Ancient Greece
An Aegean Odyssey

aboard the Five-Star Small Ship M.S. Le Lyrial

September 18 to 26, 2017
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join us on this unparalleled and comprehensive Aegean Odyssey to the very cradle of Western civilization and the classical world, exploring the iconic jewels and legendary mythical places of Ancient Greece. Cruise aboard the state-of-the-art, Five-Star small ship M.S. LE LYRIAL, launched in 2015, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms with distinctive French sophistication. Enjoy all the advantages of small-ship cruising—a specially arranged and exclusive excursion each day, the ability to dock in small ports inaccessible to larger vessels, and no waiting in long lines for tenders.

This spectacular voyage offers opportunities to visit nine magnificent UNESCO World Heritage sites. Call on Crete, Santorini, Delos, Mykonos, Patmos and medieval Rhodes—islands steeped in myth and history. Visit the extraordinary scenic wonder of Meteora, where 24 Orthodox monasteries, built in the 14th and 15th centuries, are perched high atop soaring natural sandstone pinnacles, and walk through one of the most legendary sites in all of antiquity—the Palace of Minos at Knossos, where, in Greek mythology, heroic Theseus conquered the Minotaur. Enjoy guided tours in these storied destinations and traditional Greek villages, with time at leisure to encounter their mysteries and delights at your own pace during the best time of the year. Learn more about contemporary Greek island life during the exclusive ISLAND LIFE® FORUM, where you will meet and interact with local residents.

ISLAND LIFE® ANCIENT GREECE is a popular, comprehensive travel program and an excellent value—all accommodations, meals, exclusive CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS and one excursion each day are included, and you only need to unpack once! Space is very limited on this Aegean Odyssey, so book now!

Sincerely,

Marilyn W. Midyette ’75
Executive Director

All promotional items including: this travel program brochure, annual tour catalogue, associated postage costs, and other travel information distributed by our tour operator partners is provided at no cost to the Alumni Association. We are a nonprofit organization and strive to provide our alumni with high quality tours at a fair price.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RATING GUIDE
We have developed these three categories to assist you in selecting a trip that will be at the appropriate pace for your physical abilities. Please note that all programs require physical independence and mobility. Travelers requiring assistance should be accompanied on their journey and should not anticipate wheelchair accessible facilities.

LEISURELY — Easy pace, little walking and stair climbing.

MODERATE — Moderate pace, greater distances covered, walking over uneven surfaces and some stair climbing.

CHALLENGING — Vigorous pace, frequent movement, extensive walking over uneven surfaces, hiking and stair climbing.

Cover photo: Admire the beauty of Santorini’s whitewashed villages overlooking the deep turquoise waters of the Aegean Sea.

The bronze stag symbolizes the Colossus of Rhodes, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.
Island Life® Ancient Greece

The Roman writer Cicero (106–43 B.C.) observed of Athens that “wherever you set your foot, you encounter some memory of the past”; the same can be said for all of Greece. Here, in the cradle of Western civilization, the legend of the lost paradise city of Atlantis lives on in Santorini. St. John the Apostle is believed to have penned the Book of Revelation on the island of Pátmos and glorious 14th- to 15th-century Orthodox monasteries were built atop the sandstone pinnacles of Meteora, a spectacular natural wonder. Experience firsthand the true character of Greece and the influence of prehistoric, Minoan, Mycenaean, Greco-Roman, Byzantine, Venetian and Ottoman civilizations across these captivating islands and classical sites, idyllic chora (countryside) and fabled coasts. Explore the well-preserved ruins of venerable palaces and forums; magnificent sites of early Christian faith; and the splendid architecture of columns, friezes and mosaics that exemplify the contributions of ancient Greek, Hellenistic and Roman civilizations that established our modern way of living.

◆ Immerse yourself in a carefully planned, balanced itinerary of included guided historical and cultural excursions and time on your own to experience the heart and soul of Greek island and coastal life.

◆ Explore the unparalleled ancient history, culture, architecture, art, language and cuisine of the Greek Islands during this exceptional odyssey.

