

## **Istanbul and Greek Island Hopping September 11-21, 2008**



**Istanbul, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Patmos, Rhodes,  
Agios Nikolaos (Crete), Santorini, Athens**

*Come join us* on this great combination land and cruise vacation to both classical and modern Greece, as well as to ancient Kusadasi and Istanbul, Turkey! On this tour/cruise you'll get the best blend of sightseeing, adventure, free time, fun stuff, culture, and socializing all in an affordable package. This trip sold out last year!

We start with 2 nights in Istanbul, plenty of time for some included sightseeing and exploring! See the famous Blue Mosque, Hippodrome Square, the Topkapi Palace, and St. Sophia Museum and of course the Grand Bazaar area. The shopping is fantastic and you'll marvel at the over 4,000 shops filled with antiques, jewelry, carpets and leather!

Next, we start sailing the wonderful Greek Islands! We sail to Mykonos, known for its whitewashed buildings, then on to Patmos and the Turkish port of Kusadasi where an excursion to Ephesus should not be missed! A full day on the island of Rhodes 'Island of Roses', visit Greece's largest island, Crete, then later we sail for the volcano island of beautiful Santorini.

We'll offer optional excursions on 3 of the islands for our group to explore the islands together.

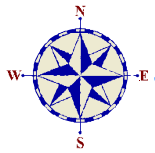
After our island sailing we disembark for 2 nights in Athens with a guided sightseeing tour that includes the famous Acropolis. You'll have time for any last minute exploring or shopping (in the Plaka!) and our farewell dinner with Greek entertainment before we have to end our fabulous vacation of the Greek Islands and Istanbul, Turkey, from the best way possible-on land and cruising!

*We'll tour ancient city ruins, picturesque villages, charming countrysides, and cruise the Greek Islands!  
Plenty of time to explore with two nights each in Istanbul and Athens and enjoy the wonderful and beautiful islands of  
Mykonos and Santorini as well as many others!*

**\*\*\*2 Age groups: There will be two age groupings on this trip. Please advise when you sign up for this trip which age group you are in. (Ages mid 40's, 50's and up) (Ages mid 20's-mid 40's).**

### **Price Includes all of the Following!**

- 9 Nights accommodations in hotels/ moderate class cruise ship with private facilities
  - 2 nights in Istanbul Hotel
  - 2 nights Athens Hotel
- Six Days cruising on board Louis Hellenic Cruise ship 'Cristal'
- 5 Night Cruising in an inside cabin visiting (outside upgrade possible)
  - Sail from Istanbul, Turkey
  - Mykonos
  - Kusadasi, Turkey
  - Patmos
  - Rhodes
  - Agios Nikolaos, Crete
  - Santorini
  - Sail into Piraeus (Athens)
- Hotel porterage for 1 bag, local taxes and service charges
- Motor coach transfers throughout your trip
- Services of a professional English speaking guide on all tours included in the itinerary
- Total 19 meals (includes all meals on board the ship)
  - 9 breakfasts (B)
  - 4 lunches (L)
  - 6 dinners including our farewell dinner in Athens (D)
- Entertainment on board the cruise ship
- 2 morning sightseeing tours in Istanbul: the Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace, St. Sophia and the Grand Bazaar
- Half day sightseeing tour of Athens with entrance fee and guided tour of the Acropolis and its museum
- Farewell dinner in Athens at a local restaurant with dinner and entertainment
- Free roommate matching to save you money
- Single Travel Company Tour Representative



## Istanbul and Greek Island Hopping Land & Cruise Itinerary



### Day 1, Thur, Sept 11

#### Depart USA

Depart your hometown and fly overnight to Istanbul, Turkey to start your adventure!

### Day 2, Fri, Sept 12

#### Arrive Istanbul!

Welcome to Istanbul! Those with transfers will be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel. Depending on your flights' arrival time you'll have time to start exploring and tonight you can meet your fellow travel companions at our welcome get together.

**Hotel Novotel** (or similar) 2 nights. The Novotel Istanbul, a 4 star hotel between the city centre and the airport, is ideal for your holiday in Istanbul. The hotel features a restaurant, bar, gym and outdoor swimming pool. Shuttle buses to Taksim Square, and easy access to the new business district, the historic city centre (Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace, Grand Bazaar) and shopping areas.

### Day 3, Sat, Sept 13

#### Istanbul

Today includes a morning guided sightseeing tour of Istanbul including the Blue Mosque, Hippodrome Square (Sultan Ahmet Square) and St. Sophia.

