



SHORE EXCURSIONS

7 nights | **STAR FLYER**
Sporades highlights



Sat	Piraeus (port of Athens), Greece
Sun	At sea
Mon	Dikili, Turkey
Tue	Myrina Limnos, Greece
Wed	Skiathos, Greece
Thu	Skopelos, Greece
Fri	Poros, Greece
Sat	Piraeus (port of Athens), Greece

What you need to know before booking your shore excursion:

- All our tours are offered with English speaking guides.
- The length of the tours and time spent on the sites is given as an indication as it may vary depending on weather, sea and traffic conditions and on the group's pace.
- The level of physical fitness required for our activities is given as a very general indication. Passengers should be fit and active to join tours which include hiking, kayaking, snorkeling, boating, or similar activities.

How you can book your shore excursions:

- You can book shore excursions onboard, using our "sign-up lists" available at the Library.
- Debark tours ending at the airport and transfers can also be pre-booked prior your cruise.
- In order to provide the best service and to avoid disappointments, please book your shore excursions as early as possible: places are limited and there is a booking deadline for each port.
- A minimum number of participants is required for tours; if the required number is not attained, the tour may be cancelled.
- Cancellation and changes are possible until the booking deadline. After the booking deadline, 100% cancellation fees will be charged.

Important notes:

- Departure times of the tour are mentioned on the daily program of each port.
- The Captain reserves the right to alter the itinerary in order to suit wind, weather and local conditions.
- All information concerning excursions is correct at the time of printing. However, Star Clippers reserves the right to make changes.
- Last updated tour descriptions are available on Star Clippers' website and onboard the ship in a file at the Library.

Date of last update: 8th of April 2024

DIKILI - Dikili is a sleepy little beach town, authentically Turkish. The harbor is lined with open air restaurants and shops selling local delicacies. The port of Dikili is to be considered as an ideal starting point for exploring nearby Bergama (the ancient Pergamon) and its two main monumental areas: the Acropolis perched at a height of 280m and the Asklepion.

DIKILI – Ancient Pergamum

Duration: 04:30 approx.

Price: 72 €

Min 12 / Max 90 participants

Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Activity level: moderate

Pick up from the pier of Dikili and will have short drive to ancient city of Pergamum. Initially a minor settlement during the earliest Archaic period, Pergamum became renowned after Philetairos, became an eminent personality after the fall of Lysimachus. For over a century, Pergamum was considered the center of all cultural activities during the Hellenistic period. Travelers from all over the land knew about this great city and often journeyed over hundreds of kilometers to visit the beautiful and vibrant city. Pergamum witnessed the rise and fall of many rulers and during the rule of Eumenes the second, Pergamum became the richest city in the world after the spoils of war from Athens were brought to the city and used to fill the coffers of all rich men who lived there.

Art and science flourished in equal measure and some of the greatest artists of the land came from this great city.

Board a cable-car to reach the Acropolis of Pergamum. After the visit of the Acropolis, descend to the coach parking for a short drive to reach the Asklepion, where you will visit the rests of the oldest therapy centers of the world.

At the end of the visit, you will drive back to our pier in Dikili.

Please note: This tour involves extended walking / standing on cobblestone and uneven surfaces with inclines and steps.

Helpful hints: wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a water.

The coach ride between Dikili and Pergamum takes approx. 40 minutes (each way). The drive from the Acropolis parking and the Asklepion takes approx. 15 minutes. There is a cable-car service between the coach parking at the Acropolis and the site.

DIKILI - Ayvalik and Cunda Island

Duration: 06:00 approx.

Price: 105 €

Min 10 participants

Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Activity level: moderate

Lunch included

Meet your tour guide and board the coach for a pleasant 45-minute drive through the countryside, dotted with pine trees and olive groves, you will reach the seaside town of Ayvalik.

During the Ottoman era, the town was mostly inhabited by Greek merchants and its Greek name is Kydonia.

This cultural melting pot including the former Greek residents and immigrants from the island of Crete, together with the Ottoman and modern Turkish inhabitants, has created a unique and richly flavour some cuisine using a wide variety of herbs, fresh vegetables, and olive oil. You will get the opportunity to sample some local specialties during a coffee shop stop on the way. The excursion continues with a short drive from Ayvalik to Cunda Island, which is connected to the mainland by a bridge. Here you will visit one of the Islands iconic landmarks, the Greek Orthodox cathedral which bears witness to the island's past. You will also see a windmill which has been converted into a library, holding the private collection of Necdet Kent, a diplomat who is said to have risked his life to save Turkish jews during the second world war.

