, Anavatos and Nea Moni offer a deeply moving experience, where tragedy, endurance, and sacred beauty illuminate the layered history of Chios.

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Day 5 Lemnos
(Port: Myrina)

Located in the northern Aegean, Lemnos is one of Greece's larger islands, having been captured from Turkey just over a century ago. Its tranquil lands offer a retreat off the beaten path, making it perfect for travellers seeking a break from the commercial tourist enterprises of its southern counterpart. With a rich history stretching back to antiquity, the island is renowned for its archaeological sites and its significant role in Greek mythology as the legendary homeland of the god Hephaestus. In more recent times, Lemnos served as a hospital during the evacuation of wounded from the Gallipoli landings, endearing it to ANZACs. The island is home to three Commonwealth war cemeteries, commemorating this connection. Additionally, the Australian town of Lemnos, established in Victoria in 1927 as a settlement for returning World War I soldiers, was named in honour of the island. During World War II, Lemnos was used as a German naval base. The economic hardships of the 1950s led to significant emigration due to widespread poverty. Visiting Lemnos offers a unique opportunity to explore both the ancient tales of Greece and the modern challenges the islands of Greece have faced. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: Lemnos – a Wine in the Making Dive into the world of Lemnian wines with an engaging tour of a local winery. Experience the island's unique vineyard practices, where vines are grown low to the ground to protect them from strong winds and conserve water. This adaptation, influenced by Lemnos' volcanic soil, has shaped the distinct flavours of its wines for centuries. The island's winemaking tradition dates to ancient Greece when Lemnos was celebrated as a premier wine-producing region. During the Roman era, techniques were refined, and Byzantine monks further preserved this vinous heritage. Your tour features a presentation of signature Lemnian wines, including the sweet Muscat de Lemnos and the robust Limnio. Enjoy a tasting session paired with local cheeses and appetisers, all while soaking in the stunning views and exploring Lemnos' rich winemaking legacy. Option 2 – Morning experience: Mythical Myrina Embark on a fascinating exploration of Myrina, the historic heart of Lemnos, where the old port captures the essence of the past. Divided by the imposing castle, the town reveals two distinct faces. To the east, the Tourkikos Gialos (Turkish Port) retains Ottoman influences, evident in its name and architecture. To the west, the Romeikos Gialos (Greek Port) embodies the island's Greek heritage. As you stroll through Myrina with your local guide, the rich history of the town unfolds through its architecture. Admire the grand mansions built by affluent Lemnians from Egypt, each telling a story of prosperity and cultural exchange. The journey takes you to the Archaeological Museum, where a diverse collection of artefacts from sites like Poliochni, Kavirio and Hephaistia, provides a deeper understanding of Lemnos' ancient past. The visit also includes the Episcopal Church, the Metropolis of Lemnos, adding a spiritual dimension to your historical adventure.

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Day 6 Istanbul,
Turkey (Port:
Istanbul) –
Overnight in
Port Istanbul

After a morning at sea, we enjoy lunch onboard as we sail the Sea of Marmara and navigate the Bosphorus Strait en route to Istanbul. Approaching this fabled city by sea is quite an epic feat, gifting us dramatic views of the city's minareted skyline. Istanbul, a city steeped in exotic allure, conjures visions of belly dancing, bustling bazaars and flying carpets. Spanning Europe and Asia across the Bosphorus Strait, this vibrant metropolis serves as Turkey's cultural and economic hub, blending ancient Byzantine and Ottoman legacies with modern dynamism. Formerly known as Constantinople in honor of the Roman Emperor Constantine, Istanbul captivates from its iconic landmarks—the domes of the Hagia Sophia and the towering minarets of the Blue Mosque, to the labyrinthine Grand Bazaar, where centuries-old trade traditions thrive amid carpets, spices and crafts, Istanbul exudes a palpable sense of history that excites the senses. We disembark and meet our guides for a local view of Istanbul. Catching a ride on one of Istanbul's popular trams, we head to the hilltop suburb of Sultanahmet, where we spend the afternoon in Constantinople's Sultan's precinct, with a choice of an overview of the precinct's iconic trifecta, or an in-depth tour of the Sultan's palace; Topkapi, but returning to the ship for an evening in port.

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Day 7 Istanbul
(Port: Istanbul)

Our 'Your Choice' experiences offer an eclectic collection today. Choose to explore the city's Islamic masterpieces, shop until you drop at Istanbul's Grand Bazaar, or join a street food tour of the city's famous spice market. Our experiences are all in the morning today, as we are sure you will want to explore Istanbul for yourself before we set sail in the late afternoon. We will travel on the local trams with our guides, to avoid Istanbul's famous traffic congestion, giving you even more time to enjoy this fascinating city.

