

# Sailing Greece - Athens to Santorini - GVAS

15 days: Athens to Santorini

## What's Included

- 14 nts aboard a 16m (52 ft) sailing yacht
- Fully licensed skipper
- Snorkelling equipment

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT**: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing May 29th, 2018 and onwards

#### Itinerary

**NOTE**: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

#### **Day 1 Athens**

Arrival day. Join the group at 5pm for a welcome meeting and safety briefing before beginning the sailing journey to Mykonos. Enjoy a night cap on the boat, or head out to explore Athens by night.

On our Greek sailing trips, the G Adventures Skipper/CEO will help you make a food kitty, where around EUR 50 per person, per week will be added to the kitty for small food items on board to cover breakfasts, lunches and the odd dinner.

Breakfasts and lunches are prepared by yourself, and most dinners are taken ashore at local restaurants.

#### **Free Time**

Athens Afternoon

Explore one of the world's most historic cities. Take a walk and soak in the atmosphere, visit some of the famous points of interest from Athens' glorious past like the Acropolis or the Parthenon.

#### Arrival Day and Welcome Meeting with G Representative

The adventure begins today. Feel free to explore, but make sure you're back in time to meet the group. Your G Representative will review the details of your tour.

#### Day 2 Athens/Northern Cyclades

Set sail for the Cyclades. Possible island stops include: Syros, Kea, Kythnos, Mykonos, Hydra and Aegina. Flexible itineraries give your experienced skippers the opportunity to showcase all the hidden gems you're looking for. We follow the desires of the group and tailor the sailing experience to provide each group a quality journey while on board.

While in the Cyclades, stroll through the markets of Syros, finding countless treasures and must-grab deals along the way. Visit the stone lion on Kea and make sure to stop in at a family-owned silver shop before watching the sunset. Kythnos offers a special treat of seeing the sunrise while soaking in local hot springs.

Another favourite among travellers is a stopover in Hydra. Take a local "taxi" (donkey ride) to see the sights of this charming island where there are no cars allowed. It's not hard to see why Hydra has inspired painters and writers the world over.

Gaze at the churches and temples of Aegina, immersing yourself in history. Wander through the local fish market to truly appreciate your meal at the tavern.

Please note: While it is our intention to adhere to the route described above, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. On Day 1 of your tour you will be advised of any amendments.

#### 16m (52 ft) Mediterranean Sailing Yacht

# Athens – Northern Cyclades

Get into the thick of things swiftly aboard one of our sharp-looking yachts.

#### Svros Island Excursion

#### Nísos Sýros

Stretch those sea legs on the island of Syros while on a short hike, visiting local markets or admiring the Medieval architecture unique to the island. The major port city of Ermoupolis is the financial centre and capital of Syros as well as the Cyclades. Depending on where the group decides to explore, head to some of the small beaches on the island or try scuba diving.

#### **Hydra Island Excursion**

#### Hydra Island

Explore the island of Hydra on foot or while riding a donkey. Visit the Hydra Museum near the ferry dock to learn about the island's history or the Cathedral of Hydra in town. Hydra only has one settlement along the natural harbor where pastel and white mansions are scattered on the hillside. Most of these massive homes are now museums but speak to the glamorous past of the island. The island still attracts artists, celebrities, and travellers especially those travelling by yacht. There are several great tavernas where you can enjoy a meal, some offering the experience to dine in a local resident's home.

#### **Aegina Island Excursion**

#### Aegina Island

Stop at the island of Aegina to explore this well-preserved, historical island. Once a major trade partner and political power, the island is now known for its archaeological sites, charming villages and the production of pistachios. Rent a car or motor bike to quickly tour around Aegina, or head to one of the many beaches to relax on the sand.

#### **Kea Island Excursion**

#### Kéa

Dock at the lovely island of Kea, one of the most northern islands of the Cyclades. A perfect stop for hikers, there are tons of paths across the island that cross the varied landscape of the island as well as ancient cities. For those looking for less active activities, opt to visit the Stone Lion or a family silversmith. There are many great restaurants on the island perfect for enjoying the view and sampling some local wine.