Istanbul is Turkey's most populous city, and its cultural and economic center. It is located on the Bosphorus strait, and encompasses the natural harbor known as the Golden Horn in the northwest of the country. Istanbul extends both on the European and on the Asian side of the Bosphorus, and is thereby the only metropolis in the world which is situated on two continents. Istanbul is also the only city in the world which served as the capital to three different Empires: The Roman Empire (330-395), Byzantine Empire (395-1453) and the Ottoman Empire (1453-1923).

Today we visit many different sights around Istanbul, one being the Blue Mosque, which is one of the most magnificent shrines in the Muslim world, taking its name from the exquisite blue tiles that cover its interior walls. Also see St. Sophia (also known as Aya Sophia), the Church of the Divine Wisdom. It is the fourth largest cathedral in the world. The basilica served as a Patriarchal church during the Byzantine era and is best known for its vast interior, high dome and fabulous mosaics, many dating from the 10<sup>th</sup> century.

This afternoon you are free for leisure time to continue exploring this fascinating city. Overnight at our hotel. **(B)** **(Please note:** our two morning sightseeing tours in Istanbul (Saturday and Sunday) may change with what we see on each day).

### Day 4, Sun, Sept 14

#### Istanbul

After breakfast, another morning sightseeing tour is included to further explore the city and will include Topkapi Palace and the Grand Bazaar (if not seen on Saturday).

Topkapi Palace, a city within a city, once served as the residence of the Ottoman sultans, some of the most powerful rulers in the world. Topkapi Palace consists of interconnecting courts and groups of buildings including the Harem and the Imperial Mint, a collection of treasures like no other as well as magnificent views of the Golden Horn.

Then last, but far from least, we visit the Grand Bazaar, streets of various shops sheltered by roofs and domes. Though not very regularly shaped, it holds an area of about 31 thousand square meters. It has hundreds of domes covered with lead and windows. There are over 4,000 shops filled with antiques, jewelry, carpets, and leather.

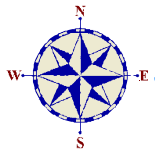
This afternoon we board our ship and depart this evening for our cruise through the Greek Islands! **(B,D)** **(Please note:** our two morning sightseeing tours in Istanbul (Saturday and Sunday) may change with what we see on each day).

### Day 5, Mon, Sept 15

#### Cruising - Mykonos

After a morning of cruising, we have an afternoon arrival at the island of Mykonos, our first port of call. Mykonos is known for its whitewashed buildings, sidewalk cafes and shops.

Mykonos lies almost in the center of the Cyclades islands (cyclades means the circle islands, because they form a circle around Delos). Some of the closest islands are Delos, Tinos, Andros, Naxos and Ikaria. It is a cosmopolitan island, famous in the last decades because of the international jet set visitors that spent their holidays here. Totally whitewashed cube-like buildings fit closely together to form a kind of maze of narrow alleyways and streets. The earthen colors of the bare hills which surround the town's gleaming whiteness is set between the an incredibly blue sky and even deeper blue sparkling sea. It has many well preserved windmills and hundreds of tiny red-roofed churches. The locals are friendly and open people and have a healthy understanding of what it means to have a good time. Mykonos beaches are magnificent, the nightlife surprising and Delos -birthplace of Artemis & Apollo- is only a couple of miles away (this is probably the reason that brought tourism on the island in the first place). **(B,L,D)**



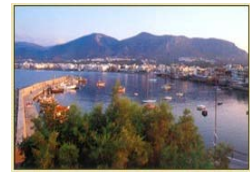
## Day 6, Tues, Sept 16

### Cruising – Patmos/Kusadasi (Ephesus)

This morning we arrive in Patmos where St. John the Divine received The Revelation as found in the Last Book of the New Testament. We offer our group an optional group excursion to the Monastery and Grotto.

Continue on in the afternoon to the Turkish port of Kusadasi. Stroll the market shops in Kusadasi and perhaps negotiate a great deal on a Turkish hand stitched rug.

Or we offer our group an optional excursion to ancient Ephesus. Ephesus is the best-preserved classical city on the Mediterranean, and perhaps the best place in the world to get the feeling for what life was like in Roman times. 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. **(B,L,D)**



**Optionals for our Group**-must sign up and pay with final payment. See tour descriptions at end of itinerary.

**\$72.00 PATMOS - St. John's Monastery and Grotto** 2 hrs

**\$89.00 KUSADASI – Ephesus and The House of Virgin Mary** 3.5 hrs

## Day 7, Wed, Sept 17

### Cruising - Rhodes

Morning arrival in Rhodes, the 'Island of Roses', for a full day of sightseeing. It is famous for its Medieval Old Town and site of the Colossus of Rhodes.

