



# EUROPEAN HOLIDAY GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2007

6 Countries | 3 Rivera's | 3 Wonders of the World | 30 Days

By: Plane | Car | Ship | Gondola

**Holiday Theme: PACK LIGHT**





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## ITINERARY

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### Toby & DJ

Monday, October 29, 2007  
10:30 AM



Drive from Montreal HiLoft in taxi  
to reach Montreal Trudeau Airport at approx 11:00 AM  
30 min

---

### Toby & DJ

Monday, October 29, 2007  
12:40 PM



Fly from Montreal YUL Airport (YUL)  
on Continental Airlines Flt. 2663 to EWR



ERJ-145 Seat 4C/4B (Single Class) 1 hr 33 mn  
eTicketed Conf#: DBHRFG  
TS One Pass: CO - DN468907 Platinum / Elite Plus  
DJ One Pass: CO - BB929179 Silver / Gold  
[Continental.com](http://Continental.com)  
**Arrive Newark EWR Airport (EWR)**  
**at 2:13 PM** Monday, October 29, 2007

---

### Toby & DJ

Monday, October 29, 2007  
6:55 PM



Fly from Newark EWR Airport (EWR)  
on Continental Airlines Flt. 18 to LGW



777-200 Seat 2A/2B (Business Class) 7 hr 0 mn  
eTicketed Conf#: DBHRFG  
TS One Pass: CO - DN468907 Platinum / Elite Plus  
DJ One Pass: CO - BB929179 Silver / Gold  
[Continental.com](http://Continental.com)  
**Arrive London Gatwick Airport (LGW)**  
**at 5:55 AM** Tuesday, October 30, 2007

---

### Toby & DJ

Tuesday, October 30, 2007  
9:10 AM



Fly from London Gatwick Airport (LGW)  
on British Airways Flt. 2600 to PSA



Seat: tba (Business Class) 2 hours 5 min  
eTicketed Conf#: Z7OX2Q  
TS Executive Club: AA - UPC 8768  
DJ Executive Club: AA - F289X58  
[Expedia.com](http://Expedia.com)  
Expedia.com itinerary number: 120425309705  
**Arrive Pisa Galileo Galilei Airport, Italy (PSA)**  
**at 12:15 PM** Tuesday, October 30, 2007

---





[Toby & DJ](#)

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

1:00 PM



Drive to VilleFranche Sur-Mer, France Apartment



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Opel Astra**

eReserved **Conf#: 02713673CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](http://Avis.com)

PICKUP RENTAL CAR

**4 hours to reach VilleFranche Sur-Mer, France Apartment**

**at approx 6:00 PM** Tuesday, October 30, 2007

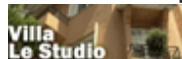
[Toby & DJ](#)

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

6:00 PM



Stay in VilleFranche Sur-Mer at the  
Villa Le Studio Apartment



Villa Le Studio, France

**Private 2 Bedroom Apartment**

7 nights until Wednesday, November 07, 2007

ePrePaid (€995 paid July 10, 2007)

[Holiday Lettings](#)

Owner: Mattie Silman: mattieinfrance@yahoo.co.uk [Security deposit and cleaning fee to be paid in cash on arrival]



[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 07, 2007

9:00 AM



Drive to Milan City Hotel



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Opel Astra**

eReserved **Conf#: 02713673CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](http://Avis.com)

**4 hours to reach Milan City Hotel**

**at approx 2:00 PM** Wednesday, November 07, 2007

[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 07, 2007

2:00 PM



Stay in Milan City at the Art Hotel Navigli



Via Angelo Fumagalli 4, 20143 Italy

Tel: 39.02.89410530

**Double Room**

1 night until Thursday, November 08, 2007

ePrePaid in full Conf#: 046697782

[Hotels.com](http://Hotels.com)





[Toby & DJ](#)

Thursday, November 08, 2007

9:00 AM



Drive to Venice City Piazzale Roma



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Opel Astra**

eReserved **Conf#: 02713673CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](http://Avis.com)

Via Verona and Padua.

RETURN RENTAL CAR at Piazza Roma in Venice

**4 hours to reach Venice City Piazzale Roma**

**at approx 12:30 PM** Thursday, November 08, 2007

[Toby & DJ](#)

Thursday, November 08, 2007

1:00 PM



Ferry from Venice Piazzale Roma via Water Taxi to

to reach Venice City Testolini Dock at approx 1:30 PM

Thursday, November 08, 2007

Private water taxi to the "Testolini" dock about 50 meters from the hotel.

[Toby & DJ](#)

Thursday, November 08, 2007

6:30 PM



Stay in Venice City at the Hotel Al Codega



Corte del Forno Vecchio - 4435 S.Marco, , Venezia 30124 Italy

Tel: 39 0412413288

**Classic Double**

1 night until Friday, November 09, 2007

eReserved Conf#: 2007-7-9-17-53-58-2

[Hotel Al Codega](#)

Booked only, pay on site



[Toby & DJ](#)

Friday, November 09, 2007

BOARD SHIP AT 1:00



Board ship and stay in Venice Cruise Dock overnight  
aboard the [Star Princess](#)



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Double Bed Config Suite D412

Category AA

Conf#: WW6H3P eTicketed

Captains Circle: 500 995 341A Platinum/Elite

**Elite Boarding commences at 1:00 PM**



**Toby & DJ**

**Saturday, November 10, 2007**

**1:00 PM**



**Overnight at Sea heading to Croatia  
at aboard the [Star Princess](#)**



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

**Depart Port Venice Cruise Dock  
at 1:00 PM**

**Toby & DJ**

**Sunday, November 11, 2007**

**6:00 PM**



**Arrive Port of Dubrovnik, Croatia  
at 8:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)**



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

**Depart Port Dubrovnik, Croatia  
at 6:00 PM**

**Toby & DJ**

**Sunday, November 11, 2007**

**9:00 AM**



**Drive from Port of Dubrovnik to the Old Town [Pile Gate] in taxi  
to reach Old Town [Pile Gate] at approx 9:30 AM**

20 min

Obtain taxi at pier - approximately 100,00 HRK each way

**Toby & DJ**

**Sunday, November 11, 2007**

**9:30 AM**



**Dubrovnik Old Town**  
visit the old town on foot, lunch in town  
Sightseeing in old town

[Dubrovnic Online Sightseeing](#)

**Toby & DJ**

**Sunday, November 11, 2007**

**4:00 PM**



**Drive from Dubrovnik Old Town [Pile Gate] by taxi  
to the Cruise Ship port**  
**Arrive Port of Dubrovnik, Croatia at approx 4:30 PM**

20 min

Approximately 100,00 HRK each way

**Toby & DJ**

**Monday, November 12, 2007**

**6:00 PM**



**Arrive Port of Corfu, Greece  
at 8:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)**



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

**Depart Port Corfu, Greece  
at 6:00 PM**



[Toby & DJ](#)

Monday, November 12, 2007

9:00 AM



**Corfu, Greece**

visit town on foot, lunch in town  
Sightseeing in town

[Toby & DJ](#)

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

4:00 PM



**Arrive Port of Katakolon, Greece**  
at 7:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)



PRINCESS CRUISES



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Depart Port Port of Katakolon, Greece  
at 4:00 PM

[Toby & DJ](#)

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

7:00 AM



**Drive Rental Car Olympia Ruins**



Kosmos Car Type/Class: **Hyundai Accent**

PrePaid Voucher Conf#: **HC171944**

[Holiday Car Rental](#)

Kosmos Rent a Car Greece - Meet at Cruise ship Pier in Katakolon.  
Provide VOUCHER.

**50 mins to reach Olympia Ruins at approx 8:00**

[Toby & DJ](#)

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

8:40 AM



**Olympia Ruins**

visit Ancient Olympic Stadium, Nero's House, Temple of Zeus etc..  
Sightseeing in area

[Toby & DJ](#)

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

1:30 PM



**Drive from Olympia Ruins Private Tour**  
to reach Katakolon, Greece at approx 2:15 PM

45 min

RETURN RENTAL CAR & Board ship by 3:00pm for 4pm sailing

[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

5:45 PM



**Arrive Port of Piraeus (Athens), Greece**  
at 6:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)



PRINCESS CRUISES



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Depart Port Port of Piraeus, Greece  
at 5:45 PM



[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

8:00 AM



**Drive from Port of Piraeus Private Tour to reach Athens Downtown Sightseeing Spots at approx 9:00 AM**  
Nicholas: Tel +30 697 305 7711 / nikolagr@greecetaxi.gr. Pick up at 8:00am off the ship. Remaining balance of €180 paid in cash.

[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

8:00 AM



**Athens Downtown Scenic Spots**  
visit Ancient Acropolis, Parthenon, Olympic Stadium etc..  
Sightseeing in area  
[Greece Taxi Tours](#)  
Nicholas: Tel +30 697 305 7711 / nikolagr@greecetaxi.gr.  
Remaining balance of €180 and all entry tickets etc... paid in cash.

[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

3:00 PM



**Drive from Athens Downtown Scenic Spots Private Tour to reach Port of Piraeus, Greece at approx 4:15 PM**  
1 hour  
Board ship by 4:45pm for 5:45pm sailing

[Toby & DJ](#)

Thursday, November 15, 2007

6:00 PM



**Arrive Port of Mykonos, Greece at 7:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)**



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Depart Port Mykonos, Greece  
**at 6:00 PM**

[Toby & DJ](#)

Thursday, November 15, 2007

9:00 AM



**Mykonos, Greece**  
visit town on foot, lunch in town  
Sightseeing in town

[Toby & DJ](#)

Friday, November 16, 2007

5:00 PM



**Arrive Port of Kusadasi (Ephesus), Turkey at 8:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)**



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Depart Port Kusadasi (Ephesus), Turkey  
**at 5:00 PM**



**[Toby & DJ](#)**

**Friday, November 16, 2007**

**9:00 AM**



**Drive from Kusadasi Port Private Tour  
to reach Ephesus Ruins at approx 9:30 AM**

1 hour

Conf#: Email eReserved

Meet dockside, guide will have sign for Toby Simkin. Booked with:  
Sezgin Demirci/Sardunya Travel/tel:+90 256 667 1272

**[Toby & DJ](#)**

**Friday, November 16, 2007**

**9:30 AM**



**Ephesus Ruins**

visit Theater, Library, Temple of Artemis, Virgin Mary House etc.  
Sightseeing in area

[Sardunya Travel](#)

Private tour with private car and guide.

**[Toby & DJ](#)**

**Friday, November 16, 2007**

**12:30 PM**



**Drive from Ephesus Ruins Private Tour  
to reach Kusadasi Port at approx 1:00 PM**

1 hour

Board ship by 4:00pm for 5:00pm sailing

**[Toby & DJ](#)**

**Saturday, November 17, 2007**

**5:00 PM**



**Arrive Port of Rhodes, Greece  
at 8:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)**



**PRINCESS CRUISES**



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Depart Port Rhodes, Greece

**at 5:00 PM**

**[Toby & DJ](#)**

**Saturday, November 17, 2007**

**9:00 AM**



**Rhodes, Greece**

visit the old medieval town on foot, lunch in town  
Sightseeing in old town

**[Toby & DJ](#)**

**Sunday, November 18, 2007**

**6:00 PM**



**Arrive Port of Santorini, Greece  
at 7:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)**



**PRINCESS CRUISES**



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Depart Port Santorini, Greece

**at 6:00 PM**



[Toby & DJ](#)

Sunday, November 18, 2007

9:00 AM



Santorini, Greece

visit town on foot, lunch in town  
Sightseeing in town

[Toby & DJ](#)

Monday, November 19, 2007

ALL DAY



Sailing at Sea all Day aboard the [Star Princess](#)



PRINCESS CRUISES



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

At Sea ALL DAY

[Toby & DJ](#)

Tuesday, November 20, 2007

6:00 PM



Arrive Port of Naples, Italy

at 7:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)



PRINCESS CRUISES



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Depart Port Naples, Italy

at 6:00 PM

[Toby & DJ](#)

Tuesday, November 20, 2007

9:00 AM



Naples, Italy

visit the old town on foot, lunch in town  
Sightseeing in old town

[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 21, 2007

10:00 AM

DISEMBARK



Arrive at Port of Civitavecchia, Italy

at 4:00 AM aboard the [Star Princess](#)



PRINCESS CRUISES



Cruise: 9736

[Princess Cruises Itinerary Overview](#)

Disembark ship in Civitavecchia, Italy at 10:00 AM

[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 21, 2007

10:00 AM



Drive from Port of Civitavecchia, Italy in limo

Arrive Rome Airport (FCO), Italy at approx

1 hour 20 min

Conf#: 34123 ePre-Paid by CC (July 9, 2007)

Confirmed by [italytravelservices@yahoo.com](mailto:italytravelservices@yahoo.com) / customer service  
number (39) 339-311-9627



[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 21, 2007

1:40 PM



Fly from Rome, Italy (FCO)  
on British Airways Flt. 2541 to LGW

**BRITISH AIRWAYS**

Seat: tba (Business Class) 2 hours 35 min

eTicketed Conf3: Z7OX2Q

TS Executive Club: AA - UPC 8768

DJ Executive Club: AA - F289X58

[Expedia.com](#)

Expedia.com itinerary number: 120425309705

**Arrive London Gatwick (LGW)**

**at 3:15 PM** Wednesday, November 21, 2007



[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 21, 2007

2:00 PM



Drive to Beaumont's Home in Maidstone



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Peugeot 407**

eReserved **Conf#: 02714821CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](#)

PICKUP RENTAL CAR

**1 hour to reach Beaumont's Home in Maidstone**

**at approx 6:00 PM** Wednesday, November 21, 2007

[Toby & DJ](#)

Wednesday, November 21, 2007

6:00 PM



Stay with Col. Pat & Elaine Beaumont

Beaumont's Home

**for 2 nights**

*until Friday, November 23, 2007 10:00 AM*

Millfield House, Tumblers Hill

Sutton Valence, Kent, ME17 3DB

Tel: +44 (1622) 844 812

[Toby & DJ](#)

Friday, November 23, 2007

10:00 AM



Drive to town near Southampton



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Peugeot 407**

eReserved **Conf#: 02714821CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](#)

**2 hours to reach town near Southampton**

**at approx 3:00 PM** Friday, November 23, 2007

[Toby & DJ](#)

Friday, November 23, 2007

3:00 PM



Stay in town near Southampton at a Hotel TBA for 1 night





[Toby & DJ](#)

Saturday, November 24, 2007

9:00 AM



Drive to Torquay, Devonshire



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Peugeot 407**

eReserved **Conf#: 02714821CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](http://Avis.com)

**3 hours to reach Torquay**

**at approx 3:00 PM** Saturday, November 24, 2007

[Toby & DJ](#)

Saturday, November 24, 2007

3:00 PM



Stay in Torquay at the Hotel Gleneagles



Asheldon Road, Wellswood, , Devon TQ1 2QS England

Tel: 44 1803 293637

**Double Bed, Sea View, Full Breakfast**

1 night until Sunday, November 25, 2007

ePrePaid **Conf#: 117409501**

Loyalty Program Gold Crown Club: 6006 6306 0109 2716 Gold

[BestWestern.com](http://BestWestern.com)

This hotel was the inspiration for BBC TV series Fawlty Towers

[Toby & DJ](#)

Sunday, November 25, 2007

9:00 AM



Drive to town near Reading



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Peugeot 407**

eReserved **Conf#: 02714821CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](http://Avis.com)

**4 hours to reach town near Reading**

**at approx 3:00 PM** Sunday, November 25, 2007

[Toby & DJ](#)

Sunday, November 25, 2007

3:00 PM



Stay in town near Reading at a Hotel TBA for 1 night



[Toby & DJ](#)

Monday, November 26, 2007

9:00 AM



Drive to London Soho Apartment



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Peugeot 407**

eReserved **Conf#: 02714821CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](http://Avis.com)

Park at SoHo Poland Street, W1F 7LZ parking lot. GBP 36 per night.

**1.5 hours to reach London Soho Apartment**  
**at approx 2:00 PM** Monday, November 26, 2007

[Toby & DJ](#)

Monday, November 26, 2007

2:00 PM



Stay in London at the Bette - Studio Apartment



Bateman Street, Soho, , W1D England

Tel:

3 nights until Thursday, November 29, 2007

PrePaid £342 by CC (July 15, 2007) Conf#: C2071/R2228

[Outlet 4 Holidays](#)



[Toby & DJ](#)

Thursday, November 29, 2007

6:30 AM



Drive to London Gatwick Airport



AVIS Car Type/Class: **Peugeot 407**

eReserved **Conf#: 02714821CA4**

Loyalty: Wizard X5R41L

[Avis.com](http://Avis.com)

RETURN RENTAL CAR

**1.5 hours to reach London Gatwick Airport**  
**at approx 7:30 AM** Thursday, November 29, 2007

[Toby & DJ](#)


Thursday, November 29, 2007

10:30 AM



Fly from London Gatwick Airport (LGW)  
on Continental Airlines Flt. 19 to EWR



777-200  Seat 3A (Business Class) 8 hr 5 mn

eTicketed Conf#: DBHRFG

TS One Pass: CO - DN468907 Platinum / Elite Plus

DJ One Pass: CO - BB929179 Silver / Gold

[Continental.com](http://Continental.com)

**Arrive Newark Airport (EWR)**

**at 1:35 PM** Thursday, November 29, 2007






**Toby & DJ**

Thursday, November 29, 2007  
3:05 PM



Fly from Newark Airport (EWR)  
on Continental Airlines Flt. 2490 to YUL



ERJ-145  Seat 4C (Single Class) 1 hr 49 mn  
eTicketed Conf#: DBHRFG

TS One Pass: CO - DN468907 Platinum / Elite Plus

DJ One Pass: CO - BB929179 Silver / Gold

[Continental.com](http://Continental.com)

**Arrive Montreal Trudeau Airport (YUL)**

**at 4:54 PM** Thursday, November 29, 2007

**Toby & DJ**

Thursday, November 29, 2007  
5:15 PM



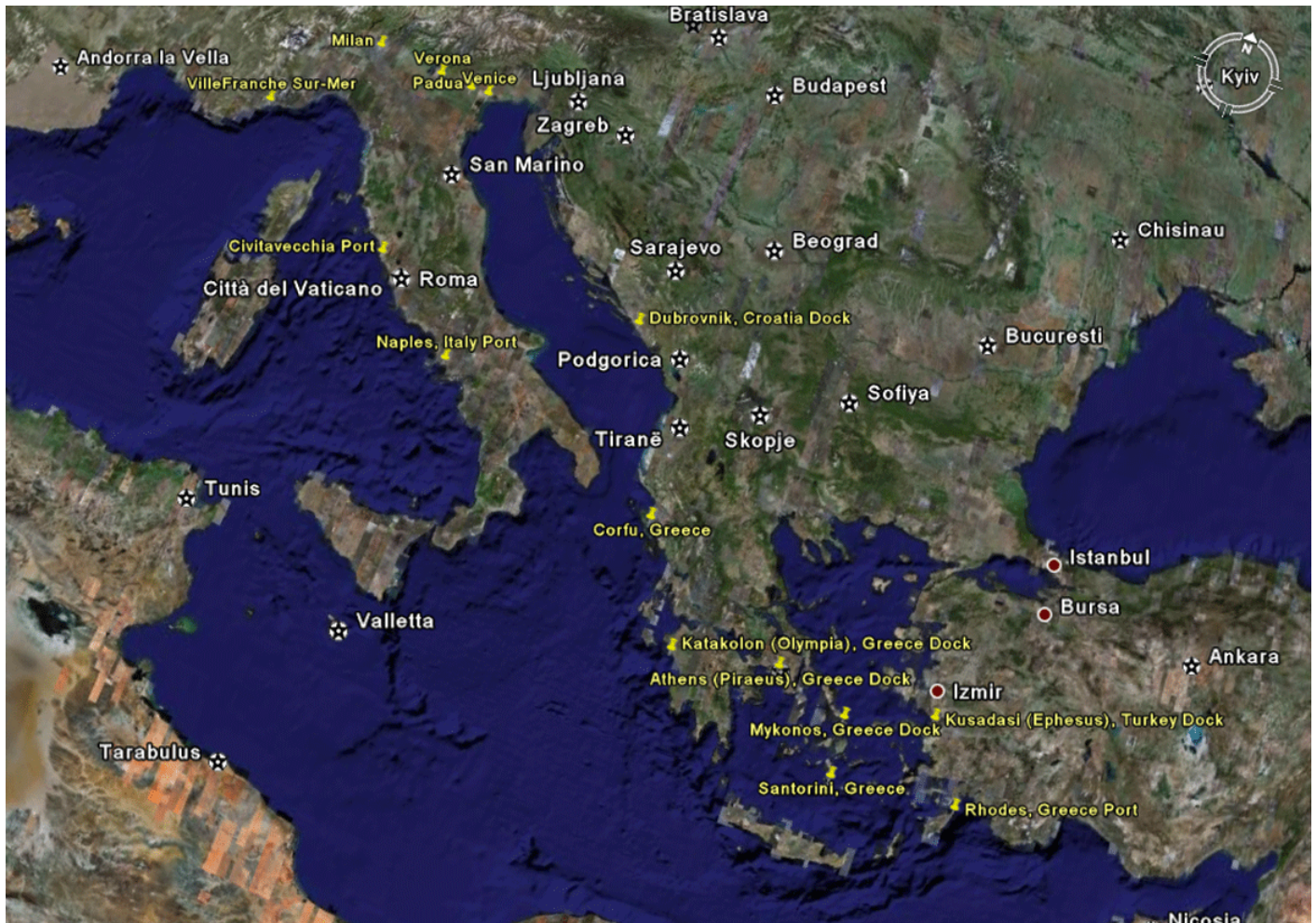
Drive from Montreal Trudeau Airport in taxi  
to reach Montreal HiLoft at approx 5:40 PM

: end



## SATELLITE MAP OF EUROPEAN CITIES

(\* U.K. not included)







## EUROPEAN MAP

(\* U.K. not included)





### FLY BUSINESS CLASS TO LONDON GATWICK



### CONNECT TO

### FLY BUSINESS CLASS TO PISA, ITALY



### PISA, ITALY

Pisa, renowned worldwide for its Leaning Tower, definitely deserves more than the usual day stop which traditionally occurs on tourist routes. The city boasts an ancient history which was at its most splendid during the era of the Marine Republic. For tourists, Pisa is a treasure chest full of surprises; from the bright Lungarni quays walled by noble buildings, to the web of narrow, medieval alleys leading to the famous Piazza dei Miracoli. Home of Galileo Galilei, Pisa is today an important university city and offers a lively student lifestyle.



### Pickup Rental Car and Drive to South of France...

Pickup Tuesday, 30 October, 2007 - 1:15 PM

#### AVIS

Pisa Galileo Galilei Airport - PSA

Pisa 56121 Italy

(39) 050-42028

Sun-Sat 08:00AM-11:00PM

Confirmation #: 02713673CA4



Compact Opel Astra 1.7

Car Capacity: 5 people

Holds 1 large, 1 small Suitcases

- 5 Doors
- Seats 5
- Radio
- Air Bag
- Air Conditioning
- Rear Seat Belts
- Anti-Lock Brakes
- Power Assisted Steering
- Manual Transmission
- Holds 1 large, 1 small Suitcases





## DRIVING MAP OF PISA TO VILLEFRANCHE





## THE ITALIAN RIVIERA

---

### Sestri Levante

Sestri Levante (pop. 20,000) is a seaside and winter resort in a picturesque setting on the saddle of the Isola promontory, between two small bays. From the beautiful seafront promenade in the flat bay to the west there are extensive views of the Gulf of Rapallo, also called Golfo Tigullio. From the square beside the harbor, at the south end of the bay, there is a road to the tip of the promontory, which is crowned by the Castelli Gualino, imitations of medieval castles.

### Genoa

The name Genoa is believed to derive from Genua, founded by the two headed Giano, protector of ships and coins. Skyscrapers overlook landmarks dedicated to Christopher Columbus and Nicolo Paganini, near the center of the city's "old town." Once the most powerful port in Europe, and still the second largest (only to Marseilles, France), Much of its rich history and former wealth is still on display, encased within the medieval walls that still make up the city's heart and soul.

A city rich in art and a major seaport, of flourishing trade and commercial exchange, Genoa is one of the most surprising cities in Italy. Long ignored by conventional tourist routes, Genoa offers its visitors incredible attractions and a stunning artistic heritage. Its medieval old town -- the biggest in Europe -- is an intricate labyrinth of alleyways, where among the shops, restaurants, and local stores, visitors can catch sight of the city's noble past in its 16th century palazzos, baroque edifices, and Romanesque churches, looming over the little piazzas. The Columbus Celebration of 1992 inspired a huge project of urban restoration and renovation, restoring to the city an ancient source of pride: the area containing the Porto Antico (Old Port), the Acquario, and the museum-rich Strada Nuova. Today this area stands as a testimony to Genoa's lively renewal.







## VILLEFRANCHE-SUR-MER [1 WEEK]

Villefranche sur Mer is situated near Nice and Saint Jean Cap Ferrat, and one of the most exclusive spots right in the heart of the most beautiful and rich part of the Côte d'Azur. A couple of features that make it attractive to visitors are the seaside, with long sandy beaches, terrace cafés and restaurants, and the very nice old town, vieille ville. The Village itself is full of history and dates back to the 12th century. Jean Cocteau is famous as having lived in Villefranche and the chapel was designed by him.

There are regular festivals in the Citadel and village celebrations which take place during the year. Each Sunday there is an antique market in the square.

From the main road above, you can look down across the red tile roofs of the old town, with the distinctive church and bell tower in the center. Like the medieval villages of the "back country", the narrow cobblestone and bricked streets slope steeply down (in this case towards the sea) or traverse along the slope, with vaulted passages beneath the houses. There's quite a medieval feeling here, with just the many little restaurants to remind you you're in tourist country. There are also quiet little squares, like the Place Félix Poullan beside the church, and the Place de l'Eglise just below, with a bench circling a beautiful big tree.

The vaulted passage of the Rue Obscura, is the oldest street in France and about a block in from the seafront that's completely covered for about half its length. Lighted only by white, wire-gridded lamps in the roof, the "obscure" street reminds you of the days when the town's population sheltered here from bombardments. Cross streets open out onto the sunny upper village or the even brighter seafront below.

The port, the citadelle, the old town, and the gentle curve of the coast all contribute to the beauty of the village which dates back to 130 BC. It's here where the world's millionaires love to spend their holidays. Among the resident glitterati of the region, Tina Anna Bullock (better known as Tina Turner) has a palatial villa here, at the peak of the Colline du Vinaigrier. She's in residence about one weekend per month.

With its colorful fishing boats and nets, the port is a base for fishermen. You can wander along the fishing wharves, bordered by restaurants and their terraces. If you continue until the end you will arrive at the lengthy Villefranche beach which is pleasant from the very first days of summer.

The village houses an auditorium, museums, "la cité des métiers d'art" and hanging gardens. The army left here in 1965, (to their regret no doubt) and left in their place numerous art collections : Art and History museum, the Goetz-Boumeester collection (works by Picasso, Picabia...), the "Fondation-musée Volti" (contemporary sculptures) and even the Alpine-Hunting museum.



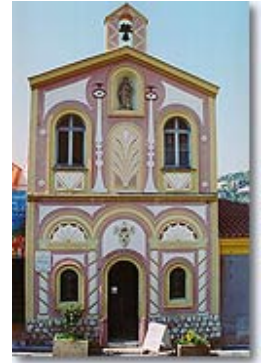


The Saint Elme citadel which over-looks the sea dates from the 16th century and appears to watch over the old part of the town today.



The old village shelters narrow roads and stair-ways with the most evocative names: rue Obscure, rue du Poilu. Covered passages lead down to the colored facades of the ancient houses which have been carefully renovated. With their windows wide open at the height of summer you can hear snatches of lively conversation and smell the mouth-watering Mediterranean cuisine from within.

Jean Cocteau, a native of the area, liked to come to Villefranche where he made friends with the fishermen to whom he dedicated his re-decoration of the Chapelle Saint-Pierre... a site not to be missed. He stayed at the Hotel Welcome which is in front of the apartment.





## VILLEFRANCHE SUR MER APARTMENT [1 WEEK]

Villa Le Studio is situated just by the heart of the old town of Villefranche Sur Mer, and is a lovely holiday apartment in a building that looks like a little villa. The apartment has been newly and stylishly renovated with large windows that look out on the most sensational views of the whole bay. There is one double bedroom and another double bedroom on the mezzanine level above the sitting room. Both have king sized beds. The kitchen is fully fitted and there is air conditioning. There is also a small pretty balcony so that you can sit outside. The property has a private parking space for one car. The street leads from the side of the building straight down to the village which is five minutes away and the sea which is about a ten minute walk away. Discover all that Villefranche has to offer with its great restaurants, wonderful beach and the village full of history and charm. Without doubt this is one of the world's most beautiful locations.



General:	Central heating, Air conditioning, TV, Telephone, Internet access, DVD player
Utilities:	Dish washer, Cooker, Microwave, Fridge, Freezer, Kettle, Toaster, Iron, Washing machine
Rooms:	Bedrooms (1)
Furniture:	King size beds (2), Sleeps maximum of 4
Other:	Linen and towels provided.
Outdoors:	Balcony / Terrace
Access:	Parking space

There is a newly fitted bathroom with lovely mosaic tiles and a walk in shower. Parking can be difficult in this area but this property has the benefit of a parking space outside and no steep stairs to climb to the apartment. The short walk down to village is very easy and the drive to Monaco or Nice only ten minutes or up to Eze village about fifteen minutes. The apartment is very quiet all year round.



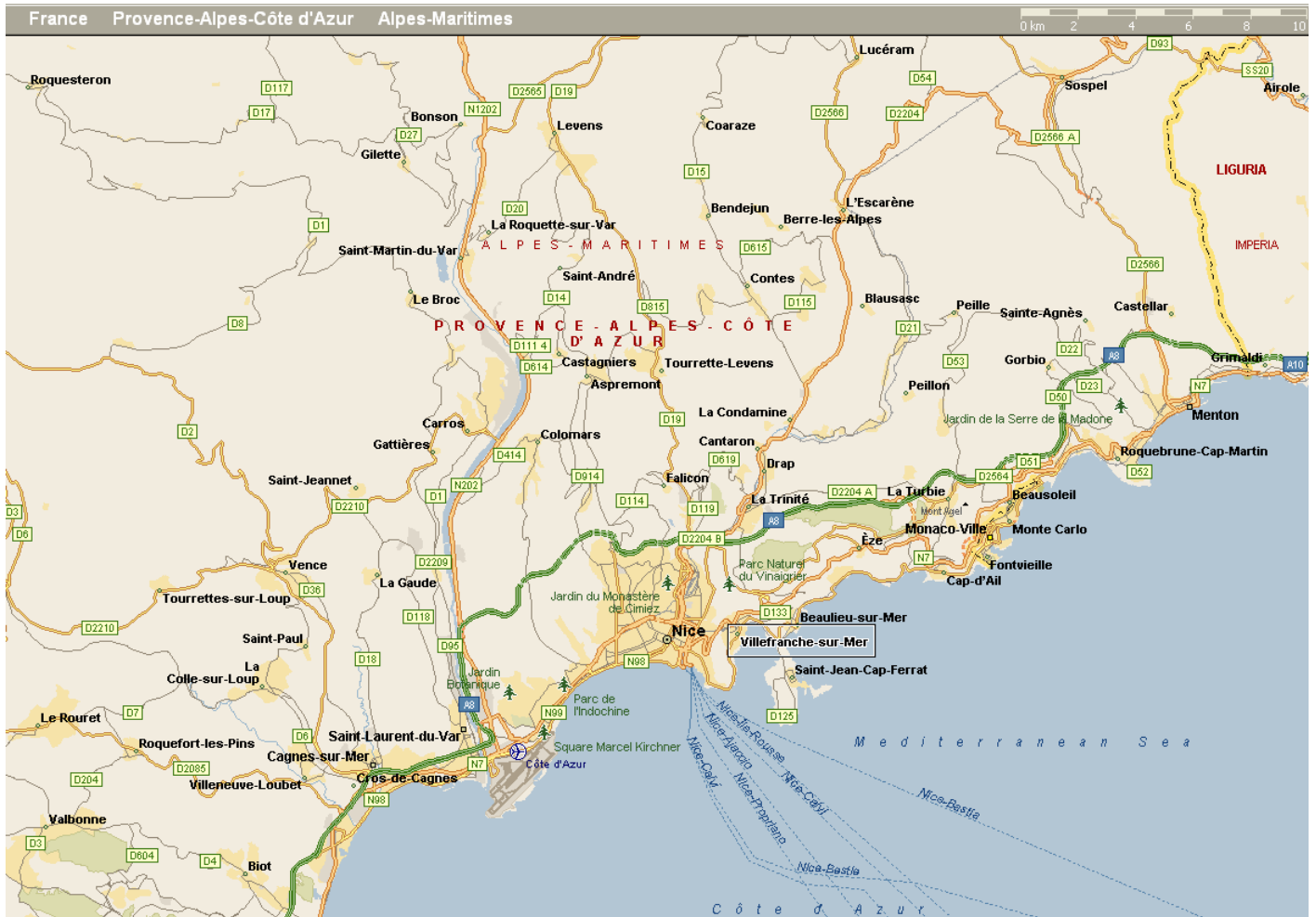








## VILLEFRANCHE AREA MAP





## THE FRENCH RIVIERA

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The French Riviera-Côte d'Azur stretches along the Mediterranean at the foot of the last outcrop of the Alpine chain. Thanks to its southern situation, the proximity of the sea, the full southern exposure and, above all, to the screen of high mountains which protect it from the cold continental winds, it enjoys an exceptionally high winter temperature. Its privileged position means that the slopes are covered with tropical vegetation: orange and aloe, cactus and eucalyptus, rose-laurel, bougainvillea and mimosa.

In under two hours you can travel from the palms and lemon trees of the coast to the nearby Alpine peak for coolness in the summer and snowsports in winter. With such a number of attractive features combined with the variety and quality of entertainment and the multitude of hotels and villas, it is no wonder that it attracts visitors from all over both in summer-time and wintertime.

### Provence Alps Cote d'Azur

Provence is a fascinating land of romance, history and great beauty. It is celebrated for its excellent climate, attractive scenery, fine beaches, superb food and fashionable resorts. Provence is one of the most exclusive areas of France and few places in Europe can compete with its ambience and allure, glamorous resorts and beautiful people.

Provence owes its special charm to its warm climate, clear light and varied landscape. The region lies in the far south of France, stretching along the Mediterranean coast from the Italian border at Menton to just the other side of Marseilles, then north to the Haute-Alpes. The Cote d'Azur is a long succession of fashionable resorts, marinas and beaches, with a huge choice of activities for all tastes, which can be enjoyed in both winter and summer.

A little north of Cannes is the old town of Grasse, whose mild climate makes it a popular winter resort. It is the centre of the perfume industry in France and famous for its fields of roses, jasmine, lavender, which are harvested and distilled to make scent and essences. Not far from Marseilles is the beautiful university town of Aix-en-Provence. The old capital of Provence, it is still the intellectual heart of the region. Because of its thermal springs, it has been used as a spa since it was founded by the Romans. The International Music Festival is held in July and August and the Saison d'Aix is from June until the beginning of September, with open-air performances. The painter Paul Cezanne was born and died here and a few kilometers from Aix is the Foundation Vasarely, a modern architectural complex with works by the artist.





## MONTE-CARLO

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Monte Carlo is on the Riviera between Provence and Italy, close to the museums of Nice (Matisse, Chagall) and the glamorous shopping boulevards of Cannes. The Picasso Museum and world-famous Maeght Collection are nearby, as well. Trips to the medieval villages of St. Paul de Vence or Eze, the perfume factories of Grasse, Italy's ski slopes and the boutiques and markets of nearby San Remo are memorable events, as are private parties at Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild in St. Jean Cap Ferrat or La Villa Kerylos in Beaulieu.



Monte-Carlo, created in 1866, named in honor of Prince Charles III, hosts an internationally famous Casino, luxury hotels and leisure facilities, some created recently: Larvotto beach, the Monte Carlo Sporting Club, the Boulingrins Gardens. Monte Carlo is a district of the Principality of Monaco.