#### **Kythnos Island Excursion**

#### Kýthnos

Explore the island of Kythnos, home to glorious hot springs and villages virtually untouched by the tourism industry. Tour the old iron mining mills or visit one of the islands many beaches. Take a photo of the picturesque bay, soak in the hot springs and watch the sunset, or explore the port and seaside taverns.

#### **Days 3-6 Northern Cyclades**

Flexible itineraries give your experienced skippers the opportunity to showcase all the hidden gems you're looking for. We follow the desires of the group and tailor the sailing experience to provide each group a quality journey while on board.

Possible Island stops include: Syros, Kea, Kythnos, Hydra, Aegina.

#### 16m (52 ft) Mediterranean Sailing Yacht

Northern Cyclades Travel through the Northern Cyclades

#### **Syros Island Excursion**

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#### Day 7 Northern Cyclades/Mykonos

Celebrate upon arrival to Mykonos by visiting the local windmills and enjoying a cocktail on a veranda overlooking Little Venice. The beaches and nightlife add excitement to the picturesque island.

#### 16m (52 ft) Mediterranean Sailing Yacht

Northern Cyclades – Mykonos

Get into the thick of things swiftly aboard one of our sharp-looking yachts.

#### **Mykonos Island Excursion**

Mykonos

Explore the island of Mykonos, Greece's most famous cosmopolitan island. Named for the grandson of the Greek God Apollo, Mykonos' vibe is uniquely glam yet simple and has something for everyone. A vivid nightlife, beautiful beaches and historical sites draw in all kinds of travellers including celebrities, families, and students. Visit the local windmills and maybe enjoy a cocktail on a veranda overlooking Little Venice.

#### **Day 8 Mykonos**

Free day to explore Mykonos, then enjoy a nightcap with your new crew, or head out to explore Mykonos by night.

Spend the day exploring Mykonos and meet back at 5pm for an important group meeting with your new Chief Experience Officer (CEO), skipper, and the other group members.

### Sailing Welcome Meeting

17:00

Welcome aboard! Before setting sail meet the skipper and the rest of the group at a welcome meeting. Your skipper should be easy to spot in a G Adventures shirt or with a G Adventures flag at the skipper table.

#### **Free Time**

Mykonos Full Day

Enjoy a full day to explore Mykonos. Spend the day at one of the beautiful beaches, floating in the sapphire water or soaking up the sun on the sand. Once the sun sets head to one of the local bars or tavernas to enjoy the nightlife that's so famous here.

# Optional Activities - Day 8

# Mykonos Island Excursion

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### Day 9 Mykonos/Cyclades

Flexible itineraries give our experienced skippers the opportunity to showcase all the hidden gems you're looking for, we follow the desires of the group and cater the sailing experience to provide each group a quality journey while on board.

While in the Southern Cyclades stroll through the "most elegant square in Greece" in Syros. Head out on an optional all-day adventure to discover the best Naxos has to offer: the Temple of Dimitra, a microbrewery, views of Mt Zeus, and a fresh meal at a local tavern.

Uncover the beauty of the Venetian ruins in Paros before going cave exploring in Antiparos. While on los relax on famous Manganari beach and don't forget to visit Homer's tomb. Walk and hike through the trails and paths of Sifnos before stopping at a local ceramic workshop.

No trip is complete without wandering around the breathtaking cliffside city of Hora, enjoy cocktails while the sun sets over the whitewashed buildings that scatter the landscape.

On arriving in Santorini, enjoy the white-washed village scenes of this volcanic, paradise island. Be sure to catch a spectacular sunset in the evening.

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#### 16m (52 ft) Mediterranean Sailing Yacht

#### Mykonos - Cyclades

Get into the thick of things swiftly aboard one of our sharp-looking yachts.