Rhodes is the biggest of the Dodecanese islands. Named the sun island or island of light there are hardly any days when the sun doesn't shine. With its subtropical climate and over 3,000 hours of sun per year you can be guaranteed a good tan on your holiday. Rhodes is one of the most popular holiday islands in Greece - even Greeks themselves come to Rhodes for a holiday from the mainland.

Rhodes offers all year- round leisure tourist activities with an excellent tourist infrastructure and it has a lot to offer with its' natural beauty, many monuments from its' long and often turbulent history, and the warm hospitality of its' people. Optional excursions are offered to the City of Rhodes to explore the picturesque Old Town and the rocky Acropolis of Lindos to visit the Temple of Athena. We have a late departure sailing into the evening on our way to Crete. **(B,L,D)**

## Day 8, Thur, Sept 18

### Agios Nikolaos (Crete) to Santorini

### Cruising

Today our cruise includes two memorable ports of call, Agios Nikolaos, Crete and Santorini.

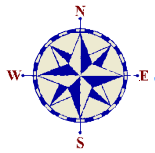
We arrive first in Agios Nikolaos, Crete, Greece's largest island. Agios Nikolaos is noted for its sandy beaches and beautiful bays. It has a cosmopolitan atmosphere with an incredibly charming and picturesque port, and is a well known tourist area with many restaurants, shops, exciting and lively nightlife, and plenty of cultural events. The landmark for the city is a small lake that is located in the center of the city (said to be bottomless, but is really about 60 meters deep) and it has been connected to the sea and is crossed by a small bridge.

We leave mid-day for our arrival into the most impressive volcanic island of Santorini. With its sheer cliffs topped with gleaming white houses, Santorini is a truly unique and romantic island. Its town is perched high above the cliffs. Intriguing history, awesome volcanic landscape, cosmopolitan atmosphere, breathtaking sunsets, deep blue sea, and the volcano are just some of the reasons that make Santorini the most popular holiday destination in Greece!! Santorini has a metaphysical energy that becomes you as you sail into the Caldera rim and gaze up the steep cliffs. Fira, Oia, Imerovigli are just some of the villages that are built into the cliffs with magnificent view of the Aegean Sea, the volcano and the nearby islands. **(B,L,D)**



**Optional for our Group**-must sign up and pay with final payment. See tour description at end of itinerary.

**\$78.00 SANTORINI – Fira Town and Oia Village** 3.5 hrs (Highly recommended as you have limited time in Santorini)



# Singles Travel Company

Vacations for Singles of All Ages

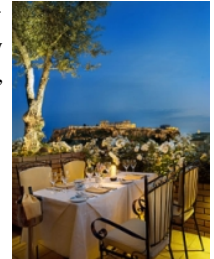
## Day 9, Fri, Sept 19

### Arrive Athens

Our cruise ends at the port of Piraeus outside of Athens early this morning. After disembarking, we enjoy a half day city tour of Athens including the Acropolis and then check into our hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure! Shop, explore!

Athens is the capital, the largest city (3.7 million people), and the center of economic, financial, industrial, cultural and political life in Greece and is named after goddess Athena. It is becoming a business center in the European Union and is often referred to as the cradle of Western civilization. The classical era heritage is portrayed through a number of ancient monuments and artworks, the most famous being the Parthenon on the Acropolis. Athens was the host city of the first modern-day Olympic Games and recently held the 2004 Summer Olympics. **(B)**

Hotel Titania (or similar) is located in the middle of the historical and commercial center of Athens, between two of the city's major squares, Syntagma (Constitution) Square and Omonia Square. From hotel Titania you can walk to many of the sights in Athens - like Acropolis and Plaka. The hotel has 400 completely renovated rooms, fully air-conditioned, brand new bathrooms with telephones, hairdryers, and private safety deposit boxes. The Olive Garden Restaurant, a Mediterranean Cuisine restaurant, at the Titania Hotel roof garden offers you a unique getaway without ever leaving the center of Athens.



## Day 10, Sat, Sept 20

### Athens at Leisure

A full free day in Athens and still lots to do and see! Perhaps an optional tour or relax at the hotel.

The Plaka, known for its cobblestoned streets and picturesquely ancient buildings, is the most atmospheric part of Athens and is preserved as the oldest continuously inhabited area of the city. The Plaka is full of cafes, restaurants, bars and nightclubs. You'll find many shops selling souvenirs: miniatures and copies of well known works of ancient Greek art, jewelery of traditional Greek design, Komboloya (worry beads) and stamped T-shirts. Wander around further to get away from the souvenir shops and tourist cafes. Its pedestrian streets wind steeply up the hill towards the Acropolis, lined with lovely neoclassical houses, flower-filled balconies, café terraces, Roman ruins and stunning views of the Parthenon.

