



Arrangements
Abroad



Epic Journey Across Time
Cyprus, Rhodes & the Turquoise Coast
Aboard *Emerald Azzurra*

April 9 – 18, 2025

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Cyprus, Rhodes & the Turquoise Coast

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Set sail on a unique Mediterranean voyage from Cyprus to the Greek island of Rhodes and Turkey's picturesque Turquoise Coast, featuring expert-led inside looks at unsung history, sacred treasures, Byzantine art, Ancient Wonders of the World, and UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Cruising aboard the luxurious new *Emerald Azzurra*, go behind the scenes at some of this region's most historic and revered yet rarely explored sites. In Larnaca, Cyprus, choose to explore Nicosia, "the world's last divided capital city," or the archaeological site of Kition. Board the ship in Limassol and head to Paphos to uncover Aphrodite's legends and Roman history. Cruise to Turkey, beginning in Antalya and its Greek, Roman, and Byzantine sites. Visit archaeological wonders in Perge, and marvel at the ancient acoustics at the Aspendos amphitheater. Discover Kas's ancient theater and Lycian tombs, and discover Simena's underwater city ruins aboard a glass-bottom boat. Visit the cliffside city of Xanthos, with its significant Lycian ruins, and the nearby sacred sanctuary of Letoon, dedicated to Leto, Artemis, and Apollo. In Rhodes, Greece, explore the UNESCO-listed medieval town and its archaeological museum. Conclude in Izmir, Turkey, after visiting Bodrum for expert-led inside looks at the legendary ruins of Halicarnassus and ancient shipwreck treasures at the Museum of Underwater Archaeology. An optional prelude amid the otherworldly landscapes of Turkey's Cappadocia region is offered. You may also join an optional postlude to Istanbul, one of the world's most splendid cities with its ancient mosques and palaces.

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Cruise over seven nights aboard the brand-new *Emerald Azzurra*, which the editors of *Cruise Critic* picked as their "Best New Luxury Ship" in 2022, from Cyprus to the Greek island of Rhodes and Turkey's picturesque Turquoise Coast (Turkish Riviera)
- Choose to go behind the scenes of sites in Nicosia, the Cypriot capital known as "the world's last divided capital city," or discover the Mycenaean, Phoenician, and Roman remains of the ancient city of Kition
- Uncover the treasures of Perge, an ancient Roman city near the Turkish coast, at the Antalya Archaeological Museum, then see the remarkable ruins of Perge for yourself with a scholar
- Witness the largest group of painted Byzantine churches and monasteries in the Troodos Mountains, offering insight into Byzantine and post-Byzantine art
- Step ashore in Paphos, Cyprus, the mythical birthplace of Aphrodite, with guided visits to exquisite UNESCO-listed ancient Roman villas housing beautifully preserved mosaic floors
- Embark on an unforgettable sea excursion off Turkey's Turquoise Coast, where you will board private glass-bottom boats to sail above spectacular ancient ruins submerged in crystal-clear waters
- Explore the ancient Lycian culture through an in-depth examination of millennia-old rock-cut tombs and monuments in Xanthos, the UNESCO-listed Lycian capital, and the neighboring sanctuary of Letoon
- Join expert guides to experience the Gothic architecture and beautifully preserved fortifications in the UNESCO-listed medieval city of Rhodes
- Meet with a journalist in Turkey for exclusive insights on current affairs and enjoy private traditional Cypriot and Turkish cultural performances



Map of the region



Nicosia, Cyprus

An optional prelude in Cappadocia is offered from April 6-10, 2025.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9: DEPARTURE

Depart for Larnaca, Cyprus, on an overnight flight.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10: LARNACA, CYPRUS

Arrive this morning and transfer to the Indigo Hotel Larnaca for check-in. Guests who opt for the suggested flights will meet our representatives at the airport and join the group transfer to the hotel. This evening, attend a welcome reception with dinner at leisure.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 11: LARNACA / NICOSIA OR KITION & KOURION OR TROODOS MOUNTAINS / LIMASSOL / EMBARK EMERALD AZZURRA

This morning, you may choose between tours of Nicosia or Kition, fascinating sites featuring millennia of cultural treasures. Explore Cyprus's millennia-old capital, Nicosia, once ruled by Byzantines, Venetians, Ottomans, and Britons. Nicosia is "the world's last divided capital," with a UN-monitored buffer zone between the Greek Cypriot-controlled south and the self-proclaimed Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in the north.

