

Dear Members and Friends,

Please join SBMA, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Dartmouth, and Study Leaders Nigel McGilchrist and John Meffert on an intimate voyage in Greece, where ancient art and architecture mingle with breathtaking natural beauty in unique and timeless ways.

Begin with one night at the venerable Hotel Grande Bretagne in Athens with its stunning rooftop view of the Parthenon and the Acropolis then embark *Sea Cloud II* for a seven-night private charter to various islands, each of them with its own character, landscape, and cultural heritage. There is no better way to sail this age-old sea in pursuit of learning than aboard the three-masted sailing yacht *Sea Cloud II*. Her small size allows us to visit ports inaccessible to larger ships and fosters a congenial atmosphere of (a maximum of 78) like-minded and intellectually curious travelers. Modeled after Marjorie Merriweather Post's legendary *Sea Cloud*, the iconic *Sea Cloud II* combines the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with the highest modern standards of luxury.

Art Historian Nigel McGilchrist, long known as SBMA travelers' favorite study leader, has explored, studied, and written about the Greek Isles for four decades. In 2010, after seven years in which he walked every path and village of the sixty inhabited Greek Islands in order to write a completely new guide to the archaeology, art, history, and ecology of the Greek Islands, his twenty-volume *McGilchrist's Greek Islands* was published. It was selected by *The Economist* for its list of Best Books of 2010. An abridged single-volume version, *Blue Guide to Greece: The Aegean Islands* came out the same year. In 2014 Nigel made the move from Italy to the Greek island of Kythera–where we will make a stop on this tour–effectively transforming him from a knowledgeable outsider to a resident expert. He has led numerous (sold-out) trips for SBMA over the years and has become a treasured friend to the Museum and its Members. Historian John Meffert is a favorite study leader through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. SBMA travelers have benefited in the past from his presence on co-sponsored programs and I am delighted that he will join Nigel in giving on-board talks.

This carefully crafted itinerary savors Greece's mythological sites, hidden gems waiting to be discovered, and lesser-known islands, including Kythera, the island on which Nigel now lives. I hope you will join us!

Sincerely,

LisaBershea

Lisa Benshea Manager of Travel & Special Programs, Santa Barbara Museum of Art

Study Leaders



Nigel McGilchrist was born in Scotland, educated in England, and for the past forty years has lived and worked in Italy, Greece, and Turkey. He studied first at Winchester College in England, and then at Oxford University where he received First Class Honors and three University prizes and medals in English and in Art History. He lectures widely on art and archeology at museums and institutions in the U.S. and Europe. He is the author of 21 books on the Greek Islands, including *Blue Guide to Greece: The Aegean Islands*. His

McGilchrist's Greek Islands, a series of twenty books covering the art, architecture, and history of the Aegean Islands was selected by *The Economist* magazine as one of the ten best travel-related books of 2010.

Historian **John Meffert**, consultant on Heritage Conservation Services, has a long tradition with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and receives rave reviews as a study leader.

Highlights

- Explore Delos, mythical birthplace of the Greek gods Artemis and Apollo and home to some of the Mediterranean's most extensive excavations.
- Discover the striking beauty and rich histories of the less frequently visited Greek isles of Naxos, Milos, Kythera, and car-free Hydra.
- Marvel at the impressive site of Mycenae, known for the story of Agamemnon, and Epidaurus, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its impressive 4th-century theater and important asclepeion temple.
- Visit Monemvasia—the "Gibraltar of Greece"—where the ruins of an ancient fortress loom over this small island connected to the mainland by a causeway.
- Experience Sea Cloud II, one of the most elegant and luxurious vessels afloat, with an opportunity to travel under sail, watching in awe from the deck as the crew hand-sets over 30,000 square feet of canvas.



ffinerary

Monday-Tuesday, July 11 -12 Home/ Athens, Greece Depart the U.S. on your flight to Athens, Greece. Arrive at Athens airport and transfer to your hotel located in the city's historic Syntagma Square. In the early evening meet your fellow travelers at a festive welcome reception. HOTEL GRANDE BRETAGNE (R)