Maybe visit Syntagma Square, the political and urban heart of Athens, in the city centre and known as a gathering place for the locals. The attractive Parliament building is on one side of the square and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is at the base of the Parliament Building, eternally guarded by two Greek soldiers in traditional Greek uniforms. The Changing of the Guards is one of the most popular public ceremonies in Athens. It is at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and is performed by Greek soldiers in their traditional uniform and shoes with toes tipped by a red or black ball.



Or maybe 'hike' to Lycabettus Hill. Rising 300 metres high, this picturesque hill offers a lovely view over the entire city. It is a favorite spot for Athenians and visitors to take a stroll.

**Tonight is our farewell dinner with wine and entertainment in the Plaka! Maybe a little Greek dancing to say good-bye to our wonderful Greek and Istanbul adventure! (B,D)**

## Day 11, Sun, Sept 21

### Depart for USA

Morning checkout and transfer to the Athens airport for our homebound flights. **(B)**-depending on departure time)

## Our Cruise Ship – Cristal\*\* -- Louis Hellenic Cruises

There are a wide variety of on board facilities and activities; from a fitness center to a beauty salon to a full service health spa. Enjoy the pool, relax at one of the roomy sun decks, read your favorite book, play a game of cards in the Library, take dancing lessons or shop in their on-board duty free shops. There are enriching shore excursions. From breakfast to the midnight buffet, the chefs and well trained dining staff will prepare and serve specialties prepared from scratch and the wine stewards will assist you in selecting some of the finest wines from a diverse local or international list. At night, enjoy shows, try your luck at the casino, dance at our disco till early morning hours or enjoy a romantic stroll on deck under the star-studded sky while sailing towards your next destination.



\*\* Passenger decks 10, Electric Current 220V, Passengers Capacity 1,250, Total Cabins 480, Crew

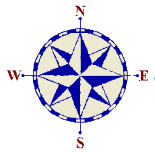
Members 400. All staterooms are equipped with shower, WC, air conditioner, telephone, hair dryers and TV. Enjoy onboard the *Caruso* Restaurant, La Scala Buffet, Rigoletto & Robert's Coffee, *Metropolitan* Show Room, Cinema, *Stardust* Disco, Club Opera, Riviera & Pool Bar, Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi, Duty Free Shop, Casino, Hospital, Fitness Center, Business Center, Beauty Salon/massage room, Sauna.

**\*\*Please note:** the cruise line reserves the right to change the ships (within their fleet) that the group will be sailing on even up to the last few weeks before the sailing date. This has happened in the past with group sailings (not just our group), but is happening less and less. We assume no responsibility regarding this as it is out of our control. These Greek ships are basic cruise ships offering a fun Greek Island Hopping experience with emphasis on the islands but are not considered deluxe ships.

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# Singles Travel Company

Vacations for Singles of All Ages

## **Basic Itinerary**

Day 1	Sept 11, Thu	Leave U.S.		
Day 2	Sept 12, Fri	Arrive Istanbul, Turkey		
Day 3	Sept 13, Sat	Istanbul, Turkey		
Day 4	Sept 14, Sun	Istanbul, Turkey -Board Cruise Ship		Dep. 6:00pm
Day 5	Sept 15, Mon	Mykonos, Greece*	Arr. 3:00pm	Dep. 0:00
Day 6	Sept 16, Tue	Patmos, Greece*	Arr. 7:00am	Dep. 10:30am
		Kusadasi (Ephessos), Turkey	Arr. 2:30pm	Dep. 8:30pm
Day 7	Sept 17, Wed	Rhodes, Greece	Arr. 7:30am	Dep. 6:00pm
Day 8	Sept 18, Thu	Crete (Agios Nikolaos), Greece	Arr. 7:00am	Dep. 12:00pm
		Santorini, Greece*	Arr. 5:00pm	Dep. 9:00pm
Day 9	Sept 19, Fri	Piraeus (Athens), Greece	Arr. 6:00am	
Day 10	Sept 20, Sat	Athens, Greece		
Day 11	Sept 21, Sun	Leave Athens, Greece		

(\*Disembarkation by tenders (boats), weather permitting )

## **Our Groups Offered Optional Excursions- Pay with your final payment.**

### **\$72.00 PATMOS - St. John's Monastery and Grotto Approximately 2 hrs**

Depart from the port of Scala and enjoy a short drive to the village of Chora, where the monastery of St. John is built within the walls of a strong fortification. As you walk uphill towards the entrance of the monastery marvel at this magnificent structure, which was built 900 years ago. View the courtyard, the monks' dining room, the old bakery, and the main church noted for its outstanding frescoes and interior decoration. Next, visit the small museum where priceless treasures, books, manuscripts, mosaics, icons, splendid medieval textiles, vestments and jewelry are housed.

