



SHORE EXCURSIONS

7 nights	STAR CLIPPER Sporades' highlights <i>(all 2025 sailings)</i>
--------------------	---



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

What you need to know before booking your shore excursion:

- All our excursions are led by English-speaking guides. A second language may be used, depending on the number of non-English-speaking passengers.
- 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.

How you can book your shore excursions:

- Shore excursions can be booked onboard, using the "sign-up lists" available at the Library.
- The price of the excursion will be added to your on-board account.
- Transfers and debark tours ending at the airport can also be pre-paid prior to 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.
- Booking deadlines will be indicated on the Daily Program and on the booking forms.
- Cancellation and changes are possible until the booking deadline. After the booking deadline, 100% cancellation fees will be charged.
- A minimum number of participants is required for each tour; if the required number is not attained, the tour may be cancelled.

Important notes:

- Departure times of the tour are mentioned in the Daily Program of each port. Excursions are operated with a ticketless system.
- All information concerning excursions is correct at the time of printing. However, Star Clippers reserves the right to make changes. The latest updated tour descriptions are available onboard the ship in a file at the Library and on Star Clippers' website (you can download the file using the QR code).





Date of last update: 18th of January 2025

DIKILI - Ancient Pergamon



4:30



85 €



moderate



motorcoach,
cable car

Min 12 / Max 90
participants

History & Culture | Unesco

Pick up from the pier at Dikili and have a short drive to the ancient city of Pergamum. Originally a small settlement during the earliest Archaic period, Pergamum became famous after Philetairos, who became an eminent personality after the fall of Lysimachus. For over a century, Pergamum was considered the centre of all cultural activity during the Hellenistic period. Travellers from all over the country knew of this great city and often travelled hundreds of miles to visit the beautiful and vibrant city. Pergamum saw the rise and fall of many rulers and during the reign 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 the rich men who lived there.

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

Take a cable car to the Acropolis of Pergamum. After visiting the Acropolis, you will descend to the coach park for a short ride to Asklepion, where you will visit the remains of the oldest therapeutic centres in the world.

At the end of your visit you will be taken back to our pier in Dikili.

Please note: This tour involves prolonged walking on cobblestones and uneven surfaces with inclines and steps.

Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water.

The bus journey between Dikili and Pergamum takes approximately 40 minutes each way. The drive from the Acropolis car park and Asklepion takes about 15 minutes. There is a cable car service between the Acropolis coach park and the site.

DIKILI - Ayvalik and Cunda Island



6:00



109 €



moderate



motorcoach

Min 15 / Max 30
participants



lunch included

Sightseeing

Meet your guide and board the coach for a pleasant 45-minute drive through pine and olive groves to the seaside town of Ayvalik.

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

This cultural melting pot of former Greeks and immigrants from the island of Crete, together with the Ottoman and modern Turkish inhabitants, has created a unique and flavourful cuisine using a wide variety of herbs, fresh vegetables and olive oil. You will have the opportunity to sample some of the local specialities during a coffee shop stop along 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 island's iconic landmarks, the Greek Orthodox Cathedral, which bears witness to the island's past. You will also see a windmill converted into a library housing the private collection of Necdet Kent, a diplomat who is said to have risked his life to save Turkish Jews during World War II.

Enjoy stunning 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 time to explore on your own before the 45-minute drive back to port.

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

Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water.

Driving time from Dikili to Ayvalik town is approximately 45 minutes (one way).



LEMNOS (Myrina) – Lemnos at ease



3:00



49 €



easy



motorcoach

Min 20 / Max 40
participants

Panoramic

The coach leaves 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 largest 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 here and are buried in the Allied Cemetery.

You have some free time to explore the seafront or just relax and soak up the atmosphere in one of the cafes. Next stop is Kotsinas, a small fishing village on the north coast of Lemnos, which in classical times was a trading port for the nearby town of Hephaestia.

Tavernas line the seafront and on a hill above the village stands the church of Zoodochos Pigi (Life-Giving Spring), built over 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 crying and wailing, she grabbed his sword and fought on, saving the island from the Turkish invaders.

We then return to the town of Myrina for a pleasant walk along the coast to admire the neoclassical houses and the fortress.

