
Travel with The Met

July 8–17, 2024

**Alluring Aegean:
Athens to Istanbul
Aboard *Sea Cloud II*
with Frank Dabell, Lecturer**



THE
MET

Alluring Aegean: Athens to Istanbul Aboard *Sea Cloud II*

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

This July, I invite you to join me aboard the elegant *Sea Cloud II* for a week-long Aegean Sea voyage from Athens to Istanbul. We'll step ashore on pristine Greek islands and anchor near Turkey's ancient Graeco-Roman cities, delving into millennia of art, architecture, mythology, and cultural exchange. As an art historian with extensive travel throughout the Aegean, including The Met's 2023 program, I'm excited to share my insights as we join scholars behind the scenes of Bronze Age ruins, ancient Greek sanctuaries, extravagant Roman villas, and Byzantine monasteries.

With overnight accommodations in Athens, we'll join a historian atop the sacred Acropolis, followed by a private after-hours tour of the Acropolis Museum showcasing treasures unearthed from this ancient citadel. On a guided tour of Athens's Museum of Cycladic Art, we'll peruse a world-renowned collection of Bronze Age marble figurines, whose enigmatic abstraction of human form has inspired modern and contemporary artists, from Modigliani to Henry Moore.

In Piraeus, we'll board *Sea Cloud II* for the rugged island of Amorgos and its 11th-century cliff-top Byzantine Monastery of Hozoviotissa, a pilgrimage site housing a miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary. Amid Santorini's enchanting landscapes, we'll have a guided exploration of Akrotiri, a Bronze Age Minoan city remarkably well-preserved under volcanic ash. We'll sail to the holy island of Patmos for an inside look at the UNESCO-listed Cave of the Apocalypse, where the exiled St. John the Evangelist penned the Book of Revelation.

On Samos, discover the UNESCO-listed ancient Greek sanctuary dedicated to Hera and behold various votive offerings to the goddess in the island's museum. Along Turkey's Aegean coast, we'll stop in Ephesus for guided looks at ornate Roman monuments such as the Library of Celsus. We'll also witness the restoration of the rich mosaics in the Roman villas known as "terrace houses," ancient residences of the city's elite.

Before disembarkation in Istanbul, a guided excursion to Troy, immortalized in Homer's epic tales, will reveal 3,000 years of the city's history. We'll sail in the company of members from The National Trust for Historic Preservation and alumni from Yale. I hope you join me aboard the magnificent *Sea Cloud II* on this captivating voyage into history and myth.

Sincerely,
Frank Dabell

Lecturer
The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Traveling with You

Frank Dabell

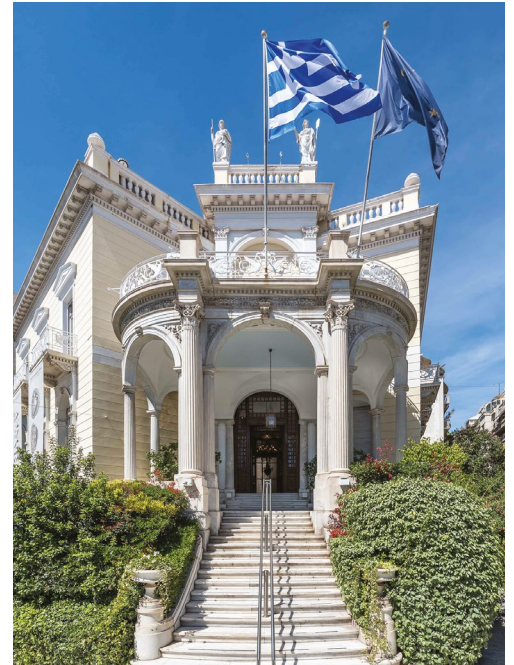
Frank Dabell was educated at Oxford University and is a former Fellow of The Metropolitan Museum of Art. He has led tours for major museums on journeys throughout Europe, North Africa, the Mediterranean, and Russia and has been celebrated for his work as a travel program lecturer and guide by *Travel + Leisure*. Most recently, he led Travel with The Met's 2023 program through the Aegean. Born in Paris, he lives in Rome, where he teaches art history at Temple University's Study Abroad program and the University of Rome.

Trip Highlights

- During an overnight stay in **Athens**, join a guided visit to the glorious **Acropolis** and a private after-hours tour of the **Acropolis Museum**, revealing treasures unearthed at this ancient citadel
- Amid **Santorini's** ethereal beauty, discover Minoan history with a guided exploration of Akrotiri, a Bronze Age city preserved under volcanic ash
- On sacred **Patmos**, go behind-the-scenes in the UNESCO-listed **Cave of the Apocalypse**, where St. John the Evangelist penned the Book of Revelation
- Join an expert guide at the UNESCO-listed **Heraion of Samos**, where you will behold the remains of the Temple of Hera and its altar
- In **Ephesus**, take an inside look at the **Library of Celsus** and Roman villas known as "**terrace houses**," with their opulent mosaic floors
- See how myth and history converge on an expert-led excursion to **Troy**, immortalized by Homer, tracing its 3,000 years of history



Samos, Greece



Photos clockwise from top right: Map of the region; Museum of Cycladic Art, Athens, Greece; Monastery of St. John, Patmos, Greece; Museum of the Acropolis, Athens, Greece; *Sea Cloud II*; Santorini, Greece. Front cover: Windmill, Santorini, Greece. Back cover: Monastery of Hozoviotissa, Amorgos, Greece (top); Library of Celsus, Ephesus, Turkey (bottom).