Return to your motorcoach and continue to the nearby Grotto of the Apocalypse and the Monastery of the Apocalypse above it. Walk down the steps to the Grotto of the Apocalypse, where you'll see the niches in the wall that mark the pillow and ledge used as a desk by the author of the Book of the Revelation and the crack in the rock made by the voice of God honoring the Holy Trinity. Afterwards, drive back to the port of Scala and enjoy some free time in this quaint and picturesque town.

REMARKS: Tour not suitable for passengers with walking difficulties.

### **\$89.00 KUSADASI – Ephessos and The House of Virgin Mary Approximately 3.5 hrs**

Drive through the colorful town of Kusadasi to reach Mt. Kossos. Situated in a small valley, the humble chapel lies on the site of the little house where the Virgin Mary is believed to have spent her last days. Despite the many controversies, the Christian World still favors this belief and the site has been officially sanctioned by the Vatican for pilgrimage.

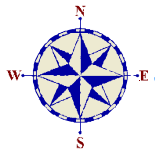
Continue on to Ancient Ephesus accompanied by your guide and walk through the Magnesian Gate which is the entrance to the ancient city of Ephesus. Your guided walking tour will take you through one of the most magnificent excavations in the world. See the Odeon (concert hall), the Fountain of Trajan, the steam-heated Baths of Scolastika, the Temple of Hadrian and the Latrines, the Library of Celsus and The Great Theatre, the largest one in antiquity with a capacity of 24,000 seats where St. Paul preached. Walk back to the coach along the Arcadian Way, where Mark Anthony and Cleopatra once rode in procession. While driving back to Kusadasi and just outside Ephesus, view the Basilica of St. John, which was erected over his grave in the 6th century A.D. by Emperor Justinian. Before returning to the ship, enjoy free time in Kusadasi or get a cultural taste of Turkey by enjoying an exhibition of oriental carpets and jewelry.

REMARKS: Tour not suitable for passengers with walking difficulties.

### **\$78.00 SANTORINI – Fira Town and Oia Village Approximately 3.5 hrs**

Your drive gives you the unique opportunity to admire the panoramic view of the Aegean Sea and the neighboring islands. A unique sight is the various layers of lava that can be seen on the face of the rock, each layer being another phase of the activity of the volcano. Built on the Caldera rim, Oia Village is an excellent example of Cycladic architecture.

Accompanied by your guide, explore the village walking along the cobble-stone streets and the white washed houses with blue shutters where one gets the impression that they are a beautiful travel poster. Then proceed to the town of Thira, an attractive town perched on the Caldera rim, where you'll have time to stroll along the lanes of the little town or relax over a coffee as you gaze down upon Kamenes, the two black volcanic islets in the Caldera bay.



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## Pricing Details

**\$1799.00** Per Person, double occupancy, inside cabin; cruise/land package, lower deck.  
(Free roommate matching available)

**\$650.00** Add to above for a hotel room/inside cabin to yourself (very limited availability-sign up early!)

ADD to above prices

**\$275.00** Add to above cruise price for port charges and fuel surcharge supplement per the tour operator. (Subject to change at any time) Please note-if the above prices change prior to the trip, we will have to pass the change onto the client.

### **\*\*Want to upgrade your cabin to:**

<b>Outside Superior Cabin- Decks 3, 5</b>	<b>Double add \$165.00</b>	<b>Single add \$248.00</b>
<b>Outside Premium Cabin- Deck 4</b>	<b>Double add \$299.00</b>	<b>Single add \$449.00</b>

**Airfare:** You'll need to fly from the U.S. September 11 for arrival into Istanbul, Turkey, September 12, arriving at least by mid afternoon if you want to make the welcome get together early evening. For departure, you can schedule your flights for September 21 out of Athens, Greece, anytime on that day. We need your flight itineraries with final payment please.

**Transfers-**You can make your own way to the hotel in Istanbul or back to the airport in Athens if you'd like to make your own arrangements. Or you can purchase transfers for **\$20 each way** (\$40 roundtrip) and we will have you met in Istanbul, taken to the hotel and transferred to the airport in Athens. Please note these will be small group transfers based on clients arrival times so there may be a wait at either end in the airports.

**Travel Insurance is highly recommended. Please request more information at time of reservation.**

**Documentation-** For U.S. citizens a valid passport is required and make sure it does not expire within 6 months of the trip date. For non-U.S. citizens check with your consulate. You are responsible for proper documentation for travel.