Monte Carlo, an exquisite emerald in a setting of craggy rocks rising from the azure-blue Mediterranean Sea, basks between enchanting French Medieval villages and the ski trails of the Alps. With over 300 days of sunshine a year and mild temperatures, it celebrates with passion the arts, culture, outstanding cuisine, restoration of mind and body, and high-adrenaline activities like the Formula One Grand Prix, casino gaming, land and water sports and exciting nightlife. The natural and man-made attributes of this fairy-tale land, home and host to royalty and the brightest luminaries of painting, stage, film, dance, music and the business world for nearly 150 years, make it a matchless place.

It is easy to dismiss Monte Carlo as just a tax haven and an overpriced millionaire's posing ground, but there is far more to this compelling city than its wealthy reputation suggests. For a start it enjoys a spectacular setting as part of Monaco, a tiny principality smaller than London's Hyde Park that clings spectacularly to the rocky shores of the Mediterranean. At the city's spiritual heart is Monaco-Ville where the Place du Palais houses the grand palace that the legendary Grimaldi family still hold so dear. Their turbulent history, awash with glamour, tragedy and drama, colors Monte Carlo and only helps add to its mystique. Below the palace the skyline is more Manhattan than Mediterranean as Europe's movers and shakers scramble to snatch a precious piece of real estate and ridiculously expensive yachts cram the marinas. The good news is that a taste of Monte Carlo living is not just reserved for those with seven digits in their euro accounts as there are public parks, elevators and jogging tracks that can be enjoyed for free and alongside some of Europe's most expensive hotels and restaurants there are some cheaper, almost good value, options. The Formula 1 Grand Prix and the Monte Carlo Rally may be the city's two most famous events, glitzy extravaganzas that seem to sum up the spirit of flash and showy Monte Carlo, but beneath the glitz there is real substance supporting the style with a lively cultural scene and layers of history well worth exploring.







## NICE

The prize at the heart of an eternal struggle between France and Italy, Nice only became part of France in 1860. Its history, however, goes back to the dawn of time. The excavations of Terra Amata prove that the region was inhabited in prehistoric times, though it was the Greeks who really laid the foundations of the town they called "Nikaoa".

A little later on, as everywhere else in the Mediterranean, the Romans took over, preferring to develop the neighborhood of Cemenelum (today known as Cimiez) rather than the seafront which proved too hard to defend. The fall of the Roman Empire was followed by several centuries of invasions by the Barbarians, Saracens and pirates, which made Nice terribly afraid of anyone and anything that arrived from the sea.

In the 11th century, Nice was attached to the County of Provence, itself annexed in the 14th century to the Kingdom of Savoy. This meant that Nice remained Italian for a full five centuries, until the Treaty of Turin was signed by Napoleon III and Victor Emmanuel II. Emperor Napoleon III and Empress Eugenie, and all of Europe's aristocrats at the time, came for regular stays in the region. It was then that Nice took off, already basing its development on tourism and the brand new railway that connected it to the rest of France as early as 1862.

Nice is very proud of its turbulent past; it preserves its heritage and its language - the nissart, it asserts its culinary art and celebrates the traditional feasts. The traditional element which is the most federative of the local population, is the Nissart, still very used and learnt by the young people. It is a complete tongue; vocabulary, grammar and syntax are structuring it. This dialect, originated in the Langue d'oc, kept away from the French and Italian influences is looked upon as very conservative. To speak the Nissart in festive time is not only a custom but a reflex.

While Nice and its famous Promenade des Anglais bordering the Bay of Angels is well-known to visitors from all the world, the capital of the Côte offers many other attractions, often less familiar, yet full of warmth and charm. The picturesque Old Town with its lively streets and Provençal market is set between the Port on one side and the "Baie des Anges" (Bay of Angels) on the other. Brimming with color, the Old Town has a very Italian atmosphere ; here one easily recalls that Nice belonged to Italy for many long centuries. The seafront, dotted with proud façades and palatial hotels, stretches out for almost 8 km along the Promenade des Anglais and its vast beach of rounded pebbles. Place Massena and the neighboring streets comprise the main shopping area in Nice. Crafts are strongly related to local produce. Olive wood is needed for the fabrication of kitchen plates and utensils'. Olives, olive oil, carnations, candied fruits, spices and aromatic plants are ranking among the local specialties from Nice.

They have become quite famous and are much exported but are still produced by a craft industry which maintains this traditional know-how alive. Local gastronomy has developed around these traditional smells and tastes, fruits, vegetables, fishes and herbs. The Bellet wine is very much sought after by amateurs. It is coming from the oldest type of wine in the world. The fruit and vegetable markets, the flower and fish ones, the second-hand and ancient books, cards and craft products markets are an evident sign of the dynamic activity generated by the authentic produce of the region of Nice.





## CANNES

Situated on the shores of La Napoule bay, Cannes is a glittering city with lots of old world charm. Cannes is world renowned for its International Film Festival and the legendary boulevard, La Croisette. To find the grandest hotels, the best restaurants and the most fabulous designer shops, look no further than La Croisette.

During the 20s and 30s, Cannes was the playground of the rich and famous as well as the art crowd. F. Scott Fitzgerald and his wife Zelda lived nearby during that time while the famous expatriate wrote about their Jazz Age lifestyle in several of his stories and books. Cannes is now one of the leading convention and exhibition destinations in Europe.



For a long, long time, Cannes was just a small fishing village huddled around Mont Chevalier, the hill now called Le Suquet, hardly the target of any particular strategic ploys. At the time of the French Revolution, it was still a small, quiet township. Cannes owes its prestige to Lord Brougham, an Englishman who had to spend a few days in this tranquil spot back in 1834.

Enchanted by its charm and natural beauty, he returned the following years, accompanied by ever-growing numbers of aristocratic friends. Thus it was that Cannes came into fashion, and since became one of the most highly sought-after places in the world, that extends along its world-famous Croisette flanked by palm-trees and sandy beaches. If Nice and Monaco were always looked upon as luxury resorts, Cannes was not to be outdone and unfurls its splendor in a more serene atmosphere.

At the heart of the town, overlooking the sea, between old Cannes and the promenade of "La Croisette", sits the "Palais des Festivals et des Congrès", trodden by so many international movie-stars. It's a stone's throw from most of the hotels, shops and lively streets of Cannes and is one of the few conference centres in the world of the size from which you can walk back to your hotel while enjoying the view of the bay.

Just for the experience, climb the hill of Le Suquet offering a panoramic view of the entire town. Downtown, stroll around the port and admire the splendid deluxe yachts or wander through the streets behind the Croisette, such as the very elegant Rue d'Antibes with its many high-class boutiques. At the end of the Croisette, discover the Port Canto harbor equipped with modern infrastructures suitable for seafaring tourists.

The harbor is surrounded by very pleasant gardens and children's' playgrounds. Take the Rue Meynadier, a colourful, typical pedestrian street linking the modern town centre to the old town of Le Suquet. It used to be the main street in Cannes but is now home to numerous boutiques selling clothes and groceries.





## DRIVING MAP OF VILLEFRANCHE TO MILANO







## MILAN [OVERNIGHT]

Milan is the biggest city of North Italy. The powerhouse of the country and one of the most stylish cities of the planet.

But it is also a city with many important museums and wonderful monuments. See the Castello Sforzesco the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie (which displays Leonardo's Last Supper) the Brera Museum (Madonna and Child and Pieta by Bellini) and many other museums monuments and churches.

Moreover, Milan is a lively city, with several pubs, discos and nightclubs. Being a fashion capital too, you might run into a top model or designer. The best chances are in the area around Brera (the artist zone) or the Navigli area. And if you have money to spend, just make a visit in via Montenapoleone and via della Spiga where you'll find boutiques by Gucci, Ferragamo, Valentino, Armani, Ferre, Fendi and others. Look for other famous designer labels and items such as shoes, camelhair blankets and leather goods.



The Scala Opera Theatre seems quite simple from outside. Built in the year 1778, today it is one of the most famous opera houses in the world. The façade and the splendid theatre-room are constructed in a new-classical style by the architect Giuseppe Piermarini. The Scala theater took its name from the church of Santa Maria della Scala on that's ruins has been built. Some of the greatest musicians have made their debuts like Giuseppe Verdi, Giacomo Puccini, Gioachino Rossini, Gaetano Donizetti, Vincenzo Bellini, Arturo Toscanini a.o.m. After 30 month of reconstructions, La Scala Opera Theatre re-opened on December 7<sup>th</sup> 2004 following years of restructuring and restoration. It was a complex project; the architects, engineers and designers faced heavy criticism and public opinion frequently turned against them. The work exceeded budget frighteningly. The theatre-room offers seats for 2012 spectators in 4 box-ranks and 2 galleries.

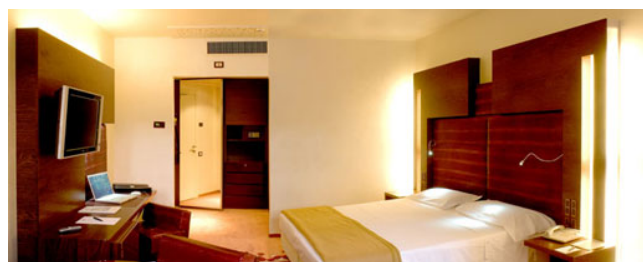


## MILAN HOTEL - ART HOTEL NAVIGLI

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Via Angelo Carlo Fumagalli 4  
Milan, IT  
800-246-8357  
<http://www.arthotelnavigli.com>

The Art Hotel Navigli is named after the Milan quarter where it is located. Here it welcomes business travelers who need easy access to all of Milan (the green subway line 2 stop is 300 meters from the hotel) and leisure travelers, art, design, fashion and antique lovers who visit the nearby art galleries, furniture and fashion showrooms, antique galleries and large antique markets held on the last Sunday of the month.



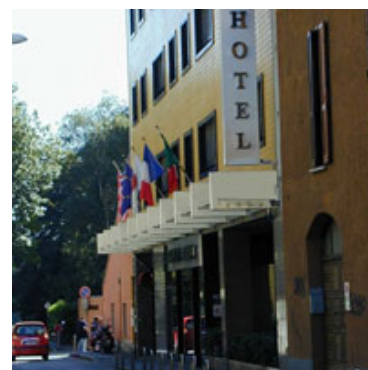
Perhaps the most characteristic quarter of Milan, with its waterways and surprising dock in Piazza XXIV Maggio, the Navigli still preserves the olden architecture and ambiance (like the typical "case di ringhiera" - homes with access through open balconies with a balustrade), neighborhood pace and cordiality that still make strolling through this quarter pleasant.

Meandering through the market stalls, stopping at a historic cafe, shopping at the design and fashion ateliers in Via Tortona and Via Savona, each year's backdrop to the colorful Fuorisalone, the open-air supplement to the Furniture Expo, is a real delight.

The lights of the many social establishments brighten the atmosphere and waters of the Navigli in a singular succession of elegant restaurants, typical trattorias, jazz clubs with great music and trendy wine bars. The Libero theater, with its unique location on the top floor of a building in Via Savona, offers classic and experimental shows ideally contrasting the sophisticated Armani theater in Via Borgognone, commissioned by the designer and constructed in the minimalist and Zen style of the Japanese architect Tadao Ando.

The Art Hotel ai Navigli, the only 4-star hotel in Milan that overlooks the Navigli in Via Fumagalli, is in the center of the former industrial part of the city (once the home of bicycle, steelworks and ceramics factories), now dedicated to the development of those creative activities that rank fashion, furniture and textiles Made in Italy as the best design in the world. In addition to Giorgio Armani's headquarters, there are over 50 photographer ateliers in the Naviglia area.

**BY CAR:** From the highways, take the tangenziale ovest (West expressway) and exit at Assago / Milano Fiori. Continue towards Milan on A7 which becomes Via La Spezia and ends at Piazza Belfanti. Cross the Piazza and continue straight on Via Segantini. At the end of the street, cross Piazza Arcole and take Via Paoli, turn left on Ripa di Porta Ticinese and left again on Via Fumagalli. You're here! the Art Hotel ai Navigli is at # 4 (the hotel has a large free indoor garage).





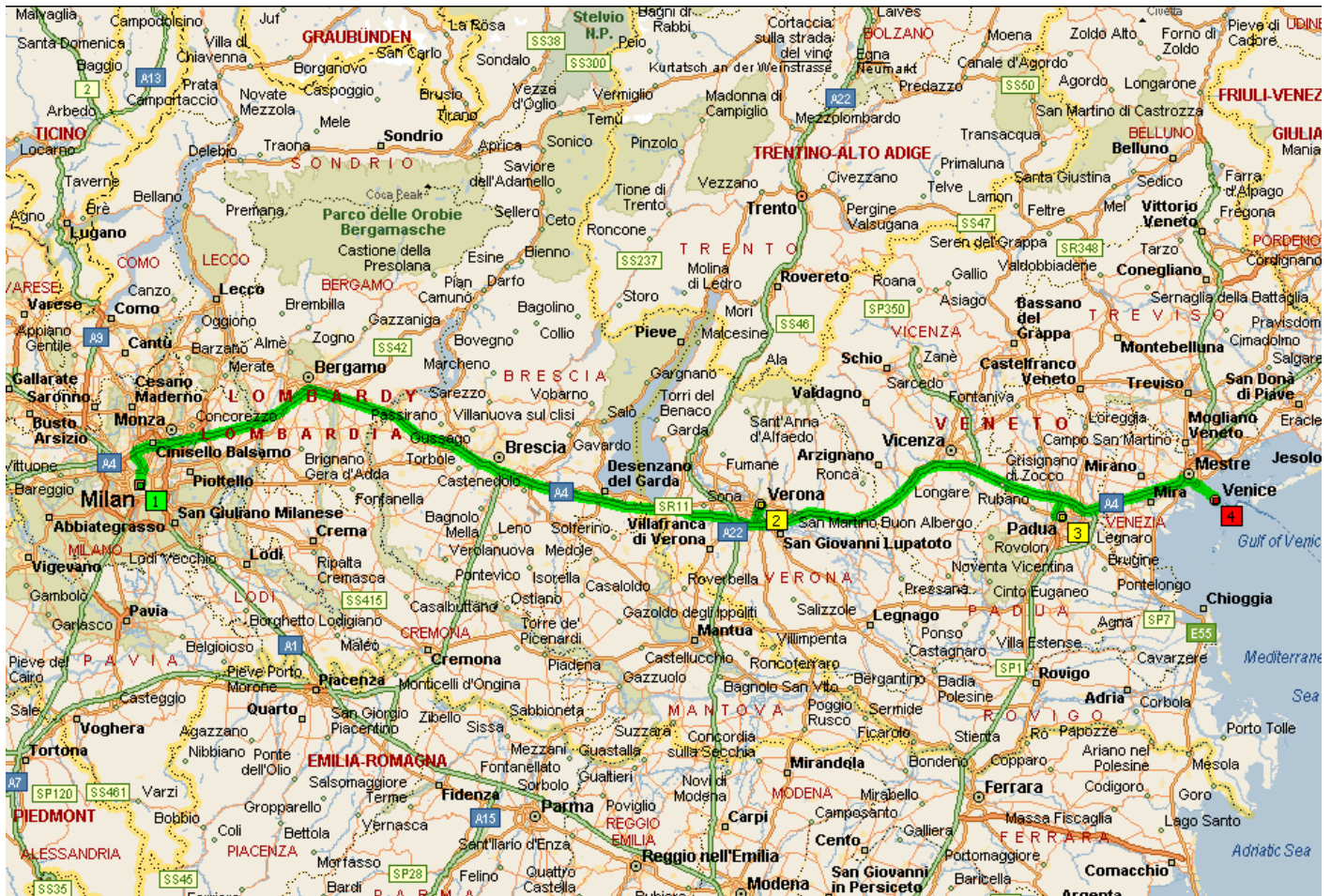
## MAP OF MILAN CITY







## DRIVING MAP OF MILANO TO VENICE





## VERONA [LUNCH & SIGHTSEEING]

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A trip to Verona is a plunge into the emotions of bygone times, of a city that conserves values and forms related to an ancient past of medieval and renaissance splendor, albeit it is in constant expansion in our own day. According to the poet, Shakespeare, "There is no world outside these walls..." but this also expresses the impression that strikes tourists when they enter the ancient walls that surround the city.



The tragic story of the love of Romeo and Juliet, which Shakespeare situates in the Verona of the Scala seigniory, makes the city a preferred destination for lovers and tourists seeking emotions. The historical centre, marked by the Adige River, which crosses the city, forming a wide "S", with a network of bridges. During the summer months a stroll through the ancient city can reach a climax of emotions, in an evening at the Arena, Italy's largest opera theatre. The Roman amphitheatre can seat 15,000.

## PADUA [SIGHTSEEING]

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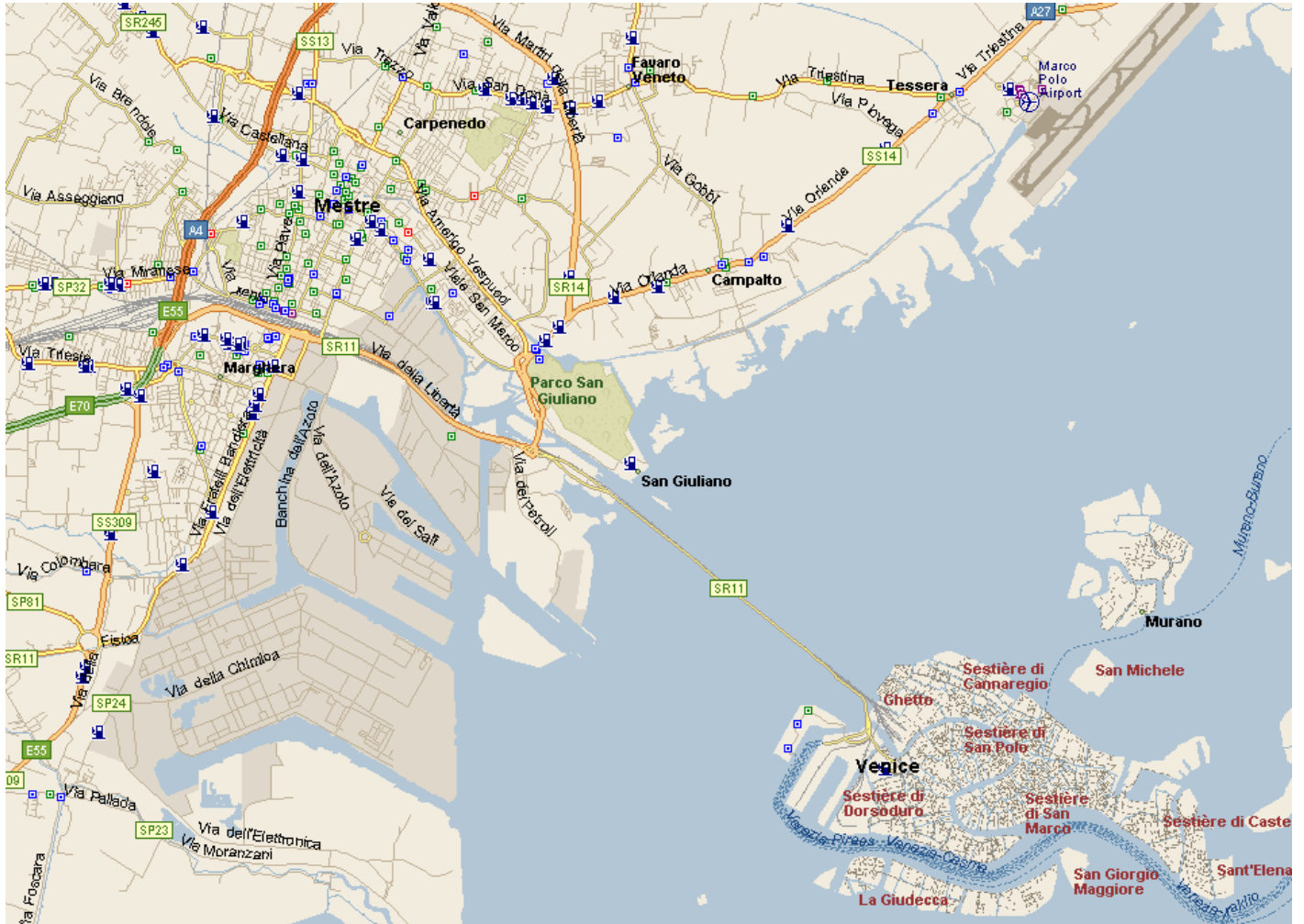
Padua (Padova) is a walled city situated along the Bachiglione River, between Verona and Venice. If you come by train, the Station (Stazione Ferroviaria) is on the north side of town. The Basilica and Botanical gardens are found on the southern edge of town. Either the Corso del Popolo or the Viale Codalunga heading south will take you into the old center of town.







## MAP OF MARCO POLO AIRPORT (VCE) TO VENICE





## AVIS RENTAL CAR DROP OFF POINT IN VENICE

### Avis - Venice, IT - VCN

Piazzale Roma 496 G,  
Venice, 30100 , Italy  
(39) 041-5237377  
Sun 08:30AM-01:30PM;  
Mon-Fri 08:00AM-06:30PM;  
Sat 08:30AM-01:30PM





## VENICE, ITALY [OVERNIGHT IN HOTEL, OVERNIGHT ON SHIP]

Built entirely on water by men who dared defy the sea, Venice is unlike any other city. No matter how many times you have seen it in movies or TV commercials, the real thing is more dreamlike than you could ever imagine. Its landmarks, the Basilica di San Marco and the Palazzo Ducale, seem hardly Italian: delightfully idiosyncratic, they are exotic mixes of Byzantine, Gothic, and Renaissance styles. Shimmering sunlight and silvery mist soften every perspective here, and you understand how the city became renowned in the Renaissance for its artists' rendering of color. It's full of secrets, inexpressibly romantic, and at times given over entirely to pleasure. You'll see Venetians going about their daily affairs in vaporetti (water buses), aboard the traghetto (traditional gondola ferries) that carry them across the Grand Canal, in the campi (squares), and along the calli (narrow streets).



Located at the head of the Adriatic Sea, an intricate web of tiny islands and canals make up the enchanting city of Venice. In this intimate setting where gondoliers serenade, delicate bridges lead to winding cobblestone streets, and glorious renaissance architecture form a fairy-tale backdrop, it is no wonder that many people feel it is the world's most romantic destination.

- Piazza San Marco
  - This square at the heart of Venice is home to many of the city's most famous landmarks, including St. Mark's Basilica, the Campanile bell tower, and the Doge's Palace. Afterwards, browse the boutiques that ring the square or sip espresso at an outdoor cafe.
- The Grand Canal
  - Take a gondola ride down the two-mile long Grand Canal. The canal is lined with magnificent buildings that epitomize the architectural beauty of Venice offering a panorama of superbly detailed facades.

The islands of the Venetian lagoon were first settled during the barbarian invasions of the 5th and 6th centuries AD, when the people of the Veneto mainland sought refuge in the marshy region. The refugees built watery villages on rafts of wooden posts driven into the subsoil, laying the foundations for the floating palaces of today. The traditional date of Venice's birth is given as 25 March 421, but there is little evidence to support this belief.

Settlement became focused on the Rivo Alto (later known as Rialto, the highest point in the lagoon), and Venice slowly evolved into a republic. Lip service was paid to the Byzantine Empire, formerly the Eastern branch of the Roman Empire, and the first of Venice's eventual 118 doges (chief magistrates) was elected in 697. Venice's name became inextricably linked with that of St Mark when the apostle's earthly remains were spirited out of Alexandria by merchants in 828. The holy relics were eventually brought to rest in the purpose-built St Mark's Basilica, which was consecrated in 1094.

The Repubblica Serenissima (Most Serene Republic) provided ships for Pope Urban II's First Crusade of 1095, which degenerated into the rape and pillage of the Byzantine Empire and Jerusalem. This ignominious event was but a tea party compared to the Fourth Crusade of 1202, which saw the Venetians plunder and eventually rule Constantinople. Famous booty included the four gorgeous horses, the bejewelled Pala d'Oro altarpiece and the array of marble statuary that decorates St Mark's Basilica. Venice now commanded a thriving and expanding commercial empire, with the banner of St Mark flying over the bulk of the eastern Mediterranean. Meanwhile, the checks and balances of Venice's government fell into place, overseen by the Great Council made up of members of the city's powerful and moneyed families.



Venice's rapid expansion had not gone unnoticed by its competitors, in particular the similarly maritime city of Genoa. Despite various inconclusive battles and peace treaties, the two navies pursued each other around the Mediterranean with growing fury but little definitive success until Venice's victory in the Battle of Chioggia in 1380. Venice then turned its sights to the mainland, acquiring self-sufficiency and allies to bolster its population, which had been decimated by the Black Death in 1348. Trade continued to flourish, but the Turks' capture of Constantinople in 1453 spelt the beginning of the end of Venice's dominance.

In the emerging world order of nation states and global empires, Venice was now distinctly small fry. The Turks were rapidly making inroads into La Serenissima's Mediterranean empire, taking Cyprus in 1570 and Crete in 1669. At home, corruption was on the rise, politics was going soft, and Venice had neither the will nor the manpower to equip great enough fleets, let alone armies, to match those of its competitors. Plague struck again and again, wiping out up to one-third of the population, and a host of art treasures were lost when the doge's palace went up in flames. The scene was set for the arrival of Napoleon in 1797, and the city's eventual shunting into Austrian hands.

The Austrians never managed to endear themselves to the Venetians, and in 1848 the city joined the long list of rebels who rose up against the established order across Europe. The movement for Italian unification spread quickly through the Veneto, and Venice was finally united with the Kingdom of Italy in 1866. The city was a hive of activity during the last decades of the 19th century: increased port traffic was coupled with growing industry; a railway bridge linking Venice with the mainland was built, permanently erasing the lagoon city's island status; canals were widened and deepened; pedestrian zones were laid out in the city centre, and tourism began to take off.

### **Modern History**

The 20th century strengthened Venice's links with solid land. Under Mussolini, a road bridge was built parallel to the railway bridge. The shift of business and industry to what is now 'greater' Venice - Mestre and Marghera - made the city a target of Allied bombing campaigns during WWII, but it came out of the conflict pretty much unscathed. In the postwar years, the creation and expansion of petrol refineries and metallurgy, chemical and plastics industries in the Marghera region brought thousands of jobs to Venice - and plenty of problems, too. The disastrous floods of 1966 focused the world's attention on the city's watery plight, and the ensuing years have seen a succession of debates on a range of solutions, from floating barriers to platform soles. In the latter half of last century, the population more than halved due to expensive housing, inconvenient transport and scarce employment.

In May 2003, the Mose project was set in motion in the hope that its mobile flood barriers would protect the city from further damage, but at the time of inauguration financing was yet to be finalized, and some commentators predicted it would be a costly white elephant. The return of left-of-centre philosopher Massimo Cacciari as mayor in 2005 only added to the confusion. In principle he was against the project, but construction may by now have passed the point of no-return. Optimists estimate work should be completed by 2011, if it is not again halted. The debate may be academic: if depopulation continues, Venice may one day truly become just a theme park for tourists.

Another hot potato Cacciari inherited is the interminable saga of the Grand Canal's fourth bridge, designed by Santiago Calatrava. It is just possible it will be in place by the time you read this, but no-one in Venice is holding their breath!



## VENICE AIRPORT TO VENICE HOTEL BY WATER TAXI

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The expected rate for a ride from the airport to San Marco (around 30 minutes) is about EUR 80,00, for four people and four luggage (water-taxis have meters). There are some surcharges (night surcharge between 10pm and 7am and surcharge for each piece of luggage and person over the fourth). The high prices are explained in part by the cost of the motorboats themselves (the better quality mahogany ones cost up to 110.000 Euros).



The water-taxis can't penetrate the shallowest canals of the city. Most of them can be passed through only by rowing-boats. Some canals can be closed for digging out (scavo del rio). Venice's canals are regularly dredged to keep them from silting up with mud and rubbish. If the tide is too high (most likely in November) it can be difficult for the water-taxi to pass under the lowest bridges. If the tide is too low (most likely in winter) some canals may not be accessible.





## VENICE HOTEL - HOTEL AL CODEGA

Corte del Forno Vecchio  
4435 S.Marco - 30124 Venezia  
Tel. +39 0412413288

The recently-opened Hotel Al Codega is located in the very heart of Venice, between the Piazza San Marco and the Rialto Bridge. Although just a few steps away from a main shopping street, the hotel remains hidden in the secluded and picturesque Corte del Forno Vecchio (courtyard of the old Bakery). This spacious and sunny Venetian square has the double advantage of providing Al Codega guests with quiet lodgings that are also just a few minutes walk to San Marco.



The four-story building has an elevator, a bar, a breakfast room, an elegant and cozy lounge, an internet access point and a small meeting room. The reception desk is open 24 hours a day.

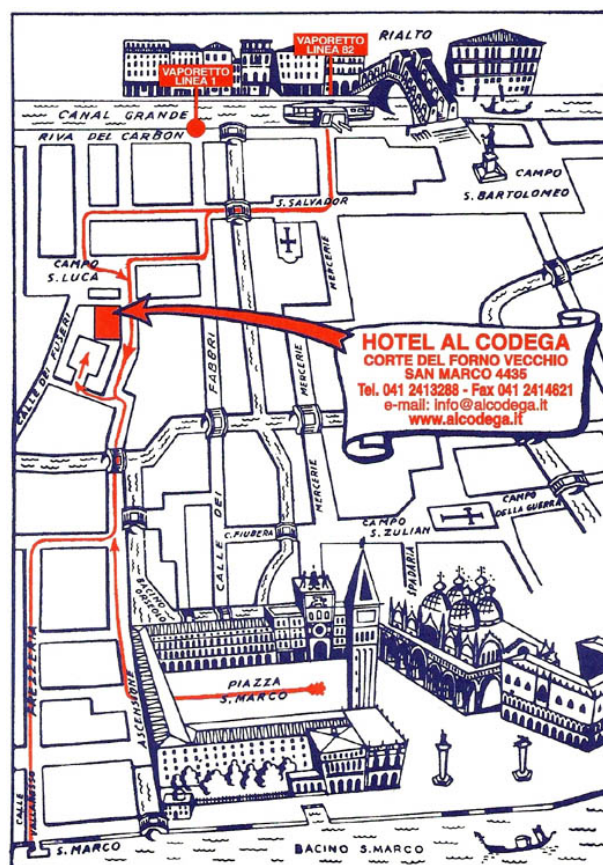


Hotel Al Codega has 28 well-appointed rooms, each carefully decorated with furniture and fabrics to create an elegant and refined space that radiates the warm, cozy feeling of home. Careful attention has been paid to preserving an old-world elegance while incorporating some

innovative details in each room, such as the liquid crystal television screen camouflaged within a mirror and wi-fi high speed internet. The bathrooms are tiled in a warm colored marble and furnished with blow dryers and bathtubs or showers. While first time visitors may be initially struck by the beautiful décor, they will want to return again and again for the warm atmosphere of home, their home in Venice.

### To Get to the Hotel from the Venice Airport "Marco Polo" :

- Transfer by private water taxi to the "Testolini" dock about 50 meters from the hotel. Time: approximately 30 minutes. Approximate cost €100.00 per person, luggage included.
- **OR:** Transfer by bus, line "Alilaguna", to the San Marco stop. Time: about 55 minutes. Approximate Cost: € 12.00, luggage included.
- **OR:** Transfer by bus ATVO to Venezia Piazzale Roma. Time: approximately 20 minutes. Approximate cost: €5.00 per person including luggage. Then take the Vaporetto (boat) line 1 or line 82. Get off at Rialto or Vallaresso.





## VENICE SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

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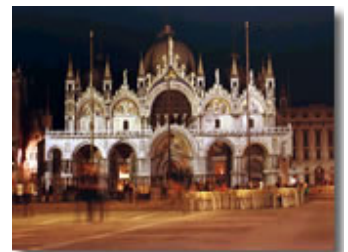
### St. Mark's Square

St. Mark's Square is really the heart of Venice, mostly because of its location on the banks of the grand canal, and because of the great number of beautiful, historical monuments located there. Politically and culturally, St. Mark's Square has always been a very important and strategic area in Venice. On the bank of the grand canal, first you will come upon the "molo", the pier for the great number of gondolas and vaporetti which stop at the square. As you keep walking you'll come onto the piazzetta, the square where you will find the two columns where the two symbols of Venice: St Mark's Lion and the statue of St Theodore, the patron saint of Venice, keep watch over the city. In the past, this square was used for public executions. The piazza St. Marco, is the only square that is called a Piazza, the others are simply called "campo". It's much more than a simple city square, it's a symbol. The square is now "covered" with tourists and its famous pigeons which are a very integral part of the site. The square is lined with the buildings called the Procuratie, which housed the offices and apartments of high placed officials in the Venetian government. The "procuratie vecchie" date back to the 9th century, and were rebuilt in the 16th century. The Campanile is a 314 ft. tower. You can climb to the top and look out over the city and the lagoon from its panoramic balcony for 10,000 lira. Built in the 9th century, the Campanile was used as a watch tower. Galileo also used the tower for his work. After the tower collapsed, it was rebuilt in 1902. You reach the Campanile by crossing the loggetta which was built in the 16th century.



### St. Mark's Basilica

St. Mark's Basilica majestically symbolizes the lagoon and enshrines the city's history. Possession of the saint's relics enabled the Republic to establish its authority, from 828 onward, over Grado and Aquileia. In 1063, under Doge Domenico Contarini, it was decided to rebuild the church on the same Greek cross plan as the previous one. In 1096 it was finished, but the decorative work continued until the beginning of the 19th century. The model had been furnished by the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople (536-46); five domes covering the crossing and each of the arms, supported by large piers linked by arches. The light was thus directed towards the centre of the basilica, leaving the side aisles in comparative shadow.



The first patron saint of Venice was St. Teodoro. In 828 St. Mark the Evangelist substituted him when two merchants smuggled his mortal remains back from Alessandria (Egypt). St. Mark's remains were initially buried in a chapel in the Doge's Palace but later a church was built that was to be his perpetual resting place. The church later suffered damage from fire and was modified many times to adapt to Venice's evolution of power and wealth. This simple church evolved into St. Mark's Basilica. The modifications to the Basilica continued on through an entire century, therefore the results of the construction exhibit a mixture of different styles.

St. Mark's Basilica is also well known for the Pala d'Oro, one of the richest and most precious altar screens in the world. It is covered with more than 3000 precious stones and enamel icons inlaid in gold.



## The Doge's Palace

The Doge's Palace, Venice, has façades which date from 1309-1424, designed by Giovanni and Bartolomeo Buon. The palace, started in the ninth century, several times rebuilt, and completed in the Renaissance period, forms part of that great scheme of town-planning which was carried out through successive centuries. The façades, with a total length of nearly 152 m (500 ft), have open arcades in the two lower storeys, and the third storey was rebuilt after a fire in the sixteenth century, so as to extend over the arcades. This upper storey is faced with white and rose-colored marble, resembling ornate windows and finished with a lace-like parapet of oriental cresting.



The whole scheme of columned and pointed arcades, with its combination of carved capitals and long horizontal lines of open tracery, is of that unique design which can only be termed Venetian Gothic

## The Grand Canal

Illustrating the uniqueness of Venice, this great 'road of water' is the most beautiful street in Venice. One can glide along the Grand Canal and be surrounded by the most opulent architecture. The atmosphere is absolutely unforgettable, as the splendor of the Grand Canal is unparalleled. To meander along the canal by gondola is literally to take a journey through Venetian history.



Unlike most Main Streets, Canal Grande does not go in a straight line; rather, it flows as though it were a woman's body, in curves. Perhaps that is why it is always referred to as female. No matter how negative a person is about Venice, he/she cannot help but gasp on first seeing this magnificent body of water.

## Rialto Bridge

The Rialto Bridge's 24-foot arch was designed to allow passage of galleys, and the massive structure was built on some 12,000 wooden pilings that still support the bridge more than 400 years later. The architect, Antonio da Ponte, competed against such eminent designers as Michelangelo and Palladio for the contract.



The bridge has three walkways: two along the outer balustrades, and a wider central walkway leading between two rows of small shops that sell jewelry, linens, Murano glass, and other items for the tourist trade.