In this ancient town enclosed by 16th-century Venetian walls, discover ancient Cypriot art and Byzantine treasures at the Cyprus Museum. After lunch, visit the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist with its 18th-century wall paintings. Admire the 16th-century Büyük Khan, Cyprus's largest *caravanserai* (roadside inn) and one of the most important architectural works of the Ottoman period. Continue to the elaborately beautiful Selimiye Mosque, which was originally constructed in the 13th and 14th centuries as a Catholic cathedral and later converted into an Ottoman mosque.

Alternatively, explore Larnaca starting with the ancient city of Kition, where Mycenaean Achaeans arrived in the 13th century B.C., followed by Phoenicians in the ninth century B.C. Explore Kition's remains, including the Phoenician-built

Temple of Aphrodite-Astarte and a 60-foot-long Roman mosaic. In the village of Kiti, take a guided look at the 11th-century church of Panagia Angeloktisti and its splendid early Christian mosaics.

Nearby, explore the Neolithic settlement of Choirokoitia and the remains of its circular mudbrick houses and protective walls. At the Petros Nikolaou Basketry Workshop and Museum, hosted in a traditional 19th-century house, peruse displays of handmade baskets crafted from local varieties of reed. While here, taste some traditional Cypriot cheeses, followed by lunch.

In the afternoon, visit the well-preserved ruins of the ancient Greek site of Kourion, including its impressive amphitheater, bathhouses, and breathtaking views of the island's coast. You will also view the well-preserved mosaic floors in the House of Eustolios, the House of Achilles, and the House of the Gladiators.

A third option heads to the Troodos Mountains and the Solea Valley, where you'll find the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Agios Nikolaos tis Stegis (St. Nicholas of the Roof), one of Cyprus's most fascinating Byzantine churches. This 11th-century domed, cross-in-square church, once part of a monastery complex, is the only surviving monastery church of its kind in Cyprus. Inside, behold the island's most significant surviving set of Byzantine frescoes spanning from the 11th to the 17th centuries.

Continue to the village of Omodos and visit the Monastery of Timios Stavros (Holy Cross), one of Cyprus's oldest monasteries, founded before 327 A.D. According to tradition, the monastery was built above a cave where a cross was discovered after villagers witnessed a mysterious fire at the site for several nights. Inside this ornate monastery, marvel at intricate frescoes and meticulously crafted icons depicting saints, biblical scenes, and geometric designs, reflecting the artistic brilliance of the Byzantine era.



Kourion, Cyprus



Church of Chrysopolitissa, Paphos

Afterwards, experience Omodos's long tradition in winemaking, stopping to sample local wines and liqueurs. Then savor a *mezze* lunch of local dishes at a traditional *taverna* in the village.

All participants proceed to Limassol and embark *Emerald Azzurra*. Enjoy a private performance of Cypriot dance on board and raise a Champagne flute on deck as we sail out of the harbor in the late afternoon. B,L,D

SATURDAY, APRIL 12: PAPHOS

Step ashore in Paphos, the birthplace of the goddess Aphrodite, according to legend. Established by Greek settlers during the Mycenaean era, the city was eventually captured by Ptolemy I of Egypt and later the Romans, who claimed it as the island's capital. On a guided walking tour of the Archaeological Park of Nea Paphos, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, visit the exquisite Houses of Dionysos, Theseus, and Aion, ancient Roman villas built from the second through the fifth centuries A.D. Marvel at their beautifully well-preserved mosaic floors depicting mythological and hunting scenes. View the medieval ruins of the Castle of Forty Columns, a seventh-century fortress named for its many granite columns.

Transfer to the Church of Chrysopolitissa, originally founded by the apostles Paul and Barnabas in 46 A.D. See the ruins of its fourth-century basilica and medieval Ottoman baths. View the modest yet famous St. Paul's Pillar, said to mark the spot where the apostle Paul was whipped during his first missionary journey to Cyprus.

