

ATHENS TO ISTANBUL

SEPHARDIC MUSIC & FOOD CRUISE ADVENTURE



LED BY SARAH AROESTE AND SUSAN BAROCAS MAY 3-11, 2023 WITH OPTIONAL EXTENSION MAY 11-14 IN ISTANBUL

Dive deep into the rich Sephardic heritage of the Jews of Greece and Turkey, enjoy exclusive music and food experiences, walking tours and more as we savor the sounds and tastes of this rich tradition. Join Ladino Singer/Songwriter Sarah Aroeste and Sephardic Chef/Writer Susan Barocas for a delicious experience aboard the luxury *Oceania Marina* as you sail from Athens to Istanbul with stops in Mykonos, Rhodes, Antalya, Bodrum and Ephesus to explore the delicious flavors and vibrant music of Sephardic culture past and present.



INCLUDED IN CRUISE:

- 7-night, 8-day cruise on the luxury ship *Oceania Marina*
- All cruise taxes, tips and service charges
- All meals while on ship (vegetarian and kosher options available)
- Gourmet dining experiences, including *Marina's* Jacques Pepin signature restaurant
- Opening welcome reception
- Three group dinners, including for Shabbat
- A cooking demonstration and a Sephardic food history workshop with Chef Susan Barocas
- Two musical programs with Sarah Aroeste
- Guided tour of Jewish Rhodes including lunch
- Guided tour of Ephesus including lunch
- \$400 onboard credit, per cabin

INCLUDED IN EXTENSION:

- 3 nights luxury hotel in Istanbul
- All breakfasts, 3 dinners and 2 lunches
- Jewish walking tour in Istanbul, including lunch
- Visit to Grand Bazaar and Spice Market
- Bosphorus boat ride and dinner
- Cooking demonstration and lunch experience with Turkish Jewish Chef Sibel Pinto and Susan Barocas
- Food tour of "hidden" Istanbul with Chef Sibel Pinto
- Shabbat experience and dinner with Istanbul Jewish community
- Farewell feast and special concert with Sarah Aroeste and guests

NOT INCLUDED:

- Roundtrip airfare
- Optional *Oceania* land excursions
- Travel Insurance (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)
- Premium alcohol
- Visa to enter Turkey
- Individual airport transfers outside of group transfers

DAILY SUMMARY

Day 1 (Wednesday, May 3rd): Arrival in Athens, optional visit with the Athens Jewish community, including tours of local synagogues and lunch with members of the community. Afternoon visit to the Acropolis, followed by welcome cocktails and group dinner.



Day 2 (Thursday, May 4): Depart from Athen's Piraeus Port on board the luxurious *Oceania Marina*. Enjoy exploring the ship before a festive dinner with your tour leaders Sarah Aroeste and Susan Barocas.



Day 3 (Friday, May 5): Dock in Mykonos, Greece. Explore lovely Mykonos on your own by day (optional excursions available with *Oceania*). Return to ship late afternoon with time to refresh before diving into a discussion about Sephardic cuisine, culture and history with Susan Barocas, followed by a special group Shabbat dinner.



Day 4 (Saturday, May 6): Dock in Rhodes, Greece, for our group's exclusive tour of the Jewish quarter of this historically significant Sephardic center and Shabbat lunch with members of the Jewish community. Upon return to the *Marina*, begin to explore Ladino music and song with Sarah Aroeste in an intimate musical workshop, followed by *havdalah* and group dinner.



DAILY SUMMARY

Day 5 (Sunday, May 7): Dock in Antalya, Turkey. Explore Antalya on your own by day (optional excursions available with Oceania). Return to Marina in time for a hands-on Sephardic cooking experience and tasting with Susan Barocas in one of the ship's exclusive kitchens.



Day 6 (Monday, May 8): Dock in Bodrum, Turkey. Experience a private *gulet* boat excursion, including special captain's lunch. Enjoy a free afternoon, followed by dinner on the *Marina*.



Day 7 (Tuesday, May 9): Dock in Ephesus, Turkey, for our group's exclusive tour of this World Heritage Site, including sites of Jewish interest, lunch included. Return to the *Marina* in the late afternoon for an interactive musical workshop with Sarah Aroeste, featuring Ladino songs about food, followed by dinner at your leisure.



Day 8 (Wednesday, May 10): Arrive in Istanbul, Turkey. Explore this fascinating city that sits at the crossroads of Europe and Asia on your own by day (optional excursions available with *Oceania*). In the evening, enjoy a final farewell dinner together on the *Marina* with Sarah, Susan and our group.

