

EXPLORERS

ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

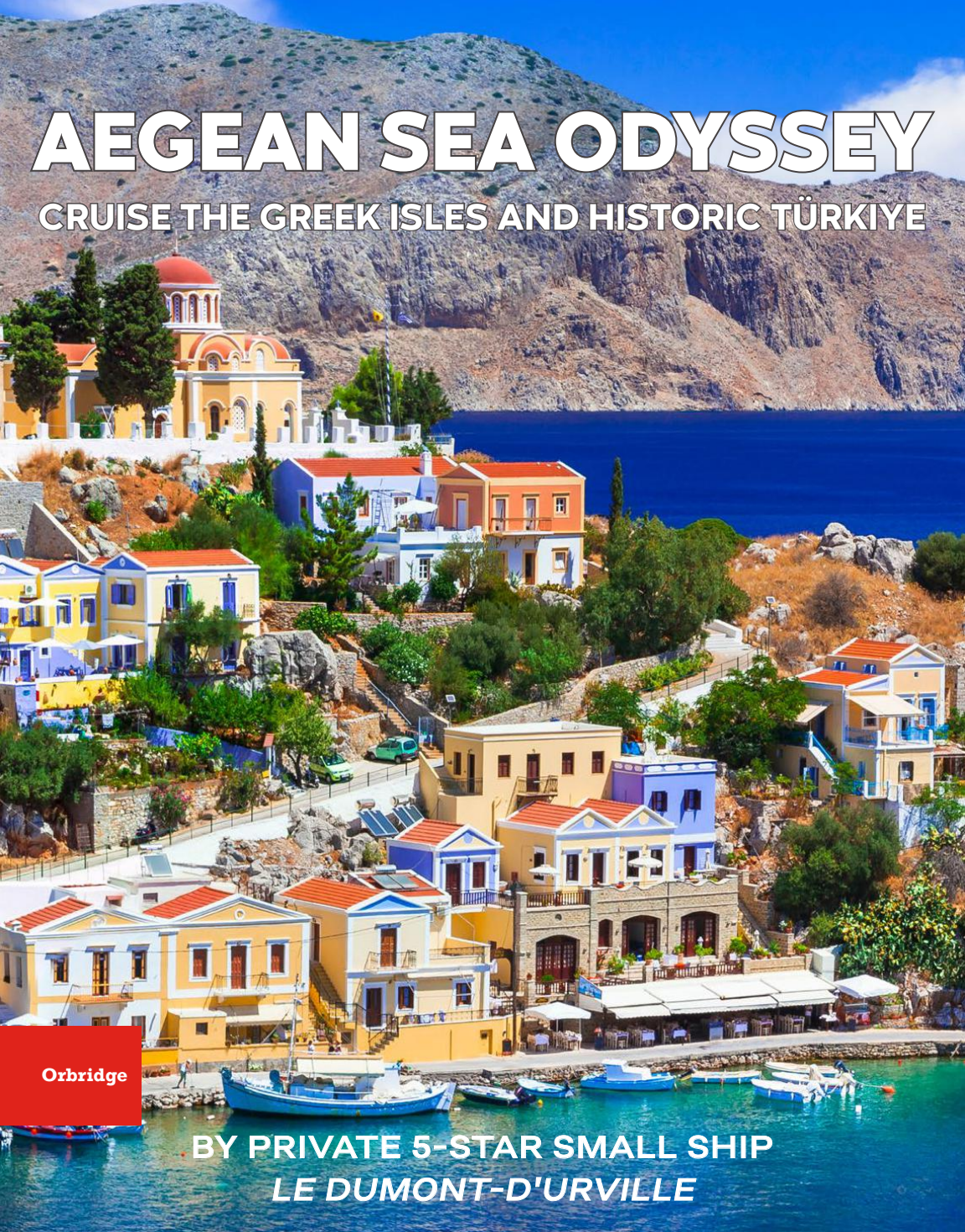
APRIL 7-15, 2025

with optional

Athens Pre-Tour and
Istanbul Post-Tour

AEGEAN SEA ODYSSEY

CRUISE THE GREEK ISLES AND HISTORIC TÜRKIYE



Orbridge

BY PRIVATE 5-STAR SMALL SHIP
LE DUMONT-D'URVILLE



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Dear EXPLORERS and Friends,

Join us on a captivating journey cruising the Aegean Sea, weaving through a tapestry of enchanting destinations and cultural coastal gems of Greece and Türkiye.

