

# HIKING CRUISE IN GREECE 2024

- Aboard the 24-cabin M/S Galileo
- Apr 05 & Oct. 25, 2024
- Hosted by Eugenia Alexiou (Archaeologist)  
and George Vavoudakis & Iro Valavani (Hikers)



# AT A GLANCE

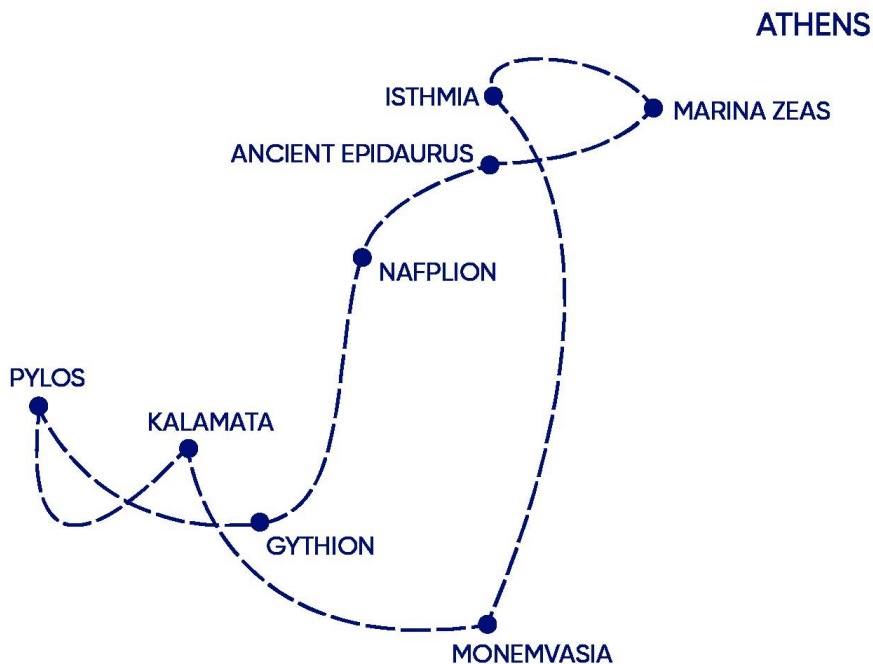


Our Hiking Collection Cruise offers you the best of two worlds. Hiking of course, but also insider insight into the history and stories from Ancient Greece. To guide the hikes we have outdoor specialists, George and Iro on board, and to explore the history of the Peloponnese we have our resident archaeologist, Evgenia.

George Vavoudakis and Iro Valavani will be your hiking guides, while Evgenia Alexiou, with a degree in archeology and art history from the School of Philosophy in Athens, experience excavating historical sites, and a license for guided tours in Greece, Evgenia is the perfect - incredibly knowledgeable - complement to our cruise.



# HIKING CRUISE IN GREECE ON THE M/S GALILEO | 2024



## DAY 1 - MARINA ZEAS (ATHENS) - ANCIENT EPIDAUROS

Embarkation at 2-3pm. This afternoon and evening is all about getting to know your fellow passengers and crew over a welcome dinner and drinks. Be sure to say hello to your hiking and archaeology experts for the week: George, Iro, and Evgenia. Their expertise will make this week one to remember. Evening arrival to Ancient Epidaurus and dinner on board.

## DAY 2 - ANCIENT EPIDAUROS - NAFPLION

In the morning we'll visit Ancient Epidaurus, a healing centre and theatre - the latter marvelled for its exceptional acoustics from any of its 15,000 seats (optional excursion). After lunch on board we will start sailing to Nafplion. Nafplion is the first capital of modern Greece, and the main port of the Eastern Peloponnese. As such, it's well-connected and a great location to begin our optional tours from. Overnight at port.

## DAY 3 - NAFPLION - MYCENAE

After a short morning walking tour of Nafplion, we'll drive through the stunning Argolis countryside to another major centre of Greek civilization: Mycenae. This ancient city is home to the Lion's Gate, Cyclopean Walls, the Agamemnon Tomb, and more. We'll also take a gentle hike across the surrounding mountain paths which offer wow moments a-plenty. This is where our team will set up a barbecue lunch like no other. Cameras at the ready, you'll need them for this special moment. Afternoon sailing to Monemvasia - a mediaeval Byzantine town.