Wednesday, July 13

Athens

Visit the Goulandris Museum of Cycladic Art in Athens, featuring art and artifacts from one of the three earliest Aegean cultures, dating from c. 3300 to 100 B.C. in preparation for our calls at the Cyclades islands of Delos and Naxos. Following a sumptuous lunch of traditional Greek cuisine. drive to the port of Piraeus and board the elegant Sea Cloud II. Enjoy a Captain's welcome reception and dinner while cruising to Delos.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Thursday, July 14

Delos

Explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Delos, thought to be the

mythological birthplace of Apollo and Artemis, two powerful Greek gods. A sacred place for millennia, this uninhabited island is now an archaeological park whose riches are uncovered during a walking tour through the excavated ruins, including the famed Terrace of the Lions and the House of Dionysus. Return to the Sea Cloud II for a relaxed afternoon of water sports, swimming, and the thrilling experience of cruising under sail. SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Athens

Hydra

Monemvasia

Epidaurus

Mycenae

Kythera

Nafplio

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Friday, July 15

Naxos

Call on the island of Naxos, Queen of the Cyclades, boasting lush green valleys, stunning seascapes, ancient treasures, and authentic villages perched high on mountain tops. Choose to head into the mountains or stay close to the coast during optional morning excursions. Amble through Apeiranthos, the crown jewel of Naxos, a stunning mountainous village with stone-built houses, beautiful squares and narrow alleys paved with marble: and marvel at the Kouros of Apollonas, the giant and ancient statue of Dionysus

lying unfinished in one of Greece's oldest quarries. Or take in the views from the huge Venetian castle in Chora, the island's capital, that once protected the city from attackers before enjoying a guided walking tour of Naxos's charming old town with lovely bays and beaches enticing a swim or snorkel in the crystal clear water. Return to the ship for lunch, followed by an afternoon of sailing between islands.

Delos

Milos

Naxos

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Saturday, July 16 Milos

Experience the island of Milos, where Venus de Milo was unearthed in the 19th century, and where volcanic activity has created a unique and stunning landscape of distinctive rock formations and pristine beaches. Visit beautiful fishing villages and walk the streets of Plaka, the picturesque old capital with its typical dazzling-white houses, overlooked by a mighty castle which offers a superb view over Adamos Bay and the surrounding islands. Spend the afternoon at sea cruising toward the the Peloponnese Peninsula. SEA CLOUD II (B.L.D)



Sunday, July 17 Kythera/Monemvasia

Arrive on Kythera-just off the southern tip of the Peloponnese-at Kapsali Harbor to explore the town and enjoy a special welcome on this seldomvisited island, known in mythology as the island of Aphrodite. Continue to Monemvasia, an important Byzantine site and medieval fortress town that clings to a massive rock rising dramatically from the sea. Enter through the fortified gate and enjoy time to explore charming alleyways, shops, and tavernas, stealing views across the Aegean Sea. SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Monday, July 18

Nafplio (Mycenae)

Take in the impressive ruins of Mycenae, once a major center of Bronze Age civilization known for its imposing structures and gold treasures, including the reputed mask of Agamemnon, regarded as mere legend until its ruins were discovered in the 1870s by Heinrich Schliemann. At the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Epidaurus, see the asclepeion (healing temple) and experience the marvelous acoustics in the enormous 4th-century theater. Remain in port to soak up the lovely and lively atmosphere of the charming seaport town of Nafplio in the evening. SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Tuesday, July 19 Hydra

Stop at the Saronic island of Hydra, a quiet island with no cars, to see where Athenians go for respite from the city. Walk the cobbled streets of Hydra Town restored and preserved exactly as it was in the 1800s with its Venetian style architecture. Return to the ship and enjoy a final afternoon of sailing as the ship returns to Athens. Gather this evening for the Captain's farewell reception and dinner while enjoying sensational views of Cape Sounion, including the ruins of the Temple of Poseidon. SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Wednesday, July 20 Athens/Home Disembark in Piraeus and

transfer to Athens airport for flights home. (B)



Optional Pre-Tour Extension in Athens

Spend two full days exploring the highlights of Athens including the Acropolis to see the iconic Parthenon; the Agora, a political and social center of ancient Athens; two of Athens best museums, the Acropolis Museum and the National Archaeological Museum; and the historical Plaka district.