From the sacred island of Delos to the iconic landscapes of Santorini and the historic streets of Istanbul, each destination unfolds like a chapter from the epic tales of antiquity. You'll traverse through the timeless wonders of Mykonos, Rhodes, Kuşadası and Çanakkale, where echoes of the past resonate in every cobblestone street and archaeological site.


The exquisite luxury cruise ship, *Le Dumont-d'Urville*, will be your floating sanctuary of sophistication and comfort, promising relaxation and an immersive cultural experience. Indulge in gourmet dining, unwind in spacious staterooms and savor panoramic views throughout the vessel.

With significant savings of more than \$1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly. Reserve today online at uillinois.orbridge.com, by calling (866) 639-0079 or returning the attached reservation form.

Sincerely,



David Bambrey
President
University of Illinois Alumni Association
<https://uiaa.org/explorers/>

 Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green.

Aegean Sea Odyssey | Itinerary and Highlights *(subject to change)*

Day 1: EN ROUTE FROM U.S.

Day 2: **ARRIVE IN ATHENS, GREECE | PIRAEUS – EMBARKATION** Upon arriving an Orbridge representative will be waiting to assist with your transfer to Piraeus. As embarkation begins, take time to unpack and become familiar with your accommodations. This evening gather with fellow travel companions for a welcome reception to celebrate the exciting journey ahead. Overnight: *Le Dumont-d'Urville* (R,D)

Day 3: **DELOS | MYKONOS** Disembark for a guided archaeological tour of Delos, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Observe the Terrace of Lions, the majestic Temple of Apollo and the Theatre District. Later enjoy leisure time to discover Mykonos, a charming island known for its role in Greek mythology and as a key trading port. Overnight: *Le Dumont-d'Urville* (B,L,D)

Day 4: **SANTORINI** Located on the southern coast of Santorini rests Akrotiri, considered one of the most well-planned and advanced cities of its time. Buried in lava stone after the catastrophic volcanic eruption that occurred around 1627 BC, the site was discovered in 1967 by archaeologist Spyridon Marinatos. Excavations have revealed a wealth of artifacts including tools and other objects that indicate a sophisticated level of craftsmanship. This afternoon, enjoy free time on the island or choose to join a winery tour and tasting excursion. Overnight: *Le Dumont-d'Urville* (B,L,D)

Day 5: **RHODES** This morning join a guided walking tour through the medieval city of Rhodes. Later choose to join the optional excursion to the Acropolis of Lindos. View the Temple of Athena Lindia which dates back to the 4th century BC. Overnight: *Le Dumont-d'Urville* (B,L,D)

Day 6: **KUŞADASI, TÜRKİYE** This morning arrive at Kuşadası, the gateway to the ancient city of Ephesus. At the ancient agora, explore the ruins of temples and public areas that once buzzed with activity. Later visit a carpet weaving center followed by a traditional Turkish lunch. Overnight: *Le Dumont-d'Urville* (B,L,D)

Day 7: **TURKISH COAST CRUISING** Savor a full day of leisure on board as you cruise north along the coast. Take advantage of the ship's plentiful amenities. Overnight: *Le Dumont-d'Urville* (B,L,D)