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## DAY 3 – MONEMVASIA

We'll take a guided walk inside - delving into its winding paths and traditional churches, as well as around its castle. Nicknamed the Gibraltar of the East, explore the preserved Byzantine and Venetian architecture of the town that was the birthplace of one of the most important Greek poets, Giannis Ritsos.

## DAY 4 - GYTHION

Gythion was the ancient naval base of the Spartans, and our hiking trail today explores an area said to be home to modern descendants of them - the Mani Peninsula. We'll hike one of the most beautiful areas of it, Cape Tainaron, beginning in Kokkinogia and ending at the Tenaro lighthouse. The latter is the southernmost point of continental Europe. Our route will take about an hour and, despite several rocky sections, is a relatively easy trek with many fascinating pathways. We'll highlight the areas of historical significance as we walk but expect to see a stunning Roman mosaic floor, a 19th century stone-built lighthouse, and a cave with the necromancy of Poseidon. Overnight at sea to Pylos.

## DAY 5 - PYLOS

Morning arrival into Pylos port - the site of many famous naval battles, the last of which led to Greek independence. Hiking options today include a round trip of Polilimnio, or through the Gorge of Stenosia. Whichever we take (final route to be decided on the day), a few things are certain: lush paths, cascading waterfalls, and lots of swim breaks at natural lakes. Overnight sailing to Katakolon.

## DAY 6 - KATAKOLON FOR OLYMPIA

Keen hikers (oh, that's all of you!), listen up. Today's optional excursion is to Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games and a special place for anyone interested in sports, health, and fitness. Here you'll visit the site of the Temple of Zeus - one of the seven wonders of the ancient world - but also get the chance to run in the very spot the first Olympic athletes did, over 2000 years ago. Today's hike is in the oak forest of Foloji. It's an easy walk that we'll take slowly, allowing us to take in the stunning flora and fauna of the area. In the afternoon we will depart to Itea. Overnight in Itea.



Itineraries can be changed at the discretion of Variety Cruises and of the Vessel's Captain in case of adverse weather conditions - winds of 6/7 Beaufort or more depending on the vessel- on port authorities not allowing a vessel to leave port or in case of other extraordinary conditions. Such itinerary changes do not automatically entitle passengers to any refunds, but Variety Cruises guarantees that passengers are disembarked at the advertised port of disembarkation on time for their flights.

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## DAY 7 - ITEA FOR DELPHI

Our hike today is rich in history and - along with our optional excursion to Delphi, revered for hosting the most important oracle in the classical world - will help you understand the historical significance of the area. Indeed, our hike traverses the same path ancient pilgrims did in their quest for the oracle. The views as we walk are as rewarding as the beach cookout we'll divulge in at the end. After the hike return to the ship and cross the Corinth Canal. Later in the evening we sail to Marina Zeas.

## DAY 8 - MARINA ZEAS (ATHENS)

We arrive back to Athens to enjoy one last breakfast together before swapping contact details with new friends, disembarking 8:30 -9:00, and setting off on onward journeys.



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## SAILING DATES

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From Athens to Athens

Apr. 05 & Oct. 25, 2024

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YOUR BOAT



# M/S GALILEO

## Motor Sailer

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Length:** 48 m

**Launched:** 1992 | Rebuilt: 2007 | Renovated: 2020

**Cabins:** 24

**Capacity:** 49 passengers

**Crew:** 16-18

The M/S Galileo, built with the most stringent safety regulations, was launched in 1992 and was fully rebuilt in 2007. The latest renovation works of the M/S Galileo took place in summer 2020 and included significant upgrading of the indoor & outdoor public areas.

The elegant Galileo has operated cruises in the Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean. The Galileo is always sailing under motors. Sails are occasionally used when weather and route allow.

Service on board is provided by your Captain, the Cruise Coordinator and your experienced Marine and Hotel crew members.