## Accademia Bridge

The Ponte dell'Accademia was built in 1854, during the Austrian occupation. One of the three bridges spanning the Canal Grande. The Austrians envisioned a wide bridge, enabling troops to move more quickly over the broad canal. Engineer Miozzi (who worked a lot in Venice during the first part of twentieth century), realized a structure that first was made with wood and later was reinforced with steel losing its main peculiarity





### Scalzi Bridge

Old Austrian bridge, on this part of Gran Canal, represented an age that was finishing. In this period of deep transformation, project by engineer Eugenio Miozzi was chosen to substitute the rectilinear iron bridge (all the iron bridges in Venice had been built by Austrians).



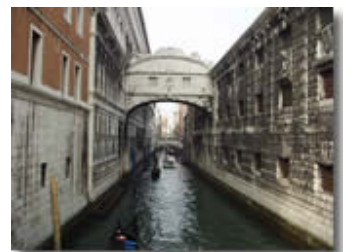
### Ca'd'Oro

This beautiful Gothic palace along the Grand Canal of Venice was originally covered in gold leafs, vermillion and ultramarine decorations. The palace reveals Moorish influence in its roof and sinuous pointed arches. The only problem with the use of this building as an art museum is that the Ca' d'Oro is so opulent that its architecture and decor compete with the works. It was built in the early 1400s, and its name translates as "House of Gold," although the gilding that once covered its facade eroded away long ago, leaving softly textured pink and white stone carved into lacy Gothic patterns. The building was meticulously restored in the early 20th century by philanthropist Baron Franchetti, who attached it to a smaller nearby palazzo (Ca' Duodo), today part of the Ca' d'Oro complex. The interconnected buildings contain the baron's valuable private collection of paintings, sculpture, and furniture, all donated to the Italian government during World War I.



### The Bridge of Sighs

The Bridge of Sighs received its name in the 17th century, because the prisoners who passed through it on their way to the prison cells on the other side would most likely see the beautiful sight of the lagoon and the island of S. Giorgio and freedom for the last time. However, it was only in the 19th century that it came to be called the 'Bridge of Sighs' after Lord Byron's famous reference in his poem *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* "*I stood in Venice on the Bridge of Sighs, a palace and prison on each hand*". In reality, the days of inquisitions and torture were over by the time the bridge was built and only small time crooks were kept in the prison cells. The prison building is older than the Doge's palace and was at one time used during the inquisition by the Church during the Middle Ages (when people were suspected of being witches or non believers and tortured).



### Arsenale

By 1400, the Arsenal was already the world's most extensive industrial complex, with 3,000 employees (known as "Arsenalotti") and a production capacity which, by the 1500s, had reached no less than six galleys a month. Over the course of the centuries, many major works were carried out, including the construction of laboratories, warehouses and, with the advent of gun powder, artillery rooms. The Arsenal represents a vast, striking and strategic area of the inner city covering about 32 hectares, of which 9 hectares are water, out of the total 670-hectare area of Venice, including the islands of Giudecca, Tronchetto, San Giorgio and the internal canals. The structure complex has represented the heart of the Venetian economy and civil history, so much so that in 1509 the Senate officially defined it as the "heart of the region of Veneto".





### **Ca' Pesaro - National Gallery of Modern Art**

The grandiose palazzo, now the seat of the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, was built in the second half of the seventeenth century for the noble and wealthy Pesaro family, to a project by the greatest Venetian baroque architect, Baldassarre Longhena, who also designed the church of the Salute and Ca' Rezzonico. In creating Ca' Pesaro, a masterpiece of Venetian baroque civic architecture, Longhena was inspired by Sansovinian classicism, elaborating solutions and idioms capable of expressing a new and sumptuous harmony. This is exemplified in the Grand Canal façade, with its complex composition, powerful but well-balanced: above a plinth decorated with lion-faces and monstrous heads rises a severe diamond-pointed, rusticated facade with two rows of windows, opened in the middle by twin doorways surmounted by mascarons and statues.



### **Ca' Rezzonico - Museum of the venetian 18th century**

The building of this magnificent palace started in 1667, ordered by the Bon family to the ever-present Baldassare Longhena. The building had a long series of misfortunes and it is finally Rezzonico who finished the building in 1712, leaving the works to the architect Giorgio Massari. The museum retraces the Venetian life like it was in the 18th century. A lot of treasures, assembled since 1934, furniture, paintings and decorative objects found in numerous villas and Venetian palaces. You can visit a gigantic ballroom, enhanced by a series of remarkable architectural perspectives, a throne room with an admirable rococo ceiling painted by Tiepolo, the last of the great Venetian decorators. You can dream about the fatuous Venice period when Casanova organized its famous orgies, games, balls, masquerades.



### **Scuola Grande di San Rocco**

This School was built in the 1515 following the project of Bon and Scarpagnino, and soon became famous because of the Tintoretto's paintings that remained here for more than twenty years and that represented the masterpieces of Venetian painting between the Renaissance and Mannerism. Besides, here are kept works by Giorgione, Tiziano e Tiepolo. The School of San Rocco is famous for a series of more than 50 canvases painted by Tintoretto in the 1500s. They took 23 years to complete and did for Venice what Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel did for Rome. An impressive sight, the dark paintings are aglow with figures hurtling dramatically through space amid flashes of light and color.







## VENICE GONDOLAS

The gondola has a very fascinating history, beginning in the 11th century. The term was mentioned for the first time in a decree of doge Vitale Falier in 1094. The gondola has evolved over centuries and the one we see nowadays is the result of a long process of adaptation to the special needs of Venice's shallow and sharply angled canals. The gondola was born as a private means of transport for rich people, but then, thanks to its great maneuverability, it became the most important means of transporting people. Ten thousand gondolas operated on the canals of sixteenth-century Venice.



The dimensions, color and appearance of these boats are strictly regulated. In the few 'squeri' (the gondola boatyards) still working in Venice, the wood is still mostly worked by hand, using the tools of the ancient art: axes, planes, saws and hammers. Each gondola is built using eight different kinds of wood (fir, oak, cherry, walnut, elm, mahogany, larch and lime) and it is composed of 280 pieces. The curved shape of the boat is achieved by bending boards of seasoned, dry timber which are wetted then heated continuously. The wood is heated over a fire made from ditch reed, because this type of fire is said to give the best heat for working the wood without damaging the fibres. The skill involved is one of the reasons why a gondola trip isn't cheap.

The only elements in metal are the characteristic iron beak of the head called the ferro and the "risso" of the stern. The six main prongs of the ferro traditionally symbolize the six sestieri and the backward-facing prong symbolizes La Giudecca. The gondola's oarlock, called forcola, is an elaborately curved lump of walnut wood. It allows the oar to be used in at least eight positions.

The gondola boats used for tours and serenading are called 'da nolo', meaning hired. They have got trimmings, padded seats and the ferro. The ones used to transport passengers in the traghetto are called 'da parada'. They are rowed by two gondoliers and have a flatter bottom.

### OFFICIAL GONDOLA TARIFFS starting from 6/28/2006

The City of Venice website is publishing the current tariffs for water taxi and gondola services, one of the initiatives requested by the municipal Ombudsman to promote and reinstate transparency and legality in both sectors.

#### DAYTIME PERSONALISED AND STANDARD TOUR

(40 minutes - maximum 6 people per gondola)

EURO 80

Additional 20 minutes

EURO 40

#### NIGHT-TIME PERSONALISED AND STANDARD TOUR

(from 7.00pm to 8.00am, 40 minutes, maximum 6 people per gondola)

EURO 100

Additional 20 minutes

EURO 50

Official website: <http://www.gondolavenezia.it>

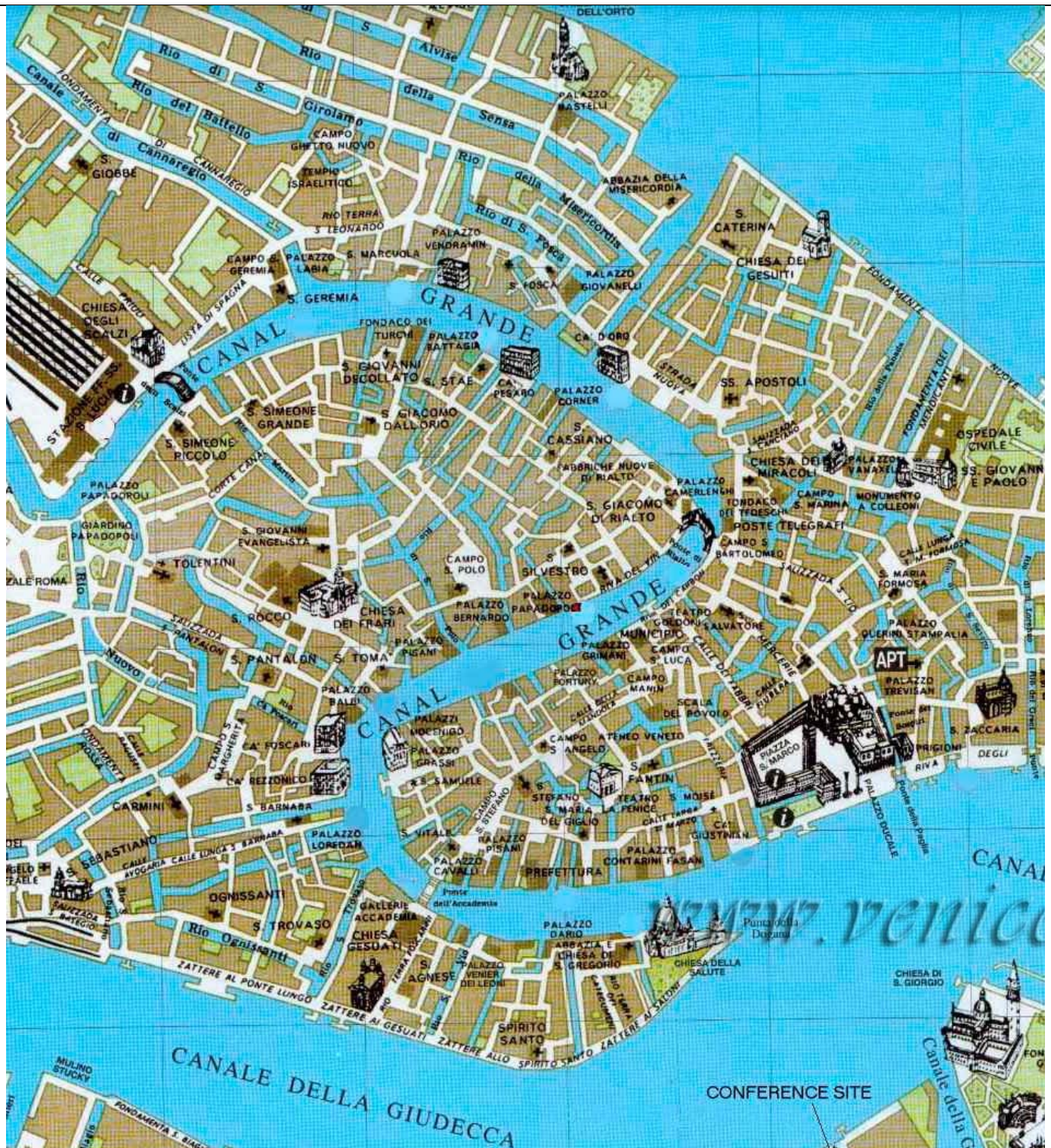








## MAP OF VENICE DOWNTOWN







## CRUISE SHIP - STAR PRINCESS [12 NIGHTS]

The 109,000-ton Star Princess - the second sister ship to Princess' groundbreaking Grand Princess, is more than the biggest, most expensive cruise ship ever. Built at a cost of over \$430 million, Star Princess has more ways to relax, dine, shop, play, swim, sun, dance and indulge than you can imagine. With nine different places to dine and three shows from which to choose nightly, you can do what you want, when you want. Star Princess features Princess' trademark Personal Choice Cruising, an unstructured, individualized approach to cruising that offers passengers a wide variety of dining, entertainment and activity options, including Personal Choice Dining, the only program in the cruise industry where passengers have a choice between traditional assigned-seating dining or restaurant-style seating.

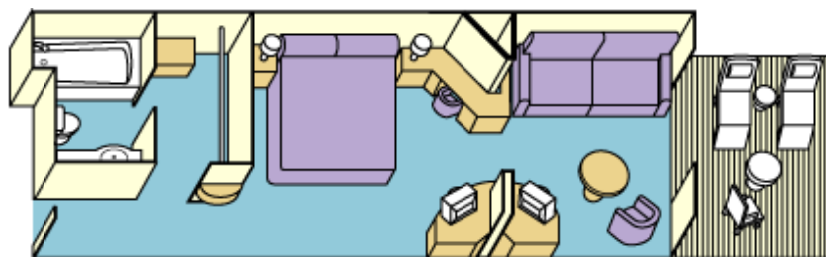


### Mini Suite with balcony

Square footage: 323 sq ft including balcony

#### Amenities:

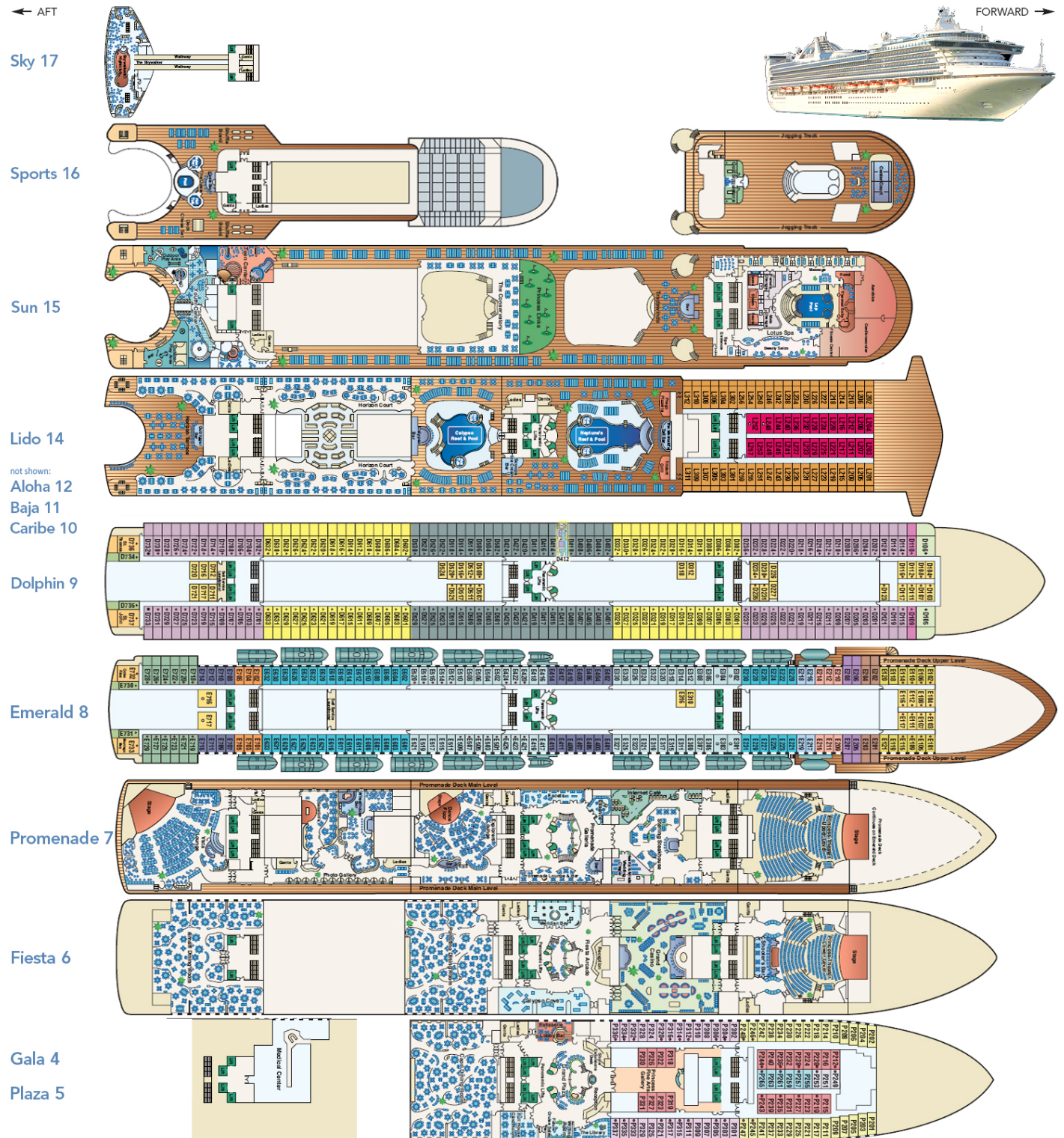
- Private balcony,
- separate sitting area with sofa bed and desk,
- queen-size bed,
- walk-in closet,
- private bathroom with bathtub and shower,
- refrigerator,
- two TVs







## CRUISE SHIP DECK PLANS





## CRUISE SHIP ITINERARY



### ITINERARY:

FRI	Nov 09	Venice (Stazione M)	Boarding 1:00pm	Overnight Venice
SAT	Nov 10	Venice		Depart 1:00pm
SUN	Nov 11	Dubrovnik, Croatia	Arrive 8:00am	Depart 6:00pm
MON	Nov 12	Corfu, Greece	Arrive 8:00am	Depart 6:00pm
TUE	Nov 13	Katakolon, Greece	Arrive 7:00am	Depart 4:00pm
WED	Nov 14	Athens, Greece	Arrive 6:00am	Depart 5:45pm
THU	Nov 15	Mykonos, Greece	Arrive 7:00am	Depart 6:00pm
FRI	Nov 16	Kusadasi, Turkey	Arrive 8:00am	Depart 5:00pm
SAT	Nov 17	Rhodes, Greece	Arrive 8:00am	Depart 5:00pm
SUN	Nov 18	Santorini, Greece (Tender)	Arrive 7:00am	Depart 6:00pm
MON	Nov 19	AT SEA		
TUE	Nov 20	Naples, Italy	Arrive 7:00am	Depart 6:00pm
WED	Nov 21	Civitavecchia, Italy	Arrive 4:00am	



## DUBROVNIK, CROATIA [SHIP PORT]

George Bernard Shaw was enchanted by this beautiful city: for him, it was paradise. Millions of people also take home happy memories from this "jewel of the Adriatic".



Dubrovnik has a remarkable history. An independent, merchant republic for 700 years (abolished by Napoleon in 1806), it traded with Turkey and India in the East (with a consul in Goa, India) and had trade representatives in Africa (in the Cape Verde Islands). It even had diplomatic relations with the English court in the middle ages. (There is a letter from Elizabeth I on display in the City Museum in Dubrovnik). Its status was such that powerful and rich Venice was envious of this Croatian-Slav city.

The old town was completed in the 13th century and remains virtually unchanged to the present day. Tall ramparts surround it and there are only two entrances to the old town which lead to the Stradun, the city's promenade. One of the greatest pleasures for many visitors is to have a drink in one of the nearby cafes and watch the world go by, whilst they themselves are being watched by the city patron, St. Blaise, or Sveti Vlaho as the locals call him. In 1991/2, the Serbs shelled the city causing considerable damage, but thanks to local efforts and international aid, the old town has been restored to its former beauty.

Its massive stone ramparts and splendid fortress towers curve around a tiny harbor, enclosing graduated ridges of sun-bleached orange-tiled roofs, copper domes, and elegant bell towers. In the 7th century AD, residents of the Roman city Epidaurum (now Cavtat) fled the Avars and Slavs of the north and founded a new settlement on a small rocky island, which they named Laus, and later Ragusa. On the mainland hillside opposite the island, the Slav settlement called Dubrovnik grew up. In the 12th century, the narrow channel separating the two settlements was filled in, and Ragusa and Dubrovnik became one. The city was surrounded by defensive walls during the 13th century, and these were reinforced with towers and bastions during the late 15th century.

Enter the old town through the Pile Gate - in front of you is the Stradun. Here you will find the Onofrio Fountain, built in 1438. On the right is the Franciscan Monastery, with one of the oldest functioning pharmacies in Europe, in operation since 1391. At the other end of the Stradun, you will find the locals' favorite meeting place, the Orlando Column, with the nearby Sponza Place and the baroque church of St. Blaise. Here is also the Rector's Palace, built in 1441, which is now a city museum packed with valuable and historic exhibits. Opposite the palace through a narrow street is a square, Gunduliceva Poljana, which is the site of the busy morning market. In the same square is the Jesuit Monastery from the early 18th century. From here you can head for the little old town port and visit the city walls, built between the 13th and the 16th centuries, which encircle the city and which have been remarkably preserved.



The city became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979. During the war for independence, it came under heavy siege, though thanks to careful restoration work, few traces of damage remain. Today Dubrovnik is once again a fashionable, high-class destination, with recent visitors including Tom Cruise, Sharon Stone, John Malkovich, and Sir Roger Moore.





## DUBROVNIC SIGHTSEEING

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### FRANCISCAN MONASTERY

address: Placa 2, phone: +385 20 321 410  
open: 9 am -6 pm, entrance fee: 6 kn

Franciscan Monastery is built in the transitional Romanesque-Gothic style. The construction started in 1337. In 1667 it was completely destroyed in the Great Earthquake. The door with Pieta at Stradun is the only thing left from the original church after it has been rebuilt. The Cluster of the Franciscan Monastery is considered to be a masterpiece of architecture in Dubrovnik. It was built in Romanesque-Gothic style by the famous Mihoje Brajkov from Bara. The capitals are a true example of Romanesque style, with bestiary motives bringing the spirit of Gothic as well. Pieta at the church of Male braće - gothic sculpture done by Leonard and Petar Petrović (1498). The lofty interior of the monastery (reputed once to have had ceiling paintings by Titian) was reconstructed after the Great Earthquake of 1667. The Old Pharmacy, located inside the Franciscan monastery, was opened in 1317. It is the third oldest pharmacy in Europe, but the only one still working. The inventories, ceramics, bowls, laboratory equipment and old medical books of the old Pharmacy are kept in the Franciscan Monastery Museum, among other highly valued and priceless objects of Dubrovnik's historic and cultural past.

The Franciscan monastery's library possesses 30,000 volumes, 22 incunabula, 1,500 valuable handwritten documents. The well-labeled exhibits include a 15th century silver-gilt cross and silver thurible, an 18th century crucifix from Jerusalem in mother-of-pearl on olive wood, an martyrology (1541) by Bemardin Gucetić (Gozze) and illuminated Psalters.

Among the pictures is one of Ruđer Bošković painted in London in 1760, and a painting showing the town before the earthquake. This painting is one of the very few ones that show the Old Town before the earthquake and is used to reconstruct and understand how Dubrovnik was build before the catastrophe in 1667.



### St. SPAS CHURCH

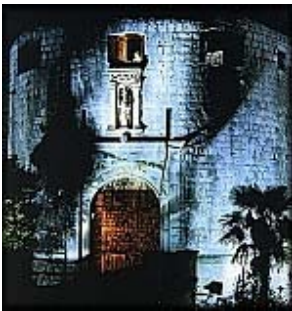
St. Spas Church is located left to Pile Gate, the first church at the main street Stradun. The Andrijići brothers build the church between 1520 and 1528 by the Dubrovnik Senat's gratitude. The church has typically Dalmatian Renaissance wheel-window front and Gothic interiors. Inside the church there is a magnificent painting of the Ascension by Pietro Antonio da Urbino (1528).





### STRADUN

The Old Town's main street is called STRADUN or PLACA. It is a, approximately 300 meter long, pedestrian zone and it runs from the Pile to Ploče gates, following the line of the channel that once divided the town into two parts. The street came into being in the 12th century, was paved in 1468 and reconstructed after the earthquake of 1667. The limestone pavement, polished by use, shines like glass after rain. The houses on each side, though preserving an ancient ground plan, also date from the 17th century, their elevation and style being uniform. Their shops mostly have the characteristic "na koljeno" combined door and counter. The "na koljeno" type consists of a door and window in a single frame spanned by a semicircular arch. The door was kept closed and goods handed over the sill, which served as a counter.



### PILE GATE

At the entrance gate to the Old Town from the west there is a stone bridge within two Gothic arches, designed by Paskoje Miličević (1471). That bridge ends at another bridge, wooden drawbridge which used to be pulled up every evening. Above the bridges, over the arch, the statue of city patron St. Blaise (Sv. Vlaho) is set.



### PLOČE GATE

Entrance gate to the Old Town from the East. Outer Gate of Ploče is built by Miho Hranjac in 1628, while wooden drawbridge and twin-spanned stone bridge (15th C) by Paskoje Miličević are similar to those at Pile Gate. Over the bridge there is the statue of St. Blaise, the patron of Dubrovnik.



### BIG ONOFRIO'S FOUNTAIN

Located at the open space right to Pile gate. It is a 16-sided drinking fountain built by Onofrio de la Cava (1438 - 1444). The Fountain is part of the town's water supply system which Onofrio managed to create by bringing the water from the well in Rijeka Dubrovačka. The well is located 20 km from Big Onofrio's Fountain and this construction was a masterpiece of that time.

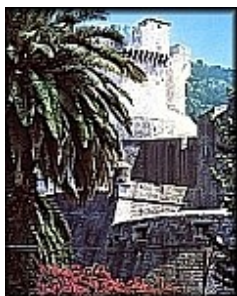


### **CITY WALLS**

address: Gunduličeva poljana 2, phone: +385 20 425 942

open: 9 am -6.30 pm, entrance fee: 15 kn

The City Walls are among the finest and most complete in Europe. They protected the freedom of Dubrovnik Republic for centuries. They surround the entire Old City with their 1940 meters of length and up to 25 meters of height. The whole City Wall complex was built from the 8th until the 16th century, consisting of an inner and outer section. There are five bastions, 3 circular and 12 square and rectangular towers, two corner towers, and one huge fortress. The outer section of City Walls consists of a lower wall, having 10 semicircular bastions built by the famous Italian architect Michelozzo. The town is defended by two more separate fortresses, at Revelin on the eastern side and Lovrijenac on the southwest side. The moat ran around the outside section of the City Walls.



### **Fortress MINČETA**

The most massive tower within the Old Town, located at the north side of the City Walls, provides one of the finest views to the city, its streets and buildings. It is the architectural work of Ranjina, Michelozzo Michelozzi, and was finally finished by Juraj Dalmatinac. At first it was a smaller square-shaped building, later on some parts were added, finally receiving its current look in 1464. Some Summer Festival performances take place at the terraces of this magnificent historical monument.



### **Fortress BOKAR**

Located at the southwest part of the City Walls and served as the protector of Pile Gate, City Bridge and moat at Pile. This round tower was built after famous Renaissance architect Michelozzi's plan (1461 - 1570). It is said to be the oldest casemented fortress in Europe and contains a small lapidary collection and numerous cannons.



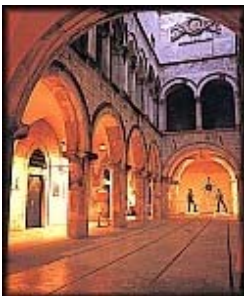
### **Fortress St. IVAN**

Located at the south part of the city walls, served as the protector of the City Harbor. It was erected in four stages between 1346 and 1557. Its final look dates from the 16th century. During night the city harbor was closed with a chain which was stretched from St. Ivan fortress to Kaše - the breakwater built in 15th century. Today, St. Ivan Fortress hosts three museums. On the ground floor is the Aquarium, stocked with fish from various parts of the Adriatic Sea. On the upper floors are the Ethnographic Museum and a Maritime museum in which four sections are devoted to the Dubrovnik Republic maritime period, the age of steam, the Second World War and to the techniques of sailing and navigation.



### **Fortress LOVRIJENAC**

Located at the western side of the Town outside the City Wall at a 36 meters high cliff. It dominates, both the sea and the land entrances to the Town from the west. According to old scripts it was built in only three months. Today its interior is one of the most dignified stages in Europe, a well-known place for Shakespeare's Hamlet performances.



### **PALLACE SPONZA**

Throughout the times of the Dubrovnik Republic it had different purposes and was used as a custom house, a mint and main warehouse ( known at different times as the Pontik, Divona or Dogana). Sponza was one of the more important buildings in the city and remained in continuous public use until the end of the 19th C.

Sponza was designed by Paskoje Miličević, built by Petrović, Radivojević, and the Andrijić brothers (1516-1522). It represents a harmonious blend of Gothic and Renaissance architecture; at the ground floor there are monumental renaissance arcades; at the first floor we find elegant gothic monofores and trifores; the second floor is decorated with Renaissance windows, while the roof is built in Gothic style.

The interior of Sponza consists in a round and spacious court, arranged as a double cloister, with round arches below and slightly pointed arches on the first floor. The first floor was used for social gatherings and meetings of learned and literary societies. The ground floor houses exhibitions of artists and festival concerts and contains the original 16th C mechanism that controls the town bell and clock (called Zelenci - Maro and Baro).



### **ORLADNO'S COLUMN**

The statue of Paladin Roland by Antun Dubrovčanin (1418) stands in the center square between Palace Sponza and St. Blaise church. It symbolizes the wish for freedom of the Dubrovnik Republic (Libertas). The state decrees were proclaimed from the statue. The forearm of Orlando was the standard measure of the Ragusan cubit, lakat, shown more accurately by a line in the base.



### St. BLAISE CHURCH

St Blaise is a baroque church built in between 1705 and 1717 (to replace the building of 1368 that was lost by fire) by Venetian architect and sculptor M. Gropeli. The extended interior, modeled on San Maurizio in Venice, is rectangular with a central dome, and preserves some of the treasures from the earlier church. At the church's main altar there is the golden statue of St. Blaise (Sv. Vlaho) - patron of Dubrovnik holding a model of the Town from 16th C.



### CITY BELL TOWER

The elegant Bell Tower, 35m tall, dating from 1444, was broken down and rebuilt in 1928. The modern clock, with bronze jacks in the form of soldiers that strike the hour (Maro and Baro) is a faithful copy, with the addition of a figured time indicator, of one dating from 1478 (original can be seen in Sponza palace). The huge bell in the tower, over 2000 kilos in weight, is the only original detail from the first bell tower and was casted by Ivan Krstitelj Rabljanin (John the Baptist of Rab) in 1506. The adjoining Glavna Straža (Main Guard), incorporating a Gothic upper story of 1490 from the Ragusan admiral's house, was constructed in 1706-1708, when the baroque portal was inserted after the design by Marino Gropelli.



### RECTORS'S PALLACE

address: Pred dvorom 1, phone: +385 20 321 437  
open: 9 am -6 pm, entrance fee: 15 kn  
web: <http://www.mdc.hr/dubrovnik/>

Rectors Palace was the residence of the Dubrovnik's Republic Rector. It was built in a mixture of Gothic and Renaissance styles, probably due to two explosions that happened in 1435 and 1463, and the Great Earthquake in 1667, after which the Rector's Palace was badly damaged. Thereby, the reconstruction's were done by Onofrio di Giordana della Cava, Michelozzo and Juraj Dalmatinac (renaissance arcade - ground floor), Salvi di Michiele, Jerolim Skarpa of Korčula, Bogosalić, Bogojević, Grubačević (Gothic bifores at the first floor).



### CATHEDRAL

address: Kneza Damjana Jude 1, phone: +385 20 323 459  
8 am -8 pm, Sundays 11 am -5.30 pm, entrance fee: 5 kn

Dubrovnik's Cathedral stands in the center of Poljana Marin Držić, close to Rector's Palace. The first Dubrovnik Cathedral was built from the 12th to the 14th century in Romanesque style. It was destroyed in the Great Earthquake in 1667 and the present Cathedral was built on its place. The reconstruction of the Cathedral was done by Buffalini (1671), Andreotti, Napoli, and finally finished by Katičić in 1713.





### JESUIT CHURCH

Jezuite Street leads to the foot of the imposing staircase (modeled in 1738 on the 'Spanish Steps' in Rome) that mounts to Sv. Ignacija, the baroque church of the Jesuits, designed by A. Pozzo (1725) in imitation of the Gesu in Rome. The belfry boasts a bell cast in 1355. The focal point of the spacious interior is the apse painted by the Sicilian G. Garcia (1738).



### DOMINICAN MONASTERY

The Dominican Church was erected in 1315 but it was destroyed in the earthquake of 1667, to be rebuilt after that again. It is a mixture of Gothic and Renaissance styles. The plain interior consists of a huge single nave with a triple Gothic arch end opening into the sanctuary and two side chapels, the only part of the original building left. The church is decorated with stone household objects and a stone pulpit. The church walls are decorated with some masterpieces by famous painters e.g. 15th C Crucifixion by Paolo Veneziano; Virgin Mary and St. John by Lorenzo di Marino Dobričević (15th C); two altarpieces by Francesco di Maria (17th C); Miracle of St. Dominic by Vlaho Bukovac (a local 19th C work in the Sicilian manner).

The graceful late-Gothic Cloister, erected by local masons to a modified design of Maso di Bartolomeo of Florence, has interesting bosses in the vault and tomb slabs in the walls, but is somewhat marred by the over-clever interlaced ornament in alternate tympana and in the balustrade above. The cloister's garden is planted with orange trees. The Bell Tower, begun in 1390 and completed in 1531, in a curiously retarded Romanesque style, continued by the later baroque lantern.



## DUBROVNIC CITY MAP











## DUBROVNIC DETAILED OLD TOWN CITY MAP







## GREECE BACKGROUNDER

They are Europe's heaviest smokers (66% of the adult population smokes), they put on tracksuits just to watch sport on television, they have a reputation of agreeing to but ignoring EU regulations. We have already stolen democracy, the Olympics, and most of our words from them, but we still think there are a couple of things left that we'd like to get our hands on...



### GIFTS TO BUY FROM THE GREEKS.

- **Grecian urns** - ceramic, decorated or plain, replicas of helmets or swords.
- **Pure Olive Oil Soap** in decorative sack wrapping and Virgin Olive Oil in traditional bottles.
- **Komboloi** - Greek worry beads (Can be from amber, silver, gold ...etc) , Key rings of Greek symbols.
- **Jewelry** - Hellenic Gold inspired by the art and architecture of prehistoric classical Greece, up to the Byzantine era.
- **Bottle openers**, paper clips in bronze with various Greek motifs.
- Traditional style **table cloths**, cushion covers and rugs.
- Natural **Sea Sponge** from the Aegean Sea.
- A CD of traditional **Greek music** or a DVD with Greek sites, a Poster or Postcards of Greece, with stamps.
- **Leather jackets** or T-shirts with Greek Scenes.

### TEN TOP GIFTS TO BUY FROM THE GREEKS.

- **Time.** In Greece, GMT stands for Greek Maybe Time. Nothing is too urgent to require immediate attention. The siesta, which takes place between about 2pm and 5pm, is built into the day, and in many villages, the Sunday volta - or promenade in the French sense of the word - is still the highlight of the week, when villagers have a walk to pass the time of day and boys watch girls go by. The common sight of unfinished houses in Greece, with girders sticking out of the top floor, is a testament to the Greeks' relationship with the future; enough of the house is made ready for the family's present needs; when they need more room, they just build more.
- **Cinemas.** In summer, most cinemas in Greece are outdoors, and have bars selling whisky, cognac, ouzo and snacks. There is also an intermission halfway through the film so you can replenish your drinks and decide whether you are enjoying the movie. And the projectionist won't have to wait until the intermission for his cigarette - smoking is allowed throughout the show in Greek cinemas. Unlike other European countries, Greece does not dub foreign films into Greek but uses subtitles instead.
- **Coffee.** Known as Turkish coffee until 1974, when Turkey invaded Northern Cyprus, the coffee you get in Greece is not for the faint-hearted. The young in Greece prefer frappe, instant coffee with milk. In villages, the kafenion or local cafe is the local gossip point, where Greek men go to play Tavli - Backgammon. Until the early '80s, there were always at least two kafenions in every village, no matter how small it was. Each one was decorated with different colours, signalling the political leanings of the kafenion owner. This way you avoided political quarrels. In larger towns and cities, local coffee bars still deliver trays of coffee on foot to local businesses.
- **Eating habits.** Cross-generational dining, with grandma and small children of the same table, is always more entertaining even if it does take longer. But the Greeks aren't in a hurry where food is concerned, late night dining means sitting down to the evening meal no earlier than 9pm. Even on Sunday nights taverns are packed



until late. Eating alone is unheard of, so the solo diner will find it hard to get served. Meals in restaurants are paid for in cash, not credit cards or cheques, and Greeks always have enough money on them to pay for others.