Day 8: **ÇANAKKALE** Tour the archaeological site of Troy, a UNESCO World Heritage site and location of the legendary Trojan War, as described in Homer's *Iliad*. Then visit the Archaeological Museum. After lunch join an optional excursion to see the ancient city of Assos and the Temple of Athena. Tonight gather for a farewell reception followed by a convivial gala dinner to commemorate this epic odyssey cruising the Aegean Sea. Overnight: *Le Dumont-d'Urville* (B,L,R,D)

Day 9: **ISTANBUL – DISEMBARKATION | DEPART FOR U.S.** After breakfast take the complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

(B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner, R = Reception)





What's Included

- 7 nights accommodations aboard *Le Dumont-d'Urville*
- All onboard hand-crafted meals: 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners (served with wine, beer or non-alcoholic beverages), plus special welcome and farewell receptions
- Unlimited select complimentary beverages available 24/7 on board the ship, including in the comfort of your stateroom
- Private tours and special small-group excursions as noted in the 9-day itinerary
- Full guiding services of a team of Orbridge Travel Directors and expert local guides
- Private motor coach transportation
- Luggage portage
- Gratuities to ship crew, Orbridge Travel Directors, local guides, drivers, porters, and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times



Orbridge

Activity Level: Guests should be able to enjoy two hours or more of walking, be sure-footed on cobbled surfaces, and walk up and down stairs without assistance.



Le Dumont-d'Urville

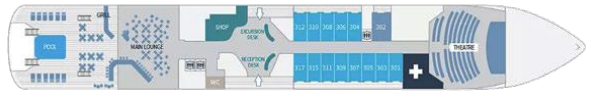
Accommodating 184 guests, *Le Dumont-d'Urville* redefines luxury and elegance in the world of cruising. On board, enter a world where the delicate balance between modern luxury and responsible travel is seamlessly achieved. Whether gazing at panoramic views from your private balcony or unwinding in one of the ship's inviting lounges, you'll find yourself embraced by a world of refinement.



Fred Michel®



Aft Deck



Deck 3



Deck 4



Deck 5



Deck 6



Deck 7



Lounge



Sauna



Dining



Deluxe (Deck 3) approx. 204 sq. ft.

One king or two single beds, private bathroom with shower, glazed panoramic swing door and rectangular window, private balcony with two armchairs.



Prestige (Decks 4, 5, 6) approx. 204 sq. ft.

One king or two single beds, one chaise lounge chair, private bathroom with shower, panoramic sliding bay window or panoramic swing door, panoramic sliding bay window, private balcony with two armchairs.



Deluxe Suite (Decks 3, 4, 5, 6) approx. 290 sq. ft.

One king or two single beds, an armchair and sofa, private bathroom with shower, glazed panoramic swing door and panoramic window (Deck 3), panoramic sliding bay window (Decks 4, 5, 6), private balcony with two armchairs.



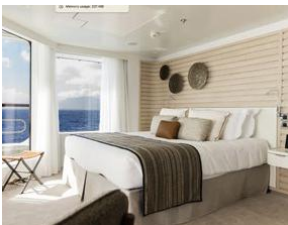
Prestige Suite (Decks 5, 6) approx. 409 sq. ft.

Priority boarding (Deck 6), champagne and fruit basket upon arrival, an assortment of sweet or savory canapés and fruit basket daily, one king or two single beds, lounge with sofa bed convertible to one king or two single beds, armchair, two TVs, sliding courtesy door, two private bathrooms with showers, two panoramic sliding bay windows, private balcony with four armchairs, butler service (Deck 6).



Privilege Suite (Decks 5, 6) approx. 344 sq. ft.

Priority boarding, champagne and fruit basket upon arrival and an assortment of sweet or savory canapés and fruit basket daily, one king or two single beds, lounge with chaise lounge and armchair, private bathroom with shower, panoramic sliding bay window, private balcony with two armchairs, butler service.



Grand Deluxe Suite (Deck 6) approx. 484 sq. ft.