◆ Envision the daily lives of ancient peoples as you walk through the ruins of Akrotiri, a Minoan city solidified in time more than three and a half millennia ago by a volcanic eruption.

◆ Engage with local Patmians, residents of Pátmos, during the ISLAND LIFE® FORUM where they will share their candid perspectives of life today on this ancient island.

◆ Learn key phrases and pronunciation of the Greek language to make your interactions with local residents all the more enjoyable.

◆ Enjoy time on your own—stroll the medieval fortress town of Rhodes, explore the pristine beauty of Pátmos or enjoy a spectacular afternoon sipping ouzo harbor-side in Mykonos’ Little Venice.

Breathtaking Meteora, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is home to extraordinary Greek Orthodox monasteries built on the peaks of sandstone pinnacles formed by flowing rivers over 60 million years ago.
Athens, Greece
Birthplace of democracy and home to many of history’s greatest philosophers and poets from Socrates to Herodotus, Athens is unmatched in its contributions to early Western civilization.

Volos for Meteora
From the attractive port city of Volos, birthplace of legendary Jason, leader of the Argonauts, travel across the fertile Plain of Thessaly to the seldom-visited natural wonder of Meteora—Greek for “suspended in the air”—an extraordinary enigma of virtually uncharted Orthodox monasteries. This breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage site was constructed in the 14th and 15th centuries high atop soaring natural sandstone pinnacles where the early Christian traditions of these monasteries have continued uninterrupted for hundreds of years. Originally, the only access to these lofty peaks was by way of long ladders and baskets suspended on ropes. Visit one of the four active monasteries at the peak of these heavenly columns by way of modern roads overlooking verdant Peneas Valley, an impossibly majestic sight.

Delos
The mythical birthplace of Apollo and Artemis, Delos is today a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is considered to be one of the most sacred islands in the Greek world, as central to Grecian spiritual life as Olympia and Delphi. Walk along the Sacred Way to the Sanctuary of Apollo, a spectacularly rich archaeological site with remains of three separate temples from the fifth and sixth centuries B.C.

Once used to mill wheat, Mykonos’ iconic round windmills remain a testament to the economic prosperity that took place on the island between the 17th and 19th centuries.
Delos’ awe-inspiring ruins also showcase an entire district of Hellenistic and Roman-era houses and a 5500-seat theater (300 B.C.), the site of choral competitions during the quadrennial Delian festival.

See the magnificent Terrace of the Lions, where legendary marble statues guarded the island for nearly 2600 years.

Mykonos
According to ancient legend, the craggy hills and clefts of Mykonos were formed from the petrified bodies of giants defeated by Hercules. Mykonos’ iconic windmills, bright white, cube-shaped houses and azure bays epitomize the spectacular beauty of the Greek Isles.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Mykonos’ quaint, narrow streets lined with whitewashed buildings and picturesque windmills.

Pátmos
The small island of Pátmos and its Greek Orthodox Monastery of St. John, a UNESCO World Heritage site, loom large in the history of Christianity. Tour the monastery, built in 1088 and still inhabited by monks who continue to preserve it as a pilgrimage site and place of religious study. See the Cave of the Apocalypse, where St. John the Apostle of Ephesus very possibly wrote the Book of Revelation in A.D. 95.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Meet local residents who will discuss contemporary daily life on these ancient islands during the specially arranged ISLAND LIFE® FORUM.

Rhodes
The island of Rhodes has been one of the most prosperous and strategic strongholds in the eastern Mediterranean since the Neolithic Period. Dock at the fortified wall of Rhodes Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and step into this extraordinarily well-preserved medieval city, built over a great Hellenistic metropolis and a major Christian outpost during the Crusades. Visit the splendid 14th-century Palace of the Grand Masters, built by the Knights of St. John and one of the only examples of Gothic architecture in all of Greece.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Join the excursion to the ancient village of Lindos to see the magnificent frescoes adorning the Byzantine-style Church of Panagia and to ascend the stone stairs to the clifftop acropolis for breathtaking views of the medieval Castle of the Knights of St. John and the pristine beach below. Or, enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Rhodes to further explore its rich history, charming streets and medieval center.