- **Island hopping.** Greece has 227 inhabitable islands divided up into seven island groups: the Ionian Islands, the Dodecanese, Crete, the Cyclades, the Saronic, the North Eastern Aegean Islands and the Sporades. An impressively efficient ferry system operates between the island groups, and Greeks island-hop for weekends away. In fact, the islands may be the reason Greeks are so reluctant to holiday abroad, and who can blame them? August is best avoided by those who hate crowds.
- **Attempts at traffic solutions.** Instead of an administration-heavy congestion charge, Athens instituted a system of driving days a few years ago, whereby motorists can only use their cars every other day, as dictated by the last digit of their number plate. This was aimed at combating both congestion and pollution. Unfortunately, the canny Athenians got round the restriction by buying a second car (often second-hand and therefore more likely to pollute) with the opposite number plate. Nice try though. The Athens metro, another traffic solution, could be seen as the eighth wonder of the world, and not only because it's a wonder they ever finished it at all. Finally opened in January 2000, the new subway system looks like a museum. Check out the station under Syntagma Square for the highest concentration of ancient exhibits.
- **The luck of being born female.** Most Greek parents build a house for each daughter, but not for their sons as they are supposed to marry a girl who will get a house from her parents. Often it is also the daughter that inherits her parents' or grandparents' house when they die. Do expectant Greek parents pray for sons?
- **Plate Smashing.** The Greeks love to throw things. They throw carnations to singers and smash glasses and dishes when beautiful girls dance the zeibekiko or the hasapiko on the dance floor. Back in the '30s they used to throw knives - a sign of respect and manhood -- at dancers' feet. Due to injuries, that tradition gradually changed to the present-day plate-throwing tradition, which has stuck. Luckily the Greeks take their recycling seriously, so it's not a complete waste!
- **Wacky beliefs.** Superstitions and strong religious beliefs always make life more interesting. When Greeks move into a new house, the local priest comes over to exorcise and bless it. In Greece, Tuesday the 13th is the unlucky day (not Friday) because it is the day on which Constantinople fell to the 'Ottoman' Turks.
- **Periptera.** Incredibly useful street Kiosks that's open late and sell everything from tobacco to cold drinks, maps, newspapers, key rings, ice creams, worry beads, and hundreds of other things. It's always worth asking if they have something as they probably will! There are around 46, 000 of these kiosks in Greece.

## TAVLI - BACKGAMMON

Tavli is the favorite game of Greek men in the kafenion. The Greek word tavli is derived from word tavla, meaning board. The game is played on a board divided into two sections, each marked out with 12 narrow wedges or points in other words 24 wedges in all. Each player has 15 counters. Even though the moves are determined by a throw of the dice, tavli is certainly no game of chance, but a game of strategy based on a skill, intuition and a good deal of psychology. Three main versions are played in Greece. Portes (doors) is played more or less according to the familiar rules of backgammon. The second version is called plakoto (from the Greek word plakono, meaning to cover up). The third version is known as fevga (run or quick, get away). In all three games, the idea is to be the first one to get his counters from the starting position to the winning post.



## **The KAFENION**

The kafenion, the men's coffeehouse, is an alto together Greek institution. You used to see them everywhere, in the main square of every village, in every part of town and at every major city crossroads. Although they may have lost some of their importance in modern times, they still exist in the more rural areas, in small towns and on the islands. This is where the men meet up to talk about the harvest, complain about a bad crop, or grumble about the failure of Brussels' agricultural policy. Family tragedies and personal crises are discussed alongside politics. Anything and everything can be a potential topic of conversation. They argue, discuss, shout and make jokes. Anyone preferring quiet and contemplation can let his thoughts wander in rhythm with the komboloi beads running through his fingers. They sit over a cup of mocha coffee, a glass of water, or even a glass of wine or ouzo. There is no food available here, except perhaps for a bowl of peanuts to accompany the ouzo. Hours can slip by in this way before the men have finally seen, talked, played and drunk enough. Happy and content, they leave this exclusively male world in the knowledge that the kafenion will still be waiting for them in the same place tomorrow.

The kafenion is likely to be fairly sparsely furnished with simple chairs and tables, yet there is something enduring and timeless about it which has remained unchanged despite the great social changes within Greece. The classic kafenion has managed to maintain its role in Greek life in the face of the dynamic developments of the modern age. While cafes in the big towns have moved on to become meeting places for young people of both sexes, everything here has stayed pleasantly the same. Women do not feel they are missing out on anything in this male domain and they uphold it as part of the traditional role allocation.

## **KOMPOLOI - STRING OF BEADS**

The kompoloi, or string of beads, a familiar sight in the hands of many Greek men, originally came from the Orient. Once it arrived in Greece, it became a form of plaything, always with an uneven number of beads. The word komboloi incorporates the word kombos, meaning the "knot". The fascination and magic derived from these "knots" running through your fingers must come from the thoughts conjured up from playing with these beads.

The kompoloi is certainly more than just a mean of passing time. Once is almost tempted to say that it reflects a way of life. There is the sound of the beads clocking together, the feel of the smooth beads between your fingers, the hours that slip away while playing with the beads, including an almost trance-like state. There is one important, yet very basic lesson to be learned from playing with the kompoloi beads and that is that the circular string of beads symbolizes the belief that everything returns, nothing really ends: in other words, the belief in infinity.

## **PERIPTERON - KIOSK**

If there is one person in Greece who has found his heart's content, it is surely the man in the peripteron. Whether situated on the loud, hectic main road or in a sleepy suburb, all is still right with the world in a peripteron. Periptera are the smallest supermarkets imaginable. They consist of a hut with a roof, measuring one square yard inside, providing just enough room for one chair and stuffed to the ceiling with goods. There are just a few crates stacked on the floor waiting to be unpacked. No town or village would be complete without this institution. They include candies, drinks, ice creams, savory snacks, toys for the little ones and beads for the grown-ups, batteries, cigarettes, newspapers, tissues...napkins, knives, scissors, toilet articles and somehow, as if by magic, you always seem to find the very thing you forgot to buy elsewhere.



## GREEK FOOD

Even without tomatoes, potatoes, corn, peppers, lemons mandarins and oranges the Ancient Greeks had a very rich kitchen. Today they keep up with the Minoan traditions such as snails and wild goat in honey.

Tradition says that the Greeks eat more fish such as mackerel, sardine, whitebait and eel than meat. Athenians rich and poor, had a weakness for shellfish. In great demand was fish paste from Ellisponto and Efxino Ponto and lake Kopais. The people got used to eating sardines from Faliro and barley bread so every time prices increased the poor got worried. Vegetables, pulses and cereal were widely eaten by fans of Pythagoras and Platon amongst others, who were non flesh eaters.

Appearing on the table were cucumber, artichokes, courgettes, broad beans, onions, cabbage mushrooms beetroot, leeks, carrot, celery, beans, lentils, nettles and wheat and barley bread. An everyday diet included different kinds of meat such as hare, wild pig, rabbit venison, wild goat, birds and even domestic animals. They were baked, roasted, cooked on the spit and boiled with a variety of spices. Small birds were stuffed with spices as is still done to this day in Mani. Cheese and milk was always on the table but in cities it was a rarity. Wine was a necessity as was honey as sugar was then unknown.

Tradition says lamb on the spit began in ancient Greece where it was cooked at big celebrations. The word " ovelias" comes from the ancient word " ovelos" meaning spit. Ancient Greek religious festivals, in honor of Hermes, sacrificed a ram. Homer describes in the Iliad in detail how Achilles with the help of a friend skewered the animal.

Another tradition is that of festive bread. For each celebration a bread is baked using special ingredients and way of baking. **Tzatziki** (yogurt and garlic dip), **keftedes** (small walnut sized morsels made with meat), **teropitakia** (feta cheese pies), **taramosalata** (cod roe dip), **melitzanosalata** (aubergine dip), **dolmades** (stuffed vine leaves). There is of course the famous **Greek salad** (tomatoes, cucumbers, olives, feta cheese, drowned in olive oil and sprinkled with oregano) delicious eaten with freshly baked bread.

- The famous Greek salad: tomatoes with cucumbers, green peppers and onions. Sprinkle on the oregano and salt, and dress the salad with olive oil.
- Greeks eat loads of vegetables, they are abundant and inexpensive. They are also served on the "mezze" table as fried peppers, courgettes and aborigines. Many are casseroleed into delicious oily dishes of peas, onions and tomatoes or artichokes served in a delicious lemony sauce. Freshly cut salads are eaten with every meal and you can choose to your hearts desire.
- **Moussaka** is probably the best- known Greek dish. Aborigines, minced meat cooked in herbs and spices covered in béchamel. Best served with a crisp salad and crusty bread – not to be missed !
- Cheese (**tiri**): Most Greek cheeses are made from sheep's milk or goat's milk. Among them are **Agrafa** (a sheep's milk cheese reminiscent of Gruyere), **kopaniste**, (a highly spiced sheep's or goat's milk cheese), **misythra** (a milk curd cheese) and **anari** (a goat's milk cheese).
- Yogurt (**yaourti**), made from sheep's or goat's milk is also commonly found.
- Bread– **psomi**,
- butter– **voutiro**,
- salt – **alati**,
- pepper – **piperi**,







- sugar – **Zachary**,
- milk – **gala...**
- Soups (**soupes**): Greek soups are usually very substantial , and are often made with eggs and lemon juice. Fasolada is a popular thick bean soup. Others include pepper soup, with the addition of vegetables and meat and bouillon. **Kakavia** is a fish soup, made of various kinds of fish and seafood with onions, garlic and olive oil. There are also other excellent fish soups (**psarosoupes**).
- **Meat (kreas)**: The favorite kind of meat is lamb ( arne ) usually roasted or grilled.
- **Souvlakia** and doner kebab (meat grilled on the spit) are also popular.
- **Kokkoretsi** (lamb entrails roasted on the spit) are a popular dish in country areas and tavernas. Pork and beef is also served.
- Spaghetti with prawns and muscles - **Kalamarakia Tiganita** (Fried Squid) Fried Tope with Garlic Sauce ( **Galeos Tiganitos me Skordalia**) Fried Whitebait ( **Marides Tiganites**)
- Fish (**psari**) and seafood is also abundant on the menus: The commonest species of fish served include: sea bream (**sinagrida**, **tsipoura**, **lithrini**), plaice (**glossa**) cod (**bakaliaros**), red mullet (**barbouni**) and tuna (**tonos**).

Some choose to go to a **hasapotaverna** (a butcher's tavern) to eat charcoal grilled meat, mainly tiny succulent lamb or kid. In a **hasapotaverna** the meat is sold to the customers by weight, and while it is being grilled, the hungry Athenians devour all sorts of meze and salads in those vast restaurants that are usually packed during the weekends.



## TIME TO EAT

Enjoying meals together is an important part of Greek life. They would do so every day if it were possible, but every day commitments, particularly in the big cities, mean that there obviously has to be a compromise. On special occasions, however, there is no getting away from it : in the whole family, if not the entire village, sits down around the table. This is true of private celebrations, such as weddings, baptisms or funerals and is likewise the case on "official" religious holidays. The communal meal takes on special meaning, however, when it has been preceded by a long period of fasting and privation, as in the run-up to Easter. Not only is the occasion of having a meal together cause for celebration, but also the very fact of being able to eat normally again is reason to celebrate in itself. The tables groan under the weight of food and the talking and eating go on for hours.



## ANCIENT GREEK GLOSSARY

- **ABACUS** Ancient counting frame made up of small beads threaded on wires for mathematical calculations. It had beads which counted as 1, others had the value of 10 others, 100. By moving the beads around complicated multiplication and division could be achieved.
- **ACANTHUS** Plant with thick scalloped leaves that often adorn Greek art and architecture. The capital on a Corinthian column is covered with acanthus leaves, a favorite motif of Greek artists. (see also, CAPITAL, CORINTHIAN)
- **AGORA** Open market or a public space in ancient Greece. The word Agora drives from the word *ageiro* meaning *I gather*. In the beginning somebody spoke in an open space and people gathered around. Our modern term *agoraphobia*, meaning fear of public places, comes from this word.
- **AMPHORA** Two - handled jar with a narrow neck and sometimes a tapered base, designed for transporting or storing, olive oil or other liquid, special wine.
- **ANDRON** Small, domestic dinning room where men would entertain their male/ friends.
- **ASKLEPION** Religious sanctuary and Healing center dedicated to Asklepios, the god of medicine.
- **ASSEMBLY** Gathering of people and officials that controlled public life in ancient Athens. There had to be at least 6,000 present to make an Assembly, which decided on important matters of law and state.
- **ARYBALLOS** Perfume pot, usually made of pottery. These vessels were often in the shape of a fantasy creature or a real animal, such as a monkey or a hedgehog
- **ATLANTES** Carved male figure used as a column in classical architecture.
- **CAPITAL** The top section of an architectural column
- **CARYATID** Carved female figure used as a supporting column in classical architecture.
- **CHITON** Basic item of clothing for both man and women in ancient Greece. Chitons were made from two rectangles of fabric fastened at the shoulders and down the sides and tied at the waist.
- **COLONNADE** Line of columns supporting a row of arches, a roof, an upper story or the top part of a wall.
- **COLUMN** A slender, upright structure used in architecture to support an arch, a roof, an upper story or the top part of a wall. Most columns consist of a base, shaft (the main part) and capital (the decorative section at the top)
- **CITY-STATE** A conventional city that with its surrounding territory, is also an independent political state. Ancient Greece was made up of a number of independent city states like Athens, Corinth, Sparta ... and more
- **CORINTHIAN** One of three principal styles (or orders) in classical architecture, Corinthian columns fall between those of the Doric and Ionic orders in diameter and width of fluting and they have elaborate, bell - shaped capitals adorned with acanthus leaves.
- **COUNCIL** Five hundred strong legislative body that arranged the business of the Assembly. It met in a round building called the tholos.
- **CUIRASS/ BREASTPLATE** Body armor, usually made of bronze, worn by Greek soldiers to protect their back and chest. It was the main piece of body armor protecting all upper organs. Cuirasses were made to measure each man being specially fitted. The more expensive cuirasses would have ridges, roughly aligned to the body muscles, which were meant to deflect blows
- **DEMOS** A term variously used in ancient Greece to describe the citizens, their assemblies, or the lower classes.
- **DEMOCRACY** A system of government in which the people being governed have a voice, usually through elected representatives. It was invented in Athens. Meetings took place on a hill called the Pnyx near the Acropolis. Ordinary citizens, rich or poor, could make a speech and vote at the Assembly. Ancient Greece was made up of a number of independent city-states. There were very few rich people and a great number of poor. In early times, the rich landowners and leaders called tyrants controlled the poor. In Athens and some other city-states the tyrants were driven out by the people, who acquired power and freedom. This new form of government was called democracy.
- **DORIC** One of three principal styles (or orders) in classical architecture. Doric columns are solid with wide fluting and a plain round capital. They symbolized the male strength.





- **EKECHERIA** Every four years Greeks from all over the Greek world gathered in this sanctuary to participate in the Olympiada. A *sacred truce* was kept during the period of the games and attempts were made to settle wars and conflicts between the (poleis -cities) based on reasoning inspired by Zeus.
- **EMBLEM** The Athens 2004 Olympic Games' emblem is an olive wreath - the "**kotinos**" with which the Olympic winner was crowned in classical times. It is a symbol linked with the Olympic ideals, peace and the city of Athens, whose sacred tree was the olive tree. Its circular shape projects universal meanings of the unity of the world, the circle of life and the link between time past and present.
- **FRESCO** Wall painting applied to plaster when it is wet. Frescoes were popular in many warm countries until the Middle Ages.
- **FRIEZE** A deep band of decorative sculpture running along the upper part of a wall.
- **GYMNASIUM** A derivative of the word gymnos - nude. It was a place comprising sports grounds and buildings (including baths) where athletes exercised naked.
- **HOPLITE** Fully armed Greek foot soldier, from HOPLON, meaning shield. The hoplites should afford their own armour and weapons. **Helmet**s protected the head. They varied in shape and some had crests made of horse hair to make the wearer appear more impressive and frightening.
- **HIMATION** Outer cloak worn by ancient Greeks. This garment was traditionally pulled under the right arm and draped over the left shoulder.
- **HEROON** A temple or funerary monument dedicated to a hero, the offspring of a god and a human.
- **HETAERAE** Group of witty, beautiful women whose main function was to play music, dance and entertain men at dinner parties.
- **IONIC** One of three principal styles (or orders) in classical architecture. Ionic columns are slender with narrow fluting and a scrolled capital. They symbolize the female shape, as opposed to the Doric which symbolizes the male shape.
- **ORACLE** Sacred place where ancient Greeks could ask their gods, through a priestess, to give them advice or to foretell the future. The most famous oracle was that of Apollo at Delphi.
- **ORCHESTRA** Flat circular area where the actors and chorus performed in a Greek theatre. The first stone theatre ever built, and the birthplace of Greek tragedy, was the theatre of Dionysus, which was cut into the southern cliff face of the Acropolis.
- **PALAISTRA** Purpose designed building, smaller than a gymnasium, with dressing rooms and a sand covered courtyard where Greek boys were taught athletics and wrestling.
- **PANATHENAEA**: Ancient Greek festival held in honor of the goddess Athena, which culminated in a procession along the Panathenaic Way from Ceramicus up to the Parthenon, where the statue of Athena was presented with a new peplos.
- **PEDAGOGIES** Domestic slaves with particular responsibility for accompanying Greek boys to school.
- **PEDIMENT** Triangular gable end on a building, decorative architectural motif, also triangular, positioned above a door. It was usually decorated with sculptural compositions.
- **PERIPTERAL** A term describing a monument surrounded by a single row of columns.
- **STOA** Long colonnaded structure with a wall on one side, where people traditionally met to talk and conduct business.
- **SYMPOSIA** All male drinking parties. Small, private symposia were held in private homes, when numbers increased, public buildings would be used.
- **STRATEGOI** One of ten elected military leaders responsible for making decisions about the defense of ancient Athens or concerning its involvement in a war.
- **TRIEME** Fast warship powered by up to 170 oarsmen positioned over three levels on either side of the hull. The trireme was the most widely used warship in ancient Greece. A light hull ballasted with blocks of stone in the hold, had three decks which housed the banks of oarsmen, while the bridge accommodated the troops to be landed or, more often, ready to board enemy ships after they have been rammed. At the prow was a pointed ram strengthened with metal, which could sink enemy ships.
- **TYRANT** Absolute ruler of a Greek city - state who had usually seized power by force.





## CORFU (KERKYRA), GREECE [SHIP PORT]

Exotic scenery, magical colors, flaming sunsets, romantic moonlight, luxurious vegetation, (lush green even in the height of summer) a riot of radiant flowers and colorful blooms, centuries old silver olive groves, glowing oranges, scented lemons, rich pergolas, sleepy lagoons, forgotten coves, bubbling springs, exciting caves, virgin beaches, golden sands, and pellucid turquoise emerald seas -there is surely no other island in the whole universe to which these superlatives collectively apply.

Corfu is one of the most visually exciting regions of Greece with its variety of natural beauty – green woodlands, wild pine-covered mountains, lakes, cultivated fields and of course, miles of golden beaches. The localized nature of development in the region leaves you free to choose your level of pleasure from rural simplicity to the very best in sophisticated services. Corfu town is Venice and Naples, a touch of France and more than a dash of England, apart of course from being Greek. The town is a maze of narrow streets dominated by the 16th century fortress. Around every corner can you can find a chapel, old mansion or secret garden square. The café at the Liston: built by the French in the same style as those in Rue de Rivoli, Paris; is probably the place to 'people watch'. The narrow streets radiating off from the Liston, house small shops of every commercial nature. Dominated by the 'gold shops'. Corfiot craftsmen excel at designing and making Greek jewelry in gold. Among the bustle, look out for those shops and stalls selling local items like wild honey, fig cakes and handmade lace.



### MYTHICAL CORFU

The ancient inhabitants of Corfu were most probably descendents of the Phaeacians and Nafsika and King Alkinoos. The island has been inhabited since the Paleolithic Era. It was occupied originally by the Eretrians and then by the Corinthians, by whom the island was named Korkyra, after the daughter of the river-god Esopos.

### ANCIENT TIMES

During the Corinthian occupation, Corfu (Kerkyra, Korfu) became a large commercial and naval power of the ancient world and produced many notable works of art. In 585 BC, the island recovered its independence from Corinth. It contributed 60 triremes to Persian War battles. Later the alliance of Corfu with Athens during the Peloponnesian War in 431 - 404 BC led to the island's eventual decline. In order to protect itself against pirates, Corfu (Kerkyra) voluntarily accepted Roman sovereignty, which lasted up to 337 AD. The island converted to Christianity around the 1st century AD.

### THE MEDIEVAL ERA

Following the division of the Roman Empire, Corfu joined the Eastern Roman Empire in 395 AD. The island at various times during the Medieval Ages, was plundered by the Huns, Vandals, Goths and Arabs. These raids devastated Corfu and resulted in the Corfiots moving to more secure grounds, a naturally fortified location between two rocks, from which the name Corfu was derived (Koryfi means peak in Greek). Later the island was occupied by the Normans and was eventually liberated by the Byzantine Emperor Emmanuel I Komninos.

### VENETIAN RULE – THE DESPOT OF EPIRUS – THE ANJOU RULE

In 1204, the Venetians laid claim to Corfu (Kerkyra) after the conquest of the Byzantine Empire by the 4th Crusade. In 1214, the island was recaptured by Michael I Aggelos Komninos, Despot of Epirus, who restored the old privileges of the





inhabitants and reinforced the island's fortifications until 1258-1259, when the region was ceded by Duke Michael II to his son in law Manfred. The battle of Beneventum and the Treaty of Viterbo resulted in the transfer of the island to Charles I of Anjou for the next 120 years. Charles I of Anjou had many anti-orthodox feelings and replaced the Orthodox churches with Catholic churches. More and more people were gathering in the basin between the two hills, seeking protection and refuge. It was during this time that the Old Fortress was constructed .

In the second half of the 14th century, the island once more sought the protection of Venice, which bought the island from Naples and undertook to defend it for the next 412 years. The Venetian administration was carried out by short-term members of a council that was appointed by Venice. During this period the Byzantine fortifications were further reinforced. The island was besieged by Turkish forces in 1537. Many acres of cultivated land were destroyed and at least 20,000 inhabitants were killed. The island though, was not captured due to its great defense.

#### THE FIRST FRENCH RULE

From 1576 to 1645, the New Fortress was constructed on the hill of St. Marcus. The fortress included some of the most powerful and advanced defensive constructions. The fortifications were again reinforced in the 17th century with the building of a second wall. In July 1716, a Turkish fleet besieged the island but the Turkish forces were repelled by the Venetians.

#### THE RUSSIAN RULE

In 1797, Napoleon Bonaparte took over the administration of Corfu (Kerkyra) along with the other Ionian Islands. French occupation brought with it the ideas of the French Revolution. A municipal council was instituted, headed by Spyridon Theotokis. During this occupation, a municipal library was established, the police force, the judicial system and the educational system were reorganized for the better, and the first Greek printing press was established.

#### THE SECOND FRENCH RULE

In 1799 the island came under the control of the Russian Admiral Ushakov, while the Septinsular Republic Constitution was implemented in 1800. Corfu (Korfu) then became the first Greek State to be recognized as a semi-autonomous republic since 1453. During this period, the Orthodox Bishop of Corfu was reinstated. In 1807, with the Treaty of Tilsit, the 7 Ionian Islands were ceded to Napoleon again, who also continued the reinforcement of the fortifications to counteract a possible British attack. The French improved the stylistic appearance of the city by planting trees on Splanada Square and the Liston Promenade, in the style of the Rue de Rivoli in Paris. They introduced the cultivation of potatoes and the vaccination of citizens, founded the School of French Art and the Ionian Academy in 1808, the first university of Modern Greece .

#### THE BRITISH RULE

In 1814, the French surrendered Corfu to the British. In 1815 the Congress of Vienna recognized the Ionian Islands as an independent state under the protection of Great Britain. During the British administration, the infrastructure was improved, the Greek language was established as the official language of the island, the Constitution was amended to include freedom of press and various literary and financial societies were founded.

#### THE UNIFICATION OF CORFU WITH GREECE – MODERN DAY CORFU

Corfu (Kerkyra) and the Ionian Islands were united with Greece on May 21st, 1864 by a decision of the Ionian Parliament and the ratification of the British Government. Soldiers of Corfu participated with distinction in the Balkan Wars, WWI and WWII. In September 1943, the Nazis bombarded Corfu , causing considerable damage to the island. The Nazi occupation was terminated on October 9th, 1944. Since then, Corfu (Kerkyra) has worked on developing its natural resources and tourism, becoming one of Greece's most prosperous islands and most popular tourism destinations.



## KERKYRA (CORFU TOWN)

Corfu town (Kerkyra) is the pretty, cosmopolitan capital of the island of Corfu, dominated by the striking images of the old fort, separated from the mainland by a narrow channel and flanked by yacht and fishing harbors, and the church of St Spyridon, a domed church that houses the remains of the island's patron saint. With a small beach and easy access to surrounding areas of historical and aesthetic interest, this is the place to visit to experience a mixture of cultural influences and to combine sightseeing with a good dose of relaxation. Mon Repos is the main town beach and is a small patch of sand with a cafe. Beyond the town, some of the best beaches of the whole archipelago, ranging from long sandy stretches to pretty shingle bays, wait to welcome you. Kerkyra is a great place to find excellent seafood and the best place to go is the Garitsa seafront, where there are plenty of fine restaurants. The Liston is a good place to go for lunch with a view of the Esplanade, although prices can be high.



With numerous bars and restaurants, there is a lot to keep tourists happy in Kerkyra town. Most of the discos are situated in a small area a couple of kilometres north of the town and are frequented by locals and tourists alike. There are quieter options dotted about the town including the open-air cinema which shows mainly English-language films. There is a commercial centre slightly inland and away from the old town, although this is a much more interesting place to shop. Try not to get lost shopping for the local olive wood items and jewelry that can be found here. An old morning market selling fish and farm produce can be found near the New Fort. For a spot of sightseeing, you don't need to step outside of the resort. The Old Town is the most interesting place to visit and huddles around a great central esplanade with public gardens and a cricket ground providing a pleasant escape for locals and tourists alike. The British influence is evident in grand municipal buildings, while the French made their mark with the Liston, an archaded block overlooking the esplanade that provides the perfect venue for a sip of ginger beer beneath the arches. 18th-century Venetian architecture is evident in the winding streets of the old town where colorful shops draw the attention below and the week's washing hangs from balconies high above.

Corfu town, especially in its oldest part, is one of the most charming and romantic places of the modern Greece. A perfect example of ancient Venetian and Byzantine art that will be able to fascinate you with its secret little streets and its panoramic points. Surrounded by the sea, the old town of Kerkyra is closed between the two ancient fortresses.

When you come by ferry boat, the humidity of the sea seems to hide Corfu town to reveal only at the last moment the old houses. The old Corfu town, built in the past between the two fortresses, has been developed with high buildings as consequence of the increasing number of the population. All these houses, one next to the other, have been realized with local stones, with wooden attics and handmade tiles. Fortunately the number of buildings damaged by the Second World War is not so big, and today the charm of the old town of Corfu is preserved and can still give us the romantic view of an ancient time.





Corfu island, for its strategic position into the Mediterranean sea, during its history has been always found interesting by many conquerors. These have always left here something we can see today in many historical sites and in Corfu town buildings. More than a single house, you will appreciate them all together, especially during and after the sunset. It will be an unforgettable experience to spend hours and hours just walking up and down along thousand of small paved streets, looking around to discover the old town secrets and to buy something to bring back home. You'll visit Kerkyra walking between high old houses, you will buy traditional products in ancient cellars, surrounded by stone staircases, old Venetian wells and hidden gardens.

Every single building, every single street will appear like an open museum, but the joy of life of the local people in Corfu will remember you that the old town is also full of life and full of surprises. The paved street and the ancient buildings seem to be built to introduce the large beautiful Esplanade and the romantic gallery of Liston; something you can't miss to visit.

The Esplanade of the old Corfu town is a large green area between the town and the old fortress. Its name comes from the complete absence of buildings that was important during the past to defend the town from foreign enemies. Today a large part of Corfu's Esplanade is changed into a beautiful public park full of trees and garden seats, while a small part of the Esplanade still hosts the old English cricket field. Along the west side of the Esplanade there's also a marvelous building that reminds us the old French occupation; the Liston.



The Liston of Kerkyra has been built by the French engineer Lesseps that to build it took inspiration from the Rue Rivoli in Paris. The Liston with its nice gallery full of coffee shops and restaurants is today the hearth of the social life in Corfu. Due to the ancient English domination, near the Esplanade, on the north side, there's also the Royal Palace of Corfu, called also St. Michele and St. Giorgio palace. Built in 1820 under G. Whithmore Army General this is the only Georgian art example in all the Mediterranean area. Used in the past first from English and then from the Greek Royal Family, today it hosts the Museum of Asiatic Arts, the Historical Archive and the Classic Relics Authority of Corfu. If you pass from here at sunset time, we like to suggest you an amazing walk that starts from the St. Giorgios Arch, next to the Corfu Royal Palace. As you will pass the great arch, you have just to follow the road that runs alongside the sea and will take you down to the entrance of the old town of Corfu. This road follows the ancient walls of Kerkyra, a marvelous sunset will be in front of you and you will pass near historical buildings like the church of Panaghia "Antivouniotissa", the Byzantine museum, the old port and the ancient arch of St. Nicholas.



## CORFU SIGHTSEEING

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### Achillion

Achillion was built from 1888 to 1891 by the Italian architect Kardilo, on behalf of **Elisabeth**, Empress of Austria. It is situated near the village of Gastouri, where, in former times, the mansion of the philosopher Petros Armenis Vrailas stood. The construction was built in the architectural style of Pompeii, although it includes elements of the Ionic, Roman and Aeolic traditions. The castle was called "Achillion" in honour of Achilles, whom the Empress admired. After her death in 1898, Achillion was not inhabited for nine years, until its purchase by the Emperor of Germany Wilhelm II, in 1907.



The Kaiser made several alterations inside and outside the palace. He removed the two statues of Achilles, built a building, which he named the House of the Knights, in order to house his battalion, and he rearranged the gardens. During the World Wars, the palace was used as a hospital and a headquarters. After World War II, Achillion became a public estate. Inside the palace, one can admire beautiful paintings by Italian and Austrian painters, the most impressive being the paintings of Aggelos Gialinas, a painter from Corfu. The most remarkable mural is the fresco of the reception chamber showing Achilles dragging the dead body of Hector in front of the Trojan walls. In the chambers, one can admire the personal belongings of Elisabeth and Wilhelm B', furniture, jewels, etc. There are also exhibits of statues representing heroes from ancient Greek history and mythology, as well as portraits and pots. The decoration of the Catholic chapel housed in the palace is also of striking beauty. Scattered between the beautifully decorated gardens and the fountains stand the beautiful statues of the Nine Muses and ancient Greek philosophers, as well as a large statue of Achilles, created in 1909 by the German sculptor Goetz, ordered by Wilhelm B'. The most impressive of all is the statue of "Achilles dying" created by the German sculptor Earnest Gustav Herter. Another building in Achillion was used to house the carriage drivers, the carriages, and the horses.

### Aggelokastro

The Byzantine fortress known as Aggelokastro (Castle of Angels) is situated near the Krini, opposite Palaiokastritsa, at an altitude of 330 m (990 ft). It was built in the 13th century by Michael Angelo B' the son of Epirus's archbishop Michael Angelo ?'. Tradition says that the founder was looking for the most dangerous and the steepest rock, to build upon it an impregnable fortress. Thus, he came across the area of Aggelokastro where there stood a fortress, courtesy of the archbishop of Epirus. The fort's purpose was to protect the inhabitants from the pirates of Africa and the Venetians. For a while it served as the island's capital as the governor lived there. From the castle, they fought successfully against the pirates of Genoa in 1403. The castle's entrance is an arched gate, but inside there are only ruins of the chambers and the storage rooms. In a dark cave, there is a church dedicated to the archangels Michael and Gabriel, where one can admire a remarkable fresco of the Virgin Mary.

### Gardiki Fortress

This Byzantine fortress stands on a hill between Agios Mathaios and Messogi. It is said to have been built by Michael Angelo B'. The only reminder of the castle are ruins dating back to the 13th century. The fortress consists of eight strong towers creating its octagonal shape. The excavations in the surrounding area shed light upon the tools used in the Palaeolithic Era.





### **Kanoni**

World famous Kanoni is situated south of the Palaiopoli peninsula. It was named Kanoni (cannon) after the battery of artillery established by the French in 1798. One of the battery's cannons still stands at the tourist kiosk. In front of Kanoni is the Monastery of Vlaherna, linked to the mainland by a cement dock and built in the 17th century. From there one can visit Pontikonissi. According to legend, this was the ship of Phaiakes which, after taking Ulysses to Ithaki, was petrified. Another legend claims that this is the rock where Ulysses crashed because of a storm. On the island of Pontikonissi stands the Byzantine chapel of Pandokrator. The spectacular view from Kanoni inspired the German painter Becklin to draw "The Island of the Dead." This location is one of the most charming parts of the island, and it has always been the place where all of the island's inhabitants love to promenade.



### **Mon Repo**

Mon Repo stands where the ancient city used to be, 3 km south of the capital. It was built on a very large estate in 1831. It was initially a summer residence for the English high commissioner F. Adam. Later it became the summer residence for the Greek royal family. In the area surrounding Mon Repo, there were two discoveries: in 1822, the temple of Asclepius (6th century BC), and in 1912-1914, the altar of the Goddess Diana (7th century BC). At Mon Repo one can see a beautiful view from the hill of Analipsi, the ruins of the ancient city, and the basilica of Palaiopolis. The beach at Mon Repo is lovely, attracting many tourists during the summer.

Some information about the basilica, a sightseeing in itself, would be helpful: The basilica, the only Byzantine monument of Mon Repos was built in the 5th century A.D. by the bishop Jovian, on the ruins of a Roman odeum. It was destroyed several times: by the Vandals and Goths in the 6th century, by the Saracenes and the Normans in the 11th century, by the Turks in 1537 and, finally, in the Second World War. It was rebuilt twice: after its destruction in the 11th century, with three aisles and a narthex, and again, in 1680, by the Cretan monk Arsenios Caloudis.

In 1968, all the early Christian architectural parts, parapets, capitals etc., were collected and stored in the Old Palace Museum. The mosaics of the church were restored in 1960 and 1969.

### **Monastery of Panayia Palaeokastritsa**

This monastery for men was built in 1228 AD on the peak of Palaiokastritsa's hill. The monastery's church, courtyard, and monks' cells were built after its establishment, around the 18th century. The monastery owns a small but valuable collection of Byzantine and post-Byzantine icons, holy books, holy utensils, and vestments.





### **Monastery of Platytera**

The monastery of Platytera was built in the 18th century BC in Corfu's suburb, Mandouki. The monastery was renovated after its destruction by the French in 1799, during the Francorussian - Turk war. In the church's interior, one can admire the wood-carved icon stand made by Nikolaos Koutouzis, valuable icons from the Ionian and Cretan Art School, and paintings of post-Byzantine art, such as the "Last Supper" and the "Lavatory" by Nikolaos Kandounis, the "Apocalypse" by Theodoros Poulakis, the "Virgin Mary Holding an Infant" by Emanuel Tzane, and "Doomsday" by Klotzas. In the area, one can also visit the grave of Ioannis Kapodistias, Greece's one-time Governor, and the grave of Fotis Tzavelas, a brave Greek fighter during the Greek Revolution.

### **Panagia ton Xenon**

This three-nave basilica was built in the island's capital. At first it belonged to the Epirotes, who came to the island having been persecuted by the Turks. The church's interior is unique due to the valuable icons, utensils and votive offerings, most of which were transferred here from churches at Epirus. The icons, created by Tzanes, are remarkable, and the same applies to the church's hagiographies, painted by N. Kountouzis in the 18th century.

### **Roman Spas**

The village of Benitses is situated 13.5 km south of Kerkira. Near the village, on a private estate, traces of Roman spas have been found. According to studies, during the Roman Era the area was a resort, exclusively for the wealthy Roman conquerors and their families. Today the area is one of the islands most majestic resorts.