**Visa for Turkey-**Can be bought on arrival at the airport in Istanbul. Price is approximately \$45, payable on arrival. More information will be available later. You may also purchase it beforehand if you want, but it is not necessary.

**Dining-** We are dining as a group for dinner, if you want other arrangements please let us know at time of booking.

**Prices do not include** airfare, passport expenses, visa for Turkey, cruise shore excursions, items of a personal nature, meals not specified in itinerary, tips and gratuities to cruise staff and excursion guides, and airport transfers (unless purchased), etc.

**Cruise Excursions offered for the Group---**We are offering 3 of the more popular excursions from the cruise line for our group to sign up for prior to the cruise and must be paid for with final payment. **Prices are approximate USD and the price can change (depending on the exchange rate) before sailing and will be adjusted accordingly at final payment.** Descriptions of the excursions are included on another page in the itinerary. No refunds after purchase.

<b>\$72.00</b>	<b>PATMOS - St. John's Monastery and Grotto</b>	<b>2 hrs</b>	
<b>\$89.00</b>	<b>KUSADASI - Ephessos and The House of Virgin Mary</b>	<b>3.5 hrs</b>	
<b>\$78.00</b>	<b>SANTORINI - Fira Town and Oia Village</b>	<b>3.5 hrs</b>	(Highly recommended as you have limited time in Santorini)

### **Fine Print—Istanbul and Greek Island Hopping September 11-21, 2008**

Your payment for a reservation on this trip constitutes consent and acknowledgement of all the provisions in the above pricing, in this Fine Print listed below and in the Singles Travel Company General Terms and Conditions. Please make sure you read these important pieces of information and call us with any questions. Per our tour operator-hotels and cruise ship are subject to change.

**Deposit of \$200.00,** check preferred (payable to Travel Advisors of Los Gatos) or credit card is due with your reservation.

**Final payment** is due **80** days prior to departure date. Check preferred or by credit card.

**Cancellation Fees and Refunds** All cancellations must be in writing. You'll receive a full refund of your deposit minus a \$50 administrative fee if you cancel 91 days or more from the departure date of the trip. No refunds within 90 days of departure date or on unused portions of the tour. Cancellation fees also apply to additional accommodations reserved prior to and after the tour booked with the tour operator of the trip. After airline tickets are issued, airline cancellations are per the airline's policy/ and or the tour operator if purchased through the tour operator. **Travel insurance is highly recommended.**

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# General Terms and Conditions

## *Singles Travel Company*

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California Seller of Travel #1002864-10

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### **Dear Traveler**

*Thank you for your interest in Singles Travel Company. We have domestic and international trips and cruises for the single traveler to every corner of the world! We are a national group that caters to singles from around the U.S. and Canada, as well as singles from around the world.*

*We are affiliated with a travel agency--Travel Advisors of Los Gatos-- that has been in the same location with the same owner-Ed Stahl- for over 40 years.*

*Singles Travel Company is under the supervision of Ann Thomas, a leader in the singles travel industry. As Founder and President of another national singles travel group, and with many articles written about her and her company, she brings 16 years of experience with the unique singles market to Singles Travel Company.*

*Our staff strives to bring you quality and top value vacations. We are proud of the tour companies we have chosen for our trips—many are specialists in their region of the world and are travel industry leaders for their destinations.*

*Our mission is to bring you as perfect a vacation as possible and one that will give you wonderful, lasting memories and new friendships.*

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**The following information** is general information only; refer to each trip's complete itinerary for the fine print for that particular trip. Your payment for a tour or air ticket is regarded by Singles Travel Company /Travel Advisors of Los Gatos as an agreement to the General Terms and Conditions listed here as well as the Fine Print at the end of each individual trip itinerary. **Please read all information and call with any questions.**

**Deposits.** A deposit is required within 7 days of your reservation and must include a completely filled out and signed reservation form.

**Final Payments.** Final payment due dates are listed on each trip and are usually 65-75 days prior to departure. Without full payment and a reservation form filled out and in your file, final travel documents cannot be sent to you.

**Late Bookings.** Payment is due in full and within 48 hours of your reservation if you make your reservations within 75 days of a trip and there may be a late fee imposed.

**Tour Documents.** Tour documents are sent about 10 days prior to trip departure. If you would like documents delivered overnight or 2 day service, a \$15.00 charge will be assessed.