After lunch on board, visit the Tombs of the Kings, followed by a visit to the Monastery of St. Neophytos. Carved out of the mountains, it houses a noteworthy ecclesiastical museum containing icons dating from the 16th century. Return to the ship and set sail for Turkey. B,L,D

SUNDAY, APRIL 13: ANTALYA, TURKEY / PERGE / ASPENDOS

Attend a morning lecture as the ship sails to Antalya, Turkey's largest Mediterranean city, renowned for its Greek, Roman, and Byzantine landmarks against a backdrop of the Taurus Mountains. First head south along the coast to the ancient trade center of Perge, once claimed by Lycians, Greeks, and Romans. Perge's archaeological site features well-preserved bath complexes, an agora, basilicas, a theater, a stadium, and impressive fortifications. Nearby is the Antalya Archaeological Museum, notable for its collection of sculptures unearthed from the ancient site. In Aspendos, stop at the renowned Roman amphitheater built during Marcus Aurelius's reign, known for its acoustics. Return to Antalya and *Emerald Azzurra*, gathering for the captain's welcome reception and dinner this evening. B,L,R,D

MONDAY, APRIL 14: KAS / KEKOVA BAY / SIMENA

Anchor off Turkey's fabled Turquoise Coast, named for the beautiful blue color of the waters, and board a tender into Kas, an ancient Lycian trading port. Explore the remarkably restored, 4,000-seat limestone Hellenistic Theater, a rare relic of the ancient Lycian city, constructed in the first century B.C. Also, behold a well-preserved Lycian tomb located in Kas's historical center. After a transfer to Kekova Bay, board glass-bottom boats and cruise for a mesmerizing perspective on the ancient submerged city of Simena. Below your feet, watch as ruins and rock-cut tombs appear in the clear turquoise waters. Return to the ship and set sail for the island of Rhodes. B,L,D

TUESDAY, APRIL 15: FETHIYE / XANTHOS / LETOON

The ancient Lycians, initially nomads, settled in mountainous southwestern Turkey in the eighth century B.C. and became



Perge, Turkey



Rhodes, Greece

known for their cliffside rock-cut tombs. Arrive in the beautiful port of Fethiye and transfer to the UNESCO-listed ancient Lycian capital of Xanthos, set on a cliff overlooking the Xanthos River, and delve into its rich history dating back to the eighth century B.C. Join an expert guide to explore its acropolis, Byzantine basilica, theater, and rock-cut tombs, remnants of its cosmopolitan past as a cultural, commercial, and political hub. Uncover connections between the Lycians, Greeks, and Persians, and remnants of the city's later conquest by the Romans.

While here, discover the Nereid Monument, an intricately crafted tomb built in the fourth century B.C., showcasing a fusion of Lycian, Greek Ionic, and Persian architectural styles. An early example of Greek-style temple-tombs and a precursor to the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus, the monument was named after sea nymphs from Greek mythology. Next, continue to nearby Letoon, the ancient Lycian sanctuary dedicated to the goddess Leto and her twin children, Artemis and Apollo. See Letoon's temples and colonnaded galleries that shed light on the religious practices and mythological beliefs of the Lycians. Return to the ship for lunch and depart for Rhodes. B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16: RHODES, GREECE

The island of Rhodes was known in antiquity for its schools of philosophy, rhetoric, and sculpture, including its mythical Colossus of Rhodes, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. From 1309 to 1523, the the Knights of St. John occupied the city, surrounding it with fortifications they expertly maintained. Upon morning arrival, explore the UNESCO-listed fortified town, one of Europe's best-preserved medieval cities. Walk along the Street of the Knights, overflowing with mosaics, finely carved portals, balconies, and coats of arms. Then visit the Archaeological Museum of Rhodes, housed in the medieval Hospital of the Knights, and see its collection of vases, figurines, Hellenistic mosaic floors, and more. There will be time in the afternoon to do some independent exploration of Rhodes town before the ship sails in the early evening. B,L,D

THURSDAY, APRIL 17: BODRUM, TURKEY

After morning arrival into Bodrum, delve into the history of Halicarnassus, visiting the Mausoleum, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the Museum of Underwater Archaeology, which showcases ancient artifacts from shipwrecks in the Aegean Sea. Have lunch on board as the ship sails to Izmir. After an afternoon at sea, celebrate your journey at the captain's farewell reception and dinner. B,L,R,D

FRIDAY, APRIL 18: IZMIR / DISEMBARK / RETURN

Disembark this morning in Izmir and transfer to the airport for your flights home. B

An optional postlude in Istanbul is offered from April 18-20, 2025.