#### **Naxos Island Excursion**

#### Naxos

Opt to take a day trip to Naxos guided by your CEO skipper. Bring your license to explore the island by car rental. Stop at the Temple of Dimitra, a local microbrewery and the Church of Droisiani to see the 6th century wall paintings. Take in the view up on Mount Zeus at Zas Cave and enjoy a meal at a welcoming local tavern owned by the town butcher. End the day at Apollonas beach. (If you don't have an EU Drivers Licence - make sure to get an International Licence, to be able to rent a car)

#### **Paros Island Excursion**

#### Páros

Visit the island of Paros in the heart of the Cyclades, known for its hidden beaches, quaint villages and bountiful plant life. The countryside is filled with vineyards, olive groves and fruit trees while in the spring the scenery is dotted with bursts of colour from blooming flowers. Explore or sit back at a tavernas and enjoy the view while savouring some yummy Greek food. History buffs tend to flock to the North side of Paros to Naousa to see the town's historic port and Venetian ruins.

#### **Antiparos Island Excursion**

#### Antíparos

Visit the Antíparos and explore ancient sites like the Cave of Antíparos, used as a place of worship for the goddess Artemis. Hop on one of the hourly buses to the cave, travel 100m down using the staircase and take in the view of the stalagmites and stalactites. The capital is built around a 15th century Venetian castle and is also worth exploring. Wander the alleyways past the whitewashed houses, take some pictures of the homes with their blossoming pink and purple bougainvillea or visit the main square. Like all of the islands in the Cyclades, Antíparos also has lovely beaches along the coast perfect for swimming or snorkelling.

#### los Island Excursion

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Stop at los island and get up close to the hillside clusters of blue-roofed white buildings, explore an amphitheatre and stand on the golden beaches. Look out at the sapphire sea while soaking in the Greek island ambience.

Take a scenic 25 minute walk up the hill to the old town of Hora. If there's time visit the tomb of the famous poet Homer or head the famous Manganari beach on the south side of the island to enjoy the sun and clear water.

#### **Sifnos Island Excursion**

#### Nisí Sífnos

Walk around the island of Sifnos past snowy white houses, little churches with blue domes on green hills that lead to sandy beaches. Hike along the walking trails with spectacular views of olive groves and wild juniper. The island hosts a number of small, locally-owned and operated ceramic workshops, some of which are open to the public. Stop in and pick up a unique, authentic keepsake to take home.

#### **Folegandros Island Excursion**

#### Folégandros

Explore one of the must see islands in the Cyclades, Folegandros, and the beautiful city of Hora. The capital which is located up in the hills, boasts a traffic-free main street with plenty of green spaces to explore. Spend some time hiking the trails, taking photos of the classic whitewashed houses decorated with colourful bougainvillea or exploring under the waves while snorkeling.

### Days 10-13 Southern Cyclades

Possible island stops include: Naxos, Paros, Antiparos, Ios, Sifnos, Folegandros. The order of stops over the next few days will be weather dependent.

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### 16m (52 ft) Mediterranean Sailing Yacht

Cyclades

Get into the thick of things swiftly aboard one of our sharp-looking yachts.

# Day 14 Santorini

Arrive at Santorini Island.

### 16m (52 ft) Mediterranean Sailing Yacht

Cyclades – Santorini

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#### **Free Time**

Santorini Afternoon

Santorini, Greece is an island in the southern Aegean Sea. Fira, the main town, has breathtaking views of multi-coloured cliffs, sugar-cube architecture and great local markets for shopping. Take some time to wander the whitewashed streets, or relax and watch the world go by at a local cafe or restaurant.

#### Day 15 Santorini

Depart after breakfast.

If you would like extra time in Santorini after your sailing journey is finished, we recommend booking extra time on the island.

#### Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

### What's Included

14 nts aboard a 16m (52 ft) sailing yacht. Fully licensed skipper. Snorkelling equipment.

### Highlights

Relax on white-sand beaches and swim in brilliant turquoise water, test your hand at sailing or just relax on the deck, wander through whitewashed villages, taste traditional Greek food and wine, hike to spectacular viewpoints

#### **Dossier Disclaimer**

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### **Itinerary Disclaimer**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

### **Important Notes**

1. Space is limited on the boat and especially in your cabin. You can only take soft sided luggage on board, such as a mid-sized backpack or soft duffel bag. (Less than is 15kgs) Suitcases are not appropriate for our Sailing adventures as they are not pliable enough to fit into the niches available for luggage.

2. Fresh water is very limited on board, and as such we ask for your understanding that showers are limited to one quick shower per person a day.