### **Ancient Kerkira**

Ancient Kerkira was discovered during the demolition of the Venetian fortress of San Salvatore in 1843, in the area which the locals call Palaïopolis, on the peninsula ending at Kanoni. It was established under the name of Chersoupolis, by the Corinthians in the 8th century BC. The wall (4th century BC) surrounding the city from three sides, was built in such way so as to be surrounded by the port of Alkinoos (the current bay of Garitsa) to the north, the Lagoon of Chalkiopoulos, also known as the bay of Chelaïos, to the west, and the sea of Mon Repo, to the east. The market of the city was built north of the current bay of Garitsa. The acropolis was built on the present position of Analipsi. The only existing tower of the wall was situated at the entrance to the port of Alkinoos, while today it is the foundation of the church of Agios Athanasios. Not far from the cemetery, one can see the tower of Neratziha where the church of Virgin Mary stood and also preserved the statue. This is also the area of the ancient aqueduct. In the area of Garitsa, archaeologists have discovered traces of tombs of the Archaic and Classical eras, which were part of the town's ancient cemetery. Among them, the most significant is the statue of Menekratis. The town's fleet sought refuge in the well-protected port of the bay of Chelaïos. The bay's entrance was formed by the two islets of the church of Vlaherna, along with green Pontikonissi which is opposite. The town was characterized by scattered temples of all sizes, built by the first inhabitants from Corinth and Evoia. The largest and most significant temples, built in the 7th and 6th century BC, are the Temple of Hera, Diana and Kardaki -built in honour of Apollo- and the Temple of Dionysus. Relics and findings from these temples are exhibited in the local Archaeological Museum.



### The Archaeological Museum

The Archaeological Museum of Corfu is located on Vraila Street, near the seaside highway of Garitsa. The most significant archaeological finds of the island are kept here, which were first exhibited in the Museum of the Palaces, in days gone by. The most interesting of these exhibits is the western stone pediment of Gorgo (17 m. wide and over 3 m. tall) and part of the temple of Diana (590-580 BC), constructed by a Corinthian artist. The oldest Greek pediment, still in existence, represents the winged Gorgo surrounded by snakes, her two children Pegasus and Chrysaor (according to myth, they were born from her blood after her decapitation by Perseus) and two lion-panthers, while on the sides one can see representations of the Battles of the Titans. One can also admire the findings of the Neo-Lithic Era, from Sidari, which include pots, utensils, and the representations of the lionhead from the Temple of Hera (7th century BC). Other interesting exhibits are the archaic lion (7th century BC), discovered near the statue of Menekratis, as well as a livid sink from Attica (6th century BC). Among others, there are remarkable finds from the tombs of Garitsa (7th - 6th century BC), the Temple of Roses (5th century BC), the Temple of Diana at Kanoni (480 BC), Mon Repo (among them the Kouros Head in the photo: It is made of Kerkyraean poros and was found in 1966, during excavations here. Dated to 535-530 B.C.), and the Temple of Apollo; statuettes of typical ancient craftwork; objects made of copper and ivory; a tombstone praising the ancient hero Arnias; the capital of the column of Xembaros (6th century BC); as well as coins, the most significant being the one depicting a cow, released after the liberation of Corfu from the Corinthians.



### The Church of Agios Spyridonas

The church of Agios Spyridonas is dedicated to the patron saint of the island of Corfu. It was built in 1589, in order to replace the older church of Sorokos which was demolished because of the construction of the walls of the town. Saint Spyridonas took part in the Ecumenical Synod A', which took place in Nice (325 AD). On the exterior of the church there is a tall, castellated bell-tower with a clock which resembles the one of the church of Agios Georgios in Venice. Inside the church there is a temple which the architect M. Mawers made of Kararas and Paros in marble. The most valuable treasure of the church is the golden shrine made in Venice in which Saint Spyridonas's remains are kept. At first these remains were kept in Constantinople, but after its fall, they were transferred to the island of Corfu.







### **The Museum of Asian Art**

The Museum of Asian Art is housed in the Palace of Saints Michael and George, in the town of Kerkira. The Museum is unique throughout Greece, and the exhibits were originally from China, Japan, Korea, Tibet, Nepal, India, Pakistan, and Siam. Most of the current exhibits were collected by the diplomats Manou, Siniosoglou, Almonahou, and the ambassador N. Hatzivassiliou. Among the exhibits, there are Chinese works of all Chinese eras: The Sheang era (1,500-1,027 BC), the Chehou era (1,027-221 BC), the Han era (221 BC-220 AD), the Soung dynasty (960-1,279 AD), the Ming dynasty (1,368-1,644 AD), and from Kamakoura era (1,192-1,338 AD). The most significant exhibits include the infamous copper cauldron used for worshipping rites from the Ming dynasty, tomb statues from the Tang dynasty, a wooden Japanese statue of a temple's guard, and facades from the Japanese theater, Noh.

### **The New Fortress-Fortress of Agios Markos**

This fortress stands on the hill of Agios Markos, where the old harbor used to be. It was built by the Venetians (1576-1589). Later, the French and the English made alterations and improvements. The fortress consisted of two ramparts and two castles. On the left, there was the rampart of Sarandaris and the rampart of Agios Athanassios, both linked to the castle by a triple wall. The two fortresses, the Old and the New, were linked by an underground arcade and a rampart wall which surrounded the area of the contemporary city. The New Fortress had access to its ramparts through corridors, tunnels and underground arcades. Today there are only two gates left standing with the emblem of St Markos' lion. The new fortress's fortification played a significant defensive role, even in recent wars, as its arcades were used as refuge for the people. The fortress is famous for its architecture.

### **The Old Fortress**

The Old Fortress is situated on an islet and is joined with the town by a cement bridge which used to be wooden and movable. Before the bridge, one can admire the marble statue of German Field Marshal Schulenburg, who bravely defended the island during the Turkish siege in 1716. It was carved by the Italian sculptor A. Corradini, during the Venetian Rule, and it was originally housed in the fortress. Between the Old Fortress and the town lies the canal of Contra Fossa (150 m. long, 10-15 m. wide), with the Stands of Saborniano and Martinego. The construction of the building began with the Venetians, after the Turkish siege in 1537, and was completed in 1588. It had four gates and two peaks (Korifes), thus the island was named Corfu. The first peak (51 m. high) was built by the Byzantines and was called "Castell del Mar," alias "Castell Vecchio," while the second peak (65 m. high) was built by the Venetians and was called "Castell di Terra," alias "Castell Nuovo." The Venetians extended the city beyond the fortress, while in the interior they built arches, prisons, storage rooms, and new buildings for the soldiers, the nobles, and the politicians. The new town called for a new fortification and a new fortress. The underground arches of the fortress prove the theory that it was linked underground to the opposite islet of Pthia (alias Vido). Today, one can still see the ruins of the Venetian walls, the additional fortifications built by the English, the clock tower, the Doric buildings, and the church of Agios Georgios, built in 1840 during the English occupation.







### The Palaces of St. Michael & St. George

These palaces, built in the architectural style popular during King George's reign, are situated near Spiniada Square. They were built by the English major S. Whitmore. The English began the construction in 1819 and concluded it in 1823. The palaces were built to be used as residence for the English high commissioner. Later, they housed the headquarters of the Monasterial Battalion of St Michael and St George, which was founded in 1818 by distinguished English employees of the colony on the Ionian islands. Later on, from 1864 to 1913, the palaces were used as a royal summer residence. Today the palaces house the Public Library, the Archaeological Service, and the Museum of Asian Art which was donated by the Manou family. Inside the building, the chambers are decorated with carved mythological representations of the Ionian island, created by Prosalentis. There are also lavish chandeliers, and the windows exhibit the medals that St Michael and St George won. In the beautifully decorated gardens, the statue of the English high commissioner F. Adam is a dominating figure.

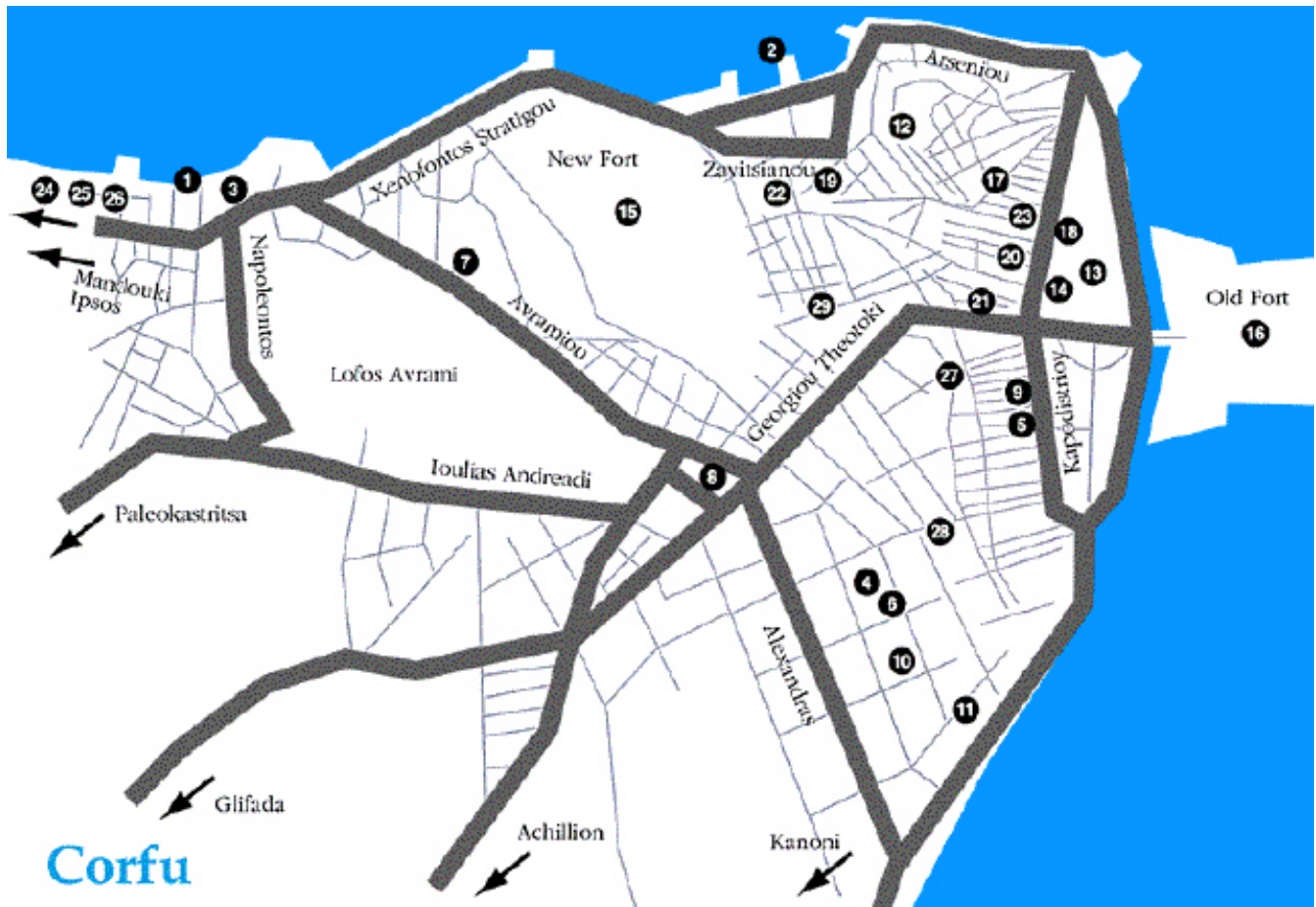
### The Town Hall

The Town Hall stands near Spiniada Square at Evgeniou Voulgari Street. The construction began in 1663 AD by the Venetians, and it was completed in 1693. It is a Renaissance stone construction with carved walls. Among the interior's carved representations, the most prominent one, placed in 1691, is the bust of Morozini surrounded by four children-symbols of his virtues. In the beginning, the building was a lodge for the nobles (Loggia Nobilei) and a club for the Venetian fleet's officers. In 1720, one of the most significant Greek theaters was housed here, called "San Giacomo" because of the neighboring catholic church of the same name built in 1632. Ever since 1903 AD, the building has been used as a Town Hall, where the town's new theater is also housed.





## CORFU MAP



### Important Places

1. Fleet Landing Mandouki
2. Fleet Landing Old Port
3. OTE Center Mandouki Harbor
4. OTE Main Telephone Center
5. OTE Telephone Center
6. Main Post Office
7. Long Distance Bus Terminal
8. Local Bus Terminal
9. Express Travel
10. Tennis Club

### Sights/shopping

11. Archaeological Museum
12. Corfu Cathedral
13. Esplanade
14. Liston
15. New Fort
16. Old Fort
17. Ag. Spyridon Church

### Dining Out

18. Aegli
19. Averhof
20. Chrisomalis
21. Goody's Food
22. Naftico
23. Rex

### Nightlife

- (Mandouki)
24. Apocalypse
  25. NV
  26. Hippodrome

### Worship

27. Catholic Cathedral
28. Holy Trinity Church
29. Jewish Synagogue



## KATÁKOLON, GREECE [SHIP PORT]

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Katakolon (or Katakolo) is a small port town in the northern Peloponnese. Once a busy commercial port, its main draw is for cruise-ship passengers on the way to ancient Olympia, which is 30 km (18 mi) to the east. The port area itself has been improved in recent years. Tourist shops now fill the once-dilapidated warehouses across from the pier, and many restaurants and cafés offer a view of the Ionian sea to go with their menus of fresh seafood and strong Greek coffee. You can also walk out to the lighthouse, which dates to 1865.



## OLYMPIA, GREECE [DAY TRIP]

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Olympia represents one of the top 3 most important mythological places in traditional Greece. The Olympic Games originated here and, according to the Hellenic tradition described by the Greek poet Pindar, their origin is in honor of Pelope, a legendary character, after whom the Peloponnese was named. In the beginning the Games were composed of few disciplines, deriving from military arts characterized by loyalty and courage and lasted just one day often interrupted by religious ceremonies.



Subsequently the celebration of the Olympic Games, every four years at the summer solstice, lasted for a few weeks and at this time all conflicts had to be suspended to enable the performance of the games. The ceremony was strict. Women, except for Hera priestesses were not allowed, upon punishment of death. All competitors had to be Greek. The winners (at the time there were no sponsors or money compensation) were awarded by public triumph, they were included in a golden register engraved in stone and a life size statue was erected.

After over 1200 years of continued history, the Olympic Games were stopped in 393 AD by Theodosius I and started again in Athens in 1896 upon initiative of the French Baron Pierre de Coubertin. Life in Olympia takes place around the sacred walls of the Sanctuary where all the temples and religious buildings are situated. Olympia was discovered in 1776, but the most important excavations are recent. Zeus' temple was entirely brought to light by German archaeologists who succeeded in reconstructing part of the front and side columns collecting the statues of Greek winners, votive offerings and small temples damaged by a series of earthquakes unfortunately frequent in the past.



The stadium is very impressive, with an audience capacity of up to 45,000. Several votive offerings were found here, and among them Miltiades helmets after Athens victory in Marathon. It is still possible to see the starting and finishing lines of the races in the stadium. All archaeological finds are preserved in the Museum.



## OLYMPIA

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In the west of the Peloponnese, 16 km inland from the Ionian Sea, the main road out of Pyrgos leads into legendary Olympia. In a peaceful and luxuriant valley at the confluence of the rivers **Alpheus** and **Cladeus**, the vast archaeological site of Olympia stretches over the lower slopes of a hill covered with pines and olive trees that fill the air with fragrance on hot summer days.

The modern village of Ancient Olympia lies on a hill, near the remains of the magnificent and glorious structures of Olympia. Population: 1,812 inhabitants. Here is also the Museum of the Modern Olympic Games, with many choice items from the Modern Olympic Games on display (torches, stamps, and so on).

### *History and Mythology*

The first Olympic Games were held in 776 BC, after the Descent of the Dorians to southern Greece and after the worship of Zeus had started to spread. It was a king of Elis, Iphitos, who established that the Games were to be held every four years. Athletes came to Olympia from towns on the Greek mainland - and later on from Ionia and Sicily to compete at Olympia for four days. At first there were only half a dozen sports, but in the fifth century BC they increased to thirteen. The prize was a kotinos, or wreath of intertwined olive branches, and it was a prize that any athlete or city longed to win.

The heyday of the Olympic Games was from the sixth to the fourth century BC. The institution of the Sacred truce meant that city-states temporarily ceased hostilities, which helped them settle their disputes and realize the unity of the Hellenic nation. It was a major religious, cultural and sporting centre, a pole of attraction for **Hellenism**, and the bond that linked motherland Greece with the colonies of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. The celebrations at Games-time lent the city religious splendor and influence until the 4th century BC. The sanctuary of Olympia was pillaged by the Romans in 74 BC in the course of their conquest of Greece. The Games lost their glory and the main purpose under Hadrian. Thereafter, Olympia played neither a religious nor a political role and the crowds filled the stadium from curiosity, not from faith or respect. The Games went on until 393 AD, a year before Theodosios II The Great prohibited Pagan festivals. In 426 AD, Theodosios ordered the destruction of all pagan temples. In the following years, an earthquake, fire and pillage completed his work. The first excavations - by the French scientific mission of Blouet and Dubois in May 1829 revealed the exact position of the temple of Zeus. In 1875, the Greek Parliament ratified an agreement with the German Archaeological Institute, authorizing them to undertake the excavations, which are still under way.

The ancient sanctuary of **Zeus** was the place where all ancient Greeks abandoned the politic rivalries of their city-states and were united in worship of the gods as they celebrated their common ethnic and cultural roots. The Olympic games probably began as a local funerary celebration in honour of **Pelops**. The Greeks believed that **Herakles** had laid down the regulations for the Games and had specified the length of the stadion as 600 feet (183 m). The first historical reference to the Games in **776 BC**. when a treaty between kings **Iphitos** of Elis and **Lykourgos** of Sparta provided for an Olympic truce (**ekecheiria**) during the summer Games. From 776 BC. onwards lists were kept of the winners in the foot - race round the Stadion, giving rise to the Greek method of chronological reckoning by olympiads.





*In the entrance hall of the museum is an interesting model of ancient Olympia*

Every four years Greeks from all over the Greek world gathered in this sanctuary to participate in the **Olympiada**. A sacred truce was kept during the period of the games and attempts were made to settle wars and conflicts between the (poleis -cities) based on reasoning inspired by Zeus. They were finally banned by the Emperor **Theodosius**, and came to an end in **AD 393** after an existence of more than a thousand years. A direct consequence was the revival of the Olympic Games by **Baron Pierre de Coubertin**, the first modern Games being held in **Athens** in **1896**. The opening ceremony of the Olympic Games is marked with the arrival of the **Olympic flame** which is taken on every occasion from Olympia, Greece, the original site of the Olympic Games.

A visit to **Olympia** is, above all, an opportunity to enjoy an exceptional chronological review of art architecture. Over the centuries a collection of temples, altars and votive monuments accumulated:

- **Gymnasium:** It was built in the Hellenistic era (3c BC).
- **Palaestra:** The double colonnade of the porticoes, some of which has recently been re-erected, make it possible to envisage the Hellenistic palaestra, a sports arena. The athletes, particularly the wrestlers, trained in the courtyard and bathed or anointed themselves with oil in the surrounding rooms.
- **Heroon:** The building, which dates from the 6c BC, consists of a single circular room, where there was an altar dedicated to an unknown hero.
- **Theokoleon:** The residence of priests (theokoloi) of Olympia.
- **Ergastirio Fidia:** The excavations of 1955-58 revealed the rectangular plan of the studio which was specially built for the sculptor Phidias to work on his statue of Zeus. Later a Byzantine church was constructed in the ruins of Phidias' studio.
- **Leonidaion:** The ground plan of this huge hostel is reasonably clear. It was built in the 4c BC by a certain Leonidas from Naxos. It consists of four ranges of rooms set around an atrium with a circular pool in the centre added by the Romans.
- **Bouleuterion:** where the members of the council which administered the sanctuary used to hold their meetings.
- **Naos Dios:** A ramp leads up to the terrace supporting the great temple of Zeus which was built in the 5c BC of local shell- limestone, covered with a layer of stucco. The chaotic heap of stones, the enormous drums and capitals of the columns thrown down by an earthquake in the 6c AD create a dramatic effect. The pediments were decorated with sculptures illustrating the chariot race between *Oinomaos* and *Pelops* as well as the battle of the *Lapinths* and *Centaurs*, the friezes at the entrance to the pronaos and the opisthodomos were composed of 12 sculpted metopes of the *Twelve Labors of Heracles*. The naos, which consisted of a nave and two aisles, contained the famous statue of Olympian Zeus, one of the "**Seven Wonders of the World**". It was a huge chryselephantine figure (about 13.50m high) representing the king of the gods in majesty, seated on a throne of ebony and ivory, holding a scepter surmounted by an eagle in his left hand and a Victory, also chryselephantine,



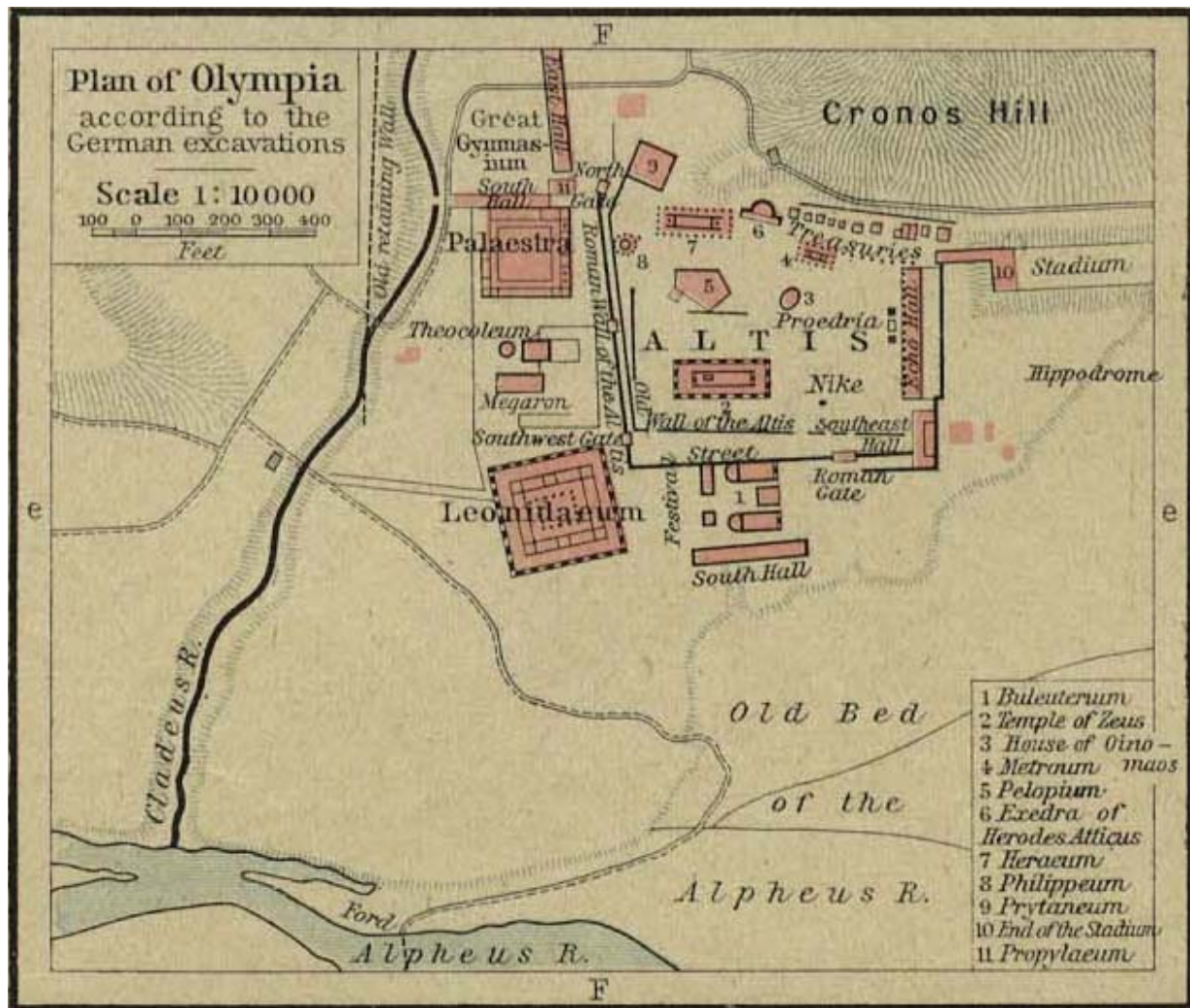
in his right., his head was crowned with an olive wreath. The majestic effigy almost reached the ceiling of the naos and wooden galleries were built over the side aisles to enable people to see the figure more easily. This masterpiece has almost entirely disappeared except for a few low relief's from the throne, which were in Rome in 17c when Van Duck copied them, are now in the Hermitage Museum in Leningrad.

- **Philippeion:** this circular votive monument was built in the 4c BC in the Ionic order. It was begun by Phillip of Macedon and completed by Alexander the Great.
- **Prytaneion:** Administrative centre of the sanctuary (5c BC), the perpetual flame was kept in a sacred hearth.
- **Naos Eras (Heraion)** *The opening ceremony of the Olympic Games is marked with the arrival of the Olympic flame which is taken on every occasion from Era's altar.* A few columns have been re-erected among the remains of the imposing foundations of the temple of Hera. Within stood an effigy of Hera, of which the colossal head has been found, and one of Zeus, as well as many others statues which included the famous Hermes by Praxiteles.
- **Exedra of Irodou Atikou:** This unusual Roman monument is recognizable from its semicircular shape. It was built in AD 160 by the wealthy Athenian, Herod Atticus, as a conduit head supplying drinking water.
- **Andiron Thissavron:** (Terrace of the Treasuries) Steps lead up to the terrace which bore some dozen treasuries, of which the foundations remain, and an altar consecrated to Heracles. These treasuries were built by the cities of Greek colonies in the form of small Doric temples in which offerings were made to the gods. At the foot of the terrace is a row of pedestals on which stood the bronze statues of Zeus erected out of the proceeds of the fines which were imposed on those who broke the code of the Olympic games.
- **Stadium:** In the 3c BC a passage was built beneath the terraces to link the sanctuary to the stadium. The **Crypt**, a vaulted passageway linking the Stadium with the Altis, was built at the end of the 3rd c. BC. The starting and finishing lines are still visible, the distance between them was a stadium (about 194yd). The finishing line (nearest the passage) was marked by a cippus, a small low column acting as a goal or a marker round which the runners ran if the race consisted of more than one length of the stadium, the starting line was marked by several cippi. The spectators, men only, were ranged on removable wooden stands mounted on the bank surrounding the stadium. It was enlarged several times until it could accommodate 20000 people. In the middle of the south side there was a paved marble enclosure where the judges sat

The true spirit of competition, from which the principles and ideals of the Olympic Games derived, is first found amongst the Achaean Mycenaean's, who developed the first Greek civilization, as successor to the Minoan. From the Cretans they adopted acrobatic displays, but they were particularly interested in boxing and wrestling, and introduced two new contests - the foot race and the chariot race. As in Crete, so in Mycenaean Greece, games invariably formed part of religious festivities. They also commonly found in the form of funeral games held to honor distinguished dead kings and heroes.



## OLYMPIA ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE MAP









## ZEUS AND HIS CULT.

Zeus was the dominant god in the sanctuary at Olympia and his cult there was one of the oldest in Greece. According to one mythological tradition, Oxylos, the leader of the Aitolians who came from north-west Greece and settled in the area in the 11th c BC, dedicated the sanctuary to Zeus and celebrated games for the first time. A different version has it that the worship of Zeus in this region was established by the Herakleidai the descendants of the hero Herakles. A late tradition also emphasises the link of the site with Zeus by identifying it as the location of Zeus's victory over his father Kronos.

Evidence for the nature and kind of the early cult of Zeus at Olympia is provided by more than 6000 dedications placed by visitors to the sanctuary in the ashes of the great altar of Zeus (10<sup>th</sup> -late 8<sup>th</sup> c. BG). The military character of the god's cult is attested by bronze and clay figurines of warriors (depictions of the god himself or of the dedicator), charioteers and chariots. Numerous figurines of animals most of them bulls or horses are to be explained as offerings made by a farming and stock-raising community. Bronze tripod cauldrons, which were vessels of great value, were probably erected in the open areas of the sanctuary.

From 700 BC on, spoils of war, and later entire buildings (treasuries) were dedicated by city-states; these too, had a military and political character and attest to the geographical range of the sanctuary's reputation. The military dimension of the cult of Zeus is further illustrated by the existence in the sanctuary of an oracle devoted mainly to military questions, according to the accounts of ancient writers. In this context, depictions of Nike (Victory) on coins issued by Olympia, terracotta figures of Nike used as akroteria on buildings, and independent statues of her found in the area of the sanctuary will have had a military rather than an athletic symbolism.

The famous gold and ivory statue of Zeus enthroned, holding a sceptre in one hand and Nike in the other gave clear expression to Zeus's role as Lord of the world, preserver of law and order, and judge of all contests on earth. The Olympic festival and games were held in his honour and the victors dedicated statues of themselves to him in thanks.

### The Statue of Zeus at Olympia

The Statue of Zeus at Olympia was the most famous artistic work in all of Greece and one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and it made a profound impression on all who saw it.

Pausanias, a Greek traveler who wrote the earliest guidebook to ancient Greece in 150 AD, described the statue in great detail; yet he also wrote that "records fall far short of the impression made by a sight of the image." To the Greeks the statue of Olympian Zeus was the incarnate god, and not to have seen it at least once in one's lifetime was considered a misfortune.

Ruling over the gods from his exalted throne atop Mount Olympus, Zeus saw everything, rewarded good conduct, punished evil, and governed all. He was the bringer of thunder and lightning, rain, and winds, and his weapon was the thunderbolt. He was the





protector of cities, the home, strangers and supplicants. Altars to Zeus graced the forecourts of houses throughout Greece and pilgrims visited his many mountaintop shrines, but the god's best-known temple was the monumental Temple of Zeus, built in 460 BC in a sacred grove between two rivers at Olympia.

Within this temple the statue of the supreme god sat upon an intricately carved cedarwood throne that was decorated with mythical scenes of lesser gods and heroes rendered in gold, ebony, and precious stones. In his left hand Zeus carried a scepter made of a multicolored alloy of rare metals; crowned with an eagle's head, it symbolized his rule over the earth. His extended right hand supported a life-size statue of Nike, the goddess of victory, and the stool beneath his feet was upheld by two impressive gold lions. His hair, beard, and drapery were made of gold, and his unclothed flesh—head, hands and feet—was rendered in burnished ivory. To keep the ivory from cracking the god had to be regularly anointed with olive oil, which was collected in a shallow pool beneath his feet. Over 40 feet in height, Zeus was too large to fit in the temple if he stood up—a curious fact to ancient commentators, who thought of the temple as Zeus's actual home.

### Presiding over the Olympic Games

Zeus presided over the Olympic games, a great Panhellenic festival that took place once every four years. Protected by a sacred truce, athletes from cities throughout Greece journeyed to Olympia to compete in the festival's contests of strength, endurance and skill.

Only Greek men and boys were allowed in the games, and athletes had to swear a solemn oath before the altar of Zeus that they had trained for at least ten months and would compete fairly. Events included footraces, chariot and horse races, the discus and javelin throw, boxing, wrestling, and the broad jump. Combination events were popular, such as the pancration, a violent free-for-all that combined wrestling and boxing, and the pentathlon, which included running, wrestling, and javelin throwing. Runners were judged not only by their place at the finish line but also by their form, and thus the second or third place finisher often won the event. The athletes covered their bodies with oil, and competition was in the nude. Married women were excluded from watching—under penalty of being hurled from the Typaean rock.

Victors received only a simple laurel of wild olive and the right to erect a statue at Olympia; by the time of Pausanias over three thousand such statues crowded the site. But Olympic champions were hailed as heroes: poets sang their praise, sculptors reproduced their image, and in their home cities, walls were torn down to make way for their triumphant return. Athletes from Athens even enjoyed free dinners in the state dining halls for the rest of their lives.

### Fate of the Statue of Zeus

At its height in the 5th century BC, the Olympic games drew crowds of over 40,000 from all across the Greek world: Athens, Sparta, Syracuse, Rhodes, and a hundred other cities. The statue of Zeus presided over the games until 393 AD, when they were abolished by the Roman Emperor Theodosius I because of their pagan associations. The fate of the statue is unknown. Theodosius II ordered the destruction of the temples in 426 AD, and the statue may have perished then or been carried off to Constantinople, to be lost in the great fire that engulfed that city in 475 AD...





## THE BEGINNING OF THE GAMES AT OLYMPIA.

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The appearance of institutionalised games at Olympia in the 8<sup>th</sup> c. BC marked a revival of a large number of Mycenaean customs and practises within the changed religious historical, ideological and political context of the new age that followed upon the collapse of the Mycenaean world.

In ancient literature, the foundation of the Olympic Games is regarded simply as a matter of their revival after a long period of interruption. Their beginnings are sought in the local cult of the hero Pelops, who was looked upon as the mythical founder of the games which recall elements of Mycenaean hero cult and the funeral games in Homer's Iliad, organised by Achilles in honour of his dead friend Patroklos.

The oldest and strongest ancient tradition as to the foundation of Olympic Games is cited in the poem by pseudo-Hesiod, Catalogues of Women, and states that the founder of the games was the Phrygian Pelops. Having defeated the king of Elis. Oinomaos, in a chariot race, Pelops took his daughter Hippodameia as his wife and became king of a large area – giving his name, indeed, to the whole of the Peloponnese.

Another tradition, first recorded by Pindar in the first half of the 5<sup>th</sup> c BC, represents the great Theban hero Heracles as founder of the games, after his victorious campaign against Augeias, the king of Elis, who refused to recompense Heracles for cleaning out his stables. The former version, involving Pelops, is attributed to the Pisatans the old Mycenaean inhabitants of the region, while the latter version, with Heracles, is associated with the new Dorian tribe that conquered Elis and established their own god at Olympia, Zeus, who became the great deity of the sanctuary and the games.

## THE ORGANISATION OF THE GAMES.

The Olympic Games were held without a break from 776 BC to AD 393, a period of 1169 years. They took place every four years at the second full moon after the summer solstice, a date that coincided with the eighth solar month of the Eleian calendar (Apoffonios or Parthenios), which corresponded with August in the modern calendar. The duration of the games was directly related to the number of the events. From the beginning (776 BC) down to 684 BC when only athletic events were held, they lasted a single day. From 680 BC (25<sup>th</sup> Olympiad), when chariot races were introduced, the period was increased to two days, and in 632 BC (37<sup>th</sup> Olympiad) with the introduction of the boys' events, a third day was added. Finally, two more days were added in 472 BC (77<sup>th</sup> Olympiad) to ensure a smoother organisation of the events, making a total of five days. The responsibility for the organization and conduct of the Olympic Games lay with the Eleians. One of the most important institutions at the Olympic Games was the Sacred Truce - the suspension of all hostilities between belligerents for a brief period before, during and after the end of the games to enable them to be conducted, properly. Belief in this institution is reflected in the fact that, despite the continuous warfare in ancient Greece, the Olympic Games were never cancelled until they were finally abolished by the Roman emperor Theodosios.

Special officials called spondophoroi travelled in groups of three to all the Greek cities to announce the beginning of the Sacred Truce and the exact date of the games. The Eleians prepared and maintained the areas of the sanctuary and the athletic venues a Olympia, and attended to the reception and housing of the athletes and their attendants and of the official representations sent by the Greek cities. The senior officials of the games were called Hellanodikai. Initially there was just one such official, called diaitater (referee), and the office was hereditary and held for life. By the time the programme of events was finally settled in 348 BC. (108<sup>th</sup> Olympiad), there were ten Hellanodikai who were elected for a single Olympiad.



The task of the Hellanodikai was to organise and hold the games, to ensure that everyone strictly observed the rules, to supervise the events, to award the prizes, and to punish any form of infringement by inflicting fines or corporal punishment.