Please note: Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water. Driving between the places will not be long, 20-30 min. Walking in Kotsinas and Moudros will be at discretion of the passengers, and in town will be longer, about 1 km. The order of the visits is subject to change.

SKIATHOS - Skiathos' beaches tour by boat



4:30



69 €



moderate



motorized boat

Min 30 / Max 70
participants

Boating & beach

Leaving the port of Skiathos behind, we sail along the eastern coast to our first stop - Lalaria beach, located on the northern part of the island and accessible only by boat.

Covered with grey pebbles, it is famous for its crystal clear waters and a huge arched rock that forms a natural bridge between the beach and the sea.

After some free time at Lalaria, we will return to the boat 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 capital of the island.

You can either spend your time relaxing and swimming on the beach or take a walk up the hill 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 top, you will be rewarded with breathtaking views from the castle and can take some wonderful photographs. From Castro beach we head back to the harbour.

Please note: This tour is not suitable for guests with reduced mobility, back or neck problems or pregnant women. The route and itinerary are subject to change depending on sea conditions. In case of adverse weather conditions and strong winds, the beaches may not be accessible, in which case these stops will be replaced without prior notice by the beaches of Tsougria and Vromolimnos, or others. The beaches may be overcrowded in high season.

Wear your swimsuit under your clothes and bring a hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, water, a towel from the boat and some cash to buy extra drinks or snacks. Guests are entitled to one complimentary soft drink on the boat.

Lalaria beach is a pebble beach and there are no facilities. Castro beach has a kiosk where snacks and drinks can be purchased (not included in the tour), but there are no sunbeds or umbrellas for hire.



SKOPELOS - Following the steps of "Mamma Mia!"



4:15



55 €



moderate



minibus

Min 15 / Max 55
participants

Sightseeing | Panoramic

A minibus will be waiting at the harbour 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 steps carved into the rock, and at the top you will be rewarded with breathtaking views of the archipelago.

This humble but picturesque chapel became famous after the filming of Mamma Mia in Skopelos in 2007, when it 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 danced on the jetty was filmed here, although the jetty was built specifically for the film and 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 private beach bar where you can buy a drink or go for a swim.

On the way back to the harbour there is a short stop at Agnonda's beach to get a glimpse of Cape Amarandos.

This rocky peninsula with three isolated pine trees 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 rejoining the ship.

Please note: This walk involves extensive walking over cobbles and uneven surfaces with steps and inclines. There are 200 stone steps up to St John's chapel.

The journey from the harbour to the chapel takes approximately 60 minutes. The journey may take longer in high season.

Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water.

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

POROS - Epidaurus theatre and museum



3:00



79 €



moderate



motorcoach

Min 20 / Max -
participants

History & Culture | Unesco

Transfer by ship's tender boat to the port of Galatas on the Argolid peninsula, where you will meet your local guide and board your coach for the short journey to Epidaurus.

Epidaurus was the site of a shrine dedicated to Aesculapius, the Greek god of medicine. Patients flocked to the sanctuary seeking a cure for their ailments, and Aesculapius would either perform a cure while they slept or appear in a dream to the priests, who would then treat the patient according to his instructions. As well as praying to be cured, patients could also enjoy thermal baths and hydrotherapy, as well as a "show"! 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 holds 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. You will have some time to wander around so you can test the wonderful acoustics for yourself. The nearby museum houses fragments of the Asklepion sanctuary.

Please note: This involves extensive walking (approximately 1.5 hours) on uneven ground, but no uphill walking.

Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water.

The tour starts from the village of Galatas (on the mainland, not on the island of Poros). The ship's tender will take you directly to Galatas, where your guide and bus will be waiting for you. At the end of the tour the tender will take you directly to the ship. The journey to Epidaurus takes approximately 45 minutes each way.



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



4:00



75 €



easy



motorcoach

Min10 / Max 30
participants

Panoramic | Airport transfer

This excursion ends at Athens airport (ATH) and is suitable for guests with flight after 15:00

From the port of Piraeus you pass through the charming marina 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 only a short drive to cosmopolitan Athens, a mix of modern buildings and great monuments. You will pass the Temple of Zeus, the Panathenaic Stadium, the Parliament in Syntagma (Constitution) Square, the National Academy, the University, the Library and Hadrian's Arch before arriving in Plaka, the oldest and most picturesque neighborhood of Athens.