Bodrum, Turkey

DISCLAIMER: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

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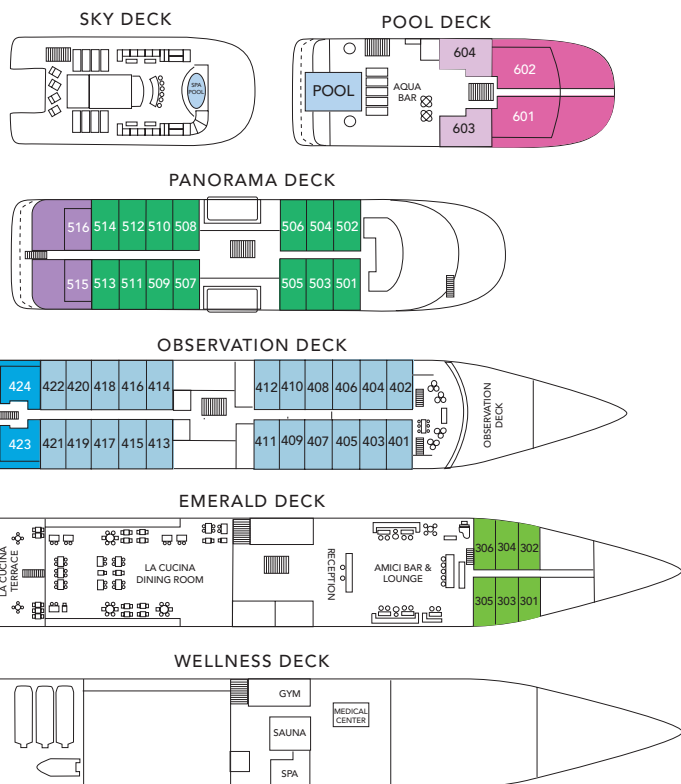
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Cover photo: Simena, Turkey

CRUISE RATES

Cabins	Decks	Double	Single
301-306	Emerald	\$8,999	\$13,499
Oceanview Staterooms, 205 sq. ft.			
401-422	Observation	\$11,999	\$17,999
Balcony Suites, lower floor, 285 sq. ft. private balcony.			
501-514	Panorama	\$12,999	\$19,499
Balcony Suites, higher floor, 305 sq. ft. private balcony.			
603 & 604	Pool	\$14,999	Inquire
Deluxe Balcony Suites, 390 sq. ft. private balcony.			
515 & 516	Panorama	\$17,999	Inquire
Terrace Suites, 650 sq. ft. outside terrace.			
423 & 424	Observation	\$19,999	Inquire
Yacht Suites, 720 sq. ft. outside terrace.			
601 & 602	Pool	\$21,999	Inquire
Owners Suites, 1180 sq. ft. outside terrace. Separate bedroom and lounge area.			



EMERALD AZZURRA

Discover why the editors of *Cruise Critic* picked *Emerald Azzurra* as their “Best New Luxury Ship” in 2022. Reaching an impressive 360 feet in length with only 50 cabins, the spectacular new *Emerald Azzurra* will exceed your yacht cruising expectations as it sails into some of the most picturesque ports and harbors in the world. Relax in your spacious, modern surroundings and enjoy a collection of luxurious amenities. Discover a secluded spot to read a book, enjoy unimpeded views of the unspoiled landscapes, or take a relaxing dip in the infinity-style pool. Expect fresh, locally sourced meals thoughtfully crafted by expert chefs and appreciate the ocean breeze from the large *al fresco* terrace. Have a nightcap in the plush, relaxed atmosphere of the Horizon Bar & Lounge. Unwind completely in the onboard Wellness Center, where a selection of indulgent spa treatments includes massages, facials, and even a hairdresser. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available for all our guests and a full selection of bikes is on board for your use.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Indigo Hotel Larnaca

Nestled amid Larnaca's graceful old townhouses, this hotel offers a harmonious blend of historic charm and contemporary design, mirroring the essence of the city itself. Nearby, you'll find the historic ninth-century Church of St. Lazarus and the medieval castle of Larnaca. A short walk away, the Finikoudes beach promenade, a highlight of Larnaca, offers a splendid way to appreciate the city's scenic beauty. The hotel features a striking rooftop pool, an elegant Wine Bar, and the Courtyard Restaurant. Each bedroom is equipped with rainfall showers, state-of-the-art technology, and a private balcony, ensuring a comfortable and luxurious stay.



Indigo Hotel Larnaca



Emerald Azzurra

RATES INCLUDE

- One night hotel accommodations at the Indigo Hotel Larnaca in Larnaca
- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *Emerald Azzurra* as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; thoughtfully selected wine and beer with onboard lunches and dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; optional Cappadocia prelude; optional Istanbul postlude; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.