Priority boarding, an assortment of sweet or savory canapés and fruit basket daily, one king or two single beds, lounge with sofa bed convertible to double bed, armchair, two TVs, private bathroom with shower and Baleno tub, two panoramic sliding bay windows, private terrace with two deckchairs and four-seat dining table, butler service.



Owner's Suite (Deck 5) approx. 505 sq. ft.

Priority boarding, champagne and fruit basket upon arrival, assortment of sweet or savory canapés and fruit basket daily, one king or two single beds, lounge with armchair and double sofa bed, two TVs, private bathroom with shower, Baleno tub, and smart mirror, two panoramic sliding bay windows, one-hour spa treatment (for two), selection of premium spirits at the bar, butler service.

Optional Athens Pre-Tour

Enjoy additional time in the ancient city of Athens, where history and modernity entwine.

Day +1: EN ROUTE FROM U.S.

Day +2: ARRIVE IN ATHENS, GREECE Upon arrival to Athens International Airport transfer to the hotel to enjoy the evening at leisure.
Overnight: King George, a Luxury Collection Hotel

Day +3: ATHENS Following breakfast join your local guide for a tour of Acropolis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Acropolis has a history dating back to the Mycenaean period and has been continuously inhabited and developed over the centuries. The area has undergone extensive restoration and conservation efforts over the years to ensure its continued preservation. Before returning to the hotel stop at a local taverna for lunch. The remainder of the afternoon and evening are at leisure.
Overnight: King George, a Luxury Collection Hotel (B,L)

Day +4: ATHENS | MAIN PROGRAM BEGINS Join your guide for a combination bus and walking tour to explore Athens' vibrant tapestry. Visit a variety of local shops and cafés to sample an array of traditional coffees, pastries and finger foods, savoring each sip, bite and flavor along the way. Afterward transfer to the Port of Piraeus to join guests arriving for the main program and embarkation. (B)

What's Included

- 2 nights accommodations at King George, a Luxury Collection Hotel (or similar)
- 2 breakfasts and 1 lunch
- Guided tour of the Acropolis
- Admission to the Acropolis Museum
- Guided culinary and cultural city tour
- Transportation for included tours
- Luggage portorage
- Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guide, driver, porters, hotel staff, and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfers for guests arriving during the suggested times



Optional Istanbul Post-Tour

Experience Istanbul's architectural wonders, cultural treasures and heritage.

Day 9: ISTANBUL Join your local guide for a full-day city tour. Notable sights include Hippodrome Square and the iconic Blue Mosque. After lunch proceed to the Hagia Sophia, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Descend into the Basilica Cistern, an ancient underground reservoir built in the 6th century. Conclude the day with a visit to the Grand Bazaar, one of the world's oldest and largest covered markets. The remainder of the evening is at leisure.
Overnight: Çırağan Palace Kempinski (L)

Day 10: ISTANBUL Set out for Topkapi Palace to explore the sprawling grounds, magnificent courtyards and lavish chambers. Afterward take a leisurely stroll through Pera district—Istanbul's bustling pedestrian street lined with shops, cafés and historic landmarks. Following lunch visit Taksim Square. This evening enjoy the hotel's plentiful amenities.
Overnight: Çırağan Palace Kempinski (B,L)

Day 11: ISTANBUL | DEPART FOR U.S. After breakfast take the complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

What's Included

- 2 nights accommodations at Çırağan Palace Kempinski (or similar)
- 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches
- Full day guided touring of Istanbul highlights, plus visits to Topkapi Palace, Grand Bazaar and Taksim Square
- Transportation for included tours
- Luggage portorage
- Gratuities to local guides, drivers, porters, and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times

AEGEAN SEA ODYSSEY

APRIL 7-15, 2025 Athens Pre-Tour: April 5-8, 2025 | Istanbul Post-Tour: April 15-17, 2025