Rethymnon for Knossos and Heraklion, Crete
One of the great legendary sites of all antiquity and Greek mythology is the extraordinary frescoed Palace of Minos at Knossos, built between 1700 and 1400 B.C. Sir Arthur Evans began excavations here in 1899 that lasted more than 20 years, uncovering countless archaeological treasures.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS: Tour the immense complex of chambers, corridors and courtyards at the Palace of Minos. In Heraklion, Crete’s lively capital, visit the Archaeological Museum, which exhibits a world-class collection of Minoan artifacts.

Santorini for Akrotiri
Be on deck as the ship cruises into the spectacular harbor at Santorini, a natural caldera, beneath which is believed by some to be the legendary lost city of Atlantis. A cable car descends to sea level from the elevated town of Fira, whose stunning white-walled buildings stand in stark contrast against the dark volcanic cliffs.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Tour the phenomenal Bronze Age ruins of Akrotiri, recently reopened to visitors. Held intact by layers of pumice and ash for over 3500 years, Akrotiri’s streets reveal the architectural sophistication and advanced culture of its Minoan inhabitants.
State-of-the-Art Design
The highly acclaimed M.S. Le Lyrial, launched in 2015, represents the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

Elegantly Appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies
Each air-conditioned, deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 592 square feet) features a private bathroom with shower, luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities and minibar with complimentary beverages; most have two twin beds that convert into one queen bed. Enjoy accommodation amenities including individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

Chic and Casual Dining
International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious Le Céleste dining room in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual Le Comète Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise. Continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Wine is served with lunch and dinner.

Spacious Public Areas/
World-Class Service and Facilities
In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting, and they can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge; nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge; and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet suite, Sun Deck, swimming pool with open-air bar, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment, two elevators, and an infirmary staffed with a doctor and a nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

Respect for the Environment
The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious “Clean Ship” designation due to its advanced eco-friendly features, a rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has two tenders.
Included Features

On board the Five-Star small ship M.S. LE LYRIAL

- Seven-night cruise round trip Athens, Greece, with port calls at Volos for Meteora, Delos, Mykonos, Pátmos, Rhodes and Santorini for Akrotiri; and Rethymnon for Knossos and Heraklion, Crete.

- Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.

- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.

- Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise.

- All meals—early continental breakfast, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner—throughout the cruise, featuring fine international and regional cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.

- Wine is served with lunch and dinner.

Expert-Guided Excursions

- Excursion to the extraordinary UNESCO World Heritage site of Meteora, where 14th- and 15th-century Greek Orthodox monasteries were built atop towering natural sandstone pinnacles, with lunch in a nearby restaurant.

- Walking tour of medieval Rhodes Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, with a visit to the 14th-century Palace of the Grand Masters of the Knights of St. John.

- Tour of the Cave of the Apocalypse and the Monastery of St. John, a UNESCO World Heritage site, on the island of Pátmos.

- Walking tour of UNESCO World Heritage-designated Delos' splendid classical ruins including the Sanctuary of Apollo and the theater quarter.

- Tour of Santorini—thought in myth to be the lost city of Atlantis—featuring a visit to the renowned Museum of Prehistoric Thera and a cable car ride down from the hilltop town.

Exclusive Cultural Enrichments

- Guided tour of the phenomenal Minoan site of Bronze Age Akrotiri.

- Time at leisure on the islands of Rhodes, Pátmos and Mykonos to explore at your own pace.

- Tour the extraordinary frescoed Palace of Minos at Knossos, where Theseus of Greek mythology prevailed.

- Visit to Heraklion's Archaeological Museum, featuring the world's best collection of Minoan antiquities.

- Choice of a half-day excursion in Lindos to the Acropolis or an afternoon at leisure in Rhodes.

- ISLAND LIA® FORUM with local residents who will discuss contemporary life on the islands of the Aegean Sea.

- Introduction to Greek language basic phrases.

- Special culinary presentation given by the ship's pastry chef.

Enhanced Travel Services

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).

- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced, English-speaking local guides.

- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.

- Hospitality desk aboard ship.

- Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.

- The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Program Directors throughout the program.

- Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.

- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.

- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.
Delphi's sanctuary of Athena Pronaia was named for the goddess of wisdom, sworn to protect her half-brother Apollo.

Classical Athens
Pre-Cruise Option
Experience the ancient city unmatched in its contributions to the foundations of the Western world—Athens, the birthplace of democracy. Explore the enduring grandeur encapsulated in the spectacular Acropolis, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and the perfectly proportioned Parthenon, a graceful example of Doric architecture. See the archaeological treasures of the Acropolis Museum, tour the mystical UNESCO World Heritage site of Delphi, and explore the colorful, village-like Plaka neighborhood, the oldest section of Athens. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe ATHENAEUM INTERCONTINENTAL ATHENS HOTEL.

The Extraordinary Peloponnese
Post-Cruise Option
The distillation of all that is Greek, the Peloponnese region is home to many more of the country’s greatest classical ruins. Visit the picturesque fishing port of Nafplio, widely considered the most beautiful city in Greece. In Epidaurus, see the purest masterpiece of classical Greek architecture—the fourth-century B.C. 14,000-seat theater of the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Sanctuary of Asklepios. Explore the ancient citadel of Mycenae, a UNESCO World Heritage site, of Homer’s epic The Iliad fame. In ancient Corinth, admire the imposing sixth-century Temple of Apollo, and cruise the narrow, fabled Corinth Canal. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe NFCPLIA PALACE—the only hotel in Greece built upon the grounds of an ancient fortress—and one night in the deluxe SOFITEL ATHENS AIRPORT HOTEL.

Pre- and Post-Cruise Options are at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Singles are available in category 6 at $11795* and in category 3 at $13695* on or before March 7, 2017.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:
1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Please note: Airfare is subject to change and additional cost to be advised.

Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

I/We understand that this travel program is rated MODERATE and I/We possess the physical capabilities necessary to complete a program with this rating.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Room Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Tariff* through March 7, 2017</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ocean-view, one large window. Deck 3, Polaris, forward. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$4495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 3, Polaris, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$5895</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 3, Polaris, midship.</td>
<td>$6395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 4, Vega, forward.</td>
<td>$6895</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 4, Vega, aft.</td>
<td>$7495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 5, Attair, forward.</td>
<td>$7695</td>
</tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 5, Attair, midship.</td>
<td>$8195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 5, Attair, midship and Deck 6, Lyra, aft.</td>
<td>$8495</td>
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Deluxe Suite

- Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Sitting area with sofa. Deck 6, Lyra. (limited availability)
  - Tariff: $9495

Prestige Suite

- Two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 5, Attair. (limited availability)
  - Tariff: $10995

Privilege Suite

- Two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, bathtub and separate shower, large dressing and sitting areas, sofa, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 6, Lyra. (very limited availability)
  - Tariff: $11995

Grand Deluxe Suite

- Larger two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, Jacuzzi tub and separate shower, large dressing and sitting areas, sofa, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 6, Lyra. (very limited availability)
  - Tariff: $12995

Taxes are an additional $495 per person and are subject to change.

* Taxes are an additional $495 per person and are subject to change.

M.S. LE LYRIAL has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

For further information call (757) 221-1165

Send to: Donna Coggins
Alumni Journeys
P.O. Box 2100
Williamsburg, VA 23187-2100
Delos’ UNESCO World Heritage site ruins feature the famed Terrace of the Lions, masterfully crafted in 600 B.C.

PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

required deposit, by reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the companion who will be responsible for handling equipment.

on land due to flight schedule(s); meals, alcoholic or other beverages and all transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel/ship on day(s) of arrival and/or departure if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s); any overnight on land due to flight schedules(s); meals, alcoholic or other beverages and all other services not specifically mentioned in the "Included Features" section.

Airfare is subject to change and availability and, depending on the fare basis, likely is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Gohagan.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without notice.

PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when making a space reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your escort, or companions. Those accompanied by a person with a physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when making a space reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your escort, or companions. Those accompanied by a person with a physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when making a space reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your escort, or companions.