3. It's important to note that the beds in the cabins are not the usual length of a standard bed. The length is approximately 1.8 meters (6 feet)

4. Electrical outlets on board are European style with 2 pins (240V), and are only operational while in port. It is recommended to bring an external battery pack for charging personal electronics.

5. This is a self-catering trip, and everybody will be expected to participate, cleaning up after themselves, and keeping the boat ship shape at all times (including washing the dishes, and emptying the bins when ashore.)

6. Physical Rating:

- You should be able to climb up small steep ladders, or walk over a wooden plank (without a handrail) when boarding/disembarking the vessel, and be physically able to carry your luggage.

- You will often be climbing in and out of the yachts inflatable tenders at beach landing spots, and boarding/disembarking the tender from the yacht in sometimes challenging conditions.

- Moving around the yacht while under sail can be challenging as it moves in the waves or heels over to its side. You should be physically able, and comfortable, to move about in such conditions.

7. Please note that this trip is a combination of multiple G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and/or particular vehicles operating your tour may change between tour segments. You may also expect some group members to join or leave the tour, between tour segments.

8. If you don't have an EU Drivers Licence - make sure to get an International Licence, to be able to rent a car/ATV/scooter on the islands.

# **Group Leader Description**

A G Adventures skipper will be with the group throughout your journey. The aim of the skipper is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible, as well as taking complete charge of the sailing, your safety on board and the safety of the vessel. As this is a real sailing adventure, our skipper might also request your help on board and will be more than happy to impart some of their vast sailing knowledge during the course of the journey. Our skippers are all fully licensed with many years of experience sailing in the area. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and you can expect your skipper to have a broad general knowledge of the Greek Islands you will visit.

## **Group Size Notes**

Max 8

# **Meals Included**

No meals included

### Meals

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

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Breakfasts and lunches are prepared by yourself, and most dinners are taken ashore at local restaurants.

# Transport

16m (52 ft.) sailing yacht.

### About our Transportation

Our 58ft sailing boats are equipped with state of the art technology offering all travellers onboard a safe and enjoyable experience. Space is optimized – sleeping quarters are snug, meaning that more of the boat is open from everyone to enjoy. Cabins are allotted by the skipper based on the gender and traveller make-up of the group.

### Accommodation

4 twin/double occupancy cabins, 3 shared washrooms, 3 showers.

# **About Accommodation**

A NOTE REGARDING SMALL SPACES ON SAILBOATS:

- Please note that the rooming for these boats is assigned upon arrival and neither particular cabins, nor berths can be guaranteed. You will be sharing a bunk or double bed with your travel partner or one of your fellow passengers of the same sex and sharing the bathrooms onboard.

- Please be aware that as this is a real sailboat and not a cruise vessel and the space on board is tight. The sleeping quarters on sailboats are generally kept to a minimum size in order to maximize public space and performance.

- It may be possible to smell engine and/or diesel fumes when in the cabins, due to their proximity to the engine room. Most travel is done during the day, so it is unlikely you will be in the cabin when the engine is running.

- Some people are not comfortable with the type of close quarter arrangements typically found on sailboats, however if a real sailing experience on a real sailboat is what you are after, then this experience should more than make up for cramped quarters.

- Opportunities to sleep in open air on main deck are often available.

- Please note that the skipper may also be sharing the ship's guarters and amenities with you.

- Power onboard is 220V on European 2 pin sockets. Please note that this is not suitable for sleeping aid machines, as the power source may not always be operating. Bringing a battery pack is recommended.

# Joining Instructions

Kalamaki/Alimos Marina

Dia Noche Cafe Marina Alimou, Athens, Greece

Which is located in Alimos Marina across from "Pier 6". There will be a reserved table inside with a G Adventures sign, where our skipper will meet you at 17:00 on Day 1 of your tour.

From the airport by Bus & Taxi - Take the X96 Bus from Athens Eleftherios Venizelos airport. The ticket costs 5.00 Euro and is valid for 24 hours on all public transport means. Get off at Alimos Marina, Kalamaki.

Head down to the Marina to Dia Noche Cafe.