**Cancellation and Revision Fees; Refunds.** These fees vary with each trip offered; please read the fine print with each itinerary as the fine print on the individual trip itineraries will override the following cancellation penalties. For any cancellations made 91 days or more prior to the trip date, a full refund of the trip deposit will be provided, less a \$50 cancellation fee. Singles Travel Company charges a \$50 cancellation service fee on ALL cancellations and this fee will be charged to your credit card. Cancellations must be in writing. No partial refunds on package tours for unused services or features. Any changes to the tour itinerary that incur additional charges will be the sole responsibility of the passenger. If events beyond our control force us to alter your vacation arrangements, we do not accept liability. Any refund as a result of any alteration or cancellation caused by events beyond our control will be limited by the amount paid to us. We cannot accept any responsibility for any affect on clients resulting from any event beyond our control. If a tour is cancelled, all monies will be refunded; however, we cannot assume responsibility for any additional costs or any fees relating to the

issuance and/or cancellation of air tickets or of other travel arrangements made in regard to the cancelled tour. Processing a refund can take 6-8 weeks. **Travel insurance is highly recommended.**

**Travel Insurance.** This is an insurance policy that covers you if you need to cancel your vacation plans for medical reasons after you've paid money on the trip. If you decline trip cancellation insurance for a cruise or tour and cancel your plans for any reason after the specified period of leeway, chances are that you won't get a refund. Therefore, we, and our tour operators, highly recommend cancellation insurance. We have information on travel insurance and many tour/cruise operators offer their own protection policies. Some policies offer lost luggage reimbursement, medical coverage, etc. Make sure you know what qualifies as an acceptable reason for cancellation (personal or business conflicts usually do not) and read all the fine print before signing. Processing your claim can take 6 weeks or more. If you have a pre-existing medical condition you can be covered for travel insurance but you must usually purchase and pay for the insurance with your trip deposit.

**Airfare.** Land only prices are quoted on most trips, so you may use your frequent flyer miles. If using frequent flyer miles for overseas trips, remember to book months in advance for availability. When using your frequent flyer miles or not flying on the inclusive group air package; transfers are not included in the tour package and you must make your own way to the first night's accommodation. Airfare prices are based on availability at time of booking and are subject to change until fully paid for and ticketed. We will attempt to get all requested seat assignments but we are limited to airline availability and requirements. Air tickets once issued are non-refundable but sometimes changeable with a fee. Any cancellations after the purchase of air tickets are subject to the airline cancellation penalties, which may be different than land cancellation fees. Airfare taxes are subject to change without notice and any increases will be passed on to the client.

**Prices.** All prices are per person based on double occupancy unless otherwise noted. To save you money, every attempt will be made to match up individuals on our singles trips with a roommate for double occupancy rates. Single supplement prices are available. **We reserve the right to change pricing in the event of any cost increases for operational requirements.** The tour participant is responsible for proper travel documentation and payment for a passport, any needed visas or immunizations for travel, and for providing the correct passport name to the travel reservationist. In case of human or computer error, we reserve the right to re-invoice for the correct price of service.

**Hotels.** Hotels are subject to change per our tour operators and are usually out of our control. Most hotels used are moderate to first class or 3-4 star

properties and are twin-bedded with private bath. Single room accommodations outside of the U.S. are usually a single bed in a much smaller room than in the U.S. and sometimes are not as spacious or in the same area of the hotel as the double occupancy rooms. Please note that hotel rooms, especially in Europe, are often older, smaller, and less equipped than the American equivalent and are much higher priced during peak travel seasons. Sometimes standards and service are not what we are accustomed to, but is all part of the adventure of travel and exploring the world.

**Baggage.** One suitcase is allowed on tours, two for cruises. Airlines have their own restrictions and are imposing limits, especially on carry-on luggage. A smaller bag for carrying on the coaches should not exceed 17"x14"x18". Wheeled carry-on cases are not suitable as hand luggage on coaches. No responsibility is accepted for loss of or damage to baggage or any of the passengers' belongings. Baggage insurance is highly recommended and can be purchased with travel insurance.

#### **Not Included In the Tour Price.**

Federal Inspection Fees for the U.S. Customs and Immigration; International Air Transportation Tax; Agriculture Tax; Security Fee; airport taxes; passports; visas; tips to your tour director, tour driver, and local city guides; gratuities on cruise ships; laundry, beverages, food not on regular table menu (these extra items will be billed to you before leaving the hotel or restaurant), and optional excursions; all other items of a personal nature.

**Roommates.** After the final payment due date of 2-3 months prior to a trip date, we can't guarantee a roommate assignment. Please get your deposit reservation in early to avoid disappointment.

We cannot guarantee the compatibility of roommates and we will attempt to match individuals as to age and smoking/non-smoking status, but this cannot be guaranteed. Smoking is not allowed on buses or in shared rooms unless agreed upon by all occupants of the room. Any expenses after the tour departs for single room accommodations is at the traveler's expense.

