



SHORE EXCURSIONS

5 nights | **STAR CLIPPER**
Sicily & Greece | Athens - Valletta, 30-October-2026



Fri Piraeus (port of Athens)
Sat Monemvasia
Sun Pilos
Mon at sea
Tue Syracuse – Sicily
Thu Valletta – Malta

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 and the availability of 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.

How you can book your shore excursions:

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

Important notes:

- Departure times of the excursions are mentioned in the Daily Program of each port, which you will receive in your cabin the evening before each stopover.
- 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 on board 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: 30th of January 2026

MONEMVASIA - Time at leisure (no shore excursions organized)

Monemvasia, known as the "Gibraltar of the East," is a medieval town perched on a rocky island off the Peloponnese coast, linked to the mainland by a narrow causeway. With a history spanning Byzantine, Venetian, and Ottoman periods, it offers visitors a glimpse into a rich past through its stone streets, Byzantine churches, and fortified walls. The town's cultural heritage is reflected in its preserved architecture and vibrant local life, while stunning views of the Aegean complete the experience. Do not miss the amazing approach to the port from the sea, where the dramatic promontory and castle come into breathtaking view.

The ship will anchor off the port of Monemvasia, which is located in the small town of Gefira, 1.5 km from the Castle of Monemvasia. From the tender pier, you can walk to the historic district via a paved path in approximately 30 minutes. There is also a local bus service (paying) that will drop you off at the entrance to the lower town.

PILOS - Nestor's Palace ruins & Methoni Fortress



4:00



85 €



moderate



motorcoach

*Min 20 / Max -
participants*

History & Culture

A coach awaits you at Pylos harbour for the 30-minute drive to the ruins of Nestor's Palace, built in the 13th century BC. King Nestor is mentioned in the Homeric epics as a wise old ruler who took part in the Trojan wars.

The palace was strategically located on the top of Ano Eglianos Hill, overlooking the coastline, and was surrounded by a fortified wall. Excavations have revealed some early remains dating from before 1300 BC, an Old Palace (1280 BC) and a New Palace (1250 BC). The Palace of Nestor is considered to be the best preserved Mycenaean palace in Greece, although there are only a few remains at ground level. It was originally a two-storey building, decorated with frescoes, with facilities such as storerooms, workshops, baths, light wells, reception rooms and a sewage system. The buildings were almost completely destroyed by fire in the 12th century BC, but hundreds of clay tablets with inscriptions remained intact and were unearthed during excavations.

The tour continues with a visit to the fortress of Methoni on the southernmost tip of the western Peloponnese coast. This site has had a turbulent past, changing hands many times throughout its history. It was fortified as early as the 7th century BC and was used as a Byzantine fortress between 395 AD and 1204 AD. It then passed to the Venetians, who reinforced the fortifications in the 13th century, and was contested by the Turks and Venetians.

The Turks finally held the fortress until 1829, when they lost control of the Peloponnese during the Greek War of Independence. At the end of the visit you will reboard the coach for the short journey back to Pilos.

Please note:

- ✓ This tour involves extensive walking and standing over cobbles and uneven surfaces.
- ✓ Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water.
- ✓ Estimated travel times: 30 minutes between Pilos and the ruins of Nestor's Palace; 30 minutes between Nestor's Palace and Methoni; 15 minutes between Methoni and Pilos.



SYRACUSE - Baroque Noto



4:00



69 €



moderate



motorcoach

Min 20 / Max 35
participants

History & Culture | Unesco

After a 45-minute journey by air-conditioned coach, you will arrive in Noto, considered one of the most beautiful towns in Sicily. Totally destroyed by an earthquake in 1693 and rebuilt in the 18th century, it is a perfect example of Baroque architecture. UNESCO has declared it a World Heritage Site and is funding the restoration of monuments damaged in the last earthquake in 1990.

On arrival in Noto, disembark from the coach and start your tour of the town on foot. Admire the imposing gate known as the Porta Nazionale, which leads to the main street where the most important monuments can be seen.

At the heart of the city is the 18th-century Cathedral, which is currently being restored after being damaged in the 1990 earthquake.

Other impressive buildings include the Town Hall, the Archbishop's Palace, the Palazzo Sant'Alfano, the Church of Santissimo Salvatore and the Palazzo Villadorata, all fine examples of typical Sicilian Baroque architecture from the early 18th century. At the end of the visit, you will have some free time to do some shopping or perhaps enjoy an ice cream at the famous Caffé Sicilia before returning to Syracuse.

Please note:

- ✓ This tour involves extensive walking over cobbles and uneven ground with some steps.
- ✓ Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a hat and water. Appropriate attire is required when visiting religious sites (no bare shoulders or shorts allowed).
- ✓ The journey time between Syracuse and Noto is approximately 45 minutes each way.

MALTA (Valletta)

The ship will be alongside at Valletta Cruise Port in Malta's Grand Harbour, close to the Valletta Waterfront (Pinto Wharf), just below the old town and at approximately 7 km distance from Malta airport.

All guests are requested to leave the ship before 10:00am

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

- Shared Transfer to Malta Airport.

- ✓ Guests who have purchased a shared transfer cannot choose their own pick up time.
- ✓ There is a fixed departure from the port at 09:00 (arrival at the airport approx. 09:30).
- ✓ This transfer is suitable for guests whose flight departs after 11:30.

- Private transfers to Malta airport or to hotels.

- ✓ 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 can also be booked prior to your cruise.

Bookings made on board during the cruise are always subject to availability.

If you wish to book a private transfer, we recommend that you pre-book it 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.



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.