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Day 8 Gallipoli
and Troy (Port:
Çanakkale)

At sunrise, we anchor off the historic landing beaches of the Gallipoli campaign at ANZAC Cove. After honoring the courageous souls who fought and fell here during WWI, we sail to the nearby port of Çanakkale. This morning, we will delve into the history of two pivotal battles fought over 3,000 years apart, exploring their profound impact on the region. We return to the ship for lunch and sail south, following the rugged coastline and waterfront towns towards one of the ancient world's iconic cities. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: The Gallipoli Campaign Embark on a poignant journey of remembrance through the Gallipoli campaign memorials high on the cliffs of this ill-fated land. During World War I, this rugged peninsula was the site of a fierce and tragic battle involving Allied forces, including Australian and New Zealand troops (collectively known as ANZACs), British, Indian and other Commonwealth nations, against its Ottoman defenders. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, Turkey's founding president who fought for his homeland at this very spot, famously honoured the fallen with these words: "Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives. You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore, rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours. You, the mothers, who sent their sons from faraway countries, wipe away your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land, they have become our sons as well." We tour the battlegrounds this morning in the presence of a local expert guide who crafts the story of those who fought and fell as we visit important landmarks, such as the moving cemeteries and memorials of Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair, which stand as solemn reminders of sacrifice and reconciliation, symbolising the enduring friendship between nations once divided by war. Option 2 – Morning experience: Troy The legendary city of Troy reveals its secrets as we explore its ruins and the rich collection of artefacts in the Troy Museum. Although few structures remain, this site still encompasses the story of the men who fought for the 'impregnable' city over 3,000 years ago, offering us a glimpse into how ancient civilisations valued power in their times. Repeatedly excavated since 1870, the ruins have been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. As you wander through them with our local guide, the story of Troy unfolds amid its defensive walls and gates, temples and sanctuaries, and a central marketplace. The newly reopened Troy Museum provides a window into antiquity with thousands of artefacts, ranging from clay amphorae to gold jewellery. More than just a movie set for several films, the ruins of Troy display a chronological timeline, making it easy to track developments, such as 5th-century BCE technology, the burgeoning art scene, political power plays, and the daily life of its citizens.

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Day 9 Kuşadası
(Port: Kuşadası)

Kuşadası, Turkey's beloved seaside town, draws visitors with its vibrant bazaars, waterfront cafes, and nearby beaches. This historic settlement, with roots in the Leleges and Carian civilizations, is close to the ancient city of Ephesus, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. In the Ottoman era, Kuşadası thrived as a key port city, highlighted by the impressive Kuşadası Castle, or Pigeon Island, built to defend against pirates. The 17th-century Öküz Mehmed Pasha Caravanserai, originally for traders and their animals, now operates as a hotel and marketplace. A day in Kuşadası offers a delightful mix of historical significance, Ottoman architecture, and lively shopping.

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Day 10 Bodrum
(Port: Bodrum)

We awake in the popular resort town of Bodrum, ready for a day of fascinating experiences in a city rich with ancient artefacts. Once known as Halicarnassus, Bodrum was the birthplace of the Greek historian and geographer Herodotus, who wrote detailed accounts of the Greco-Persian wars and earned the nickname "Father of History." The town is home to the few ruins of the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the impressive Bodrum Castle built by the Knights Hospitaller in the 15th century. Renowned for its handcrafted wooden gulets plying the Turkish Riviera, Bodrum offers a captivating blend of ancient wonders, Ottoman heritage and local craftsmanship, making it an intriguing destination.

Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences.

Option 1 – Morning experience: Discover Bodrum and its Underwater Archaeology Museum. Explore the captivating old city of Bodrum, where history merges with modern charm. Guided by our local host, we wander through narrow, winding streets flanked by whitewashed houses, vibrant bougainvillea and bustling markets. Our guide leads us to historical landmarks such as the ancient city walls, Myndos Gate, and the crown jewel of Bodrum, Bodrum Castle. Housed within the castle walls is the Bodrum Museum of Underwater Archaeology, Turkey's exclusive centre for underwater treasures. Since 1964, it has displayed artefacts spanning from the 16th century BCE to the 16th century CE, retrieved from underwater excavations off Turkey's coast. Notable exhibits include the renowned Uluburun shipwreck, and the Serçe Limanı, popularly known as the Glass Wreck, offering fascinating glimpses into ancient maritime history and medieval Islamic glass production. The museum showcases Turkey's pioneering role in underwater archaeology, which offers an interesting insight into this unique field.