You will have approximately two hours free time to explore Plaka, strolling among the tavernas and boutiques, discovering 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 your free time, you will be transferred to the airport.

Please note: Walking time in the city centre is at your own discretion.

Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water.

Traffic in Athens may affect the duration of the drive between sites. The order of the visits is subject to change and the length of free time may vary depending on the day's traffic.

The guide will leave the group when the coach leaves Athens for the airport.

PIRAEUS (Port of ATHENS)

Star Clippers also offers the following transfer services (optional, on request):

- Shared Transfer to Athens airport.

Guests who have purchased a shared transfer cannot choose their own pick up time.

There is a fixed departure from the port at approximately 08:45.

This transfer is suitable for guests whose flight departs after 12:00.

- Private transfers to Athens airport or to hotels in Athens.

Pick up from the pier for private transfers is no later than 10:00.

Private transfers are operated by private cars (1-2 passengers) or private vans (3-4 passengers).

- Private transfers from hotels to the airport.

Private transfers are operated by private cars (1-2 passengers) or private vans (3-4 passengers).

This service can only be pre-booked.

Transfers and excursions ending at the airport can also be booked prior to your cruise.

Bookings made onboard during the cruise are always subject to availability.

If you wish to book a private transfer, we recommend that you book well in advance prior to your cruise, as the number of vehicles may be limited at certain times of the year.

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

The ship will be alongside at one of the three cruise terminals at Piraeus port, located at approximately 10 km from Athens city center and 42 km from Athens airport. All guests must leave the ship by 10:00am.



EXCURSIONS ACTIVITY LEVEL:

- ✓ **Easy:** excursion accessible to all participants, as it mainly takes place by bus or boat. Any footpaths and stairs that need to be negotiated are short or easy.
- ✓ **Moderate:** a certain basic level of fitness is required; excursion involving moderate walking - sometimes over uneven or unpaved paths and stairs.
- ✓ **Moderate to strenuous:** active participation is required; excursion involving walking long distances over uneven or steep terrain. May involve several flights of stairs or extended staircases.
- ✓ **Strenuous:** a good level of fitness is required; an excursion involving extensive uphill walking on inclines, uneven terrain with many steps. Excursion involving off-road driving, not suitable for pregnant women or anyone with a medical condition (back, neck, etc.) that could be affected by bumpy roads.
- ✓ **Active (sport):** Very good physical condition, stamina and skill are required. Passengers should be fit and active to participate in tours involving hiking, kayaking, snorkeling, cycling or similar activities.

The level of physical fitness required for our activities is given as a very general indication.

MAIN EXCURSIONS CATEGORIES:

- ✓ **Culture & History:** it explores places of historical significance, visits ancient ruins or historic buildings, gives a deeper understanding of the region's heritage.
- ✓ **Sightseeing:** it gives a quick but enriching overview, visiting and seeing the main attractions, landmarks and places of interest in a particular area, often including popular spots and sometimes hidden gems.
- ✓ **Food & Wine:** it explores the culinary traditions of a region, from local markets and vineyards to cooking classes or wine tastings.
- ✓ **Panoramic:** it involves a limited number of long drives with commentary by the guide, no internal visits and - generally - limited walking between stops.
- ✓ **Active & Adventure:** Hiking, kayaking, cycling, ATV, 4x4 off-road.

WHAT TO WEAR AND BRING WHEN GOING ASHORE ON EXCURSION:

- ✓ Unless special clothing suggestions are included in the excursion description, we recommend functional clothing and comfortable footwear.
- ✓ Comfortable shoes to help with any steep paths and uneven cobbles.
- ✓ A hat or cap and sun lotion.
- ✓ Water.
- ✓ For boat excursions or excursions including beach stop: swimsuit, beach towel, sunglasses, sunscreen, water shoes, snorkel mask.
- ✓ Mobile phone or camera to capture the moment.
- ✓ Ship card to get back on board.
- ✓ Some cash in local currency.
- ✓ A copy of the Daily Program, to check last tender or last gangway time, tender schedule, lunch time, etc.
- ✓ For ports with tender service (ship at anchor), bring a rucksack or fanny pack so that your hands are free to hold on to the safety grip when boarding the tender.