From the airport by Taxi - Give the driver the address of Dia Notche cafe in Alimos Marina, Kalamaki. Cost is approximately 35 Euros.

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BE AT THE RELEVANT JOINING POINTAT 17:00 ON DAY 1.

Your Skipper will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip.

To arrange an arrival or departure transfer, we recommend you book through our preferred transfer provider - HolidayTaxis - using the following link:

https://partner.holidaytaxis.com/?ref=GADVE

Choose from a range of transport options including both private and shared transfers at a discounted rate.

We advise that you book both your arrival and departure transfers in advance. Please make sure you have the following details before booking:

- Flight number
- Flight Arrival Time and Date
- Flight Departure Time and Date
- Passenger's Name
- Number of Passengers
- Email
- Valid Mobile Telephone Number
- Drop off and/or Pick Up Address

# **Arrival Complications**

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

## **Emergency Contact**

#### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

In case of a serious emergency, please contact:

Head Skipper +385 91 172 2944

Operations +94 777 353 606

Director of Global Sailing +353 87 660 0644

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found here.

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100 Calls from UK: 0344 272 2060 Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000 Calls from Australia: 1300 853 325 Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 415 Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999 ALL OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES: +44 207 243 9878

# **Finishing Point Instructions**

Marina Vihada, Santorini

Your yacht will arrive to the finishing point on day 15 of the trip in the morning. The trip will end at 10:00am.

If you would like to spend any extra time in Santorini you might try one of the following hotels:

Stella Rooms, Vlychada Marina, Santorini For convenient accommodation from 30EUR-70EUR per room, Stella rooms are located 5min walk from where the boat will start, and finish the trips. It is 20min from Airport and from Fira, and a taxi costs 20EUR. Here is the link. http://www.vlichada-dimitris.gr/en/index.php

Oia, Santorini

For something very special and to stay in Oia, which is 40min taki from the boat, taxi fair is 30EUR one way, taxi from airport is 40min and 30EUR one way,taxi from port is 40min and 40EUR one way we recommend Hotel Afroessa which has the most magical views over the calderra and the sunset. The staff are super helpful and friendly and for special occasions this is a must. Prices range from 70EUR - 250EUR depending on time of season. http://www.afroessa.com/location.php

All prices are subject to change depending on time of season.

Please quote G adventures on all bookings for better rates.

### What to Take

There is limited space on the yachts. We recommend the use of a duffel bag or backpack. A good size daypack is also essential. PLEASE NOTE: No hard suitcases are permitted due to limited space.

# Packing List

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

#### Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- · Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs

• First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/ plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)

- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

#### Heath & Safety:

- Disposable Face Masks (required)
- Hand sanitizer (required)
- Pen (required) (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)
- Rubber gloves

Marine:

- Drybag (Will help keep cameras and essentials dry)
- External battery pack
- Motion sickness tablets
- Sarong
- Snorkel gear (optional) (Only if own equipment is preferred.)

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- · Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

# Laundry

Laundry facilities can be found in some harbors, ask your skipper for the best places.

# **Visas and Entry Requirements**

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following

information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page <u>here</u>

A Schengen visa is applied for at the Embassy or Consulate of the Schengen country in which you will be spending the most nights on your trip to the Schengen space. If you are only visiting one country on your trip then you apply for your visa at the Consulate of this Schengen country.

### **Detailed Trip Notes**

Welcome on board!! We are happy that you decided to be a guest on board our sailing yachts for your holidays. To make sure it's a real one of a kind experience, your skipper wants to give you some information about the things you'll meet on the yacht and on the trip.

No worries, we won't make you spend your precious time on too much information, simply take it as a possibility to start your adventure at home.

Brief History of Yachting

Known since the old Egyptian Empires yachts were dedicated only to the pleasure of it's passengers in the exclusivity of independence. Long time before tourism discovered the pleasure of big steamboat cruises around 100 years ago, the wealthy parts of societies enjoyed yachting in different ways: cruising the Nile, sailing the Greek Islands or enjoying huge parties on board of Caligula's yachts in a lake south of Rome.

Fortunately technology developed allowing us the opportunity to sail the oceans in smaller yachts. Yachts of today are constructed under the rules of hydrodynamics, defining the shape of the hull, the needs of stability and comfort.