Stateroom Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*	Stateroom Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Deluxe (Deck 3)	\$7,099	\$6,595	Privilege Suite (Decks 5, 6)	\$16,099	\$15,595
Prestige (Deck 4)	\$7,599	\$7,095	Grand Deluxe Suite (Deck 6)	\$17,299	\$16,795
Prestige (Deck 5)	\$8,299	\$7,795	Owner's Suite (Deck 5)	\$18,499	\$17,995
Prestige (Deck 6)	\$8,899	\$8,395	Single Deluxe (Deck 3)	\$11,699	\$11,195
Deluxe Suite (Deck 3)	\$10,099	\$9,595	Single Prestige (Deck 4)	\$12,499	\$11,995
Deluxe Suite (Deck 4)	\$11,199	\$10,695	Single Prestige (Deck 5)	\$14,099	\$13,595
Deluxe Suite (Deck 5)	\$12,299	\$11,795	Single Prestige (Deck 6)	\$15,299	\$14,795
Deluxe Suite (Deck 6)	\$13,349	\$12,845	<i>Category rates do not include the additional \$450 per person port fee.</i>		
Prestige Suite (Deck 5)	\$14,799	\$14,295			
Prestige Suite (Deck 6)	\$15,599	\$15,095			

Athens Pre-Tour			Istanbul Post-Tour		
Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*	Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Double	\$1,399	\$1,195	Double	\$1,699	\$1,495
Double Deluxe	\$1,799	\$1,595	Double Deluxe	\$2,099	\$1,895
Single	\$1,899	\$1,695	Single	\$2,399	\$2,195
Single Deluxe	\$2,499	\$2,295	Single Deluxe	\$2,799	\$2,595
Deluxe Upgrade: King George (Deluxe Acropolis View Room)			Deluxe Upgrade: Çırağan Palace Kempinski (Çırağan Bosphorus View Room)		

*Special group rates; limited offer. Rates are per person in U.S. dollars based on double occupancy except where noted as Single. Single availability limited. Airfare not included.

GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Reserve by Credit Card:

Online: uillinois.orbridge.com

Phone: (866) 639-0079

Fax: (206) 452-5655

Reserve by Check:

Made payable to **Orbridge, LLC**

Mail to: Orbridge
P.O. Box 1376
Poulsbo, WA 98370

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:

Check ACH (Automated Clearing House) MasterCard/Visa American Express Discover

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Name (as printed on card): _____

Billing Address (if different from above): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

The EXPLORERS program is open to alumni of the University of Illinois, their families, and friends.

CATEGORY SELECTION & DEPOSIT:

Category Preference: 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

_____ guests joining pre-tour (\$500/person) +

_____ guests joining program (\$850/person) +

_____ guests joining post-tour (\$500/person) = **TOTAL DEPOSIT: \$** _____

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS (added to your final invoice):

_____ guests joining Santorini Winery Visit (\$95/person)

_____ guests joining Rhodes – Lindos Acropolis Tour (\$95/person)

_____ guests joining Çanakkale – Assos Tour (\$95/person)

**A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.

Pre-Tour Category (choose one): Double Double Deluxe Single Single Deluxe

Post-Tour Category (choose one): Double Double Deluxe Single Single Deluxe

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com; and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CUT HERE

EXPLORERS

ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

University of Illinois Alumni Association
EXPLORERS Travel Program
Alice Campbell Alumni Center
601 S. Lincoln Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

What Guests Are Saying...

You can always count on U of I EXPLORERS trips for interesting sites, quality tours, and fun companions!

~UIAA EXPLORERS Traveler

I always enjoy being with fellow alumni and making new friends when visiting a new location.

~UIAA EXPLORERS Traveler

Orbridge is an amazing company, I really appreciate and enjoy their approach to the details and comfort of our trip

~UIAA EXPLORERS Traveler

AEGEAN SEA ODYSSEY

APRIL 7-15, 2025

Special Alumni Rate:

Save more than \$1,000 per couple

30-DAY REFUND GUARANTEE

Reserve by

July 12, 2024**

FREE EXPEDITION LIBRARY
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