The most common infringements were late arrival by the athletes, ignoring the instructions given by the responsible officials breaking the rules of the events, and bribing athletes. In the last case, the athletes were not only disqualified but fined a sum of money, part of which was expended on the manufacture of bronze statues of Zeus known as Zanes (the plural of Zeus). The rules and regulations of the games and individual events were formulated gradually. From the 6th c. BC onwards, they were codified and written on stone stelai that were erected in the Agora of Elis and the sanctuary at Olympia.

### **THE PREPARATION OF THE ATHLETES.**

Two essential requirements had to be met for athletes to compete in the Olympic Games: they had to be Greeks, and they had to be born free of parents who were themselves free citizens. As Greeks, they had a common religion, customs, language and ideals. As free citizens they were members of a community and shared the same perception of the existence of the free individual who trained to become the best.

Athletes had to travel to Elis, the headquarters of the organising city, one month before the beginning of the games. This regulation was strictly enforced by the organizers of the games. The interval of one month was essential for the Hellanodikai to check the origins and physical condition of the athletes so that they could exclude from the games those who were incapable of matching up to the fierce competition. They associated with the athletes on a daily basis, and assessed not only their ability and talent, but also their ethics and character. At the same time, the athletes trained in the two gymnasia and one palaestra at Elis. Here they gave a practical demonstration that they knew and practised the principle of fair play, which they had been taught in the gymnasia of the cities from which they came. During the month of preparation, the judges were required to assign the athletes to categories, depending on their age.

At Olympia there were two such categories, for men and boys, while other games also had a category for "beardless youths". Originally, young men did not engage in special exercises, but trained, nude (gymnasium derives from the Greek word gymnos = naked), simply by competing, under the supervision of their paidagogos (tutor), the man who also attended to their education. Later, however, views on physical development changed, thanks mainly to the science of medicine, and the supervision of athletes was assigned to specialist trainers, who were usually themselves veteran athletes. The names of three of these have survived: the gymnasts, who drew up the training program, the paidotribes who supervised their training, and the aleiptes, who massaged them with oil. Many champions honoured their trainers by erecting statues of them next to their own.

### **THE CHAMPIONS.**

The glory and fame surrounding an Olympic champion in the ancient world was itself a great blessing, and for an athlete to be crowned by the kolinos woven of branches of the sacred wild olive was the highest honour that could befall a mortal.

Of the 4237 athletes who will have been declared champions at 293 Olympiads over the 1169 years of the life of the institution (776 BC - AD 393), the names, place of origin, and event is known in 921 cases. Their names were recorded in the list of Olympic champions compiled in the 4th c. BC by the sophist Hippias of Elis, who presumably based it on the official archives, kept in the Bouleuterion at Olympia. The names of later champions were included in lists to be found in later historians, mainly of the Roman period, and a number of gaps can be supplemented by evidence scattered in





papyri, on bases for statues of champions, seen by Pausanias, and in a large number of inscriptions found during the excavations.

After the victors had been announced and received their prizes, sacrifices were made on the altar of Zeus, followed by a celebratory banquet given for the champions by the Eleian organisers in the Prytaneion at Olympia. When the champions returned to their native cities, they were given a welcome on a par with that for generals returning from victorious campaigns. They entered the city riding in a four-horse chariot through a section of the fortification wall that was demolished for the purpose. The champion dedicated his wreath to the patron deity of the city, on whose altar he offered a sacrifice. He enjoyed certain privileges for life, such as free meals in the Prytaneion, exemption from taxes, and seats of honour in the theatre and at festivals and games. Poets wrote victory hymns in honour of the champions. Famous Olympic champions in ancient times include Milon of Kroton, Dillgoras of Rhodes, Theagenes of Thasos, Leonidas of Rhodes, Eubatos of Cerene, and others.

- **RUNNING.** Foot races were held in the stadium, a level defined space, the length of which differed from region to region depending on the length of the foot used as the unit measurement (0.32045 m. Olympia, 0.296 m. at Delphi, etc). The stadium at Olympia was 192.28 m. long that at Delphi 177.5 m and so on. The starting and finishing lines were originally simply scratched in the earth, but balbides were introduced in the 5th C these were permanent long narrow stone slabs with two parallel grooves along them. Posts were fixed in positions to separate the positions of the runners. The starting system in the stadium at Isthmia was even more complicated. In the case of races involving more than one length of the track, there was a turning point called kampter, which was marked by a column or a post.

The running events were as follows:

- The **stadion / stadium** was the main sprint race, in which the runners had to complete one length of the stadium. It corresponds roughly with the modern 200 m. race.
- The **diaulos** was another sprint, in which two lengths of the stadium had to be completed, corresponding roughly with the modern 400m.
- The **hippios** was a middle-distance race over four lengths of the stadium corresponding roughly with the modern 400 m.
- The **dolichos** was a long-distance race, the distance covered varying from 7-24 stadia (about 1400-4800 m).
- **RACE IN ARMOUR.** The race in armour was a sprint in which the runners had to wear a helmet and greaves and carried a shield as the completed two and more rarely four lengths of the stadium. The greaves were abandoned in the 5th c. BC and the helmet in the 4th c. BC, after which the runners held only the heavy shield, made of wood sheathed with bronze.
- **WRESTLING.** The oldest and most common contest, was held both as an event in its own right and as part of the pentathlon. It required a combination of skill, flexibility and strength. It was divided into 'upright wrestling' and 'ground wrestling'. At the start of the fight, the two opponents stood facing each other with their legs bent and slightly apart, ready to take advantage of any weakness in their opponent and apply the holds would lead to a fall, which was the objective of the contest. To be declared the winner, a wrestler had to achieve three falls at his opponent's expense.
- **BOXING.** Was one of the oldest and most popular events. The boxers competed in pairs determined by lot. To protect and support their finger joints and wrists they wore soft thongs called strophia or meilichai. Down to the 4th c. BC these consisted of thin strips of soft leather. From the 4th c. BC oxeis (sharp) thongs were used, which were reinforced by leather strips. The Roman caestus was strengthened with iron or lead. The opponents began by standing facing each other with their left arm extended to defend themselves and the right bent ready to



deliver a punch. Essentially, all the punches were thrown at the head. There was no time limit on the match and the athletes competed until one of the two fell unconscious or was obliged to submit and admit defeat.

- **THE PANKRATION.** Was a combination of wrestling and boxing and involved throwing one's opponent. The objective was to oblige one's opponent to admit defeat by whatever means possible. The pankration was the toughest and most dangerous of the heavy events, since everything was permitted except biting and gouging the eyes (which was allowed only at Sparta). The event was divided into 'upright pankration', in which the contestants fought standing and 'ground pankration', in which the contest continued on the ground. The larger part of the contest took place on the ground as the athletes strove to compel their rival to submit by punching or applying holds.

### BOY'S GAMES.

The introduction of the boys' contests to the Olympic Games in 632 BC (37th Olympiad) resulted in the addition of a third day to the competition programme. Initially the young athletes competed in the foot race and wrestling. During the 38th Olympiad (628 BC) the *pentathlon* was introduced into the boy's games, but it was not retained. From 616 BC (41st Olympiad) boxing was introduced into the boy's games, while in 200 BC (145th Olympiad) the *pankration* was incorporated.

According to the programme of the games (that is, in an Olympiad with the complete competition programme) the boys' contests were held on the second day. After the ceremonial entrance the young athletes competed in the preliminary heats of the *stadium* race. The final followed immediately after the completion of the preliminary races. Thereafter followed the boys' wrestling. In the afternoon of the same day the young athletes competed in the boxing and the *pankration*.

### THE SPECTATORS.

Famous citizens and ordinary pilgrims came from the ends of the Greek world to the sacred grove at Olympia to watch the games. The spectators belonged to various social classes, they were anonymous and famous, rich and poor, poets and philosophers, singers and dancers, and all had the right to watch the games without restriction, even barbarians and slaves apart from women. The huge crowds lived and slept in the open air in tents outside the Altis and near the rivers. In addition to this vast crowd of pilgrims, there were also official missions from the cities, called *theoriai*. These consisted of eminent citizens, known as *theoroi*, led by *architheoros*. The cities sent valuable gifts to Zeus and also to the magistrates of Elis. The Greek cities also strove to ensure that the *theoria* they sent to the Olympic Games was the most magnificent of all for reasons of civic pride and for propaganda purposes.

The Olympic Games were attended by politicians, and also by men of letters and the arts, who came not simply to watch the events, but also for professional reasons: they included poets (Simonides, Bacchylides, Pindar), orators (Gorgias, Lysias, Isocrates), sculptors (Pythagoras of Samos, Polykleitos of Argos and Lysippos of Sikyon) and great philosophers (Plato, Aristotle, Thales of Miletos).

### WOMEN AND PHYSICAL EXERCISE.

Women were forbidden completely from competing in the Olympic Games, and even from entering the Stadium to watch the events. Women who broke this prohibition were cast down from Mount Tropaion. The only woman allowed to watch the games was the priestess of Demeter Chamyne, a long-established local goddess connected with the earth and farming. The priestess sat on the goddess's altar on the north embankment of the Stadium. The only exception to the general absence of women from the Stadium at Olympia was Kallipateira of Rhodes, daughter of the Olympic



champion Diagoras and a mother of a family of Olympic champions. At the 96th Olympiad (396 BC) she violated the prohibition and entered the Stadium secretly to watch her son Peisidoros compete and win the boxing. She was not punished by the Hellenodikai out of respect for the glorious athletic history of her family.

The only women's events held at Olympia were the Heraia. These were instituted at Olympia and held every four years in honor of the goddess Hera, wife of Zeus, in a different year from the Olympic Games. The games are said to have been organized first by Hippodameia, to give thanks for her marriage to Pelops. The competitors in the Heraia were young girls, not married women, who ran a distance of 500 feet that is about 160 meters. There were three different categories: young girls, adolescents, and young women. The athletes ran with their hair untied, wearing a short chiton and the winners were awarded a wreath of wild olive and portions of the sacred cow sacrificed in Hera's honor. Women, however, might be and were declared Olympic champions in the equestrian events, as owners of horses. The first of them was Kyniska, daughter of the Spartan King Archidamos.



## ATHENS, GREECE [SHIP PORT]

In Greece, all roads lead to Athens, the capital city that is both the birthplace of Western civilization and a bustling boomtown that re-created itself for the Olympic Games in 2004. Athenians take the juxtaposition of ancient splendor and cacophonous modernity with good-natured appreciation, and you would be wise to do likewise. Raise your eyes nearly anywhere and you're likely to be stopped in your tracks by the sight of the Acropolis, where Pericles rose to the heights of power and creative achievement, with the construction of the Parthenon and Propylaea. After a time-trip to the golden age of Greece, explore modern Athens's patchwork of neighborhoods to get a sense of the history of this gregarious city, its people, and what lies beyond the ubiquitous modern concrete facades. Take in a twilight view from Athenians' favorite "violet-crowned" aerie, Mt. Lycabettus, and drink in the twinkling lights of the metropolis that is home to more than 4 million souls, still growing and still counting.



To leave the whirl of cars behind, stroll through the 19th-century Plaka district, where pastel-hue houses and vestiges of an earlier, simpler life keep beloved traditions intact. Pay a call on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Syntagma Square -- if you catch the changing of the Evzone Guard here, the sight of a soldier in 19th-century ceremonial garb parading in front of a funeral oration by Pericles will put the many layers of Athens perfectly in perspective.

With its magnificent architecture, legendary cultural attractions and unparalleled place in history, this capital city known as "the cradle of Western civilization" is a must-see destination for world travelers. A captivating blend of the classical and the contemporary, Athens boasts some of the world's oldest and most renowned landmarks, and wears its ancient heritage proudly.

The Unification of Archaeological Sites - probably one of the most ambitious plans of urban transformation ever conceived - is now well under way in Athens, the densely populated historic capital of Greece. The plan ...has been set up to undertake the creation of a large open museum, a project of crucial importance for the capital is aesthetic appearance and cultural role, a project which shall unify the rich heritage of the past and the city's everyday life.

Although ideas for a vast archaeological park were proposed by visionary designers more than forty years ago, it was around the mid-1970s that most people realized that the modern city had been built hastily from the 1950s to almost the present time - over the remains of ancient Athens. The need to create homes and businesses for a fast growing population was then much more important than the preservation and showcasing of the city's glorious history. The **Acropolis, Thission** and the other important archaeological sites were suffocating, as very busy streets, on which endless lines of private cars and buses passed by, often in bumper-to-bumper traffic, surrounded them. Traffic jams are the norm and in an attempt to reduce the traffic, and the pollution created through this traffic, the government has instigated a law stating that you may use your car only on alternate days. Parking is a nightmare. Some walking through the center of the city is necessary in order to see some monuments and sights.

- **THE GREEK PARLIAMENT.** The plain, neoclassical building which is the Parliament of the Greeks today, was built between 1834-1838 as the palace of the first kings. In front is the monument of the **Unknown Soldier**, with the two guards, called "**Evzoni**", who are the presidential guards (changing of the guards every two hours). *Every Sunday there is a parade and a band playing the National Anthem at 10:45 a.m.*





- **SYNTAGMA SQUARE.** Here beats the heart of the modern city. The Parliament at the east of the square reminds us the deviation of its name. In 1843, the Greeks, received their first constitution from King **Otho**, after numerous and persistent demonstrations.
- **NATIONAL GARDEN.** The green lung in the center of the city. Beautiful and rare flowers, trees and bushes as well as little ponds decorate the garden, which is open all day long.
- **PANEPISTIMIOU STREET (EL. VENIZELOU).** El. Venizelou street, which is known as Panepistimiou street, is one of the central roads of Athens. Beautiful neoclassical buildings decorate it: "**Iliou Melathron**", meaning the palace of Troy. This was the house of Erik Schlieman. "**The Academy**", the highest spiritual institution of the country. "**The University**", "the **National Library**" with thousands of manuscripts and books, "the Bank of Greece" etc.
- **PLAKA.** Come to the heart of the city, to the neighborhood of the **Olympic Gods**, come to Plaka. 5' walk from Syndagma. At the foot of the Acropolis, there spreads out, the most alive part of the city, an open exhibition of the history of the Athens and a panorama of people, monuments and tastes too. Narrow small roads, numerous taverns, restaurants, coffee shops, small picturesque squares and beautiful interesting corners. Walk through it - get to know it - feel it. Being in **Plaka**, you cannot but come upon some monument, witness of the past. You cannot but have at every corner an opportunity to do your shopping, to buy something for the ones you love and care about. Plaka is a place of contrasts. It can be vivid and tranquil, it can be crowded and quiet, noisy and calm. It all depends on the place you pick up to enjoy a cold glass of beer or ice coffee. After dark Plaka comes alive. The taverns with their cavernous rooms decorated with barrels and their trellis covered terraces are illuminated with multicolored lights: savoring the Greek cuisine with glasses of retsina, listening to the **bouzouki** music and the latest singers and dancing the modern **sirtaki**.
- **MONASTIRAKI.** This was the centre of the Turkish town with the bazaar and the shops as well as the main mosques and administrative buildings. Now it is popular commercial district incorporating the Athens flea market. Start from Syntagma Square. Go west down Odos Ermou, a busy shopping street lined with boutiques selling feminine apparel, dress materials and ready - to - wear clothes, furs and shoes, leather goods and jewelers. Some columns from the **Adrian's library** are in site, a mosque which has been turned into a library and a beautiful small church (**Kapnikarea** built on 11 C) are some of the interesting monuments of this place.
- **ATHINAS STREET.** A central road of Athens connecting Omonia square with Monastiraki. Its here that one can feel the oriental character of the city. The main market of the city, the little shops, with their peculiar merchandises make this busy, noisy street very attractive.
- **HILL OF THE MUSES.** The Hill of the Muses, where legend has it Socrates paid the price for his advanced ideas on youth and religion by drinking a fatal cup of hemlock. In Horologion, known as the Tower of the Winds, listen closely for the voices some say speak from an ancient time.
- **HADRIAN'S ARCH.** In what was the ancient walled quarter of Athens, you'll also discover the striking Hadrian's Arch, a gift to the city by the Roman Emperor, and the majestic Temple of Olympian Zeus, built over a 700-year period beginning in the 6th century B.C.





## Athens an open Museum

The restoration of **Plaka**, and then **Thission**, **Psyrri** and the other old neighborhoods in the centre of Athens started in the early 1990s. A vast network of pedestrian streets, together with financial incentives given to the owners of properties to renovate their homes completely changed the face of these areas. They have now become favorite spots for a quiet stroll during the day or at night. Athenians and tourists alike gather at the multitude of nice, tiny restaurants in Psyrri, or climb up to the northern side of the Acropolis, through the picturesque streets of Plaka, lined with beautifully restored private homes. The so-called historic triangle of Athens, the old commercial part of the city, has also improved dramatically. Ermou, the principal commercial street, as well as many other narrower side streets have been freed from traffic and turned over to pedestrians, giving new life to this lovely part of downtown Athens, which for years had declined progressively.

## THE ACROPOLIS

The **Acropolis** of Athens was both a fortress and a sanctuary mainly for the worship of the goddess protecting the city, goddess Athena, after whom the city was named.

Every city in ancient Greece had its own acropolis, the equivalent of the fortress in the medieval times. An acropolis was always built on a rock or a hill overlooking the city, not necessarily the highest one but the one with a water supply was chosen. High walls were built around it in order to offer refuge and protection to the citizens in case of invasion or war.



The famous theatre of **Dionysus** stands on the southern slope of the Acropolis, in the precinct of the god who protected the dramatic contests held during the festival of the **Great Dionysia**. The visible structures date to 330 B.C. with Roman additions. Around it are remains of a Hellenistic portico used as a promenade and the odium of Pericles (445 B.C.), a large auditorium rebuilt in Roman times.

The **Acropolis**, consisting of the words **Akron** (edge, summit) and **Polis** (city), means "the highest point of a city", is certainly the focal point of any visit and every archaeological tour undoubtedly starts with the **Parthenon**, the temple that symbolizes Greek architecture and represents the very core of Greek civilization. Built in **448-438 B.C.** from a design by **Phidias**, **Ictinus** and **Callicrates**, the temple is a classic example of the Doric order, with a colonnade of eight columns at each end. Its structural and decorative elements were based on complex mathematical calculations, successfully expressing in architecture the harmony of proportions already experimented with and codified by **Polyclitus** in his sculpture. The underlying principles are probably to be found in the philosophical debates of the **Pythagoreans** and **Anaxagoras** regarding universal harmony.



The **Parthenon** is dedicated to goddess **Athena Parthenos** (virgin). The peristyle, comprised of 8 x 17 columns and still virtually intact, stands on an imposing stylobate approximately 70m (230 ft) long and 31m (102 ft) wide. Inside, the **pronaos** and **opisthodomos** seem to have been reduced to a minimum, to the advantage of the **cella**, on the east side, and the smaller "Chamber of the Virgins" the **Parthenon** proper - on the west. In the **cella**, a double row of Doric columns framed the cult statue of **Athena Parthenos** on three sides. This colossal chryselephantine masterpiece by **Phidias** stood around 12m (40 ft) high.

The colonnade is unusually close to the walls of the **cella** (and its columns are also closer to one another), and the same ratios recur in different elements of the temple. **Ictinus** introduced a series of architectural refinements to ensure that the harmonious perfection of the **Parthenon** was instantly evident to anyone entering from the **Propylaea**.



The effects of perspective, the play of light and shadow dimensions, the relationship between solids and voids and so on, tend to produce a slightly deformed picture of reality to the human eye. And so **Ictinus** made some astounding "optical corrections". For instance, an upward curvature - by as much as 6 cm (just over 2 in) - of the stylobate, and the almost gradual convexity (**entasis**) of the columns which-especially at the corners - were also very slightly bowed towards the **cella**. So for today's visitors, too, the traditional heaviness of the Doric order is transformed by the austere elegance and harmony of forms and proportions, while the white **Pentelic** marble enhances the in play of light and shadow on the temple's majestic structures. The decorative features of the Parthenon, completed in 432 B.C. flourished in political, civic and religious significance. The sculptures were entirely designed and perhaps also executed by **Phidias**, assisted by some of Attica's finest emerging artistic talents.

The pentimental groups (over 4m -13 ft - high) showed, on the east side, the birth of Athena from the head of Zeus, in the presence of all the gods of Olympus and on the west the mythical contest between Athena and Poseidon for the patronage of Attica, watched by Cecrops. The 92 **metopes** of the Doric frieze, on which only the very faintest traces of the once vibrant colors now remain, represented a sequence of four versions of the struggle between good and evil, justice and injustice, civilization and barbarism, using mythological and epic imagery.



On the east side, was the battle between the gods and giants (**Gigantomachy**), on the south side between Greeks and Centaurs (**Centauromachy**), on the west side between Greeks and Amazons (**Amazonomachy**) and on the north side between Greeks and Trojans, an evident reference to the recent victory over the Persians.



For the first time, therefore, contemporary events and symbols joined myths and legend to create images with a religious, ethical and political message. Depicted alongside gods and heroes were humans and their city, glorified as a mortal manifestation of the values of eternal deities and immortal heroes, bringing to mind the Homeric adjective **isotheos**, meaning god-like.



In 437 B.C. the architect **Mnesicles** began his project for the **Propylaea**, the monumental new gateway to the sanctuary of the Acropolis, on the site of a much more modest one built under **Pisistratus**. After five years work, almost certainly by the same craftsmen who had only recently completed the **Parthenon**, the Propylaea became the point of arrival for the last, winding ramps of the Sacred Way.



Providing the immense Parthenon with an entrance of appropriate proportions, elegance and dignity was not easy. The space available was asymmetrical and limited, the terrain was uneven and existing monuments and sacred precincts had to be taken into account. Mnesicles cleverly designed a marble structure, at the top of which steeply rising steps, sat astride a rocky ridge, well adapted to and concealing the rugged terrain. The proportions and dimensions of each element of the building were carefully worked out, to take full advantage of the building's spectacular position and function.



A **Doric pronaos** with six columns at the front, formed the imposing entrance to the entire sanctuary of Athena. The vestibule was divided into three naves by two rows of three slender Ionic columns. In the surrounding walls were five steps interrupted in the centre by a passage for chariots and animals. The steps follow the slope of the hill, a brilliant solution to the problem of the gradient. Beyond the doors another Doric pronaos, identical to the first, overlooked the sacred enclosure and provided a splendid frame for Phidias's huge bronze statue of **Athena Promachos** and a view of the **Parthenon**. At the sides of the Propylaea were two colonnaded wings. The northern one comprised of a rectangular chamber, the **Pinakothekē**, eventually used to house famous paintings.

The **Ionic** temple of **Apteros Nike** stood at the side of the Propylaea on the southwest bastion, which had been faced in Pentelic marble in previous decades. It was built between 430 and 410 B.C. with frequent interruptions caused by war, to a plan of thirty years earlier by **Callicrates** and then used for a temple of **Demeter** and **Kore** on the banks of the Ilissus river. Beautifully harmonious in its proportions and built of Pentelic marble, the temple was enhanced by slender Ionic columns only at the front and rear, surmounted by a running frieze with scenes of the war between Greeks and Trojans.

An elegant marble balustrade, decorated with very low - relief sculptures portraying a procession of figures expressing **Victory**, ran around the temple, to protect worshippers on the terrace perched high on the slopes of the Acropolis. One interesting aspect is the change in the building's political message, designed in 460-450 B.C. to celebrate Athenian victory over the Persians, the temple was actually built much later, during the Peloponnesian War and so it became essentially a tribute to Athenian successes over their new enemy - the Spartans.

The last addition to the Acropolis before the end of the 5th century B.C. was the new temple of **Athena Polias**, known throughout history as the **Erechtheum**, after the Attic name for Poseidon (the old patron of the city). It was built north of the Parthenon, between 421 and 405 B.C. to a plan by **Philocles** or according to some - **Callicrates** or **Mnesicles**. The Ionic portico with six columns on the east gives access to the cella, where the ancient wooden cult icon of Athena Polias was devotedly kept. On the west side, on different levels, were spaces for the cults of Poseidon Erechtheum, Hephaestus, the hero Butes and the serpent - boy Erichthonius, particularly dear to Athena.





*The **Erechtheum** was the last building erected on the Acropolis before the end of 5th century BC. It replayed an ancient temple of **Athena Polias**, which was destroyed during the Persian Wars. Also visible in this view is a descendant of the legendary **sacred olive tree**, the gift of **Athena**. The famous porch with the **Caryatids** marked the legendary tomb of **Cecrops**. The six beautiful statues of*



*young women wearing Ionic costumes are perhaps the work of one of the best disciples of Phidias, **Alcamenes**.*

Supporting the porch in the place of columns are the celebrated **Caryatids**, six statues of young women in Ionian dress, an architectural device that succeeds in combining the refined elegance of Ionic with the formal perfection of Phidias artistic expression. It seems likely that the designer of the Caryatids - whose forced immobility cannot restrain their intrinsic vitality - was Alcamenes, the main interest of the ensemble lies in the configuration of its buildings, built on different levels to follow the rising, rocky terrain of the Acropolis. There is also evidence of great precision in the way that the buildings respect several ancient sacred sites.



Outside the building on the west side grew the sacred olive tree traditionally believed to be the gift of Athena in her dispute with Poseidon. On the north side a high Ionic portico protected the mark left by the trident thrown by Poseidon to make a sea -water spring gush from the rock. The only decorative feature of the entire temple was a long frieze in Eleusinian black stone on which relief figures in Pentelic marble were mounted, portraying scenes of Attic ceremonies and episodes involving Erichthonius. As the architect clearly intended, the viewer's gaze is immediately drawn to the south side and the porch which protected the tomb of the mythical king **Cecrops**.



## THE AGORA

The **Agora**, with the nearby hill of the **Areopagus**, is Athens' other main area of archaeological interest. Originally an open space crossed by the Panathenaic Way, the Agora was quickly flanked by large numbers of public buildings and adorned with temples and altars, stoas and fountains. It acquired its final form in the 2nd c. AD. Its most prominent structures today are the modern reconstruction of the Stoa built by **Attalos II** of Pergamum in the 2nd century B.C. now housing the **Agora Museum** and the **Doric Temple of Hephaestus (Theseion)**, still miraculously intact. Built in Pentelic marble in the same period as the Parthenon, the temple is still an important landmark in the lower part of Athens. It is about 32m (105 ft) long and 14m (46 ft) wide, with 6 columns at the ends and 13 at the sides. Its plans appears conventional Doric, but its cella resembles the larger one in the Parthenon.



*The Agora, which extends over the north-west slopes of Acropolis, was the heart of ancient Athens from the late 6th c. BC onwards. It was a place for political gatherings and debate, for elections, religious occasions and trading activities, theatrical performances and athletic competitions. The word “Agora” drives from the word “ageiro” meaning “I gather”. In the beginning somebody spoke in an open space and people gathered around. He came back and they came back to listen. Another orator took his place and people went on gathering around the speakers. Peddlers came with their goods, and gradually shops were built around this open space, and the*

*orator’s stand finds its permanent place. The Agora – market place – is born.*

Under the slope of the Theseion stood most of the administrative buildings. The “Bouleutereion” or council house of the 500 representatives of the people; the “Metroon” where the shrine of the mother of the Gods used to be, and where the archives of the city were kept; and a round building which was the State dining hall. Here free meals were offered to the 50 city councillors, to guests of honour and to the Olympic winner if an Athenian, whom the city rewarded in this manner. The official standard weights and measures were also kept there. To the South of the State dining-hall stood the “Heliæa”, the court of the people. The judges were elected by ballot among all citizens.

Pleading had to be done by the accused himself, but he had the right to learn his speech by heart. There were men in Athens whose job it was to draw up these speeches and many have been found which are marvels of eloquent equivocation. In front of the Metroon stood the statues of the “Eponymoi” the ten heroes, fathers of the ten tribes of Attica. It is on this structure supporting the statues that the laws, decrees, city decisions and the names of those summoned for military service were posted. The religious building included: The temple of “Apollon Patroos” (the father). A great altar to “Zeus Agoraeos” (the orator) stood in a prominent place in the Agora. To Zeus also was dedicated a portico, erected in gratitude to the God for his assistance to the Athenians in their battles against the Persians. It was beautifully decorated with paintings and was one of the favourite places where Socrates used to stand or walk with his followers. A small sanctuary took care of all twelve Gods. This was considered as the center of the city, and distances were counted from there.





The East Portico had been built by Attalos II, King of Pergamon, in the second century B.C. He had studied in Athens during his youth and presented this magnificent building to the city in gratitude for the education and knowledge he had acquired there. This portico has been reconstructed by the American School of Classical Studies of Athens. Old parts, which still existed, were included in the new structure, and as it stands today, with its brand new marble shining in the sun, its elegant double storied colonnade, it gives us an idea of what the market place must have looked like when it was the throbbing heart of Athens. The shops at the back are used as a museum in which the finds of the Agora are displayed. Looking over these exhibits one gets a vivid impression of the life of the ancient Athenians, their religion, the state machinery and their every-day facilities. A large statue of Apollo Patroos of the fourth century B.C. stands under the portico and facing it at the other end is a lovely Victory with the wind flowing through her drapery. A statuette of Apollo in ivory stands inside; this is a copy of a statue by Praxiteles.

A relief of Democracy crowning the Deme is inscribed with a law against tyranny. Other proofs of this democracy to be seen in the Museum are: bronze ballots; an allotment-machine, used for the selection of officials, made of marble with slots for the names of the candidates of each tribe and a passage for dropping in the white and black balls for selection or rejection; and the ostracism ballots of the fifth century B.C. There were used to banish undesirable citizens. It was necessary for at least 6000 citizens to vote and whoever had the most votes against him was ostracized and, within ten days had to leave the city for ten years. Famous names such as those of Aristides and Themistocles can be read on these ballots. It is interesting to see how many have been found written in the same hand. They were probably prepared for use before the voting took place. Also of interest are the nearby **Cerameikos** quarter, with the **Dipylon** cemetery and remains of potters' workshops. Finally, a visit to the **National Archaeological Museum** provides an overview of Ancient Athens.



## ATHENS DAY TOUR BOOKED

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One day tour / max 8 hours: Sightseeing includes:

- Acropolis
- The Tower of Winds
- The Old Palace
- Syntagma Square,
- Parliament and the tomb of the unknown soldier
- The Temple of Zeus
- The Olympic Stadium
- The Greek and Roman Agora
- Lycabettos Hill
- Olympic Venues (especially Olympic Stadium )
- time for shopping & lunch in the Plaka.

Cost € 250 euro. Entrance fees to the sites are not included in the prices.

The tour is private & flexible. I am not a tour company. I take people on a personalized tour with no fixed stop- offs. My tours have nothing to do with the offered tours by cruise lines or tour companies which use coaches carrying 50 persons, driving them only on main highways and viewing most of the sites from the windows. If something attracts your attention we will stop for a closer look. My tours are private and more flexible. Because I can drive through the small streets or roads of Athens/Greece, I can park easily, in addition, you will get closer to the sites or the old part of the town and explore, take pictures and/or have meals. The restaurants I take people to are family run - traditional Greek - offering best quality(meals not included in offer).

Athens is a place of great cultural interest, as well as a vivid and modern city. The harmonious and perfectly balanced combination between the old and the new age makes this city unique. Both sides of Athens are extremely appealing to tourists. There are many interesting museums to visit and various cultural activities to attend to, that cater for all tastes. The best day for this tour is Sunday, with less traffic and there is a parade with " Evzones" in front of the Parliament and a band playing the National Anthem at 10:45 a.m.

This tour gives you an opportunity to observe the striking contrasts that make Athens such a fascinating city. You'll be taken to see the centre of the city. On our way to the Acropolis you will see the Old City (Plaka) the Roman Agora, Hadrian's Library, the Ancient Athenian Agora, Thesseon, next the Pnyx "The hill of Democracy". You will also climb on the Acropolis to see the famous theaters of Dionysus and Herodes Atticus and the architectural masterpieces of the Golden Age of Athens: the Propylaea, the temple of Athena Nike, the Erechteion and finally, "the harmony between material and spirit", the monument that puts "order in the mind", the Parthenon and have time to visit its Museum.

On the North face of the Acropolis there is a wheelchair lift. From the street level there is steep pedestrian path paved with rough marble tiles with wide grout spaces. The path is approx. 300 meters long and a very difficult push in a wheelchair. It is better to take a taxi to the top of the pedestrian path to the green gate where wheelchair access begins. Taxi drivers are allowed to drive on this path, only when they have a disabled patron. A sign points to the wheelchair gate which is along the hard red earth path just to the left of the main wheelchair access. There is a slight drop on to the marble path to the red earth path. You then go through the green wrought iron gate, up the steep earthen path for about 200 meters to the lift.

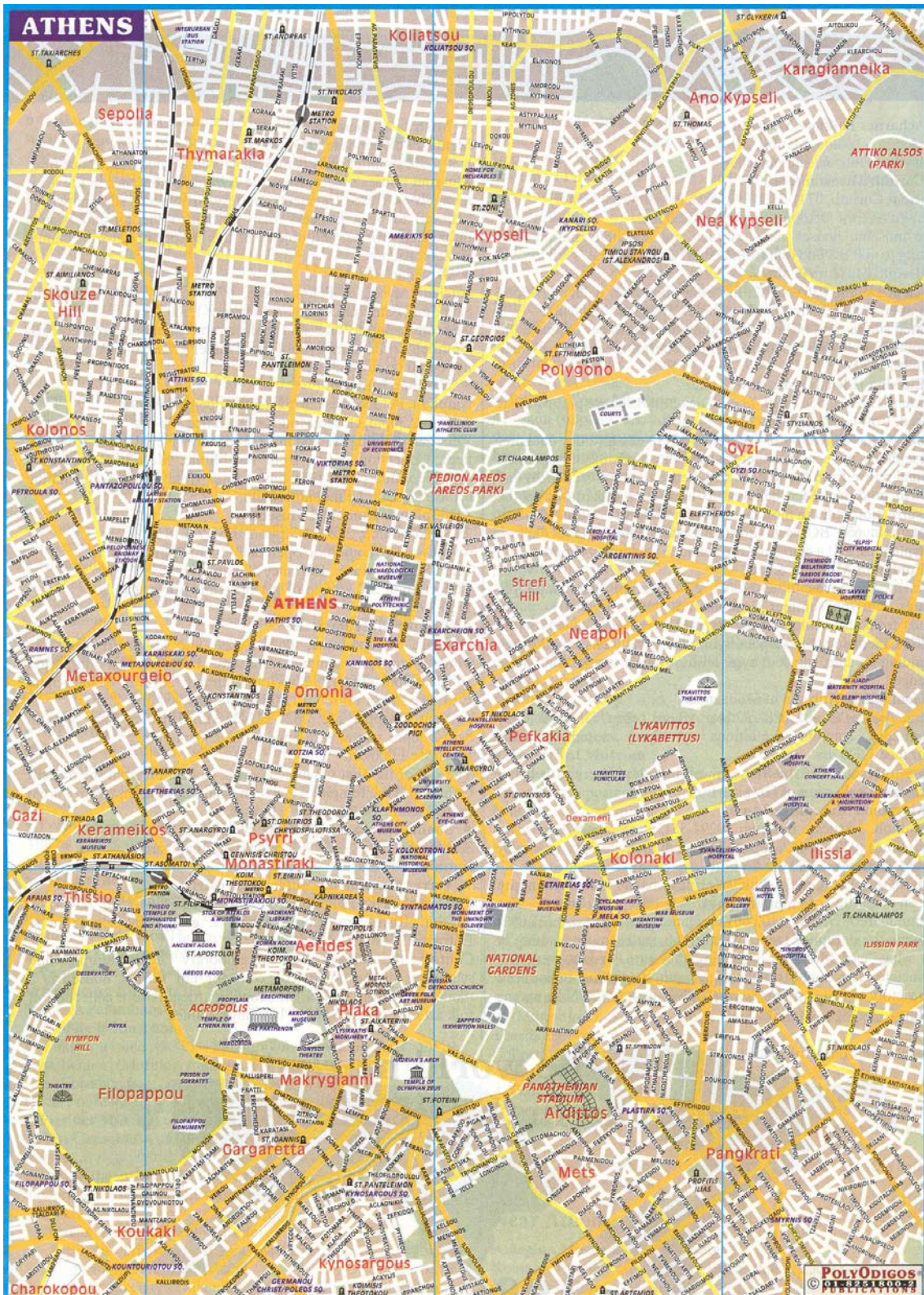




The lift is actually two devices. First is a stair climbing platform that rides the handrails mounted on a series of concrete stairs. The stair climber traverses three flights of stairs to a platform where the vertical lift awaits. The stair climber is slow and can only take one wheelchair at a time. There is another lift outside the Museum.