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Departure

Monday, July 8

Depart for Athens on an overnight flight.

Athens, Greece

Tuesday, July 9

Upon arrival, explore Athens's lively Plaka neighborhood, the city's ancient center. After checking into the Athens Capital Hotel-MGallery Collection, enjoy a guided afternoon visit to the Acropolis, where you will view the ruins of the majestic Parthenon and the Erechtheion. This evening, attend a private after-hours tour of the Acropolis Museum, followed by a welcome cocktail reception. Dinner is at leisure.

Athens / Piraeus / Embark *Sea Cloud II*

Wednesday, July 10

This morning, visit the Museum of Cycladic Art, whose notable collection of ancient artifacts focuses on small-scale Cycladic marble figurines. The abstract simplicity of these tiny Bronze Age sculptures greatly inspired many 20th- and 21st-century artists, including Brâncuși, Modigliani, Henry Moore, and Ai Weiwei. After a seaside lunch, continue to Piraeus, where you will board *Sea Cloud II*. Stand on deck as we sail to Amorgos. B, L, D

Morning at Sea / Amorgos

Thursday, July 11

After a morning at sea, step ashore on Amorgos, a small, rugged island of whitewashed villages. Accompany an expert guide up to the Byzantine Monastery of Hozoviotissa and marvel at how this stark white structure clings to precipitous cliffs facing out to sea. For more than a thousand years, the monastery has been a place of pilgrimage for worshippers who come to venerate its miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary. As *Sea Cloud II* sails to Santorini this evening, attend the captain's welcome reception and dinner. B, L, R, D

Santorini / Afternoon at Sea

Friday, July 12

As we approach the port of Santorini (officially known as Thera) this morning, stand on deck to behold this picture-perfect Cycladic island, a large, mostly submerged caldera (volcanic crater) formed by an eruption 3,600 years

ago. Upon arrival, travel to the Bronze Age archaeological site of Akrotiri, enjoying an expert-led inside look at this city preserved under volcanic ash like Pompeii. Visit the nearby Museum of Prehistoric Thera to view treasures excavated from the site. On your own, explore Santorini's many enchanting vistas, including its traditional cubical white houses carved into the clifftops. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at sea as we sail to Patmos. B, L, D

Patmos / Samos

Saturday, July 13

Arrive at the sacred island of Patmos, where St. John the Evangelist spent his exile. Join an expert guide for a look inside the UNESCO-listed Cave of the Apocalypse, where St. John reportedly dictated the Book of Revelation to his loyal disciple. Then join an expert guide for a tour of the 11th-century Monastery of St. John, with its enormous towers, domed roofs, belfries, and battlements. Inside this impressive museum, admire the artistry of the icons, manuscripts, and embroideries, and savor extraordinary views of the surrounding island and sea. Return to the ship for lunch as we cruise to the lush, mountainous island of Samos, a naval power in the seventh century B.C. Join an expert to explore the UNESCO-listed remains of the Heraion of Samos, a sanctuary dedicated to the Greek goddess Hera, who was believed to have been born on the island. View artifacts from its excavation at the Archaeological Museum. Dock overnight in the port. B, L, D

Samos / Kuşadası, Turkey / Ephesus / Priene

Sunday, July 14

Sail to the port of Kuşadası, Turkey, and transfer to Ephesus, originally built in the 10th century B.C. and an ancient Roman center of scholarship. Archaeologists are currently restoring the city's "terrace houses," luxurious Roman-era residential villas that feature exceptional frescoes and mosaics, including the largest Roman mosaic floor in western Turkey. Behold the intricate, two-story façade of the Library of Celsus, one of the largest Graeco-Roman libraries. Then visit the Temple of Hadrian and the immense ancient theater. After returning to the ship for lunch,

the afternoon is at leisure in Kuşadası, with its lively bazaar and striking natural surroundings of pebble beaches and azure coves. Active travelers may opt for a guided tour through the ruins of Priene, an ancient city once conquered by Athenians, Lydians, and Persians. Return to the ship for dinner. B, L, D

Day at Sea

Monday, July 15

On this leisurely day of cruising, experience the grace and romance of a bygone era under *Sea Cloud II*'s full set of billowing sails. Gather in the Lounge or on the Lido Deck for enlightening talks from our traveling lecturers. B, L, D