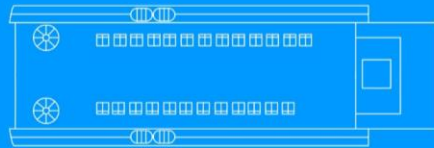
YOUR BOAT



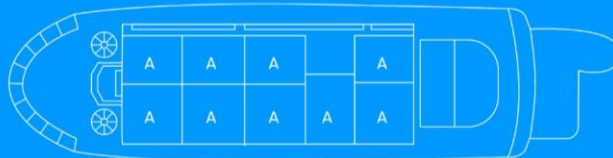
# M/S GALILEO

## Motor Sailer

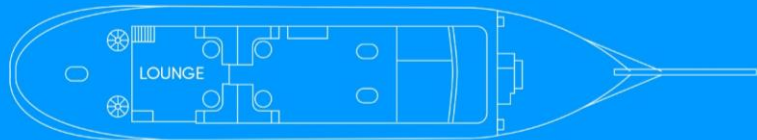
**360°**  
SUN DECK



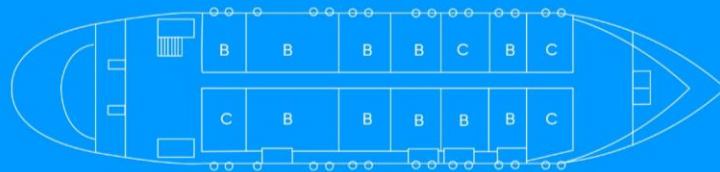
**INFINITY**  
UPPER DECK



**RIVIERA**  
MAIN DECK



**OCEANS**  
LOWER DECK



The 48 meter M/S Galileo is a classic steel hull motor sailer, with spacious and well-appointed interiors renovated in 2020.



YOUR BOAT



# M/S GALILEO

## Motor Sailer

### CABIN SPECIFICATIONS

The Galileo's 24 outside guest cabins are located on Upper and Lower Decks, all with large portholes. Elegantly decorated, they have either twin or double sized beds and bathrooms with showers en suite. Category B cabins have flexible bedding arrangement. All cabins are comfortably arranged and beautifully furnished with wooden furniture and light fabrics. Cabins have individually controlled A/C, offer storage space, and are fitted with flat-screen TVs, mini fridge, telephone (for internal use), hairdryers, central music, public address system and safe boxes.

### LIFE ON BOARD

During the day, life on board centers around the indoor lounge area and dining room, as well as the outdoor areas at the Main, Upper and Sun decks. The Captain will drop anchor at secluded bays and beautiful uninhabited islands where, weather permitting, guests enjoy swimming, snorkeling, kayaking.

### **Main deck lounge & dining room**

Renovated in 2020, the main deck lounge area with an American bar leads into a warm and elegant dining room finished with wood and carpet flooring, and beautiful soft fabrics. The spacious dining room seats all passengers in a single, unassigned seating and allows for spectacular views around you, while dining in an elegant environment. Food is served at the table or displayed on the state of the art hot & cold buffet which also includes an "a la minute cooking" section.



YOUR BOAT



# M/S GALILEO

## Motor Sailer

### Upper deck lounge area & dining room

Guests on Galileo very much enjoy the shaded outdoor area with an outdoor bar where they can relax enjoying the most breathtaking sea views.

### Sun deck

The vessel features a Sun Deck with a sitting area to relax and enjoy unobstructed views and with ample Sun loungers' space to sunbathe under the Mediterranean sun. In the evening you can watch the sunset, enjoy a drink overlooking the stars. Guests on the Galileo enjoy the shaded outdoor Bar area at the Upper Deck as well as the Sun Deck.



# HIKING CRUISE IN GREECE 2024

## SAILING DATES & GROSS CRUISE FARES



From Athens to Athens <b>Friday Sailings</b>	<b>Apr. 05 &amp; Oct. 25, 2024</b>
<b>M/S GALILEO</b> <b>CABIN CATEGORIES</b>	GROSS EURO RATES PER PERSON IN DBL/TWIN
<b>Cat C</b> Lower Deck, Twin or double beds	<b>€ 2200</b>
<b>Cat B</b> Lower Deck, Flexible beds	<b>€ 2850</b>
<b>Cat A</b> Upper Deck, Twin or double beds (Triple cabins available)	<b>€ 3350</b>
<b>SINGLE SUPPLEMENT</b>	<b>50%</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> person discount in Cat A	<b>30%</b>
<i>"Children policy/Family offer as below*"</i>	
<b>Port Charges</b>	<b>€ 320</b>