**Passports and Visas.** A valid passport is required for all participants on international tours; and they must be valid up to 6 months after your trip dates. For tours requiring visas for U.S. citizens, detailed visa information will be given to you. Non-U.S. citizens must consult with the appropriate consulates to determine if any visas are needed. Securing any needed visas is the responsibility of the tour participant.

**Medical.** The traveler is responsible to check with his private medical doctor, local county health agency, or travel medicine clinic for any necessary or precautionary medicines and

immunizations required for travel to certain countries.

**Group Travel Responsibilities.** We reserve the right to cancel, reschedule, or change any trip or tour itinerary that does not meet the minimum requirements to operate and/or is deemed necessary for operational requirements and we are not responsible for any other expenses incurred by the client in relation to the trip being canceled, including non-refundable air tickets. Most trips are guaranteed departures. Most group trips will have a social escort and/or a professional tour director. Social escorts are responsible on trips as hosts only and to assist in making sure the group runs smoothly and cohesively. They do not represent or replace professional tour guides used on some trips nor do they represent or replace our tour operators responsibilities. We cannot assume responsibility for any actions of travelers on our trips and we do not screen our travelers. We operate many types of trips, so make sure you are aware of the type of trip you are signing up for. Some trips are bus tours with professional guides and may be incorporated with other larger group tours. **Most of our singles tours are all singles** but a few may be incorporated with another tour operating **WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE SINGLES.**

This ensures a guaranteed departure. Most trips will depart no matter how many singles are on that trip. We cannot be held responsible for the number of singles participating on any group trip. Special diet and dietary restrictions cannot be guaranteed.

**Travelers Who Need Special Assistance.** Any disability requiring special attention must be reported to us at the time the reservation is made. We will make reasonable attempts to accommodate the special needs of disabled tour members, but we are not responsible in the event we are unable to do so, and we are not responsible for any denial of services by carriers, hotels, restaurants, or other independent suppliers. Most touring motor coaches are not equipped with wheelchair ramps. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance to a tour member for walking, dining, getting on and off motor coaches, and other transportation vehicles or other personal needs. A qualified companion must accompany travelers who need such assistance.

**Responsibilities.** The carrier, hotels and other suppliers providing tour services are independent contractors and are not agents, employees or servants of joint ventures with Singles Travel Company (hereafter referred to as "the Company.") All certificates and other travel documents for tour services issued by the Company are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the supplier and to the laws of the countries in which the services are supplied. If the services included in the tour cannot be supplied or there are changes in an itinerary for reasons beyond the control of the Company, then the Company will arrange for the provision of comparable services from their tour operator of that particular trip. Any resulting additional expense will be

payable by tour participants. The Company reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a tour participant, to expel any tour participant from the tour, to make changes in the itinerary whenever the Company deems it necessary to the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants, and to cancel a tour at any time. If it is deemed by the tour operator or guide/host on the trip that it in the interest of safety or other reasons to ask a person to leave a tour, no refund of any kind will be given to that participant. If the Company cancels a tour, then the Company has no responsibility beyond the refund of all moneys paid to the Company by the tour participant, however, airline tickets are non-refundable if purchased separate from our air inclusive packages. The tour participant agrees that neither the Company nor its affiliates shall be liable for any damage, loss (including personal injury, death and property loss) or expense occasioned by any act or omission of any supplier providing tour services or of any other person. The Company is not responsible for any typographical or printing errors, which may occur in their brochures. Revised October 2007.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS TO REMEMBER**

**--After the final payment due date of 2-3 months prior to a trip date, we can't guarantee the availability of the same prices, accommodations, or that a roommate will be found for a roommate assignment. So please get your deposit reservation in early!**

**--Holiday travel requires even earlier deposits.**

**--Last minute sign-ups could result in higher priced fares and possible late charge fee from our tour operators.**

**--We are not a dating service; we are a group of fun singles who love to travel and meet other like-minded singles. Yes, romances do happen, but our main goal is to provide a wonderful travel opportunity for you as a single traveler.**

**--Regrettable, we cannot guarantee the compatibility of roommates or your other travel companions on the tours but we assume that everyone will act like the mature adults that we are and treat others as we would want to be treated. Please don't let another person ruin the fun you can have on your vacation.**

**--Traveling with other singles is an enjoyable and fun way to travel and meet new friends and it provides you with an opportunity to save a little money with our free roommate matching.**

**--Remember-we travel to explore and discover new ideas and cultures and learn new things about the world we live in, so embrace the differences, keep an open mind, and have fun!**