Kepez / Troy

Tuesday, July 16

From the port of Kepez, transfer by motor coach to fabled Troy, where excavations began in 1872 and continue to this day. Historians generally agree that the city uncovered here is the Troy described by Homer and that a war between Mycenaean Greeks and Anatolians took place in Troy around 1180 B.C. Discover Troy's many fortifications, including some that date to the Bronze Age. Enjoy an expert-led tour of the very modern Museum of Troy, which displays artifacts from the city. Spend the afternoon sailing to Istanbul through the narrow Dardanelles. This evening, gather for the captain's farewell reception and dinner. B, L, R, D

Istanbul / Disembark / Return

Wednesday, July 17

This morning, disembark *Sea Cloud II* in Istanbul and transfer to the airport for flights home. B

An optional postlude in Istanbul is offered July 17–19, 2024.

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

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Program Rates

Cabin Categories	Cabin Numbers	Decks	Double Rates	Single Rates
State Rooms	204 to 206	Cabin Deck	\$8,999	\$10,799
Upper/lower twin berths, shower.				
Superior Cabins	207 to 210	Cabin Deck	\$11,999	\$17,999
Twin beds, shower.				
Deluxe Cabins	211 to 217 & 224 to 231	Cabin Deck	\$13,999	\$20,999
Twin beds, shower.				
Deluxe Cabins	218 to 223	Cabin Deck	\$14,999	Inquire
Double bed (two separate mattresses), shower.				
Deluxe Cabins	301 & 302	Promenade Deck	\$15,999	Inquire
Twin beds, shower.				
Junior Suites	303 to 319	Promenade Deck	\$16,999	Inquire
Twin beds, bathtub with shower.				
Owner's Suites	401 & 402	Lido Deck	\$19,999	Inquire
Queen-size bed, bathtub, and separate shower.				

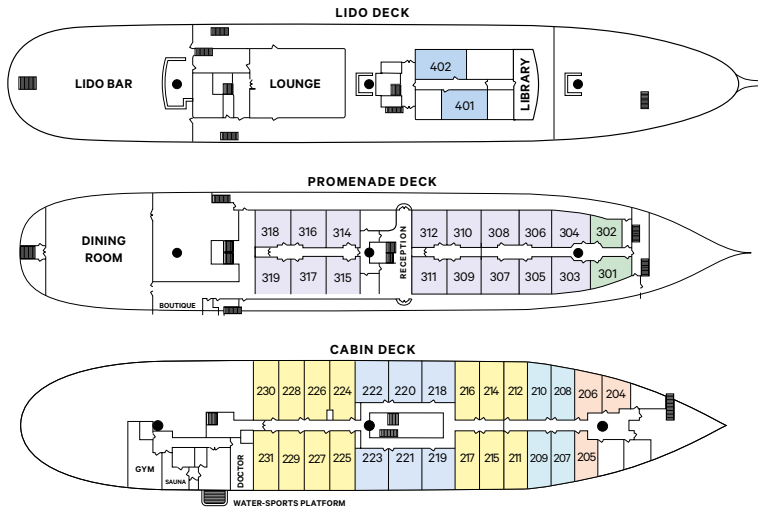
Rates Include

- One night hotel accommodations at the Athens Capital Hotel-MGallery Collection
- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *Sea Cloud II* as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; thoughtfully selected wine and beer with all included lunches and dinners; complimentary open bar aboard *Sea Cloud II* throughout the cruise (including all standard spirits)
- Airport/hotel/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing by private motorcoach; entrance fees for included visits
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

Not included in rates

International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; optional Istanbul postlude; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Sea Cloud II



Sea Cloud II Junior suite (left) and sun deck (right)

Sea Cloud II is a three-masted sailing yacht steeped in the elegance of yesteryear and complemented with the most modern amenities. Sister ship of the legendary *Sea Cloud*, *Sea Cloud II* has 47 outside cabins and travels under 23 billowing sails trimmed by hand. From the mahogany-paneled library and gracious lounge to the gym and watersports platform, no detail has been overlooked. Praised by the world's most discerning travelers, *Sea Cloud II* receives consistent high rankings from *Condé Nast Traveler*. Passengers enjoy open seating at all meals and complimentary use of all water sports equipment. A doctor is on call 24 hours a day. Please note that there is no elevator on *Sea Cloud II*.

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Reservation Form

To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638); email: met@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

Accommodations

Sea Cloud II cabin preference (1) _____ (2) _____

I wish to share a room/cabin with _____

Optional Istanbul Postlude

- I/We wish to join the optional postlude in Istanbul
 Hotel Room Preference One bed Two beds Single

Form of Payment

- Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in program documents. I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

For additional information, please call 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638) or to opt out from receiving mail, email travelwiththemet@metmuseum.org





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**The Metropolitan
Museum of Art**

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New York, NY 10028

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