Further details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.

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The iconic *Sea Cloud II* is perhaps the most luxurious three-masted sailing yacht on the seas today. Like Marjorie Merriweather Post's legendary *Sea Cloud*, she combines the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with the highest modern standards of luxury. In the grand tradition of the world's finest sailing vessels, guests can experience this marvelous ship under sail as the skilled crew hand-sets over 30,000 square feet of canvas. The *Sea Cloud II* offers an intimate setting of just 47 beautifully appointed cabins, gracious common areas, world-class service, and 5-star dining.

Program Rat	r CJ (per j	oerson)	
CATEGORY	DOUBLE	SINGLE	
1 150 sq. ft., upper & lower single beds, two portholes, shower	\$6,990	\$10,490	
2 204 sq. ft., forward, twins or queen bed, two portholes, shower	\$8,990	\$13,490	
3 215 sq. ft., midship, twins or queen bed, two portholes, shower	\$10,490	\$16,490	
4 226 sq. ft., queen bed, three portholes, shower	\$11,990	_	PROMENADE DECK
5 215 sq. ft., queen bed, panorama windows, shower	\$12,990	_	
6 231-247 sq. ft., twins or queen bed, panorama windows, bathtub/shower	\$13,990	_	
7 290 sq. ft., king bed, panorama windows, bath & separate shower	\$16,990	_	TREES SUNA CABIN DECK

General Information

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including **one deluxe hotel night and seven nights aboard Sea Cloud II** · Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations · Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates · **All gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers and shipboard personnel for all group activities** · Entrance fees and port charges · Welcome and farewell wine receptions · House wine, beer, and **soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners** · Bottled water on motorcoaches · Complete packet of pre-departure information · Professional tour manager throughout the program

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This is a moderately strenuous program, at times physically demanding and busy, with considerable walking at some sites. The ship does not have an elevator, so you will need to navigate stairs, possibly while on choppy seas. Daily activities can involve up to two miles of walking, often on cobbled streets and uneven terrain; elevators may not be available and stairs may not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health. Limited medical facilities are available on board the *Sea Cloud II*. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that s/he does not have any physical or other limitation that would create a hazard for her/himself or other travelers.

GROUP SIZE

This program is limited to 78 participants, including travelers from National Trust Tours and Dartmouth.

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS

Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.



GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

US domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses Medical expenses and immunizations · Travel and trip cancellation insurance Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days · Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Airline baggage charges Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted Laundry or dry cleaning
Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges · Room service · Other items of a personal nature

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. You may complete the reservation form included in this brochure and mail it with your check or credit card information to: Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2746. Or you may fax the completed reservation form to (805) 966-6840. If you have questions, please call (805) 884-6436 or email travel@ sbma.net. Final payment deadline is March 13, 2022. For those who register after March 13, 2022, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of the \$1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Deposits are refundable until final payment deadline (March 13, 2022). For bookings on or before June 30, 2021: All payments are 100% refundable if written notice of cancellation is received before April 7, 2022. Cancellations after refund dates: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. NOTE: Neither the Santa Barbara Museum of Art nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

California Seller of Travel Program CST #2088800-40

Round-trip from Athens aboard Sea Cloud II July 11–20, 2022

To reserve a place, please complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person, payable to Santa Barbara Museum of Art, to: Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2746. You may also fax the form to (805) 966-6840, or call (805) 884-6436.

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O Please VISA NAME ON CF	MC REDIT CARD		DISCOVE	R

SINGLE TRAVELERS

O I prefer to have single accommodations (*limited availability*) O I plan to share accommodations with:

or O I'd like to know about roommates I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of March 13, 2022 I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference:

1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice_

Bed Preference (not guaranteed): O One bed O Two beds

I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein:

SIGNATURE

DATE

SIGNATURE