Continue city sightseeing passing by Thessalon, Monastiraki (Flea Market), the Town Hall on the way to Omonia Square, along Stadiou Avenue, passing by the Old Parliament (now the Museum of History) and we'll arrive at Constitution Square (Syntagma) where we will view the House of Parliament and the Memorial to the Unknown Soldier (short stop). Next we will go along Panepistimiou Avenue to see Schliemann's house (Numismatic Museum now), the Catholic Cathedral, the Academy, the University and the National Library. Driving down Herod Atticus street, you will see the Evzones in their picturesque uniform guarding the Presidential Palace and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Every Sunday there is a parade and a band playing the National Anthem at 10:45 a.m. We will visit the Panathenaic Stadium (70.000 seats all from marble) where the first Olympic Games of the modern era were held in 1896.

Next we'll see, the Temple of Olympian Zeus (the biggest temple in ancient times) and Hadrian's Arch a few miles east of Athens. Half way up the heights of Mount Hymettos, is the Monastery of Kaisariani (11th c). Even people who have no interest in Byzantine churches and monasteries will adore this incredible setting. Around the monastery there is a serene forest of cypress, plane and olive trees. The ground is covered by myriads of wild flowers and aromatic shrubs. From the eminence of Hymettos you will obtain the noblest view of the immortal CITY itself, admiring the panoramic view (from where you will have the chance to see the view of all Athens all the way to Piraeus) over the southern suburbs and the Saronic Gulf makes one wonder how such an oasis can exist so close to the centre of a large city like Athens.







## MYKONOS TOWN, GREECE [SHIP PORT]

Put firmly on the map by Jacqueline Onassis, Mykonos has become one of the most popular of the Aegean islands. Although the dry, rugged island is one of the smallest of the Cyclades, travelers from all over the world are drawn to its many stretches of sandy beach, its thatched windmills, and its picturesque port town, also called Mykonos. Happily, the islanders seem to have been able to fit cosmopolitan New Yorkers and Londoners gracefully into their way of life. Not long ago Mykonians had to rely on what they could scratch out of the island's arid land for sustenance, and some remember suffering from starvation under Axis occupation during World War II. In the 1950s a few tourists began trickling into Mykonos on their way to see the ancient marvels on the nearby islet of Delos, the sacred isle.



The most cosmopolitan destination in all of Greece, Mykonos (alternative spelling Mikonos or Myconos, sometimes even called by its American friends Mikanos) has long been known for its incredible, long sandy beaches overflowing with singles looking to connect, honeymooners beginning their new lives together, couples, families, surfers, and gays, all enjoying the crystal clear waters and brilliant sunshine.



Mykonos is also renowned for its outrageous nightlife, with more bars and discos per square foot than just about anywhere else on the planet. Its trendy shopping has attracted even the likes of Armani, Donna Karan, Cartier, and Bulgari, just to name a few.

Its chic ambience can be seen everywhere, from marvelous gay bars to gourmet restaurants, and from hundreds of jewelry shops to offbeat galleries. No wonder all the cruise boats, from the smallest to the largest, stop at Mykonos, even if just for the day; its marinas are always full of VIP yachts and sailing boats, filled with incognito rock stars, designers, movie stars, and politicians!



## MYKONOS TOWN MAP









## **KUSADASI, TURKEY [SHIP PORT]**

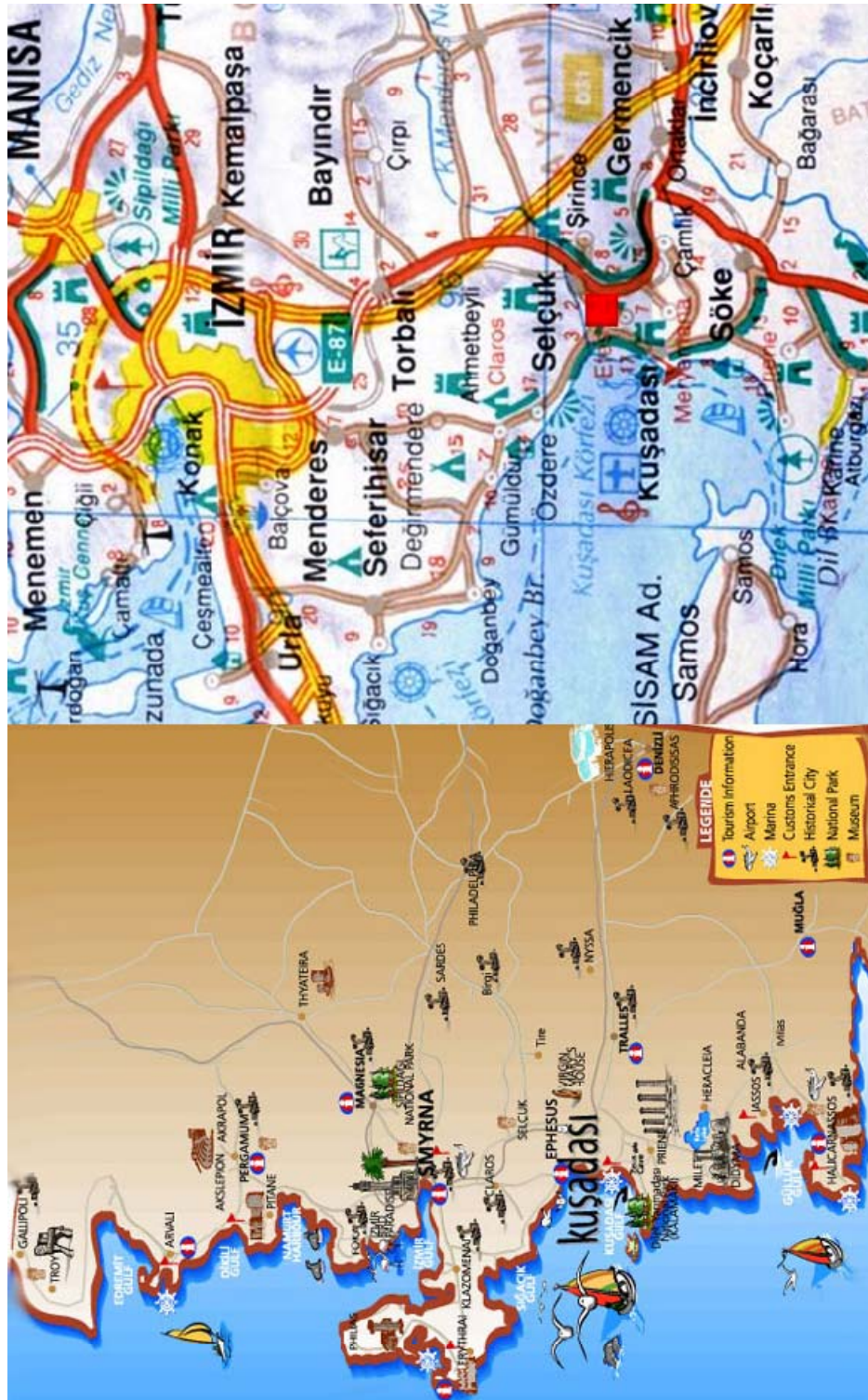
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One of the most popular resort towns in the southern Aegean, Kusadasi was a small fishing village as late as the 1970s but now is a sprawling town packed with curio shops and a year-round population of around 60,000, which swells several times over in summer with the influx of tourists. But the real reason Kusadasi is its proximity to Ephesus, one of the most important archaeological sites.





## MAP KUSADASI TO EFES (EPHESUS)







## EPHESUS, TURKEY [DAY TRIP]

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Ephesus is 5 km from the sea. Ephesus is the showpiece of Aegean archaeology and one of the grandest reconstructed ancient sites in the world. The site is a pleasure to explore: Marble-paved streets with grooves made by chariot wheels take you past buildings and monuments that have been partially reconstructed.

The ancient city of Ephesus (Turkish: Efes), located in modern day Turkey, was one of the great cities of the Greeks in Asia Minor. Ephesus is the best-preserved classical city on the Mediterranean. As a strategic coastal gateway to the Eastern World, this Ionian refuge grew to be the second largest city in the Roman Empire, the site of a Christian shrine, and one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Legend has it that the Virgin Mary, accompanied by St. Paul, came to Ephesus at the end of her life, circa 37-45 AD. Renaissance church historians mentioned the trip, and it is said that local Christians venerated a small house near Ephesus as Mary's. In 1967 Pope Paul VI visited the site, where a chapel now stands, and confirmed the authenticity of the legend. Also the Basilica of St. John is located near Ephesus. St. John is said to have lived the last years of his life here and after his death, a shrine was located over his grave. In ancient times Ephesus was the home of the Temple of Artemis.



### Great Theater

Ephesus' large theater, where St. Paul preached to the pagans, is still in use and can seat thousands. It is in an outstanding position which dominates the view down Harbor Street leading to the silted-up old harbor.



### House of the Virgin Mary

(7 km to Ephesus) This stone building under shady trees is believed by many Catholics and Muslims to be where the Virgin Mary lived her last years. It has been a major pilgrimage destination since it was seen in a vision by a bedridden German nun in 1812. Pope Paul VI visited the site in 1967 and confirmed its authenticity.



### Library of Celsus

The façade of the Library of Celsus is one of the most spectacular sights of Ephesus. It was built by a Roman in memory of his father and faces east so that the reading rooms could make best use of the morning light.



### Temple of Artemis

In ancient times it was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, but today the Temple of Artemis is represented by just a single column.



### Temple of Hadrian

This attractive Roman imperial temple was constructed in 118 AD, but reconstructed in the fifth century.





## TURKEY – DAY TOUR

---

Sezgin Demirci  
SardunyaTravel  
tel:+90 256 667 1272  
fax:+90 256 6671051  
[www.ephesustours.com](http://www.ephesustours.com)

In this half day tour, we have visits to the House of Mother Mary where she is supposed to spend her last years together with St. John; Then to Ephesus is the best-preserved ancient city in Turkey, famous for its Celsus library, great theatre, marble streets, temples, and baths. It's situated in the fertile Ionian landscape and has been known throughout history for its temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Ephesus is considered to be the showpiece among all the antique cities of the world. Drive back to Kusadasi.

Duration: 3 & 1/2 Hours (approximately)

We can meet you at the port and will be holding a sign with your name on it

Places to visit: Ancient City of Ephesus, House of Mother Mary.

Tour Price:

- EURO 40 per person

Tour prices include:

- Transportation by A/C deluxe van,
- Guiding services,
- Parking fees.







## RHODES TOWN, GREECE [SHIP PORT]

Lying at the eastern end of the Aegean Sea, wrapped enticingly around the shores of Turkey and Asia Minor, Rhodes (1,400 square km [540 square mi]) is the fourth-largest Greek island and, along with Sicily and Cyprus, one of the great islands of the Mediterranean. Geologically similar to the Turkish mainland, it was probably once a part of it, separated by one of the frequent volcanic upheavals this volatile region has experienced. Strategically located Rhodes has played an important role in history and was for many years one of the most popular vacation spots in the Mediterranean. Having lived under the control of Persia, Rome, the Knights of St. John, and finally the Ottoman Turks, Rhodes didn't become a part of Greece until 1947, when the Dodecanese Islands were formally made a part of the country.



The Island of Rhodes is the sunniest place in Europe; it averages 300 days of sunshine per year. It is the fourth largest island in Greece. Occupied by Italy until only 56 years ago, it is now “occupied” by thousands of enthralled international visitors.

The “palia poli” (the old city) is the medieval city of Rhodes, surrounded by a high defensive wall. It is one of the few medieval cities still inhabited in its largest part, excluding its museums, of course. Walking along its cobbled streets one is reminded of iron-armored horse's hooves clapping, and steel swords clashing and clanging.



The remarkably preserved medieval city of Rhodes has a population of 60,000, out of the 98,000 on the island in total. It is the largest town in the Dodecanese as well as the largest capital. The new town surrounds the old walled one on three sides and was founded in the form of new suburbs during Ottoman times by Greek Orthodox Christians forbidden to live in the old town (and required to leave it by sundown or lose their heads). Since then, the suburbs (called 'marasia') have merged. The walled town, as one would expect, has become very commercialized, as well as the modern district of 'Neohori' to the west of Mandraki yacht harbor, which has a beach with all of the tourist paraphernalia one might also expect.



The approach from the sea is best, with its massive walls rising up from the water, the **Palace of the Grand Master**, the minarets and the waterfront with its arcades. Windmills from the 14th century add to the picture. There are **three harbors** (the smallest of which is Mandraki, which caters to yachts, excursion boats and smaller ferries). and eleven gates into the city, one of the most impressive being the **Gate of Emery d'Amboise/Pili Ambouaz** near the Palace of the Grand Masters, built in 1512.. A lighthouse guards the entrance, along with the fort of Ahios Nikolaos, built 1460s against Ottoman Turkish attacks.



Where the famous Colossus may have stood are now a bronze stag and doe. A chain crossed here (blocking the entrance) during the time of the Knights, with ships paying a 2% tax (based on the value of their cargoes) to help the war effort. The walls are magnificent, but accessible only via guided tours (people usually meet for this in front of the Palace of the Grand Masters). You can most likely find a schedule easily). Four Grand Masters constructed the walls on top of the older Byzantine walls. They extend 4km and are on the average 38feet thick . In addition, they were curved to deflect missiles aimed at them, and surrounded by a dry moat 100 feet wide. The Knights were assigned the defense of their respective bastions and towers according to nationality, with the exception of the Italians, who were put in charge of the Knights' fleet.

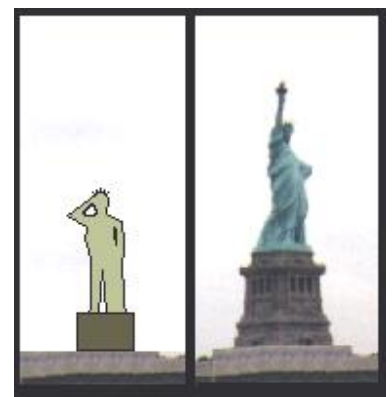
**The Old Town** (Palaia Poli) is a fascinating place to wander around, with its pebble pavements ('hokhlaki'), archways, ochre and blue walls of sandstone and limestone, and its oleanders, bougainvillea and hibiscus. The Italians, if they hadn't lost the war, would have widened all the streets for cars and built a road encircling it (a frontage road). Such things can never happen now that it is designated a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, which also provided for restoration of historical structures (and general infrastructure) as well as the burying of phone and electrical power lines. If you enter via the Gate d'Amboise, you 'll soon be in the **Collachium**, which was a place of retreat for the Knights in the event of the outer wall being taken by an enemy.

### The Colossus of Rhodes

The Colossus of Rhodes is familiar to almost everyone. Its history begins with the siege of Demetrios Poliorketes, successor of Alexander the Great, in 305 BC. When Demetrios was defeated, he abandoned all his siege machinery on Rhodes. The Rhodians decided to express their pride by building a triumphal statue of their favourite god, Helios. The task was assigned to the sculptor Chares of Lindos, a pupil of Lysippos himself, and twelve years (from 304 to 292 BC) were needed to complete it.

From its building to its destruction lies a time span of merely 56 years. Yet the Colossus earned a place in the famous list of Wonders. "But even lying on the ground, it is a marvel", said Pliny the Elder. The Colossus of Rhodes was not only a gigantic statue. It was a symbol of unity of the people who inhabited that beautiful Mediterranean island of Rhodes.

To build the statue, the workers cast the outer bronze skin parts. The base was made of white marble, and the feet and ankle of the statue were first fixed. The structure was gradually erected as the bronze form was fortified with an iron and stone framework. To reach the higher parts, an earth ramp was built around the statue and was later removed. When the Colossus was finished, it stood about 33 metres (110 ft) high. And when it fell, "few people can make their arms meet round the thumb", wrote Pliny.







A strong earthquake hit Rhodes at around 226 BC. The city was badly damaged, and the Colossus was broken at its weakest point - the knee. The Rhodians received an immediate offer from Ptolemy III Eurgetes of Egypt to cover all restoration costs for the toppled monument. However, an oracle was consulted and forbade the re-erection. Ptolemy's offer was declined.

For almost a millennium, the statue lay broken in ruins. In AD 654, the Arabs invaded Rhodes. They disassembled the remains of the broken Colossus and sold them to a Jew from Syria. It is said that the fragments had to be transported to Syria on the backs of 900 camels.

Let us clear a misconception about the appearance of the Colossus. It has long been believed that the Colossus stood in front of the Mandraki harbour, one of many in the city of Rhodes, straddling its entrance. Given the height of the statue and the width of the harbour mouth, this picture is rather impossible than improbable. Moreover, the fallen Colossus would have blocked the harbour entrance. Recent studies suggest that it was erected either on the eastern promontory of the Mandraki harbour, or even further inland. In any case, it never straddled the harbour entrance.



Although we do not know the true shape and appearance of the Colossus, modern reconstructions with the statue standing upright are more accurate than older drawings. Although it disappeared from existence, the ancient World Wonder inspired modern artists such as French sculptor, Auguste Bartholdi, best known by his famous work, the 'Statue of Liberty' in New York. Today, the Colossus is regarded as one of the Seven Wonders of the World and a masterpiece of art and engineering.





## STREET MAP OF RHODES





## **SANTORINI, GREECE [SHIP PORT]**

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Undoubtedly the most extraordinary island in the Aegean, crescent-shape Santorini remains a mandatory stop on the Cycladic tourist route -- even if it's necessary to enjoy the sensational sunsets from Ia, the fascinating excavations, and the dazzling white towns with a million other travelers. Arriving by cruise ship, you are met by one of the world's truly breathtaking sights, the caldera: a crescent of cliffs, striated in black, pink, brown, white, and pale green, rising 1,100 feet, with the white clusters of the towns of Fira and Ia perched along the top. The encircling cliffs are the ancient rim of a still-active volcano, and you are sailing east across its flooded caldera. Santorini and its four neighboring islets are the fragmentary remains of a larger landmass that exploded in about 1600 BC; the great bay, which is 1,292 feet deep, was created when the sea rushed into the abyss created by the cataclysm.



The island of Santorini is related to the myth of Atlantis, the amazing views from the villages of Fira, Oia perched on cliffs, the sunset, the black and red beaches, the wine ... The island was also called Strongili and Kalisti and was the site of one of the largest volcanic eruptions but what remains today is a submerged volcano and a caldera.

Santorini is believed to be the lost "Atlantis" because of the fact that half of the island was sunk after the eruption of a volcano in 1,500 B.C. The island was inhabited at around 3,200 B.C. by the Cretes. It was the explosion of the volcano which was in the center of the island and the greater part sunk. The tidal wave caused by the explosion, estimated at around 100m high, destroyed the palace of Knossos and did a lot of damage at the north coast of Crete too.

What was left today (apart from the clusters of buildings dating from various different eras, there are the agoras, public baths, theatres, a number of sanctuaries, the House of Ptolemy Euergetes, tombs from the Archaic and Classical periods, Early Christian reliefs, etc.) is still a treasure. It makes us dream of what it was like during the best time.

But that's not actually makes Santorini one of the most popular tourist spots of Greece. You will be stunned by the colorful houses and buildings, unusual landscapes, beautiful beaches, clear dark blue sea, dark fine volcanic sand, the people's friendliness, the food, the usually clear sky, and the warm climate.

The houses, churches, monasteries, hotels and restaurants lie down the cliffs one on top of another using the neighbor's roof as their terrace. All are painted in white and blue. Some are brave enough to use peach or shiny yellow. The youth hostel (YHA) is a lovely small building, painted in orange. You can walk past through places via narrow paved alleys. Or you can also ride on a donkey-taxi.

Many believe that Santorini once was Atlantis. But why ?



## MAP OF SANTORINI







## SANTORINI AND THE LEGEND OF ATLANTIS:

### THE MINOAN ERUPTION ON SANTORINI AS POSSIBLE ORIGIN ?

Atlantis - the story about a prosperous land that disappeared without trace, sunk into the sea by the anger of gods - has been one of the oldest myths of mankind. Atlantis stands for one of mankind's oldest dreams and myths, the one of the lost paradise. In similar versions it occurs in many civilizations. The classical Atlantis story, however, the one where the name Atlantis is used, is the one told by the Ancient Greek philosopher Plato in two of his dialogues, *Kritias* and *Timaeus*. In Plato's version it is not a objective report of events, but rather a moral tale that uses the story of - true or invented - events in the background. As a consequence, when it comes to interpreting the story as a report, it is not ambiguous. One of the most debated questions has always been the location of the place Plato might have referred to.

Now, Atlantis has been assigned to almost every possible place on earth (even Antarctica...) which proves that there are virtually no limits for the human fantasy. Everyone favors 'his' Atlantis. Very few people, however, seem to know the actual sources of the legend and discern physically and geologically possible facts from pure fiction. It is obvious that fiction sometimes can be more stimulating and fascinating than perhaps reality.



As can be imagined, the discussion about Atlantis is extremely vivid and far from ending. It has brought forth innumerable books, films, web-pages, articles, but most of them of highly speculative or esoteric character. Some people even believe that the inhabitants of Atlantis were extraterrestrials...Whatever and wherever Atlantis was, if such a place really once existed, we probably will never know for sure. However, there are a number of clues to be found in Plato's story that make many people believe that the destructive Minoan eruption on Santorini is the most likely candidate for being the historic fact behind the story.

### The legend and the written sources

The antique sources from the ancient world that seem to be connected with the Atlantis myth are mostly from Egypt and Crete (listed in Luce, 1969). A serious investigation of the myth should rely on them, but they are few and not always very clear. The texts where the Name Atlantis itself occurs came to us by Plato (427-347 BC). He tells us in his dialogues *Kritias* and *Timaios* in great detail the story of a high-standing, flourishing civilization with divine origins that lived on an island or a small continent outside the columns of Hercules (mostly interpreted as the Straits of Gibraltar). The race of the Atlantians was strong and healthy, had all the virtues and lived in peace as long the portion of their divine nature still was strong. But with time it faded and was more and more diluted. "When the human nature got the upper hand" (Plato, *Critias* 121b), they became sinful and invaded by crimes. As a consequence, they were bound to



loose their paradise. Towards the outer world, they started to fight wars and subjected other races to their cruel power. Only the Athenians, by virtue of their own military and moral power, were able to stop and defeat Atlantis from subduing the world. By then, the Gods' anger against Atlantis was so strong, that they destroyed it in a single day and night, by earthquakes, and sunk it into the sea, leaving only a mass of mud behind.

As to the support the authenticity of his account, Plato - through the words of Kritias - sustains that he used an old Egyptian report that he had obtained from his grandfather, who had got it from a friend who in turn got it from the Great Solon who lived around 640-560 BC. Solon was told the story during one of his travels by Egyptian priests at Sais, but also got a copy of it with written in old Egyptian, that he later translated.

To come back to the story, the most relevant passages are cited as follows:

Extracts from Plato's dialogues Kritias and Timaios:

*(Plato: Kritias, 108e) "Let me begin by observing first of all, that nine thousand was the sum of years which had elapsed since the war which was said to have taken place between those who dwelt outside the Pillars of Heracles and all who dwelt within them; this war I am going to describe. Of the combatants on the one side, the city of Athens was reported to have been the leader and to have fought out the war; the combatants on the other side were commanded by the kings of Atlantis, which, as was saying, was an island greater in extent than Libya and Asia, and when afterwards sunk by an earthquake, became an impassable barrier of mud to voyagers sailing from hence to any part of the ocean."*

*(113e ff) "And Poseidon, receiving for his lot the island of Atlantis, begat children by a mortal woman, and settled them in a part of the island, which I will describe. Looking towards the sea, but in the centre of the whole island, there was a plain which is said to have been the fairest of all plains and very fertile. Near the plain again, and also in the centre of the island at a distance of about fifty stadia, there was a mountain not very high on any side."*

*In this mountain there dwelt one of the earth born primeval men of that country, whose name was Evenor, and he had a wife named Leucippe, and they had an only daughter who was called Cleito. The maiden had already reached womanhood, when her father and mother died; Poseidon fell in love with her and had intercourse with her, and breaking the ground, inclosed the hill in which she dwelt all round, making alternate zones of sea and land larger and smaller, encircling one another; there were two of land and three of water, which he turned as with a lathe, each having its circumference equidistant every way from the centre, so that no man could get to the island, for ships and voyages were not as yet. He himself, being a god, found no difficulty in making special arrangements for the centre island, bringing up two springs of water from beneath the earth, one of warm water and the other of cold, and making every variety of food to spring up abundantly from the soil. He also begat and brought up five pairs of twin male children; and dividing the island of Atlantis into ten portions, he gave to the first-born of the eldest pair his mother's dwelling and the surrounding allotment, which was the largest and best, and made him king over the rest; the others he made princes, and gave them rule over many men, and a large territory. And he named them all; the eldest, who was the first king, he named Atlas, and after him the whole island and the ocean were called Atlantic."*



## The reception of Plato's Atlantis through history

Even though Plato himself sustains the truth of his story, already short time after he had published it, Atlantis was interpreted by some as an educational legend invented by Solon and /or Plato in order to glorify the virtue of the Athenians and to illustrate their philosophical ideas. Aristotle (384-322 BC), as inferred from two passages in Strabo (Geographica II, 102 and XIII, 598) was among the first major critics. On the other hand, there were also sustainers of Platon's theory, as Plutarch (Solon 32.1-2), Proclus (410-485 AD, 76.1-10), Strabo (67 BC- 23 AD, Geographica II.3.6-7), Posidonius (135-51 BC), Ammianus Marcellinus (330-400 AD) who tell that the legend was regarded a historic fact in Alexandria (from Friedrich, 1994). One thing is very clear: invented or not, the major purpose of Plato's dialogues was not to tell a historic story or a fascinating science fiction, but to educate people and glorify Athens and its virtues. In this, the decadence of Atlantis from its divine origins and its prosperity to decadence and total destruction acts as both as a counterpoint to Athens and as a warning. It is also important to note, that the connection between gods, humans and nature is always present and naturally embedded in Plato's and the Ancient world. So to say, there are several levels within Plato's story: the Ancient world where gods and humans are connected and natural phenomena, especially if exceptionally powerful, are acts of gods, the educational and moral aspects of the tale, and finally, the story in terms of actual or fictional events. Today, we tend to see only this last aspect, but for Plato it was surely the least important one. This makes it even more difficult to judge whether Plato was telling pure fiction, pure reality or a mixture of both. Most likely, the latter is true. The story is rich in details, some of which seem invented and some appear surprisingly real. It is very improbable, in fact, that he based his story on nothing, and it is also unlikely, that he had such a detailed report (the translation of the old Egyptian report). Even if he had, it is natural to assume, that he modified it according to the purposes of his tale, which as has been said, certainly were not the telling of facts.

So, it is fair to assume, that there is a historic core of Plato's legend. Until this point, most people agree. But then...

## The name

Most people think that the name 'Atlantis' is derived from the Atlantic Ocean (and therefore put it automatically somewhere into the Atlantic Ocean), but this reflects just our modern geographic view-point. Both the ocean's and the island's name are derived from the mythical giant Atlas, who held the sky upon his shoulders. Later, as Greek geographical knowledge grew, it gave also name to the high Moroccan mountain range. To locate Atlantis by using its name is not possible.



## Could Santorini have been Atlantis?

Many serious investigators think that the source of the legend is actually the Minoan eruption of Santorini. Why? There are some fairly convincing arguments:

1. Plato tells about a circular island with concentric structures. Santorini today does have an impressive concentric geographic setting and had it also before the Minoan eruption. This has come out as a result of detailed geologic studies during the past 20 years, see the chapter of the reconstruction of the ring-shaped pre-Minoan island with a central shield. Furthermore Heiken and McCoy (1990) indicated that the famous picture in the West House from the Akrotiri excavations most likely represents a relatively naturalistic portrait of Thera. It shows an inhabited and flowering island landscape and the departing Theraean fleet, and actually some concentric water-land ring structures are visible, too.
2. Plato writes that Atlantis was situated in the ocean, beyond the "Pillars of Hercules". The "Pillars of Hercules" were at Plato's time the Straits of Gibraltar and this would put Atlantis into the Atlantic Ocean. Further, Plato tells that Atlantis was bigger than Libya and Asia together. If one believes Plato literally, Atlantis was then outside of the Mediterranean region. But it is also possible that Solon or Plato either were misinterpreting their old sources or that Plato put it willingly far beyond the Greek-influenced world..
  - a. The first possibility could be explained by the fact that the original text was much older and the Pillars of Hercules had not necessarily always been associated with the Straits of Gibraltar; it could very well have meant a place within the Aegean Sea. The association of pillars could even be an allusion to the giant eruption cloud from the Minoan eruption (almost 40 km high) that undoubtedly was visible in the whole Eastern Mediterranean and virtually reached the sky. How could such a sight be forgotten? Then, there is the connection to the mythical titan Atlas who held the sky upon the shoulders. The idea is tempting.
  - b. Putting Atlantis and its civilization far away from the ancient world would also suit Plato's intention of providing a antitheses to the Greek society and its values that he defends. This is clearly Plato's major purpose in his account. - The same is true for Plato's words, "bigger than Libya and Asia together". Also it has been interpreted that Plato or someone before him in the chain of the oral or written tradition of the report accidentally changed the very similar Greek words for "bigger than" ("meson") and "between" ("mezon"). If this was the case, Atlantis could be identical with Santorin (Luce, 1969). Besides, it is geologically not possible that a large continent could disappear in a dramatic event, i.e. in a very short time span. There is nowhere on earth such evidence.







3. Galanopoulos and Bacon (1969) argue that the date for the destruction of Atlantis Plato gives as 9000 years before his time should be read as 900 years and that there was an erroneous translation by Solon from the old Egyptian number system. Plato lived ca. 300 BC and Solon's journey to Egypt had taken place about 300 years earlier. Adding the figures, the Atlantis event should have taken place around 1500 BC, in good agreement to the recent dating of the Minoa eruption 1640BC. It is also imaginable, that 900 years looked not far enough in time for Plato (or Solon etc.). Putting it far into the past adds weight to the historic self-conception of the Athenians. Also, as far as Archeologists know (and they know a lot about the past of Athens...), there is no trace of a highly advanced Athenian culture at around 9000BC. From our knowledge's point of view, 9000 years must be wrong, or invented. Almost certainly.
4. The exiting archaeological findings on Thera (near Akrotiri) clearly demonstrate that before the Minoan eruption there was a developed, rich, and probably oligarchic marine community whose flourishing economy was provided by intensive trade, shipping, and probably vine, too, - like at present (Doumas, 1983). We do not know what happened to these people. So far, no human body has been found killed by the eruption. It seems that they had been warned in time to evacuate the island. That means even if Platos completely invented the story, it is still true. Something like he describes has happened on Santorini 1640BC.

An event of that size must have had enormous impressions on the people living at that time. It is difficult to imagine that the eruption, which was much bigger than the 79 AD Vesuvius eruption, was completely forgotten in history. But strangely, no unambiguous sources seem to refer directly to the event. On the other hand, there are several ancient myths and hints that could allude to it including the plagues reported in the bible, but the most evident one, the one that fits best to the event is Plato's Atlantis legend.

5. Probably, there were no close eyewitnesses of the eruption that could survive and give a direct report. What the ancient people experienced, must have been terrifying. If one compares the Minoan with the much smaller 79AD Vesuvius and the 1883 Krakatau eruptions one gets an idea of the circumstances of the eruption. The 30-40 km high eruption cloud was seen from hundreds of km and the thundering noise from the explosions must have been heard in almost the whole known world. Ash and pumice was falling throughout the Eastern Mediterranean and lasted for several days or weeks (see Figure). East of Santorini, the sky could have been completely dark for hours or days. Probably, tsunamis were generated (like in the Krakatau eruption) and likely devastated the coasts of Crete and other surrounding islands. On a global scale, even the climate might have changed for some years, causing colder weather and failed crops.

Considering the possible destructive effects of the eruption and the fact that the sea due to rafting pumice must have been innavigatable or months (as was the case for the much smaller historic 726AD eruption of Palea Kameni), at least some time (years, decades ?) could have passed before a human being first saw the changed island. Was among these people somebody who knew the island before the eruption? Would he or she have recognized it? Probably not. When Vesuvius erupted in 1631, some villages were completely buried beneath ash, and people could not find their houses and fields any more. Santorini erupted 3000 years earlier and 100 times stronger.



Thera itself would have presented to these people a picture of complete destruction and profound change and there would have been visible no trace at all of what existed before, everything being covered with white and unstable masses of ash subject to frequent landslides and other forms of erosion. Furthermore, the shape of the island was largely changed. Some steep slopes had been smoothed and new coastal plains created by the ash flows, the isolated rock of Monolithos, previously a small island, had been integrated. Most striking of all, parts of the former ring-shaped island had subsided and disappeared during caldera collapse. Probably it was not a very pleasant and inviting sight. That explains that no traces of resettlement occur on the island for many hundreds years after the eruption.

Probably the first people who repopulated the island centuries later were the Phoenicians. A new part of history began then; antique legends refer to Thera, then also called 'Callisti' (gr. = the most beautiful one) as a present by the God Triton to the Argonauts.

6. Some details of Plato's story are clearly describing volcanic phenomena. Such are the colors Platos describes of being typical of the rocks of Atlantis: black (lava), white (pumice and ash) and red (lava). These are the colors of Santorini. The warm and cold springs are typical of volcanic places and still found on Santorini today. Most obvious, the way the gods, i.e. nature for us, destroyed Atlantis: by earthquake, fire and lightning. Lightning is always accompanying huge eruption columns and probably the most impressive sign of a terrible event if observed from far. From close range, nobody could have survived. Another hint is the mentioned mud that remained at the site of Atlantis. It is enough to translate mud with the enormous masses of pumice and ash from the eruption that floated on the sea.

Is Atlantis identical with Santorini? Maybe that is the wrong question. Probably at no time there was a place whose name was written "Atlantis" on some map...But the theory that the volcanic disaster of Santorini is the source behind Plato's story of Atlantis is quite supported, in my opinion more than any other theory. Details will remain unclear. For example, some people associate Crete with Atlantis rather than Santorini. This is not opposite to the Santorini theory. Santorini and Crete shared a culture, that disappeared on Crete about 100 years later than the eruption. Likely, the impacts of the eruption were enormous for the whole region and might have weakened the power of the Minoans on Crete, so that they could not survive for more than 100 years longer. Also, Crete would fit better to some aspects of Atlantis as described by Plato. Actually it is not very clear from Plato's writings, whether the described Metropolis and the larger mainland of Atlantis are the same geographic place. So, maybe, the mainland was Crete and the Metropolis with its concentric structure of land and sea could have been Santorini. But going further this point, we are stepping into fiction ourselves.



## **NAPLES, ITALY [SHIP PORT]**

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Naples is lush, chaotic, funny, confounding, intoxicating, and very beautiful. Few who visit remain ambivalent. Armed with the right attitude -- "be prepared for the worst but hope for the best" -- you will find that Napoli does not disappoint. Among other things, it's one of Italy's top città d'arte, with world-class museums and a staggering number of fine churches. The most important finds from Pompeii and Herculaneum are on display at the Museo Archeologico Nazionale -- a cornucopia of sculpture, frescoes, and mosaics -- and seeing them will add to the pleasure of trips to the ancient ruins. And Naples has a wonderful location: thanks to the backdrop of Vesuvius and the islands in the bay, it's one of those few cities in the world that are instantly recognizable.







## NAPLES CITY MAP







## CIVITAVECCHIA, ITALY [SHIP PORT]

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Civitavecchia is the port city of Rome. Located on Tyrrhenian Sea; founded by Trajan as port for Rome; flourished in late Roman era; sacked by Vandals, then Saracens (828); inhabitants moved to nearby mountains, but later returned to old site; walls strengthened in 16th cen.; damaged in WW II. A renaissance fort guards the harbor of Civitavecchia.