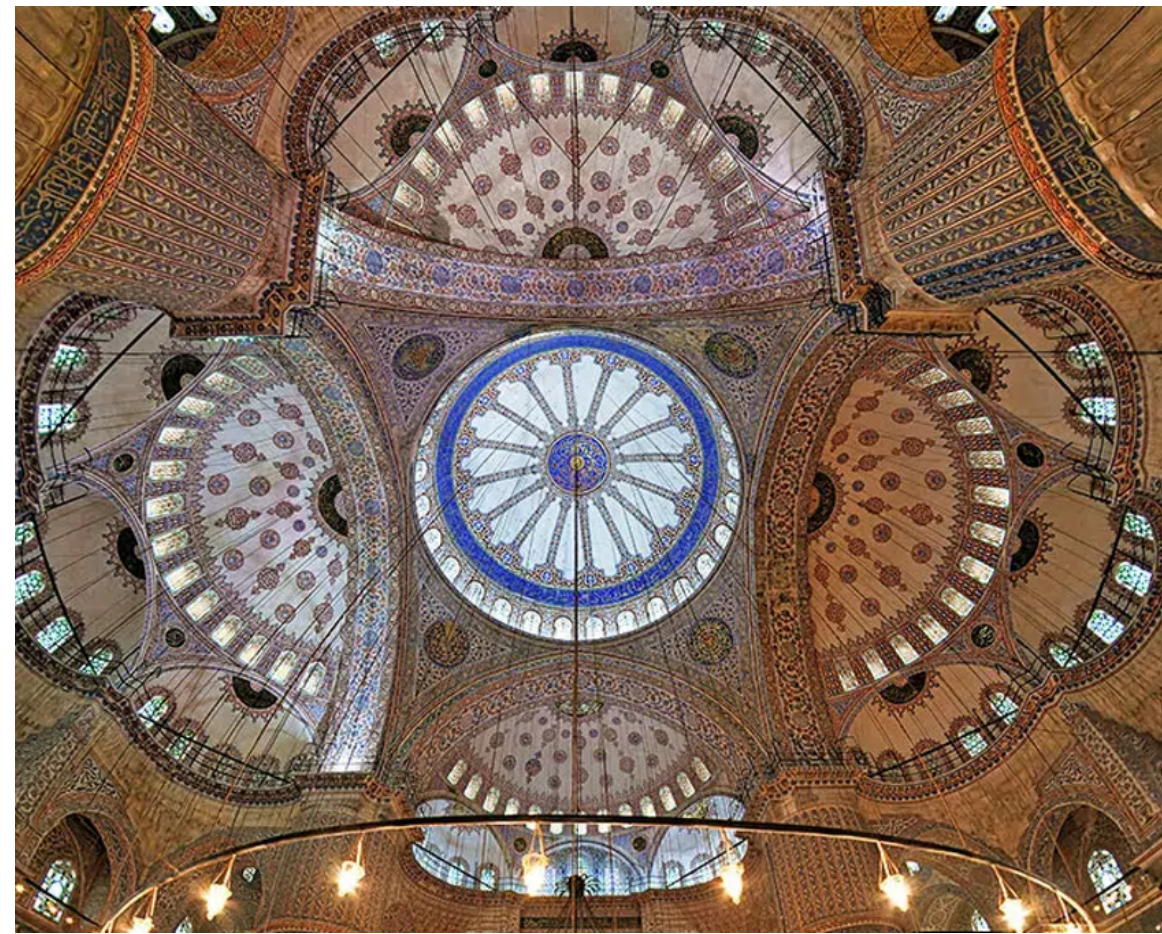


Day 9 (Thursday, May 11): Disembark *Oceania Marina* (morning). Depart to the airport, your personal post-cruise plans or enjoy more explorations of history, food and music with Susan Barocas and Sarah Aroeste on the tour extension in Istanbul (see below).

DAILY SUMMARY

Istanbul Extension

Day 10 (Thursday, May 11): Get to know Jewish Istanbul with an exclusive half-day tour of important Jewish sites including the Galata neighborhood and synagogues. After lunch, experience the Grand Bazaar, Blue Mosque and other historic sites in Istanbul. Cap off the night and see Istanbul from the water with a beautiful dinner cruise on the Bosphorus.



Day 11 (Friday, May 12): Start the day with an off-the-beaten track food tour led by Istanbul-born Chef Sibel Pinto. Then enjoy a Sephardic cooking demonstration and tasting with chefs Susan Barocas and Sibel Pinto. End the evening with a memorable Shabbat dinner with the local Jewish community.



Day 12 (Saturday, May 13): Experience Shabbat services at an Istanbul synagogue (optional), then enjoy lunch and an afternoon on your own. End the day with a gala final dinner for our group and a special community concert with Sarah Aroeste and other musical friends.



Sunday, May 14: Depart for the airport or other personal post-trip plans.