Option 2 – Morning experience: Craft and Carpets at Etrim village. Discover the rich cultural tradition of Turkish carpets on our journey to the craft village of Etrim. Here, we meet the skilled weavers who create these intricate masterpieces, each pattern imbued with deep meaning and symbolism. Unlike planned designs, Turkish carpets evolve organically as the weavers work, ensuring each piece is truly unique. In Etrim, we learn that weaving is practised exclusively by the village women, who undertake the entire process from carding and spinning wool to dyeing it with locally foraged herbs like wild lavender, meadow rue, and walnut shells. Walking through the village, we encounter elderly weavers in their simple homes with whitewashed walls and peaceful porches, unchanged for centuries. Our guide introduces us to local workshops and markets where carpets, pottery, and handmade soaps are proudly displayed. After a traditional Turkish lunch, we return to Bodrum, where you can independently explore its historic streets and attractions.

Option 3 – Full-day experience: Sail the Aegean on a Traditional Gulet. No visit to Turkey is complete without a day on a gulet. Cruise Bodrum's stunning coastline, passing picturesque bays, hidden coves and pristine beaches. Enjoy stops at secluded bays for swimming and snorkelling with equipment provided to explore marine life and coral reefs. Cherished for their deep-rooted tradition in Turkish maritime history, gulets originated as ancient fishing and cargo vessels, evolving into today's elegant wooden sailboats. Renowned for sturdy construction and graceful lines, gulets offer modern comforts while preserving traditional craftsmanship. Built primarily in coastal towns like Bodrum and Marmaris, these vessels provide a relaxing day on the azure Aegean Sea. Lounge on sunbeds or find shade on deck, enjoying fresh Turkish dishes and local specialties prepared as lunch on board.

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Day 11
Marmaris (Port:
Marmaris)

At the centre of the 'Turquoise Coast' sits the ever-popular town of Marmaris. Filled with colourful waterfront cafes, traditional market shops and restaurants serving local fare, Marmaris is a delightful place to spend a day. This vibrant town is renowned for its busy marina and beautiful beaches. Visitors can explore the Marmaris Castle with its in-house museum, offering insights into the region's rich history. Under Ottoman rule, Marmaris flourished as a strategic port, which led to the construction of the castle by the 'man to rule the world', Süleyman the Magnificent, in the 16th century. The Ottoman influence is also evident in the town's architecture and layout, blending seamlessly with its modern amenities and picturesque setting, making Marmaris a popular stop on the Turkish Riviera

Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences

Option 1 – Morning experience: A Traditional Turkish Bath The tradition of Turkish baths, or hammams, dates to the Roman and Byzantine eras, although it grew into a cultural and social institution during the Ottoman Empire. Combining the Roman tradition of communal bathing with the Islamic emphasis on cleanliness and purification, these baths were not only places for hygiene but also social hubs where people gathered, relaxed and socialised. Today, Turkish baths remain popular due to their health benefits and the unique, immersive experience they offer, giving travellers a chance to combine relaxation with a traditional element of Turkish life

A typical Turkish bath house experience begins with a skilled masseuse scrubbing your body with a coarse loofah, removing layers of dead skin and leaving your skin smooth and refreshed. This is followed by a luxurious soap massage and an aromatherapy-oil massage, where fragrant oils relax your muscles and soothe your senses. The masseuse works on your bones and muscles, imparting a feeling of relaxation and wellbeing. Modern bath houses may also include amenities such as saunas or splash pools as part of the experience. The combination of steam, heat and exfoliation helps detoxify the body, improve circulation and rejuvenate the skin, while the massage contributes to muscle relaxation, making the Turkish bath a timeless and cherished tradition. Please note: This option is not recommended for travellers with back problems or serious medical conditions, as the Turkish bath involves physical movements and massages

Option 2 - Full-day experience: The Ancient City of Knidos, Turkish Style Olive Oil and a Traditional Lunch Nestled on the Datça Peninsula where the Aegean and Mediterranean seas meet, the ancient city of Knidos beckons with its rich history and stunning landscapes. This once-thriving Greek city, renowned for its contributions to science, art and philosophy, offers a glimpse into the past amid Turkey's dramatic coastal scenery. Knidos, founded by Greek settlers in the 4th century BCE, quickly became a significant centre of commerce, science and culture. The city is famously known for its innovative urban planning, advanced medical school, and the magnificent Temple of Aphrodite, which once housed Praxiteles' renowned statue of the goddess. As you wander through the ruins with our local guide, it is easy to imagine the bustling streets and grand structures that once stood here

