

Celtic Rovers Quest Through Greece

With Sr Mary and Fr Jim

11 Days | September 25 – October 4, 2026



Day 1: Thursday, September 24, 2026 – Depart USA

Board your overnight transatlantic flight to Athens, Greece.



Day 2: Friday, September 25 – Arrival in Athens & Welcome Dinner

Welcome to Greece! Upon arrival at **Athens International Airport**, you'll be greeted by our local representative and transferred to your centrally located hotel, the elegant **Divani Palace Acropolis**.



After check-in, take time to relax and settle in.

At 7:00 PM, enjoy a brief orientation followed by a welcome dinner at the **Acropolis Secret Roof Garden**, featuring spectacular views of the illuminated Acropolis.

Overnight: Divani Palace Acropolis, Athens

Day 3: Saturday, September 26, 2026 – Athens Tour & Cruise Embarkation



After breakfast, we depart the hotel to begin your journey through the heart of ancient Greece — the cradle of Western civilization. Your guided city tour includes a visit to the **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**, the **Royal Palace**, the **Panathenaic Stadium** (site of the first modern Olympic Games in 1896), and the **Temple of Olympian Zeus**.

Then, step back in time at the world-renowned **Acropolis**, where you'll explore the architectural wonders of the Golden Age of Athens: the **Propylaea**, the **Temple of Athena Nike**, the **Erechtheion**, and of course, the majestic **Parthenon**. Continue with a visit to the **Acropolis Museum**, home to a vast collection of priceless ancient artifacts.

Enjoy free time in the Plaka district before transferring to **Piraeus Port** to board your 7-night sailing to the breathtaking Greek Islands and the ancient treasures of **Ephesus**.

5:00 PM: Cruise departs for Kusadasi, Turkey.
Overnight: Onboard Cruise Ship

Day 4: Sunday, September 27, 2026 — Kusadasi

Arrival: 8:00 AM | Departure: 6:00 PM

Today's excursion takes you to **Kusadasi**, the remarkable ancient city of **Ephesus**, one of the best-preserved archaeological sites in the world. It was also once home to the famed **Temple of Artemis**, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Explore highlights such as the **Library of Celsus**, **Temple of Hadrian**, **Odeon**, and the elegant **Terrace Houses**. Learn about the city's rich past and early Christian history. Enjoy time for shopping before returning to the ship.

Overnight: Onboard Cruise Ship (Sailing to Rhodes)



Day 5: Monday, September 28, 2026 — Rhodes

Arrival: 8:00 AM | Departure: 6:00 PM

Today, explore the historic island of **Rhodes**, once home to the legendary **Colossus of Rhodes**, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Travel to **Lindos**, where the ancient **Acropolis** overlooks the village and the sea. Visit the **Temple of Athena** and see the **Church of the Virgin Mary**, known for its beautiful 15th-century frescoes.

Back in **Rhodes Town**, stroll through the medieval **Knights' Quarter**, along the **Street of the Knights**, and past the imposing **Palace of the Grand Master**, a rare example of Gothic architecture in Greece. Return to the ship for overnight.



Overnight: Onboard Cruise Ship (Sailing to Crete)

Day 6: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 — Crete

Arrival: 8:00 AM | Departure: 8:00 PM



This morning, your ship arrives in **Agios Nikolaos**, on the beautiful island of **Crete**. Travel to the nearby resort town of **Elounda**, known for its green hills, sandy beaches, and clear waters.

From there, take a short boat ride to **Spinalonga Island**, a former Venetian fortress and leper colony, famously depicted in the novel *The Island* by Victoria Hislop.

After exploring the island, relax at a secluded bay with time to swim and enjoy a **beach barbecue** lunch.

Return to the ship in the afternoon for an evening at sea.

Overnight : Onboard Cruise Ship (Sailing to Santorini)



Day 7: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 — Santorini

Arrival: 8:00 AM | Departure: 10:00 PM

Welcome to breathtaking **Santorini**, one of the most iconic and picturesque destinations in the world. With its dramatic cliffs, whitewashed houses, and sparkling Aegean views, the island never fails to impress.



Begin your day in **Megalochori**, a charming village known for its traditional architecture and peaceful vibe. Continue along the caldera's edge through **Firostefani** and **Imerovigli**, taking in sweeping views of the volcanic islets below.

Next, explore **Oia**, famous for its cliffside homes, blue-domed churches, and marble-paved streets. Stroll through narrow alleys, browse boutique shops, and soak in views over **Ammoudi Bay** and the elegant captains' mansions.

After a memorable day, return to the ship for overnight.

Overnight: Onboard Cruise Ship (Sailing to Mykonos)

Day 8: Thursday, October 1, 2026 — Mykonos

Arrival: 8:00 AM | Overnight in port

Today, sail from **Mykonos** to **Delos**, one of Greece's most sacred and historic islands. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Delos was a major religious and trading center, mythologically known as the birthplace of **Apollo** and **Artemis**.

On your guided tour, explore ancient ruins including **Doric temples**, the **Agora**, **amphitheatre**, **House of the Naxians**, and the famed **Terrace of the Lions**. Ongoing excavations make Delos one of the Mediterranean's most remarkable archaeological sites.

Return to the ship and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure in Mykonos, with its lively waterfront, chic boutiques, and whitewashed alleys.



Overnight: Onboard Cruise Ship (Sailing to Milos)

Day 9: Friday, October 2, 2026 — Milos

Arrival: 8:00 AM | Departure: 6:00 PM

After departing Mykonos, your ship arrives in **Milos**, famed for its volcanic landscapes and striking beauty. Begin at **Sarakiniko**, a moonlike stretch of white volcanic rock and turquoise water—perfect for photos.



Continue to **Plaka**, the charming hilltop capital, with whitewashed lanes and vibrant bougainvillea. Nearby, visit the ancient **Roman amphitheater** and the site where the **Venus de Milo** was discovered.

End the day at the **Milos Mining Museum** to learn how the island's geology shaped its history.

Return to the ship for your final night onboard as you sail toward Athens.

Overnight : Onboard Cruise Ship (Sailing to Athens)

Day 10: Saturday, October 3, 2026 - Disembark + Cape Sounion

Arrival in Athens (Piraeus Port): 8:00 AM

After disembarking the cruise, enjoy a scenic coastal drive to **Cape Sounion**, home to the stunning **Temple of Poseidon**, dramatically perched on a cliff above the Aegean Sea. Dating back to 444 BC, this ancient monument is one of the most photographed sites in Greece. Explore the ruins and take in breathtaking views of the coastline.

Return to your hotel in Athens by mid-afternoon.

In the evening, gather for a farewell dinner with views of the Acropolis — a perfect finale to your Greek adventure.

Overnight: Divani Palace Acropolis, Athens



Day 11: Sunday, October 4, 2026 – Return Flight

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

At the designated time, you will be transferred to **Athens International Airport** for your return flight home.

Note: All itineraries and times are subject to change

