

## LIMITED COLLECTION SERIES BY VARIETY

# WINES OF GREECE – ALL INCLUSIVE CRUISE Hosted by Tim Clarke, Wine Ambassador

8-DAY CRUISE, SEPTEMBER 1-8, 2023
ABOARD THE 21-CABIN HARMONY G



Updated: August 25, 2022

## AT A GLANCE



Variety Cruises are pleased to announce the first of our new Wine Cruises of Greece. This journey takes us to many of the Greek wine hotspots including Nemea, Santorini, and Tinos. Wine and the making of it is central to this voyage, but as we follow its trail we'll also discover the limestone crags and wild mountains of the Peloponnese, the breathtaking views of Santorini, and the quieter villages of the Cyclades and Eastern Aegean islands. We'll meet leading winemakers, taste at top wineries, and enjoy dinners paired with a specially chosen selection of wines - each exploring the superb native grape varieties of Greece's many diverse regions.



## **CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS**



All inclusive tours to local wineries



Lunches at wine estates



Tim Clarke - your wine guide



On board meals paired with wines from all over Greece



**Swimstops** 



Evening wine tastings on board

# TIM CLARKE OUR WINE AMBASSADOR



This carefully curated itinerary was designed by wine expert and wine tourism guru, Tim Clarke. Tim accompanies the cruise as our on-board wine guide and expert. With his wife Lynette Arblaster, he co-founded Arblaster & Clarke Wine Tours, which they ran together for nearly 30 years. He has also been engaged in winemaking himself, on the island of Samos. We're sure you'll find his enthusiasm for Greece and its wines infectious. We know we do. On this specialty cruise, expect Tim to cover the wine scene from the classical age through to the modern era, and to give you an exceptional insight into the country.



## DAY BY DAY ITINERARY ATHENS TO ATHENS

#### DAY 1: MARINA ZEAS, ATHENS TO HYDRA

Welcome drink, tasting Ionian Sea's wines

Begin as you mean to go on with a welcome glass of sparkling wine while you meet your crew and fellow passengers. Evening sail to Hydra and dinner served with wines from the Ionian Sea. Overnight at Hydra.

#### **DAY 2: NAFPLIO AND NEMEA**

#### Gaia winery, SEMELI winery lunch

After a morning arrival into Nafplio, we'll visit the ancient site of Mycenae. Then on to Nemea - the leading red wine appellation in Southern Greece - to visit the pioneering, top-quality estate, Gaia. Our next visit is also our lunch stop; at Semeli where we'll taste their range of fine wines from Nemea and Mantineia. Enjoy some free time in Nafplio, one of the most attractive towns in mainland Greece, before we sail south along the coast of Arcadia, letting the anchor down for a swim stop as soon as possible. Dinner on board, paired with select wines from the Peloponnese.

#### **DAY 3: MONEMVASIA**

## Monemvasia winery, Dinner with TSIMBIDIS FAMILY

-Monemvasia's wealth came from its Malvasia (also known as Malmsey), so it's safe to say wine meant a lot to the mediaeval town. Visit the vineyards with Monemvasia Winery who are re-establishing the island's wine fame. Lunch ashore with freetime in the afternoon; exploration of the old town and taking a dip in the cooling waters are recommended. Tonight's dinner is on board where we welcome the Tsimbidis family of Monemvasia Winery to dine with us.

#### **DAY 4: MILOS**

#### ∵¤: Swim stop, Imery winery, Crete's best wines

Swimming at the beaches of Milos is almost unbeatable. Almost, but not quite: dropping anchor at sea nearby and diving deck to water wins every time. Spend your morning this way before drying off to explore the island, enjoying locally produced food and wines in a village taverna. Learn about the island's grape history, and about the recent Imerys investment in its vineyards. At this evening's dinner your wine host, Tim Clarke, presents some of the best wines from nearby Crete.

#### **DAY 5: SANTORINI**

Argyros winery, tasting some of Santorini's wines

Santorini is rightfully known as one of the **top spots for white wine in Greece**, and has local grape varieties of extraordinary quality. We'll visit **the top winery**, **Argyros**, **with century-old vines**. Setting sail in the afternoon, we'll enjoy **wines from the Santorini grapes** as we cruise through the Cyclades to the Eastern Aegean islands.

#### **DAY 6: SAMOS AND FOURNI ISLES**

## -☆-Vakakis winery, Platanos winery lunch, Chios-Ikaria wines

This morning we'll moor in the sleepy fishing village of Ormos before heading inland to visit the inspiring Vakakis winery. Then on to Platanos, its steep vineyard terraces seeded with White Muscat. Over an idyllic lunch we'll taste a range of Samian wines. Our afternoon sail takes us to the Fourni Isles, rarely visited by tourists and an ideal spot for swimming thanks to its largely untouched beaches. Dinner tonight is paired with wines from Chios and Ikaria, both prized wines in ancient times.

#### **DAY 7: TINOS AND KARYSTOS**

Volacus winery, Andros lunch with Greek wines Tinos is a holy island, said to be home to more than 700 churches. It's also another wine hotspot, known for its Assyrtiko grape; one with extraordinary quality when grown in soils rich with volcanic ash, such as those on Tinos. In the morning we'll visit emerging star winery, Volacus, before we set sail and moor near Andros for lunch, swimming, and a tasting of Greek wines from international grape varieties. In the afternoon we make a short sail across to Karystos on Evvia island.

#### **DAY 8: ATHENS, 8AM**

#### -'☆´- Wine tasting at Kokotos Estate

Breakfast and disembarkation. For those not arranging their own onward transport this morning, we offer an optional tour of Athens including wine tasting and lunch at **Kokotos Estate**, followed by a transfer to Athens Airport.

The Optional Excursion on the final day arrives at Athens Airport in time for flights after 18.00.

**NOTE:** In many cases the journeys between ports are reasonably short so the ship will be in harbour or at a mooring for part or much of the night, though there will be some sailing at night. Wine visits are subject to confirmation and subject to change in the event of regulations changing, or in the event of weather conditions disrupting the cruise itinerary. Details such as swim stops, will be entirely at the captain's discretion.

## www.varietycruises.com





### YOUR SMALL CRUISESHIP - HARMONY G

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**Length:** 53 m

Launched: 2001 | Renovated: 2013

Cabins: 21

Capacity: 42 passengers

Crew: 16-18

The M/Y HARMONY G is a 53 meter/21 cabin elegant yacht that was launched in 2001 and renovated in 2012-13. This sleek high -tech looking yacht complies with the most stringent SOLAS safety regulations.

Service on board is provided by your Captain, the Cruise Coordinator and your experienced Marine and Hotel crew members. Service will be attentive or unobtrusive according to your requirements and priority is always given to the safety and comfort of passengers. Organized excursions are available for most ports of call and can be pre-booked or reserved 24 hours in advance.



## YOUR SMALL CRUISESHIP - HARMONY G

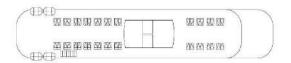


#### VARIETY CRUISES

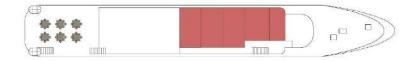
HARMONY G































CATEGORY A CATEGORY B CATEGORY C DINING & BAR

LOUNGE