After soaking in the story of Knidos, we enjoy a traditional lunch before our exploration continues with a visit to a local olive grove. This region of Turkey is known for its high-quality olive production, a tradition that dates to ancient times. We learn about the olive cultivation process, from tree to table, and taste some of the finest olive oil in Europe, before returning to Marmaris

Option 3 – Full-day experience: Sail the Aegean on a Traditional Gulet Originally known for building traditional Turkish sailboats called gulets, Marmaris has long been a favourite among sailing enthusiasts. Its breathtaking coastline, hidden coves, and popular beaches offer an ideal setting for a day of exploration. Enjoy stops at secluded bays for swimming and snorkelling, with equipment provided to discover vibrant marine life and coral reefs

Gulets, steeped in Turkish maritime tradition, started as ancient fishing and cargo vessels and have evolved into elegant wooden sailboats. Celebrated for their sturdy construction and graceful lines, gulets combine modern comforts with traditional craftsmanship. Built mainly in coastal towns like Bodrum and Marmaris, these vessels promise a relaxing day on the azure Aegean Sea. Lounge on sunbeds or seek shade on deck while savouring fresh Turkish dishes and local specialties prepared for lunch onboard, accompanied by local beverages

Day 11
Marmaris (Port:
Marmaris)

At the centre of the 'Turquoise Coast' sits the ever-popular town of Marmaris. Filled with colourful waterfront cafes, traditional market shops and restaurants serving local fare, Marmaris is a delightful place to spend a day. This vibrant town is renowned for its busy marina and beautiful beaches. Visitors can explore the Marmaris Castle with its in-house museum, offering insights into the region's rich history. Under Ottoman rule, Marmaris flourished as a strategic port, which led to the construction of the castle by the 'man to rule the world', Süleyman the Magnificent, in the 16th century. The Ottoman influence is also evident in the town's architecture and layout, blending seamlessly with its modern amenities and picturesque setting, making Marmaris a popular stop on the Turkish Riviera.

Day 12 Patmos,
Greece (Port:
Skala)

We return to Greece at the island of Patmos, where we spend a morning on one of our 'Your Choice' experiences. Revered as the place where St John the Theologian, one of Jesus' closest disciples and traditionally identified as the author of the Gospel of John, received the visions that became the Book of Revelation. St John was exiled to Patmos under Roman rule, and it was here, according to tradition, that he wrote his prophetic text. The island's sacred sites, including the Monastery of St John the Theologian and the Cave of the Apocalypse, form part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Choose to follow in his footsteps or unwind in true Greek style before returning to the ship for lunch, with our departure for Athens in the early afternoon. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences.

Option 1 – Morning experience: Explore Patmos. The island of Patmos is famous for its Christian connections. Known as the site where St John authored the Book of Revelation, it attracts pilgrims and history enthusiasts alike. Dominated by a monolithic turreted monastery, and surrounded by whitewashed homes, its capital, Chora, is a photographer's dream. Visible from every point on the island, the 11th-century Monastery of St John the Theologian is reached by pathways adorned with pebbles. Its Byzantine frescoes of Saint John offer insight into monastic life, while its library holds over 15,000 historic manuscripts. We explore this sacred place and the Cave of the Apocalypse, alongside quaint villages with whitewashed houses and cobblestone streets on a morning's exploration of Patmos.

Option 2 – Morning experience: Sun, Sand and Island Charm. Spend your morning at a popular beach, just a 10-minute drive south of the port. This charming spot, with a pair of traditional Greek tavernas as its backdrop, invites you to unwind on your reserved sunbed and enjoy the warm, clear waters. Take a leisurely stroll to the nearby village, for a taste of authentic local life. Wander through its quaint streets, then walk to the headland where a whitewashed chapel completes the quintessential Greek beach scene.