## TRANSFER FROM SHIP PORT TO ROME (FCO) AIRPORT

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## CASTLE HUNTING, ENGLAND & WALES [1 WEEK]

Do some castle hunting in the South of England:

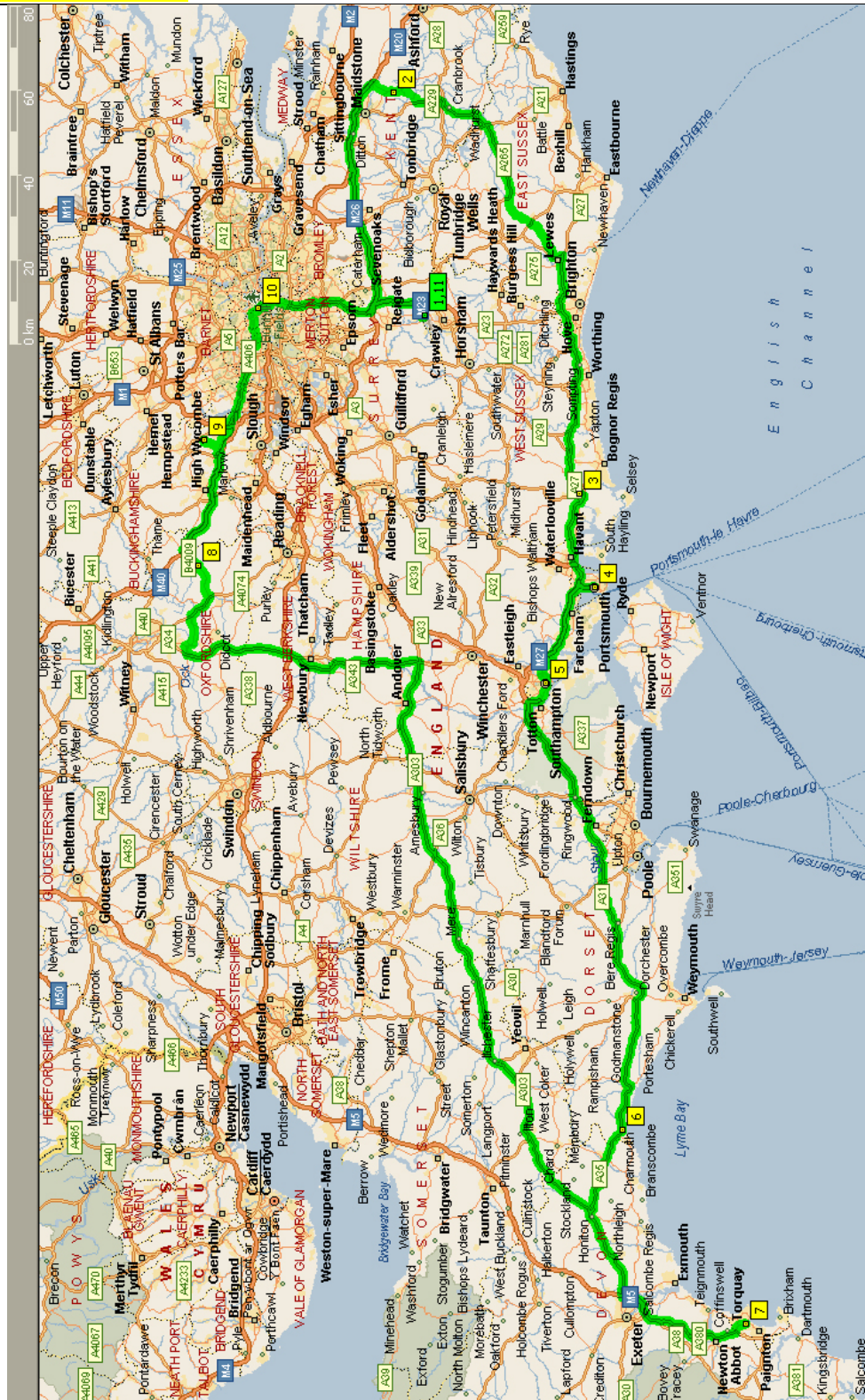
- **Lacock Abbey**, a 13th century abbey converted into a house in 1540, with 18th century Gothic alterations. It was also used for the filming of various interior scenes at Hogwarts in the Harry Potter films.
- Bath - **Roman Baths and Pump Room**, the extensive remains of Roman Baths and Temple Complex, and amongst the finest Roman remains in Europe.
- **Barrington Court Garden** in Somerset is a tudor manor house restored in the 1920s, with a garden laid out in a series of 'rooms.'
- **Berry Pomeroy Castle** in South Devon, a romantic late medieval castle located halfway up a wooded hillside, which looks over a deep ravine and stream.
- **St. Michael's Mount**, a medieval castle on a tiny island linked to the mainland by a causeway
- **Tintagel Castle**, the legendary birthplace of King Arthur. The extensive ruins of this medieval castle cling precariously to the edge of a cliff.
- **Blenheim Palace** near Oxford, home of the 11th Duke of Malborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. It is a magnificent baroque palace that includes guided tours of magnificent staterooms and special exhibitions open all year.
- Henry VIII made **Hampton Court Palace** his royal residence. It includes costumed guides, extensive gardens, parkland, and a maze.
- **Eltham Palace**, the boyhood home of Henry VIII, and a masterpiece of art deco design, which is currently the home of millionaire Stephen Courtauld and evokes the glamour of the 1930s.
- **Leeds Castle**, the 'loveliest castle in the world.' There are extensive gardens and parkland around this moated castle.
- **Dover Castle** and the Secret Wartime Tunnels, where set deep beneath the cliffs are the Secret Wartime Tunnels where military personnel were stationed during World War II.
- **Bodiam Castle** in East Sussex, one of the best-preserved examples of a medieval moated castle, built for defense and its picturesque location.
- **Hever Castle** and Gardens, the childhood home of Anne Boleyn.
- **Arundel Castle**, a stunning ancient castle and stately home containing priceless treasures, a medieval keep, grounds and organic gardens.







## ENGLAND CASTLE HUNTING







## TORQUAY, ENGLAND

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It all began at a real-life Fawlty Towers. *"The hotel owner seemed to view us as a colossal inconvenience right from the start."* — Michael Palin.

John Cleese was inspired to write what became Fawlty Towers after he and the rest of the Monty Python team were staying at a hotel in Torquay called the Gleneagles (not to be confused with the world-famous Gleneagles Hotel in Perthshire) whilst filming Monty Python's Flying Circus TV series in the early 1970s. The "wonderfully rude" hotel owner (Donald Sinclair) endeared himself to the Monty Python team by throwing Eric Idle's briefcase out of the hotel "in case it contained a bomb," complaining about Terry Gilliam's table manners, and chucking a bus timetable at another guest after the guest dared to ask the time of the next bus to town.

Little did this hotelier realize that John Cleese was making mental notes of all this madcap behavior and he might well have seen himself a few years later on TV, transformed into Basil Fawlty—the most infamous British hotelier ever—broadcast to the British nation and ultimately most of the world! Donald Sinclair died in 1981, apparently he emigrated to Florida in the 1970s where he was once tracked down by a British newspaper after Cleese unfortunately named him in an interview. Mr Sinclair and his relatives have never been too happy about the way he has been portrayed!

The hotel is now:                      The Best Western Gleneagles,  
Asheldon Rd, Wellswood, Torquay, TQ1 2QS.  
Tel: +44 (0)1803 293637

Torquay developed around the Saxon hamlet of Torre (from 'tor' meaning hill or craggy peak). Water from the Flete or Fleete (meaning stream) flowed from Barton to the sea and was used to grind corn at Fleet Mill (standing near what is now the main shopping centre at the junction of Union Street and Fleet Walk) until it was demolished in 1835. The monks of Torre Abbey are credited with building the first fishing quay - hence 'Torquay' evolved through various spellings: Torrequay, Torkay and Tor Quay by 1765.

Paignton appeared in the Domesday Book in 1086 as Peinton. The earliest settlement is believed to have taken place around 700 AD – the name means 'the farm of Paega's people'. Thirty spelling variations include Paignton, Paynton, Payington and Paington by the time Queen Victoria became monarch in 1837. Up to this point the town was known chiefly for growing cabbages and the inhabitants nicknamed 'Flat-polls' after a popular local variety.

Brixham evolved from the Saxon 'Brioc's Ham' which was known as Briseham in 1086 and Brikkesham by 1285. Higher Brixham was originally a rural settlement while in Lower Brixham, fishing has been a major industry for at least 900 years. By 1850 the town had the largest fishery in England (270 vessels at sea with 1,600 seamen employed).

Torbay became a popular holiday destination early in the Nineteenth Century. During the Napoleonic Wars the Channel Fleet was based in Tor Bay and businesses flourished to meet the needs of naval personnel. Soon fashionable visitors, unable to travel to continental resorts during the conflict, discovered the delights of the 'English Riviera'.

Dame Agatha Christie, the world's most famous mystery and crime writer, was born in Torquay and lived much of her life in the area.



## LONDON [3 DAYS]

Bette - Studio Apartment  
Bateman Street  
Soho, London

REFERENCE NUMBER IS: C2071/R2229 (<http://www.outlet4holidays.com>)  
PREPAID FOR 3 NIGHTS – Prices include all local taxes and cleaning.

Very popular and stylish studio apartment in Soho. Fully fitted shower room and kitchen.

Bright studio apartment in central Soho on 1<sup>st</sup> floor (no lift). Fully equipped kitchen, bathroom and good sized studio room with double bed, wall mounted T.V also dining table and chairs. Studio room benefits from two large windows overlooking Bateman Street as well as two very large, beautiful mirrors with original cornice work almost entirely covering two walls make the apartment very light and pleasant.

Located on Bateman Street, seconds away from Old Compton Street. The theatres of London's West End are within a few minutes walk as are the shops of Covent Garden, Bond Street and Oxford Street as well as Chinatown. Underground: Tottenham Court Road, Leicester Square and Piccadilly Circus

- **STUDIO ROOM** – Floorspace measures 15m sq. A large elegant room, bright and comfortable. Built-in wardrobes with shelving and recessed overhead lighting. The furniture in Bette includes a double bed and a circular dining table with two chairs, plus a standard lamp.
- **KITCHEN** – Floorspace measures 4m sq. This attractive and practical, fully equipped kitchen is ideal for visitors to London. There is no washing machine.
- **BATHROOM** – Floorspace measures 3m sq. Features a built in glass shower unit with power shower. A mirrored wall cabinet for storing toiletries there is also another mirror hanging over the sink unit. The floor and walls are fully tiled in green and white completing the room.

### Apartment Features:

- FREE Wireless internet connection.
- 1 Double bed
- 1 Bathrooms
- Fans Central Heating
- TV CD/Stereo
- Hob Oven Fridge Freezer Microwave Kettle
- Toaster Coffee maker
- Equipped with crockery and cutlery etc.
- All bed linen and towels are provided.





## PARKING

### Soho car park (24hrs)

Poland Street, W1F 7LZ

Phone: 0800 243 348

### Parking charges

	1hr	2hrs	3hrs	4hrs	5hrs	6hrs	7hrs	8hrs	9hrs	10hrs	11hrs	12hrs	24hrs	Night
£	5.50	9.00		18.00		25.00			35.00			35.00	36.00	14.00



Congestion Charge payment machine available at this car park



<http://www.westminster.gov.uk/carparks/carparks.cfm>

Visit <http://www.parkbcp.co.uk> to book & pay in advance.



## LONDON SIGHTSEEING

**Buckingham Palace** - The official residence of Queen Elizabeth II, Buckingham Palace has been opening its doors to visitors for the last few summers. Originally acquired by King George III for his wife Queen Charlotte, Buckingham House was increasingly known as the 'Queen's House' and 14 of George III's children were born there. On his accession to the throne, George IV decided to convert the house into a palace and employed John Nash to help him. Nash doubled the size of the house with the addition of a new wing in the French Neo-classical style favored by George IV. Marble Arch was also constructed in celebration of the victories at Trafalgar and Waterloo. However, by 1829, the cost of reconstruction had escalated to nearly half a million pounds and Nash lost his job. Queen Victoria was the first sovereign to live in Buckingham Palace (from 1837) but found it lacked sufficient bedrooms, so Marble Arch was moved to its current location and a fourth wing was added. The present forecourt (where the changing of the guard takes place) was constructed in 1911 as part of the Victoria Memorial scheme. Work on Buckingham Palace was completed just before the outbreak of World War One.



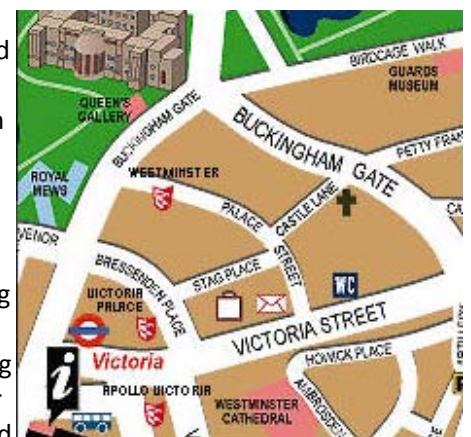
Visitors are permitted access to the State Rooms which are still used by the Royal family to receive and entertain guests on state and ceremonial occasions. Decorated in lavish fashion, they include paintings by Rembrandt, Rubens and Canaletto, Sèvres porcelain and some of the finest English and French furniture in the world.

Entrance: Adult: £11.50.

**The Royal Mews** moved to Buckingham Palace during the 1760s, were rebuilt by Nash in the 1820s and remain some of the finest working stables in existence. The magnificent gilded state carriages and coaches, together with their horses and equipage, are housed here, including the most famous coach, the Gold State Coach, used as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations in 2002.

Adult £5.00 GBP

**Changing the Guard** - Ever since 1660 Household troops have guarded the Sovereign Palaces. The Palace of Whitehall was the main residence until 1689 and was guarded by the Household Cavalry. (They can still be seen here today; outside Horse Guards Arch). The court moved to St James's Palace in 1689. When Queen Victoria moved into Buckingham Palace (1837) the Queen's Guard remained at St James's Palace and a detachment guarded Buckingham Palace, as it does today. The Changing of the Guard takes place inside the railings of the forecourt to Buckingham Palace. The Foot Guards provide a colorful display in their red tunics and bearskins and are accompanied by a band throughout. During the 45 minute ceremony the New Guard replaces the Old Guard and a detachment is left at Buckingham Palace with the remaining New Guard marching on to St James Palace. For a good view, get there early and position yourself near the railings or the Victoria Memorial. The Queen's Guard, accompanied by a band, arrives from Wellington Barracks having marched via Bird Cage Walk to the palace.



*The Changing of the Guard takes place daily at 11.30am and lasts approximately 45 minutes.*

*Entrance: Adult: £11.50,*





**Covent Garden** - what started out in the seventeenth century as London's first luxury neighborhood is once more a highly desirable place to live, work and shop. Inigo Jones designed the piazza in 1632. At the heart of the piazza lies the famous market. The large glass covered building comprises several arcades of fashionable boutiques, cafés and an arts and crafts market. In the open piazza jugglers, mime artists, variety acts and musicians delight and amaze the crowds. Restaurants, cafés and bars line the piazza, offering great views of this daily spectacle.



Now we have the elegant old market hall, and shops, restaurants and arts-and-crafts stalls. In the Piazza, say hello to the famous teddy bear lady - Anne Marie at the Bedford Bears stall - the most traditional bear maker in the world!



Look for the plaque on the back of the Actors Church commemorating the birthplace of the Punch & Judy puppet show - behind the left-most pillar.

St Paul's (the Actors Church) dominates the west side of Covent Garden Piazza - and the church plays an important part in the lives of many people; residents, workers and visitors to Covent Garden. Work on the building of the



church began in 1631, with the impressive Tuscan Portico facing eastwards on to the Piazza. However, the Bishop of London, William Laud, insisted that the altar should be against the east wall, so the Portico was never used, two small doors being substituted on either side of it. The main entrance was by the west door, opening on to the little graveyard. The very first victim of the Great Plague - one Margaret Pontoous, a doctor's daughter, was buried in the churchyard in 1665. In 1795 there was a disastrous fire at the church, when the roof, painted ceiling, and parts of the walls were destroyed. Many famous names have been connected with St Paul's - John Wesley preached here, J.M.W Turner and W.S Gilbert were baptised here, and those buried here include the leading names of the stars of the West End Theatre.

The main entrance to the church is from Inigo Place, off Bedford Street. There are also passageways through to Inigo Place from King Street (to the North) and Henrietta Street (to the South).

The church and gardens are usually open to the public 8.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

**Monument** - Monument Yard, Fish St Hill, EC2. Monument or Cannon St tube station. Sir Christopher Wren's spectacular column symbolizing the rebuilding of London after the Great Fire of 1666 (its 202ft height is equal to the distance it stands from Pudding Lane where the fire started). Magnificent views over London are offered to those brave enough to conquer the column's 311 steps.

*Open Mon-Fri 9am-5.40pm, Sat/Sun 2pm-5.40pm.*





**Trafalgar Square** - where the statue of Admiral Lord Nelson dominates the square 167 feet above it. Built to commemorate his naval victory in 1805 it is a central piece of this magnificent area. Trafalgar Square laid out around 1830 is a popular venue for political rallies and used to be a home ground for thousands of pigeons. Recent ruling in banning of the pigeon food sellers to be there is going to certainly clean that patch of London of health hazards and of its long history of feeding them and taking photos with them. Each year people from all parts of London concentrate there to celebrate New Year but it looks as if that is also going to disappear as unruly behavior and pollution of noise is endangering this occasion. Four majestic bronze lions, each 20 feet long and 11 feet high guard the base of column and the church of St Martin-in-the-Fields dating from 1721 makes it popular destination for tourists to come and see it all.

**Nelson's Column** - raised in 1843 and now one of London's best-loved monuments, commemorates the one-armed, one-eyed admiral who defeated Napoleon at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, but paid for it with his life. The statue which surmounts the granite column is more than triple life-size but still manages to appear minuscule, and is coated in anti-pigeon gel to try and stem the build-up of guano.

The acanthus leaves of the capital are cast from British cannons, while bas-reliefs around the base - depicting three of Nelson's earlier victories as well as his death aboard HMS Victory - are from captured French armaments. Edwin Landseer's four gargantuan bronze lions guard the column and provide a climbing frame for kids to clamber over. 14 stonemasons held a dinner on top of Nelson's Column before the statue was placed there. Every year, London receives as a gift huge Christmas tree from Norwegian city of Oslo.

**Piccadilly Circus** - during the weekend this place is absolutely packed with people. Nightlife is in abundance here, especially with nightclubs like the Hippodrome, MGM Cinema, local pubs and bars, people trying to draw your picture and the Trocadero centre. Inside the Trocadero is Segaworld the world's largest indoor theme park, spanning seven floors and offering you all kinds of 21st Century games.

Rock and pop music are the subject of an exciting exhibition created by Madame Tussaud's - Rock Circus- in the old London Pavilion. Most of the waxen rock legends appear closely accompanied by their hits. Queuing is likely and if you do not like the buzz of the crowds avoid this area completely.

**Tower Bridge** - one of the most famous landmarks in London and just over a hundred years old, the Tower Bridge with its twin drawbridges, or bascules, each weighing about 1,000 tons have been raised more than half a million times since it was built. It takes only 90 seconds for the bascules to be raised with electric motors which replaced the old steam engines. From Tower Bridge you can view HMS Belfast, an 11,500-ton cruiser that opened the bombardment of the Normandy coast on D-Day. The closest tube stations for those two are, Tower Hill and London Bridge.

*Open from: daily 10am-6:30pm; Nov-March 10am-5:15pm. Tel: 0207 403 3761.*



**The Tower of London** - overlooks the river at the eastern boundary of the old city walls. Chiefly famous as a place of imprisonment and death, it has variously been used as a royal residence, armoury, mint, menagerie, observatory and - function it still serves - a safe-deposit box for the Crown Jewels.

Although you can explore the Tower complex independently, it is a good idea to get your bearings by joining up with one of the guided tours, given every thirty minutes by one of the forty-odd eminently photographable Beefeaters. These ex-servicemen are best known for their scarlet-and-gold Tudor costumes.



The Tower is one of London's most popular visitor attractions and forms a stunning riverside backdrop. The Tower of London came into existence following the Norman conquest (1066) and the need to colonise and defend England. Since then it has been used as a prison, palace, place of execution and a showcase for the Crown Jewels.



After King Henry VIII's break with the Catholic Church it housed religious prisoners including two of Henry VIII's six wives - Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard, both of whom were beheaded on the scaffolds at Tower Green. Visitors can also see the Crown Jewels which are still used by the Royal family today, the Yeoman Warders ('Beefeaters') who have been protecting the tower since the fourteenth-century and the infamous ravens. Legend has it that Charles II was told that if the ravens left the Tower then the monarchy would fall.

*The Tower of London opens daily*  
*09:00-17:00 Mon-Sat 10:00-17:00 Sun (Mar-Oct).*  
*09:00-16:00 Tues-Sat 10:00-16:00 Sun-Mon (Nov-Feb).*  
*Closed 24-26 Dec and 1 Jan.*  
*Entrance: Adult: £11.50.*

**The Crown Jewels** - the castellated Waterloo Barracks, built to the north of the White Tower during the Duke of Wellington's term as Constable of the Tower, now hold the Crown Jewels, perhaps the major reason so many visitors flock to the Tower. At least some of the Crown Jewels have been kept in the Tower since 1327, and have been on display since Charles II let the public have a look at them.

The oldest piece of regalia is the twelfth-century 'Anointing Spoon'; the most famous is the 'Imperial State Crown', sparkling with a 317-carat diamond, a sapphire from a ring said to have been buried with Edward the Confessor, and assorted emeralds, rubies and pearls.



**Westminster Abbey** - it has been so closely connected with the Crown and the nations history. The coronation of every king and queen (apart from two) spanning 900 years has been held here. The magnificent Gothic building seen today dates from the 11th century.

Westminster Abbey is one of Europe's finest Gothic buildings and the scene of coronations, marriages and burials of British monarchs. It dates back to the 11th century, and highlights include the Coronation Chair made in 1300, Poets' Corner and the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior.

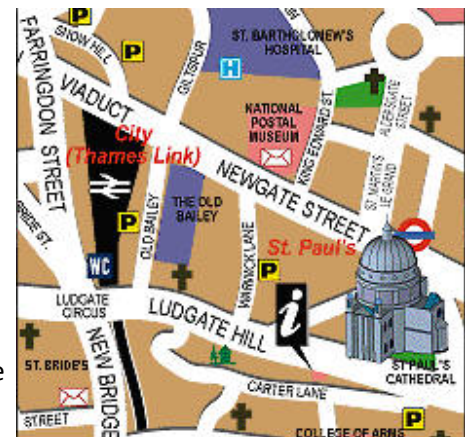
*Open Monday-Friday and Saturday morning, Sundays for worship only.*  
*Entrance: Adults: £6.00*

**St Paul's Cathedral** - The present structure is the fifth cathedral to be built on the site. The weddings of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill and many other occasions have graced this spiritual centre. Built of Portland stone with a Dome that rises to 365 feet and with Great Paul, the largest bell in England, this has to be one of THE MUST SEE sights in London.

Open from: Mon-Sat 8:30am-4pm. Tel: 0207 236 4128.

**Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and Exhibition** is the fascinating story of the re-creation of Shakespeare's Globe. Visitors can see the reconstructed Elizabethan theatre, built with materials, techniques and craftsmanship of 400 years ago. The largest exhibition in the world devoted to Shakespeare explores the playwright's London, Elizabethan theatre and the Shakespeare's influence around the world. The summer season of plays sees Shakespeare performed in an authentic setting.

*Exhibition available from 10:00-17:00 from Oct to April.*  
*During the theatre season (May-Sep) exhibition is open from 12:00-17:30.*  
*Entrance to exhibition and guided tour: Adult: £8.00.*







**The Houses of Parliament** are the place where laws governing British life are debated and enacted. Begun in 1840 after a fire destroyed the previous building, the Gothic style was designed by Sir Charles Barry with aid from A.W. Pugin. It contains the bell Big Ben that is struck each quarter hour. A light in the clock tower tells when the House of Commons is in session.

The Houses of Parliament are steeped in pomp, ceremony and splendor. The Queen rides in a State coach to Westminster to open each new session of Parliament, usually in the second week in November. A word of caution; in the summer months it can get pretty congested with all of the tourist coming and regular traffic trying to cross the square. After many long speeches by politicians promising 'Free Trafalgar for people', finally in September 2002 Mr. Ken Livingstone has changed driving routes so that pedestrians can have more freedom.



*Open from: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 9am-2pm & 4-5pm, also Wed 6-7.45pm. Tel: 0207 222 5152.*

**Kensington Palace State Apartments** - The birthplace of **Queen Victoria**, Kensington Palace was also home to **Princess Diana** between 1981-1997. Originally a private country house, it was adapted substantially by William III and Mary II (1689) who chose to spend winters there to escape the damp of Whitehall. Over the next 70 years it was to become the focal point of the life and government of the country. George I and George II spent vast sums of money on ornate and lavish furnishings to adorn Kensington House (as it was then known), including elaborate **ceiling decorations by William Kent**. The sudden death of George II in 1760 marked the end of an era. Kensington Palace was never again to serve a reigning monarch.



Early one morning in June 1837 Princess Victoria, who was occupying apartments in Kensington Palace, awoke to the news that she was **Queen of England**. She immediately moved to Buckingham Palace. Kensington Palace first opened to the public in 1912 with a display of relics and objects relating to the City of London. It attracted **13,000 visitors in just one day!** The museum pieces now form part of the collection at the Museum of London. Visitors today can see the **State Apartments**, the **Royal Ceremonial Dress Collection** that includes outfits from the eighteenth-century to the present day, the **Orangery** and **sunken gardens**.

*Kensington Palace opens daily. 10:00-16:00 (Nov-Feb) 10:00-17:00 (Mar-Oct). Closed 24-26 Dec.*  
**Entrance: Adults £10.00**



## SHOPPING

**Burlington Arcade** - Located on the other side of the Royal Academy, and built in 1819 for Lord Cavendish this is London's longest and most expensive nineteenth-century arcade. It is still illegal to whistle, sing, hum, hurry or carry large packages. If you want to spend your money quickly in London then this is the place that will take care of it. The best known street for shopping in London is **Oxford Street**. It is the most famous street in London where you can buy souvenirs, clothes, and so on. The good news about shopping at Oxford Street is that so many big retailers are represented here that you will be spoilt for choice. The bad news is that you may have to be prepared to struggle from store to store.

During the busiest times so many people are milling around that the street looks like an anthill. No matter which day you choose to come here your shopping will be hampered by mass of shoppers.

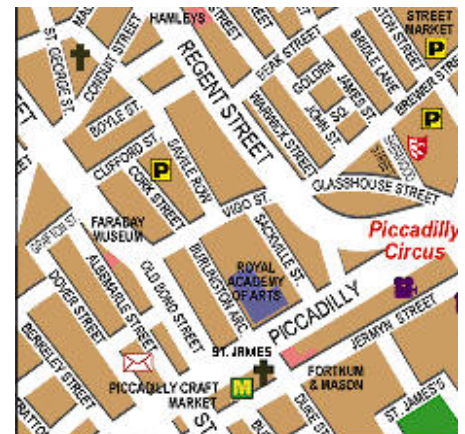
To avoid the worst of the crowds you have to be an early riser and come between 9 and 10 am - Saturdays and Sundays are bad no matter what time of day it is - when most of the other shoppers are either in bed or having a breakfast. The nearest tube stations are: Marble Arch, Bond Street, Oxford Circus or Tottenham Court Road.

The second street that you are most likely to visit to do your shopping is **Regent's Street**. With Oxford Circus tube station on one end, and Piccadilly Circus on the other, this street is packed with all kinds of shops. The main reason for us mentioning this one is, the Hamley's store. Hamley's is every child's dream come true. Packed with all kinds of toys this shop will make a hole in your pocket from. Michael Jackson was seen doing his shopping there while he was in the town.

A short cab ride to Kensington, and you'll find **Harrods** store, a red terracotta building which was completed in 1905 and its interior decoration includes Art Nouveau and Art Deco styles. It began, in 1849, as a small grocer's shop and was further developed by the son of the founder, Henry Harrods.

It can boast that it is the store that has delivered an elephant to Ronald Reagan, gooseberries to Saudi Arabia and a skunk to an American's ex-wife. This was the first store in the world to install an escalator and Victorian customers were so overcome by the experience of riding a "moving staircase" that the store posted attendants at the top of the to administer brandy to gentlemen and smelling salts to the ladies.

Currently it is owned by the Egyptian Mohamed Al Fayed and employs in excess of 3000 staff. It is four acres in size and with more than 300 departments, bars, restaurants and even own pub this store is London's third top attraction with around 30,000 customers passing it through on daily basis. Most of them just pass through, though simply because of the expensive nature of the things. All along Brompton Road that runs into Fulham Road you can see a wider variety of shops.





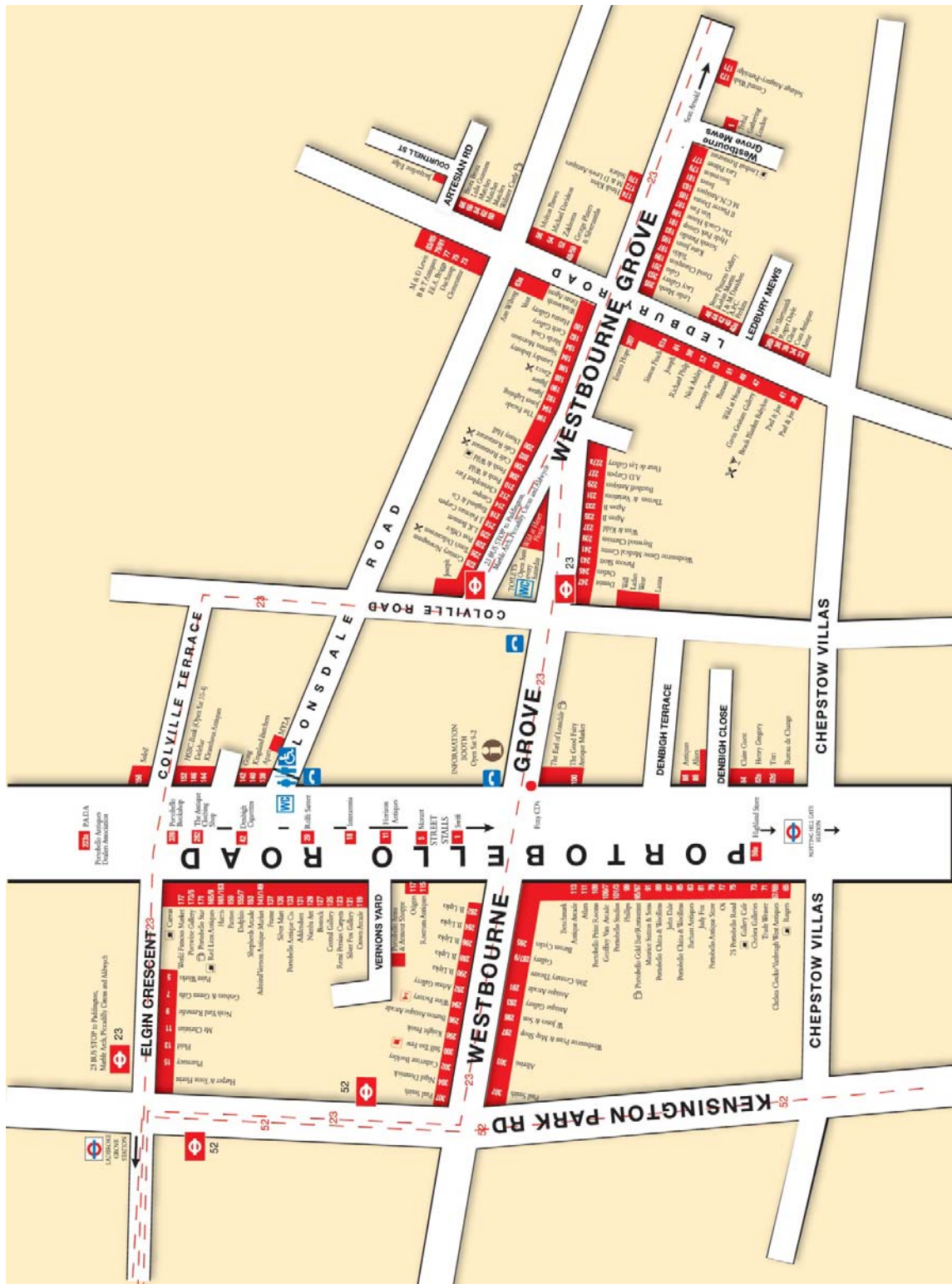
**Portobello Market.** the world's largest antiques market, with over 1500 dealers selling every kind of antique and collectable. The market is open every Saturday, while the shops are open six days a week. Market days start gradually from around 5.30am with trading between dealers from the UK and overseas. Most stall holders have arrived by 8.00am and the market is in full swing for the rest of the day To reach it you would have to take a tube to Ladbroke Grove or Notting Hill station. This market is huge and you will have to push and be pushed by other people.



The shops and stalls of Portobello Road offer an extraordinary variety of goods ranging in price from a few pounds to several thousands. If you are looking for a pen or a tank you will find it here. Selection is huge and so many tourists visit this market each year. Also once a year they have Notting Hill Carnival so there is always plenty of buzz. To list everything they sell would take us ages to do, so if you are local to the area or you have inquisitive nature just go there and have a nice day because you will not be disappointed. Local and not far away is Bayswater area where you can go to shopping centre, Whiteley and have a bite. We have to say the complete area is little bit on younger side.



## PORTOBELLO ROAD MARKET (SATURDAY MORNING)







## GETTING AROUND

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### The London Underground/Tube

There are six Zones on the underground - Zone 1 being central London and increasing the further out from the centre you travel. Fares increase according to the number of Zones traveled. A one-way underground journey in Zone 1 (central London) costs £1.60 for adults and 60p for children. If you are making several trips, it's cheaper to buy a Travelcard. Travelcards are available on an annual, monthly, weekly or daily basis (after 0930 for day passes) and can be used on buses and local trains as well as the tube. Rush hour in London ends at about 0930 and begins again in the evening, between 1600 and 1900. It is best to avoid traveling at those times if possible. The first trains on the underground start running at approximately 0530 Monday-Saturday and 0700 on Sunday. The last trains are at approximately 2400 Monday-Saturday or 2300 on Sunday. Tickets for the underground can be bought from the ticket offices or machines at any underground station, as well as travel information centres and some newsagents.

### Taxis and black cabs

Traveling in a traditional London taxi is a unique and easy method of getting from A to B. Taxis can be hailed in the street or found at designated ranks, often situated outside main tube, train and bus stations in central London. If you are hailing a taxi in the street, look for the orange light on the roof which indicates that the taxi is for hire. London cabbies complete an intensive series of examinations, known as The Knowledge, before receiving their license, which means that they know the streets of London like no other. The cost of a cab journey is regulated through a metering system and is displayed inside the cab. Extra charges, such as evening and weekend journeys, are also shown here. It is common practice to tip 10% of the total fare although this is not compulsory.

### OTHER NOTES

**General Opening Hours** - The majority of **attractions** are normally open daily from 1000-1700, although some attractions may have shorter opening hours on Sundays.

**Banks** are normally open from 0900-1700 Monday-Friday, although some of the larger branches may also open on Saturday morning.

**Pubs** are open from 1100-2300 Monday-Saturday and 1200-2230 on Sundays. Some pubs in the City are closed at the weekend.

**Restaurant** opening times vary but most restaurants open daily from approximately 1200-2300.

**Shops** are normally open from 1000-1800 Monday to Saturday and 1200-1800 on Sundays. Late night shopping in Oxford Street and Regent Street is on Thursday, with shops open until 2000.

**Theatres** generally offer evening performances, Monday-Saturday with a weekday and a weekend matinee. However, a small number of theatres run shows on Sunday.



## CONFIRMATIONS, VOUCHERS AND BOOKINGS

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### ATTACHED

#### Airline eTickets

- Continental
- British Airways

#### Rental Car Bookings:

- AVIS in PISA Italy
- Kosmos in Katakolon Greece
- AVIS in London Gatwick

#### Hotel Confirmations:

- VilleFranche Apartment
- Milan Hotel
- Venice Hotel
- London Apartment

#### Tour Bookings:

- Athens Day Tour
- Kusadasi Day Tour
- Santorini Day Tour
- Civitavecchia to Rome Airport Transfer