Enjoy glorious views of the sea and the island itself and explore the picturesque village with its narrow streets and quaint old houses.

There will be an Aegean style lunch at a local fish restaurant, and some leisure time to explore on your own before the 45-minute drive back to port.

Please note: This tour involves extended walking (approx. 2.5 km) on cobblestone and uneven surfaces.

Helpful hints: wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a water.

Driving time from Dikili to Ayvalik town takes approx. 45 minutes (each way).



LEMNOS (Myrina) - Lemnos at ease

Duration: 03:00 approx.

Price: 49 €

Min 20 participants

Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Activity level: moderate

The coach will leave the Port of Myrina for a scenic drive through the countryside to the town of Moudros. Moudros, the former capital of Lemnos, is the second biggest town on the island. During the ill-fated Dardanelles Campaign of the First World War, the town and its harbour were used as an Allied base. Hundreds of young men lost their lives and were buried in the Allied cemetery here.

You will have some free time to explore the seafront or just relax and soak up the atmosphere in one of the cafés.

The next stop is Kotsinas, a small fishing village situated on the north coast of Lemnos which in classical times was a commercial port belonging to the nearby town of Hephaestia.

Taverns line the seafront and on a hill above the village stands the church of Zoodochos Pigi (Life-Giving Spring) which is built above an underground well. Next to the church is a statue honouring the legendary heroine, Maroula. In 1478 Suleiman pasha besieged Kotsina, and when Maroula saw that her father had been struck down, instead of weeping and wailing, she grabbed his sword and carried on fighting thus saving the island from the Turkish invaders.

Afterwards we will return to Myrina town for a pleasant walk along the coast to admire the neo classical houses and the fortress.

You may then choose whether to return to the ship straightaway or enjoy some free time in Myrina and explore the town on your own.

Please note: Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat, sunscreen and a bottle of water. The order of visits may be changed.

SKIATHOS - Skiathos' beaches tour by boat

Duration: 04:30 approx.

Price: 65 €

Min 30 / Max 70 participants

Transportation: motorboat

Activity level: moderate

Leaving the port of Skiathos behind us, we will sail along the Eastern coast to reach our first stop – Lalaria beach situated on the northern part of the island and accessible only by boat. It is covered with grey pebbles and is famous for its crystal-clear water and a huge arched rock forming a natural bridge between the beach and the sea.

After some leisure time on Lalaria we will get back on board and visit another beach, not too far away, called Castro. Above the beach you can see the remains of the old medieval city of Skiathos (1100-1600) which was once the island's capital.

You can either spend your time relaxing on the beach and swimming or take a walk uphill and explore the old town (15 minutes' walk) admiring the frescoes in the small Byzantine churches and soaking up the unique medieval atmosphere. If you climb to the summit you will be rewarded by breath-taking scenic views from the castle and get to take some wonderful photos.

From Castro beach we return to the port.

Please note: This tour is not suitable for guests with reduced mobility, back or neck issues and pregnant women.

The itinerary and the tour sequence may be changed depending on sea conditions. In case of adverse weather conditions and strong winds the beaches may not be accessible in which case with no prior notice these stops will be replaced by the beaches of Tsougria and Vromolimnos, or other. In high season the beaches may be overcrowded.

Helpful hints: wear your swimsuit under your clothes and bring a hat, sunscreen, water, a beach towel from the ship and some cash to purchase additional drinks or snacks. On the boat guests are entitled to one soft drink free of charge.

Lalaria beach is a pebbly beach and there are no facilities at all. Castro beach has a kiosk where snacks and drinks can be purchased (not included in the tour), but there are no beach chairs / sun umbrellas for rent.



SKOPELOS - "Mamma Mia" island tour

Duration: 04:15 approx.

Price: 49 €

Min 15 participants

Transportation: air-conditioned minibus

Activity level: moderate

A minibus will be waiting at the port to take you to the Northern part of the island, called Kastri, where you will visit the small church dedicated to St John the Baptist. Climb up the stone stairs, carved into the rock, and when you reach the top, you will be rewarded with stunning views of the archipelago.

This modest but picture-perfect chapel became well known following the filming of "Mamma Mia" in Skopelos in 2007 as it was the place that was chosen for Sophie's wedding. On the same spot, Donna (Meryl Streep) sings ABBA's famous hit "The Winner Takes It All" to Sam (Pierce Brosnan). The tour continues to Kastani Beach, which is also featured in the film.