Day 12 Patmos,
 Greece (Port:
 Skala)

We return to Greece at the island of Patmos, where we spend a morning on one of our 'Your Choice' experiences. Revered as the place where St John the Theologian, one of Jesus' closest disciples and traditionally identified as the author of the Gospel of John, received the visions that became the Book of Revelation. St John was exiled to Patmos under Roman rule, and it was here, according to tradition, that he wrote his prophetic text. The island's sacred sites, including the Monastery of St John the Theologian and the Cave of the Apocalypse, form part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Choose to follow in his footsteps or unwind in true Greek style before returning to the ship for lunch, with our departure for Athens in the early afternoon. Personalise your exploration with our included 'Your Choice' experiences. Option 1 – Morning experience: Explore Patmos. The island of Patmos is famous for its Christian connections. Known as the site where St John authored the Book of Revelation, it attracts pilgrims and history enthusiasts alike. Dominated by a monolithic turreted monastery, and surrounded by whitewashed homes, its capital, Chora, is a photographer's dream. Visible from every point on the island, the 11th-century Monastery of St John the Theologian is reached by pathways adorned with pebbles. Its Byzantine frescoes of Saint John offer insight into monastic life, while its library holds over 15,000 historic manuscripts. We explore this sacred place and the Cave of the Apocalypse, alongside quaint villages with whitewashed houses and cobblestone streets on a morning's exploration of Patmos. Option 2 – Morning experience: Sun, Sand and Island Charm. Spend your morning at a popular beach, just a 10-minute drive south of the port. This charming spot, with a pair of traditional Greek tavernas as its backdrop, invites you to unwind on your reserved sunbed and enjoy the warm, clear waters. Take a leisurely stroll to the nearby village, for a taste of authentic local life. Wander through its quaint streets, then walk to the headland where a whitewashed chapel completes the quintessential Greek beach scene.

Day 13
 Disembark and
 depart Athens
 (Port: Piraeus)

After breakfast, disembark the ship and say farewell to your fellow passengers before being transferred to the airport for your onward journey. We strongly recommend scheduling your departure for after 1:00 pm today to ensure you have sufficient time to catch your flight

Im Preis inbegriffen

- Airport arrival and departure transfers to/from our group hotel on the first day and final day of your voyage package
- Two nights' hotel accommodation, including breakfast, in Athens on Days 1 and 2
- Onboard accommodation during voyage, including daily cabin service
- All meals, snacks, tea, coffee, soft drinks and juices during voyage
- Meals listed as included during shore excursions and land portions of the package
- Beer and house wine with dinner
- Captain's Farewell reception including four-course dinner, house cocktails, house beer and wine, non-alcoholic beverages
- Pre-voyage and post-voyage excursions as listed*
- 'Your Choice' shore excursions as listed*
- Enrichment experiences as listed, including Welcome and Farewell Events
- Presentations and guiding services provided by our Voyage Host, Aurora Expeditions Team and local operators
- Gratuities during excursions and enrichment program for local guides, drivers, venues and local sites
- Port surcharges, permits, tender, pilot and landing fees
- Onboard Wi-Fi
- Headsets are available for use during our 'Your Choice' experiences when needed
- Complimentary access to onboard expedition doctor and medical clinic (initial consultation)
- Comprehensive pre-departure information

*Our 'Your Choice' shore excursions listed in the itinerary are included. One excursion per person per port of call and city stay package is included, unless stated otherwise. Note, the listed experiences are indicative only. These must be reserved through our passenger portal at least 60 days prior to embarkation and cannot be amended after this time. If we do not receive your choices by this time, you will be allocated excursions by our automated system. Due to restrictions imposed by site management and government bodies, we must have your passport details to purchase tickets for the included sites at the time of booking. We will always do our best to provide you with your first preference of shore excursion; however, we may occasionally need to place you on an alternative excursion for operational reasons.

Nicht im Preis inbegriffen

- International or domestic flights – unless specified in itinerary
- Transfers – unless specified in itinerary
- Airport arrival or departure taxes
- Passport, visa, reciprocity and vaccination fees and charges
- Travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges
- Hotels and meals – unless specified in the itinerary
- All items of a personal nature, including but not limited to, alcoholic beverages (outside of dinner service), on board gratuities#, laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, email or phone charges

#Note: A US\$15 USD per person per day gratuity for the crew is automatically added to your onboard account. It is at your discretion if you would like to remove the tip (or adjust the amount) when you settle your bill. It is not necessary to tip the Aurora Expeditions Team members. This gratuity amount is included for suites as part of their 'Suite Benefits'.

Ihr Schiff

Ihr Schiff ist die "Douglas Mawson". Ausführlich stellen wir Ihnen dieses Schiff auf unseren Schiffseiten vor. [Ausführliche Informationen](#) zu diesem Schiff.