When only twenty years ago, running water and a stove were a pure luxury on board a yacht, you'll find almost everything you need on your yachts today: electricity -though it's only 12V offshore and only sometimes 220V when we're moored, refrigerators, showers, hot water, music and much more.

But never forget: a yacht always is 'on the budget'...budgeting room and weight for mobility and stocks for ongoing comfort.

Each yacht comes with the safety gear and instrumentation required by law to assure you a safe and successful holiday.

Here are some technical terms for you to learn to help you orient yourself: Boat Hull: the 'body' of the boat Keel: stabilising part of the hull under the waterline to prevent capsizing Deck: upper level of the boat Cockpit: area in the back where we are operating the boat Bow: Forward area of the boat Stern Backward area of the boat Helm: steering facility Helmsman: Person at the helm, not necessarily the skipper Starboard: right side of the boat looking forward from aft Port (side): left side of the boat looking forward from aft Rigg: all fixed equipment standing up above the deck Mast: vertical massive pole to fix the sails Boom: horizontal massive pole going backward from the mast Mainsail: sail at the rear of the mast Foresail/Genua/ Headsail: sail in front of the mast Fender: sort of 'bumper' to avoid damage of the hull when moored Winch: sort of drum to operate loaded lines or anchor chain Beaufort: intl. scale for strength of winds, starting with 0 up to 12 Operations Manoeuvre: changing the course of the boat or doing several operations Tacking: turning the bow through the wind Gibing: turning the stern through the wind

Round up: turning the boat exactly into the wind to stop moving

Fetch sth.: pulling tight a line Ease sth.: detaching a line Lines There are only LINES on a boat, no ropes etc. Most important ones: Furling lines: to set and take away the sails Sheets: to adjust the sails during sailing Mooring lines: connecting the yacht to the peer Ground lines: fixing the bow when moored 'stern too' (the peer)

#### Knots

Figure-eight knot: belongs to the end of certain lines to avoid going by the run Half hitch: easiest knot to fix a line somewhere, not very strong one Clove hitch: famous knot to fix various lines like mooring-, fender- etc. Reef knot: used to connect two lines of same size to each other More ambitious but often used: Bowline: creating a strong and everlasting loop to a line

## **Spending Money**

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## **Money Exchange**

In Greece you can exchange your foreign currency and /or traveler checks in banks and money exchange "kiosko" in all cities, remember that the banks are open from 8:00am until 2pm and won't reopen later, also be aware of national holidays. The only currency accepted in Greece is the EURO.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

### **Emergency Fund**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

# **Departure Tax**

Usually included in international air ticket

# Tipping

It is customary in Europe to leave a small tip for service providers, such as waiters, if you are pleased with the service (€1-2). Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from €3-5 per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO or skipper did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline €5-8 EUR per person, per day can be used.

# **Optional Activities**

Mykonos

- Mykonos Island Excursion

### Health

Please note: We do not have a constant power source onboard, and cannot facilitate the use of Sleep Apnea/CPAP machines. Bringing a suitable battery pack is required.

Inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

No particular health issues in Greece, just that in some more remote islands bottled water is more recommended to drink. Just keep in mind that some heat waves are possible from June to October all over the country. People who are sensitive to seasickness should come prepared.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit, hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements.

# Safety and Security

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your rip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

### www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/

# Trip Specific Safety

Greece is a relatively safe country if you take the same precaution you would back home in any major and/or touristy cities, use comon sense and do not hesitate to ask your skipper about specific areas to avoid. Also it is recommended to carry with you only the money and documentation you need for the day. Always keep an eye on your belongings, while having a drink, at the internet cafe, waiting at the bus station...

# A Couple of Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

# **Travel Insurance**

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

# Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with <u>Planeterra</u> <u>Foundation</u>.

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## Feedback

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that you'll receive a special discount code for free online prints and we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Please visit http://www.gadventures.com/evaluations

## Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at <a href="http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/">www.gadventures.com/newsletters/</a>

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for <u>Planeterra's monthly news</u> to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

# **Minimum Age**

Minimum age of 16 years for this trip.

# **International Flights**

Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.