The scene where the cast were all dancing on the jetty were filmed here, though the jetty was purpose built for the film and was dismantled afterwards. It was here that Tanya sang "Does your Mother Know", and Sophie and Sky were filmed singing "Lay all your love on me." It is also the backdrop for Donna and the dads' farewell to Sophie and Sky where they sing "I have a dream". You will not find Donna's bar, but there is a very nice privately-owned beach bar, where you can purchase a drink, or you can go for a little swim.

On the way back to the port there will be a short stop at Agnondas beach, so you can catch a glimpse of Cape Amarandos.

This rocky peninsula with three isolated pine trees growing on it was also featured in the film.

Back in Skopelos, you will have some free time to explore on your own or do some shopping before returning to the ship.

Please note: This tour involves extensive walking over cobblestone and uneven surfaces with steps and inclines. There are 200 stone steps to reach St John's church.

The drive from the port to the chapel takes approx. 60 minutes. In peak season driving times can be longer.

Helpful hints: wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat, sunscreen and water.

If you plan to swim at Kastani beach, wear your swimsuit under the clothes and bring a towel from the ship.

POROS - Epidaurus Theater and museum

Duration: 03:00 approx.

Price: 69 €

Min 18 participants

Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Activity level: moderate

Transfer by ship's tender to the port of Galatas on the Argolid Peninsula. Here you will meet your guide and board the coach for the short drive to Epidaurus. Epidaurus was the site of a shrine devoted to Aesculapius, the Greek God of Medicine. Patients would flock to the sanctuary seeking a cure for their ailments and Aesculapius would either effect a cure during their sleep or appear in a dream to the priests who would then treat the patient according to his instructions.

Apart from praying to be restored to health, Patients could indulge in thermal baths and hydrotherapy as well as "taking in a show"! Indeed, as soon as you arrive at the site you will walk through a beautiful grove to discover the famous theatre, one of the best-preserved monuments of the ancient world.

The theatre can seat 14.000 spectators and is famous for its acoustics. It is still in use today and modern visitors enjoy musical productions and performances of Greek drama there. You will have some time to wander around, so you can test the wonderful acoustics for yourself. The nearby museum houses fragments from the Asklepion sanctuary.

Please note: This involves extensive walking / standing (approx. 1.5 hours) over uneven surfaces. There is no uphill walking involved in this tour. Guests are advised to wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and to bring a hat and a bottle of water.

The drive to Epidaurus takes approx. 45 minutes each way. The tour starts from the village of Galatas (on the continent, not on the island of Poros). The tender of the ship will bring you directly there, where your guide and bus will be waiting for you. At the end of the tour, the tender will take you directly onboard the ship.



ATHENS - Panoramic Athens and Plaka exploration (ending at the airport)

Duration: 4:30 approx.

Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Price: 69 €

Activity level: easy

Min 10 / Max 30 participants

This tour ends at Athens International Airport (ATH) and is suitable for guests whose flight leaves after 15:00.

From the port of Piraeus you pass the charming yacht harbor of Zea, where the foundations of the dock dating from the 5th century BC are clearly visible. Next is the attractive Mikrolimanon waterfront lined with inviting al fresco fish restaurants. It is a short drive into cosmopolitan Athens, a mixture of modern buildings and great monuments. You will pass by the Temple of Zeus, the Panathenaic Stadium, the Parliament at Syntagma (Constitution) Square, the National Academy, the University, Library and Hadrian's Arch, before you reach Plaka, the oldest and most picturesque neighborhood of Athens. You will have approximately two hours of free time to explore Plaka and walk among the tavernas and boutiques, discover architectural gems such as the ancient Agora, the Tower of the Winds and the monument to Lysicrates and the neoclassical houses. At the end of the free time, you will be transferred to the airport.

Please note: Walking distance during the free time in the city center is at guests' discretion.

Helpful hints: wear weather-appropriate clothes and comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water.

Traffic in Athens may affect the duration of the driving between the places. The order of the visits may vary and the duration of the free time may change depending on the traffic of the day.

The tour guide will leave the group when the coach leaves Athens in direction of the airport.

Star Clippers offers also the following transfer services (optional, upon reservation):**✓ Shared transfer to Athens Airport (ATH)**

Guests who have purchased a shared transfer cannot choose their pickup time. There will be one fixed departure from the port at about 09:00am, the arrival at the airport will be around 10:30 am.

This transfer is suitable for guests whose flight leaves after 12:30 pm.

✓ Private transfers to Athens Airport (ATH) / to hotels in Athens.

Latest pick-up time from the pier will be at 10:00 am.

Private transfers are operated by Sedan Cars (1-2 passengers) or Minivans (3-4 passengers).

Debarck tours ending at the airport and transfers can be pre-booked prior your cruise.

For information and reservations, please contact our reservation department or your travel agent.