## Early Booking Discounts 2024

**-10%** To ALL reservations made until NOVEMBER 30, 2023 for April 2024 sailing

**-10%** To ALL reservations made until JANUARY 31, 2024 for October 2024 sailing

# HIKING CRUISE IN GREECE 2024

## SAILING DATES & CROSS CRUISE FARES



### A/ What's INCLUDED:

- Accommodation in double or twin cabins with private SH/WC & air conditioning
- Full-board onboard M/S GALILEO: Buffet breakfast and two meals daily, including a Welcome Cocktail, a Greek night Evening, and Captain's Dinner
- Regular (filter) coffee, tea and drinking water free all day
- Use of fishing and snorkelling equipment (subject to availability)
- English-Speaking Cruise Escort

### **Not included:**

- Beverages (except those mentioned above)
- Shore excursions on the islands or other land arrangements
- Crew tips
- Passenger personal expenses
- Wi-Fi (available at charge)

### **\* Children Policy**

Children discounts apply to children 5-17 years old, sharing a triple cabin with two paying adults. Port taxes are not discounted.

Children 5-10 years old: 50% discount on the gross per person twin cabin fares

Children 11-17 years old: 35% discount on the gross per person twin cabin fares

In case of more than one cabin, full adult rates apply.

### **\* FAMILY OFFER**

- **SINGLE** parent with 1 or max 2 children in same cabin: The parent pays Single cruise fare & children cruise for FREE
- **COUPLE** with 1 child sharing the same cabin: No charge for the child up to 10 years old  
50% reduction for the child 11-17 years old
- **COUPLE** with 2 or 3 (regardless of age) children: Both cabins will be charged at Single rate (single adult rate)
- Children (5-17 years old) **having pre-booked** the Family offer:  
25% reduction on all optional excursion

**\*The offer needs to be requested at the time of reservation, it is subject to availability and occupancy levels. Port taxes are excluded.**

### **Conditions & Restrictions for the Family offers:**

- They apply for children 5-17 years old
- They are valid for new bookings only
- They are on request and on first come-first served basis
- "Special Family offer" to be mentioned at the time of booking so that the discounted rates will apply for the reservation. Otherwise, Full rates will apply
- No reduction offered on port taxes which are additional for all participants
- They cannot be combined with any existing or future early bird discounts or special offers including Club exclusive offers
- Standard payment and cancellation policies apply

### **B/ Conditions and restrictions**

#### PROOFREADING

Tour Operators featuring our Cruises in their Catalogue or Internet site by itinerary, vessel's description and images, will send VARIETY CRUISES a draft for error-checking of the contents prior publication as well as two brochure copies when printed, in order to secure correct information given to our clients and to keep our high customer satisfaction levels. Variety Cruises will not bare any responsibility for inaccurate information or misrepresentation of our vessels or cruise itineraries without having accepted a draft prior to the brochure going to print or internet page published.

#### PAYMENT

25% deposit is required 7 days from confirmation.

75% Balance of payment no less than 60 days prior to day of embarkation.

#### CANCELLATIONS

240 days to 120 days from embarkation: €120 / US\$140 Administration fee (per booking)\*

119 to 90 days from embarkation 15% of the cruise fare

89 to 60 days from embarkation 25% of the cruise fare

59 to 30 days from embarkation 50% of the cruise fare

29 to 00 days from embarkation 100% of the cruise fare

Cancellations must be confirmed by VARIETY CRUISES in writing in all cases.

**\*In case of cancellation the administration fee per booking will be converted to a future cruise credit redeemable on bookings made up to 12 months after cancellation, valid for any cruise and date of cruise.**

#### AMENDMENTS

There may be a charge for amendments of cruise date or decreasing pax number received less than 60 days prior to sailing. Amendments must be confirmed by VARIETY CRUISES in writing.

#### NOT INCLUDED IN CRUISE FARE

Such personal expenses as drinks (other than included in the rate), laundry, spa-where applicable-, boutique items and gratuities, (gratuities are optional but as a rule, satisfied clients are expected to give to the captain, at the end of the cruise, approximately Euro 13-15 per person per day for distribution among all crew members) medical expenses, port taxes, shore excursions (shore excursions are proposed and arranged on board by the tour leaders), use of the on board Wi-Fi (available at a charge), expenditures incurred ashore, and anything not mentioned in cruise program.

